

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir; a rising tendency has been noticed in the prices of some varieties of cotton since May, 1968. This tendency is due to the normal seasonal factors.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1384/68].

(c) Statutory floor prices of cotton, along with statutory ceiling prices have been discontinued with effect from 1st September, 1967. During the current season (1967-68), minimum support prices instead of floor prices, have been fixed for different varieties of cotton. So far there is no proposal to raise support prices for the current year.

Industrial Estates in Mysore, Maharashtra and Andhra

476. SHRI S. A. AGADI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Industrial Estates sanctioned since 1960 have not yet been constructed in the States of Mysore, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the number of Industrial Estates and constructed in each of these States, with their locations; and

(c) the reasons for not encouraging Proprietary Enterprises in these States?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the concerned State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Import of Silk

477. SHRI S. A. AGADI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Mysore have sent any proposal to

restrict the import of silk yarn in the country;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) the total quantity of Silk Yarn imported annually at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The matter is under consideration.

(c) During the years 1965 to 1967, the average annual imports of raw silk ranged between 0.49 to 0.42 lakh kg. against an estimated gap of about 2 lakh kg.

Opening of a Railway station between Bhanapur and Koppal

478. SHRI S. A. AGADI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the villagers of Haligere, Koppal Taluka, District Raichur, Mysore State, are representing for the last ten years for the opening of a railway station between Bhanapur and Koppal on the Hubli-Guntakal section of the South Central Railway in Mysore State; and

(b) if so, whether any survey has been made and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and (b). A representation was received and the proposal examined in the year 1960 and it was found that there was no traffic justification for opening a new station between Bhanapur and Koppal. A reply was given accordingly. Another representation dated 10-11-67 on this subject has been received from the Sarpanch, Halgera and the proposal is under examination.