

Tea Industry

*247. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 857 on the 7th April, 1967 and state:

(a) whether the Committee set up to go into the problems of tea industry and to recommend measures for increasing its production has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement its recommendations?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Lakshmi Rattan Cotton Mills, Kanpur

*248. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Dr. Ranen Sen:
Shri Dhireswar Kalita:
Shri Hukam Chand
Kachwal:
Shri Onkar Singh:
Shri Ram Kishan Gupta:
Shri K. N. Pandey:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether an authorised Controller has been appointed in Lakshmi Rattan Cotton Mills, Kanpur;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether State Government have agreed to the Centre's proposal to take over this Mill?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Government of India are not contemplating taking over the management of any cotton mill pending the passing of the Bill, which they propose to introduce shortly, to enable them to take over certain closed and likely to close mills.

They have no objection if the State Government would wish to take over this mill. This has been communicated to the State Government.

Distribution of Cotton to Mills

*250. **Shri K. N. Pandey:**
Shri N. F. Yadav:
Shri N. S. Sharma:
Shri Sharda Nand:
Shri Brij Bhushan Lal:
Shri A. B. Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is no proper machinery to see that the raw cotton is distributed evenly between the mills with the result that the mills which close due to non-availability of raw material hit the workers economically; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for the distribution of cotton to all the mills on a rational basis?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b). Distribution of cotton to mills is regulated by exercising control on movement and stock of indigenous cotton on the basis of consumption in the previous year. This is being done to ensure an equitable distribution of the available supplies of cotton to all the mills. Moreover, no cotton textile mills may close down without the prior permission of the Textile Commissioner. Moreover, where difficulties in procuring raw material are experienced, the Textile Commissioner tries to help by requisitioning cotton to the extent practicable.

Indo-U.A.R.-Yugoslavia Economic Co-operation

*251. **Shri S. R. Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a prelude to economic co-operation between India, U.A.R. and Yugoslavia a study group on tariff preferences was set up;