

of the industry, Government have also recently announced a number of measures relating to industrial licensing and registration procedure. Wide publicity has also been given to specific industrial fields in which additional capacity has been considered necessary and also to industries in which foreign collaboration may be permitted in order *inter alia* to produce items which have been hitherto imported.

Harassment to Indians in South Vietnam

*610. SHRI N. R. LASKAR :
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :
SHRI D. AMAT :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of the assurances by the South Vietnam Government, harassment to Indians is still continuing in South Vietnam;

(b) whether it has become impossible for the Indians to carry on their business in Saigon and some Indian concerns have closed down their business; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Some stray incidents of harassment to Indians continue to be reported.

(b) and (c). According to the information available to Government, the great majority of Indians and Indian concerns are carrying on their business normally. Government have drawn the attention of Saigon Government to their duty to protect the lives and property of all Indian nationals living there.

Setting up of Cotton Corporation

*611. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to refer to the statement made on the 31st July, 1970 and state :

(a) the further progress made in the setting up of the Cotton Corporation of India;

(b) whether the appointments of the Chairman, the Managing Director and other Directors have been made; and

(c) whether the Corporation has started functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) The constitution of the Board of Directors is nearing finalisation. Arrangements for office accommodation and appointment of requisite personnel are underway.

(b) Appointment of the Chairman has been made. Selection of the Managing Director has been made and that of other Directors will be finalised shortly.

(c) Not yet.

Cases of Espionage and Pilferage in Defence Establishments

*612. DR. SUSHILA NAYAR : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many cases of espionage and pilferage have come to light in the Defence Establishments during the last one year;

(b) if so, the number of such cases which have come to notice;

(c) the number and names of persons arrested by Government in those cases; and

(d) the measures taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJWAN RAM) : (a) to (c). A number of cases of suspected espionage and pilferage in Defence Establishments have come to light during the last one year. It will not be in the public interest to give the details of the cases of espionage. Details of cases of major pilferages are being collected and will be placed on the table of the House.

(d) Several steps are being taken by the various security agencies to tighten up security arrangements, e. g., special training to the Security staff, stricter measures on the entry and exit to sensitive units and formations,

stricter enforcement of instructions regarding safe custody of classified documents, etc.

Discussions with USSR on Vietnam Problem

*613. SHRI PLOO MODY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of Foreign Ministry officials recently visited Moscow;

(b) whether there was any discussion about the Vietnamese problems with the Russians; and

(c) whether any suggestions emerged as a result of these discussions for the solution of the Vietnamese problem and, if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. A team of officials from the Ministry of External Affairs visited Moscow in May 1970 for the annual bilateral consultations.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of such discussions are confidential. Government has already stated clearly in this House its views on how the Vietnam problem may be resolved.

Export of Shoes to U. S. S. R.

*614. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of pairs of shoes India supplies to U. S. S. R. every year;

(b) whether it is a fact that the lack of proper organisation of the shoe trade in India is responsible for our lagging behind in shoe exports; and

(c) what remedial action Government propose to take to promote this export further ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) India supplied 9.3 lakh pairs and 10 lakh pairs of leather

shoes to USSR during 1968-69 and 1969-70 respectively.

(b) and (c). Export of shoes to USSR as well as India's global export of footwear has shown a continuing marginal increase in recent years. Exports are expected to increase further once adequate progress is made in the introduction of needed mechanisation in the hand-made sector as well as creation of additional export-oriented mechanised production facilities.

Supply of French Military Hardware to Pakistan

*615. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the recent bilateral talks held in Paris, the question of the supply of French military hardware to Pakistan was raised by the Indian Delegation; and

(b) if so, what was the attitude of the French delegation on the issue ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Government of France have not been left in any doubt about our views on the subject of the supply of military hardware to Pakistan. They have been told that any further arms build up by Pakistan would constitute a threat to the security of India and to the peace and stability of the sub-continent. Government fervently hope that the Government of France would take these views into serious consideration and not undertake any further supply of arms to Pakistan.

Requirements of Jawans Posted in Eastern Sector

*616. SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :
SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of Members of Parliament which visited the forward areas in the Eastern Sector in a report