



TARIFF COMMISSION

REPORT ON
the Continuance of Protection to the
Cotton and Hair Belting Industry



BOMBAY 1957

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सत्यमेव जयते

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GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

New Delhi, the 8th June, 1957.

RESOLUTION

Tariffs

No. 6(1)-TP/57.—The Tariff Commission has submitted its Report on the continuance of protection to the Cotton and Hair Belting Industry on the basis of an inquiry undertaken by it under Sections 11(e) and 13 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951. Its recommendations are as follows :—

- (1) Protection to the industry should be continued for a period of two years, i.e., till 31st December, 1959 at the existing rate of protective duty of 10½ per cent. *ad valorem* on cotton and hair beltings.
- (2) Imports of hair tops exclusively used for the manufacture of belting yarn should be allowed free of duty.
- (3) Import control in regard to hair yarn should be liberalised by taking into account only the actual production of and not the capacity for this material in the country.
- (4) The Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics should incorporate statistical data in respect of solid woven cotton and hair beltings in terms of inch feet as well as weight in all Trade returns and publications.
- (5) All requirements of indigenous beltings of Government Departments should be met only from belts which have been marked under the Certification Marking Scheme.
- (6) If any indigenous manufacturer produces solid woven train lighting beltings which conform to the requirements of Indian Railways, the latter should give them a trial and review their purchase policy accordingly.
- (7) The manufacturers of beltings should approach the Indian Standards Institution for application of the Certification Marking Scheme to their products.
- (8) All manufacturers of solid woven cotton and hair beltings should in future submit their figures of production, sales etc. both to Government and to the Tariff Commission in terms of inch feet as well as weight.
- (9) Immediate attempts should be made by the industry to revive the Indigenous Belting Industries Association and make it fully representative of the entire industry.

2. Government accept recommendation (1). The duty on cotton and hair beltings has, however, been recently rounded off to 10% *ad*

valorem under the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1957. The necessary legislation which will be undertaken in due course to continue protection to the industry will therefore provide for the continuance of the levy of duty at this revised rate.

3. Recommendation (3) has been noted and will be taken into consideration along with other relevant factors while formulating the import policy from time to time.

4. Government have also taken note of recommendations (4) and (5) and steps will be taken to implement them as far as possible.

5. Recommendations (2) and (6) are under consideration.

6. The attention of the Industry is invited to recommendations (6), (7), (8) and (9).

ORDER

Ordered that a copy of the Resolution be communicated to all concerned and that it be published in the Gazette of India.

S. RANGANATHAN

Secretary to the Government of India.



REPORT ON THE CONTINUANCE OF PROTECTION TO THE COTTON AND HAIR BELTING INDUSTRY

1. The claim of the indigenous belting industry to protection or assistance was first referred to the Tariff Board by the Government of India in the Department of Commerce by their Resolution No. 218-T(55)/45, dated 12th October, 1946. On the Board's recommendation protection was granted to the industry up to 31st March, 1950 by converting the then existing revenue duty of 7½ per cent. *ad valorem* into a protective duty at the same rate. Meanwhile, in June, 1948 the Indigenous Belting Industries Association represented to the Tariff Board that since August, 1947 (i.e., after the Tariff Board had submitted its report), the cost of production of indigenous cotton belting had gone up, and requested that the protective duty should be suitably enhanced. At the request of the Government of India the Board examined the representation, and came to the conclusion that the quantum of protection enjoyed by the industry was adequate and that no enhancement of duty was required. As the protection granted to the industry was due to expire on 31st March, 1950, the Board, in accordance with the Government of India Resolution No. 30-T(1)/48, dated 6th August, 1948 conducted the second inquiry into the industry and recommended continuance of protection for two years, i.e., till 31st March, 1952. This recommendation was accepted by Government. Thereafter the period of protection was extended by Government in consultation with the Tariff Commission first till 31st December, 1952, subsequently till 31st December, 1953 and again till 31st December, 1954. Under the Finance Act of 1954, the rate of protective duty was raised to 10 per cent. *ad valorem* with a surcharge of 5 per cent. thereon making the total duty 10½ per cent. with effect from 28th February, 1954. The third inquiry into the industry was undertaken by the Commission in 1954 and in its report dated 28th July, 1954 it recommended continuance of the existing protective duty of 10½ per cent. *ad valorem* on cotton and hair beltings for a further period of two years, i.e., up to 31st December, 1956. This was accepted by Government and the following action was taken. Firstly, the rate of protective duty on cotton, hair and canvas ply beltings was raised from 10 per cent. to 10½ per cent. *ad valorem*, secondly, these articles were exempted from surcharge and lastly, the period of protection was extended up to 31st December, 1956 by the Indian Tariff (Second Amendment) Act, 1954. The period has been extended by a year i.e., up to 31st December, 1957 by the Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1956.

2. As the protection granted to the cotton and hair belting industry is due to expire on 31st December, 1957 the present inquiry has been undertaken under Section 11(e) read with Section 13 of the Tariff Commission Act, 1951 to investigate into the working of protection and to make appropriate recommendations.

3.1. Questionnaires were issued to the producers of cotton and hair belting, and of woollen yarn on 17th May, 1956. A press note was issued on 30th May, 1956, inviting importers, consumers and others interested in the belting industry to obtain copies

of the relevant questionnaire from the office of the Commission and submit replies. The Indigenous Belting Industries Association, Calcutta was requested to furnish a memorandum on the present position of the industry. The Chief Industrial Adviser Development Wing and the State Governments of Bombay, West Bengal, Madras and Delhi were also requested to furnish detailed memoranda on the present position of the industry. Views regarding quality, prices and desirability of continuance of protection to the industry were invited from the Director General of Supplies and Disposals, New Delhi. The Director, Government Test House, Alipore was requested to furnish his test report regarding the indigenous product. The Textile Commissioner, Bombay was requested to furnish information regarding (a) the steps taken by him for the supply of cotton yarn of the requisite quality to the belting industry, (b) the supply position of hair yarn, and (c) the improvement, if any, noticed in its quality since the last tariff inquiry in 1954. The High Commission of India in U. K., London was requested to furnish the latest f. o. b. quotations of the popular makes of solid woven cotton and hair beltings while the Collectors of Customs, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras were requested to furnish the c. i. f. prices of the latest consignments of these articles. As the cotton and hair belting industry is faced with competition from the producers of rubber ply beltings, Dunlop Tyre & Rubber Co. (India) Ltd. and Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Co. of India Ltd., producers of rubber ply beltings, were requested to furnish information on the present position of rubber ply belting industry. A list of persons or bodies to whom the Commission's questionnaires and letters were issued and from whom replies were received is given in Appendix I.

3.2. Shri C. Ramasubban, Member, accompanied by Shri S. K. Bose, Secretary, visited the factories of Bengal Belting Works Ltd., Birkmyre Bros. Ltd., Eastern Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd., India Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd. and Jay Shree Textiles Ltd., all in Calcutta, on 22nd November, 1956. Shri B. N. Adarkar and Dr. S. K. Muranjan, Members, visited the first four factories on 6th December, 1956 and the factory of Dunlop Tyre & Rubber Co. (India) Ltd. on 31st December, 1956.

3.3. Shri S. V. Rajan, Cost Accounts Officer, visited the factories of Bengal Belting Works Ltd. and India Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd. from 24th November, 1956 to 4th December, 1956 and examined the costs of production of cotton and hair beltings manufactured by them. Shri Rajan visited Jay Shree Textiles Ltd. and examined the cost of production of hair yarn at their factory.

