

Accumulation of Handloom Cloth

1844. { Shri Kumaran:
Shri P. K. Ramakrishnan:
Shri E. V. K. Sampath:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the large accumulation of cloth in the handloom sector;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what help Government propose to give to clear off the accumulated stocks?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The accumulation is partly seasonal and partly due to the fact that production is not geared to consumer demand.

(c) Special rebate of 6 N.P. in addition to the usual rebate of 6 N.P. in the rupee has been sanctioned from 11-4-1958 for a period of 2 months on retail and wholesale sales of handloom cloth by weavers societies to clear accumulated stocks.

Shri Kumaran: Government have given a reduction of excise duty on mill cloth to the tune of Rs. 15 crores, with a view to according relief to the mill industry. May I know whether Government will take steps to set apart a similar amount to bring down the accumulated stocks in the handloom industry which employs a far larger number of workers than the mill industry?

Shri Kanungo: The correlation is not justified. In any case, there are schemes for reducing the cost of production of handloom goods as far as possible, and that is a sure way of sustaining these craftsmen.

Shri Sampath: May I know whether the Government of Madras have requested the Government of India to increase the rebate to two annas to resolve the crisis, and if so, the reaction of Government?

Shri Kanungo: That is exactly what has been done.

Shri Tangamani: The Minister has stated that the rebate has been increased to two annas, and the same will be extended only for two months. In view of the fact that these two months, namely this month and the next month, are very lean months, and months like October and November where we have the Deepavali are fast approaching also, may I know whether this rebate of two annas will be extended till the end of this year, so that the stocks which are there in Madras to the tune of Rs. 3 crores will be cleared.

Shri Kanungo: The rebate is for two months, and it is expected that it will help to clear a lot of stocks. Apart from that, I might mention that the accumulation is not so bad as it is supposed to be. In fact, in the States of Madras and Andhra Pradesh, where the largest production takes place, it is barely five weeks' production just now.

भारत-तिब्बत व्यापार

* 1845. श्री भारत सरकार : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत और चीन की सरकारों के बीच जो समझौता हुआ था उसके अन्तुसार तिब्बत में भारतीय व्यापार एजेंसियां बारहों महीने खुली नहीं रखी जाती ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

बड़े सेवक-कार्य मंत्री के समा-सचिव (श्री सावरत जलो जी) : (क) और (ख) याकुम और ग्यन्ते में तो भारतीय व्यापार एजेंसियां मारा माल काम करती हैं, लेकिन, गतोक स्थित भारतीय व्यापार एजेंसी पश्चिमी तिब्बत में सिर्फ गर्मी के महीनों में ही काम करती है। इसकी सास वजह यह है कि किराये पर उचित स्थान नहीं मिलता है। हम अपनी इमारतें बनाने की कोशिशें कर रहे हैं।