

steps are : use of scientific tools and techniques of inventory control, training of personnel in this area, periodical review of the inventories, undertaking indeph studies in selected enterprises and suggesting specific action areas of improvement etc. The details are available at "Section—2 : —Management of Inventories in Public Enterprises" at pages 234 to 263 of the Public Enterprises Survey 1983-84 Vol. I placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 15-3-1985.

[*Translation*]

Rise in Price of Yarn in Bihar

6050. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the handloom industry in Bihar is facing a crisis due to 40 per cent increase in the price of yarn;

(b) if so, the reasons for the rise in prices of yarn;

(c) the steps taken by Government to help this industry; and

(d) whether Government propose to supply yarn at controlled rates for the handlooms and leg-operated looms ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND TEXTILES (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH) : (a) The prices of yarn upto 40s, which is generally used by handlooms in Bihar, has gone up during the past one year by about 12 to 17%.

(b) The handloom industry in Bihar has to mainly depend on outside sources for supply of yarn and hence the yarn trade is subject to speculated elements.

(c) The National Handloom Development Corporation has started a yarn

depot at Bihar Shariff since March, 1985. The State Government have also opened yarn depots through the agency of State Handloom Development Corporation and State Handloom Weavers Corporative Unions at Gaya, Bhagalpur, Siwan and Aurangabad. Similar yarn depots are expected to start functioning soon at Madhubani and Jahanabad also.

(d) There is no such proposal before the Government.

[*English*]

Rupee Trade Between India and Soviet Union

6051. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rupee trade between India and the Soviet Union will continue over the next five years;

(b) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been taken;

(c) if so, the details of the same; and

(d) the extent to which the trade between the two countries is likely to improve during the current year;

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c). It has been decided that the rupee trading arrangements between India and the Soviet Union envisaging payments for all commercial and non-commercial transactions between the two countries in non-convertible Indian rupee should be continued for a further period of five years from 1st January, 1986 to 31st December, 1990.

(d) The two trading partners are working to expand and diversify the bilateral trade as per the guidelines laid