

exports to Sudan declined during 1969 as compared to that in 1968 ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ;

(c) whether Government have taken any concrete steps to boost up the exports to Sudan ;

(d) if so, the details thereof ; and

(e) the value of exports of jute goods to Sudan during the first half of the current year and how does it compare with the corresponding period of the previous year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) India's exports to Sudan in 1969-70 have been of the order of Rs. 19.85 crores as against Rs. 18.47 crores in 1968-69, a net increase of Rs. 1.38 crores in our exports to that country.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir ; in the trade arrangement for the period July, 1970 to June, 1971, we have planned for exports to the extent of approximately Rs. 29.25 crores to Sudan as compared to Rs. 23.58 crores during the same period last year.

(e) Our exports of jute goods to Sudan in the first half of 1970, have been of the order of Rs. 3.16 crores as compared to Rs. 0.21 crores approximately during the same period in the previous year.

Alleged Discrimination against Punjab in Allocation of Central Assistance to States

1538. **SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of the statement made by the Chief Minister of Punjab at Delhi (Tribune dated the 25th April, 1970) that there has been discrimination against his State in the Central assistance to the states and that services of the people of the State have been ignored, Government have made any reference to the State of Punjab for ascertaining the facts ;

(b) if so, whether a reply has since been received in this regard ;

(c) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto ; and

(d) whether Government took any action on the request made by the Chief Minister for providing more power to Punjab to enable it to increase food production ; and if so, the details thereof ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) to (d). The State Government has forwarded a copy of the news item but has not been able to confirm or deny the details of the report. The State Government has however, referred to the earlier requests regarding (i) additional assistance for special problems for water logging and drainage and (ii) approval of Bhatinda Thermal Plant and Thein Dam for meeting the power shortage in the State.

The special problem of water logging and drainage has been duly considered while determining the State's Fourth Plan outlays. The Bhatinda Thermal Project has been approved and the Thein Dam Project is under technical examination.

International Samples Fair at Barcelona

1539. **SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India pavilion in the Barcelona International Samples Fair became a big success ;

(b) if so, the number of people who visited the pavilion ;

(c) whether Government have been able to secure some orders for export of the items displayed therein ; and

(d) if so, the details with value thereof ?

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