

(a) whether there is any proposal to boost consultancy exports;

(b) if so, the names of countries where offices are to be opened for the purpose; and

(c) how far it will promote India's exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI BRAHMA DUTT) : (a) to (c). With a view to providing support to export of consultancy services, it has been decided to :

- (i) grant project assistance to the tune of 10 per cent of the net foreign exchange earnings from the service portion in respect of export of consultancy services;
- (ii) grant Market Development Assistance for reimbursement of cost of bids for consultancy services on a graduated scale for overseas markets;
- (iii) grant enhanced rates of assistance on a graduated scale to consultancy organisations on approved recurring expenditure incurred for opening and operating overseas offices.

The above measures are in the nature of incentives and the consultancy organisations are free to open overseas offices after obtaining necessary clearances.

The measures referred to above would provide a positive boost to exports of consultancy services. However, it is not possible to quantify their impact.

Export of cotton

3331. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) number of bales of cotton exported this year and at what profit;

(b) whether Indian cotton exporters find it difficult to complete in the world market;

(c) whether Government would consider putting such exports under cash compensatory scheme; and

(d) the other measures envisaged to increase the quantity of exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) A quantity of 5,25,123 bales was registered for export upto 18.7.1986, while a quantity of 4,50,721 bales has been shipped. The Government have no information on profits made in these transactions.

(b) The Indian Cotton exporters have been finding it difficult to export cotton during the current cotton season mainly due to bumper crop all over the world especially in Pakistan, China and USA.

(c) There is no proposal to bring cotton exports under cash compensatory scheme.

(d) Government have removed the minimum export price on long staple cotton and are taking steps for evolving long term policy on export of cotton.

Fire in cotton godowns

3332. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) number of cotton godowns—private, cooperative or belonging to Cotton Corporation of India, destroyed in fire; and

(b) the places and total loss suffered, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Six Godowns hired by Cotton Corporation of India, one belonging to Central Warehousing Corporation 4 Private Godowns and one belonging to a Cooperative, have been destroyed in fire. Government have no information in respect of Co-operatives and Private parties.

(b) The places and the total loss suffered in each of these incidents are as follows :—