

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Yes, Sir. We have facilitated the import of necessary machinery. They have recently applied for tariff protection, and there is no doubt that we shall give them necessary protection, all other things being equal.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Is this cutting edge good enough to cut throats ?

Mr. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

COTTON TEXTILES FUND COMMITTEE

*211. SHRI V. K. DHAGE : (a) Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether there is a body called the Cotton Textiles Fund Committee ?

(b) If so, what are its functions, who are its members, and for how long has it been working ?

(c) Do Government propose to place on the Table of the Council a report on the working of this body since its inception ?

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

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 60.]

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : Are there any representatives of the Trade Union on the Textile Fund Committee ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I have got a list of members here but I am not sure whether it includes any Trade Union representatives.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE : There has been a sub-committee appointed by the Textile Fund Committee. May I know what the recommendations of that sub-committee have been ? That sub-committee has been appointed with regard to the quality of goods for export.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : Yes, Sir, it was found necessary for the quality

control scheme. But the Committee thought and the Government thought that till we had a buyer's market, not the seller's, we should not hasten about it. And now that there is a buyer's market growing, we are taking up the question seriously.

PRODUCTION OF SULPHUR

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the International Raw Material Conference has, for the second half of the current year, allotted 30,000 long tons of sulphur to India out of a total allotment of 3,200,260 long tons of sulphur to 36 countries ;

(b) what was the world production of sulphur in 1951 ;

(c) what is the estimated world production of sulphur in 1952 ;

(d) what was the production of sulphur in India in 1951 ;

(e) what is the estimated production in India in 1952 ;

(f) what is India's deficiency in sulphur; and

(g) when India is likely to be self-sufficient in sulphur ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) I.M.C. allocation of sulphur to India in the second half of 1952 was 32,000 long tons.

(b) nearly 12 million tons.

(c) 12.6 million tons.

(d) Nil.

(e) Nil.

(f) Minimum requirements of sulphur for essential purposes are estimated at 67,500 tons per annum and is likely to increase to about 90,000 tons within the next few years.

(g) There are no large natural resources of sulphur in India; the question of self-sufficiency does not arise