

quarterly packings normally allowed. This accounts for additional 9252 bales raising the total exportable limit to about 54,000 bales per annum. A further quantity of 17,500 bales has also been released for free licensing on first come first served basis during the period July-December 1957 from the quantity remaining un-shipped by the mills or their nominees out of the allotments made in their favour in the last quarter.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know how far this policy of liberalisation is affecting the downward trend in prices?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It has not affected it at all.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: How far has it affected the export of yarn?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It is too early to say, but the shipment figures show some improvements.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Now that cotton prices have already recorded a decline, is it not desirable that the declining prices of yarn is also diverted to the benefit of the country and the consumer?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Inferences can be drawn either way.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: As exports of mill-made cloth have not reached the target, is it not the intention of Government to divert more and more yarn for purposes of cloth export?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: We have to keep the balance.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Is it not a fact that the production of handloom cloth has also not come up to target and, is it not the intention of Government to divert more and more of yarn to the handloom sector?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Yes, Sir, that is the policy and prices being what

they are, there will be no difficulty for handloom weavers to get their yarn at reasonable prices.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know the reason for the prices coming down this way and further is yarn produced more than the requirements?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: As I said earlier, I refuse to draw inferences.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: I asked for the reasons of the downward trend in prices. I wanted to know the reasons why the prices are coming down.

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Cotton prices have gone down slightly. Prices are not going down very much. They are within the range of 5 per cent.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: My question was, how has the decline in cotton prices changed the price structure of yarn?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It has not affected very materially because the fluctuations have been round about five per cent.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know the number of spinning mills that have been started during the last three years against the recommendations of the Karve Committee Report?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I would like to have notice.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is it not a fact that very recently a new spinning mill has been licensed at Dehra Dun?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I would like to have notice. This question related to exports and I am prepared to answer questions on this subject.

**PRODUCTION AND EXPORT OF PASHMINA  
WOOL**

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

(a) the total quantity of pashmina wool produced in India in 1956-57;

(b) the quantity consumed in India and that exported outside during that period; and

(c) the foreign exchange earnings therefrom?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA) : (a) Only small quantities are produced in India: exact information regarding its production in 1956-57 is not available.

(b) About 200 maunds are known to have been consumed in India in 1956: 1150 maunds were exported during the same period.

(c) Rs. 18 lakhs in 1956.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether pashmina is exported in its raw form or it is manufactured and then the finished products are exported?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, raw pashmina wool is exported. There is also an export of pashmina cloth but that is not classified separately in the statistics kept by us.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Pashmina wool is imported from Tibet and then it is exported but the answer said that some of it is produced in India also. May I know in what parts this wool is produced?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Only very small quantities are produced in India. The rest is imported from Tibet.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: This pashmina wool is used in manufacturing

pashmina cloth in Kashmir. Now that it is being exported out of the country in a raw condition, may I know what effect it is having on the pashmina industry in the Kashmir State?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Sir, only surplus quantities are exported. Whatever quantity is required by the indigenous producers is first allotted to them and only the surplus is sent out.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know the State in which pashmina wool is produced and also the climatic conditions and altitude necessary for rearing the sheep which produce pashmina wool?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: Almost the entire quantity is imported from Tibet.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether Government have thought it fit to convert the raw wool into finished products?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: As my hon. colleague has already explained, it has been our constant endeavour to convert raw wool into finished products. A complaint came both from the Punjab importers and the Kashmir importers that there has been great accumulation and that the indigenous industry is not taking it off. So, we called a general conference and decided that for every bale exported, they will have to surrender a certain quantity to the local manufacturer. Every local manufacturer is fully satisfied with the quantity of pashmina made available to him. So, it is our constant endeavour to see that more and more raw wool is converted into finished products in this country.

SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY: Sir, pashmina wool comes from Tibet *via* Kalimpong. Are Government getting that? If so, what is the quantity?