

(b) REP licences/Exim Scrip licences are freely transferable. No statistical data is maintained about the utilisation of such licences. However, as and when any report is received about loss of licences or issue of licences based upon the documents subsequently found to be forged, the operation of such licences is suspended/ cancelled.

(c) and (d). The matter has been reported to the police for appropriate action.

[*English*]

#### **Export of Cotton Yarn/Cotton**

3591. SHRI DHARMADIKSHAM: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have allowed to export huge quantities of cotton yarn and cotton;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it has resulted in increase in the yarn prices and rendered a large number of weavers out of work;

(d) if so, the remedial steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) the quantity of cotton exported during 1991-92 and the extent to which the prices of yarn are likely to be increased during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The exports of cotton yarn are regulated through a quantitative ceiling fixed on year to year basis. The cotton yarn export ceiling of 100 Million Kgs. fixed for calendar year 1992 is the same as the ceiling fixed for 1991. Government have released one lakh bales of Bengal Deshi cotton of export during the

cotton season 1991-92 (Sept.'91-Aug'92), out of this the actual exports upto 17.7.92 have been 0.40 lakh bales. Recently Government have permitted Cotton Corporation of India to meet the requirements of cotton of some of the neighbouring countries like Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, in context of Bilateral Trade Agreements to the extent of 30,000 bales.

(c) to (e). While the slight upward movement in cotton prices can be attributed to absence of rains in certain parts of the country, the upward movement in cotton yarn prices is due to the upward movement in cotton prices and the general price rise. The cautious policy of the Government on the export of cotton during 1991-92 season has had a restraining influence on the price of cotton and cotton yarn.

#### **High Power Committee for Jute Industry**

3592. SHRI SARAT CHANDRA PATANAYAK: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have set up a High Power Committee to examine the revival of sick jute industry;

(b) if so, the terms of reference and composition of this Committee;

(c) whether the Committee has submitted its report;

(d) if so, the details of the recommendations made by the Committee and the action taken by the Government thereon so far; and

(e) if not, the time by which the report is likely to be submitted by the Committee?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) Yes, Sir.