

COUNCIL OF STATES

Wednesday, 29th April 1953.

The Council met at a quarter past eight of the clock in the morning, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

GOVERNMENT'S REQUIREMENTS OF CLOTH

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

(a) the annual cloth requirements, in yards of the Government of India; and

(b) how far these requirements are met by the purchase of (i) Khadi; and (ii) handloom cloths?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) and (b). A statement showing the quantity in yards of the total purchases of cotton textiles made on Government account in 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 and the extent to which these were made of khadi and handloom cloth is placed on the Table of the Council.

And for the information of the House I will add that in the year 1952-53 Khadi cloth purchased was 8,000 yards, Handloom 2,664,000, Mill-made cloth 27,830,000 and total purchases by Government was 30,502,000 yards.

STATEMENT

Approximate yardage of Khadi, Handloom and Mill-made cloth purchased by the office of the Textile Commissioner, Bombay, during the years 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53.

	<i>figures (in yards)</i>		
	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53
Khadi cloth	90,000	40,000	8,000
Handloom cloth	1,357,000	3,525,000	2,664,000
Mill-made cloth	26,545,000	29,992,000	27,830,000

TOTAL 27,992,000 33,557,000 30,502,000

34 C.S.D.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Which are the Departments that generally consume this cloth?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: My information is that it is the Defence that purchases the bulk of the cloth.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Out of the 27 million yards of mill cloth, how much is local and how much foreign?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I don't think we purchased any foreign cloth.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Is Government aware that there is a discount of 3 annas per rupee offered by the Khadi Bhandars on the purchase of Khadi?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes. I am aware that in order to coax the public into purchasing Khadi, the Khadi Bhandars are giving discounts.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: Is it a fact that this has not coaxed the Government yet though it has coaxed the public to buy more Khadi?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Individually I am a very good customer and I have very often availed myself of this discount as many of the members of the public have done. As Government we have to take into consideration the suitability of Khadi for particular purposes. For instance in the Defence Services we have normally found that their requirement of cloth is usually khaki. That type of cloth is not available in Khadi but in respect of the P. & T. they have now issued instructions that all the liveries of the peons should be in Khadi. So we are taking action wherever feasible.

PROF. N. R. MALKANI: May I know whether apart from the cloth of the 4 flags of Khadi fixed on the wall opposite, there is any piece of Khadi used in this big House. The big curtains which are foreign curtains are not quite an honour to the flag.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I shall ask permission of the Chair and then answer it.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Is the Minister aware that the policy laid down by the Government of India is that one-third of their cloth requirement for the year 1950-51 should be met by handloom? If so, what steps have the Government of India taken to implement the same?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: As my friend will have noticed from the statement, our purchases of handloom cloth are of a sizable nature, i.e., they were in 1950-51 1,357,000 yards and in 1951-52 3,525,000 yards.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Does it come to one-third?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: It is also a fact that our policy is one of encouraging handloom products but it has been found by experience because we sent the samples of cloth required by us to the various Handloom Organizations and the response from them—because as my friend will easily understand that they are small units—was not as encouraging as it might otherwise have been. On our side the willingness is there.

SHRI RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Did the Government of Madras offer that they would supply one-third requirements of the Government of India?

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

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Why has the purchase of Khadi fallen from 1950 to 1953 considerably?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The point is we offered samples and it depends on their response. For instance we requested the All India Spinners' Association, forwarding them samples, for liveries of Class IV servants and the reply was not very helpful. They said "unless you fix a definite policy of using Khadi cloth of such and such type, there is no use supplying." Unless we are satisfied that the proper type of Khadi is forthcoming, we cannot make a firm decision. So they cannot respond.

REVENUE RECEIPTS OF D.V.C.

***548. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY:** Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the revenue receipts of the Damodar Valley Corporation from (i) sale of power; (ii) irrigation; and (iii) miscellaneous sources, up to the end of 1952;

(b) the estimated revenue receipts on the items mentioned above for the year 1953-54; and

(c) the revenue receipts taken into account by the Corporation up to the end of the year 1952?

THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING AND IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI GULZARI LAL NANDA): (a) (i) Rs. 36,00,309.

(ii) Nil.

(iii) Rs. 10,19,508.

(b) (i) Rs. 61,59,000.

(ii) Rs. 1,66,500.

(iii) Rs. 4,22,000.

(c) the total revenue receipts taken into account is Rs. 46,19,817 of which Rs. 42,61,170 have actually been realised up to end of December, 1952.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Has a Revenue Account been opened for the Corporation?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: No.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: What are the items under Miscellaneous for 1953-54?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: They relate to rents and other things.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Have the Corporation been capitalising the revenues received?

SHRI GULZARILAL NANDA: The intention is all such receipts go to reduce the capital account.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it not a fact that the D.V.C. have collected irrigation rates and the farmers have