

at panipat turned down the demand of the workers ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c): Do not arise.

Foreign Tour by Director Marketing,  
Central Cottage Industries  
Emporium, New Delhi

7257. SHRI VIDYA DHAR BAJPAI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director of Marketing, Central Cottage Industries Emporium, Janpath, New Delhi, undertook a tour to the United Kingdom recently to procure orders for the sale of handicrafts and handlooms ; and

(b) if so, the amount spent by her during her tour and the extent of orders booked by her ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) During November 1967, the Central Cottage Industries Assn. deputed the Director of Marketing to visit the U. K. and certain other countries in Europe to explore the possibilities of setting up an export market on the lines of the one established in the U. S. A. for ready to wear women's clothes produced by the Association.

(b) The expenditure incurred on the visit was Rs. 12,927/- and the orders booked by her amounted to Rs. 1,35,687/-.

Purchases made by Central Cottage  
Industries Emporium, New Delhi

7258. SHRI VIDYA DHAR BAJPAI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Director of Marketing of the Central Cottage Industries Emporium makes annual purchases of nearly a crore of rupees for the Emporium from certain selected suppliers without inviting any quotations ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefore ; and

(c) whether the Central Cottage Industries Emporium is charging profit ranging from 25 per cent to 200 per cent on the articles sold by it ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) The purchases are made by a buying team who visit the different States from time to time and settle the purchase price keeping in view the quality and the design of the articles. The total purchases during the year ending 30th June, 1967 amounted to Rs. 1,30,56,892.27 P.

(b) Handicrafts are specialised items not conforming to any laid-down specifications and artistic workmanship differs from craftsman to craftsman and therefore such purchases are not amenable to be based on quotations.

(c) No, Sir. The Central Cottage Industries Association adds a mark-up on the landed cost of the goods to cover the overheads. It varies from article to article and the average mark-up during the year ended June 1967 was 19.8%.

Promotion of Lower Grade Clerks in  
Chief Commercial Superintendent's  
Office, Eastern Railway

7259. SHRI K. RAMANI :  
SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :  
SHRI NAMBIAR :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 97 Lower grade Clerks of the Chief Commercial Superintendent's Office, Eastern Railway, Calcutta, have completed more than 15 years' service, but have not so far been promoted to higher grade ;

(b) whether Government are considering any proposals for their promotion ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.