

### Handloom Industry

\*1912. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds placed at the disposal of the State Governments for the development of handloom industry has not been fully utilised by them;

(b) if so, the reason therefor; and

(c) whether there has been any improvement in the economic condition of the handloom weavers as a result of the steps taken by Government?

**The Minister of Consumer Industries (Shri Kanungo):** (a) and (b). Funds placed at the disposal of the State Governments for the development of Handloom Industry were utilised upto more than 88% on 31-3-1956. There were some schemes which were framed later in the financial year and could not be implemented in full before the end of the year.

(c) Yes, Sir.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I enquire if these funds are placed at the disposal of the State Government on the basis of the Schemes submitted by them or on an *ad hoc* or other basis?

**Shri Kanungo:** The funds are placed according to the schemes submitted by the State Government.

**Shri Shree Narayan Das:** The hon. Minister answered in the affirmative to part (c) of the question. I would like to know whether any assessment or any survey has been made and if so, what is the extent of the improvement in the economic condition of the handloom weavers?

**Shri Kanungo:** A scientific survey has not been made so far, though certain proposals are under discussion between the University of Madras and the University of Karnatak to that effect. Inference is drawn from the increase in the total production of handlooms and also the total offtake.

**Shrimati Sushama Sen:** May I know if Government are aware that large stocks of handloom cloth are lying undisposed? What steps are the Government taking to encourage this industry?

**Shri Kanungo:** As I have said, the undisposed stock is considerably less than it used to be before.

**Shri Balakrishnan:** May I know what has been the offtake in Madras?

**Shri Kanungo:** I have not got the figures Statewise at the moment.

**Shrimati Sushama Sen:** What steps are Government taking to encourage this industry?

**Shri Kanungo:** There are various steps which have been mentioned in the House off and on. If the hon. Member puts specific questions, I will answer them.

### Illiteracy in N.E.S. and Community Projects

\*1914. **Shri Madiah Gowda:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for complete liquidation of illiteracy of all men and women aimed at, in the National Extension Service and community development programme, at least for those that come under any particular age group (say 14 to 45); and

(b) whether any, and if so, what steps are being taken in that direction?

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Steps taken towards adult literacy are:

- (1) Starting centres for adult education as part of Social Education.
- (2) Follow-up literature is supplied in form of:
  - (a) Easy story books.
  - (b) Pamphlets.
  - (c) Periodicals printed in large type and dealing with topics of rural reconstruction.
- (3) Organising student campaigns in some areas to teach adults during vacations.
- (4) Starting 'Each one teach one' movements.

**Shri Madiah Gowda:** By the schemes they have now in hand, will they be able to say by what percentage men and women can be made literate in these community development blocks?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** No, as I said sometime back, possibly in reply to the hon. Member, we do not get detailed information with regard to that.

**Shri Madiah Gowda:** At least do they consider that, by the schemes they have got in hand now, a sufficiently large number of people will be made literate in the community development blocks?