

(b) if so, what is their location; and

(c) whether any new development plans are being implemented to further this work in the existing all-India research institutions?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) The Central Sericultural Research Station, Berhampore (West Bengal) was established in 1943 by the Central Government. Three more Sericultural Research Stations have been set up during the Second Five Year Plan period by the State Governments, with financial assistance from the Centre.

(b) These stations are located at Channapatna in Mysore, Titabar in Assam and Chaibasa in Bihar.

(c) An expansion scheme at an estimated cost of Rs. 22 lakhs was sanctioned in 1960 for the Central Sericultural Research Station, Berhampore, and is at present under implementation. Besides, the Central Silk Board has recently constituted a Central Research Coordination Committee for making recommendations regarding the organisation and development of sericultural research in the country. The Committee has since submitted its report and the Committee's recommendations on the set up of research stations are under consideration by the Silk Board.

#### **Indian Traders in Tibet**

\*231. { Pandit D. N. Tiwari:  
Shri Hem Barua:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the **Prime Minister** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indian traders in Tibet are facing discrimination specially in the matter of facilities for exchange, resulting in huge accumulation of Chinese currency with them;

(b) whether the Government are aware that Indian merchants are compelled to dispose of the Chinese currency at lower rates and have to suffer great loss; and

(c) the steps taken to protect them?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) Yes, Sir, it is a fact that Indian traders in Tibet are not normally given exchange facilities.

(b) The Government of India are aware that Indian merchants have been compelled to dispose of their holdings of Chinese currency at lower rates and thereby suffer a loss.

(c) The Government of India have requested the Chinese Government to permit customary trade between India and Tibet to continue in terms of the letter and spirit of the Sino-Indian Agreement of 1954. This would include normal remittance facilities.

#### **Central Purchase Committee**

\*232. { Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:  
Shri Ramam:

Will the **Minister of Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1330 on the 8th September, 1961 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the sixteen-man committee;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision thereon; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) to (d). No, Sir. The Sixteen-man Committee is expected to finalise its Report by the end of December, 1961.

#### **Buffer Stock of Cotton**

\*233. { Shri Pahadia:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:

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

(a) whether U.S.A. has considered the request of India to build up a