

requirement for the Second Five Year Plan may have to be pruned down to reach only 2100 million yards against the original allocation of 2500 million yards, have stated that they do not agree with this recommendation of the Committee. They have added that if any reduction of allocation has to be made it must be initially the mill sector that should accept a cut. Accordingly they have suggested that the ceiling of 5300 million yards for the mill industry may be reduced to 92 per cent of its rated capacity.

2 The Textile Enquiry Committee reviewed the rate of increase in production in the different sectors of the textiles industry. The mill sector had already been pegged down to existing capacity except for 300 million yards intended for export. The additional requirement of cloth was to be produced entirely from the handloom and powerloom sectors. The production in the handloom sector had increased only from 1480 million yards in 1955 to 1643 million yards in 1957, the progress in the powerloom sector was even slower. On this basis the Committee came to the conclusion that the additional production to be earmarked from the handloom sector should be pruned down to 2100 million yards.

3 Government wish to make it clear that they do not intend to restrict the production from the handloom sector, if any, in excess of 2100 million yards or 2200 million yards, in their view, there is likely to be no need to impose any restriction by a system of regulation in the production of cloth, either mill-made or handloom. These views were stated in the Government's resolution on the Report. Presumably the Madras Government's suggestion is based on a misapprehension that a restriction on the handloom sector might be envisaged. At the same time, and in accordance with their views stated in the resolution on the subject Government consider that there is no need to think of effecting a cut in the production of mill cloth which is already restricted to the rated capacity.

Urdu and Bengali Films

*846 Shri Shivannajappa: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the exclusion of Urdu and Bengali films from the list of importable items against export bonus earnings in Pakistan has given the local film industry an impression that the Pakistan Government is going to impose a total ban on the import of Indian films, and

(b) if so, what steps the Government of India have taken in this matter?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) and (b) Government have no information.

Block Advisory Boards

*847. Shri N. B. Maiti: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state

(a) the names of States which have given effect to the recommendation of the Mehta Committee's Report on replacement of the Block Advisory Boards in the States by Block Development Councils, and

(b) the measures taken by Government so that the remaining States, if any may give effect to the recommendations as quickly as possible?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No 1].

Scheduled Caste Occupants of Evacuee Properties

*848. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 680 on the 8th December, 1958 and state

(a) whether the information in regard to the size of the problem