

Spindlage for Worsted Wool

1204. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present spindlage for worsted wool in the different states in the country;

(b) whether government have decided not to sanction any more spindles for worsted wool in any part of the country except in Kashmir under the Third Five Year Plan; and

(c) what are the reasons for this decision?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Nityanand Kanungo): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 39].

Export of Engineering Industry Goods

1205. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred question No. 2261 on the 24th March, 1961 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision on the specific demands of the Chairman of the Engineering Export Promotion Council to offer incentives to promote export of engineering industry goods; and

(b) if so, what action has since been taken in pursuance thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). Government have already set up a Freight Investigation Board and the Council has been asked to refer specific cases for reduction in shipping freights to it with proper justification for the demand. The import entitlement provided under the current Export Promotion Scheme for Engineering goods is sufficiently liberal and no further increase is contemplated at present. The benefits under the Scheme have, however, been ex-

tended to exporters who are not manufacturers themselves provided certain conditions are fulfilled. Other questions such as the one relating to reduction in prices of iron and steel are under consideration.

Jute Industry

1206. Shri P. C. Borooah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken notice of the reported resolution of the Bengal Jute Mill Worker's Union, passed in June 1961 urging Government to nationalise the Jute Industry;

(b) if so, what were the reasons advanced by them for their demand; and

(c) what is Government's decision on the demands?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In passing the resolution, the Union seems to have been mainly influenced by the adverse effects likely to be caused by the decision of the Indian Jute Mills Association to curtail working hours and to observe block closure of mills in the months of June and July on the employment situation.

(c) No action is proposed to be taken on this demand.

Manufacture of Sewing Machines

1207. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sewing machines manufactured in India during the First half of 1961 (State-wise); and

(b) the number of sewing machines exported during the same period?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 40].