

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI CHOWDHRY RAM SEWAK) : (a). No, Sir,

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Rise in Price of Cotton Yarn

*381. SHRI MUHAMMAD SHERIFF: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been a steep rise in the prices of cotton yarn and that resulted in the closure of handlooms in the country ;

(b) the approximate number of handlooms closed down due to this and the number of persons became jobless ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to rehabilitate such jobless persons in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT) : (a) There has been some rise in the prices of yarn but there are no reports of any closure of handlooms.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Nuclear tests by U.S.S.R., U.S.A., U.K. and France after Nuclear Test and Treaty

*382 SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state ;

(a) the number of underground nuclear tests conducted by U.S.S.R., U.S.A., Britain and France since international agreement regarding ban on nuclear test was reached ;

(b) the break-ups of such nuclear and thermonuclear tests by each country and their detonation capacities ;

(c) the number of tests conducted by China with fissionable and fusionable fuels upto now and explosive powers released during these tests ;

(d) the reasons for not conducting underground nuclear tests by India in order to acquire experimental knowledge about the technique of fission and fusion of

nuclear fuels assembled in critical mass ; and

(e) whether Government propose to revise its policy to allow Indian scientists to conduct nuclear reaction inside assembly of nuclear fuels in critical mass ?

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF FINANCE, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND MINISTER OF PLANNING (SHRIMATI INDIRA GANDHI) : (a) to (c). A statement giving the factual information is placed on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—2197/69*]

(d) and (e). The policy of the Government of India is to develop atomic energy for peaceful purposes, and its programmes are devised accordingly. The Indian Atomic Energy Commission keeps itself abreast of the latest developments in the entire range of peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Indian Proposal for Solution of Vietnam Problem in U.N.O.

*383: SHRI D. N. PATODIA :
SHRI N. R. LASKAR :
SHRI R. BARUA :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India has made some proposals in the U. N. General Assembly for the solution of the Vietnam issue ;

(b) if so, the particulars of the suggestions made ; and

(c) whether the suggestions received any favourable response from the parties at dispute and those of other powers ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b). No specific proposals have been made. However, addressing the session of the U. N. General Assembly the Minister of External Affairs touched upon the Vietnam issue. The relevant extract of his speech is laid as statement on the Table of the House.

(c) The speech was generally well received.