

[Shri Morarji Desai]

2. I should like to take this opportunity of placing on record the Government's appreciation of the very valuable work done by the Committee in examining and reporting upon the complicated problems arising in the course of the administration of the direct taxes of the Central Government.

STATEMENT RE: COTTON TEXTILE PRICES

Shri Vajpayee (Balrampur): Sir, it is an important statement, it should be read.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): It is about three pages.

Mr. Speaker: He will get a copy. He can go and take it. He may lay it on the Table of the House.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: I beg to lay on the Table a statement on cotton textiles. prices. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 160].

Mr. Speaker: Let us get through the work today.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): May I put a question?

From the papers it appears that the Government have agreed to on *ad hoc* increase on August, 1959 prices of 19 per cent. in the cloth prices. In the case of coarse cloth, I think they have agreed to an increase of 25 per cent. There has not been an increase of 25 per cent. in all the items which go into the manufacture of cloth. May I know whether Government have considered the matter as to how this affect the consumer of coarse cloth?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: If the hon. Member reads my statement, he will find that these points have been explained. In so far as coarse cloth is concerned, there will be an appreciable reduction for the consumer. I do not say that I am fully satisfied

with the reduction made, but it is undoubtedly an improvement on the past.

Shri Damani (Jalore): Regarding the stamping of prices, I want to know whether prices will be stamped on cycle tyre codes, motor tyre codes, filter cloth and ducks for rubber belting.

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: The stamping will be done by the mills. I cannot go into the different varieties of cloth, but some of the non-wearable cloth is also to be stamped. That is what I have come to know from the Indian Cotton Mills Federation.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I seek a clarification? Is it a fact that there will be something done about cotton blankets because that is a commodity used only by the very poor persons who cannot afford woollen blankets?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: It is included in the reduction.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Non-wearable cheap blankets are included in the reduction?

Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri: Yes.

12-40 hrs.

STATEMENT RE: WRONG DELIVERY OF A REGISTERED LETTER

Mr. Speaker: Now, Dr. P. Subbarayan.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): The statement is about 2½ pages long. I promised to make a statement. Shall I lay it on the Table of the House?

Some Hon. Members: Let him read it.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, let him read it.