

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** How many have been granted?

**Seth Govind Das:** Is the hon. Minister aware that the persons who come from East Pakistan are generally in the Sealdah station at Calcutta and their number is sometimes even up to 12,000 to 14,000, there is a big crowd there, and that there is dirtiness there? Is any effort being made to rehabilitate these persons who come from East Pakistan to Calcutta?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** May I say something about it? What the hon. Member says is largely correct. It is most unfortunate. On several occasions, in the past years, Sealdah station has been cleared and these people were taken to camps, etc. The last time it was cleared—I am not sure of the date—was, I think, in November last. Subsequently it was filled up, and then cleared. It has not been filled up again. But ever since November, the rate of refugees coming from Pakistan is relatively low. I should think that the number was much because of the others who have gone there. A census was taken one, some kind of census, of people there. It appeared that 56 per cent of those at Sealdah station then were not refugees at all. Most of the others were refugees who had been taken away sometimes to camps, sometimes to other places, and they had come back. It is a mixture. This is the difficulty to be faced, when non-refugees come. We removed them at every time and put them in camps. So Sealdah station becomes a kind of way, a camp, for doles for all kinds of people, even for those who are not refugees. This is the difficulty.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri D. C. Sharma.

**Raja Mahendra Pratap:** May I know from the hon. Prime Minister—

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member must observe the rules of procedure here.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if any meetings at ministerial level have been held in order to discuss this problem of exodus and, if so, when was the last meeting held?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** There have been several meetings previously, but I do not think there has been a meeting in the last year and a half or more, maybe a year and nine months. But so far as the exodus question is concerned, the hon. Members would have noted that the actual exodus has fallen much below the previous figures.

**Raja Mahendra Pratap:** Is the hon. Prime Minister aware—

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question. I have allowed a number of questions on this.

**Shri Jadhav:** It is very difficult to catch your eye on this side.

**Mr. Speaker:** A number of Members catch my eye on this side also.

#### Government Hostels

\*1519. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large amount of rent due from the residents of the Government hostels maintained in New Delhi is in arrears since long;

(b) if so, the extent of such arrears;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps that have been taken by Government to realize them?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) and (b). The amount due for recovery at the end of December 1957 was Rs. 96,994. As the average of monthly assessment totals Rs. 41,045 and the dues for one month are recovered in the succeeding month, the real arrears may be reckoned as Rs. 55,949. Arrears to the extent of Rs. 39,299 relate to the years 1955-56 and 1956-57 and the rest to earlier years.

(c) The bulk of the arrears are in fact paper arrears because intimation of recovery by the Accounts Officers of the respective Government allottees have not been received by the Estate Office.

(d) Department-wise lists of arrears are being prepared and an officer has been placed on special duty to have details of recovery noted by personal contact with the Departments concerned.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know what methods have been adopted by Government to recover these arrears—whether they are penal or otherwise?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** If you scrutinise, the arrears are not really of a very big nature. During the last six years, the total rents came up to a little over Rs. 29 lakhs, and the collection was Rs. 28,20,000. If you leave out one month's rent, the arrears come to about Rs. 55,000, that is, less than two per cent. We have appointed a Special Officer who is making personal contact with the various Ministries so that the arrears may be expeditiously recovered.

**Shri Liladhar Kotoki:** May I know whether these arrears are good debts or bad debts, that is whether there is any difficulty for their realisation?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** Actually, they are not real arrears. We think so as most of them are because of paper adjustments not having been made yet.

#### Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills, Ltd.

\*1520. **Shri Goray:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 2 on the 11th February, 1958 and state whether the Committee appointed to inquire into the affairs of the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills Ltd. and some other mills have since submitted its report?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo):** No, Sir.

**Shri Goray:** Is it a fact that the Somani Committee which was appointed in September last year has not yet found time to visit Sholapur?

**Shri Kanungo:** I do not know. They are expected to submit their report by the end of this month. It is not necessary to visit Sholapur for investigation.

**Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Is not the Government loan to this particular mill outstanding for a considerable time, and may I know what steps the Government have taken to realise it and what are the chances?

**Shri Kanungo:** The company has paid the interest up-to-date. The total outstanding debts stand there, and we stand in the same position as any other creditor.

**Shri Goray:** In view of the fact that the Government have extended Rs. 1 crore to this company and also in view of the fact that about Rs. 50 lakhs from the provident fund of the workers was not deposited in the Government treasury in time according to the rules, may I know what steps Government contemplate to take against this company?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):** The condition is fairly bad in so far as this mill is concerned in every respect and I would like the House to wait for a little time more. That committee would be submitting its report by the end of this month. There are complicated problems and it would be advisable to wait for the report; then we will gladly take the House into confidence.

**Shri Goray:** Have the Government received any representation or any scheme from the workers themselves?

**Shri Kanungo:** The Bombay Government is considering certain schemes.

**Shri Heda:** Under the new arrangement, a successful mill-owner from Bombay was put in charge of this mill. May I know whether Government have assessed his working and what is their assessment?