

**The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The reason which prompted the Government to allow import of dates by steamers was that during the monsoon season import of dates by sailing vessels from Persian Gulf countries could not take place.

(c) The concession for import of dates by steamers was valid upto 30th September, 1963 only. As such the question of taking any further steps does not arise. In future, as far as possible, the general policy is to allow such imports by sailing vessels only.

#### **Stainless Steel for U.P.**

**348. Shri Sarjoo Pandey:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of stainless steel allotted to U.P. during 1962-63; and

(b) the actual requirement of stainless steel for U.P. during the same period?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Heavy Engineering (Shri C. Subramaniam):** (a) Nil.

(b) The actual requirements for 1962-63 are not available. But taking into account the demands received in earlier periods, the requirements might be estimated at 120 tons a year for utensil manufacture.

#### **Industrial Service of Engineers**

**349. Shri M. G. Thengondar:** Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to create an Industrial Service of Engineers for Public Sector Undertakings of Government; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### **Cloth from Pineapple Leaves**

**350. { Shri P. C. Deo Bhanj:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:**

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Handicrafts Development Centre at Bangalore has developed a clothing fabric from the leaves of pineapples;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when Government propose to put this new fabric into the market?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) and (b). The All India Handicrafts Board's Pineapple Fibre Research Centre at Moodbidri (and not the Central Handicraft Development Centre at Bangalore) has been conducting experiments with regard to extraction of fibre from Pineapple leaves, twisting of yarn, weaving and dyeing thereof. It has recently developed a clothing fabric from pineapple leaves.

(c) The results of the experiments have been very encouraging. A training course has just been initiated for imparting training in spinning of pineapple fibre. It is also proposed to set up a model production unit for conducting experiments on a large-scale basis. It is, therefore, not possible at this stage to indicate precisely as to when it will be possible to introduce the new fabric into the market. This is still in an experimental stage.

#### **Spinning Mill in Yeotmal**

**351. Shri D. S. Patil:** Will the Minister of International Trade be pleased to refer to the reply given to Ustarred Question No. 605 on the 8th March, 1963 and state whether a final decision has since been taken regarding the setting up of a spinning mill in Yeotmal District of Maharashtra State?

**The Minister of International Trade (Shri Manubhai Shah):** Yes, Sir. The Government of India have agreed