

(b) Import licences for grey cloth and sarees were issued in February and in May-June, 1959. Since 1st July, 1959 import of cotton textiles of c.i.f. value less than 14 piastres or 35 pence per yard has been placed on the O.G.L.

(c) Cotton textiles are known to have been exported during the last quarter, but exact statistical information is still awaited.

**Export of Lemongrass Seeds and Roots**

\*21. Shri N. Keshava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to license lemongrass seeds and roots for export; and

(b) if so, on what basis will the licences be granted?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):  
(a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise

**Weavers' Co-operative Societies in Bihar**

\*22. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 2053 on the 27th April, 1959 and state:

(a) whether the Bihar Government have furnished a detailed account for the additional funds required to reimburse the rebate claims to Weavers' Co-operative Societies;

(b) if so, the amount of additional fund required to be re-imbursed; and

(c) whether the allotment has been made?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kamsing): (a) to (c). A provisional report of the additional amount that will be required to meet rebate claims upto the end of March, 1959 has been received from the Bihar Government.

Some claims are stated to be under scrutiny and a final report is expected to be received shortly.

**Fire in 'India 1958' Exhibition**

\*23. Shri Ansar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the statement made in Lok Sabha on the 27th April, 1959 and state:

(a) whether Government have since completed the inquiry about the fire that broke out in one of the pavilions at the Exhibition grounds in April, 1959:

(b) if so, what are the findings; and

(c) the action taken by Government against persons responsible for the accident?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fire was due to an accidental electric short circuit

(c) Since the fire was accidental, no one is directly responsible. But question of defective arrangements is being examined and action will be taken in accordance with the findings reached

**Expansion of Trade with U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia and Japan**

\*24 { Shri Sadhan Gupta:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Shri Subbiah Ambalam:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the visit of the Minister of Industries to the U.S.S.R., Czechoslovakia and Japan has revealed possibility of a large expansion of trade and increased collaboration with these three countries; and

(b) if so, the lines along which increase of trade and economic collaboration is envisaged with each of these countries?