

on his way back to Europe from Japan. During his stopover in Delhi, views were exchanged with him on the various steps that might be taken to correct India's persistent trade imbalance with the European Economic Community and on the likely time-table for negotiations with the U. K. on their application to enter the Community, as a full member.

#### Trade with Cuba

- \*1301. SHRI NAVAL KISHORE SHARMA:  
SHRI N. R. LASKAR:  
SHRI MAYAVAN:  
SHRI DHANDAPANI:  
SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Cuba propose to import large quantity of machinery rail track, rail wagons, etc. from India;

(b) whether any such proposal is under consideration of Government;

(c) whether there is any difficulty in starting trade with Cuba; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b). No specific proposal has been received from the Government of Cuba for importing machinery or railway equipment from India.

(c) and (d). There is no ban on trading with Cuba.

#### जवानों को दी जाने वाली 'किट' में सुधार

\* 1302. श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारतीय जवान अपनी पीठ पर जो 'किट' ले जाता है उसमें गत 40 वर्षों से कोई सुधार नहीं

किया गया है, यद्यपि यह वजन में भारी होती है, इसको बांधने तथा पीठ से हटाने में अधिक समय लगता है और यह शरीर में चुभनी है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो 'किट' में सुधार करने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि अमरीकी 'किट' सर्वोत्तम है और पाकिस्तानी 'किट' भी भारतीय 'किट' की अपेक्षा बहुत अच्छी है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार विभिन्न देशों में प्रयोग में लाई जाने वाली 'किट' को ध्यान में रखते हुए भारतीय 'किट' में सुधार करने का है ?

प्रतिरक्षा और इस्पात तथा भारी इंजीनियरिंग मन्त्री (श्री स्वर्ण सिंह) :

(क) जी नहीं। अन्तिम मानक संशोधित किट 1965 में प्रारम्भ किया गया था। जो किट अब भारतीय सेना में प्रयोग हो रहा है वह ना तो अनुचित रूप से भारी अथवा दुसाध्य है और ना ही असुविधाजनक है।

(ख) तथा (घ). फिर भी और अधिक हल्के मानक किट को प्रारम्भ करने के लिये कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं।

(ग) जी, नहीं।

#### Low import quota for shoddy sector of Wool Industry

- \*1303. SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:  
SHRI JAI SINGH:  
SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the import quota of the shoddy sector of wool industry has been drastically cut down while the overall allocations for the import of raw material for wool industry remains the same;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to restore the quota to its previous position?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) to (c). An allocation of Rs. 150 lakhs has been made for the shoddy sector during the period October, 1969 to September, 1970, which includes a special quota of Rs. 30 lakhs to the State Trading Corporation. This allocation has had to be carried forward from the preceding period viz. October, 1968 to September, 1969, due to non-utilisation of the quota allotted to the industry consequent upon non-delivery of yarn by spinners to the weavers as per contract entered into between them.

#### Diversification of Exports

\*1304. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a recent survey of exports conducted by the World Trade Department of the Indian Chambers of Commerce shows that the scope for diversification of the country's exports is much greater than what had so far been realised;

(b) whether according to the said survey, among traditional products, large export potential exists or can be created for Jute manufactures, cotton textiles and Tea; and

(c) if so, the reasons for which exports of these traditional products have been declining and the steps if any, being taken to take advantage of the vast scope for diversification?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) to (c). Government have called for a copy of the report under reference. Specific recommendations contained in the report will be considered on its receipt.

#### Progress made on Indo-Pak Boundary Demarcation

\*1305. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indo-Pak officials met at

Dacca to consider the progress of demarcation of boundaries between the two countries;

(b) if so, whether Pakistan has sounded the Indian delegation that it will not cooperate unless Berubari is demarcated; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Indian team to Pak gesture in the meeting?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir; on March 30 & 31, 1970.

(b) The Pakistani authorities refused to cooperate in demarcating certain sectors of the West Bengal—East Pakistan boundary unless demarcation of the Berubari sector is completed.

(c) As on earlier occasions, the Indian team explained to the Pakistani authorities that until the Court injunction restraining demarcation work in the Berubari region was lifted by the Supreme Court, before whom the matter is now pending, no demarcation was possible in the region.

#### Demand for increasing prices of controlled varieties of cloth

\*1306. SHRI HIMATSINGKA: SHRI DEORAO PATIL:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Cotton Mills Federation have lately demanded a rise in the prices of controlled varieties of cloth;

(b) if so, the precise nature of the demand;

(c) whether the matter has been referred to the Textile Commissioner for opinion, and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the decision taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b). The Indian Cotton Mills Federation have recently urged an increase in the prices of controlled cloth on account of increase in prices of cotton, wages, stores, power, fuel, coal and dyes and chemicals and also due to increase in rates of interest and overhead charges.

(c) The Textile Commissioner has been