

SHRI N. KANUNGO: That is an optimistic statement, if there is one. But the fact is that we have taken steps to increase the import of cotton, since the last two crops of cotton in the country were bad.

DR. R. B. GOUR: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the note in 'The Capital' dated the 4th February, wherein it is categorically stated that there is no physical shortage in the quantity of cloth and that the shortage now is purely due to speculative reasons since, when the price had gone up, the cloth also has come out?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I have not seen that particular note which the hon. Member mentions. The fact is that the shortage of cotton of particular varieties is responsible for the shortage.

DR. R. B. GOUR: How does he say that labour cost has increased, since wages have not increased during recent years?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I mentioned increased dearness allowance as one of the reasons for the increase in the cost of production.

SHRI S. PANIGRAHI: To what extent is the foreign exchange resource affected by the import of cotton and what steps have been taken to increase the production of cotton in the country?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The shortage happened because we had two consecutive bad monsoons and steps have been taken for increasing the production of cotton in the country and they are showing results apart from the periodical variations.

#### CENTRAL PARTICIPATION IN THE FERTILIZER FACTORY TO BE SET UP IN ANDHRA PRADESH

\*20 SHRIMATI SEETA YUDHVIR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh has made any request to the Government of India for participation in the capital structure of the proposed fertilizer factory in that State; and

(b) what action the Government of India have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) Andhra Pradesh Government had at an earlier stage stated that they would welcome contribution by the Centre in the capital structure of their fertilizer undertaking, but did not insist on such participation.

(b) It has been decided not to participate in the share capital.

श्रीमती सीता युद्धवीर : इस कंपनी का ग्रॉथोराइज्ड कैपिटल कितना होगा ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : ग्रान्थ गवर्नमेंट इस पर विचार कर रही है और अभी तक इसका इरादा ३० करोड़ रुपये से कंपनी को रजिस्टर करने का है ।

श्रीमती सीता युद्धवीर : यह कंपनी कब तक रजिस्टर होगी और इस फैक्टरी की वार्षिक उत्पत्ति कितनी होगी ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : इंडस्ट्रियल लाइसेंस जो देना था वह दिया जा चुका है । कंपनी की रजिस्ट्रेशन की कार्यवाही चल रही है और २ करोड़ रुपये के कैपिटल इश्यू की मंजूरी हो गई है । ८० हजार टन नाइट्रोजन इस फैक्टरी में यूरिया और नाइट्रो फास्फेट के रूप में बनाने का विचार है । फर्टिलाइजर की मिकदार ज्यादा होगी क्योंकि नाइट्रोजन गैस फर्टिलाइजर का केवल एक भाग होती है ।

श्री व्यंकट कृष्ण ढगे : कहाँ होगी ?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र : कोटागुदम में ।