12.05 hrs.

[Translation]

STATEMENT RE: MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICE FOR RAW JUTE AND RAW COTTON FOR 1989-90 SEASON

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BHAJAN LAL): Sir, the Government have fixed the minimum support prices for raw jute and raw cotton for 1989-90 season.

The basic variety for fixation of minimum support price for raw jute has been changed from W-5 to TD-5 grade, the early sown olitorious jute, in Assam because of the wider adoption of TD-5 grade.

The minimum support price for basic variety i.e. TD-5 grade of raw jute in Assam for the 1989-90 season has been fixed at Rs. 280/- per quintal, which is Rs. 17.50 per quintal higher than the corresponding support price in the previous season.

It has also been decided to increase the price differential between TD-5 and W-5 grades of raw jute to Rs. 15/- per quintal as against Rs. 12.50 per quintal in the previous season. As a result, the minimum support price for W-5 grade in Assam for the 1989-90 season works out to Rs. 265/- per quintal as against Rs. 250/- per quintal for 1988-89 season.

The corresponding prices for other grades of capsularis and olitorious jute will be fixed by the Jute Commissioner in the light of normal market price differentials.

The Jute Corporation of India will as usual undertake price support operations in case the prices tend to fall below the minimum support prices. It has also been decided that the Jute Corporation of India should carefully rationalise the releases of stocks of raw jute held by it in order to meet

the exigencies of a possible rise in the prices in the lean period.

The minimum support price for raw cotton of fair average quality for H-4 variety in the long and superior long cotton for 1989-90 season shall be Rs. 650/- per quintal giving an increase of Rs. 50/- per quintal over the minimum support price fixed for 1988-89 season. The minimum support price for raw cotton of fair average quality for F-414/H-777 variety shall be Rs. 540/- per quintal. This price is higher by Rs. 40/- per quintal over the corresponding price of the previous season. The minimum support prices for varieties other than H-4 and F-414/ H-777 will be fixed by the Textile Commissioner on the basis of the normal price differentials.

The Cotton Corporation of India will undertake price support operations in case market prices of raw cotton tend to fall below the level of minimum support prices fixed by the Government.

I am confident the incentives offered by the Government in terms of substantial increases in the minimum support prices will enthuse farmers to achieve further increases in production and productivity of jute and cotton.

12.07 hrs.

[English]

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) Estimates Committee

SHRI ASUTOSH LAW(Dum Dum): I beg to move:

" That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required

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[Sh. Asutosh Law]

by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, thirty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Estimates for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

Elections to Committee

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 311 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, thirty members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Estimates for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

(ii) Public Accounts Committee

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): I beg to move:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by sub-rule (1) of Rule 309 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Accounts for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the members of this House do proceed to elect in the manner required by Sub-rule (1) of Rule 309 of the Rules of procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, fifteen members from among themselves to serve as members of the Committee on Public Ac-

counts for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989."

The motion was adopted.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

[English]

Recommendation to Rajya Sabha to nominate Members

SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN (Jalgaon): I beg to move:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is:

"That this House do recommend to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the House for the term beginning on the 1st May, 1989 and do communicate to this House the names of the members so nominated by Rajya Sabha."

The motion was adopted