

How, 'ver, t'ie« prices are governed by not only the unit va'ue of imports but also by internal tax:s, packaging and distribution casts, reta ler's margin etc. which vary from country to country.

**CONSTRUCTION OF DAM ACROSS PENNAR
SOMARITA IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

* 554. SHRI M. SRINIVASA REDDY:
SHRI PAPI REDDI:

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have sent any proposals for constructing a dam across the river Pennar near Somarita;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme; and

(c) when the Planning Commission is likely to clear the project ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BAIJ NATH KUREEL) : (a) and (b) The Andhra Pradesh Government have proposed the Somasila Project scross the Pennar river at a cost of Rs. 33.52 crores to stablise irrigat'ion in the existing ayacut of 2.53 lakh acres and provide irrigation to new area of 1.59 lakh acres.

(c) The project is expected to be considered in the near future by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation and Power Projects.

REPRESENTATION REGARDING NONAVAILABILITY OF WAGONS FOR SALT INDUSTRY

* 555. SHRI THILLAI VILLALAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the salt manufaturers and merchants of Vedaranniyam on t he Southern Railway regarding non-availability of wagons for transporting salt; and

(b) if so, whit action Government have taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Every effort is being made to step up loading of sa't.

EMPLOYMENT OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS

* 556. SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme under Government's consideration to provide full and remunerative employment to hand-loom weavers in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) if the reply to part (a) above be in the negative, what measures are contemplated to ensure full and remunerative employment to these weavers; and

(d) Whether the crash programme for rural employment also covers employment of weavers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The development and general welfare of the handloom industry are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. So far as th; Central Government is concerned, financial assistance is given to the State Governments in the form of block loans and grants for the Annual Plans of the States. These loans and grants are not related to particular industries or projects. Outlays for various industries, projects or schemes in the Annual Plans of the States are determined by the State Governments after taking into account the block loans and grants to b; given by the Central Government. All schemes for the develop-n eit of haniloom inJustry in the States are drawn up and implem nted by the State Governments. In the circumstances, it is for the State Governments concerned to formulate plans for the fuller and more remunerative employment of handloom