3.4. A public inquiry was held at the Commission's office in Bombay on 19th December, 1956. A list of persons who attended the inquiry is given in Appendix II.

4.1. The Tariff Commission in its last Report (1954) made the following recommendations:—

(i) "The Textile Commissioner should take suitable steps to make adequate supply of cotton yarn of requisite quality available to the belting industry."

Implementation of the ancillary recommendations made in the Commission's Report of 1954.

- (ii) "Belting manufacturers should use indigenous hair yarn to the maximum possible extent and thus encourage the local yarn industry, in order that they may become independent of imports in respect of this essential material within a short period."
- (iii) "The Indigenous Belting Industries Association should take early steps to establish a Central Inspection Board for ensuring strict adherence to standard specifications, collecting statistics of demand in types and sizes of beltings and taking other measures to facilitate marketing."

Government accepted recommendation (i) above and stated that steps would be taken to implement it as far as possible. The attention of the industry was drawn to recommendations (ii) and (iii).

4.2. *Recommendation No. (i).*—We are informed by the Textile Commissioner that there is no control now over the distribution of cotton yarn, and that no request has been received by him from any unit of the belting industry for assistance in procuring cotton yarn. It was confirmed by the manufacturers of beltings present at the public inquiry that the position regarding the supply of good quality yarn was satisfactory.

4.3. *Recommendation No. (ii).*—From the evidence received by us we find that indigenous hair yarn has been used by the belting industry to an increasing extent during the current year. Although the Commission's recommendation has been implemented, our examination of the manner in which the increased usage of indigenous yarn has come about has disclosed certain disquieting features. We have referred to this subject in the paragraphs dealing with 'Raw materials'.

4.4. *Recommendation No. (iii).*—The Indigenous Belting Industries Association is reported to have made proposals to Government to constitute two Boards, (1) for dealing with inspection of beltings, and (2) for collecting statistics and dealing with marketing problems, and to have suggested that certain Government officials should function on the Boards. These proposals and suggestions were turned down by Government for the reason that as the Boards were to be connected with the day to day affairs of the industry Government could not participate in them. Our recommendation was made with a view to reminding the industry of its primary duties as a protected industry, namely, (a) to ensure quality and inspection, and (b) to render the.....type of marketing and sales service that is required by consumers of an important engineering product like beltings. We have noted with regret that apart from the fact that no steps have been taken by the industry in this regard, the Association itself has become enfeebled by lack of support. The Association was not represented at the public inquiry although the representative of the Indian Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd. answered questions on its behalf. The industry has presented no valid excuse for letting the Association languish, especially as most of the units are situated in a compact area within which it should be easy for an Association, even with a lean staff, to operate. We recommend that immediate attempts should be made to revive the Association and make it fully representative of the entire industry.

5.1. Units in production.—At the time of the last inquiry (1954) there were seven units engaged in the manufacture of solid woven cotton and hair beltings. **Present position of the industry** All of them were located in and around Serampore, near Calcutta. Three new concerns have since been licensed, viz., Fenner, Cockill Ltd., Madurai, Madras State (April 1954), K. P. Singh, New Delhi (January 1956) and Shree Luchminarain Jute Manufacturing Co. Ltd., Calcutta (April 1956); of these, the first started production in February, 1956, while the other two have not. Fenner, Cockill Ltd. has foreign collaboration with J. H. Fenner & Co. (Overseas) Ltd., England who are reported to be makers of high quality beltings of all types.

5.2. Capital invested and labour employed.—From information obtained from the producers we give below particulars relating to capital and labour employed :—

	Paid-up capital and borrowings	Total labour
	Rs.	
1. Asia Belting & Spinning Mills (Private) Ltd.	1,00,000	63
2. Bengal Belting Works Ltd.	11,41,000	487
3. Birkmyre Brothers Ltd.	11,50,000	91
4. Eastern Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd.	5,41,000	175
5. Fenner, Cockill Ltd.	20,00,000	68
6. Hindusthan Belting & Spinning Mills Ltd.	5,65,000	136
7. India Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd.	5,47,000	185
8. Serampore Belting Works Ltd.	3,00,000	156
9. Shree Luchminarain Jute Manufacturing Co. Ltd.	22,76,000*	20
10. K. P. Singh	No information furnished	

*Covers all activities of this Company.

5.3. Rated capacity and production.—We give below figures relating to (a) the rated capacity on single shift basis for the manufacture of cotton and hair beltings taken together, and (b) the production of cotton and hair beltings during the calendar years 1954 and 1955 and during the ten months ended October 1956.

Name of unit	Capacity single Shift	Production of beltings (In tons)									
		1954				1955				1956(January-October)	
		Tons	Cotton	Hair	Total	Cotton	Hair	Total	Cotton	Hair	Total
1. Asia Belting	.	35	7.30	26.60	33.90	23.59	36.68	60.27	18.43	36.00	54.43
2. Bengal Belting	.	282	140.55	54.52	195.07	131.26	47.26	178.52	92.63	33.87	126.50
3. Birkmyre Bros.	.	180	2.68	51.80	54.48	7.22	48.40	55.62	2.40	43.00	45.40
4. Eastern Belting	.	84	10.75	92.72	103.47	9.63	95.45	105.08	8.72	81.87	90.59
5. Fenner, Cockill	.	95	..	..	..	..	..	..	9.50	9.00	18.50
6. Hindusthan Belting	.	240	38.40	73.10	111.50	23.50	101.00	124.50	28.00	89.50	117.50
7. India Belting	.	264	156.81	59.46	216.27	77.18	51.31	128.49	63.53	40.50	104.03
8. Serampore Belting	.	153	53.02	100.64	153.66	75.38	127.28	202.66	32.67	113.06	145.73
9. Shree Luchminarain	.	212	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
10. K. P. Singh	.	24	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
TOTAL	.	1569	409.51	458.84	868.35	347.76	507.38	855.14	255.88	446.80	702.68

N. B.—The figures relating to capacity do not include those for the production of hose pipes, conveyor beltings, etc.

5.4. The figures of production covering, roughly, a period of six years i.e., 1951-56 are as follows :—

	Cotton belting (tons)	Hair belting (tons)	Total (tons)
1951	372	331	703
1952	394	338	732
1953	370	407	777
1954	409	459	868
1955	348	507	855
1956 (ten months)	256	447	703

It will be seen from the above figures that production of cotton belting was less and that of hair belting was more during the years 1955 and 1956 than during 1954 and that, while the total production of belting shows a tendency to increase, there is still a considerable measure of unutilised capacity in the industry even on the basis of single shift working. The decrease in the production of cotton belting is stated to be due to the increasing use of rubber ply beltings, the substitution of cotton and hair belting by rubber ply belting for train lighting purposes, and the slow replacement of flat belts by 'V' belts made of rubber.

6.1. The Commission's estimates of domestic demand in 1954 for solid woven cotton beltings and hair beltings were 350 tons and 500 tons per annum respectively. An increase in demand was considered conditional on improvement in quality, especially in the case of cotton belting where the Commission considered that if a high standard of quality was not maintained, rubber ply belting was likely to capture an increasing share of the market. The following figures of consumption during 1954-56 bear out the Commission's estimates and expectations :—

	Cotton belting (tons)		Hair belting (tons)	
	Indige- nous pro- duction	Imports	Indige- nous pro- duction	Imports
1954	409	Nil	459	..
1955	348	Nil	507	3
1956 (ten months)	256	Nil	447	2
	1013	Nil	1413	5
Total consumption	1013		1418	
Annual average	357.5		500.5	

The above figures show that the demand for cotton beltings shows a downward trend, while the demand for hair beltings indicates an upward trend.

