

### Corporations to Purchase Cotton and Jute

511. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken a final decision to set up two Corporations for the purchase of cotton and jute; and

(b) if so, the functions of the proposed Corporations and the place of their headquarters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The setting up of cotton and jute corporations is under consideration.

(b) Details are yet to be worked out.

### Handloom Weavers Cooperative Societies in Andhra Pradesh

512. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have requested for grant of loan of Rs. 50 lakhs to the apex handloom weavers cooperative societies in Andhra Pradesh to purchase the accumulated stocks of yarn with the cooperative spinning mills;

(b) whether Government are aware that the cooperative spinning mills were closed since 7th May, 1968 owing to the accumulation of stocks; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government on the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to the information received by Government two textile mills have closed in Andhra Pradesh due to shortage of working capital and cotton and illegal strike/lock-out.

(c) The proposal for a loan to the Andhra Pradesh Government is under consideration.

### Exports of Tea by Ceylon

513. SHRI C. K. BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Ceylon's tea exports to most of the countries in Europe during the year 1967 exceeded that of the preceding year;

(b) whether exports of Indian tea to those countries have suffered correspondingly; and

(c) if so, to what extent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

### कपड़ा मिलों का बन्द होना

514. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मद्रास राज्य में 155 कपड़ा मिलें केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क के लागू किये जाने के विरोध में बन्द हो गई हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो मिलों को चालू रखने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है; और

(ग) ये मिलें प्रति वर्ष केन्द्रीय उत्पादन शुल्क के रूप में कितनी धनराशि की अदायगी करती हैं ?

वाणिज्य नंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुहृन्मब शफी कुरेशी) : (क) जी, नहीं, सरकार को प्राप्त जानकारी के अनुसार धाये पर उत्पादन शुल्क के अधिक भार का विरोध करने के लिये 27 अप्रैल, 1968 को 136 मिले बन्द हो गई थीं ।