

(b) whether Government are also aware that for this reason most of the people of Tripura specially the displaced persons are experiencing great difficulties; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government of India have taken up the matter with the Government of Pakistan, urging them to reconsider their decision. Their reply is awaited.

Low Income Group Housing Scheme

***304 Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government of Punjab have requested the Central Government for increase of funds to assist the Low Income Group Housing Scheme recently,

(b) whether Government have considered this request,

(c) if so, with what results, and

(d) the total extra amount to be given to Punjab in this regard?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K C Reddy): (a) Yes, Sir. The Punjab Government have requested that their allocation of Rs. 86.75 lakhs during 1957-58 be increased to Rs. 90.00 lakhs,

(b) to (d) The State Government's request has been considered and it might be possible to make a further allocation out of the surrenders resulting from other housing schemes, provided substantial disbursements are made by the State Government during the remaining months of the financial year 1957-58. The State Government had an amount of about Rs. 35.00 lakhs lying undistributed with them at the end of December, 1957.

Cement Factory, Mirzapur

***305** { **Shri Raghubir Sahai:**
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:
Dr Sushila Nayar:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Uttar Pradesh Government approached the Centre for the grant of an import licence to proceed with the expansion of the Cement Factory at Mirzapur,

(b) if so, when, and

(c) the reasons why the licence has not been granted so far?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) September, 1957

(c) The grant of licence has since been approved

Jute Mills

***306** { **Shri A. K Gopalan:**
Shri S M Banerjee:
Shri Jagdish Awasthi:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of jute mills closed during 1956-57 and upto the end of November, 1957, and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to run those mills?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Six

(b) No particular steps are proposed to be taken by Government, as the loom hours of all but one mill have been transferred to other working mills

Open General Licences

***307 Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of India have decided