

The total value of the above will be about Rs. 21 crores in exchange India will import equivalent value about 3 lac bales of Cotton and 10 per cent other Agricultural Commodities to be negotiated.

**श्री श्रीकारलाल बेरवा :** जो काटन आयेगी वह मोटे रेशे की आयेगी या पतले रेशे की आयेगी और उस काटन से क्या हमारी जरूरतें पूरी हो जायेंगी ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** पूरी नहीं होंगी । वह मोटे रेशे की होगी । लेकिन थोड़ी गड़ुत जरूरतें तो उससे पूरी होंगी ही ।

**श्री श्रीकारलाल बेरवा :** काटन के अलावा और भी कोई चीज क्या आयेगी ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** एग्रीकल्चरल प्रोडक्शन, चावल ले लें या कुछ और ले लें, यह अभी तक तय नहीं किया है । दस परसेंट को अलग रखा है ।

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** How does the price that we are going to get under this arrangement for our manganese ore is in comparison with the prices of those countries where we are at present exporting our manganese ore?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** I would not like to disclose the prices are favourable.

**Shri Iqbal Singh:** May I know whether Government will see to it that this cotton is imported in such a season in the local market that it will not harm the local farmers?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** We have accepted the advice of the hon. Member.

**श्री कड़वाय :** जो बाहर से कपास आती है इसके दाम ऊंचे दिये जाते हैं और हमारे यहां कारखानों को दाम कम दिये जाते हैं, क्या यह सही है ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** दुनिया में सब से ज्यादा मंहगी काटन हिन्दुस्तान की पैदा की हुई काटन होती है ।

**Shri Ravindra Varma:** What is the price at which ferro-manganese will be exported and how does this price compare with the price at which ferro-manganese is supplied to our Steel plants?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** They are favourable. As I said earlier, I will not like to disclose the prices.

#### Production of Textiles

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\*543. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**  
**Shri Daji:**  
**Shri Shree Narayan Das:**  
**Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**

Will the Minister of **International Trade** be pleased to state:

(a) the average monthly production of textiles in the first seven months of 1963;

(b) how does it compare with the average monthly production in 1962; and

(c) the reasons for the shortfall and the remedial steps being taken?

**The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Average monthly production of cloth and yarn in the first seven months of 1962 and 1963 was as under:

	First seven months of 1962 Jan.-July 1962.	First seven months of 1963 Jan.-July, 1963	Increase or decrease in percentage
1. Mill-made cloth. . . . .	2272 million metres	2188 million metres	-3.62%
2. Handloom and powerloom cloth . . . . .	1196 million metres	1280 million metres	+7.92%
3. Yarn . . . . .	430 M.kgs.	412 M. kgs.	+0.5%

(b) and (c). The slight decrease in the production of mill-made cloth in the first 7 months of 1963 has been off-set by the over-all increase in the production of cloth in the decentralised sector which has shown substantial increase in 1963 over the production in 1962. The production trends in the latter half of the year 1963, as could be seen from production of July and August 1963 of all the three items (i) mill-made cloth, (ii) handloom and powerloom cloth and (iii) yarn, are showing increase over the production of these items in the latter half of 1962.

In the first half of 1963, as the House is aware, particularly in the first four months January—April, 1963, due to hostilities and aggression on our northern and eastern frontiers, there was a large accumulation of cloth in the cotton mills, in handloom and powerloom sectors, as the off-take of the mill-made cloth, handloom cloth and powerloom cloth has considerably gone down particularly in the eastern States of India. This automatically made the manufacturers to go slow with production as the demand was slack in these 4 months.

During the last 3 months, however, the normal conditions of trading have been more or less restored and the off-take is very much faster and the stocks in the cotton mills have become leanest in the last several years and similarly the accumulation of handloom and powerloom cloth has also gone down. All these factors are helping faster production now in all the three sectors.

The production of cloth in the mills and the decentralised sector is adequate to meet the demands both for internal consumption and exports.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** It appears from the statement that the production has gone down. I want to know whether, taking advantage of this decline in production, the millowners have requested the Government to give them further concessions, such

as concessions in the form of permission to raise the prices, etc., and, if so, what is the reaction of the Government. I want to know whether they will be allowed to raise the prices.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The two questions are not correlated, if I may say so. The two Questions are totally unrelated. The slight fall in production was due to heavy accumulations in all the mills in the first four months due to Chinese hostility, and the reason they have advanced for price increase, to some extent, is based on cost factors, the price of cotton which has been raised by Rs. 125 per candy from the current season. Some rise in wages and some rise in the freight charges. The matter is being looked into.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I would like to know whether steps are being taken to see that those mills which have closed down also work and whether loans have been given to them for rehabilitation and modernisation.

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** The question does not arise out of this, but I may say that during the current year, only a very small number of mills closed down, namely, six, whereas at one time in the last five years the closure was in as many as 35 mills. They are now practically working, and even for those six mills the rehabilitation programme is going on and some of them will be run by the State Governments.

