

(4) This process has been patented in India and abroad and it is expected that the process may have wide implication with regard to the life of cotton textiles.

(5) The research, in this direction, is still in progress. The prospects are promising.

FRAMING OF COTTON FABRICS RULES

39. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rules under cotton Fabrics (Additional Excise Duty) Act 1957 have been framed;

(b) if reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons for not framing the rules so far; and

(c) what steps were taken to inform the Parliament that the rules as required under the Act were not being framed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Cotton Fabrics (Additional Excise Duty) Act, 1957, was enacted with a view to enforcing export obligations intended to be attached to the licences issued for the installation of automatic looms during the Second Plan period. Under the scheme, penal excise duty could have been imposed and collected on shortfalls in the prescribed export obligations. However, the scheme for the installation of automatic looms with export obligations enforceable through a penal excise duty did not evoke an adequate response from the prospective licensees. Consequently rules were not framed under the Cotton Fabrics (Additional Excise Duty) Act, 1957, and the question of placing the rules before Parliament did not arise. No steps were therefore taken to inform Parliament that the rules were not being framed.

DIVERSION OF PRIVATE SECTOR STEEL PRODUCTS FOR DEFENCE PURPOSES

40. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have recently approached the manufacturers of steel and special steel in the private sector on the scope of diversion of a part of their capacity for defence purposes; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the manufacturers to this suggestion?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY): (a) and (b) Discussions of an exploratory nature were held recently with producers in the private sector. The reactions of the producers are satisfactory.

LOSS INCURRED BY M.M.T.C.

41. { SHRI RAM SINGH:
SHRI SUNDAR MANI
PATEL;

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation incurred any loss during 1964-65; and

(b) if so, in what manner Government propose to make up these losses and also reasons for these losses?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b) M.M.T.C. made a net profit of Rs. 25.07 lakhs during the year 1964-65.

INCLUSION OF THONDI IN MADRAS STATE IN RAILWAY MAP OF INDIA

42. SHRI LILA DHAR BAROOAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to include Thondi in Madras State, in the Railway Map of India, in the near future;