

Pearl Yamha and Vicky Mopeds, for which Central Government quotas have been earmarked recently.

Credit Squeeze on Cotton Trade

600. Shri Sharda Nand;
Shri J. B. Singh;
Shri Bharat Singh Chauhan;
Shri Ranjit Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to impose credit squeeze on the cotton trade to curb hoarding and speculative deals in the raw cotton; and

(b) if so, the extent of squeeze imposed and the steps taken by Government to ensure that the credit squeeze does not hit the cotton growers?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shaq Qureshi):

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Instructions have been issued by the Reserve Bank of India to all scheduled commercial banks to restrict advances to mills and trade to cotton stocks which are covered by purchase/movement permits issued by the Textile Commissioner to the Government of India and in other cases to curtail generally the advances to 85% of the previous year's level. These credit restrictions do not apply to growers.

Production of Mill Cloth

601. Shri Yogendra Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the per capita availability of mill cloth declined sharply between 1956 and 1966; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shaq Qureshi): (a) Yes, Sir. The per capita availability of mill-made cloth has declined from 10.63 metres in 1956 to 1:63 metres (Provisional) in 1966.

(b) The decline in per capita availability of mill cloth is due to a variety of reasons, such as increase in population without a corresponding increase in the production of cloth in the mill sector. On the other hand, there has been a greater growth of the decentralised sectors, such as handlooms and powerlooms, with the result that the additional internal requirement of cloth is being met to a larger extent by these sectors. The per capita availability in the decentralised sector has increased from 4.08 metres in 1956 to 6.12 metres in 1966.

Trade Agreement with Spain

602. Shri Ramachandra Veerappa;
Shri N. K. Sanghi;
Shri Y. A. Prasad:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to conclude a trade agreement with the Government of Spain;

(b) if so, the steps taken in the matter; and

(c) when it is likely to be finalized?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

Indo-Polish Trade Pact

603. Shri Ramachandra Veerappa;
Shri N. K. Sanghi;
Shri M. Rampure;
Shri George Fernandes;
Shri J. H. Patel;
Shri A. Sreedharan;
Shri Madhu Limaye;
Shri M. Sudarshanam;
Shri Ebrahim Sulaiman Sait:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indo-Polish Trade Pact has been signed in April, 1967;

(b) if so, the main features of the agreement; and

(c) when it is likely to come into effect?