

SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the pitiable conditions of the weavers and their families in U.P. because of the financial crisis through which the Industry has been passing as a result of rapid price rise of staples, dyes and other chemicals;

(b) whether Government are aware that all the facilities provided by Government in the name of weavers have been cornered by big businessmen and middlemen;

(c) whether the middlemen and traders who supply cotton, staples, dyes and other chemicals to the weavers have started hoarding, and blackmarketing especially after the lifting of emergency; and

(d) if so, what measures are being taken/proposed to be taken to ensure the supply of cotton, staples, dyes and other chemicals to the weavers at reasonable prices?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) While some increase in prices of staple yarn and dyestuffs has been registered in recent months thereby resulting in hardship to weavers, no information, however, has been received by the Government as indicated in the question.

(b) According to the information furnished by the Government of Uttar Pradesh, no businessman/middleman is a member of Co-operative societies. Besides, the facilities provided by the Government to the weavers are arranged direct to them.

(c) No case of hoarding and blackmarketing has been reported to the Government and these articles are freely available in the open market.

(d) Does not arise. However, in the case of cotton, Government have arranged imports of cotton through the Cotton Corporation of India for supply to the industry at prices equivalent to the prices of comparable varieties of Indian Cotton. Also, Government had recently a dialogue with the representatives of the NTC Mills, Cooperative Spinning Mills and Mill owners Associations' who have agreed to make available bulk quantities of yarn to Apex Institutions of handloom weavers at ex-mill prices and also to open yarn depots in areas of handloom concentration for direct distribution from the Mills, if found necessary. Similarly, to augment the availability of Viscose Staple Fibre Yarn, a quantity of approximately 30,000 tonnes has been imported to supplement domestic availability. Regarding Dyes and chemicals, State Government and apex societies have been directed to approach indigenous

manufacturers with firm orders on a long term basis with delivery instructions, so that adequacy and continuity of supplies can be attempted by the Textile Commissioner.

A meeting will be held on 10th of this month with the representatives of Cotton and textile interests to discuss about the availability and price of cotton and cotton yarn for the year beginning September, 1977.

Number of hours lost due to delayed Flights of Indian Airlines during May, 1977

6456. **SHRI SHIV SAMPATI RAM:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether throughout May, 1977 trunk route services of Indian Airlines were delayed; and

(b) the number of hours lost because of late flights?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Airlines do not maintain arithmetical record of the duration of delay periods. Instead, the 'Delay rate' and 'On Time' performance data is maintained, which is an appropriate index in projecting the operational efficiency of the Airline. This is also the practice of the airline operators the world over.

Overall 'Delay Rate' and 'On Time' performance on trunk routes based on delays of 15 minutes and above and cancellations during May, 1977 were as follows:

Overall delay rate	—	31.98%
Overall On Time performance	—	68.02%

55 वर्ष की आयु होने पर सरकारी कर्मचारियों का स्थानान्तरण

6457. **श्री सुभाष झाड़ा :** क्या बिस्व तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार का विचार इस प्रश्न के आदेश जारी करने का है कि जिन सरकारी कर्मचारियों की आयु 55 वर्ष अथवा अधिक हो उनको स्थानान्तरित न किया जाये?

बिस्व तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एच० फ़तेल) : जी, नहीं।