

Banarsi cloth to foreign markets is somewhat retarded because of the width of the cloth that is manufactured in Banaras? Is there any attempt to supply cloth in the width that is demanded in foreign markets?

Shri Kanungo: A constant effort is made to study the demands of the foreign markets and produce cloth accordingly.

Unemployment

*11. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state the extent to which unemployment in the country has been so far relieved during the last five years as a result of the various measures taken by Government?

The Deputy-Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Adequate statistics are not available to show the extent to which unemployment has been relieved

Shri Jhulan Sinha: May I know if there is any reduction in the extent of unemployment or not?

Shri Abid Ali: The number of persons employed is more and at the same time, unemployment is increasing

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether, besides the employment exchanges, the Government has any other machinery by means of which the rate of securing employment is being gauged?

Shri Abid Ali: There is the National Sample Survey.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether the Government of India has been carrying on any sample survey in the different sectors of our population? If so, what has been the result of those sample surveys?

Shri Abid Ali: The ninth round of the national sample survey has been started and the report will be available in 1958.

Annual Plan and Central Assistance

*12. **Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission have decided to evolve some procedure for the preparation of annual plan and for allocation of central assistance;

(b) if so, the progress that has been made in the direction; and

(c) whether any committee has been appointed for implementing this decision?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) and (c) The question of evolving suitable procedure for the preparation of annual plan and for the allocation of Central assistance has been continuously under examination since January, 1956 when a conference of the Planning Secretaries convened by the Planning Commission appointed a committee consisting of the Advisers, Programme Administration, Planning Commission, Planning Secretaries of certain States and other officials of the Planning Commission and Finance Ministry. The committee's recommendations regarding the procedure for the preparation of annual plan of the States were considered in the conference and certain proposals were accepted. These formed the basis of the procedure adopted for the preparation of the development programme for 1957-58. Deficiencies and difficulties revealed by actual experience of the working of the procedure were discussed again with the Planning Secretaries of the States in June, 1957 and a number of suggestions for improving the procedure were made. A small committee of officers of the Planning Commission and the Ministry of Finance is examining these suggestions to evolve a more satisfactory procedure for the preparation of the annual Plan for 1958-59.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: With reference to the answer given by the hon. Minister, may I know how many

States have so far agreed to have their own annual plans and to recast their Five Year Plan on this new basis and how many States have not agreed?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I could not get the import of the question.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of this recommendation that all the States also must have their annual plans, I have asked how many States have so far agreed to recast their Second Plan on the annual basis and how many States have not so far agreed.

Shri S. N. Mishra: I do not quite understand how the question of recasting arises because of the formulation of annual plans. The annual plans are meant, of course, for taking into account the economic realities as they arise from year to year. To that extent, they would certainly reflect a certain amount of adjustment that would be necessary within the framework of the Five Year Plan.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of the serious financial difficulties faced by almost all the State Governments, as indicated by the deficit budgets, how many States Governments have pruned their plans? Has the Government any information as to how far they have been pruned?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The question of the pruning of the Plan has not so far arisen. It may be that the stress on priorities might differ in view of the existing conditions. That is what has happened so far. But, the question of pruning has not so far arisen.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May we know by what time we may expect the annual plans to be supplied to us?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I think the hon. Member refers to the annual plan for the current year. I think it would take about two or three months time although according to our present

schedule, it should have come out at the end of July.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Does that mean that from the next year, we shall have the annual plan along with the Budget papers?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The present idea is that it should come out at the end of July.

Shri E. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether the Planning Commission will evolve some procedure for the preparation of the annual plan and whether, in the allocation of Central assistance, they would sympathetically consider such of those areas in the south which are backward in the sphere of development?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The Planning Commission has always sympathy for the backward areas. In fact, the States concerned themselves are anxious to put forward proposals to the Planning Commission who consider them with the utmost sympathy.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: What is the last date that the Central Government has given to the State Governments for sending in their recommendations for the annual plan?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I can only tentatively say at this stage, that is not firm. We are in the midst of it since a Committee consisting of three persons is now going into the whole matter very thoroughly. The Committee will settle as to how they will finally submit. According to our tentative procedure, they would be submitting by March.*

Shri Panigrahi: How many States in India have spent the annual quota allotted to them by the Centre, for the Second Plan, in the first year of the Second Plan? In how many States is there a short fall?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The Progress reports will indicate to what extent the States have been able to use the allocations made.

*This answer was subsequently corrected by the Deputy Minister of Planning to read as "The time-limit for the submission of the annual plans by the States, in complete details, is the end of May and not the end of March vide col 3434".