

own specialists in documentaries one or two of whom have been sent out to get further training.

OFFICERS SENT ABROAD

*2299. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Officers who were sent on duty to foreign countries by the Ministry in 1953;

(b) the purposes for which they were sent; and

(c) the total amount of expenditure incurred on this account?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 16.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IX, annexure No. 46]

(c) About Rs. 91,500.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know in how many of these cases when officers were sent on duty, they stayed in foreign countries beyond the period for which they were required to stay there?

Shri Karmarkar: I do not think they stayed in foreign countries for any time longer than it was necessary.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the officers who were sent abroad were asked to submit reports and in how many cases these have been received?

Shri Karmarkar: Sometimes as in the case of G.A.T.T. a report is submitted and in other cases they report to the Ministry.

Shri Bansal: From the statement I find that officers went to attend the sessions of G.A.T.T. thrice during the course of last year. May I know, in view of this, whether Government is thinking of inviting at least one of the sessions of G.A.T.T. to be held in India?

Shri Karmarkar: That is a very good suggestion, but we shall have to consider it.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether any officer went abroad in 1953 on the invitation of any foreign Government or on the invitation of any foreign agency and not on duty of the Government of India?

Shri Karmarkar: So far as I can see, the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference was a Commonwealth Conference, but otherwise the officers were sent on our own errand.

HANDLOOM CESS FUND

*2300. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is **dis-satisfaction** among the handloom-workers of Bihar over the allocation of amount as share to Bihar out of the cess fund;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the resolution of the executive committee of the Bihar State Handloom-workers Conference in December, 1953 in this respect; and

(c) the basis of allotment?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). No, Sir. Government of India deal with the Bihar Government and have not heard anything specific from them.

(c) This is explained in paragraphs 24 and 25 of the First Annual Report of the All-India Handloom Board, copies of which are available in the Library of the House.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any representation was made to Government by the handloom weavers in Bihar for fixing the allotment on handloom basis and not on the basis of yarn lifted?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): Such representations are often received, but I cannot recollect if there has been any authoritative representation, nor is Government considering changing the basis of allotment.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: What is the harm, or what is the difficulty in Government acceding to the request for allotting quota on handloom basis?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The harm really is that we have no real idea of the exact number of handlooms that do exist. Investigations which have been made from time to time by Government reveal that there is a lot of ghost looms and we cannot really proceed allotting funds on the basis of data which is avowedly unreal.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Are Government aware that due to the paucity of yarn in Bihar, the Bihar handloom weavers could not be given more yarn and therefore the difficulty arises due to this in allotment of grants.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is a different matter altogether. If representations are made we can communicate with the Government of Bihar with regard to this and see if we can remedy the defect that has been pointed out.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know if the Government are aware that out of this quota allotted, the various backward areas, especially the tribal people for example in the district of Santal Parganas, they are not at all given anything out of this and have Government received any complaint from the people of backward areas or from their representatives in the House of the People?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position really is that we would like to help the backward areas apart from

any allotments that we make. The hon. Member knows that representations have been made and I have promised to look into this matter provided some more data is given to us.

UNEMPLOYMENT AT FARIDABAD

*2301. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the efforts that are being made to relieve unemployment at Faridabad?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): Government has decided to give certain facilities to Industrialists at Faridabad. A copy of the Press Note issued in this connection is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix, IX, annexure No. 47.] Schemes for the setting up of 6 industries have already been finalised and between them they are expected to provide employment to about 1,000 persons. Schemes for other industries are also under examination. Efforts are also being made to shift some Government Offices to Faridabad. Meanwhile, employment has been provided for about 1,500 persons in the construction works of Rehabilitation Colonies in Delhi and Relief-Cum-Employment works at Faridabad.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how many persons have taken advantage of the Press Note which has been issued by the Ministry; and how many persons have applied for grants and all those facilities which the Ministry is going to provide to industrialists?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I have not got the list of persons who applied for grants. Quite a number of industrialists have applied for it and we are negotiating with about six firms. If these six go through, we should be in a position to employ about 1000 persons.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know which are the industries that are going to receive top priority in this matter?