

बाणिज्य और उद्योग मंत्री (श्री टी० टी० कृष्णामाचारी) : (क) जी, नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

f [THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.]

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Are there any other firms which have come out with such schemes?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: There are.

#### COAL PRODUCTION TARGET UNDER SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN

\*643. SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Will the Minister for PRODUCTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the target for increased production of coal under the second Five Year Plan has been fixed or is under consideration; and

(b) how much of the proposed increased output has been allocated to (i) the private, and (ii) the public sectors, respectively?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR PRODUCTION (SHRI SATISH CHANDRA): (a) and (b). It has been proposed in consultation with the Planning Commission that the target of additional production of coal should be 23 million tons of coal annually by the end of the second Five Year Plan period, bringing the total production to 60 million tons annually. The allocation of the increased output between the private and public sectors has not yet been finally decided upon.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Has the hon. Minister's attention been drawn to a report which has appeared in the press that the allocation for the public sector is likely to be of the order of 15 million tons? Is there any truth in that statement?

tEnglish translation.

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The proposal is being considered and *no* final decision has been taken.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Has the Government taken any decision as to whether they will allow private mines to be worked during the second Five Year Plan?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: That too has to be decided.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Has the Government considered the question of setting up a Coal Commission a's recommended by the Estimates Committee?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: The report of the Estimates Committee has been received only very recently. The proposal is under consideration.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: May I know whether even apart from the report, the setting up of a Coal Commission has been under the consideration of the Government?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: All questions relating to the Coal Industry are at present under consideration. The question of setting up a Coal Commission is also being examined and a decision is likely to be taken shortly.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: If an additional 23 million tons has been decided upon, may I know what the proportion will be in the increase in the output of metallurgical coal?

SHRI SATISH CHANDRA: I require notice,

•644. [For answer vide cols. 4999-5002 infra.]

#### SHOW-ROOMS FOR HANDLOOM INDUSTRY

•645. SHRIMATI BEDAVATI BURAGOHAIN: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to refer to paragraph I at page 6 of the Report on Cottage Industries, 1954-1955 and state:

(a) the number of show-rooms for handloom industry and the names of the places where they are proposed to be opened in the country; and

(b) the amount of money that has so far been sanctioned State-wise and the amount spent out of it State-wise in this respect?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) In addition to the show-rooms at Bombay and Madras referred to in the Report, a show-room each will be opened at Calcutta, Nagpur, Gwalior, Banaras, Hyderabad, Trivandrum, Rajkot, Cuttack, Andhra and Assam.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, Annexure No. 125.]

SHRIMATI BEDAVATI BURAGOHAIN: May I know why no money has been spent in Hyderabad, Trivandrum, Rajkot, Cuttack, etc.?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: We have just made a beginning.

SHRIMATI BEDAVATI BURAGOHAIN: Will the unspent money lapse or will it continue to be at their disposal in future?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Technically it might lapse, but the money is placed at the disposal of the State Governments from year to year.

SHRIMATI BEDAVATI BURAGOHAIN: May I know about the other states? Will they have showrooms and, if so, when?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: It is rather difficult to say. After all we can have a target only for one year. What will happen next year will depend on the recommendations of the Handloom Board.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: How many show-rooms are there in foreign countries?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I will require notice.

#### PRICES OF TEA, COFFEE AND SOAP

\*646. DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether representations have been made by the public to Government that they should bring down the prices for home consumption of tea and coffee to equalise with, lower prices of food stuffs; and

(b) what effective steps Government intend to take to stop this continuous rise in the prices of essential commodities like tea, coffee and soap?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR) : (a) No such representation has been received in the recent past.

(b) Government do not accept the argument that there has been an unreasonable rise in the price of the articles mentioned as correct.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: May I know by what percentage the price of tea and coffee has risen in the course of the last 4 years?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I should like to have notice. I may also inform the hon. Member that there are publications in the library in which these prices are given week by week.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Since the hon. Minister has said that there has been no unreasonable rise in the price of these articles, may I know whether he is not aware that the price of coffee has risen from one rupee to four rupees and the price of tea has risen from 10 annas to Rs. 2/8—this for the lowest quality of tea and coffee—and whether he does not consider these prices as unreasonably high?