

1. The contracts against S. Nos. 1 to 11 were made on price fixing basis linked to the average of London Daily price prevailing during specified periods except the following quantities in respect of S. Nos. 3 and 4: —

(a) SI No. 3.—500 tonnes (out of 0.99 lakh tonnes) in 1966 were sold at a fixed price of £ 18—Sh. 10—od per tonne C & F., Singapore.

(b) S. No. 4.—25,000 tons under 1965 and 25,000 tons under 1966 contracts were sold at a fixed price of £ 46—Sh. 11—6d. and £ 47—Sh. 10—od. per ton respectively being India's Negotiated Price Quotas under the Commonwealth Sugar Agreement.

2. The contracts against S. No. 12 for export to U.S.A. were made on the basis of the average of the contract No. 7 spot quotations of New York Coffee and Sugar Exchange Inc., during a specified period.

3. The contract against S. No. 13 for export of 1,000 tonnes in 1965 was made at a fixed price of £ 25/- per tonne C. & F.]

STANDARD WEIGHTS AND MEASURES FOR TEXTILE INDUSTRY

1068. SHRI B. V. ABDULLAH KOYA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in conformity with the policy of introducing the new system of weights and measures throughout the country, the Government of India have brought the spinning mill industry under the system;

(b) whether Government are aware of the fact that certain Mills have recently reverted to the old system of selling their yarn in bundles of 10 lbs;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the fact that this reversion to the old system by some of the Mill owners is causing confusion, hardships and loss to the labourers and consumers of yarn particularly to the hand-loom weavers; and

(d) if so, what steps the Government propose to give relief to the adversely affected parties?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE:
(SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (d) A statement is attached.

STATEMENT

Government introduced metric system in the Textile Industry in 1962-63, but, in view of inconvenience caused, reverted to the English counts system in 1966. The difficulties were specially found in regard to the counts and the weights of yarn being exported and sold in internal markets. At present the counts adopted are in English system and the weight of yarn packed is normally given in pounds. Linear measures of cloth is in metres.

2. Many of the mills have reverted to the old system of selling yarn in bundles of 10 pounds. Even during the currency of the metric system, most of the mills only indicated the converted weight in Kilograms. These figures in kilograms are not now being shown.

3. As far as Government are aware, handloom weavers have been familiar with the English counts and to the declaration of weight of bundles of yarn in pounds (avoirdupois) for a long time. The reversal to this old & well-established practice should not have caused any serious confusion or hardship or loss either to the labourers or to the consumers of yarn.

COST STRUCTURE OF VARIOUS GOODS

928. SHRI BANKA BEHARY DAS: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the cost structure of cotton, goods, (controlled variety), Sugar, cement, jute goods and matches;

(b) if so, what are the various broad elements included in the cost structure and what is the cost of those elements

Transferred from the 16th August, 1967.