ALLOTMENT OF A SITE NEAR THE SIDINGS IN BARAJAMDA SECTOR TO THE STATE TRADING CORPORATION FOR DUMPING IRON ORE .

*309. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the State Trading Corporation has requested the railway authorities for allotment of a site near the newly constructed sidings in Barajamda Sector for dumping iron ore:
- (b) if so, whether any reply has been received by the Corporation from the railway authorities; and
- (c) what will be the effect of such allotment on the mines engaged in the raising of iron ore in that sector?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) Yes, Sir.

- (b) The matter is still under correspondence with the Railways.
- (c) Very beneficial; mine-owners will be assured of stocking and transportation facilities for their ores.

ŞALE PROCEEDS IN KHADI GRAMODYOG BHAVANS

*310. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

- (a) the total proceeds of Khadi and Khadi goods sold in Khadi Gramodyog Bhavans run by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission in the various States during the years 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58; and
- (b) whether the Commission is able to meet the demand for Khadi goods in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) A statement containing the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXII Annexure No. 32.]

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(b) By and large, the demand for Khadi goods has been satisfactorily met by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

Drop in Indian Exports to U.K.

- *315. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that there has been a drop in India's exports to the United Kingdom during the first half of the current year;
- (b) if so, what is the value of such a drop in terms of rupees;
- (c) what are the major items in which the decline has been most pronounced; and
- (d) what are the reasons for the decline?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COM-MERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) to (c). Exports to the U.K. during the first five months of 1958, for which statistics are available, were lower than those during the corresponding period of 1957. A statement giving comparative figures is laid on the Table of the House.

(d) A fall in demand and decline in prices in commodity markets as well as competition from other supplying countries are the main factors for the drop in the value of India's exports.

STATEMENT

Exports of principal Indian commodities to the United Kingdom

Commodity	January-May 1957	January-May 1958
	(Value in Rs. lakhs)	
Cashew kernel	67	30
Coffee	38	25
Tea	2,860	2,242
Tobacco unma factured	nu- 611	805
Hides and skir (raw)	18 2I	26
Wool raw	208	122
Cotton raw	69	30