6.2. The estimates of demand which have been received by us indicate varying figures, but have generally taken into account the possibility of progressive increase in demand in the years to come due to increase in industrialisation. The variations in estimates are primarily due to divergences in assessing (i) the possibility of stemming the change-over from solid woven cotton beltings to rubber ply beltings by improving the quality of the former, (ii) the extent of conversion that was taking place from flat belting to 'V' belting, and (iii) the effect of the Railway Board's policy of discontinuing the use of solid woven train lighting belting. The estimates and the various factors affecting demand were discussed at the public inquiry and the points that emerged are set out below :—

- (a) The consumption of rubber ply beltings has been on the increase during 1955 and 1956, as is seen from the following figures of sales furnished by the two leading manufacturers viz., Dunlop and Goodyear :

	1955	1956 (10 months)
Dunlop	1,973,719 feet (395 tons)	2,035,159 feet (407 tons)
Goodyear	1,736,000 feet (347 tons)	1,658,000 feet (332 tons)

The above two companies have a capacity of 600 tons each on three shifts basis and can step up their production against increased demand. There are also several small units producing rubber ply beltings in Punjab, Delhi and Bombay. As has been stated in the 1954 Report, cotton belting of ordinary quality is vulnerable to competition from rubber ply belting, and there is no evidence, so far, of any marked improvement in the quality of indigenous cotton belting.

- (b) The preference for 'V' belts in place of flat belts continues and is reported to be much in evidence in the new equipments installed in cotton mills, and in conversions that have taken place in jute mills up to the stage of weaving. We are informed that there is a pronounced preference for individual drives in new factory installations calling for the use of 'V' belts.
- (c) In 1954 the solid woven belting industry had a quota of 50 per cent. of the requirements of Indian Railways for train lighting beltings but this was subsequently reduced to 20 per cent. and the quota for rubber ply belting was correspondingly increased. We now understand that the Railway Board had decided not to buy solid woven belting in 1957, and that the entire requirements of Railways will be purchased from manufacturers of rubber ply beltings.

- (d) It is reported that some improvement has taken place in the quality of indigenous hair belting and that, arising from increased industrialisation in the country, the manufacturers of the product are likely to enjoy an increase in demand.

6.3. Taking all the above factors into consideration, we are of opinion that the domestic demand may be estimated at 350 tons per annum for cotton beltings, and 650 tons per annum for hair beltings for the next three years.

7.1. The raw materials and consumable stores required for the **Raw materials** manufacture of cotton and hair beltings are as follows :—

- (1) Hair yarn
- (2) Cotton yarn
- (3) Bituminous paint
- (4) Linseed oil
- (5) Latex
- (6) Healds
- (7) Reeds
- (8) Lohite spirit
- (9) Rubber chemicals
- (10) Canvas.

The industry has no complaint regarding the availability or quality of any of the above raw materials excepting hair yarn with which we are dealing below.

7.2 Fenner, Cockill Ltd. has raised the question regarding the availability through indigenous manufacture of medium brown hair belting yarn which is guaranteed to contain 75 per cent. long staple wool and 25 per cent. long staple animal fibre other than wool preferably camel hair, the colour of the yarn being fast to 1 per cent. ammonia solution. This special kind of yarn is not at present being produced in the country. The Company proposes to manufacture certain types of superior quality hair belting for which the above kind of yarn is needed. Jayshree Textiles Ltd. is prepared to produce this yarn after obtaining imported hair tops as raw material. The wool tops which it obtains from Bradford in U.K. do not contain animal fibre, and hair tops are required to provide the 25 per cent animal fibre admixture in the yarn. Imports of wool tops are at present on open general licence and are duty free. Imports of hair yarn exclusively used for the manufacture of belting are also duty free. Imports of hair tops, however, which are the raw materials for manufacture of hair yarn are subject to duty under item No. 87 of the Indian Customs Tariff. It has been suggested to us that hair tops may be allowed to be imported free of duty; and we understand that this material is mostly used only for the manufacture of belting. We, therefore, recommend that imports of hair tops exclusively used for the manufacture of belting yarn should be allowed free of duty.

7.3. Most of the manufacturers of hair beltings agree generally that the quality of indigenous belting hair yarn has shown considerable improvement although some supplies still lack uniformity, proper strength and elasticity. Complaints were, however, made to the effect that Jayshree Textiles Ltd. had been increasing its prices during the last few months and that the increases were not justified. In order to satisfy ourselves that the prices charged for hair yarn by Jayshree Textiles Ltd. were in fair relation to its cost of production, we arranged for an investigation into its books by our Cost Accounts Officer. After examination of his report we are satisfied that the prices charged so far by Jayshree Textiles are fair and reasonable. The increases in prices which were made during the last year were due to rises in the prices of wool tops imported by the Company. The Company also appears to be doing its best for improving the quality of hair yarn. If the manufacturers of hair belting continue to place their business with the Company, the Company would be encouraged in its efforts to improve the quality of its products further.

7.4. There are at present six mills with spindles installed for the production of woollen yarn. They are :—

- (1) Jayshree Textiles Ltd., Rishra (West Bengal).
- (2) The British India Corporation Ltd., Kanpur (U. P.).
- (3) The Bombay Fine Worsted Manufacturers Ltd., (Castle Mills), Bombay.
- (4) The Bombay Woollen Mills Ltd., Bombay.
- (5) The Raymond Woollen Mills Ltd., Bombay.
- (6) The Mahaluxmi Woollen Mills Ltd., Bombay.

Of the above six mills Jayshree Textiles Ltd. which has installed 638 spindles has been the largest and most regular producer of hair yarn during the last three years. The British India Corporation is reported to have 700 spindles; it produced small quantities in 1955 and increased its production in 1956. The Bombay Fine Worsted Manufacturers Ltd. (Castle Mills) has stated that it could supply good quality hair yarn if orders were placed in sufficient quantities. This mill has not, however, been in production. The other three mill companies are not interested in the business of manufacturing yarn for hair beltings. It, therefore, follows that there are only two effective suppliers of hair yarn for the belting industry in the whole country viz., Jayshee Textile Ltd. and the British India Corporation. The suppliers of hair yarn for the belting industry in the whole follows :—

	(In lbs.)		
	1954	1955	1956 (Ten months)
Jayshree Textiles	1,42,400	1,35,500	1,90,595
British India Corporation	Nil	5,244	33,358

7.5 The main grievance of the belting producers was that supplies of hair yarn were far below the requirements of the industry during the last three years. We are informed that while licences for imports of hair yarn were being issued for greatly reduced quantities, the main supplier of indigenous hair yarn *viz.*, Jayshee Textiles Ltd. was not able to effect sales as and when orders were placed. Resulting from short supplies of hair yarn to the industry as a whole, a number of manufacturers have resorted to the unwise expedient of reducing the normal hair content in beltings from the usual 50 per cent to percentages ranging from 33 to 49 in 1954, 19 to 39 in 1955 and 22 to 43 in 1956. Only three of the ten manufacturers maintained their percentages above 50 per cent. The undermentioned statement indicates the overall position relating to the industry in regard to the requirements of hair yarn and the available supplies during 1954 to 1956.

