

more industries apart from those for which such Councils have been already set up?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Government are contemplating the setting up of Development Councils for only these seven industries. The setting up of further Councils will have to be decided after all these seven have been established. That is the present situation.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: May I know whether interests representing only large scale industries are represented, or whether interests representing small scale and cottage industries in these categories are also represented on the Board?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I would invite the hon. Member's attention to the list that has been placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 10.]

MOVEMENT OF COTTON

*891. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have relaxed restrictions on the movement of cotton in the country and if so, in what manner; and

(b) what steps have been taken by Government for liberalisation of control over movement of cotton and cotton textiles?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 11.]

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know how far the lifting of controls on the movement of cotton textiles has improved the position as regards stock of cloth in the factories?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am assured that the position has materially improved.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether as a result of the lifting of controls on textiles the position as regards the lifting of quotas by the State nominees has improved?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Actually, with the relaxation of controls the area of operation of the State nominees has been considerably restricted because their quota has been confined to 20 per cent. I have really no information as to what the State nominees have done in the month of May. But whether they lift the quotas

or not seems to be a matter of comparatively less importance in the present set-up.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Am I to understand that in the new position as regards the movement of cotton there need be no reference to the Textile Commissioner for licences and permits?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: As the hon. Member will see from the information furnished in the statement, the movement has been fairly free; particularly with regard to C and D Class licences, no scrutiny is necessary, and there is no question of any qualification. So, the control of the Textile Commissioner in respect of the issue of these licences is practically nothing.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या गवर्नमेंट को मालूम है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में एक जिले से दूसरे जिले तक जाने के लिये कपड़े पर रोक लगा रखी है ?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If I understand the hon. Member aright, there is still a difficulty in regard to complete relaxation of controls in Uttar Pradesh. The Government are undoubtedly co-operating with us, but transitional difficulties are there, and we do hope that in the course of a week or two all the difficulties will be removed.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what has been the effect of the relaxation of controls on the production in the country?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Whether it is a matter of cause and effect I do not know, but we have reached almost peak production during the month of May.

Shri K. G. Deshmukh: May I know whether there is any improvement in the lifting of the quotas of cotton by millowners after the recent action of the Government in regard to Class C and Class D licences?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the hon. member has in view the position of cotton in Madhya Pradesh, I am told that the position is definitely better. Prices are hardening. If that is an indication that there is a demand for cotton, my hon. friend must conclude that millowners are lifting cotton.