

COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDA-BRATA BARUA) I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 642 of the Companies Act, 1956 —

(i) The Cost Accounting Records (Dyes) Rules, 1976 published in Notification No GSR 605 in Gazette of India dated the 1st May, 1976

(ii) The Cost Accounting Records (Rayon) Rules 1976 published in Notification No GSR 606 in Gazette of India dated the 1st May 1976 [Placed in Library See No LT-10868/76]

(2, (i) A copy of the Report pertaining to the execution of the provisions of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act 1969, for the period from 1st January to 31st December, 1974 under section 62 of the said Act

(ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying simultaneously the Hindi version of the above Report [Placed in Library See No LT-10860/76]

ANNUAL REPORT OF UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION FOR 1973-74

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D P YADAV) I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the University Grants Commission for the year 1973-74 under section 18 of the University Grants Commission Act, 1956 [Placed in Library See No LT-10870/76]

11 03 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED CLOSURE OF MORE THAN TEN JUTE MILLS IN WEST BENGAL

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore) Mr Speaker, Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Commerce to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

“Reported closure of more than ten jute mills in West Bengal during the last few weeks and its effect on the country's economy and employment position”

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (PROF D P CHATTOPADHYAYA)—Mr Speaker Jute Industry occupies an extremely important position in the industrial profile and exports spectrum of the country. The industry relies to a large extent for its health on its export prospects. There has been a decline in the volume of our exports of jute goods as had been indicated by me recently on the floor of this House. The industry's health has not been too good on account of this phenomenon.

A statement showing the details of jute mills which are lying closed at present is laid on the Table of the House. All the units closed other than the one located in Kanpur are situated in West Bengal which has the highest concentration of jute mills. The total labour complement of the units which are lying close at present is about 31 000. Government are seriously concerned over the closure of mills and consequent loss of employment to a large number of workers.

However the causes of the closure of the Mills are diverse and complex. It will be evident from the statement laid on the Table of the House that out of 10 mills which are now lying closed, two namely Kanpur Jute Udyog