

Employees affected by Decontrol of Steel

659. Shri Bal Raj Madhok:
Shri Sheopujan Shastri:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of employees affected by decontrol of steel;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to provide alternative employment to such employees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) The Iron and Steel Controller has been asked to work out the number of employees who would be rendered surplus as a result of decontrol.

(b) and (c). The Ministry of Home Affairs have a scheme for deployment of surplus personnel. The services of the staff rendered surplus will be placed at the disposal of the Ministry of Home Affairs for absorption elsewhere. The Department of Iron and Steel are also trying to find alternative employment in the public sector undertakings under their control.

Primary Weavers Cooperative Societies

660. Shri M. S. Murthi: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that heavy stocks have been accumulated both in the apex and the primary cooperative weavers societies due to the strike of the employees of the Andhra Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Society Ltd., Vijayawada; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to extend financial assistance to the Apex Society to procure the stocks of the primary weavers' societies?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shaif Qureshi):
 (a) No reports to this effect have been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Procurement of Cotton

661. Shri Manibhai J. Patel: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cotton bales requisitioned from different States of India;

(b) the number of those requisitioned from Gujarat;

(c) what will be the deficit after requisitioning all the bales; and

(d) the number of bales required to be imported?

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

(a) About 82,550 bales.

(b) About 36,850 bales.

(c) It is not the intention to requisition all the bales produced in the country. Requisitioning is undertaken as and when necessary on the basis of the demand by needy mills; and

(d) During the current year, the programme covers import of 850 thousand bales.

Doubling of Railway Track between Tamuria and Ghogardiha

662. Shri S. C. Jha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the people of the area have made appeals for doubling the rail tracks between Tamuria and Ghogardiha stations to help in augmenting the cultivation of sugarcane; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?