

(c) Corporation will make purchases to ensure that grower gets at least the statutory minimum prices for his produce.

Imported Edible Oils became unfit for Human Consumption

4710. SHRI N. E. HORO: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there have been cases of imported edible oil having become unfit for human consumption due to defective shortage during the last three years; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the quantity and the value of such edible oils?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI V. C. SHUKLA):

(a) and (b). During the last three years, edible oils have been imported both on private account, as well as on Government account by State Trading Corporation. No information is available about any edible oil so imported by private parties having become unfit for human consumption. Insofar as edible oils imported by State Trading Corporation are concerned, it has reported no case during that period of imported edible oils having become unfit for human consumption as a result of defective storage.

Change in Development of Handloom Industry in Adivasi Areas

4712. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to bring some change in regard to development of handloom industry in Adivasi Areas of the country;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) whether Government are allowing the weavers to use terene staples in handloom industry mixing

with Khadi to modernise the handloom industry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Government of India have launched a number of schemes for the all round development of the handloom industry in all areas of the country. The Governments of States having concentration of handlooms in Adivasi areas have been requested to see that the benefits of such development schemes reach the Adivasi weavers.

(b) (i) Share capital assistance to primary handloom cooperative societies;

(ii) Share capital assistance for apex body of handloom weavers;

(iii) Assistance for creation of pre-loom and post-loom processing facilities;

(iv) Loan and grant assistance to handloom weavers for improvement and modernisation of looms.

(v) Intensive and Export Handloom Development Projects for the benefit of the weavers outside the cooperative fold.

(c) Some of the States have already taken up the production of handloom fabrics using polyester fibre in the handloom sector. The Weavers' Service Centres and the Indian Institutes of Handloom Technology have taken up a programme of training of weavers in weaving polyester blends and in designing a special loom for such purposes.

Sponge Iron Project in Bangladesh

4713. SHRI A. T. PATIL: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have revived the proposal for