

RESEARCH DONE BY TEXTILE RESEARCH ASSOCIATIONS

848. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

SHRI G. R. PATIL:

SHRI S. B. BOBDEY:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have assessed the value of the research done through various Textile Research Associations, *i.e.*, Bombay Textile Research Association, South India Textile Research Association and Ahmedabad Textile Research Association particularly to increase productivity and international competitiveness.

(b) if so, whether any attempt has been made at research by these institutes to develop new products either of cotton or of man-made fibres for exports and if so, with what results; and

(c) what grants Government allot to these three institutions and what is the contribution of the industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

EXCLUSIVE IMPORTS BY S.T.C. AND M.M.T.C.

849 SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state.

(a) the number of exclusive products the State Trading Corporation and the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation have been importing up to 1968 and what is Government's assessment of the exclusive imports handled by the two organisations on the price level of such products in the country; and

(b) whether there is any change in the new policy announced on the 1st April, 1969?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) In the Import Policy for 1968-69 the import of ten items was exclusively canalised through the State Trading Corporation. No item was exclusively canalised through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation. Being a bulk importer, State Trading Corporation was able to obtain competitive prices thus facilitating supplies in the country at reasonable prices.

(b) In the Import Policy for 1969-70, six items have been added to the list of commodities the import of which is canalised through the State Trading Corporation. Also, the import of Mercury is now canalised through the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation.

INVITATION GIVEN BY DEFENCE MINISTER OF U.S.S.R. TO THE INDIAN DEFENCE MINISTER

850. SHRI S. A. KHAJA MOHIDEEN: Will the MINISTER OF DEFENCE be pleased to state whether it is a fact that he has accepted an invitation to visit the Soviet Union extended to him by the Soviet Defence Minister?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): Yes, Madam.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS IN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

851. SHRI ARJUN ARORA:

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY:

SHRI KRISHAN KANT:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the number of officers