

(b) whether the bulk of import licences in the field is given to a foreign-controlled firm, viz., Agfa (India) Ltd.;

(c) if so, whether Government have received representations from Indian firms of long standing complaining of discrimination against them and in favour of Agfa (India) Ltd., and

(d) Government's reactions to such representations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D P CHATTOPADHYAYA).
(a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See No LT-4902/73]

(b) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House

I and B Ministry's Proposal for taking over Metro Cinemas at Bombay and Calcutta

8509. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA** Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has indicated its interest in taking over and running the Metro Cinema houses in Calcutta and Bombay, provided the Ministry of Finance gives necessary approval after completing its inquiries into the allegedly irregular purchase of these cinemas by certain private parties; and

(b) if so, the Finance Ministry's reaction to the Information and Broadcasting Ministry's proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) and (b). At the moment there is no specific proposal before the Finance Ministry. However, the matter is engaging the attention of the Government, depending on the completion of the inquiries.

Functions and Powers of Textiles Committee

8510. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the functions and powers of the Textiles Committee, whose office is situated at 79, Annie Besant Road, Bombay-18,

(b) the composition of the Committee,

(c) the total expenditure incurred by the Committee on legal expenses annually during the last three years, and

(d) whether such expenses are charged to a private firm of solicitors connected with the Committee's Chairman?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF. D P CHATTOPADHYAYA)

(a) The Textile Committee established under the Textiles Committee, Act, 1963, (41 of 1963), ensures standard qualities of textiles both for internal marketing and export purposes and the manufacture and use of standard type of textile machinery. The main functions of the Committee are to:—

- (i) undertake, assist and encourage, scientific, technological and economic research in textile industry and textile machinery,
- (ii) promote export of textiles and textile machinery and carry on propaganda for that purpose,
- (iii) establish, adopt or recognise standard specifications for textiles and textile machinery,
- (iv) specify the type of quality control or inspection,
- (v) provide for inspection and examination of textiles and textile machinery,