

Dastur and Company is to be determined after the detailed project report is ready.

#### Export of Cotton Textiles to Saudi Arabia

- \*94. { Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri Ram Sewak:  
Shri P. G. Sen:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is fast losing market for cotton textiles in Saudi Arabia;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether suggestions to improve the situation have been received from the Indian Trade Representative there; and

(d) if so, the extent to which these have been implemented?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) The exports of cotton textiles to Saudi Arabia during the past few years have been more or less stationary as under:—

Year	Value Rs. lakhs
1960-61	67.4
1961-62	59.0
1962-63	54.3
1963-64	58.1

(b) The main reasons for this are:—

- (i) Preferential treatment is customs tariffs enjoyed by Arab countries like U.A.R. and Syria; and
- (ii) Keen competition from other exporting countries like Japan, Pakistan, etc.

(c) and (d). The main suggestion made by the Indian Trade Representative in Saudi Arabia was that Indian manufacturers/exporters should send their representatives to negotiate business personally and that they should visit that region frequently. The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council has already taken up this matter with the exporters. The Council is also examining the question of how best to meet the competition from other countries. However, in cotton textiles, when every country is trying to develop indigenously and when practically every exporting country's exports of cotton textiles are continuously declining, the scope for large increases is limited.

#### Trade with Sudan

- \*95. { Shri Vishram Prasad:  
Maharajkumar Vijaya  
Ananda:  
Shri R. S. Pandey:  
Shri M. Rampure:  
Shri D. D. Mantri:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian industrial and trade delegation held negotiations with Government officials and private sectors in Khartoum recently in order to increase the trade between the two countries;

(b) if so, the outcome of the negotiations; and

(c) whether any agreement has been reached in the matter and if so, the broad features thereof?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) An Industrialists Goodwill Delegation sponsored by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry with the support of the Government of India