

Agriculture, Community Development and Cooperation have purchased 10,000 bales of D. W. flour bags, without Finance Ministry's concurrence, to circumvent B. Twill control involving a loss to the exchequer of Rs. 600 per ton; and

(b) whether it is also a fact that they are going in for more purchases at the same rate ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) (a) In order to meet the urgent requirements of the Food Corporation of India, D. W. gunny bags have been purchased from the middle of February to the middle of March, 1969, because no quotations for B Twill bags were being received. D. W. gunny bags were purchased through tenders at varying rates and such purchases were made with the concurrence of the Ministry of Finance. There is no control on the price of this category of bags.

(b) We have received no fresh indents for purchase of this category of bags.

Export of Tea

6605. SHRI MADHU LIMAYE : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that attempts are being made by Government to secure higher export price for tea which happens to be one of the staple exports;

(b) whether cooperation of Ceylon and other tea producers is being sought; and

(c) the approximate rise in export earnings that will take place if these efforts succeed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) It is too early to make an assessment on the increased export earnings from tea as a result of these efforts.

Joint Scrutiny of Susta Map

6606. DR. RANEN SEN :
SHRI HEM BARUA :
SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO : .

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has suggested to Nepal a joint scrutiny of maps and other records relating to the dispute over Susta between the two countries, and

(b) if so, Nepal's reaction to India's suggestion ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). In reply to Nepal Government's request to form a joint scrutiny it was suggested by us that the two sides meet at Valmikinagar in Bihar on 27th April, 1969 to study the documents held by both sides to facilitate the early holding of a 'Joint Survey'. The date suggested has been accepted by the Nepalese authorities.

Import of Printing Machines from the Rupee Payment countries

6607. SHRI PILOO MODY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of printing presses or parts thereof imported into India since the inception of the rupee trade agreement from the U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia and East Germany;

(b) the names of all importers and the dates of imports;

(c) the prices at which they were imported; and

(d) the payments, if any, so far remitted to the exporting countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (d). A Statement showing the number of Printing Presses and their