

country and that there is consequently some depression in the industry. Specific information in regard to the position in Madras has been called for and will be placed on the Table of the House when received.

(c) Government have finalized a proposal for the setting up of a Khadi and Village Industries Board which will when constituted deal with the present situation and suggest ways and means for effecting improvement, particularly in the marketing and sale of Khadi.

ANTI-MERGER PARTISANS OF PONDICHERY

*445. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the anti-merger partisans of Pondicherry entered into Indian territory and committed acts of goondaism;

(b) how many were killed or wounded and what is the extent of damage to property;

(c) whether any representations have been made to the French authorities regarding the prevalence of utter lawlessness in Pondicherry; and

(d) whether any protests have been made to them regarding the violation of Indian territory?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A list of the border incidents from 1st July 1952 to 31st October 1952, is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 53].

It will be seen that no one was killed in these incidents. Exact information regarding the number of persons wounded and the extent of damage to property is not available.

(c) and (d). The Indian Consul General at Pondicherry has, in each case of goondaism and violence, protested to the local authorities. The Government of India also have, during the last two months, sent notes to the French Government protesting against the prevalence of lawlessness in the French Settlements and the violation of Indian territory by the French authorities and the goondas. In view of the continuance of lawlessness in these French territories in India, the Government of India have informed the French Government that there is no possibility of a fair plebiscite there and therefore discussions should take

place between the Government of India and the French Government on the basis of the merger of these territories with the Union of India. No answer has thus far been received from the French Government to this communication.

COARSE AND MEDIUM CLOTH

*446. Shri Pataskar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is greater scope for coarse and medium cloth than for fine and superfine cloth for export to foreign countries;

(b) whether there is also greater scope for such cloth for internal consumption;

(c) whether for manufacture of fine and superfine cloth a large quantity of foreign cotton has to be imported;

(d) whether a large quantity of short staple cotton useful for manufacture of coarse and medium cloth is exported to foreign countries including Japan; and

(e) whether any steps are being taken by Government to see that medium and coarse cloth is manufactured by Indian Mills out of Indian cotton on a larger scale?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Only such quantity of foreign cotton is imported as is required by the cotton textile mills in addition to the indigenous cotton available.

(d) No.

(e) All Indian Cotton that can be utilized for the manufacture of coarse and medium cloth is being allotted to the mills.

PAKISTAN'S BAN ON INDIAN FILMS

*447. Pandit Algu Rai Shastri: (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the reasons for the ban on Indian films imposed by the Pakistan Government?

(b) What was the income that accrued to India and Pakistan from each other on account of this trade?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No ban has been imposed by the Pakistan Government on the import of Indian films.