

(c) what was the reaction of the Pak. diplomat in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) to (c). Information is being collected on this subject.

FUNCTIONING OF TEXTILE MILLS

515. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills in the country which were closed down during the last one year, region-wise;

(b) the loss of production accounted for on this account;

(c) whether the functioning mills are operating at full capacity, if not, the percentage of utilisation of the capacity of these mills, region-wise; and

(d) the loss suffered on account of the non-utilisation of the full capacity of these mills?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (CHOW-DHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN

516. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement has recently been concluded between India and Japan regarding the import of Indian goods by Japan;

(b) if so, whether it is also a fact that majority of the goods covered under the agreement are being produced in the private sector; and

(c) the other details of this agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (CHOW-DHARY RAM SEWAK):

(a) No, Madam. No agreement has been concluded between the Government of India and the Government of Japan for import by Japan of the Indian goods. However, a general Trade Agreement was concluded between India and Japan on February 4, 1969, under which the two countries had agreed to extend to each other the most-favoured-nation treatment in the matter of custom duties, regulations concerning imports and exports, shipping facilities etc. The two countries also agreed to cooperate with each other with a view to expanding trade and strengthening the economic relations. Copies of the Trade Agreement are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

VISIT OF INDIAN DELEGATION TO JAPAN

517. DR. (MRS.) MANGLADEVI TALWAR: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation led by Shri T. N. Kaul recently visited Japan; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the visit?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Madam; from the 3rd to the 5th February, 1969.

(b) The consultative meetings between the officials of the Foreign Offices of India and Japan are held annually for exchange of views and for understanding each other's point of view. Various questions relating to bilateral relations between India and Japan, issues at the United Nations and international questions of interest to both countries, including the situation in South-East Asia, were discussed.