

LOANS TO DISPLACED PERSONS

*1174. **Shri Veeraswamy:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rs. 2½ crores have been sanctioned for rural loans to displaced persons from East Bengal during the current year;

(b) if so, the number of persons benefited by this loan; and

(c) the number of Scheduled Caste agriculturists who have been benefited by this loan?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) A sum of Rs. 2.62 crores has been sanctioned as rehabilitation loans of all kinds to the States of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, during the first quarter of the current financial year.

(b) 49,628 families are estimated to be benefited in West Bengal. Figures for Assam and Tripura are being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The information is not available.

DEVELOPMENT OF N.E.F. AGENCY

*1175. **Shri Amjad Ali:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the amount allotted for the development of the North East Frontier Agency has been sanctioned for the current year?

(b) Is the air-dropping of food supplies in inaccessible areas there still continuing?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH PAKISTAN

*1176. **Shri Amjad Ali:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the current trade agreement between India and Pakistan is going to be extended for a further period; and

(b) if so, till when?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). There are two Agreements regulating the Indo-Pakistan trade, one covering Jute and Coal which is not expiring and the other a short-term agreement for a few more commodities which is due to expire at the end of this month. It is not possible to say at this stage whether the latter Agreement will be extended or not.

TEXTILE ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

*1177. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what are the States which the Textile Enquiry Committee has visited and whether any statistics regarding handloom industry have been collected?

(b) What is the estimated production of the industry?

(c) What is the estimated stock of unsold goods?

(d) How long will the enquiry go on?

(e) When is the Committee expected to submit its report?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) to (c). The Committee has visited Madras, Mysore, Bombay, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal and Assam. The Committee will be collecting such statistical information as is necessary and available on these and other points.

(d) and (e). The Committee is expected to submit its Report early next year.

CONTROL ON CLOTH

*1178. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what is the extent of control now regarding distribution, and prices of yarn and cloth?

(b) How have the recent relaxations affected the production of hand-loom cloth and employment of weavers?

(c) Has the reservation announced by Government some months ago benefited the hand-loom industry to any extent?