

particular place is brought to my notice, I shall certainly look into it.

Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani: May I know how many applications of this nature have been received by the Ministry?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I have said that it is for the owners to apply to the local bodies. They do not apply to us.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many such buildings have been damaged by rains this year and last year?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: These buildings were built a very long time ago and practically every one of them is tenanted. Now we are passing on the ownership rights to the lessees.

Handloom Cloth

*1385. **Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the target set for the export of Handloom cloth during the year 1957-58?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): No target has been fixed.

Shri Tangamani: In reply to Unstarred Question No. 103 on 18th July, 1957 the export figures of handloom from 1952 were given from which it can be found that they had gone up from 53 to 60 million yards. May I know why no target at all is fixed for the current year?

Shri Kanungo: A target for a product like this in the export trade would be just unrealistic. We try to export as much as we can, and in the last three years the export figures have been showing an upward trend, and we hope that the current year's export will also be higher.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether there is a proposal under Government's contemplation to take steps to increase the exports of handloom cloth?

Mr. Speaker: Why proposal? That is their business.

Shri R. Ramanathan Chettiar: He said there is no target.

Shri Kanungo: Efforts are being made, and during the last three years they have shown results. Putting a target is not one of the efforts.

Shri Tanti: May I know whether the progress in this regard has been retarded by the facilities given to the power looms?

Shri Kanungo: No, no.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether any efforts are being made by Government to encourage the State handloom co-operative societies to establish direct contacts with other countries in order to export their products, and whether Government are aware that the Madras Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Society was already helped to establish certain centres, and whether they are going to help the other societies on these lines?

Shri Kanungo: The Madras Handloom Co-operative Society was entrusted with operating the export scheme. It has been doing it so far, but the scheme will be taken over by the Handloom Fabric Society. The other co-operative and apex societies are free to have their export organisation, but that will be their headache.

Shri Ranga: Are Government prepared to provide the necessary exchange facilities for those societies which are prepared to send their representatives to some of these countries where markets have already been established and where promotion of further exports can be achieved?

Shri Kanungo: Such proposals, if recommended by the Handloom Board, will be favourably considered.

Shri Shankarajah: May I know whether any arrangements have been made to study the designs and the varieties that are liked in foreign countries and to take samples to see that they are manufactured by the several co-operative societies in the different States?

Shri Kanungo: Yes, Sir. This question has been answered several times

in this House. Last year we got a team of Americans who advised us on the subject, and we are trying to follow it up.

Shri Tangamani: In reply to a question on the 14th of this month it was admitted on the floor of the House that there is accumulation of handloom stocks in Madras State and that steps are being taken to clear that stock. May I know whether, if at least in the future when export is considered, the question of clearing the stock in Madras State will be taken into consideration?

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member must put a question as to what is the stock at present, if some time it was stated like that. Why go on making a suggestion?

Shri Tangamani: Actually in reply to a question it was stated that accumulation was there, that a sub-committee had been appointed by the Handloom Board and that he was awaiting the decisions of the sub-committee.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, the question ought to be: what is the result of the sub-committee?

Shri Tangamani: May I know what is the result of the sub-committee?

Mr. Speaker: Then why does he go on making a suggestion?

Shri Kanungo: The very fact that stock has accumulated means that they are unsaleable. We are making our best efforts. (Interruptions.)

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister will kindly follow the question. He says that on a prior occasion, the hon. Minister replied that a sub-committee was appointed to devise ways and means to dispose of unsaleable or accumulated goods. What is the report of that sub-committee? Has it concluded its labours?

Shri Kanungo: It made certain suggestions which are being followed up. The very fact that there has been accumulation—I wanted to make it clear to the House—is because that particular kind of material is difficult to dispose of.

Small Scale Industries

*1288. **Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any market research is being done by the Small Scale Industries Department before selecting particular industries for particular areas; and

(b) if so, whether copies of these research reports will be placed on the Table?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). Presumably, the Honourable Member is referring to the "Industry Outlook Reports" prepared by the organisation of the Development Commissioner for Small Scale Industries.

Before preparing these reports, comprehensive economic surveys are carried out of selected industries in selected areas. These surveys cover a study of market prospects also.

Five copies of each of the 32 reports are made available in the Library of the House.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: May I know whether any attempts are being made by the investigators attached to the mobile vans for collecting any data in respect of this research?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, Sir; they collect market as well as consumer preference wherever they go.

Shri Nagi Reddy: May I know whether any investigations have been made in regard to the Kondapally toys in Andhra area—once very famous for small-scale industries?

Shri Manubhai Shah: A survey has been made, but I am unable to say whether it related to that particular area also or not. If you can tell me the particular place, I can indicate it.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: What steps have been taken to eliminate competition between large and small scale industries? Is there any proposal to demarcate the field of these industries?