

import licencing policy with regard to these goods; and

(d) if so, what are the findings?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) All items including industrial and consumers' goods are subject to the Import Trade Control Regulations except those specifically excluded from the operation of Import Trade Control. The import policy for the current year has already been announced in the Import Trade Control Policy (Red Book) for April, 66—March, 67 as amended from time to time.

(b) In respect of only a few essential items the importers are required to charge the prices fixed for them by the Government. In respect of other items, profit margins are determined by forces of a demand and supply in the market.

(c) and (d). The import policy in respect of each item covered by the Import Trade Control Schedule is reviewed every year after taking into consideration the domestic demand, rated capacity, indigenous production and availability of foreign exchange, and wherever considered necessary, changes in the import policy are made.

Issue of Import Licences

2361. Shri Sidheshwar Prasad: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the parties/firms who got import licences worth over rupees 10 (ten) lakhs year-wise and State-wise from 1960-61 to 1965-66;

(b) the names of the parties/firms which were subsequently blacklisted for non-observance of rules and conditions; and

(c) the losses incurred by Government on account of this?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The State-wise licensing statistics of import licences issued by the C.C.I.&E. organisation are not maintained. Particulars of import licences issued by the office of C.C.I.&E. are, however, published in

the "Weekly Bulletin of Import Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences", copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) The current list of the parties debarred from obtaining import or export licences has also been published in the "Weekly Bulletin of Import Licences, Export Licences and Industrial Licences" for the week ending 6th and 13th August, 1966, published on the 29th October, 1966 and 21st November, 1966 respectively.

(c) It is not possible to estimate losses, if any, to Government on account of non-observance of rules and conditions by licensees. As such cases are only few, the losses cannot be very significant.

Modernization of Machinery in Textile Mills

2362. Shri Sidheshwar Prasad: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the number of textile mills (State-wise);

(b) the number of such Textile Mills (State-wise) whose machinery is obsolete and out-dated; and

(c) the steps taken to modernise it and the salient features of the modernization Scheme?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-7424/66].

Relief to Retired Railway Employees

2363. Dr. L. M. Singhvi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been received by the Railway Administration from any section of the retired railway employees seeking further relief in the benefits extended to them particularly by way of neutralizing in whole or in part the rising cost of living; and