

capture the lost markets in foreign countries?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). There has been some decline in the export of handloom fabrics in recent years as compared to the year 1955-56. Exports of handloom fabrics has been fluctuating as under:—

Year	Value in '000 Rs.'
1955	8,44,28
1956	8,67,17
1957	5,56,31
1958	5,23,52
1959	6,59,11

1960 (full year's figures not yet available).

Some of the main reasons for the fall in export of handloom fabrics as in case of mill made cloth are keen competition from Japanese and Chinese textiles in our traditional markets, fast changing fashion in consumer tastes overseas and increasing popularity of man-made fibre fabrics.

Government have taken several steps to set up exports. The All-India Handloom Fabrics Marketing Co-operative Society is in-charge of the external marketing scheme in the traditional markets and the Handloom Export Organisation has been specially set up to develop exports to non-traditional countries like the United States of America, etc. The Handloom Export Organisation has been participating in a number of international trade fairs and exhibitions. In addition, an incentive scheme for the export of handloom fabrics has also been introduced.

Prices of Surplus Lands

***790 Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission had requested the Orissa Government to fix the prices of the surplus

lands to be disposed of after the fixation of the land ceilings;

(b) whether the Planning Commission also suggested that reasonable number of instalment should be fixed for payment of the same; and

(c) whether the Orissa Government has accepted and implemented these suggestions?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S N. Sishra): (a) to (c). The provisions of the Orissa Land Reform Bill were considered in the Central Committee for Land Reform and some suggestions were made by the Committee which are now under the consideration of the State Government. The consultations between the State Governments and the Central Committee for Land Reform are of an informal and confidential nature and it will not be in public interest to disclose the nature of these discussions.

Relief work in Congo

***791. Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) what contribution India has made so far towards World Health Organisation's relief work in Congo; and

(b) the nature and details thereof?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b). As the Question pertains to the Ministry of Health, the reply would be given by the Minister of Health at a later date.

Public Sector

***793 Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date capital at charge of the public sector;

(b) whether details have been worked out of the surpluses which are