

(c) whether it is a fact that the Andhra Pradesh Handloom Industry is suffering from unsatisfactory supply position and high price of cotton and accumulation of unusually large stocks, and failure of weavers apex society to lift the same; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to put the industry back on sound footing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) The number of traditional looms and the number of looms in the cooperative sector are 6 lakhs and 3.27 lakhs respectively.

(b) Although working capital is around 30 per cent of the total requirements, it is not on account of any restriction imposed by the RBI. The weavers cooperative societies will get more loans subject to fulfilment of certain norms.

(c) According to information received from Director of Handlooms & Textiles, Andhra Pradesh, no difficulty is experienced regarding supply of yarn. The prices of yarn have been ruling steady during the last 6 months. Only very recently, the prices have risen slightly on account of imposition of power cut in Tamil Nadu. The problem of accumulation of stocks is also not serious. Under the Government of India sponsored 20 per cent rebate scheme, considerable quantities have been sold during the Dussehra & Deepavali seasons. The apex society lifts 50 to 60 per cent of the production of primary societies on an average. However depending upon the seasonal fluctuations of demand the actual procurement also varies from month to month.

(d) The stocks with the societies are expected to be cleared during the ensuing Sankranti festival which is the major buying season when 20 per cent rebate will also be allowed. The State Government have also arranged for sanction of additional credit limits of Rs. 2 crores to the

apex society to procure more stocks from primaries.

Re-constitution of Marine products Export Development Authority

4706. SHRI M. M. LAWRENCE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to reconstitute the Marine Products Export Development Authority with more members from the small scale sector who have been thrown out of export due to various reasons and those who have productive assets; and

(b) whether Government have received any complaint that the MPEDA is fully supporting the views of the monopolists and big scale industrialists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KHURSHEED ALAM KHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

वनस्पति के मूल्य में वृद्धि

4707. श्री तारिक अनवर: क्या नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जनवरी से नवम्बर, 1980 तक की अवधि के दौरान वनस्पति के खुदरा मूल्य में कितनी वृद्धि हुई है; और

(ख) इस मूल्य वृद्धि को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

नागरिक पूर्ति मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ब्रज मोहन महन्ती) : (क) जनवरी और नवम्बर, 1980 के बीच वनस्पति के खुदरा मूल्य घटते-बढ़ते रहे हैं। कुल मिलाकर, इस अवधि के दौरान मूल्यों में मामूली वृद्धि हुई है।