

RESTRICTED

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Information supplied in response to the questionnaire
by the Government of

PAKISTAN

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QUESTION 1

The Technique of Restrictions

1. The methods of restrictions applied by Pakistan consist of the following:
 - (i) Outright prohibition or non-issue of import licences for items which are not required in the country.
 - (ii) Fixation of global quotas and issue of import licences within these quotas for specified values of goods.
2. Barter is not a regular feature of the Government's import policy, but is allowed only in exceptional circumstances. The trade under barter accounts for only a negligible fraction of the country's import and export trade. Barter is discouraged as a matter of policy as far as possible.
3. The Government's import policy is announced during each calendar year, for the first half and the second half of the year respectively through Public Notices. Copies of the Public Notices dated 18 December 1954 and 24 December 1954 issued for the first half of 1955 and dated 28 June 1955 for the second half of 1955 are enclosed. The import items not mentioned in the public notice are banned for that period as no licenses are issued for those items.
4. The items for which licences are to be issued during a particular half year, and the total values (ceilings) to be licensed for those items are decided in the light of the foreign exchange position essentially of the items, home production and other relevant considerations. Global quotas are fixed for these items and licences issued on a global basis. Quotas for individual countries within a particular currency area are also fixed, if there are bilateral trade agreements with the countries in question, providing for the issue of single country licences for specified items.
5. All imports have remained subject to licensing as the balance-of-payments position remained difficult.

QUESTION 2

State Trading

As reported last year, there is no state trading as such in Pakistan but governmental requirements and certain food items like wheat and sugar are imported on government account.

QUESTION 3

Basis of Restriction

The restrictions mentioned in reply to question 1 above were not imposed on the basis of any fixed representative period. Ceilings for each period are fixed usually on the basis of average six-monthly imports from the various areas in the preceding year, in the light of available resources of foreign exchange, indigenous productions, the essential requirements for industry, trade, etc.

QUESTION 4

Action to avoid damage to the trade of other contracting parties

Please see answers to questions 1 and 3. Importation of commercial samples is freely allowed and patents, trade marks etc. regulations are complied with. As quotas are fixed with reference to previous imports, as far as possible, the established channels of trade are maintained.

QUESTION 5

Policy of discrimination

Please see answers to questions 1 and 2.

QUESTION 6

Considerations affecting sources of imports

Licences are now issued on a global basis and importers are free to import from any country.

QUESTION 7

Import arrangements with other countries

Bilateral trade agreements have been entered into with several countries in an effort to maximize multilateral trade. Mostly these agreements are of a general nature under which imports take place against global licences.

QUESTION 8

Import programme for 1955

Attention is invited to the Public Notices dated 18 December 1954 and 24 December 1954 announcing the import policy for the first half of 1955 and the Public Notice dated 28 June 1955 announcing the policy for the second half of 1955. As already stated above, there is no Open General Licence in force. Imports have had to be restricted to maintain the balance-of-payments position. The import of machinery, equipment and materials required for industrial and developmental projects and essential consumer goods is, however, allowed as liberally as possible within the available foreign exchange resources.

QUESTION 9

Incidental protective effects of restrictions

Restrictions on imports have incidental protective effects. This is, however, difficult to avoid. Import quotas are fixed as stated above without any reference to the protective effect they might have on indigenous industries.