

REPRESENTATION OF COIR WORKERS IN COIR BOARD

768. SHRI NIREN GHOSH:
SHRI ARVINDAKSHAN
KAIMAL:
SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in spite of the repeated requests of the Coir workers trade unions in Kerala, no representation has been given to them in the Coir Board;

(b) whether it is also a fact that coir exporters who are not the actual producers and who have disbanded their coir factories are in majority in the coir board; and

(c) if answers to part (a) and (b) above be in affirmative, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Sir. Three seats in the Coir Board which are reserved for persons engaged in the production of husk, coir and coir yarn and in the manufacture of coir products are filled by representatives of the All India Trade Union Congress in Kerala. The three members represent the Travancore Coir Factory Workers' Union, Coir Workers' Union and Travancore Coir Workers' Union respectively.

(b) Not as far as Government are aware, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

IMPORT OF RUSSIAN FILMS

407. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Russian films imported to India yearly during the last 10 years;

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(b) whether the import of Russian films to India have increased within the last ten years; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c)> A statement is placed in the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The number of Russian films imported to India during the last 10 years is not available. The length and value of films imported annually is given below:—

Year	Value in Rs. lakhs Quantity in lakh metres	
	Quantity	Value
1957	3.33	1.56
1958	3.67	4.02
1959	0.40	0.71
1960	0.19	0.46
1961	1.53	1.64
1962	0.61	0.86
1963	0.60	0.72
1964	0.78	0.76
1965	0.54	1.16
1966	1.40	1.45

(b) There has been no uniform increase or decrease in the import of films from Russia in the last 10 years. During 1957 and 1958 more than 3 lakh metres of Russian films were imported. This decreased considerably during 1960 to 1965 except for 1961 when it was 1.5 lakhs metres. During 1966, imports were 1.4 lakh

(c) Does not arise.

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