

**Import of Cotton from Pakistan**

1853. SHRI C. SAMBU : Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether 75,000 bales of cotton imported from Pakistan paying Rs. 17.5 crores, have been lying in the docks resulting in heavy damage when the country has reaped for a record harvest of more than 103 lakh bales of cotton in 1984-85 ;

(b) whether this policy is not only detrimental to the interests of cotton growers in the country but also imposes a heavy burden on the exchequer ; and

(c) if so, the remedial action being taken ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI KHURSHID ALAM KHAN) : (a) to (c) Import of 75,000 bales of medium staple cotton from Pakistan was resorted to during the last cotton season in order to meet the shortage and stabilise prices of this variety of cotton in the domestic market. Simultaneously, Government allowed export of 2.95 lakh bales of long and extra-long staple cotton, which was surplus to our domestic requirements. The entire quantity of 75,000 bales of cotton imported from Pakistan has already been cleared from customs for consumption by the NTC Mills.

**Sale of sub-standard and Hazardous Electrical Appliances**

1854 SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the raids conducted by the Directorate of Industries, Delhi Administration, sometime back, majority of the household electrical appliances sold in the major markets were found to be sub-standard and hazardous ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by Government to ensure strict enforcement of the Indian Standards Institution (Certification Marks) Act in this regard for the safety of the consumer?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

A.K. PANJA) : (a) and (b) During the raids conducted by the Directorate of Industries, Delhi Administration, some time back, 14 samples were seized from 13 traders and one manufacturer. Out of these, 9 samples were found "unmarked" and 3 of the remaining 5 samples failed in the tests. 8 FIRs have been lodged against the traders from whom "unmarked" samples were seized.

(c) Keeping in view the safety of the consumer, the Household Electrical Appliances (Quality Control) Order, 1981 was issued under Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, which prohibits the manufacture, sale, store for sale or distribution of Household Electrical Appliances which do not conform to the specified Indian Standards. The implementation of this order is entrusted to the State Governments/Union Territories. However, to protect the interest of the consumers, the Government has recently chalked out a phased programme for introduction of compulsory ISI Certification Marks Scheme for Household Electrical Appliances, which affect the health and safety of consumers. In the first phase, compulsory ISI Certification Marks Scheme will be introduced for the following 7 products:—

Product	Corresponding Indian Standard
1. Electric Immersion Water heaters	IS: 368-1977
2. Electric Irons	IS: 366-1976
3. Electric Stoves	IS:2994-1965
4. Electric Radiators	IS: 369-1965
5. Switches for domestic and similar purposes	IS:3854-1966
6. 2-Amps Switches for domestic and similar purposes	IS:4949-1968
7. 3-pin-plugs and socket outlets.	IS:1293-1967

**Consultative Committee Meeting for Nationalised Banks for Southern Area**

1855. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the eighth meeting of the