

**Power-looms**

**\*502 Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the position with regard to the substitution of power-looms in place of handlooms; and

(b) the result of the experiment in Madras State in the field of substitution of power-looms for handlooms carried on with the help of grants from the Central Government?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo):** (a) Government have approved schemes for installation of 7155 powerlooms in the handloom sector in different States

(b) Under the experimental scheme sanctioned for Madras, five powerlooms are reported to have been procured and assembled in the houses of selected weavers. It is too early to assess the results of the experiment

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the hon. Minister tell us about the potentiality for unemployment by the substitution of handlooms by powerlooms and also the turn-out from the powerloom vis-a-vis handlooms?

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the effect of the substitution of powerlooms on employment? What is the number of people who have been thrown out of employment?

**Shri Kanungo:** It has got to be seen. It is claimed by certain committees that powerlooms will give larger output and larger income to the weavers. But as it is, none of the powerlooms has yet come into position and we have to see the results of the experiment.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** May I know if these powerlooms have been introduced in the co-operative sector alone or in the non-co-operative sector also?

**Shri Kanungo:** In the co-operative sector

**Shri Jadhav:** May I know if this substitution is being done according to the suggestions of the Kanungo Committee?

**Shri Kanungo:** No, Sir; it is a different programme altogether.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Can we get an idea of the unutilised proportion of the powerlooms allotted to different States?

**Shri Kanungo:** Almost all; none of them has come into position yet.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Is it a fact that in some cases in West Bengal, permission for licences has been refused even to co-operative society on the ground that it is the policy of Government not to issue any further licences for powerlooms?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai):** It has not been so at any time. The difficulty is of manufacturing powerlooms. We have not manufactured enough powerlooms and they have not therefore been put up

**Central Shops and Establishments Act**

**\*503 Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state.

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration for enacting a Central Shops and Establishments Act for uniformity of conditions of commercial employees; and

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken in this regard?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) and (b). No. To secure uniformity in the service conditions of the commercial employees a draft model Bill was forwarded to the State Governments in 1955

**Shri Tangamani:** In view of the fact that the Madras Government set up a committee under Shri Subramaniam and the committee has recommended such central legislation, will Government take measures to bring forward the legislation as soon as possible?

**Shri Abid Ali:** No, Sir; we do not propose to have a central legislation on this subject at least for the present.