

Proposal for Trade Expansion With Bulgaria

6346. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to expand trade ties with Bulgaria ;

(b) if so, the the target set for the expansion of trade with Bulgaria in 1987 ; and

(c) the items proposed to be exported to Bulgaria in 1987 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir. Efforts are being taken by both India and Bulgaria to promote the two-way trade turnover between the two countries to reach a level of about US \$ 130 million in 1987. The items proposed to be exported to Bulgaria are : Oil Cakes, cotton yarn, raw cotton, steel wire ropes, graphite electrodes, iron ore/pellets, manganese ore, Mica and mica products, finished leather, leather goods, Knitwear and garments, textiles, drugs and pharmaceuticals, pesticides, black pepper, coffee and instant coffee, veneer, Machinery and equipment including textile machinery, jute products, tobacco, Electronic items, computer software and peripherals for personal computers and miscellaneous items including photocopying machines, electric typewriters, etc.

Re-Imbursement of Losses to Eastern Subsidiary Mills of NTC

6347. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 15,000 workers of the Eastern subsidiary of the National Textile Corporation will face dispersal following the decision of the of the Government on the non-reimbursement of losses after March 31, 1987 ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to make up the losses of the eastern mills in order to stop closing of the mills ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Visit of Chairman of US House of Representative Sub-Committee

6348. DR. V. VENKATESH : Will the Minister of External Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Chairman of the US House of Representative Sub-Committee for Asian and Pacific Affairs had met the Prime Minister in December, 1986 ; and

(b) if so, the outcome of the discussion held ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI NARAYAN DATT TIWARI) : (a) The Chairman of the Asian and Pacific Affairs Sub-committee of the US House of Representatives Steven Solarz called on the Prime Minister and held discussions with Indian dignitaries and officials in December, 1986 in New Delhi.

(b) The discussions covered bilateral and regional issues.

Jute Packaging

6349. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether jute packaging has been made compulsory for certain commodities ;

(b) if so, the names of those commodities and the estimated requirement of jute bags for them ;

(c) whether Government are aware that cement plants have been mostly using old jute bags instead of new ones ; and

(d) if so, the requirement of jute bags as calculated on the basis of cement production and the actual consumption of jute bags by cement Industry ?