

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): We are perfectly prepared to consider it if formally made because, through press, it is no offer. It is a vague statement. We are perfectly prepared to consider these matters if it is seriously meant.

Sardar Hukam Singh: This offer is being made because there are no Hindus there.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is so.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Some time back some figures were published and it was found that the number of migrations from Pakistan to Assam, was increasing. In view of this fact may I know what is the number of intending evacuees from Pakistan?

Shri A. P. Jain: This does not apply to the East including Assam.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING SCHEME

*537. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** (a) Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state whether the allotment of funds under the Industrial Housing Scheme has been made to the various States and if so how?

(b) What, if any, are the decisions taken by the Housing Conference held in August, 1952?

(c) Have they been implemented?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Schemes, as they are received from the State Governments, are examined and allocations are made equitably, keeping in view the needs of industrial labour in the various States and the total available provision. An allocation of Rs. 18,75,000/- 50 per cent. as subsidy and 50 per cent. as loan has been made to the Government of Saurashtra recently. A similar allocation of the order of 75 lakhs for U.P. and 25 lakhs for Madhya Bharat is expected to be made shortly.

(b) and (c). All the conclusions reached at the Conference have been incorporated in the Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme. There has been only one variation in that the cost of the multi-storeyed one-roomed tenement has been raised where the high cost of land necessitates such a course from the figure of Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 4,500 only and not Rs. 5,000 as recommended by the Conference.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, how many types of houses are there for the various income groups in the scheme and have the Government given any direction regarding

the cost and the model of the houses to be built under the scheme?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am afraid the question is too much involved but if I understood the hon. Member correctly, there are two parts of it. One is as to whether we have laid down any specific model. On that, Sir, we insisted on certain minimum standard of comfort and alterations in design suiting local conditions were allowed. The other part of the question with regard to the various low income groups this scheme is confined to industrial housing as I have already stated.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know what are the conditions under which payments shall be made to the respective States?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Payments would be made in accordance with the progress made in construction.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know what will be the nature and control exercised by the Centre? Has any arrangement been made to see that the construction is made according to the model set up by the Centre?.....

Sardar Swaran Singh: The extent of control and the nature thereof is clearly laid down in the scheme, a copy of which has already been laid on the Table of the House. With regard to the control on the construction thereof, the Centre does not propose to exercise day-to-day control but will depend upon the construction agency employed by the various State Governments.

Shri Sinhasan Singh: What will be the agency—will it be the Public Works Department of the Union or the State concerned, or will they be given the right to build their own buildings on the model made by the Government?

Sardar Swaran Singh: So far as the industrial concerns are concerned, they will not be compelled to make use of the construction agency of the State Public Works Department. As a matter of fact, it will not be possible for the PWD or the State Governments to undertake the construction on behalf of various industrial concerns. But if the tenements are to be put up by the State Governments, it will be for them to utilise either the PWD agency or some other method according to the local conditions or according to their own rules.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Last year when such a scheme was made, the tea industry did not make any application.

May I know if this year any application has been made by the tea industry?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not know whether there was any such scheme last year. So far as I know this scheme has been introduced for the first time. Therefore such a question really does not arise. As to whether any specific application has been made by any tea concern, I cannot say because that does not arise out of this question.

Shri Punnoose: The hon. Minister stated that certain allocations have been made or are being made to certain States. May I know whether any allocation has been made to the Travancore-Cochin State or whether any application has been received from that State?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I may tell the hon. Member through you, Sir, that no application had been received from the Travancore-Cochin Government. But, one of the Central Ministers actually went on tour there and he contacted the Travancore-Cochin Government to find out if they had any scheme. We have also sent a formal communication to them, asking them to send up any scheme if they are interested.

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question.

RUBBER PRICES

*538. **Shri C. R. Iyyunni:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the present price of rubber in the world market?

(b) What is the present price of rubber in India?

(c) What is the quantity of rubber used in India for the manufacture of rubber goods (i) cycle tyres; (ii) motor tyres; and (iii) other goods?

(d) Are the prices of these goods controlled?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 17.]

(d) No, Sir.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: May I know whether the prices ruling in Singapore is the determining factor regarding the market price of world rubber?

Shri Karmarkar: It is taken as one of the representative prices, outside India.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: What are the other factors?

Shri Karmarkar: I did not say factors; I said, it is one of the representative prices outside India.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: What are the other prices?

Shri Karmarkar: Other world prices at different trading centres.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the Government are in possession of any statistics as regards the cost of production of rubber in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): This matter was investigated by the Tariff Commission and the present price of Rs. 138 per 100 pounds has been fixed on their recommendation. It must be pretty obvious to hon. Members that the Tariff Commission must have had adequate figures and statistics at their disposal for coming to this conclusion.

Shri C. R. Iyyunni: May I know whether representations were not made to the Minister of Commerce and Industry last year when the market price was Rs. 300 per 100 pounds to increase the price of Rs. 122-8-0 a little more?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: All these representations have been made from time to time by the concerned interests. Every time a representation was made, the matter has been referred to the authority which is competent to pronounce an opinion. On the last occasion, the Tariff Board went into the matter and fixed the price. On receipt of further representation, Government had referred the matter again to the Tariff Commission and the present price is the result of their enquiry.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know what is the difference between the world market prices of rubber and the price fixed by the Government of India recently?

Shri Karmarkar: The difference is given in the statement. The world price of rubber as on 7th November, 1952 was Rs. 123-5 for 100 lbs. of R.M.A. 1 rubber FOB Singapore. The Indian price of rubber, as my hon. friend may know, is Rs. 138 per 100 lbs. of R.M.A. 1 rubber FOB Cochin.

Shri A. V. Thomas: Is it not a fact that the price recommended by the Tariff Commission has been accepted by the producers of rubber for a period of 3 years?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: That is so; that is my information, any way.

Mr. Speaker: Next question?