

†DISPARITY IN THE PRICES OF YARN BOUGHT BY HANDLOOMS FROM MILLS

*144. SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

SHRI ARAVINDAKSHAN
KAIMAL:

SHRI KESAVAN (THAZ-
HAVA):

SYED NAUSHER ALI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the handlooms pay not less than 25 per cent higher prices for the yarn they buy by way of reeling, bundling, bailing charges plus insurance and transport, and profits of mills and middleman as agreed to by the Powerloom Enquiry Committee headed by Shri Ashoka Mehta; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to remove the disparity in the prices of yarn brought by the handlooms from mills?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Sir. The Powerloom Enquiry Committee report refers to handicaps of powerloom industry *vis-a-vis* the mills and not the handloom industry.

(b) The following steps have been taken:

(1) No excise duty is levied on yarn in hank form in which it is consumed by the handloom industry for counts less than 29Nf and for 29Nf and above the rates of duty have been fixed at levels substantially lower than the corresponding rates of yarn in non-hank form in which yarn is consumed by the mill sector.

(2) A rebate is given on the sales of handloom cloth effected by the cooperative sector at the rate of 5 paise per rupee. Special additional rebates are also allowed on the

sales of handloom cloth during specific periods in a year.

COAL PRICES

*248. SHRI YELLA REDDY:

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the private coal industry has asked for an increase in coal prices;

(b) if so, what are the reasons advanced by the industry for increasing the coal prices; and

(c) what decision has been taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) to (c) The question of coal industry asking for an increase in prices of coal or Government granting the same does not arise, since Government have decontrolled the prices of coal.

REPORT OF FINANCIAL CONTROLLER OF N.C.D.C.

*249. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Financial Controller of the National Coal Development Corporation has pointed out serious irregularities in the working of the Corporation in his recent report to the Board of Directors of the Corporation;

(b) whether Government have examined this report; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

(a) In his quarterly "Financial Report" for January—March, 1967, the Financial Controller of the National Coal Development Corporation has made an attempt to analyse various causes leading to unsatisfactory financial position of the Corporation.

†Transferred from the 28th July, 1967.