

that more cloth is available for the poorer section of the people ;

(b) if so, the main points thereof ; and

(c) how much increase in production of cloth will be made by the Textile mills ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement giving the requisite information is attached.

Statement

Under the scheme the industry has undertaken to produce 100 million sq. metres of controlled cloth during 3 months beginning from 1st June, 1971.

The mills which produce controlled varieties of cloth will be given a subsidy to the extent of 50 paise per sq. metre from funds which will be collected by the industry.

This scheme is to be implemented by the Indian Cotton Mills Federation, under the guidance and supervision of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay.

Talks with British Government re. Imposition of Duty on Indian Cotton Textiles

1009. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :
SHRI R. P. DAS :
SHRI ISHWAR
CHAUDHURY :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have had any talks recently with the British Government in regard to the imposition of duty on the import of Indian textiles ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) the outcome of these talks ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the official and Ministerial level discussions the Indian Delegation reiterated its strong opposition to the British proposal for the imposition of 15 per cent tariff on imports of cotton textile from the Commonwealth Preference areas and the abolition of quotas with effect from 1st January, 1972.

(c) The reaction of the British Government to the points made by the Indian side are awaited.

Demand for Increase in Price of Mica

1010. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Mica Traders' Association of Bihar has demanded increase in the price of mica ;

(b) if so, the basis behind such a demand ; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The increase in floor prices of mica has been demanded on the ground that the cost of mining and processing of mica has increased considerably since the floor prices had been last revised in 1966. In view of the stiff international competition, particularly, in relation to prices, the Government does not consider it appropriate to increase the floor prices at this time.

पीड़ी (उत्तर प्रदेश) में आकाशवाणी केन्द्र

1011. श्री प्रताप सिंह नेगी : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार उत्तर प्रदेश में पीड़ी गढ़वाल जिले में पीड़ी में आकाशवाणी केन्द्र स्थापित करने का है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त केन्द्र कब तक स्थापित किया जायेगा ; और

(ग) इस पर कितना धन व्यय होने की सम्भावना है।

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री धर्मवीर सिंह) : (क) पौड़ी में एक स्टूडियो स्थापित किया जायगा। वहां से तैयार किये जाने वाले कार्यक्रम तजीबाबाद में लगाये जाने वाले ट्रांसमीटर से प्रसारित किये जायेंगे।

(ख) 1974-75 तक।

(ग) पौड़ी के स्टूडियो पर 19 लाख 40 हजार रुपये।

Imports from U. K. on Reciprocal Basis

1012. SHRI BHOGENDR JHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 1939 Trade Agreement with the U. K. provides for duty-free entry of Chemicals, Machinery and Radio and Telecommunication parts etc into India on a reciprocal basis ; and

(b) if so, the measures being proposed to be taken by the Government of India with regard to the above and other item imported from the United Kingdom ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Indian Trade Delegation in U. K. and European Countries

1013. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a trade delegation, led by Shri L. N. Mishra, visited U. K. and some other European countries during the month of May, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the names of members of the delegation ; and

(c) the names of countries visited and the results achieved ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Shri L. N. Mishra, Minister of Foreign Trade ;

Shri H. Lal, Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Trade ;

Shri B. N. Swarup, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Trade ;

Shri N. K. Singh, Official on Special Duty, Ministry of Foreign Trade.

(c) U. K. and Belgium. Discussions with the United Kingdom Government were held on the British proposal to impose a 15 per cent tariff on imports of cotton textiles from the Commonwealth Preference area and the abolition of quotas w.e.f. 1st January, 1972. During these discussions the Indian Delegation reiterated their strong opposition to the British proposal, in view of the adverse effects this would have on our exports of cotton textiles. The reaction of the British Government to the points made by the Indian side are awaited.

In Belgium, India's trading problems with E.E.C. were discussed with the E.E.C. officials. During these discussions it was agreed that a continuous dialogue between India and the E. E. C. must be maintained and further discussions with a view to the conclusion of the commercial co-operation agreement would be resumed shortly.

Ban on Import of Certain Items

1014. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there was any prior consultation between the Videsh Vyapar Mantralaya and the Department of Technical Development under the Audyogik Vikas Mantralaya before 51 additional items were recently taken out of the import list and the list of items dropped were on the basis of