

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I wish I could tell the hon. Member, I have said that it is a scheme which requires to be looked into and examined and I am hoping that all the surplus population that we have got in West Bengal may be taken to this area. (*Interruptions*). I am talking about the refugee population.

Shri Goray: May I know the method of selection?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I have got 3,50,000 persons in camps today and I give topmost priority to the camp inmates.

Textile Industry in Bombay

*7. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether he had any discussions with the Chief Minister of Bombay on the growing crisis in the Textile Industry;

(b) if so, the decisions taken; and

(c) whether similar discussion is likely to take place with the Chief Minister of U.P.?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) There was a general review of the situation in the textile industry arising out of the closure of shifts or establishments but no decisions were taken. As the situation has to be kept under constant review the Labour Ministry has set up an Inter-departmental working group to study the problem and make suggestions to deal with such situations.

(c) The situation in U.P. is being watched and if necessity arises the matter will be discussed with the Chief Minister of U.P.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether this crisis is genuine or created by some interested agencies to sabotage our production target in the Second Plan and also force the workers to accept rationalisation and wage freeze under threats of retrenchment and closure?

Shri Abid Ali: No such complaints have been received.

Shri Jadhav: What is the total number of employees thrown out of employment?

Shri Abid Ali: About 20,000.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether the Government has any idea of the productivity of labour per unit in the textile industry in the last two years? Has it increased or decreased?

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): This does not arise out of it but I may inform the hon. Member that it is very difficult to measure precisely the changes in productivity. But, there is evidence that it has improved.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In view of the fact that there is this crisis as the hon. Member has pointed out and there are forced retrenchments and so on, what are the reasons for these? Has productivity of labour decreased or has the tempo in the country gone down?

Shri Nanda: In the case of some units regarding which we have some information about closure, the decision is mostly because they are uneconomical units. It may be the accumulated effect of mismanagement in the past or the condition of the machinery. They cannot be run with profit.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: How many people are effected by this crisis in Bombay?

Shri Abid Ali: As I have said the total affected is 20,000. For Bombay it will be about 9,700.

Shri Senavane: As a result of the general review with the Chief Minister of Bombay, what steps are contemplated to be taken to start the Sholapur Spinning and Weaving Mills where more than 5,000 employees have been thrown out of employment?

Shri Nanda: This question is being repeated and I think the Commerce and Industry Ministry have also been

dealing with it. So far as this particular mill is concerned, there were several proposals which were being considered but my information is that no definite decision has been taken.

Shri Sonavane: The Government of Bombay have taken a decision to start the Narsing Girji Mills while no similar steps have been taken in the case of the Sholapur Mills. Why?

Shri Nanda: That has already been answered. So far as the other mill is concerned, it is under liquidation proceedings and so action could not be taken. In this case it is not applicable.

Indians in Burma

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 *9. { **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:**
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri V. C. Shukla:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 559 on the 27th November, 1957 and state the result of representation made by the Indian Ambassador in Rangoon to the Burmese Government in regard to the Burmese Immigration and Registration of Foreigners Acts?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): Informal assurance has been given by the Burmese Government that while technically the power to take the ultimate decision will be conferred on the Deputy Commissioner of the district, each case will be reviewed by the Ministry at the highest level before it is submitted to the Deputy Commissioner for decision.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Is it true that the Burmese Emigration rules are very strictly applied by the lower officials and therefore, these difficulties have arisen?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I cannot say anything about it, without a definite enquiry.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: In view of the remittance difficulties experienced by the Indians who have taken up Burmese citizenship, may I know whether the Government have approached the Burma Government to see that those citizens are allowed to take their dependents in India to Burma?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We are constantly dealing with these day-to-day matters. There are certain individual cases which arise. Two friendly governments try to accommodate each other as far as possible. I do not quite know what answer to give.

Mr. Speaker: Is it as a matter of policy that the hon. Member wants to suggest?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: There are Indians who have taken up Burmese citizenship and some of their dependents are here in India, and these people are experiencing difficulties. My point was, whether the Government of India have approached the Burmese Government to allow those Burmese citizens to take their dependents from India to Burma and, if so, what has been the reaction of the Burmese Government.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Will the hon. Member tell me of a case? I shall enquire. I cannot answer a vague question like that. Dependents—what does "dependants" mean? I do not understand it.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Parents.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Parents? Parents normally are not dependants. It is the people who depend upon them.

Shri V. C. Shukla: There is an Indian village, half the portion of which lies in the Burmese territory. May I know what is the position of the citizens of that village, the inhabitants of that village, or rather, that portion of the village, which lies in the territory of Burma?