	Production of hair belting (in tons.)	Hair yarn required for hair belting produced in lbs.)	Actual hair yarn made available (In lbs.)		Total	Shortfall in supplies (2-5) (in lbs.)
			From imports	From indigenous sources		
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1954	458.84	5,13,901	3,63,276	1,42,400	5,05,676	8,225
1955	507.38	5,68,265	3,14,863	1,40,744	4,55,607	1,12,658
1956 (ten months)	446.80	5,00,416	1,71,011	2,29,389	4,00,400	1,00,016

N. B.—The figures in column No. 2 represent 50 per cent of the figures in column No. 1.

7.6. This question was the subject of considerable discussion at the public inquiry. The representative of Jayshree Textiles Ltd. stated at the public inquiry that his company had sufficient spindle capacity to be able to meet the demands of the belting industry to the extent of about 3,60,000 lbs. of hair yarn per year although its sales were only about half this figure. The figures relating to production and sales of Jayshree Textiles Ltd. in 1954, 1955 and 1956 are as follows :—

	Production	Sales
1954	1,48,922 lbs.	1,42,400 lbs.
1955	1,34,760 „	1,35,500 „
1956 (ten months)	1,89,998 „	1,90,595 „

They indicate that the Company has been producing only against orders and this was confirmed by its representative. It would appear that as wool tops and yarn do not keep long in storage Jayshree Textiles Ltd. has been insisting on long term contracts to be placed with it by the producers of belting, and it was only after such contracts were on hand that it placed orders overseas for wool tops. We would, however, observe in this connection that as the import control over foreign

hair yarn is being administered sufficiently strictly to provide it with a sheltered market, Jayshree Textiles Ltd. could have been somewhat more enterprising in this matter.

7.7. The representative of the Textile Commissioner stated at the public inquiry that in January-June 1956 licences for hair yarn were granted to the extent of two-thirds of the value applied for. For the subsequent half year licences would appear to have been granted up to 25 per cent of the requirements for six months' production. Throughout the inquiry the Textile Commissioner's representative maintained that the administration of import control relating to hair yarn was based on the fact that the number of spindles available for the manufacture of belting hair yarn in the six woollen mills in the country was more than adequate, and that there was, therefore, no need to allow larger imports. When it was pointed out that only two mills were in production (and even of these two, the product of the British India Corporation was reported to be costlier than imported yarn) and the other four mills were not interested in the business, we were told that belting producers had not placed large enough orders on the other four mills to warrant their going into production. Belting producers contended, that as the mills had never submitted acceptable samples and were unwilling to undertake production of small quantities, the belting industry cannot be blamed for their failure to enter this line.

7.8. We find that the drastic cuts in import quotas for hair yarn have resulted not only in scarcity of an essential raw material, but also in driving some of the units to production of substandard belt-ings. The situation therefore warrants liberalisation of imports of hair yarn in order that no excuse may be left to the industry to continue production of this important article of industrial use below the requisite standards. The repeated references to large spindleage in woollen mills and the potential capacity of these mills to supply hair yarn, which were made by the representative of the Textile Commissioner at the public inquiry, would seem to indicate that the import control policy with respect to hair yarn is guided mainly by the consideration of the idle capacity in the spinning industry. We do not, however, consider this to be a satisfactory basis; in the case of an essential material protection through import control should not be extended in advance of production. In any case, any compulsion on the belting industry to place orders with spinning mills which have not yet entered this line would help to absorb only a small fraction of the latter's idle capacity. The saving in foreign exchange is also comparatively small, being limited only to the processing charges of wool tops which have to be imported from abroad. We, therefore, recommend that import control in regard to hair yarn should be liberalised by taking into account only the actual production of, and not the capacity for, this material in the country.

8.1. In its last Report on the industry (1954) the Commission expressed the view that there was scope for improvement in the quality of indigenous belt-ings mainly in respect of their tensile strength and flexibility. In their answers to our questionnaire, the manufacturers of belt-ings have stated that their products now conform to I. S. I. standard specifications in tensile strength and flexibility, and that they are using better quality of cotton yarn and

**Quality of Indigenous
belt-ings**

belt dressing than before. As regards hair belting, most of the producers do not consider indigenous hair yarn to be entirely satisfactory, and have expressed the view that if the hair yarn available to them was as good as imported yarn their products would be of much better quality. The Development Wing has stated that it has not received any complaints against indigenous beltings from consumers. The Director of the Government Test House at Alipore has stated that indigenous cotton and hair beltings are generally satisfactory, that they conform to existing specifications, and compare favourably with the best types of imported samples previously tested by his laboratory. Certain mills in Bombay and tea estates in Kerala have also expressed satisfaction with the quality of indigenous beltings. As against these views, the Director-General of Ordnance Factories, Calcutta is of opinion that indigenous cotton and hair beltings are not quite satisfactory and that there is still considerable room for improvement. Importing firms dealing in foreign beltings are generally of the view that consumers still prefer imported beltings, not only because they are of better quality but also because they last longer in use. Both the Indian Jute Mills' Association and the Indian Tea Association agree that some improvement has taken place in the quality of beltings since 1954, but are still of the view that indigenous beltings are inferior to imported products.

8.2. We understand that Hindustan Belting and Spinning Mills Ltd. is manufacturing 'Gandy' hair belts for Messrs. Gandy Ltd., Cheshire, England and these are being marketed in India by Messrs. Voltas Ltd. These belts are marked "Made in India" and are accepted by consumers as of good quality. An importing firm of repute, viz., Messrs. Lewix & Tylon is dealing in belts which bear its mark "Lantee" and these are being manufactured by Eastern Belting and Cotton Mills Ltd. according to the specifications of 'GRIPOLY' hair belting, a well-known U.K. product. These developments indicate that the quality of certain indigenous beltings has been recognised as up to the standard of British beltings.

8.3. As regards train lighting beltings Indian Railways have found indigenous solid woven beltings wholly unsatisfactory for their purpose and have decided to restrict their purchase in future to rubber ply beltings. We understand that the Electrical Standards Committee of the Railway Board has found Dunlop belting as satisfactory as foreign made "Silverton" belting, which is one of the best among imported makes. When this matter was discussed at the public inquiry the representatives of Fenner, Cockill Ltd. stated that his Company proposed to manufacture high quality solid woven train lighting belting. We recommend that if Fenner, Cockill Ltd., or any other indigenous manufacturer produces beltings which conform to the requirements of Indian Railways, the latter should give them a trial and review their purchase policy accordingly.

8.4. After examination of the evidence placed before us we have come to the conclusion that although some improvement has been registered in the quality of both cotton and hair beltings produced in the country, there is scope for still further improvement. Improvement in the quality of cotton beltings would seem to depend on the adoption of better techniques of production. As regards hair beltings, however, the manufacturers generally blame the indigenous

hair yarn which, in their view, is not as good as foreign yarn. It was also mentioned at the public inquiry that hair beltings produced by those manufacturers who had difficulties in obtaining adequate supplies of hair yarn tended to be sub-standard in quality due to deficiency in hair yarn content. This matter has been dealt with in paragraphs 7.5 and 7.8.

9.1 The Indian Standards Institution has laid down standards: **Standard specifications for beltings** as under :—

- (i) I. S. 529/1954 Specification for solid woven impregnated cotton belting for power transmission.
- (ii) I. S. 530/1954 Specification for solid woven impregnated hair belting for power transmission.

