

COUNCIL OF STATES

Friday, 10th April 1953.

The Council met at two of the clock in the afternoon, Mr. Chairman in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

COST OF FOREIGN SILK IN INDIA

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

(a) the landed cost of Japanese, Chinese and Italian silk yarn and cloth in India;

(b) what is the rate at which it is being sold in India; and

(c) what is the present market rate of Charka silk, filature silk and the cloth prepared out of the Charka and filature silk?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 93.]

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it possible to know the quantity of yarn and cloth imported last year, i.e. 1952-53?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: For raw silk the figure of quantity during 1951 is 12,14,644 lbs. from all countries; and the value was Rs. 2,60,31,000. During 1952 the similar figures were 3,69,284 lbs. and the value was Rs. 85,79,000. That is for raw silk. Regarding fabrics the figures are, for 1950 the imports came to 25,389 yds. For 1951 the figure is 3,91,446 yds. and for 1952, 6,77,560 yds. In terms of values for the three years they are Rs. 1,26,694, Rs. 13,77,445 and Rs. 15,39,000.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is the quantity for 1953-54 at the same level as that for the last year? Is the quantity for

this year the same or is it more or less?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: We have fixed the quotas for six months. I want notice to answer this question.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Are the prices of imported silk and of silk cloth controlled by Government?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I don't think so.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: May I know if the price of Charka silk given by the hon. Minister in this Statement is according to the Charkha Sangh or any other company selling Charka silk? I want the source from which he got this price for Charka silk.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I am sorry the hon. Member is confusing the points. Firstly the question is about imported Charka silk and secondly, Charka silk has nothing to do with the Charkha Sangh.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: My question is with reference to part (c) of the main question regarding the present market rate of Charka silk. The answer given in the Statement states that the price varies from Rs. 2 to Rs. 8 per yard of Charka silk. I wish to know where in India Charka silk is sold at Rs. 2 per yard. There is no Charka silk available in India at the rate of Rs. 2 per yard, as we *khadi* wearers know; but here in the Statement it is given as Rs. 2 to Rs. 8 per yard.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Charka silk has nothing to do with the Charkha Sangh. Charka silk means that which comes from the Charka—raw silk.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: But I want to know where in India Charka silk is sold at Rs. 2 per yard.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I shall try to help the hon. Member by making special enquiries, and give the answer.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know whether rayon silk imported from Japan is sold at a cheaper cost than cotton textiles in India?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: That is to say rayon silk is cheaper than cotton cloth?

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Yes.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think it is not cheaper than cotton cloth, but it all depends on the variety of the cloth. Superior cotton cloth may be dearer than second-rate rayon. It all depends, as I said, on the type of cloth.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: May I know how many kinds of silk cloth are imported of different varieties?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I would like to have notice, Sir.

SCHEMES UNDER FIVE YEAR PLAN

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

(a) whether the schemes under the Five Year Plan are divided as those started in the first half and as those to be started in the second half of the plan period; and

(b) if so, (i) what are the schemes postponed to the second half period, (ii) when the second half period begins; and (iii) what is the amount of money allotted for the second half period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PLANNING & IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: But the Plan itself states here:

"An important variable, however, which would affect export surpluses and import requirements is the level

of investment itself in the country; for the purpose of making first assessment, we have assumed a rate of outlay corresponding to a development expenditure on public account of the order of Rs. 1,700 crores (i.e. an expenditure which could be more or less met from the budgetary resources of the Central and State Governments, deficit-financing to the extent of about Rs. 290 crores, and the external assistance already received). A higher rate of outlay, corresponding to the target of Rs. 2,069 crores in the Plan is not likely to make a proportional contribution to production within this period, as the additional expenditure would be mainly on schemes started in the second half of the Plan period which would not be completed in this period."

So the Plan does envisage a second half for the Plan and hence my question.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: In the Draft Five Year Plan a distinction was made; and if the hon. Member refers to the first Draft he will find certain schemes put down to be taken up in the first part and the remaining in case foreign aid comes in. But now, that idea has been abandoned. Now all the schemes will be taken up.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: But here in the Final Plan on page 63 it is clearly stated "Rs. 2,069 crores in the Plan is not likely to make a proportional contribution to production within this period, as the additional expenditure would be mainly on schemes started in the second half of the Plan period". So it is envisaged here that some amount will be spent in the second half of the Plan period. Therefore, I want to know what are the works that will be taken up in this second half?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Whatever is not completed in the first half, I suppose.

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: But that was a different thing. That was in the original Plan and that idea has been abandoned.