

(b) and (c). In addition to bilateral consultations held, the Sub-group of Tea Exporters which met in the F.A.O. meeting in June, 1974 agreed to examine in depth a multi-dimensional approach including a minimum export price arrangement, the co-ordination and regulation of marketing, global promotion, the strengthening of auctions in producing countries and provisions for a market intelligence service. However, at a meeting of the Seven nation Working Party in Rome in April 1975, no unanimity could be reached on these points without further studies felt necessary.

Unauthorised Powerlooms

9423 SHRI DHAMANKAR:

SHRI VASANT SATHE.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated number of unauthorised powerlooms in the country, State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to check the growth of unauthorised powerlooms and to regularise the detected ones;

(c) Government's policy in regard to this problem; and

(d) whether any special measures are proposed to tackle the problem effectively?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):
(a) to (d). No reliable estimate of unauthorised powerlooms in the country is available.

2. Government's policy is against the growth of unauthorised powerlooms, in spite of which it is found that such unauthorised powerlooms do come up. After taking all factors into consideration, Government had decided in 1966 to regularise all unauthorised powerlooms which existed on or before 28th February, 1966, by

issue of regular permits by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay. Government have decided not to regularise any other unauthorised powerloom, and have taken the following steps to discourage growth of such looms:—

(i) Excise levy on the powerloom sector during the current year has been revised upward to reduce to some extent the large difference between the rates applicable to the powerloom sector *vis-a-vis* the mill sector.

(ii) A penal compounded levy of Rs 400 per annum per powerloom has also been imposed on unauthorised powerlooms; and

(iii) The Central Excise Authorities have been given instructions not to issue any L-4 licence to a powerloom which does not have a valid permit from the Textile Commissioner.

Entry of Monopoly Houses in Marine Products Export Industry

9424. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some Monopoly Houses which have been allowed entry in the marine products export industry by the MRTP Commission on the specific understanding that they will process only their own catch of fish, are hiring processing facilities, buying raw materials and competing with small scale operators in this country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and what actions Government have taken against these Monopoly Houses who have violated these directions of the MRTP Commission thereby forcing small scale operators out of the field?