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a recent study by the Indian cotton Mills Federation revealing the lower productivity of an Indian worker in spinning and weaving mills as compared to his counter-part in the U.S.A.;

(b) if so, the main reasons for this lower productivity of an average Indian worker; and

(c) the steps contemplated to increase the productivity?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The main reasons for the lower productivity of an average worker as compared to his Indian counterpart in the U.S.A. are differences in the level of technology employed, the standards of management, condition of machinery and its maintenance, differences in the training of workers, the level of wages and in comes, working conditions in the industry and other social and historical factors. The need for rehabilitation and modernisation of the industry has been kept in view, and assistance is given to the industry to meet these requirements. In regard to other aspects such as training of workers and of modern methods of adoption management, efforts are being made to introduce them to the extent possible in Indian conditions.

U.S. Aid for Mining Projects

{ Shri D. C. Sharma: | Shri P. C. Borooah: 1547. | Shri Surendra Pal Singh: | Shri Himatsingka: | Shri P. R. Chakraverti:

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

(a) whether some loan assistance has been sought from the U.S. Agency for International Development for four mining projects including Singrauli-I, Umrer, Singrauli-III and West Bokaro; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The U.S. Agency for International Development has not agreed to give assistance for these $project_s$ for the present.

Export of Leather and Textile goods

1548. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great marke⁴ for Indian leather and textile goo⁴ in Hungary and other East European countries; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to explore the same?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shab): (a) Yes Sir. There is a good market for Indian cotton textiles in Hungary and other East European countries but so far leather goods have been exported in appreciable quantities only to U.S.S.R. and Hungary.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3669[64].

Export of Ground-nut Oil

1549. Shri Subodh Hansda: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 387 on the 11th September, 1964 and state:

(a) whether the ban on the export of Groundnut Oil has any effect on the prices of Oil in the local market; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). The ban on export of groundnut oil did not have any effect on its price because only a small quantity of groundnut oil is exported cutside the country as compared to the huge internal production and consumption.