

VISIT OK TRADE DELEGATIONS

*479. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of trade delegations are likely to visit India during the next month with a view to forging closer trade links and to give Indian exports the much-needed boost during the remaining year of the Fourth Plan;

(b) if so, the names of the countries from which delegations are visiting the country at present and the names of the countries from which delegations are likely to visit the country shortly;

(c) the extent to which our exports are likely to be intensified as a result of these visits; and

(d) whether it is proposed to send similar delegations to these countries and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Countries from which trade delegations are expected to visit India in December, 1970, and January 1971, are USSR, GDR, Nepal, Jordan, UAR, France and Italy.

(c) it is hoped that the visits of these trade delegations would assist in increasing our exports although the results of such visits can be assessed only after the lapse of a reasonable period.

(d) Trade delegations are proposed to be sent to Hungary, Rumania, Sudan, Iran and Ceylon during the next two or three months. The question of sending similar delegations to the countries mentioned in reply to parts (a) and (b) will be considered in the light of the forthcoming discussions with their delegations.

TEXTILE AGREEMENT WITH U.S.A., U.K. AND E.C.M. COUNTRIES

*480. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: SHRI N. P. CHAUDHARI: SHRI T. G. DESHMUKH:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new Textile Agreement has been arrived at with the U.S.A., U.K., and the E.C.M. countries for export of textiles from India; and

(b) what are the salient features of this agreement?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

India has had separate bilateral agreements with the United States, United Kingdom and the E.E.C. The new bilateral agreement between India and the United States was signed on 28th September, 1970. The main features of the Agreement were communicated to the Rajya Sabha on 18th November, 1970 in reply to the Starred Question No. 214.

The new bilateral agreement between India and the E.E.C. has not been ratified as yet but is expected to be signed by the parties concerned very shortly.

India and the United Kingdom are currently negotiating for reaching a bilateral agreement between them.

INSTRUCTION REGARDING FOLLOW UP ACTION ON THE ABOLITION OF PRIVILEGES OF EX-RULERS

♦481. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the delay in sending instructions to the State Governments regarding follow-up action concerning abolition of privileges of ex-rulers; and

(b) whether the instructions sent to States regarding abolition of privileges of ex-rulers and the dates of their despatch to States will be laid on the Table of the House?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI-MAT I INDIRA GANDHI): (a) and (b). The State Governments were informed by express telegram on 10th September, 1970 that with the derecognition of the Rulers, the privy purses and privileges stood terminated with effect from the 6th September, 1970. A copy of the telegram was despatched by post the following day. This was followed by a letter on 24th September, 1970 requesting the State Governments to withdraw the privileges with which they were concerned. Another letter was sent to the State Governments on 6th October, 1970 on the subject of firearms held under exemption. In accordance with the normal practice, which is based on considerations of public interest, copies of Communications sent to State Governments are not being placed on the Table of the House.

IMPLEMENTATION OF MAHAJAN AWARD

*482. SHRI N. G. GORAY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Un-starred Question No. 548 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 19th November, 1970 and state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement made by Shri Dharma Vira, Governor of Mysore to the effect that the Mahajan award should be implemented; and

(b) if 'no', the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. C. PANT): (a) and (b). In his address to the State Legislature on 19-1-1970, the Governor of Mysore said "I am sure I am voicing the feelings of the two Houses of Legislature in saying that the matter brooks no delay and the recommendation of

the Commission should be implemented without further loss of time". Government are continuing their efforts to find a satisfactory solution to this problem speedily.

*483. [Transferred to the 15th December, 1970].

INCREASE IN PRICE OF COTTON

*434. SHRI SUNDAR MANI PATEL: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently increased the prices of cotton for the current year;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the cotton producers, dealers and manufacturers in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(c) No criticism of the announcement has come to Government's notice.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). Government have not fixed any market prices for cotton but have, in order to ensuring minimum reasonable return to the growers, announced support prices for different varieties of cotton. The support prices announced recently for 1970-71, are five per cent higher than the support prices for 1969-70.

POLITICAL MURDERS BY THE WORKERS OF CPM

*485. SHRI KALYAN ROY: SHRI M. V. BHADRAM: SHRI SURAJ PRASAD: SHRI BHOLA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question No. 553 given in the Rajya Sabha on 19th November, 1970 and state: