

DHANA POOJARY) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Sick textile mills

922. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) Whether it is a fact that Government are considering not to take over sick textile mills in future;

(b) if so, how Government propose to safeguard the interests of such mills as well as the worker working therein;

(c) whether Government propose to enact any legislation to ensure that these mills may not become sick;

(d) if so, the time by which would be done; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) and (b). Under the New Textile Policy where a unit has no expectation of becoming of viable in a reasonable period of time, there may be no alternative but to allow the unit to close provided the interest of the workers are protected. Take-over by the Government or nationalisation of such sick unit does not provide solution to the problem of sickness and the Government would not as a rule intervene in such cases. The policy also envisages the creation of a Rehabilitation Fund to provide relief to safeguard the interest of workers who might be displaced by permanent closure of units.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) A Nodal Agency as envisaged in the new Textile Policy has been set up to evolve and manage Rehabilitation Packages in respect of such textile units that are found to be potentially viable.

[*English*]

Position of balance of payment

923. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : SHRI C. P. THAKUR :

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the balance of payments position of our country is worsening ;

(b) if so, the position on date; and

(c) the steps taken to improve the position ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : (a) and (b). The balance of payments position has somewhat weakened during the current financial year, as reflected by the movement in overall foreign exchange reserves, which have declined by Rs. 324 crores during the first ten months of the current financial year.

(c) Measures have been taken to reduce the need for imports of key bulk items, such as petroleum products, sugar and edible oils. The balance of payments position is kept under constant review with a view to maintaining its viability.

Export of cotton yarn

924. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) the value of cotton yarn exported during the last three years, year-wise and likely to be exported during the year 1985-86;

(b) whether Government have recently announced its new cotton yarn export policy; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and how far it will be helpful to boost the export ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) Statement