

(a) whether a joint economic commission to strengthen bilateral ties between India and Trinidad and Tobago is proposed to be established; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India and the Government of Trinidad and Tobago have agreed in principle to establish a Joint Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific and Technical Cooperation to provide an institutional framework for keeping under review and enhancing bilateral cooperation in these areas.

Bilateral Agreement on Export of Textiles with Canada

7966. SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new five year (1987-91) bilateral agreement with Canada on export of textiles has been reached;

(b) if so, the details of the agreement; and

(c) to what extent it will help to boost the textile exports and by what time the agreement is likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details of the new Agreement are as indicated below:

(i) The Agreement is valid for a period of five years from 1987 to 1991.

(ii) There are only four products under specific restraints, namely, tailored collared shirts, trousers, jackets and worsted fabrics. Blouses and dresses will be within a group limit. Two products namely, terry-towels and

work gloves, have been dropped from restraint in the new Agreement.

(iii) The base level increase for garments for 1987 is around 10%.

(iv) The total flexibilities to the extent of 15% have been provided for all categories.

(v) The growth rates for all products under specific restraint will be 6% per year and for worsted fabric 4.5% per year.

(vi) Handloom garments will continue to be outside restraint for all categories except tailored collared shirts. The quota level for tailored collared shirts has been increased from 4.02 lakh pieces to 16 lakh pieces.

(vii) A provision that the Government of Canada will not undertake any unilateral trade measures, restricting our access under the Agreement has been included.

(viii) The Agreement provides for conversion of adult garments to children's garments in the ratio of 3 adult garments to 5 children garments

(ix) "India Items" and other handloom products will continue to enjoy exempt status.

(c) The Agreement will provide increased market access of 15% in 1987 as compared to the trade/restraint levels prevailing in 1986, the last year of the previous agreement.

Talks with Bangladesh on Chakma Refugees

7968. PROF. RAMAKRISHNA MORE: SHRI H.B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether official level talks have recently been held with Bangladesh to

solve the problems of Chakma refugees who are camping in Tripura;

(b) if so, the results thereof; and

(c) if not, when the talks are likely to be held?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI): (a) and (b). The question of the return of the Chakma refugees, now in Tripura, to their homes in Bangladesh has been discussed with the Government of Bangladesh on several occasions in the recent past. Bangladesh has been requested to create conditions in the Chittagong Hill Tracts which would facilitate the voluntary return of the refugees. Unfortunately so far the refugees have refused to return to Bangladesh, saying that they are not convinced that they will be safe on return to their homes.

(c) This is one of the subjects which might come up when the foreign Secretary visits Bangladesh towards the end of this month.

Visit of Angolan President

7969. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Angolan President visited India during the 1st week of April, 1987;

(b) if so, the nature of discussion held with him;

(c) whether any agreements have been made; and

(d) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The meetings with the Angolan President and his delegation on a wide range of bilateral issues laid the foundation for the consolidation of political

understanding and economic and commercial relations between the two countries. The two sides also exchanged views on international issues in general and those relating to Southern Africa in Particular.

(c) and (d). No, Sir. However two Protocols were signed during the visit. These are:-

- (1) Protocol Relating to deputation of Indian personnel to the People's Republic of Angola.
- (2) Additional Protocol to the Agreement on Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of Angola in the field of Communications.

Production of Controlled Cloth

7970. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual production of controlled cloth in the country; and

(b) the number of units producing controlled cloth in various sectors?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The total production of Controlled Cloth in the Country during 1986-87 was 152.00 million metres of Cotton Cloth and 37.00 million metres of Polyester cotton blended shirting.

(b) At present Controlled Cloth is being produced by 59 Mills of the National Textile Corporation.

Expansion of N.T.C. Head Office

7971. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of employees working in the National Textile Corporation in its head office situated in New Delhi;