

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) Figures of exports of cotton hand-loom fabrics' for the period April-January are not available. Exports of cotton hand-loom fabrics during April-November were of the order of Rs. 5.56 crore*.

(b) Individual exporters, Handicrafts and Hand-looms Export Corporation, New Delhi and All India Hand-loom Fabrics Marketing Cooperative Society Ltd., Bombay.

(c) The main importers of our handloom fabrics (cotton) were South Yemen, U.S.A., Malaysia, U.K., Sierra Leone, Kuwait, Nepal and Nigeria.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The main findings of the Selling Handloom Delegation which visited Italy, France, Netherlands, Federal Republic of Germany and Belgium are given below :—

(i) Publicity for handloom goods in the countries' visited by the Delegation was most inadequate. The delegation has recommended that well coordinated programmes of holding handloom promotion weeks/ fortnights may be organised.

(ii) With a view to avoid competition amongst exporters the delegation has recommended the formation of a Consortium of Exporters which may include all those exporters who have a substantial turnover.

(iii) The Handloom Export Promotion Council, the All India Handloom Board and the Weavers' Service Centred should assist the handloom producers in producing fabrics required by these countries, particularly so far as colour and washing properties are concerned.

(iv) All handloom fabrics meant for export Should be given anti-crease treatment

(v) Ready-to-wear garments are getting more popular in these countries. Promi-

nent designers from these countries may be closely associated with our exports of ready-to-wear garments.

(vi) The Consortium of Exporters referred to in para (ii) above may appoint a representative in Europe who should have adequate commercial and technical knowledge and competence.

TRACTOR MANUFACTURE IN PUBLIC SECTOR

393. SHRI B. K. KAUL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of licences given to the Public Sector for the manufacture of tractors;

(b) what is the total production of each licence; and

(c) whether Government propose to utilize the un-used capacity of companies under Public Sector for the manufacture of tractors, accessories and spare-parts ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) and (b). Apart from Bharat Earthmovers' Ltd. who are manufacturing crawler tractors, no Public Sector undertaking is at present licensed for the manufacture of tractors.

(c) There is a proposal to set up a unit in the Public Sector for the manufacture of agricultural tractors. This project envisages the utilisation of the unused capacity in some of the existing Public Sector Undertakings.

PUNJAB OFFER FOR TRACTOR MANUFACTURE

394. SARDAR NARINDAR SINGH BRAR : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Punjab has offered to set up a plant in Public Sector for the manufacture of tractors with Czech collaboration and have requested the Union Government to include the project in the Fourth Five Year Plan for the Public Sector; and