

Board considered this question on our suggestion and unanimously decided—the workers' representatives are on the Board and they are a party to this unanimous decision—that this question should be withheld till the piece rate system is introduced; the piece rate system is going to be introduced in the very near future

Shri Tangamani: In Madras, 1350 workers have been decasualised. In view of the large number of workers required, will Government consider the question of increasing the number of decasualised workers?

Shri Abid Ali: The Board thinks that even this number they are employing will not be necessary when the piece-rate system is introduced

Ambar Charkha Production

*625. **Shri Damani:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) how many Co-operative societies have been organised to take up Ambar Charkha production up to the period ended 31st March, 1957, and

(b) which State has taken a lead in carrying out the Ambar Charkha production programme with Co-operatives in accordance with the recommendations of the Ambar Charkha Enquiry Committee?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b) Ten Co-operative societies have been organised upto the period ending 31st March, 1957, in the following States

Bombay	6
Delhi	1
Mysore	2
Rajasthan	1

Shri Damani: May I ask what is the monthly production in quantity and in value?

Shri Kanungo: I am sorry I have not got the figures

Shri Damani: How many people are engaged and what is their income?

Shri Kanungo: As I have mentioned, these societies have been incorporated within this year because the practice of the Khadi Board and Commission has been to operate through registered associations. Now, they are changing over to this new pattern and therefore details of their production, wages and all that are not available yet.

Shri Ranga: Are Government aware of the fact that there are so many Ambar Charkhas which have been produced in the hope that they would all be purchased by the Khadi Commission or Board and yet the Commission is not in a position to purchase them in view of the various formalities they have themselves formulated and which they have not been able to get over?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): I do not know of any such condition, it is a new thing that I am hearing that some private people are manufacturing Ambar Charkhas and they are not being taken

Shri Ranga: Even after the Khadi Commission had given an assurance that they would be prepared to purchase these charkhas, they have given up the purchase and they have not made payments and so production is being held up. Will the Government enquire into that?

Shri Morarji Desai: I cannot make a rambling enquiry. If any specific instances are given, I will make an enquiry.

Shri Ranga: In New Delhi itself He may make enquiries

Mr. Speaker: The hon Member should give instances

Shri Ranga: They can ask the Commission whether they are able to purchase

Mr. Speaker: Why not the Member also take the trouble? If hon. Mem-

bers get to know something which has not come to the notice of the hon. Minister, nobody need stand on prestige. It is their duty to write to the Minister; they should communicate with the Ministers.

Shri Morarji Desai: I shall enquire.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What is the reason for many of the States not yet having taken to the work of organising co-operative societies for the production of Ambar Charkhas?

Shri Kanungo: The programme of organising co-operative societies has been taken up only this year, because, as I said earlier, the work was being carried through societies registered under the Societies Registration Act.

Reclamation of Land

*626. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount spent on reclamation of land per acre for refugee rehabilitation in States outside West Bengal; and

(b) what has been the price per acre of land paid to acquire the lands of Belliah Raj Estate already distributed to displaced persons?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna**): (a) Reclamation cost per acre varies from place to place depending on the type of land to be reclaimed.

(b) For cultivated land—Rs. 600 per acre.

For uncultivated land—Rs 400 per acre.

For culturable Waste land—Rs 50 per acre.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know what is the amount of loan

which is granted for buying agricultural land in Bengal under the Agricultural Loan Scheme?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: The schemes are sent to us by the State Governments and the reclamation costs, as I said just now, vary from place to place.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The hon Minister has not understood my question. There is a particular scheme known as the Land Purchase Loan Scheme. What is the amount granted by way of land purchasing loan for lands within Bengal?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member, probably, wants to know what percentage of the cost of acquisition is given.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I will put it in another way The hon Minister is unable to understand my question May I know whether the loan given for an acre of land to be got inside Bengal is lower than the average cost borne by Government for acquiring or reclaiming an acre of land outside Bengal?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I fully followed the question Lands are of different kinds; cultivated land, uncultivated land, marginal land and sub-marginal land The price varies in each place If any particular case is brought to my notice, I shall be able to give the information.

Mr. Speaker: I believe what the hon. Member wants to know is whether the full price of the land is given by way of loan or any portion of it and the balance has to be found by the person who wants to purchase it.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Under our scheme, the land is purchased either by the State Government directly or by the refugee; and, as far as I know, the entire price is given in the shape of loan.