

setting up a standing body to serve as a coordinating link between the automobile industry and Government; and

(b) if so, what is the proposed set up of the body and what will be its functions and powers?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHEI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) and (b). The hon. Member is perhaps referring to the recommendation of the Tariff Commission in its Report (1956) that the automobile manufacturers should form an Association of their own. The attention of the industry was drawn to this recommendation in the Government Resolution on the Report. Subsequently, at a meeting of the manufacturing firms convened by Government recently, the desirability of implementing this suggestion was again stressed. In consequence a Panel consisting of the industry's representatives was formed to examine the question and report the result within two months.

IMPORT QUOTAS FIXED FOR WEST GERMANY UNDER THE INDO-WEST GERMAN TRADE AGREEMENT

212. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the quotas fixed in the Indo-West German Trade Agreement of 1955 for the import of Indian goods into West Germany have not been fully utilised; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Inability, in some cases, to offer goods of a quality conforming to German requirements and uncompetitive prices are the main reasons for which quotas have not been fully utilized.

COTTON STOCKS REQUISITIONED BY THE TEXTILE COMMISSIONER, BOMBAY

213. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the particulars of cotton stocks requisitioned by the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, or sold by his orders?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): No cotton stocks have been requisitioned by the Textile Commissioner so far; nor has any quantity of cotton been sold under his orders.

AVALANCHES IN HIMALAYAN REGION

214. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indian villages were seriously affected by avalanches in the Himalayan region in 1956 and so far in 1957; and

(b) if so, how many villages were affected and what was the extent of damage caused?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING (SHRI S. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b) Enquiries are being made in the matter and the result will be communicated to the Rajya Sabha as soon as possible.

OPTICAL GLASS FACTORY IN INDIA

215. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state the present number of optical glass factories in India?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): None.

REHABILITATION OF FARMERS IN THE TUENSANG FRONTIER DIVISION

216. SHRI MATI SAVTTRY DEVI NIGAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the agricultural