

**Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:**  
**Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export of cotton textiles has declined recently;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to step up the export of the same?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). The shortfall in early months of this year has since been almost made up, and the exports of textiles are now almost at the same level as during the corresponding period (January to September) of last year.

(c). Several steps have been taken to step up export of cotton textiles. Some of the more important steps taken are as follows:

(i) In May, 1965, Commerce Minister wrote personal letters to 108 exporting mills in the country exhorting them to increase their exports and offering to look into and remove any difficulties standing in their way. Replies have been received from more than 60 mills and their suggestions and difficulties brought to notice have promptly been taken up with the authorities concerned.

(ii) A close watch is being kept on the exports of cotton textiles to countries which have imposed quota restrictions on the import of cotton textiles, in order to ensure that the quotas are fully utilized within the periods allowed by these countries.

(iii) A Committee was set up in December, 1964 under the chairmanship of Commerce Secretary to go into the working of the Cotton Textiles Ex-

port Promotion Council and revise ways and means of increasing export of cotton textiles. One of the important recommendations by this Committee was to set up a Development Committee by the Indian Cotton Mills' Federation, which should launch a project for manufacturing certain specified construction which have a ready demand in the world market. So far, 18 mills have joined this project and efforts are being made to persuade more mills to join this project.

(iv) An Ad-hoc Working Group set up in the Ministry has also made a number of suggestions to increase the exports. It has laid emphasis on evolving a suitable scheme for credit arrangements for the exporting mills and on streamlining some of the procedural difficulties which create hardship to the exporters. The Export Credit Guarantee Corporation has already been asked to introduce new scheme for grant of credit facilities to the exporting mills; the other recommendations are being pursued in consultation with the authorities concerned.

(v) A few delegations have been sent to different regions with a view to exploring markets for our cotton textiles.

**Dastur and Co.**

\*348. **Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:**  
**Shri Subodh Hansda:**  
**Shri Yashpal Singh:**  
**Shri Siddheshwar Prasad:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our late Prime Minister appreciated the

role of Dastur & Co. as an indigenous Expert Consultant Body;

(b) if so, for which works they were taken into confidence up to date; and

(c) what would be their role in future about the Bokaro Steel Project?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) to (c). Government appreciate the part that Indian consulting organisations like the Central Engineering and Design Bureau of Hindustan Steel, Dastur Co. and others have to play in the development of projects both in the private and public sectors. Apart from working as general consultants to the Government, Dastur & Co. are also consultants for the strategic Alloy Steel Project at Durgapur. The firm has also prepared at the instance of the Government feasibility studies for the location of a steel plant in the Neyveli-Salem area and also for the location of eight large sized blast furnace complexes capable of being developed into integrated steel plants.

As regards the association of Dastur & Co. with the Bokaro Steel Plant, it will be possible to define the scope of such association in details only after the detailed Project Report which has been prepared in the USSR is received and has been examined.

Dastur & Co. were however paid a fee of Rs. 6,300,000 for a preliminary project report and a detailed project report on the Bokaro Steel Plant which was prepared by the firm prior to the association of the USSR with this project.

#### Office of Tea Board in Calcutta

\*349, Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 822A on the 24th September, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the 10 employees of the Office of the Tea Board in Cal-

cutta who were suspended and charge-sheeted are being prosecuted; and

(b) if so, at what stage the matter rests?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). No, Sir. None of these employees is being prosecuted, they are being proceeded against departmentally. The replies from the employees to the chargesheets have been received which will be considered by the Enquiry Officer according to the procedure laid down for departmental proceedings.

#### Public Sector Undertakings

\*350, Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 410 on the 3rd September, 1965, and state:

(a) whether the decisions taken at the conference of the Chiefs of Public Sector Undertakings held in New Delhi in July, 1965 are being implemented by the public sector projects;

(b) if so, the savings effected in foreign exchange as a result thereof; and

(c) whether there is any machinery to supervise the implementation of these decisions?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Industry and Supply (Shri Bibudhendra Misra): (a) to (c). Directorate General of Technical Development have been made the main Co-ordinating Agency to watch over the implementation of the decisions taken in the meeting of the Heads of Public Sector Undertakings under the Department of Industry held in July, 1965. These decisions are being implemented but it is too early to say in specific terms the actual savings that have been effected.