

(a) what goods were purchased by the Indian Supply Mission, Washington in the year 1956-57;

(b) the value of the goods so purchased; and

(c) whether any stores were procured by the India Supply Mission, Washington in the year 1956-57 under the various Aid Agreements?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Foodgrains, Plant and Machinery, Vehicle Spares, Scientific Instruments, and other specialised stores not available elsewhere or which were purchased under the various Aid Agreements:

(b) Rupees 85 Crores approximately.

(c) Yes.

Asoka Hotel

99. { Shri R. J. Rao:
Shri Supakar:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether the construction of Asoka Hotel is complete?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): The work on the main building has been practically completed. The stone work is, however, in progress on the chhatris in the terrace, on the viaduct and parapets. Plinth protection and Storm water drains are under construction in the staff quarters. All these works are expected to be completed by the end of August 1957.

Textiles Export Trade

100. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the export trend of our textiles has been downward;

(b) if so, the figures for the last 5 years;

(c) which are the places or countries where our exports are decreasing fast; and

(d) what measures are being taken to remedy the loss of trade?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) to (d). The question apparently refers to Cotton Textiles. A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table.

[See Appendix I, annexure No. 47].

Low-Income Housing Scheme

102. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of housing loan sanctioned for low income group officers of the Manipur Administration during 1956-57;

(b) how many applications were received from low income group officials of Manipur Administration during the year 1956-57 and how applicants were granted housing loans; and

(c) the amount of loan actually granted to the applicants?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Rs. 2,61,302/-

(b) 133 applications were received out of which 45 applications were sanctioned. First instalments of the loans were given to 42 officials.

(c) Rs 49,258/10/-

Purchase of Stores

103. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state

(a) the total value of stores purchased by the Government of India in the last three years viz. 1954-55, 1955-56, 1956-57 from—

(i) Small Scale Industries.

(ii) Cottage Industries.