In these specifications the methods of conducting tensile and elongation tests are also laid down. In July, 1956 the I. S. I. circulated draft revisions for the above two standards for comments. These revisions have been necessitated primarily by the need to be in line with the provisions of the I. S. I. Certification of Marks Act of 1952. A few additions have been made to the sizes of beltings and also certain modifications in the tolerances of width and in the procedure for carrying out the tensile and elongation tests.

9.2. We have mentioned in paragraph 4.4 that despite the Commission's recommendation in its 1954 Report, the Indigenous Belting Industry's Association has failed to create an Inspection Board for ensuring strict adherence to standard specifications. The industry has failed to take advantage of the I. S. I. scheme of certification marking. The industry has been enjoying protection through protective duties as well as import control for over eight years and has not yet produced goods of consistent quality. So far, only one unit would appear to have applied to the I. S. I. for Certification marking, and even this application could not be finalised as the products concerned did not come up to the Indian Standard, and further, agreement could not be reached on the fee which was to be charged for marking. We recommend that the manufacturers of beltings should approach the Indian Standards Institution without any further delay for application of the Certification Marking Scheme to their products. We also recommend that all purchases of indigenous beltings by Government departments should be made only of belts which have been marked under the scheme. We trust that the industries which use indigenous belts will also insist on I. S. I. markings before making their purchases.

10.1. Imports of cotton belting have been completely banned since January-June, 1949. Official statistics of imports indicate some quantities as having been imported under this head, but we were informed at the public inquiry that they related to endless cotton belts and other miscellaneous types.

10.2. As regards hair belting, the policy followed from 1954 is given below :—

1954—(Both half years)—Licences for hair belting of width 20" and above were issued to established importers up to 10 per cent of one half of their best year's imports from soft currency areas.

1955—(January-June).—A general quota of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of one half of best year's imports was allowed with the stipulation that "not more than 10 per cent of the face value of the licences could be utilised for import of hair belting of the width of 24" and below."

(July-December).—The general quota remained the same but the stipulation was modified to the effect that "not more than $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the face value of the licences or Rs. 500 whichever was higher could be utilised for import of hair belting of the width of 24" and below."

1956—(both half years).—The general quota remained the same but the stipulation was again modified to the effect that "not more than $33\frac{1}{3}$ per cent of the face value of the licences or 25 lbs. or Rs. 500 whichever was higher could be utilised for import of hair belting of width of 24" and below."

10.3. Imports of cotton and hair beltings are published in the Trade Accounts in terms of value only. The following statement shows the value of imports during the period 1952-53 to 1955-56 :—

Year	Cotton belting		Hair belting	
	Rs.		Rs.	
1952-53	4,10,829		11,19,792	
1953-54	4,76,891		62,382	
1954-55	1,25,907		12,358	
1955-56	1,13,337		1,03,630	
1956-57 (four months)	32,115		67,027	

The Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, in his monthly statements submitted to the Commission has furnished the following figures of imports of cotton and hair beltings :—

Year	Cotton belting		Hair belting	
	tons		tons	
1952-53	41		172	
1953-54	40		4	
1954-55	7		..	
1955-56	25		3	
1956-57 (six months)	7*		2*	

*Incomplete.

11. Cotton and hair beltings are assessed to duty under item No. 50(3) of the First Schedule to the Indian Tariff Act, 1934. The relevant extract from the Forty-first issue of the Indian Customs Tariff is given below :—

Item No.	Name of article	Nature of duty	Standard rate of duty	Preferential rate of duty if the article is the produce or manufacture of			Duration of protective rate of duty
				The U.K.	A British Colony	Burma	
50(3)	Cotton, hair and canvas ply belting for machinery.	Protective	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>*	..	..	Free	December 31st, 1957.

*Under Government of India, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Notification No. 6(1)-T.B./54, dated the 7th December, 1954, the rates of customs duty leviable on cotton, hair and canvas ply belting for machinery have been raised to 10 1/2 percent. *ad valorem*.

12. We give in Appendix III a statement containing information received from importers, Collectors of Customs and the High Commissioner for India in U.K. regarding the c.i.f. prices and landed costs of recently imported beltings and the c.i.f. prices quoted by certain manufacturers of beltings in the U.K. For purposes of comparison with the fair ex-works prices of indigenous beltings we have adopted the following figures relating to U.K. beltings of sizes which constitute the bulk of the demand.

Cotton belting :

High Commissioner for India in U.K. (Obtained from F. Reddaway & Co. Ltd., London)

3" wide—Rs. 1/7/6 per foot.
4" wide—Rs. 1/15/4 per foot.

Hair belting :

High Commissioner for India in U.K. (Obtained from F. Reddaway & Co. Ltd., London)

3" × 6/6½ m.m.—Rs. 2/0/7 per foot.
4" × 6/6½ m.m.—Rs. 2/11/8 per foot.

13.1. Our Costs Accounts Officer examined the cost of production of cotton and hair beltings at the factories of the Bengal Belting Works Ltd., and the India Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd. His report is being forwarded as a separate confidential enclosure to this Report. On the basis of the costs worked out by the Cost Accounts Officer, we have estimated the future fair ex-works prices after taking into account the following factors. We have assumed a production of 200 tons of beltings by Bengal Belting and 180 tons by India Belting. The cost of cotton yarn in the case of India Belting has been calculated on the basis of weighted average prices of purchases, while in the case of Bengal Belting these have been again averaged with the cost of its own manufacture. The cost of hair yarn has been taken at Rs. 6-8-0 per lb. which is the price recorded on the date of the public inquiry and this is the rate at which future supplies of indigenous yarn are likely to become available on

the basis of current prices of wool tops. Interest on working capital has been allowed at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent per annum on an amount equivalent to the three months, cost of production while return has been allowed at ten per cent on the original values of the fixed assets in the case of both companies.

13.2. On the foregoing basis, the estimated fair ex-works prices per running foot of the selected types of beltings are given below :—

	Bengal Belting	India Belting	Average
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
<i>Cotton beltings :</i>			
3" × 1/4"	1 3 1	1 1 0	1 2 0
4" × 1/4"	1 8 11	1 9 7	1 9 3
<i>Hair beltings :</i>			
3" × 1/4"	2 3 3	1 15 9	2 1 6
4" × 1/4"	3 1 5	3 1 8	3 1 6

To the above average prices should be added an allowance for wastage of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent as has been allowed in the past. The resultant average fair ex-works prices would work out as follows :—

<i>Cotton belting :</i>	
3" Rs. 1 2 5 per running foot	
4" Rs. 1 9 11 per running foot	
<i>Hair belting :</i>	
3" Rs. 2 2 4 per running foot	
4" Rs. 3 2 9 per running foot	

14. The following table gives a comparison of the fair ex-works prices of indigenous beltings as estimated by us above with the landed costs of imported beltings of the same sizes :—

	(Per running foot of belting)			
	Cotton		Hair	
	3"	4"	3"	4"
	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
1. Fair ex-works price (average)	1 2 5	1 9 11	2 2 4	3 2 9
2. C.i.f. prices	1 7 0	1 15 4	2 0 7	2 11 8
3. Clearing charges	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6	0 0 6
4. Landed cost ex-duty	1 8 0	1 15 10	2 1 1	2 12 2
5. Excess of landed cost over fair ex-works price (+)	(+)0 5 7	(+)0 5 11	(-)0 1 3	(-)0 6 7
Shortfall of landed cost under fair ex-works price (—)				
6. No. 5 as a percentage of No. 2	(+)23.76	(+)18.88	(-)4	(-)15
	Average (+)21.32%		Average (—)9.5%	

It will be seen from the above statement that the average fair ex-works prices of indigenous cotton beltings have an advantage over landed costs of similar foreign beltings to the extent of 21.32 per cent, while in the case of indigenous hair beltings the disadvantage is to the extent of 9.5 per cent.

