

(b) if so, the total value of the stores purchased during the period;

(c) whether Government are aware that some of the stores could be produced in this country; and

(d) if so, the reasons for purchasing these stores from abroad?

**The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha):** (a) and (b). Railway stores involving foreign exchange payment of Rs. 18.81 crores only were imported from U.S.A. during 1965-66 whereas the total value of stores purchased during the same period was Rs. 329.71 crores.

(c) The stores imported from U.S.A. referred to above did not include any items produced in India at the time they were ordered.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

#### Venkatchelam Committee

\*339. **Shri S. R. Damani:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Venkatchelam Committee has submitted its recommendations for suggesting special incentives for backward areas;

(b) if so, whether the said Report has been scrutinised and if so, Government's decision thereon; and

(c) if not, when the Report is expected to be submitted?

**The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Committee on Dispersal of Industries (commonly known as Venkatchelam Committee) submitted its report in December, 1961. While the recommendations of this Committee were under consideration in consultation with the other Ministries concerned, the national emergency was declared and it was felt that further consideration might be deferred for the time being. Later, in connection with the drafting of the Fourth

Five Year Plan, the Government of India, at the instance of the Planning Commission, appointed various working groups to draw programmes on different aspects of the economy. As a part of this work, the sub-group on small scale industries was appointed with Shri K. V. Venkatchelam as the Chairman. This sub-group considered the recommendations made by the Committee on Dispersal of Industries for formulating its own recommendations for decentralization of industries.

In the meantime, the Rural Industries Planning Committee of the Planning Commission appointed a committee called the "Committee on Incentives for Rural Industrialisation" with Dr. D. K. Malhotra, Joint Secretary as the Chairman in December, 1964. (On Dr. Malhotra taking up an U.N. assignment later, Shri K. V. Venkatchelam took over as the Chairman of the Committee). This Committee was to consider the incentives required for accelerating the development of industries in selected rural industries project areas. This Committee submitted its report in June, 1966. In making their recommendations, this Committee also considered the recommendations of the earlier Committee on Dispersal of Industries and came to the conclusion that the concessions and incentives suggested in the report should be admissible to small scale units in 49 rural industries project areas only during the Fourth Five Year Plan Period. The recommendations of this latter Committee are under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

#### Shift from Industrial Policy Resolution

\*340. **Srimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of the Industries Minister of Kerala in which he hinted at the possibility of