**श्री यशपाल सिंह :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि कपड़े की इतनी कमी में भी कपड़ा चोरी से पाकिस्तान को जाता रहा है ? यदि हाँ, तो इसको रोकने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कदम उठाए हैं ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** जैसा कि मैंने कहा, कपड़े की कोई कमी नहीं है, स्थिति बहुत संतोषजनक है ।

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know whether, in view of the increase in the price of all commodities

the Government is at all considering the request for a rise in the price of cloth?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** I did not say that. They have represented. I cannot prevent people from representing to Government. All that we are doing is, we are examining things.

**Shri R. S. Pandey:** May I know whether it is true that the production of cloth has gone down due to the stoppage of 8,000 power looms in Maharashtra due to the excise duty dispute?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** It is quite a different matter altogether.

**Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee:** May I know what the decision of the Government is, regarding the recommendations made by the Tariff Commission that the prices of textiles prevailing today should be gone into?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** These are very complicated questions. We are looking into the Tariff Commission's report. But this is the biggest industry with the largest variety of commodities. It requires a judicial and balanced consideration of all factors before we can come to decision.

**श्री ५० ला० बाहूपाल :** माननीय मंत्री जी ने बताया कि कपड़े की कमी नहीं है। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने पूछा था कि पाकिस्तान को जो चोरी से कपड़ा जा रहा है उसको रोकने के लिये क्या उपाय किया जा रहा है ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह :** चोरी से उस का कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है। मेम्बर साहब को संतोष हो गया है।

**श्री विश्राम प्रसाद :** अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने बतलाया कि मिलें भी बन्द नहीं हैं, प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ा है, और हैंडलूम का प्रोडक्शन भी बढ़ा है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि प्रोडक्शन बढ़ने के बावजूद

मारकेट के अन्दर कपड़ा क्यों महंगा होता जा रहा है ?

**श्री मनुभाई शाह** हम नहीं मानत।

**Shri Iqbal Singh:** May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware of the complaint from the Punjab Government that traders in Punjab do not get cloth at the market price which was fixed by the mills and they get the cloth at a much higher price, and will he consider this matter?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** I can assure the hon. Member and the House that the complaints come very rarely in regard to some popular varieties when such complaints come, we immediately look into the matter.

**Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:** May I know whether the Government is aware that every year, just before Durga Puja and Diwali, the price of cloth goes up and this year there is an apprehension that the prices may go up, and may I know whether the Government is taking this aspect into consideration and may I also know what steps the Government have taken to see that the poor people get cloth at cheaper prices?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** Government is fully watchful of the situation.

**Shri Shivaji Rao S. Deshmukh:** May I know whether the shortfall in mill production is attributable to this factor that several mills indulge in commercial practices such as switching over powerlooms in order to save excise duty?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** To some extent yes, But this does not arise out of this. I have given all the statistics.

**Shrimati Savitri Nigam:** Keeping in view the very great opportunity for the expansion of the khadi sector, may I know what new steps have been taken to give it additional support?

**Shri Manubhai Shah:** We are sanctioning more loans and extra grants to the Ambar Charkha programme and also for our traditional charkha. Over and above that, we are also increasing the export programme in respect of khadi. As the hon. Member knows we have contracted for about Rs. 2 crores worth of khadi now for exports.

#### Import of Automobile Components

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\*547. { **Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:**  
**Dr. Ranen Sen:**  
**Dr. Saradish Roy:**  
**Shri Sarkar Murmu:**

Will the Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that automobile factories are facing difficulties to get licences for the import of components which are essential for the production of cars and trucks; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken to remove the difficulties?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri P. C. Sethi):** (a) and (b). The automobile manufacturers are allowed to import only those components which are essential for the manufacture of vehicles in accordance with their phased manufacturing programmes. This is, however, subject to the availability of foreign exchange resources. Due to the prevailing foreign exchange shortage the automobile industry like other industries has not been getting adequate foreign exchange, for sometime past.

In order that their dependence on imported components is reduced, steps have been taken to increase the indigenous content of vehicles. For this purpose foreign exchange has been and is being released both to the principal manufacturers as well as to the ancillary industries.

**Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:** May I know whether in last April—in April, 1963—a representation was made by a motor factory in the eastern region, the Hindustan Motors Limited, for importing CD materials from England and that was not entertained by the Government?

**The Minister of Steel and Heavy Industries (Shri C. Subramaniam):** Yes, Sir, representations are being made periodically for the allocation of more foreign exchange. To the extent of availability we are allocating foreign exchange to Hindustan Motors also.

**Shri Dinen Bhattacharya:** May I know whether the Government can tell us to what extent the production of cars and trucks has come down due to the non-availability of components?

**Shri C. Subramaniam:** Production of lorries and trucks has not come down; it is only in respect of cars there has been a fall. In 1963 up to June, they have produced 4541 Hindustan Ambassador cars, 1700 Fiat and 1629 Standard.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I would like to know whether any steps are being taken by the Government to see that these automobile industries in the private sector try to manufacture the entire motor car and import less, and may I also know to what extent they are importing at present?

**Mr. Speaker:** This has been answered so many times here.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The percentage changes. In the previous year it was 60 per cent. I want to know whether it has been reduced.

**Mr. Speaker:** It could not have been reduced within seven days.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Not seven days, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** It was answered here, Shri Banerjee.

**Shri Vishram Prasad:** May I know how much money is now being spent