15. It would appear that, on the basis of the comparison made by us in the preceding paragraph, cotton belting can meet foreign competition without tariff protection, but not hair belting. Consumers' preference in favour of foreign belting (both cotton and hair) is, however, still very pronounced. The industry is not yet securely established, the quality of its product is not fully up to standard, and its future will remain somewhat uncertain until it is able to withstand internal competition from the rubber ply belting industry which has already driven away the solid woven belting industry from the field of train-lighting belting. The solid woven belting industry is crowded with far too many units at present and they are all working below their capacity. All these units still require some time to consolidate themselves. We, therefore, recommend that protection to the industry may be continued for a period of two years i.e., till 31st December, 1959, at the existing protective duty of 10½ per cent. *ad valorem* on cotton and hair beltings.

16. Imports of cotton and hair beltings are published in the Trade Accounts in terms of value only. The Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics has been submitting to us figures of imports in terms of weight. The manufacturers of hair beltings maintain their own production figures in terms of inch-feet as well as weight, and agree that, for statistical purposes, it would be far more satisfactory if all figures relating to installed capacity, production, imports etc. were published in terms of inch-feet as well as weight instead of weight alone as at present. We are informed that roughly speaking, 17000 inch feet of solid woven belting would weigh about one ton but this assumes a particular distribution between cotton and hair belting. The standard weights for solid woven beltings as furnished to us at the public inquiry are as follows :—

Hair belting—(Per inch-foot)

5 millimetres thick	0.11 lb.
6 1/2 " "	0.12 "
8 " "	0.14 "
10 " "	0.19 "
12 " "	0.22 "

Cotton beltings—(Per inch-foot)

4 millimetres thick	0.08 "
5 " "	0.10 "
6 " "	0.12 "
8 " "	0.16 "
10 " "	0.20 "

We recommend that in future all the manufacturers of solid woven cotton and hair belting should submit their figures of production, sales, etc. both to Government and to the Tariff Commission, in terms of inch feet as well as weight. We also recommend that the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics should incorporate similar statistical data (in inch feet as well as weight) in all Trade returns and publications.

17. Our conclusions and recommendations may be summarised
Summary of conclusions and recommendations as under :—

- (i) Immediate attempts should be made by the industry to revive the Indigenous Belting Industries Association and make it fully representative of the entire industry.
 [Paragraph 4.4]
- (ii) The domestic demand is estimated at 350 tons per annum for cotton beltings and 650 tons per annum for hair beltings for the next three years.
 [Paragraph 6.3.]
- (iii) Imports of hair tops exclusively used for the manufacture of belting yarn should be allowed free of duty.
 [Paragraph 7.2]
- (iv) Import control in regard to hair yarn should be liberalised by taking into account only the actual production of, and not the capacity for, this material in the country.
 [Paragraph 7.8]
- (v) If any indigenous manufacturer produces solid woven train lighting beltings which conform to the requirements of Indian Railways, the latter should give them a trial and review their purchase policy accordingly.
 [Paragraph 8.3]
- (vi) The manufacturers of beltings should approach the Indian Standards Institution for application of the Certification Marking Scheme to their products.
 [Paragraph 9.2]
- (vii) All purchases of indigenous beltings by Government departments should be made only of belts which have been marked under the Scheme.
 [Paragraph 9.2]
- (viii) Protection to the industry should be continued for a period of two years i.e., till 31st December, 1959, at the existing protective duty of 10½ per cent. *ad valorem* on cotton and hair beltings.
 [Paragraph 15]
- (ix) All manufacturers of solid woven cotton and hair beltings should in future submit their figures of production, sales etc. both to Government and to the Tariff Commission in

terms of inch feet as well as weight. The Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics should incorporate similar statistical data (in inch feet as well as weight) in all Trade Returns and publications.

[Paragraph 16]

18. We wish to express our thanks to the representatives of the firms manufacturing solid woven beltings, rubber ply beltings, and raw materials as also importers and consumers, for furnishing us with valuable information on various aspects of the industry.

Acknowledgements

K. R. DAMLE,
Chairman.

B. N. ADARKAR,
Member.

C. RAMASUBBAN,
Member.

S. K. MURANJAN,
Member.

J. N. DUTTA,
Member.



RAMA VARMA,
Secretary.

BOMBAY:

Dated 9th January, 1957.

APPENDIX I

(Vide paragraph 3·1)

List of persons or bodies to whom the Commission's questionnaires or letters were issued and from whom replies or memoranda were received

*Those who replied or sent memoranda.

A. PRODUCERS

- *1. M/s. Bengal Belting Works Ltd., 2, Dalhousie Square East, Calcutta.
- *2. M/s. Birkmyre Bros., Ltd., 67, Stephen House, 4, Dalhousie Square East, Calcutta.
- *3. M/s. India Belting and Cotton Mills Ltd., Snanpiri Lane, Serampore.
- *4. M/s. Hindusthan Belting & Spinning Mills Ltd., 174, Harrison Road, Calcutta.
- *5. M/s. Serampore Belting Works Ltd., 53, Battola Lane, Serampore.
- *6. M/s. Eastern Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd., P.O. Sheoraphuly, Distt., Hoogly.
- *7. M/s. Asia Belting & Spinning Mills Ltd., Serampore.
- *8. M/s. Fenner Cockill Ltd., Madurai, Madras.
9. K. P. Singh, 17-C, Nizamuddin East, New Delhi.
- *10. M/s. Luchminarain Jute Mfg. Co. Ltd., 59, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta.
- *11. M/s. Dunlop Rubber Co. (India) Ltd., Free School Street, Calcutta.
- *12. M/s. Good Year Tyre & Rubber Co. (India) Ltd., 209, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta.

B. ASSOCIATION

- *1. The Indigenious Belting Industries Association, Snanpiri Lane, Serampore.

C. IMPORTERS

1. M/s. Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., 103, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta-1.
2. M/s. Best & Co. Ltd., First Line Beach, Post Box No. 63, Madras.
- *3. M/s. British Solid Woven Belting Association, C/o. Lewis and Tylor Ltd., 6, Church Lane, Calcutta.
- *4. M/s. Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd., 1, Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay.
5. M/s. Indo British Trading Corporation, 18, Raja Woodmont Street, Calcutta.
- *6. M/s. J. H. Fenner & Co. Ltd., P. O. Box 241, Mercantile Building, Calcutta.
7. M/s. Jupiter Mill Stores Co., 105, Apollo Street, Bombay.
8. M/s. Binny & Co. (Madras) Ltd., Post Box No. 66, Madras.
9. M/s. Leyland & Birmingham Rubber Co. (India) Private Ltd., 84, Clive Building, Calcutta.
- *10. M/s. Lewis & Tylor (India) Ltd., 6, Church Lane, Calcutta-1.
- *11. M/s. McGregor & Balfour Ltd., 18, Netaji Subhas Road, P.O. Box No. 379, Calcutta.
12. M/s. Nandlal Inderchand, 10,-Canning Street, Calcutta.
- *13. M/s. Ormerods (India) Ltd., Bank of Baroda Building, Apollo Street, P.O. Box No. 410, Bombay-1.
14. M/s. Parry & Co. Ltd., Post Box No. 12, Madras.
15. James Warren & Co. Ltd., 31, Chowringhee Road, Calcutta-16.
- *16. M/s. Roberts Mclean & Co. Ltd., 13, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta.
17. M/s. Simpson & Munro Ltd., 4, Lyons Range, Post Box No. 315, Calcutta.
- *18. M/s. The Sizing Materials Co. Ltd., Post Box No. 15, Jeroo Buildings, 137, Mahatma Gandhi Road, Fort, Bombay.
19. M/s. Suganchand & Co., Akola, Berar.

