

imports are banned for the last one year of any foreign ink.

PANDIT S. S. N. TAWKHA: May I know what steps are being taken to improve the quality of the inks manufactured here so as to make them compare favourably with the foreign inks?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Sir, the Tariff Commission went into this aspect very much, and I am very happy to say that they found that the Indian inks like Camel, Sule-kha, Harihar and Nuluk and Indian manufacture of foreign well-known brands were of excellent Quality. If any hon. Member at any time feels that any quality has deteriorated or any particular bottle is bad, and if he draws our attention to that, we shall certainly look into the matter.

DIFFICULTIES FELT BY INDIANS IN BURMA ON ACCOUNT OF ALLOCATION OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE

♦61. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indians in Burma are experiencing difficulties about the allocation of foreign exchange 'to them, as the term 'dependents' has been denned by the Government of Burma to include only wife and children; and

(b) whether the restriction imposed has caused hardships to thousands of really needy widowed mothers, unmarried sisters, aged parents etc., who are in India and are dependent on their relations in Burma?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON) : (a) and (b). No individual cases have come to our notice. We understand however that some Indian citizens in Burma are experiencing considerable difficulties in this regard and our Embassy have therefore taken up this issue with the Burmese Government.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the All-Burma Indian Cong-

ress presided over by Mr. Burjorji pointed out that they were feeling difficulties because adequate foreign exchange was not placed at their disposal to the extent required?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: The restrictions are rather hard on business people, but as far as *bona fide* dependents are concerned, there is no difficulty.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Sir, are they keen also on allowing their applications for Burmese citizenship?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: Sir, that does not arise from this question.

SALE OF HANDLOOM CLOTH IN AMERICA

*62. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are good prospects of sale of handloom fabrics in America;

(b) whether American buyer* have suggested any particular types of handloom cloth that may be suitable for their purpose; and

(c) if so, of what types?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An American team of experts which visited India recently have made certain tentative suggestions.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

Suggestions made by the American Team of Experts regarding the types of handloom cloth that may suit American buyers.
Cottons—

(a) Sheet cottons with woven patterns.

(b) Medium weight cottons in inlay motifs (using pressure harness attachments).

(c) Sheet cottons with borders in either dyed yarns or gold and silver.

(d) Sheet cottons with isolated motifs in dyed yarns or gold and silver.

(e) Heavy or coarse count combed and mercerized cottons in dobby weaves for home furnishing fabrics.

(f) Heavy or coarse count combed and mercerized cottons with inlay motifs (using the pressure harness attachment).

(g) Cotton fabrics in distinctive plaids, checks, stripes and new patterns using dobby attachments as in the Madras area.

(h) Towelling made on frame looms "with center shed dobby.

(i) Printed handloom cottons, (j) Leno woven cottons.

(k) Jacquard leno construction of mercerized and combed cotton.

Silks—

(a) Mulberry silks.

(b) Spun silks (both mulberry and Tussar).

(c) Wild silks such as Tussars principally of Bihar, Orissa, West Bengal, Assam, Madhya Pradesh.

(d) Bangalore indigenous silks.

(e) Silk fabrics with gold and silver borders and brocaded inlay patterns woven on both pit and frame looms with pressure harness attachments as well as jacquard looms.

(f) Printed silks (Kashmir, West Bengal, Madras, Bombay types).

(g) Jacquard leno construction of silk.

Mixed fibres—

(a) Silk and cotton fabrics such as silk wraps with combed and mercerized cotton filling in fine counts.

(b) Pure silk wraps with spun silk filling.

(c) Fine count mercerized cotton wraps with spun silk filling.

(d) All of the above with gold and silvers.

Special techniques—

(a) Silk and cotton fabrics with designs produced by ikat or patola techniques. (Ikat indicated pattern made by pre-dyed wraps. Patola indicates pattern made by pre-dyed wraps with pre-dyed filling.)

(b) Silk and cotton fabrics with patterns produced with Tie-and-dye techniques.

Wool—

(a) Coarse woollens with proper finishing for home furnishing trade.

(b) Local or specialised indigenous woollen fabrics such as Saurashtra Chaddars, Almora Shawls, etc.

Miscellaneous—

Fabrics with good possibilities for export after proper styling, which were not observed in detail by the team include:

(a) Kashmir woollens and silks.

(b) Woven borders, types and webbings.

(c) Stitched and embroidered handloom fabrics.

(d) Assam indigenous patterned silks and cottons.

(e) Manipur indigenous cottons and silks.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact, Sir, that our exports to outside markets are increasing from year to year, and may I also know whether any adequate yarn is given to the hand-loom weavers so that they can send it to the external market?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Sir, the first part of the question is correct. The export quantities are increasing and

adequate yarn is available to the handloom industry.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Sir, I have gone through the Statement. May I know whether we are manufacturing the articles described in the Statement, and if so, whether the trade in those articles has gone up?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Sir, these recommendations have come only a week back, and I might mention, Sir, that some of the items are very difficult to manufacture on handlooms. Anyway, we are taking these indications and trying to see that the manufacturers are able to produce some nearabout goods.

SHRI SONUSING DHANSING PATIL: What is the total output of handloom cloth in the country?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: One thousand and five hundred million yards and a little more.

SHRI SONUSING DHANSING PATIL: What is the percentage that it bears to the mill-made cloth?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: 25 per cent, of total production.

PERMITS FOR IMPORT OF COTTON AGAINST A SPECIAL PAYMENT PROCEDURE

*63. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to issue permits for the import of cotton against a special payment procedure; and

(b) if so, what are the broad outlines of this procedure?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The procedure provides for import of cotton against contracts approved by the Textile Commissioner and registered with the State Trading Corporation; payments against such

contracts will be made in Indian rupees into a special account of the State Trading Corporation and the sale proceeds will be used to finance Egyptian purchases from India.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether imports are permitted under that system, and if so, how much?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Imports will be permitted according to our normal regulations. It is not a question of any limit. The payments should be available in rupees.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether this is the first time that this announcement is made with regard to that special procedure?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: This is the first time.

TRESPASS BY ARMED PAKISTANIS INTO INDIAN TERRITORY IN COOCH BIHAR DISTRICT

*64. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently some armed Pakistani raider-i trespassed into the Indian territory near Cooch Bihar and perpetrated some criminal acts including kidnaping of a women resident of Cooch Bihar and if so, what action Government have taken in the matter; and

(b) what permanent remedies Government have devised to ensure security of life and property of the people residing in the border areas, inside India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government of West Bengal have lodged a protest with the Government of East Pakistan and requested them for immediate release of the kidnapped girl and deterrent punishment of the offenders.

(b) The State Governments take suitable steps by way of tightening