

ment so as to increase productivity.

(d) It is not possible to indicate the comparative costs of products of NTC and private sector because of a very large range of such products. Besides, some of the items produced by NTC, e.g. controlled cloth, are not produced in the private sector. Reasons for high cost of production in NTC units include old and obsolete machinery, excess work force etc.

Indian Tea price Fall in London

3062. SHRI D. B. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of Indian tea have fallen in the first half of 1987 at the auctions held in London; and

(b) if so, the extent thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS-MUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The extent of decline is as follows:

Month	(price in pence/kg)	
	1986	1987
Jan	129.40	140.02
Feb	129.15	131.15
Mar	140.27	129.45
Apr	136.84	96.03
May	122.97	86.04
Jun	75.66	66.86

The decline in the price of London auction is largely attributed to the presence of large quantities of plain teas from African countries.

Reduction in Cost of Hank Yarn

3063. SHRI K. S. RAO: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) to what extent the hank yarn obligation policy has contributed to the sickness in the textile industry;

(b) the corrective steps being taken by the Government to improve the health of textile mills by way of reducing the extent of such obligations;

(c) whether Government propose to reduce the cost of manufacture of hank yarn; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) The hank yarn obligation Scheme is not one of the reasons for sickness in the textile industry.

(b) to (d). Do not arise in view of (a) above.

Promotional Avenues of Teachers in School of Foreign Languages

3064. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the teachers at the School of Foreign Languages have no promotional avenues;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to remove the stagnation and to provide the teachers parity of pay scales and service conditions with their counterparts in the Universities and the NDA etc;

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this direction; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE