

from this country to the Soviet Union to negotiate the question of disposal of the tobacco stocks?

Shri Karmarkar: We have no information on that point.

Dr. Rama Rao: May we know if the Government have taken any special steps to encourage or help the disposal of the accumulated tobacco, which the hon. Minister must have known, recently?

Shri Karmarkar: Recently in the departmental meeting between the representatives of the Commerce and Industry Ministry and the Food and Agriculture Ministry, they were considering this matter seriously.

Shri Dabhi: May I know how much tobacco is Russia likely to import annually from India?

Shri Karmarkar: One could not venture on any guess.

RELIEF TO WEAVERS IN ANDHRA

*485. **Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes that have been taken up by the Andhra Government to give relief to weavers;

(b) whether the Central Government have power to see that the amount allotted to the States from the handloom cess fund has been properly spent by the co-operative organisations to whom this amount has been given;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, the method adopted for such check; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative, whether there is any other authority checking this?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) A statement showing the schemes sanctioned for the handloom industry in Andhra from the cess fund is laid on the Table of the House. [See

Appendix II, annexure No. 22.] According to information received from the State Government, preliminary action is in progress for implementation of these schemes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Central Marketing Organisation and its Regional Offices undertake the necessary checking. In addition, progress reports are required to be submitted by each State Government.

(d) Does not arise.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: Is it a fact that the hon. Minister visited the Weavers' Society at Yennigarur in Andhra State on the 8th February and promised the society that he would recommend the grant of a subsidy of Rs. 1,44,550 under the subsidised industrial scheme for the houses already constructed long ago?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is undoubtedly a fact that I visited the society, but the hon. Member would be aware that Ministers cannot go on promising in their tours about payment of subsidies or loans without reference to Government or their colleagues. So, I could have made no promise of that sort.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: Is the Government aware that those houses for which the grant is asked were constructed with the aid of subsidy and loan from the State Government and that even one instalment of the loan has not been repaid as yet by the society?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: If the State Government had given the money, then the obvious source from which information could be got is the State Government, not the Central Government.

Shri Raghavaiah: May I know whether Government have received any reports regarding the mistakes committed by the Textile Enquiry Committee which has been appointed recently by the Government to go into

the needs of the handloom weavers in Andhra State?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Mistakes?

Mr. Speaker: What is the last part of his question? Will he repeat?

Shri Raghavalah: May I know whether the Government have received any report from the Textile Enquiry Committee which has been appointed by the Government recently to go into the needs of these handloom weavers in Andhra State regarding the disbursement of this cess amount?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I cannot understand the import of this question. The Textile Enquiry Committee perhaps visited the State.

Mr. Speaker: Has it made any recommendation on this question?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: No, Sir. It has not submitted any report.

REHAND DAM

*486. **Shri M. L. Agrawal:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether Government have given any aid to the Uttar Pradesh Government for completing the Rehand Dam Project included in the First Five Year Plan?

(b) what is the nature of the aid, and when was it given?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). So far no aid has been given to the Uttar Pradesh Government for this project.

The project has been included in the Five Year Plan and has also been admitted for Indo-U.S. Technical Co-operation assistance for the year 1954-1955.

Financial arrangements regarding the project between the State and Central Government are under consideration.

Shri M. L. Agrawal: Did the U.P. Government ask for any aid in this matter?

Shri Hathi: Not yet.

Shri M. L. Agrawal: What has been the total contribution up to date of the Central Government to finance the irrigation and power projects of U.P. during the First Five Year Plan?

Shri Hathi: I would require notice for that.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether this project will be useful to some other States also partially?

Shri Hathi: Yes, it will be useful to Bihar also.

बाबू रामनारायण सिंह : तिलैया डैम से सिंचाई के लिए नहर बनना आरम्भ हुआ है या नहीं ?

Shri Hathi: This relates to the Rehand project in U.P.

INDO-PAKISTAN BORDER INCIDENTS

*487. **Shri L. Jogeswar Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many incidents were officially reported during 1953 on the Indo-Pakistan border in Shillong-Karimganj area;

(b) what is the nature of the incidents, if any; and

(c) how many such incidents have been amicably settled between the two Governments?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) 28 incidents on the United Khasi and Jaintia Hills-Sylhet border and 8 incidents on the Karimganj-Sylhet border.

(b) (i) Of the 28 incidents on the United K & J Hills-Sylhet border, 13 were incidents of exchange of firing between Pakistani armed forces and the Assam Border Security Force; 5 were cases of trespass into Indian territory by Pakistani national and Pakistani armed forces; 9 cases of lifting of cattle by Pakistani nationals and Pakistani armed forces and 1 case of kidnapping of an Indian national by Pakistani armed forces.