

advise on various aspects pertaining to the textile machinery manufacturing industry with reference to the requirements of the textile machinery and its scope for expansion. This Committee, which meets periodically, has assessed the total requirements of textile machinery during the Second Plan period and, in the light of the scope that exists, has examined the production programmes of machinery. Steps are taken to allocate suitable quantities of raw materials like pig iron and steel to the industry. Imports of raw materials and stores which are not available indigenously are allowed to the extent required.

		Rs. (Crores)
(b)	1954-55	.. 3-12
	1955-56	.. 5-43

(c) The rise in production of textile machinery in the last five years has been about 600 per cent.—the current year's production being about Rs. 9 crores as compared to Rs. 1*2 crores before five years.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know whether it is a fact that on the 28th October the Minister of Industries had discussions on this subject with the representatives of the textile machinery manufacturers in Bombay? If so, what was the decision?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes, Sir. We tried to co-ordinate the activities of different manufacturers and also looked into the question of removing bottlenecks in raw material and capital goods for the industry?

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know whether the representatives of the manufacturers of textile machinery put forth any constructive suggestions for producing these items of machinery in India?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As the hon. House knows, the very fact that production has risen from Rs. 1*2 crores to Rs. 9 crores per annum in the space of a few years shows that various constructive suggestions have been received and implemented.

SHRI GOPIKRISHA VIJAIARGIYA: Are we still importing textile machinery?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Yes, Sir.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या मा० मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि देश में टेक्सटाइल मशीनरी का बना हुआ कितना माल स्टॉक में है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : टेक्सटाइल मशीनरी का बना हुआ स्टॉक कोई खास नहीं है । वैसे तो जाहिर है कि कमेटी की मीटिंग में यह बात आई थी कि कई लोगों के ३६ महीने तक के ऑर्डर बुक हुए हैं, वे अपनी डेलीवरी भी नहीं दे पाते हैं । लेकिन जहाँ तक स्टॉक का सवाल है, जैसे ही माल बनता है वैसे ही चला जाता है ।

As a matter of fact, one of the subjects which we discussed was how to rationalise the orders from overbooked factories to those having less orders.

'SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Is it a fact that the Indian textile millowners are preferring to use imported machinery?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: There is no question of preference. We are looking at the question wholly from the indigenous angle. What is produced in India is not allowed to be imported.

*332. [The questioner (Shri H. V. Tripathi) was absent. For answer vide col. 1924 infra.]

ACCUMULATION OF CLOTH STOCK WITH MILLS IN MADHYA PRADESH

*333. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that accumulation of cloth stocks with the mills in Madhya Pradesh is assuming a pro-

portion which is threatening closure of marginal units; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken or are proposed to be taken by Government to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) The present stock of cloth both unsold and sold with the mills of Madhya Pradesh State is less than two months' production and Government do not consider this situation as abnormal.

(b) The position of the Cotton Textile Industry is constantly kept under review and suitable relief measures, as and when considered necessary, will be taken.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know what is the normal stock supposed to be lying with the Mills and what is the present stock?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The present stock is less than two months' production. Two months' stock is normal.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether the reason is the congestion in foreign markets and that is why the mills are complaining every now and then of having increased stock of cloth in the mills?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The export situation has not increased very much. The main reason is that many of the mills have gone into the production of coarse cloth which they did not do before?

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether this state of things is also present in other States with other millowners?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Where there are more sensible millowners, this situation does not arise.

श्री राम सहाय : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि यह

एक्साइज ड्यूटी ज्यादा लगने की वजह से कपड़े की प्रोडक्शन पर कुछ खास असर पड़ा ?

श्री एन० कानूनगो : हां, कुछ असर पड़ा होगा क्योंकि एक्साइज ड्यूटी लगाने की वजह यह थी कि ज्यादा प्राफिट न हो ।

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know whether the Government of India has given any advice to the millowners as to how they can dispose of their production?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Well, whenever advice is sought, it is given. In the present case, it is a question of anticipating demands and not producing above the demand.

SHRI R. G. AGARWALA: Is it a fact that because of the high excise duty the marginal mills are closing down?

SHRI N. KANUNGO : It is a matter of opinion. I do not agree with it.

श्री नबाब सिंह चौहान : क्या सरकार का इसकी सूचना है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में भी कानपुर का जो कपड़ा व्यवसाय है वहां ज्यादा कपड़ा इकट्ठा हो जाने की वजह से उसमें बहुत कमी आ रही है ?

श्री एन० कानूनगो : मैंने कहा, यह जो ज्यादा कपड़ा कह रहे हैं यह कोई नयी चीज नहीं है . हमेशा रहती है ।

SHRI SONUSING DHANSING PATIL: Are Government aware that there is a considerable decline in the demand for cotton by mills and stocks of cotton are accumulating in the important cotton centres like Amraoti, Akola, Jalgaon, Dhulia, Pachara and Chalisgaon?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I do not think.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Is there any tendency for prices to fall as compared with last year?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Prices are showing a slight decline.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Is there still a reasonable margin of profit left for the producer?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It differs from establishment to establishment.

*334. [For answer, vide cols. 1919—22 infra.]

USE OF RADIO FOR EDUCATIVE PROPAGANDA

*335. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether Government propose to utilise the radio for educative propaganda, such as: how to live as good neighbours, duties of the people towards their Government, essentials of smooth travelling by rail and bus etc.?

THE PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY TO THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN): Educative programmes of the type mentioned by the Member are already being prepared. Talks on these subjects are frequently broadcast by A.I.R.

श्री पी० ना० रावभोज : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि पं० जवाहरलाल नेहरू जी ने जो यह कहा है कि अनाज बेस्ट नहीं करना चाहिए, इस बारे में क्या आप आल इंडिया रेडियो के माध्यम से लोगों को एजुकेट करते हैं ?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: It is a suggestion for action.

SETTING UP OF NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY COUNCILS

*336. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 185 in the Rajya Sabha on the 20th August, 1957 and state whether any decision has since been taken for the setting up of the National Productivity Council and other productivity councils for the various industries?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): The proposals are still under Government's consideration.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: May I know when they are likely to be finalised?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: By the first week of January.

IMPROVEMENT IN THE LOT OF DISPLACED LAND OWNERS

*337. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the representatives of the Punjab Government and the Ministry of Rehabilitation was held on or about the 18th October, 1957 in the district of Jullundur; and

(b) whether any decision was taken at the meeting about the improvement of the lot of displaced landowners and agricultural workers and if so, what?

THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.