

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, the reasons for the delay?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi):

(a) Yes, Sir,

(b) As there is no vacancy at present on the Committee of Administration of the Handloom Export Promotion Council, it has not been possible to nominate the representative of the Andhra Handloom Weavers' Cooperative Society Ltd., Vijayawada on this Committee. A representative of the Society is however, being invited to be present at all meetings of the above Committee.

(c) Does not arise.

Accumulation of Handloom Cloth in Andhra Pradesh

**941. Shri Kolla Venkalah:
Shri M. N. Swamy:
Shri Laxmi Dass:**

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that accumulation of huge stocks of handloom cloth, especially of 'Bleeding Madras' type of cloth, has led to unemployment among the weavers in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether any representations have been received by Government either for the grant of loans, free of interest, to the weavers' societies for stocking and marketing or for outright purchase by Government through the State Trading Corporation; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The suggestion for the grant of loans to the weavers societies for stocking and marketing of cloth was received from the Andhra Pradesh Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society, and they were advised to approach the State Government in this connection.

The suggestion of outright purchase by Government through the State Trading Corporation was also made by the above Society and was considered by the Government of India. The Handicrafts and Handloom Corporation of India were asked to purchase substantial quality of this type of cloth. They have already purchased 4.9 lakh yards of this cloth. Besides, the Corporation has also announced a "Special Marketing Scheme" by which the Corporation would purchase standard varieties of Bleeding Madras cloth from Weavers Organisations including Cooperatives and Master-Weavers.

Dantewara-Bhadrachellam Railway Line

**942. Shri Kolla Venkalah:
Shri M. N. Swamy:
Shri Laxmi Dass:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 149 on the 5th November, 1965 and state:

(a) whether the Engineering Report and construction estimates regarding the Dantewara-Bhadrachellam line have been prepared;

(b) whether the Survey reports on this line have been examined by the Railway Board;

(c) if so, what are the points which emerged in the examination and

(d) whether any decision has been taken regarding the construction of the line and the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):
(a) to (d). The engineering and traffic