

(e) Yes.

(f) Yes, subject to sanctions issued by the Coal Commissioner.

HANDLOOM CLOTH

185. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantity in yards and value in rupees of the handloom cloth exported to other countries during the past five years;

(b) what are the countries to which Madras State has been exporting handloom goods, and how much in value and yardage; and

(c) what are the numbers of handlooms (for cotton) in each of the States?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) and (c). Statements are placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 23.]

(b) The principal countries to which handloom cloth is exported are: Burma, Federated Malaya States, Straits Settlements, Ceylon, Siam, Zanzibar, Sudan, Mauritius, Borneo, Java, Sumatra, Fiji Islands, Union of South Africa and French West Africa. Figures regarding the exports of handloom cloth from Madras State alone are not available.

YARN PRODUCTION IN MADRAS

186. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of yarn (in lbs.) produced by the cotton mills in Madras State per annum;

(b) the number of handlooms in Madras State; and

(c) the quantity of yarn required by the handlooms in Madras State to keep them fully engaged throughout the year?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):

(a) About 150 million lbs.

(b) The number was estimated by the State Government as 8,41,140 in June, 1951.

(c) It is not possible to give a correct estimate as there is no certain yardstick to measure the needs of each loom and the number of 'ghost' looms cannot also be assessed.

The allotment to Madras State for the half year October 1951 to March 1952 was about 37.1 million lbs. for

handlooms. In March and April, 1952 there were heavy rejections by the State nominees.

FEDERATION OF RURAL PEOPLES' ORGANISATION

187. Shri Kandasamy: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Federation of Rural Peoples' Organisation to which various Kisan Organisations have been affiliated has been requesting Government to give it representation on the Import and Export Advisory Councils;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government had actually offered to give such representation on the Export Advisory Council;

(c) if so, whether it is a fact that no such representation has so far been given; and

(d) whether Government propose to give such representation?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir. The Federation of Rural Peoples' Organisations has been requesting the Government, from time to time, to give it representation on the Export Advisory Council. The Federation also approached Government for a seat on the Import Advisory Council.

(b) and (c). The Federation was invited in December 1950 to suggest a representative to be nominated by Government to the Export Advisory Council, but since it was decided not to disturb the constitution of the Council and to add to the number of Government nominees, the names suggested by the Federation of Rural Peoples' Organisations could not be included in the Council.

(d) The Import and Export Advisory Councils are due for reconstitution shortly and the question of giving representation to this Federation on the Councils will be considered on merits.

PILGRIMS TO HEJAZ

188. Shri S. C. Samanta: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian pilgrims who visited the Hejaz and the holy shrines in Iraq and Iran (separately) in 1951-52;

(b) the corresponding number in 1950-51;

(c) the amenities given to these pilgrims; and

(d) how many of the pilgrims did not come back?