

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b). A proposal to disburse cash compensatory support to exporters through Banks is under consideration.

Trade with East European Socialist Countries

538. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether our trade with East European Socialist countries has been growing considerably;

(b) whether our trade with Socialist countries is on favourable terms; and

(c) the broad outlines thereof and the share of our present foreign trade with the Socialist countries as compared to our total foreign trade?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir

(c) India's trade with the East European Socialist countries (except Yugoslavia) is conducted through balanced clearing accounts in non-convertible Indian rupees. Funds generated through imports into India are credited to the accounts of these countries in Rupees which can be liquidated only through exports from India.

The total trade turnover between India and East European Socialist countries (including Yugoslavia) during the last three years has been as follows:

Year	(Rs. in Crores)		
	Imports	Exports	Total
1972-73	231	470	701
1973-74	400	488	888
1974-75	653	681	1334
1975-76	265	335	600
April—Sept.			

The share of our imports from the East European Socialist countries as compared to our global trade has been around 14 per cent, and of exports 21 per cent.

Controlled Cloth

539. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether 6000 sq. metres of unsold controlled cloth is lying with the mills in West Bengal;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total controlled cloth produced by textile mills in the country at present; and

(d) what is West Bengal's Textile Mill's obligation in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI VISHWANATH PRATAP SINGH):

(a) and (b). As on 31st January, 1976, the stock of controlled cloth unsold or sold but remaining unlifted with mills in West Bengal is estimated to have been about 8,369 bales. The accumulation was due to sluggish market for cloth. To facilitate the quicker off-take of controlled cloth from mills procedures of allocation and lifting have recently been streamlined.

(c) and (d). The total production of controlled cloth during the last three quarters, alongwith the obligation fixed for mills in West Bengal are as under:—

(Figures in million sq. metres)

Period	Obligation fixed for mills in West Bengal	Total production in the country
April.—June 1975	10.58	177.87
July—September 1975	8.83	145.65
Oct.—December 1975	9.96	168.57