

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been a fall in the production of viscose staple fibre in recent months due to lockout in the predominant pulp producing unit and a cut had to be imposed on all viscose staple spinning units.

(b) It is expected that as soon as production of viscose staple fibre normalises, the cuts will be restored and allotments made in accordance with criteria laid down by Textile Commissioner.

Suggestion to Pensioners for organising Cooperatives for economic projects

5764. SHRI VEKARIA :

SHRI ARVIND M. PATEL :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have suggested to the pensioners to organise co-operatives for organising some economic projects;

(b) if so, whether any programme has been chalked out in this direction; and

(c) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): (a) to (c).

According to press reports it appears that one of the suggestions made to the pensioners in a meeting organised by a certain organisation was that the pensioners could organise cooperatives and other such economic projects. However, no such suggestion appears to have emanated from the Government as such and no specific scheme is in hand for this purpose.

Expansion of Textile Industry

5765. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) how many expansion schemes have been granted to D.C.M. and other Industries of Lala Charatram and Bharatram Groups in which they hold larger shares;

(b) whether any new expansion scheme in the field of Textile has been approved by his Ministry to Bharatram and Charatram, Goenka and Birla Group in 1973; and

(c) if so, the names of those industrial units?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). The following expansion schemes, in the field of cotton textiles, pertaining to Bharatram and Charatram, Goenka and Birla Groups have been approved in the year 1973 and industrial licences issued in these cases :—

Name of the Group	Licence No. and date	Capacity licensed for manufacture of cotton yarn
Bharatram and Charatram Group*		
Delhi Cloth and General Mills Co. Ltd., Delhi	CIL.12(73) dt. 30-11-73	7,480 spindles
Goenka Group		
Basanti Cotton Mills Ltd., Calcutta	L/23(1)/1149/73- TEX(H) dt. 4-9-73	7,956 ,,
Birla Group		
Chenab Textiles Mills Ltd., Kathua, (J & K)	L/23(1)/1135/73- TEX(H) dt. 23-5-73	12,400 ,,

*The licence was granted in this case for balancing the spinning and weaving capacities in the Mill.

φ Licences were granted in these cases for increasing the spindleage in the Mills to the economic level of 25,000 spindles.

Name of the Group	Licence No. and date	Capacity licensed for manufacture of cotton yarn
Assam Cotton Mills Ltd., Chitriduwar (Assam)	L/23(I)/1136/73- TEX(H) dt. 23-5-73	12,500 Spindles
Eastern Cotton Mills Ltd., Calcutta.	L/23(I)/1137/73- TEX(H) dt. 23-5-73	10,312 „
Bharat Commerce and Industries Ltd., Nanjungud. (M.P.)	L/23(I)/1138/73- TEX(H) dt. 23-5-73	4,656 „
Jayashree Textiles and Industries Ltd., Madnapur (W. Bengal)	L/23(I)/1139/73- TEX(H) dt. 23-5-73	13,000 „

Rags Scandal

5766. SHRI P. GANGADEB : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Bureau of Investigation has completed its enquiry into the "rags scandal"; and

(b) if so, how many persons have been arrested in this connection ?

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

(b) No one has been arrested, so far.

Fake currency seized by C.B.I. in Calcutta

5767. SHRI P. GANGADEB :

SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether a big haul of fake currency notes was seized on 15th October, 1973 near Madhyamgram in 24 Parganas District, Calcutta by C.B.I. ;

(b) if so, the value of the forged currency notes and their denominations ; and

(c) whether any printing machinery and other equipment was also seized ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) to (c). On 15th October, 1973, the Officers of the C.B.I. raided the house of one Bijoy Sarkar at Vivekanand Nagar in 24 Parganas District, West Bengal and recovered Rs. 1.5 lakhs worth of Indian currency and Rs. 3.5 lakhs worth

of Bangladesh currency allegedly forged and seized other incriminating materials such as metal blocks, handpress, auto-number machines purportedly used on the manufacture of these notes. A criminal case has been registered and two persons have been arrested.

Confiscation of goods seized from Balyogeshwar

5768. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Customs Authorities have confiscated contraband goods worth Rs. 3.5 lakhs smuggled in by Balyogeshwar ;

(b) if so, from which countries the goods were smuggled into India ; and

(c) what action has been taken by Government against Balyogeshwar ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : (a) The following undeclared goods seized from the baggage of Shri Prem Pal Singh Rawat alias Balyogeshwar have been confiscated :—

- (1) Jewellery valued about Rs. 43 thousand
- (2) Watches valued about Rs. 18 thousand
- (3) Foreign currency in American Dollars, Pound Sterling, Swiss Francs, Australian Dollars and Japanese Yen. Rs. 1,96 thousand approximately.