

may be even according to them, the others are political. What they said or aimed at there I cannot say except that presumably they were against the Portuguese Government.

#### MILLS PRODUCING FILTER CLOTH

\*313. SHRI B. P. AGARWAL : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the names of mills producing filter cloth in India with their annual production capacity ;

(b) the quantity of filter cloth produced by each of these mills during the last three years ;

(c) the quantity of filter cloth consumed in India during the last three years ;

(d) the quantity of filter cloth exported from India with the names of the countries where exported and of the exporters during the last three years ; and

(e) the present stock of filter cloth held by the mills in India ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) and (b). Statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, Annexure No. 91]. From the production figures for the four years, the annual capacity may roughly be taken at 9 lakh yards.

(c) The information is not available.

(d) Filter cloth was treated as a general item of cotton piece goods until December, 1951, and no separate figures of its export are available.

(e) The information is not available.

SHRI B. P. AGARWAL : May I know whether the Government are aware that certain manufacturers of filter cloth have not been producing to the maximum capacity for want of sufficient orders inside the country

and in consequence they have got a number of looms standing idle ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : I should like to have notice of that.

SHRI B. P. AGARWAL : May I know whether Government are aware that there have been demands for filter cloth from Pakistan but the producers in India have found it difficult to accept them due to restrictions imposed by the Textile authorities ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : As the hon. Member is aware he himself brought to me an instance where one concern in Pakistan wanted filter cloth from this country and I think he doubtlessly knows also that after he made that representation, on the 6th December, 1952 it was announced to the trade that filter cloth would be allowed to be exported to all permissible destinations excepting certain countries but including Pakistan.

SHRI B. P. AGARWAL : May I know whether Government proposes to allow unrestricted export of filter cloth in the future to enable us to have more foreign exchange in view of our surplus production capacity ?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR : With great respect, I may say that it is a speculative question. I cannot answer that.

#### MANUFACTURE OF PAPER

\*314. DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI : Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of paper of different varieties manufactured in India during the years from 1946 to 1952 ;

(b) the quantity of paper of different varieties imported during the said period ;

(c) the figures of consumption of paper per head per year in India and the corresponding figures of consumption of paper per head per year in the