

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Governor's power to promulgate Ordinances

643. SHRI SHARAD DIGHE :

SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS :

PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the observations of the Supreme Court regarding Governor's power to promulgate ordinances in a recent writ petition before them;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) the action contemplated, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Governments have been apprised of the propositions laid down by the Supreme Court in the above case and requested to ensure that their proposals for promulgation or repromulgation of the Ordinances are first examined in the light of the above propositions before referring the same for obtaining instructions of the President under the proviso to Article 213 (1) of the Constitution.

Allocation of Janata Cloth to Orissa.

644. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether out of 33 million metres of Janata Cloth allotted to Orissa this year, 12.95 million metres has been diverted to other States;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether Government of Orissa had requested to reallocate the diverted quantity to that State and if so, the action taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) and (b) The State of Orissa has been allotted a target of 33 million square metres for production of janata cloth during 1986-87. However, this target of janata cloth is in excess of their entitlement of janata cloth for consumption within the State by 12.95 million square metres and this excess was meant to be sold/distributed in certain specified deficit/non-janata producing States.

(c) The Surplus State Governments, including Orissa, have a number of difficulties in selling the surplus to other States due to reasons such as non-acceptability of janata cloth produced by the surplus States by the recipient States, higher commission for distribution which was found to be more than the surplus States could manage from the overheads allowed in the pricing of janata cloth, etc. In such cases, Government of India have been allowing the consumption of the surplus quantity within the State after satisfying itself about the inability of the producing States to sell the janata cloth to the other States.

Manufacture of Picture Tubes

645. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Black and White and colour television picture tubes manufactured vis-a-vis their demand during 1986 by Bharat Electronics Ltd; and

(b) whether Bharat Electronics Ltd. is able to cope with the demand ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE. (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) During 1986, Bharat Electronics Ltd. manufactured 6.3 lakhs Black and White TV picture Tubes as against a total demand of approximately 21 lakh numbers. Colour TV Tube is presently not in the manufacturing range of BEL.

(b) Bharat Electronics Ltd. is not the only manufacturer of Black and White TV Picture Tubes in the country. It is producing Black and White TV Tubes to full licensed capacity and its share in the market is currently around 30 to 35 percent.

Impact of cotton price hike.

646. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price of cotton has been raised recently;

(b) if so, the details of changes introduced over the past six months;

(c) whether any representations have been received from the Textile industry regarding the adverse effects of the cotton price hike on the industry; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHANA KUMAR): (a) to (d) Government do not control the price of cotton, except that minimum support prices for different varieties of Kapas of fair average quality are fixed by the Government from year to year. These prices were fixed on 10th October, 1986 allowing an increase of Rs. 5/-per quintal for most of the varieties of Kapas of fair average quality. However, the prices of cotton displayed a rise in December, 1986 due to slightly lower production of cotton, panicky purchases and better demand in the international market. The rise in prices is not unduly high as com-

pared to the prices prevailing two years earlier. The representations received from the textile industry in regard to rise in cotton prices are based on low prices prevailing in 1985-86, when there was a cotton glut and depressed prices. The prices of cotton have established now and have enabled the farmers to recover a fair return for their produce.

12.00 hrs.

(English)

SHRI P. KOLANDAIVELU (Gobichettipalayam): I have given a Call Attention.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: (Rajapur): To-morrow the Prime Minister is going to present the Budget. I want to point out to you that on 25th of this month, in Item 5, the Minister of State, Shri Janardhana Poojari, has laid on the Table a number of Notifications announcing Custom duties exemptions. This is highly objectionable. Three days left for the Budget and he is announcing Custom Duty exemptions!

In the Rajya Sabha strictures were passed for having laid 42 Notifications before the Budget. I would request you earnestly to maintain the convention and dignity of this House. You must pull up the Minister, not to lay on the Table concessions...

MR. SPEAKER: You nullify them.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: The other House has already given the ruling last time.

MR. SPEAKER: I have already given a ruling on that subject earlier, Professor Sahib.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: In the course of one year you can get more wisdom.

MR. SPEAKER: You mean, am I lacking that?