Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether Government have any information about the trade agreement between the U.K. and the Soviet Union by which the U.K. have agreed to purchase manganese from them as a result of which our exports to the U.K. have fallen?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether any representation has been made regarding the lack of loading facilities and if so, whether it was considered by Government?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. There are inherently some difficulties on the Guntur-Hospet sector, but that could not be avoided.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: May I know if the Minister is aware of the fact that there is a good deal of stock in the mines and yet it cannot be moved because there are no wagons available and wagons are allotted in accordance with the allotment of export quotas?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): The position really is that we have no desire to stifle exports. Our only trouble is in regard to wagon supply, and the position that the hon. Member envisages is quite correct. We are not able to find enough wagons to carry these goods to their destination. There is another aspect of the question, viz., that if we give wagons to people who have no foreign contracts, these goods are stored in the ports and remain there blocking goods which could move. We are constantly in touch with the various Chairmen of the Port Trusts to see that this difficulty is rectified as and when the bottle-neck arises, but it is an extremely difficult problem to solve in view of the fact that there is a certain amount of wagon shortage for this purpose.

Housing Schemes

*1963. Sardar Hukam Singh: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

- (a) the amount sanctioned by the Government of India in 1953-54 to the various States for their housing schemes for displaced persons; and
- (b) whether these amounts would be spent through co-operative housing societies formed by displaced persons themselves?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A statement containing requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 53]

(b) Every encouragement is given to Co-operative Housing Societies formed by displaced persons. Out of the amount sanctioned for 1953-54, Rs. 35.7 lakhs were allotted for advancing loans to such Societies.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर: क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जो सहयोग समितियां बनायेंग उनको आप क्या-क्या सुविषायें देंगे ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन: हम उनको खमीन के एक्यायर करने में मदद करते हैं और हम उनको मकान बनाने के लिए कर्जा देते हैं।

HANDLOOM INDUSTRY

*1964. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of such States as are participating in the fund set apart for the development of the Handloom industry and the amount so far paid to them; and
- (b) whether protests against the present basis of allotments have been received from any of the States?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 54.]

(b) The Andhra Government have claimed a larger amount as their share of the allotment. The Punjab Government have also asked for an additional grant.

Shri Hem Raj: May I know the basis on which the grants have been made to the different States?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The criteria that make us decide in regard to the allocation of grants are many, and one of the main aspects of our decision is based on the consumption of yarn by the particular State for handloom purposes.

Shri Sivamurthi Swami: Looking at the statement, one comes to the conclusion that some States have received more money and some less, considering the strength of the handlooms in the States. Madras State has received Rs. 92 and odd lakhs whereas Hyderabad is getting Rs. 13 and odd lakhs. May I know the reasons for this distribution?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The basis of the position which the hon. Member has arrived at may not be right.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know if the handloom industry has been able to produce the 40 per cent. quota reserved for it?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The position of off-take of yarn which is the sole means of our judging at the moment about the production of handloom cloth shows that there is progress, and from various parts of the country reports have been received showing that the position is better than what it used to be.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: The hon. Minister has replied that the decision is based on the quantity of yarn that is supplied to the States. May I know the number of handlooms that are operating in Madras, Andhra, U. P. and Bihar?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I should like to have notice, but at the same

time I would like to mention that the number does not always represent the reality.

Shri Funnoose: Am I to understand that no representations have been received from the Travancore-Cochin Government or the co-operative societies there that in the allotment of the amount the number of looms as well as the position of the handloom in the economy of that State have not been taken into consideration?

Shri T. T. Krishnamchari: I have had no such representation from the Travancore-Cochin Government. On the other hand, in view of the peculiar position of the Government that existed before the present Government, we had to take the initiative as the Central Government to go and organise the handloom industry for the purpose of utilisation of the grant that we gave.

Shri M. D. Ramasami: When was the latest statistics of handlooms taken in the States?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I will require notice. I think this is a matter which is attended to by the States from time to time. I am not quite sure the method of their arriving at their figures is generally correct, but in any event, I would not be able to give any definite information regarding the statistics of handlooms until the Kanungo Committee has reported.

LOCAL WORKS PROGRAMME

*1965. Shri L. N. Mishra: Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that representations have been made to Government that the amount sanctioned for the various Local Works Programme under the National Plan should not lapse if the work is not completed before the 31st March, 1954; and
- (b) if so, the points made in the representation and the decision of Government thereon?