

against the provision of Rs. 17.5 crores made in the Fourth Plan for the National Textile Corporation and how the mills have already been selected different from the other closed mills;

(b) the reasons for which stocks rose from 16.6 per cent to 17.5 per cent and profits fell considering that in the year 1967, the loom activity was 77.2 per cent and spindle activity 68.5 per cent in working mills and that 80 mills were closed down;

(c) in case this state of textile industry is due to the disproportionate increase in the prices of cotton, the new measures taken by Government to protect and progress cotton cultivation during the last two years and the results thereof; and

(d) whether the plight of the mills is due to consumer resistance to high prices and if so, how our prices compare with world prices, which may be stated in terms of grey cloth?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK): (a) The provision of Rs. 17.5 crores in the Fourth Five-year Plan for the National Textile Corporation is primarily meant for acquiring, working and modernising the mills taken over by Government under the Cotton Textile Companies Act, 1968. The provision can also be utilised, with the concurrence of Government, for meeting working capital and other requirements of the mills which are under Government management under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(b) During the year 1967, the stocks of cloth fluctuated from month to month and there was no undue rise in their accumulation. The reason for the rise in the stocks of yarn was the slackening of demand from the decentralised sector of handlooms and powerlooms.

(c) The difficulties of the cotton textile industry not entirely due to increase in the prices of cotton. However Government have taken the following measures to improve cotton cultivation :—

- (i) The schemes of package programmes under which all the essential inputs

needed to maximise yield are applied in specific areas with assured water supply have been continued and intensified.

- (ii) A centrally sponsored scheme for increasing the production of extra long staple variety, Sea Island Andrews, has been taken up in specified areas.

- (iii) Demonstration schemes have been enlarged and extended.

- (iv) Control over the prices of cotton was removed with effect from 1.9.1967 and support prices are fixed from year to year. The production of cotton in 1967-68 and 1968-69 was higher than that in the two preceding years.

- (d) The difficulties of the textile mills are not due to consumer resistance to high prices.

#### Formation of Rings by Suppliers

\*379 SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government are aware of the tendency among suppliers of equipments to Government and its agencies to form rings in order to get unduly higher prices for their equipments.

(b) whether any concrete instance of such attempt has been brought to the notice of Government;

(c) if so, the names of the suppliers who had indulged in such practices; and

(d) the action which has been taken against them?

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

(c) A list of suppliers involved is laid on the Table of the House; [*Placed in Library. See. No. LT—1545/69*].

(d) Prices quoted under ring formations were brought to competitive level through negotiations with individual firms or by counter offer on the basis of lower rate quoted by the suppliers outside the ring. In certain cases the ring firms tendered and apology to Government for their misconduct. No contract was concluded with those firms till the ring was broken.

#### Arms Aid Received by Pakistan from Various Sources

- \*380. SHRI M.L. SONDHI:  
SHRI HEM RAJ:  
SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA:  
SHRI R. K. BIRLA:  
SHRI SHARDA NAND:  
SHRI BHARAT SINGH  
CHAUHAN:  
SHRI HUKAM CHAND  
KACHWAI:  
SHRI RAM SINGH AYARWAL:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of arms Pakistan has obtained from the various sources during the last one year; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to meet the threat to India in view of the declared hostile attitude of Pakistan Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI SWARAN SINGH): (a) The acquisitions by Pakistan during the last one year include Mirage III-E aircrafts, air-to-air, surface-to-air and anti-tank missiles Midget submarines, T-55 tanks, 130 mm guns, tank and artillery ammunition, spares for tanks and aircrafts and material for the ordnance factories.

(b) Government are alive to the situation created by the Pakistani military build-up and adequate steps are taken to meet the threats to our security.

#### Military Vehicles sold through the Department of Disposals

- \*381. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI: Will

the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that almost every year, a large number of military vehicles are scrapped and are sold through the Department of Disposals ;

(b) if so, the system of valuation for sale purposes of such vehicles ; and

(c) the steps being taken to ensure that the full realisable value of such vehicles is recovered and that there are no sales below reasonable prices ?

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

(b) Guiding prices for the sale of the vehicles by auction are determined on the basis of the condition of the vehicles and the sale realisation for similar vehicles in the recent past.

(c) Wide publicity is given to important auctions and tenders through newspapers and other media including the All India Radio. Auctions are arranged through experienced auctioneers, who also arrange for adequate local publicity. Responsible Government Officers supervise the auctions and keep a check on whether the maximum bids received compare favourably with the predetermined guiding prices. While selling vehicles by tender, the highest prices offered are accepted provided they compare favourably with the sale realisations of identical vehicles in the recent past.

#### अमरीका में पाकिस्तान द्वारा भारत के विरुद्ध प्रचार

\*382. श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री : क्या वंदेशिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि अमरीका से शस्त्रास्त्र प्राप्त करने के लिए पाकिस्तान ने