

**Sardar Majithia:** As I said, Sir, they are given in the brochure and if only the hon. Member cares to read that, he can get the information.

#### REQUISITIONING OF AREA IN NEW ALIPORE

\*373. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether in or about 1942, a large area in the suburbs of Calcutta known as New Alipore was requisitioned from its owner, the Hindustan Co-operative Insurance Society Limited, by the Defence Department of Government;

(b) whether Government are aware that before acquisition small plots in the said area had already been allotted for building purposes to a large number of purchasers belonging mostly to the middle classes; and

(c) if so, what steps, if any, are being taken to de-requisition the entire area, so that the said allottees may no longer be prevented from proceeding with their building schemes?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) 83 acres of land owned by the Hindustan Co-operative Insurance Society were requisitioned for defence purposes in 1942.

(b) Government of India have no record of this but, from representations received, the area appears to have been allotted in small plots by the owner.

(c) Out of 83 acres originally requisitioned 28.71 acres have already been de-requisitioned. The remaining area is partly occupied by displaced persons from East Bengal since 1-7-48 and partly by Defence Services. It has not been possible to evict the displaced persons as the State Government has been unable to find alternative accommodation. The portion occupied by the Defence Services will be vacated as soon as alternative accommodation is found.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** In view of the answer, may I ask the hon. Minister whether any real relief has actually accrued to the displaced persons from East Bengal who are alleged to have taken possession of this particular area, and may I also know if Government will expedite the vacating of this area as far as the middle class allottees of certain portions of the land from the Hindustan Co-operative Insurance Society Ltd., are concerned?

**Sardar Majithia:** Obviously, the people staying there do get relief. About vacating the premises, it is the Government of Bengal who has to do it and not the Government of India.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** May I know if the Government of West Bengal is responsible for the up-keep of these areas which are now in the possession of the displaced persons from East Bengal?

**Sardar Majithia:** Government of West Bengal looks after. . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid, this question may be put to the Rehabilitation Ministry—that is better—and not to the Defence department.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether the Central Government are at least proposing to re-allot those places to the original occupants as and when possible?

**Sardar Majithia:** The question will be considered when the time comes.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** Is it a fact that those portions of land which have been occupied by the refugees have been transferred to the West Bengal Government?

**Sardar Majithia:** That is not a fact; they are still with the Government of India.

#### RURAL ECONOMY

\*374. **Shri M. E. Krishna:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how far has the Reserve Bank of India expanded its operations to cover the rural economy through co-operative Banks?

(b) What is the total number of villages that are benefited with these credit facilities?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) The progressive expansion of the Reserve Bank's operations in the field of rural credit is indicated by the fact that the loans and advances made by it to State Co-operative Banks which amounted to Rs. 31.5 lakhs in 1946-47 increased to Rs. 622.20 lakhs in 1948-49 and amounted to as much as Rs. 1251.33 lakhs in 1951-52.

A brief account of the Reserve Bank's activities in the sphere of rural finance is given in paragraphs 45 to 52 of the Annual Report of the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank for the year ended 30th June 1952, a copy of which is available in the Parliament Library.

(b) The Reserve Bank make loans and advances to the Apex Co-operative Banks and not to District or Primary institutions. It is, therefore, not possible to indicate the number of villages that have been benefited by the credit facilities afforded by the Reserve Bank.

**Shri M. R. Krishna:** Are there any Banks besides in Bombay and Madras for which the Reserve Bank has advanced finances?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** Yes, in Madras, Bombay, U.P., Vindhya Pradesh, Orissa, West Bengal, Ajmer-Merwara. Certain other Central Co-operative Banks are being re-organised in other States too.

#### ELECTION PETITIONS

\*375. **Shri N. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Election petitions so far disposed of by Election Tribunals after the last Election; and

(b) the number of Election petitions pending at present in respect of Parliamentary and State Legislature constituencies?

**The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas):** (a) Upto the 10th November 1952, 21 election petitions have been disposed of by Election Tribunals.

(b) The number pending is 295, of which 31 are in respect of Parliamentary constituencies and 264 are in respect of State Legislature constituencies.

**Shri N. P. Sinha:** May I inquire the names of such persons who have been unseated already?

**Shri Biswas:** That was a part of the question. That part was disallowed. Am I required to answer that?

**Mr. Speaker:** No. The information is, easily available from the Government Gazette. The names are published.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know the number of tribunals that are working in India?

**Shri Biswas:** I cannot give the number offhand. I believe that question was answered here.

**Shri Velayudham:** May I know whether any time limit is set for the disposal of these cases in a particular tribunal?

**Shri Biswas:** No, Sir. As a matter of fact, one single tribunal may be in charge of a number of cases. They have got to adopt a time table according to the requirements of those cases.

**Shri S. V. L. Narasimham:** How many election petitions have been allowed?

**Shri Biswas:** Having regard to the information I have regarding Members unseated, I would only hazard a guess: seven.

#### FLOODS IN MANIPUR

\*376. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state:

(a) the area and extent of the ravage caused by the recent floods in Manipur;

(b) the damage caused to the standing crops;

(c) how many houses were washed away or destroyed;

(d) the number of people who were rendered homeless;

(e) the relief so far given by Government; and

(f) whether Government propose to render monetary help in the form of relief to the flood-stricken people?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) to (f). About 40,000 acres of land with standing crops were inundated by the recent floods. Eightyfive huts are reported to have been destroyed. Exact figures of those rendered homeless are being compiled; but most of them have been able to obtain shelter with their relatives. Steps for immediate relief were taken promptly. Food-stuffs have been distributed to those affected and the Government have incurred an expenditure of about Rs. 7000/- for relief so far. A full report on the subject is expected shortly from the Chief Commissioner.

**Shri L. J. Singh:** The hon. Minister for Food and Agriculture told the House the other day that 4,000 maunds of rice had been sent to Manipur for relief to the distressed people. May I know why, instead of rice, maize was distributed to the flood-stricken people in these areas?

**Dr. Katju:** I want notice of this question. May I add that I propose to visit Manipur towards the end of this month, and would try to look into the whole of this question and the question of relief to the people