- *20. M/s. Turner Hoare & Co. Ltd., Appollo Bunder, Fort, Bombay.
- *21. M/s. Voltas Ltd., Graham Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay.
- *22. M/s. W. H. Brady & Co. Ltd., Royal Insurance Building, Near Churchgate, Bombay.
- *23. Modern Machine Tools Co., 88, Nagdevi Cross Lane, Bombay—3.
- *24. Garlick & Co., Jacob Circle, Bombay—11.

D. CONSUMERS

- *1. The Ahmedabad Advance Mills Ltd., Bombay House, Bruce Street, Fort, Bombay.
- 2. Anglo-Indian Jute Mills Co. Ltd., Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta.
- *3. The Associated Cement Co. Ltd., Cement House, 121, Queen's Road, Bombay—1.
- *4. Atherton West & Co. Ltd., Atherton Mills, Kanpur.
- 5. Bharat & Co., 18, Woodmont Street, Calcutta.
- 6. Bharat Jute Mills Ltd., 29, Strand Road, Calcutta.
- 7. Brooke Bond (India) Ltd., Brooke House, P.O. Box No. 187, Calcutta.
- 8. Bengal Chemical & Pharmaceutical Works Ltd., 164, Maniktala Main Road Calcutta—11.
- 9. Kanpur Cotton Mills, Post Box No. 3, Kanpur.
- 10. The Central India Spinning, Weaving & Manufacturing Co., Bombay House Bruce Street, Fort, Bombay.
- 11. Dyer Meakin Breweries Ltd., Solan Brewery, P.O. Simla Hills, India.
- 12. Dalmia Cement Ltd., Scindia House, P.O. Box No. 364, New Delhi.
- 13. Garlick & Co., Jacob Circle, Bombay—11.
- *14. The India United Mills Ltd., India House, Dougall Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay.
- *15. Indian Jute Mills Association, Royal Exchange, Calcutta.
- *16. India Sugar Mills Association, 23-B, Netaji Subhas Road, Calcutta—1.
- *17. Indian Tea Association, Royal Exchange, Calcutta.
- *18. Finlay Mills, Parel, Bombay—12.
- *19. Kamala Mills Ltd., 45—47, Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay.
- *20. Kanan Devan Mills Produce Co. Ltd., Headquarters Office, Munnar, P.O. Travancore.
- *21. The Modern Mills Ltd., 10, Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay.
- 22. The Muir Mills Co., Ltd., Kanpur.
- 23. Madras Chamber of Commerce Dhare House, First Line Beach, Madras.
- 24. The Mint Master, India Government, Mint Fort, Bombay—1.
- 25. The Oudh Trihut Railway, Office of the Controller of Stores, Gorakhpur.
- 26. Richardson & Cruddas, Byculla Iron Works, Bombay.
- 27. Shaw Wallace & Co. Ltd., 4, Bankshall Street, Calcutta.
- *28. Sukh Sancharak Co. Ltd., Sukh Sancharak Bldg., Mathura.
- *29. Swadeshi Mills Co. Ltd., Bombay House, Bruce Street, Bombay.
- *30. The Tata Mills Ltd., Bombay House Bruce Street, Bombay.
- 31. Upper India Chamber of Commerce, P.O. Box No. 63, Kanpur.
- 32. The United Salt Works Industries, 121-125, Medows Street, Fort Bombay.
- *33. The Deccan Sugar Factories Association, Industrial & Prudential Assurance Co., Bldg., Churchgate, Bombay.
- *34. Parry & Co. Ltd., P.O. Box No. 12, Madras.
- *35. The Controller of Stores, Western Railway, Churchgate, Bombay.
- *36. The Controller of Stores, Central Railway, V.T., Bombay.
- *37. The Controller of Stores, North Eastern Railway, Gorakhpur.
- *38. The Directorate General of Ordnance Factories, 6, Esplanade East, Calcutta.
- *39. M/s. M.C. Sundara Rajan & Co., 290, Lingha Chetty Street, Madras.
- 40. General Manager, Northern Railway, New Delhi.

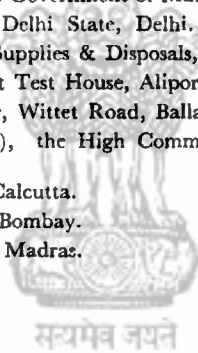
41. General Manager, Eastern Railway, Calcutta.
42. General Manager, South Eastern Railway, Calcutta.
43. General Manager, Southern Railway, Madras.

E. MANUFACTURERS OF RAW MATERIALS

- *1. Jay Shree Textiles Ltd., Rishra, Dist. Hooghly.
- *2. Bharat Woollen Mills Ltd., 11, Esplanade East, Calcutta.
- *3. Madura Mills Co. Ltd., Madura, South India.
- *4. Bombay Fine Worsted Mfrs., Castle Mills, Agra Road, Thana, Bombay.
5. The Bombay Woollen Mills Ltd., 20, Hamam Street, Fort, Bombay.
- *6. The British India Corp. Ltd., Cawnpore Woollen Mills Branch, Kanpur (U.P.)
7. Shree Mahalaxmi Woollen Mills Ltd., 15/A, Elphinstone Circle, Fort, Bombay.

F. GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

- *1. The Industrial Adviser (Engineering), Development Wing, Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Shahjehan Road, New Delhi.
2. The Director of Industries, Government of Bombay, Old Custom House Yard, Fort, Bombay.
- *3. The Chief Secretary to the Government of West Bengal, Calcutta.
- *4. The Chief Secretary to the Government of Madras, Madras.
5. The Chief Commissioner, Delhi State, Delhi.
- *6. The Director General of Supplies & Disposals, Shahjehan Road, New Delhi.
- *7. The Director, Government Test House, Alipore.
- *8. The Textile Commissioner, Witter Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay.
- *9. The Minister (Commercial), the High Commission of India in the U.K., India House, London, S.W.1.
- *10. The Collector of Customs, Calcutta.
- *11. The Collector of Customs, Bombay.
- *12. The Collector of Customs, Madras.



APPENDIX II

(Vide Paragraph 34).

