

(b) the number of staff retrenched from the office of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, due to the relaxation of controls in 1953-54?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) All controls on the distribution and prices of cotton textiles have been removed. Following measures of control continue.

(i) Production control against manufacture of shoddy and uneven material.

(ii) Reservation of certain varieties of cotton textiles for the handloom industry.

(iii) Mill's obligation to make available certain quantity of yarn for handloom and powerloom industry.

(iv) Text marking of cloth for identification and other marking designed to safeguard the interests of consumers.

(v) Restriction in the use of sizing and filling material.

(vi) Control on movement of cotton textiles from one State to another has been relaxed to the extent that State Governments have been empowered to issue general permits for movement of cloth and yarn, from any place within their jurisdiction except the Greater Bombay and city of Ahmedabad.

(b) Staff retrenched, including that transferred to other offices—427 (numbers).

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Looking at the statement, Sir, I find that control on movement of cotton textiles from one State to another has been relaxed to the extent that State Governments have been empowered to issue general permits for movement of cloth and

yarn from any place within their jurisdiction except the Greater Bombay and the city of Ahmedabad. May I know the reasons for this exception?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The reasons are because Ahmedabad and Bombay are important centres of production and they would like to have this power in their hands in the interests of the consumers and the country as a whole.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know the number of staff engaged in the enforcement of controls on cotton textiles prior to the removal of practically all cotton controls.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The number of staff in the Textile Commissioner's establishment was as on 1st April 1953—1177. As on 1st April 1954 it was 750.

RAYON FACTORY UTILISING WOOD PULP OF EUCALYPTUS TREES

*46S. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any foreign firm has been carrying on negotiations with Government for starting a rayon factory in this country in which the wood pulp of the eucalyptus trees will be utilised;

(b) if so, what is the name of that firm; and

(c) whether a final decision has been taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) No, Sir.

There are negotiations going on between an Indian concern and an Italian concern for the production of rayon yarn and later on the project envisages production of the raw material also from pulp either from Eucalyptus or any other suitable indigenous wood.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: I did not hear the first part of the answer.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Nothing has been finalised; negotiations are going on.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Which negotiations?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Negotiations between an Indian concern and an Italian concern.

SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Has any Indian firm come forward to negotiate with the Government on the establishment of a rayon factory?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes, Sir, an Indian firm is negotiating with an Italian firm.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Are there any investigations made with reference to bamboo as a raw material for wood pulp?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: In yesterday's newspapers there was such a thing mentioned but there is no ready and useful information on which to start an investigation.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Why do you read the papers?

RESIDENTIAL ACCOMMODATION FOR GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

*467. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to demolish certain existing hutments for the purpose of constructing additional residential accommodation for Government employees in Delhi; and

(b) if so, which are the hutments proposed to be demolished and who are the present occupants of these hutments?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hutments on Wellesley Road and near Purana Qila, in New Delhi; these are at present occupied by Government officers.

G. A. T. T. CONFERENCE

*468. SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India will attend the forthcoming General Agreement on Tariff and Trade Conference to be held in October, 1954; and

(b) if so, who will be the members of the Indian delegation to that Conference?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(1) Shri N. R. Pillai, Secretary-General—*Representative*.

(2) Shri L. K. Jha, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry — *Alternate*.

(3) Shri G. S. Bansal, M.P.—*Member*.

(4) Shri E. Rajaram Rao, Member (Customs), Central Board of Revenue—*Member*.

(5) Shri B. N. Adarkar, Member, Tariff Commission—*Member*.

Shri S. Sen, Consul-General for India in Geneva and Shri A. K. Mukharji,