

How ver, these prices are governed by not only the unit value of imports but also by internal taxes, packaging and distribution costs, retailer'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 KURIEL) :  
(a) and (b) The Andhra Pradesh Government have proposed the Somasila Project across the Pennar river at a cost of Rs. 33.52 crores to stabilise irrigation 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 manufacturers and merchants of Vedaranniyam on the Southern Railway regarding non-availability of wagons for transporting salt; and

(b) if so, what 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 salt.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS

\* 556 SHRI SANDA NARAYANAPPA :  
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 handloom 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 the 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 be given by the Central Government. All schemes for the development of handloom industry in the States are drawn up and implemented 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