

in operation. Visitors having no dutiable articles to declare can walk through the green channel thus expediting their customs clearance (iii) there has been further liberalisation in the entry formalities of tourists visiting restricted areas.

#### Indian Delegation's Visit to ASEAN Countries for Joint Ventures

8312. SHRI BHIKU RAM JAIN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian delegation visiting ASEAN countries had identified areas where India could set up joint ventures;

(b) whether it is also a fact that despite identification success was not achieved due to lack of publicity to our capabilities; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) Several delegations have recently visited ASEAN countries and identified areas in which India could set up joint ventures. The maximum number of Indian joint ventures have been established in the ASEAN. Every effort is being made to publicise in ASEAN countries India's industrial capabilities.

#### Commission Paid to Traders for Selling C.C.I.'s Cotton

8313. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cotton Corporation of India has totally failed to develop direct relationship with the consumers and huge amount of commission is paid to the traders for selling CCI's cotton;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the country has been facing shortage of short staple cotton for the last few years;

(c) whether this requirement is met by imports; and

(d) if so, what is the amount of commission paid to traders during the last three years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India sells cotton directly to consumers as well as through intermediaries depending upon the customers' requirements.

(b) and (c) The requirements of various varieties of cotton are constantly reviewed by the Government through the Cotton Advisory Board and except in the year 1980-81, when Government imported approximately 50,000 bales of medium staple cotton, Government has not had to resort to imports to meet domestic requirements.

(d) The amounts paid during the last three years are the following:—

Year	1/4%	Brokerage (in Rs.)
1978-79 . . . .		3,68,857
1979-80 . . . .		28,81,330
1980-81 . . . .		39,79,906

#### Non-purchase of Cotton by C.C.I. at Right Time

8314. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Cotton Corporation of India is not entering the market to purchase from the growers in right time only to allow the traders to take away the cream of the quality; and

(b) if so, what effective steps are taken to stop it so that the growers may be saved as per policy of Government?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.