The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) According to Employment Exchange statistics the number of employment seekers belonging to the educated category continue to exhibit an upward trend.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Plans designed to relieve unemployment among the educated will be considered for inclusion in the Second Five-Year Plan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: To what extent has the progress of the First Five-Year Plan induced or encouraged the educated youths to take up rural avocations? Could the hon. Minister give us any statistics in that regard?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The exact contribution made by the First Five-Year Plan towards the solution of this problem is still under assessment, and that will be undertaken by the study group.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: The scope of the First Five-Year Plan was expanded some time in the early part of last year by providing Rs. 175 crores for giving employment to educated youths. May I know whether the provision of that sum has to any extent contributed in giving employment to the educated youths, and if so, to what extent?

Shri S. N. Mishra: So far, we have information only about the number of persons that were absorbed in one-teacher schools. About the other avenue of employment created, we cannot give any estimate.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Arising out of the answer just given, may I know whether any reliance can be placed on the capacity of Government to work out the Karve Committee's report so as to give employment to about 41 million persons in cottage industries and handicrafts?

Shri S. N. Mishra: The Karve Committee was appointed by the Planning Commission; and reliance can always be placed on Government for proper and sensible things.

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): May I add that it is because it was felt that the First Five-Year Plan had not created an adequate volume of employment in the shape of new opportunities that arrangements are being made for that purpose; and the proposals of the Karve Committee are a part of those arrangements for new employment opporrunities in the country.

Dr. Lanka Sundaram: Out of this sum of Rs. 175 crores additionally allotted last year to deal with unemployment, have Government set apart a specific portion to deal with educated unemployment? If so, may I know whether that portion of the money that was allotted separately has been spent, and if it has been spent, what are the results achieved so far? I am asking with reference to educated unemployment only.

Shri Nanda: So far as specific opportunities for solving the problem of educated unemployment are concerned my hon. colleague has already answered that there was recruitment of more teachers in rural areas. That was what was realied upon, and that has been achieved almost to the full extent.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether the Planning Commission have considered the Karve Committee's report? May I also know whether the proposals of the Karve Committee are being opposed by the Commerce and Industry Minister and statements in public have been made to that effect?

Shri S. N. Mishra: So far as the consideration by the Planning Commission is concerned we are still at it, but about the controversy to which the hon. Member has referred, we do not have any information.

Export of Elephants

*294. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of elephants exported to foreign countries during the years 1953, 1954 and 1955 so far; and

(b) the income which accrued to India on account of their export?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, Annexure No. 25].

Sardar Iqbal Singh: May I know the number of elephants that were given as free gifts and the number that were sold to the other countries up till now?

Shri Karmarkar: I have given the figures already. Perhaps my hon, friend wants to know how many were actually sold. I have no figures with me in respect of that. But I read in the papers that a small number were presented by our Government to some other Governments.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Were any white elephants also there?

Sardar Iqbal Singh: Are Governments aware of the fact that the number of elephants required by the other countries for their zoological gardens is so large that we cannot supply them, and that is why Siam is trying to compete with India in the matter of export of elephants?

Shri Karmarkar: The quantum of export in regard to elephants has been fixed presumably by the Food Ministry With regard 'to the very important supplementary question just now put, I shall make enquiries, and if there is anything worthwhile, I shall keep the House informed of the position.

Shri Kamath: From the statement laid on the Table I find that 13 more elephants were exported in 1954 as compared with the number exported in 1953, but they fetched far less. May I know why our elephants have depreciated in value, and whether this can be ascribed in any measure to the increasing import of white elephants from abroad?

Shri Karmarkar: About white elephants, my hon. friend is a better authority. As regards prices, they vary with the age, the type of animal, (whether useless or useful), and so on. So, the prices vary for each animal.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Kamath: The hon. Minister is un loubtedly a better authority on white elephantis...

Export of Cotton Goods

*295. Shri Amjad Ali: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to extend free licensing of all the permissible varities of cotton price-goods and cotton manufactures including cotton waste blankets for shipment upto the end of June 1956; and

(b) if so, whether it includes both mill and powerloom manufactures?

KiThe M nister of Commerce (Shr fmitte (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

Shri Amjad Ali: In view of the answer 'Yes', may I know what effect it has on the prices of these products in their internal consumption in India?

Shri Karmarkar: There has been no preciable effect of these exports on the internal prices.

Shri Amjad Ali: Has the balance of trade improved on account of these exports?

Shri Karmarkar: For instance, in 1954 the total foreign exchange that we earned on account of export of cotton products was Rs. 58 crores as against Rs. 45 crores in 1953. To that extent, naturally the balance of trade has improved. Shri M. S. Gurupadwamy : It it a fact that the total cloth available at present is adequate only for five weeks ap per the statement that has been made by the official sources, and if so, many I k ow whether if more export of cloth is allowed hereafter, it will not cause i convenience to the consuming public?

Shri Karmarkar: We are happy about the buoyancy in the textiles market. because it shows that there is more consumer demand. In case there is a likeli hood of any shortage, surely we shall take note of that. Our duty naturally is to our consumers.

India's Foreign Trade

*297. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the overall position of India's foreign trade during the months from July to November, 1955; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken to make up the deficiencies that have been found after the study of trends in different sectors?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Statistics of trade are available only for the period ending October, 1955. These figures reveal that the total trade increased from Rs. 400 crores during July-October, 1954 to Rs. 405 crores during the corresponding period this year. The balance of trade which was adverse to us by Rs.18 crores during July-October, 1954 was favourable to the extent of Rs. 7 crores in July-October, 1955. The balance of payments position, continues to be favourable. The improvement in the terms of trade has also been maintained. Government continue their efforts to promote exports and to regulate imports to meet the needs of the country's growing economy and to diversify the country's foreign trade.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know in what commodities the trade has been the highest, and has shown any tendency towards upgrading?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry and Iron and Steel (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): There has been a general improvement in prices, and in some of the major commodities like tea and jute, this improvement has had a part to play in the figures that were given out from time to time. Altogether, I think there has been an improvement of about 18 per cent.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I knew how our balance of trade with UK, / and USSR has stood?