

means for exchanging trade and economic co-operation among the three countries.

**Staff required to serve in Foreign Countries for Foreign Trade requirements**

6985. SHRI K. C. PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the service of the staff employed in his Ministry forms part of the Central Secretariat Service;

(b) whether a large Number of staff is required to serve in various offices of the Ministry of Foreign Trade outside India for foreign trade requirements.

(c) whether for the assignment outside India for this service, persons are drafted from the services of the Ministry of External Affairs;

(d) whether this drafting hampers the prospects of the staff already working in the Ministry of Foreign Trade; and

(e) if so, the steps being taken to remove this discrimination ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir. A large number of staff belong to the Central Secretariat Service.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Posts borne on the Commercial budget are en-cadred posts of IFS 'A' AND IFS 'B'. Sometimes officers belonging to other Ministries, including this Ministry, are assigned to commercial posts, on considerations of specific job requirements.

**Discussion on role of mass media for reducing Communal and ethnical tensions and Promoting harmonious Living**

6986. SHRI K. C. PANDEY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether a discussion on the role of mass media in reducing the Communal and

ethnical tensions and promoting harmonious living was held/sponsored by the Press Information Bureau at the suggestion of the National Integration Council; and

(b) if so, the details of the discussion and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRIMATI NANDINI SATPATHY) : (a) and (b). In one of their recommendations the Sub Committee of the Committee of Experts on Mass Media set up by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting suggested that the Press Information Bureau should cooperate and assist in the holding of seminars and conferences editors which might be convened by the Press Institute of India to discuss all aspects of the responsibilities of the press in promoting national integration. Accordingly a seminar was convened in November, 1970. by the Press Institute of India in collaboration with the P. I. B. where, after discussion, a draft of guidelines for reporting on communal and ethnic tensions was drawn up. This draft was circulated to newspapers and was further discussed and amended at a regional Seminar held at Hyderabad in March, 1971. Government will examine the guidelines for appropriate action after they have been finalised.

**Agreements for Import of Cotton**

6987. SHRI K. C. PANDEY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries with which agreements have been signed for the import of cotton during the year 1971-72 ;

(b) the terms of agreements ;

(c) the names of those countries which offered such a deal but was not accepted ; and

(d) the reasons for non-acceptance of those offers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). A Trade arrangement has been signed with Sudan on