List persons who attended the Commission public enquiry on the 19th December 1956

(A) PRODUCERS:

Representing

(i) Producers of Cotton & Hair Belting—

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. Shri S. K. Chakravarty | M/s. Bengal Belting Works Ltd., 2, Dalhousie Square East, Calcutta. |
| 2. Shri A. Chaudhari | M/s. India Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd Snanpiri Lane, Serampore, Calcutta. |
| 3. Mr. R. J. Coney | M/s. Fenner Cockill Ltd., Madurai (S.I) |
| 4. Shri J. B. Gomes | M/s. Birkmyre Bros. Ltd. 67, Stephen House, 4, Dalhousie Square East, Calcutta. |
| 5. Shri S. K. Bagchi | M/s. Hinduthan Belting & Spinning Mills Ltd., 174, Harrison Road, Calcutta. |
| 6. Shri D. S. Lahir | M/s. Eastern Belting & Cotton Mills Ltd., P.O. Shcoraphuli (District Hooghly) (West Bengal). |

(ii) Producers of Rubber Ply Belting—

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1. Mr. M. V. Kamath | Dunlop Rubber Co. (India) Ltd., 57 Free School Street, Calcutta.,
and
Association of Rubber Manufacturers in India, 57-Free School Street, Calcutta. |
| 2. Shri I. N. Ahuja | Goodyear Tyre & Rubber Co. (India) Ltd., 209, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta. |
| 3. Shri V. N. Prabhu | National Rubber Manufacturers Private Ltd., "Leslie House" 19, Chowringhee Calcutta-13. |

(B) SUPPLIERS OF RAW MATERIALS:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Mr. M. L. Harkawat | M/s. Jay Shree Textiles Ltd., Rishra (Dist. Hooghly). |
|---------------------------------|---|

(C) IMPORTERS :

- | | |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 1. Shri V. P. Wagle | M/s. Lewis & Tylor (India) Ltd., 6, Church Lane, Calcutta-1. |
| 2. Shri N. N. Desai | and
The British Solid Woven Belting Association c/o M/s Lewis & Tylor (India) Ltd., Calcutta-1. |
| 3. Shri V. S. Ranadive | M/s. Voltas Ltd., Graham Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay. |
| 4. Shri G. V. Shah | M/s. Ormerods (India) Ltd, Bank of Baroda Building, Appollo Street, P.O. Box No. 410, Bombay-1. |
| 5. Shri S. H. Dalal | The Millgin Store Merchants' Association, 109, Nagdevi Street, Bombay-3. |
| 6. Shri K. J. Shah | |

(D) CONSUMERS:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1. Shri D. Solomon | The Controller of Stores, Central Railway V.T., Bombay. |
|------------------------------|---|

2. Shri B. C. Chowdiah

{ The Controller of Stores, Western Railway,
Churchgate, Bombay,
and
The Controller of Stores, North Eastern
Railway, Gorakhpur.

(E) GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1. Shri P. S. Rao | The Chief Industrial Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Development Wing, Shahjehan Road, New Delhi. |
| 2. Shri Dharam Dev | The Textile Commissioner, Wittet Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay. |
| 3. Shri V. N. Kohli | Director General of Supplies & Disposals, Shahjehan Road, New Delhi. |
| 4. Shri M. V. Patankar | Indian Standards Institution, 19, University Road, New Delhi. |
| 5. Shri P. T. Pandya | Officer-in-Charge, I.G.S. Laboratory, Ahmedabad House, Wittet Road, Bombay. |
| 6. Shri R. Mahadevan. . . . | Collector of Customs, Bombay |



APPENDIX III

[Vide paragraph 12]

Statement showing the break-down of landed cost into *c. i. f.* customs duty and clearing charges of cotton & hair beltings.

(Per foot)

Sl. No.	Source of Information	Origin of import	Date of import	Type & Specification	C. i. f. Price	Customs duty	Clearing charges	Landed Cost	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
COTTON BELTING									
1. The High Commissioner for India in U.K.									
	(a) As obtained from M/s. F. Reddaway & Co. Ltd. London	U.K.	..	3" x 6 1/2 m.m. 4" x 6 1/2 m.m.	1 7 6 1 15 4	..	..	..	..
	(b) As obtained from M/s. J. H. Fenner & Co. (Overseas) Ltd., Yorkshire.	..	..	3" x 6 1/2 m.m. 4" x 6 1/2 m.m.	2 10 5* 3 8 6*	..	..	..	..
HAIR BELTING									
1. Lewis and Tylor (India) Ltd. Calcutta & British Solid Woven Belting Association C/o Lewis & Tylor (India) Calcutta.									
		U.K.	1956	3" x 4" 6 1/2 m.m.	2 5 4	0 3 11	0 0 2	2 9 5	
			1956	4" x 4" thick	3 3 1	0 5 4	0 0 3	3 8 8	
2. Modern Machine Tools Co. Bombay									
		U.K.	2nd half of 1955	3" x 4" Eyre Brand	2 4 5 1/2	0 3 9 1/2	0 0 5 1/2	2 8 8	
3. Greaves Cotton & Co. Ltd. Bombay									
		U.K.	28-2-56	4" x 9/32 Best Pyramid Brand Solid woven black impregnated Hair Belting 3" wide.	3 0 5 1/2 2 10 9	0 5 1 1/2 0 4 6	0 0 7 1/2 0 0 3	3 6 2 1/2 2 15 6	
4. The High Commissioner for India in U.K.									
	(a) As obtained from M/s. F. Reddaway & Co. Ltd. London.	U.K.	19-6-56	3" x 6 1/2 m.m. thick 4" x 6 1/2 m.m. thick	2 0 7 2 11 8	..	..	..

*F. O. B. price for rubber impregnated interwoven cotton belting.

(b) As obtained from M/s.	..	..	3" x 6½ m. m. thick	2 0 0*	..	..	*F. O. B. Price for rubber impregnated solid woven hair belting.
J. H. Fenner & Co. (Overseas) Ltd., Yorkshire.	..	..	4" x 7 m. m.	4 0 1*	..	..	..
5. The Collector of Customs Madras (Consignee M/s. Best & Co. Ltd.) U.K.	U.K.	5-3-56	Invincible Hair Belting Brown Finish 4" x 6½ m. m.	2 10 2	..	..	..
6. The Collector of Customs, Bombay -do-	Czechoslovakia	17-11-56	4" x 9/32"	2 6 3	10½%	5%	2 11 11
	U.K.	13-7-56	6" x 9/32"	3 9 9	10½%	5%	4 12 8
			5" x 8 m. m.	4 15 7	10½%	5%	5 12 5
			3" x 5 m. m.	2 4 8	10½%	5%	2 10 8
			1½" x 5 m. m.	1 6 3	10½%	5%	1 9 8
7. Machine Tools & Belting Co., Calcutta.	U.K.	24-3-56	3" x ½"	0 12 6	0 1 3	0 0 3	0 14 0 per inch foot.
8. Lewis & Tylor (India) Ltd., Calcutta.	U.K.	..	3" x ½"	2 5 4	0 3 11	0 0 2	2 9 5
9. The Oriental Mills Stores Calcutta.	U.K.	8-6-56	4" x ½"	3 3 1	0 5 4	0 0 3	3 8 8
			4" x 5/16"	0 13 0	0 1 7	0 0 5	0 15 0 per inch foot.
10. J H. Fenner & Co. (India) Ltd., Calcutta.	U.K.	2-3-56	"Pyramid" rubber impregnated in solid woven hair belting				
			3" x 6½ m. m.	3 1 0	0 5 1	0 0 6	3 6 7
			4" x 7 m. m.	4 1 0	0 6 10	0 0 8	4 8 6
			4" x 2 m. m.	4 0 0	0 6 8	0 0 8	4 7 4
11. Balmer Lawrie & Co. Calcutta	U.K.	13-6-56	B. B. A. Salwin Hair Belting, dressed				
			6" x 5/16"	5 10 10.3	..	..	..
			5" x 5/16"	4 11 8.6	..	..	..
			6" x 5/16"	5 10 6.9	..	..	..
12. Alfred Herbert (India) Pr. Ltd., Calcutta.	U.K.	26-4-56	5" x 5/16" per inch foot	4 11 5.8
				2 3 3
13. McGregor and Balfour Ltd, Calcutta.	U.K.	2-8-55	7" x 7 m. m.	12 0 8	1 4 4	0 4 6	13 9 6



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