

(c) whether the local authorities have taken any action in regard to this and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI K. L. PANT) : (a) Government have seen a Press report in the Hindustan Times dated 11-8-70 in this regard.

(b) and (c) Facts are being ascertained.

IMPORT OF COTTON BY COTTON CORPORATION OF INDIA

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

(a) whether the Cotton Corporation of India has decided to import cotton from next year ;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above the be in the affirmative whether the Cotton dealers have strongly protested against such a move on the part of the Corporation; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) With effect from 15th September, 1970 import of cotton has been canalised through the Cotton Corporation which will utilize the existing skills of the trade.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

RISE IN PRICE OF RAW COTTON

846. SHRI N. P. CHAUDHARI :

SHRI T. G. DESHMUKH :

SHRI A. G. KULKARNI :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is an enormous rise of price in the raw cotton available in the textile industry which has affected the profitability of the industry in general and adversely affected the growth of exports ;

(b) whether it is also a fact that it is ultimately likely to affect the employment position in the textile industry ; and

(c) if so, what are the salient features of the scheme to help the textile industry ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE

(CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) There has been a rise in the prices of cotton during the recent weeks. It is difficult to say whether profitability of the industry has been adversely affected.

(b) and (c) The present situation is being studied with a view to taking corrective action. Efforts are being made to accelerate shipments of imported cotton already released. With larger arrivals in the market, the situation is likely to improve.

जैसलमेर क्षेत्र में पानी की खोज

847. श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या सिंचाई तथा विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जैसलमेर क्षेत्र (राजस्थान) में पानी के साधनों की खोज और वहाँ के निवासियों को पीने तथा सिंचाई के प्रयोजनों के लिये पानी उपलब्ध कराने के हेतु क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

†[EXPLORING WATER IN JAISALMER REGION

847. SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state what action has been taken to explore the source of water in Jaisalmer region (Rajasthan) and to provide water for drinking and irrigational purposes ?]

सिंचाई तथा विद्युत् मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (प्रो० सिद्धेश्वर प्रसाद) : केन्द्रीय भूगत जल बोर्ड ने मित्रित कृषि, घरेलू उपयोग और मवेशियों के लिये जल स्प्लाई और औद्योगिक कामों के लिये सभाब्य-ताओं का मूल्यांकन करने हेतु जैसलमेर क्षेत्र समेत पश्चिमी राजस्थान में भूमि के अन्दर के पानी का सर्वेक्षण आरम्भ किया है। राजस्थान नहर परियोजना के दूसरे चरण में राजस्थान के जैसलमेर जिले को सिंचाई और पेय जल की सुविधाएँ पहुँचाने का प्रस्ताव भी है।

†[THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (PROF. SIDDHESHWAR PRASAD) : The Central Groundwater Board has undertaken Groundwater Surveys in Western Rajasthan including Jaisalmer region for evaluation the potentialities for irrigated agriculture, domestic and livestock water supply and industrial uses. The Rajasthan Canal Project in its Phase II also proposes to provide irrigation and drinking water facilities in the Jaisalmer district of Rajasthan.]

†[] English translation.