

high priority given by Government to expanding the base of production from the point of view of exports, without at the same time swamping the other units.

- (2) The establishment of the Santa Cruz Electronics Export Processing Zone, all the units in which would be under an obligation to export their entire production and which will be eligible to a number of concessions and relaxations, is another major step in the rationalisation of the present policy of export obligation with a view to expanding the production base.
- (3) Yet another major step in this direction is the special treatment given to proposals for the transfer of complete working plants, subject to substantial export obligations, from developed countries to India so as to take over the foreign markets and labour intensive manufacturing processes vacated by the developed countries.

2. Government are bestowing their attention on a continuing basis on the policy in order to adapt it to changing market/product situations.

**Suggestion by Government to Jute Mills Association for Payment of Average Price of Raw Jute**

5198. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:  
DR. H. P. SHARMA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Jute Mills Association has not yet accepted Government's suggestion to pay an average price of Rs. 157 for raw jute; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to canalise fibre purchase through the Jute Corporation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI

A. C. GEORGE): (a) Indian Jute Mills Association have accepted the Government's suggestion.

(b) Does not arise.

**Purchase of Mines by M.M.T.C. in Foreign Countries**

5199. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the M.M.T.C. has been asked to purchase some mines in foreign countries; and

(b) if so, the reasons for such a decision?

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

(b) Does not arise.

**Demand by Ashoka Hotels Workers' Association for Payment of Interim Relief**

5200. SHRI R. V. BADE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ashoka Hotel Workers' Association has put up a demand to the management of the Ashoka Hotels for the payment of Interim Relief; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND  
CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN  
SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Prior to the receipt of this demand from the Ashoka Hotel Workers' Association, charters of demands calling for revision of wages had been received from the Ashoka Hotel Employees' Union and the Ashoka Hotel Karamchhari Sangh. Negotiations are already being conducted with these unions.