

10,000 Nos. This depicted a Kalamkari painting reproduced on Khadi silk in 10,000 numbers through silk screen process. Out of which the craftsmen themselves got little unlike in the present case where the craftsmen and women have received Rs. 3.70 lakhs by way of wages. The Board did not publish any calendar in 1977.

(c) The calendar has been made for free crafts-publicity by the Board under its normal programme. Some copies are being provided to public undertakings on a no-profit-no-loss basis at Rs. 50/ each. Since 1st January, 1979, when the first lot was provided, over 3500 calendars have already been distributed/disposed of. The balance will be cleared soon. Stocking in godowns is not contemplated.

(d) The production of calendars as a means of providing work on wage to craftsmen specially in flood-affected areas was done in accordance with Government policies and specific decision in this case. Hence no enquiry is called for.

#### Delay in Import of Paper

4142 SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the import of writing and printing paper has been delayed resulting in the acute shortage of this commodity; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in import of paper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV) (a) and (b). There has been some imbalance between the demand for and supply of paper, due to the fact that demand has gone up sharply as a result of general improvement in economic conditions, the programme of

adult education and universal literacy programmes, STC have already imported some quantities of writing and Printing paper to meet the requirements of Government indentors. Additional quantities will be imported as and when necessary.

#### Import of Raw Wool from Australia

4143. SHRI KUMARI ANANTHAN: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total import of raw wool annually from Australia;

(b) the reasons for the Australian Wool Corporation officials suggesting that India should build a stockpile of 10,000 tonnes of wool; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to implement this suggestion of Australian Wool Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI JAGDAMBI PRASAD YADAV): (a) Imports of greasy wool by India in 1975-76 and 1976-77 from Australia were of the order of 14.96 and 12.74 million kgs. respectively.

(b) The Australian Wool Corporation has proposed setting up a stockpile of 10,000 bales of greasy wool in India in bonded warehouses to reduce delivery lead time and ensure supplies even when despatches from Australia are disrupted.

(c) The Australian Wool Corporation made it clear that in case Sales Tax and Income Tax are leviable on transactions from the proposed stockpile, the proposal will become uneconomic and they will not proceed with the scheme. An examination of the proposal, however, indicates that *prima facie*, transactions from the proposed stockpile will be subject to Sales Tax as well as Income Tax. The Australian Wool Corporation is being informed accordingly.