

**Submission of a Memorandum by Cotton Growers of North India**

4466. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWALA:

PROF. MADHU DANDA-VATE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton growers of North India have submitted a memorandum to the Minister urging upon him the immediate intervention of the Cotton Corporation of India for purchase of cotton at remunerative price;

(b) if so, the different demands made by the growers in the memorandum; and

(c) whether these have since been considered and if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The growers have urged that Cotton Corporation of India should immediately undertake purchase of kapas to prevent a decline in cotton prices.

(c) Government have noted that while cotton prices have declined in recent weeks compared to the peak levels reached in August-September, 1974, they are still ruling higher than in the corresponding period last year. The question of C.C.I.'s entry into the cotton market depends on several factors including the availability of bank credit consistent with the need to contain inflationary pressures in the economy,

**Cases of Economic Offences against Smugglers Released by Courts**

4467. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWALA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of smugglers held under MISA were released under Court orders;

(b) if so, whether Government have lodged any case against them for commission of economic offences under Income-tax or Sales-tax laws of the country; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No prosecution has so far been launched after they were released, under the Income Tax Laws. Information regarding Sales Tax prosecutions, if any, is being collected.

(c) the reasons for not launching prosecutions are being ascertained.

**Deployment of Staff in Air India and Indian Airlines**

4468. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWALA: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what is the per aircraft deployment of staff in Air India and Indian Airlines;

(b) whether in both the Corporations the number of employees is the highest in the World;

(c) whether any exercise has been made to find out the minimum necessary for each aircraft in the respective airlines and if so, the outcome thereof;

(d) what percentage of the employees' maintenance cost is reflected in the fare of the two airlines; and