

Usually, however, U.S.S.R. does not buy jute goods from India, but China is a regular importer.

IRON SMELTING FACTORIES

*907. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Japanese Technical Mission that recently visited India, has recommended any particular region or regions for the setting up of Iron Smelting Factories and if so, what are the regions selected; and

(b) whether the possibilities of setting up a factory in Rayalaseema where large quantity of high grade iron ore occurs, have been examined and if so, what are the results?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Government are aware of the deposits of iron ore in Rayalaseema, but its selection as a site for a steel Plant or a Pig Iron Plant has not been recommended by the Steel Consultants who were appointed by the Government of India in 1948 to make a technical survey and report on the establishment of new steel works on the ground that coking coal is not available in the South.

CLOTH SENT TO ORISSA

*908. **Dr. Nataraj Pandey:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have drawn the attention of the Government of India to the large quantity of unmarketable cloth and yarn supplied to the Orissa State by the different production centres in the monthly quotas of cloth and yarn indenting by that State; and

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what steps have been taken by Government to see that only such variety of cloth and yarn for which there is a market and there is a demand are sent to the Orissa State?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):
(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

LEVEL OF GANGA

*909. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the level of water in the Ganga is going lower and lower in every succeeding summer, specially in Benares and Patna; and

(b) whether any scheme has been drawn up to prevent this?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

FLATS FOR M. Ps.

*910. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether it is a fact that one more block of flats for the residential purpose of M. Ps is to be constructed in the South Avenue?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): Yes, Sir. It is proposed to construct 72 more flats on South Avenue for the Members of Parliament.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

*911. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken to co-ordinate the development of Cottage Industries in this country?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): A Cottage Industries Board has been set up with the object of assisting Government in co-ordinating the development of cottage industries. A Cottage Industries Directorate has been set up to implement the recommendations of the Board. It has also been recently decided to have biennial meetings with representatives of the State Governments to discuss programmes for the development of cottage industries.

INDIANS IN BURMA

*912. **Shri Kandasamy:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many Indians are still in Burma;

(b) what the final settlement of the claims of Indian landholders for compensation has been;

(c) whether any discrimination was shown in fixing and paying this compensation as between Indian, Pakistanis and Burmese landholders;

(d) the steps being taken to ensure minimum wages and salaries for Indian labour; and