

Shri Nanda: There are about thirty sheets here which contain schemes from different States and if the hon. Member will refer to the papers he will find that the West Bengal scheme is also included there.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I wanted to know what has happened to that scheme.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Government or, for the matter of that, the Planning Commission has made any effort to find out the root cause of the unemployment; and if so, what efforts are Government trying to take to eradicate the same?

Shri Nanda: For several months all of us, including Parliament, have been engaged in considering this problem.

GRANT TO ANDHRA STATE FROM HANDLOOM FUND

*609. **Shri Nanadas:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Andhra State has been granted a sum of Rs. 19.5 lakhs out of the Handloom Cess Fund; and

(b) if so, for what specific purposes the amount is to be spent?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) The total amount sanctioned so far for Andhra is Rs. 38,95,293/-.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 20.]

Shri Nanadas: Item 2 in the statement refers to "providing working capital for the co-operative societies in respect of the new weavers joining them". May I know whether there is any limit beyond which this amount cannot be granted to any individual society?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid I would not be able to answer the question. If the hon. Member would give notice I would try to find out from the Andhra Government.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether any periodical report is called for from the State Governments regarding the utilisation of this Cess Fund and, if so, whether any report has been submitted by the Andhra Government, and its purport?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The schemes are in the course of being implemented, and it is premature to call for any reports. But I might mention that we have an officer of the Central Marketing organisation who is keeping in touch with what is happening in the various States.

Beedi MANUFACTURING MACHINES

*611. **Shri Keshavalengar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how many permits have been granted for importing Beedi Manufacturing machines; and

(b) to whom these permits have been granted; and

(c) in which State these machines will be installed?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The information asked for is not available as Beedi manufacturing machines are not classified as a distinct item for purposes of import licensing.

सेठ गोबिन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को यह बात मालूम है कि मध्य प्रदेश में और दूसरे स्थानों पर यह उद्योग हाथ से चलता है और क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई दर-लुवास्तें माननीय मंत्री जी के पास उस प्रान्त से पहुंची हैं कि इस सम्बन्ध में कोई मशीन विदेश से न मंगाई जाये और न यहां ही तैयार की जाये ?

Shri Karmarkar: We were aware some time back—that was last year—there were such machines contemplated in U. P. and in Bombay; and recently also we received a complaint from Madhya Pradesh. In principle, as I had occasion to mention at the time when there was a discussion in the House, we are for discouraging these machines which might result in

unemployment of the beedi workers, and we are having the matter considered from that point of view.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know if the hon. Minister is aware that such a machine was actually put up for show in the Kalyani Congress Exhibition and that literally millions saw that—has he any information on that?

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, we have not yet been able to prohibit exhibitions of that sort. I am not aware of that particular machine being exhibited in any exhibition.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact, Sir, that some Members of Parliament also met the Minister of Commerce and Industry, the Minister of Labour, and the Planning Minister in connection with this, and may I know what steps have been taken by the Government for the prevention of unemployment on a large scale that will be caused by the introduction of such machines?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Sometime back a discussion was raised here in this House and my hon. colleague replied to that discussion. Subsequently we wrote to all the State Governments to watch the introduction of these machines. We have got reports from some of them. The legal position with regard to Government's power to ban the use of these machines is a little obscure at the moment, but we are considering ways and means by which we can put a stop to this switch-over from hand-made beedi to machine made beedi. If ultimately we find that the resources at our disposal are not adequate, we shall not hesitate to come to the House for more powers.

INDIANS IN KENYA

*612. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether immigration of Indians has been banned in Kenya and a demand has been made to repatriate them; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) No.

(b) Question does not arise.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the total number of Indians who have settled down in Kenya?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: The hon. Member wants to know the total number of recent entrants?

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: No. I want to know the total number of Indians who have settled down in Kenya and acquired property there.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am afraid, I have not got the information.

KHADI

*614. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to award prizes to spinners and weavers of Khadi; and

(b) if so, what will be the total value of those prizes?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 23,600/-.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि यह जो पुरस्कार दिये जायेंगे यह उन की कताई के सम्बन्ध में भी दिये जायेंगे या केवल सूत की कताई के लिये ही दिये जायेंगे ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : खाली सूत की कताई के लिये दिये जायेंगे ।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : इन पुरस्कारों के सम्बन्ध में कि किस प्रकार से ये पुरस्कार दिये जायं, क्या अखिल भारतीय चरखा संघ से भी कोई राय मांगी ?