

(e) if not, what steps Government are contemplating to stop closure in these units?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (e). A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix III, annexure No 113]

Iron Ore

*860. Shri Achar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large quantity of iron ore is accumulated at Mangalore and Karwar ports for want of port facilities for shipping;

(b) whether the State Government of Mysore has submitted any schemes for the development of these ports; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

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

(c) Karwar and Mangalore are seasonal ports and are open for shipping from October to about middle of May only. Just before the ports opened for shipping in October, 1958 stocks of about 42,000 and 44,000 tons at Karwar and Mangalore ports respectively had been built up. Shipments are now in progress according to programme.

Handloom Products

*861. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a proposal to send a Trade delegation abroad to popularise handloom products,

(b) if so, whether the arrangements for the same have been finalised, and

(c) the names of the countries which the delegation proposes to visit?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (c) A proposal to send a delegation to West Africa to

study marketing possibilities of handloom products has been made by the All India Handloom Board and is at present under examination.

World Calendar

*862. Shri Koratkar: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the present stage of India's proposal in the U.N.O. regarding the reform of World Calendar?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations at its 21st Session in April, 1956 at New York, decided to postpone consideration of the question indefinitely.

Import of Raw Film

*863. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the film producers have been advised by the Chief Controller of Imports to make sure about the availability of raw material, and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme by which the shortage of the raw material would be removed?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir; by the Joint Chief Controller of Imports, Bombay

(b) The shortage is likely to continue until there is a shortage of foreign exchange. However to some extent the shortage will be relieved if advantage is taken of the export promotion scheme which has recently been announced.

Abolition of Contract System

*864. { Shri Nagi Reddy:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan.

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to abolish contract system in coal mines, and