

(b) what are the recommendations of the Sub-Committee; and

(c) what action Government have taken on the report?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). The report is before the Standing Committee of the Handloom-Board for their consideration in the first instance.

Pondicherry Municipality

*398. { Shri Kodiyar:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) when the Budget of the Pondicherry Municipality was forwarded to the Government of Pondicherry for the year commencing January, 1957; and

(b) when it was approved by the Government Council of Pondicherry?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) and (b). The budget was submitted on August 28, 1956, but on account of the failure of Pondicherry Municipality to make provision for certain obligatory expenses and other allied matter, the budget was not sanctioned till 21st March 1957.

अफगानिस्तान के साथ व्यापार

*३९९. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इस वर्ष अफगानिस्तान से आने वाले सूखे भेवों का आयात लगभग तीन करोड़ रुपये से घट कर एक करोड़ रुपये रह गया है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या भारत अफगानिस्तान के बीच व्यापार के बढ़ाने के लिये अफगानिस्तान से एक शिफ्टमंडल भारत आया है ?

वाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री कानुनगो) : (क) जी, हां। अप्रैल से दिसम्बर, १९५६ तक अफगानिस्तान से सूखे भेवों का आयात ११० लाख रुपये का हुआ है, जब कि १९५५ की इसी अवधि में १९६ लाख रुपये का हुआ था।

(ख) जी, हां।

N.E.F.A.

*400. Shri Gohain: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many tribal houses and Government buildings were destroyed by the last storm which occurred in the last week of April, 1957, in North East Frontier Agency;

(b) whether any measures have been taken to rehabilitate and give relief to the affected people; and

(c) the number of lives lost and the compensation given therefor?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) to (c). According to information so far available, 58 Government buildings have collapsed and 92 damaged as a result of the storm during the last week of April.

Regarding tribal houses, while complete information is not yet available, preliminary reports indicate that six tribal houses have collapsed at Chowkham.

The only report so far received regarding loss of life is of one Government boatman.

Local authorities have already been instructed to go ahead with reconstruction and rehabilitation measures.

Detailed reports are still awaited.

Textile Wage Board

*401. Shri Anthony Pillai: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state whether the Trade Union Organisations were consulted before the nomination of