

(b) and (c). The Ashok Mehta Committee Report does not contain any specific recommendation for providing financial assistance to powerloom weavers in Madhya Pradesh.

Harijans killed in Bhatinda and East Champaran District

1101. DR. FAROOQ ABDULLAH: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two Harijans were killed on the 29th February, 1980 at Bhatinda;

(b) whether it is also a fact that at least 15 huts of Harijans were set on fire at village Phulwar under the Gora-sahan Police Station in East Champaran District and on the 27th February, 1980 in Motihari; and

(c) if so, whether the Union Government have or are considering on war footing measures to crush the elements who are out to create such situations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) No, Sir, only one Harijan was killed on 27-2-1980 at village Phallar, P.S. Sangat, Bhatinda as a result of a dispute between two families of Mazhbies (Scheduled Castes) in the village.

(b) the information is being collected from the Government of Bihar and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The Home Minister has recently written to Chief Ministers/Governors/Lt. Governors of all States to take stringent measures to curb the evil of atrocities on members of Scheduled Castes etc.

Demand, Production and Import of Paper

1102. SHRI BALASAMEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirement of paper in the country and the quantities produced each year during the last four years;

(b) the quantities of paper imported each year indicating the countries from which imported and the amount spent on such imports each year during the last four years; and

(c) what steps have been taken to make the country self-sufficient?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI CHARANJIT CHANANA): (a) The total production of paper and paper boards during the last four years was as follows:—

Year	(Production in lakh tonnes)		
1976	8.80
1877	9.37
1978	10.06
1979	10.40 (provisional)

The production of paper and paper board was by and large sufficient to meet the indigenous demand, except for some speciality grade papers such as electrical insulation papers, filter papers etc. Only during the years 1978 and 1979, there was a spurt in the demand, leading to complaints of non-availability of writing and printing paper. It is estimated that the gap between demand and availability of paper during these years was about 50,000 to 70,000 tonnes.

(b) A statement indicating details of source, quantity and value of import of paper and paper board from principal countries for the last four years is attached (Annexure).