

of grant of another instalment of DA to Central Government employees from 1-5-1980 has accordingly become due for consideration.

Study by Market Research wing of Textiles Committee on Consumption of varieties of Cloth

696. SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Market Research Wing of the Textiles Committee had made a study recently on the consumption pattern of different varieties of cloth in the country;

(b) if so, the important observations made therein; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal to recast the textile policy on the basis of these observations?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report, based on a sample study of household consumption of textiles over a period of time has, in regard to demand projections, indicated a nominal rate of growth, at constant prices, in cheaper qualities compared with those for costly ones. The report recommends further study of the issue as it has far-reaching policy implications in regard to the production pattern.

(c) The demand projections for the Five Year Plan 1980-85 are currently being worked out; the planning strategy for the integrated development of all sectors of textile industry would be evolved on the basis of this exercise.

Import of Steel

698. SHRI D. P. JADEJA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued orders that actual users can import steel as per their requirement;

(b) if so, the criteria adopted; and

(c) the details of the Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE & STEEL AND MINES (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The imports are governed by the provisions in the Import Policy for 1980-81, which is incorporated in three lists—

(1) *Banned list*:—Items whose import is banned.

(2) *Restricted list*:—Items whose import is allowed automatically to actual users upto prescribed limits.

(3) *Canalised list*:—Items which can be imported only through canalising agencies.

Items which do not figure in these lists can be imported under Open General Licence by Actual users (Industrial).

Rise in Wholesale Price Index

699. SHRIMATI PRAMILA DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the wholesale price index has shot up by 20 per cent during the past three months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the consumer price index has also gone up by 15 per cent during the same period;

(c) what are the reasons for this steep rise; and

(d) whether any steps have been taken by Government to bring down the prices?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI MANGANBHAI BAROT): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Wholesale Price Index (1970-71 = 100) increased by 3.2 per cent in the three months ended May 24, 1980. Due to a time-lag of about 6 weeks in the