

started building Industrial Estate on co-operative basis; and

(b) if so, whether any technical advice or any other aid is being given to this co-operative enterprise?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No, Sir. Neither we nor the State Government has received any such proposal so far.

(b) Does not arise.

Small Scale Industries in Rourkela Steel Project Area

*889. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a survey has been made regarding the setting up of small scale industries around the Rourkela Steel Project area; and

(b) if so, the results of the survey?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). At the request of the Government of Orissa a survey of Jharsuguda and Rourkela areas was carried out by the Small Industries Service Institute, Calcutta for finding out right types of potential industries to be located in the Industrial Estates there. The report is expected to be finalised shortly.

Employment of Women in Light Industries

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

(a) whether it is a fact that employment of women in the light industries like textiles and plantations is on the decrease;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) what steps are being taken to maintain a certain percentage in these industries?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) The reasons include change in occupational structure consequent upon modernisation and restrictions in regard to working hours for women.

(c) It may not be possible to maintain fixed percentages in favour of women in particular industries. There will, however, be fresh avenues of employment for women in various directions as a result of the economic development that is taking place.

Export of Handloom Fabrics

*891. { **Shri Tangamani:**
Shri Anthony Pillai:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Shri Subbiah Ambalam:
Shri Balakrishnan:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether representation was received from Handloom "Bleeding Madras" Manufacturers Association, Madras regarding "Bleeding Madras" stock and proposals for disposal of the same;

(b) if so, Government's reply thereto;

(c) whether it is a fact that more than 1½ million yards are still in stock;

(d) whether Government have requested the Handloom Export Organisation to make advances on the stock and arrange for disposal; and

(e) the various steps proposed to be taken to protect this type of handloom weavers?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) to (e). Representations have been received from the Handloom "Bleeding Madras" Manufacturers' Association, Madras regarding accumulation of stocks of the variety of handloom fabrics known as "Bleeding Madras", requesting relief to the co-operative societies and master weavers