

Scheduled Castes and other backward classes appointed in the All India Radio?

**Dr. Keskar:** The hon. Member has not understood my reply. First it must be defined as to who is a backward class person and that can be clarified only when the report of the Commission comes. Certain tribes and castes are labelled as backward but until the report comes, it is not possible for us to say that a particular person belongs to backward class.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** May I know if it is the policy of the Government of India to appoint some persons belonging to the backward classes in the All India Radio?

**Dr. Keskar:** It is the policy to appoint such people not only in the All India Radio but in other Departments also. But the real question is: who are backward?

**Shri Kelappan:** The list of Scheduled Castes and Tribes given by the Government of India includes the backward classes also.

**Mr. Speaker:** The question here relates to backward classes. It does not refer to Scheduled Castes.

**Shri Kelappan:** The list contains a section giving the backward classes also and this Commission is only going to revise it.

**Dr. Keskar:** He wants to know about the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes but the main question relates to backward classes. I will try to find out that.

### हथकरघा उद्योग का विकास

\*१६८. डा० सत्यबाबी : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पंजाब सरकार ने हथकरघा उद्योग के विकास की एक योजना अखिल भारतीय हथकरघा बोर्ड को भेजी है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**  
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Grants and loans totalling Rs. 5,80,394/- have been sanctioned to the State Government for implementing the schemes during 1954-55.

### SODA ASH

\*169. **Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Soda Ash is being extracted from the Bittern lying waste in huge heaps at Sambhar Lake;

(b) if so, with what results;

(c) whether it is a commercial proposition; and

(d) if so, what quantity is expected to be obtained out of it and of what value?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**  
(a) to (d). So far as Government are aware, Soda ash is not being recovered from bitterns lying at Sambhar Lake.

**Shri Balwant Sinha Mehta:** How do Government propose to meet the requirements of the country?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** There are two factories which are producing soda ash; the balance is now being imported. There are proposals for setting up other factories and a special officer is going round for suggesting suitable sites.

### OVER STAYAL OF PAKISTANIS IN U. P.

\*170. **Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Pakistanis who came to U. P. from Pakistan on temporary permits in the years 1951 to 1954; and

(b) the number who over-stayed the period of their permits in India?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

**Shri M. L. Agrawal:** Can we expect the information during this Session?

**Shri Sadath Ali Khan:** Quite likely.

#### DISPLACED PERSONS TOWNSHIPS AND COLONIES

**\*171. Sardar Lal Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in the case of new townships, colonies and other shelters built by Government for the benefit of the displaced persons, the declared policy of Government has all along been to charge the actual cost from the displaced persons on "No-profit no-loss" basis; and

(b) if so, whether Government now propose to give up the above policy and charge the displaced persons on the basis of the present market value of the property?

**The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle):** (a) and (b). Where houses were sold under the rehabilitation scheme to displaced persons in the past, the actual cost was charged. It is not intended to change the price of houses already sold whether on outright payment of the price or on instalment basis. Under the Compensations Scheme, it is proposed that the houses should be transferred in ownership to the occupants and the fair value adjusted against the compensation, if any.

**Sardar Lal Singh:** Am I to take it that Government have no intention of going back on their promise made to refugees in regard to the price or mode of payment for the houses already allotted to them; if so, would Government give wide publicity to this effect among the refugees to allay nervousness on this score?

**Shri J. K. Bhonsle:** Yes, certainly.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether this policy applies to the displaced persons coming to West Bengal from East Pakistan viz. giving houses to refugees on no-profit-no-loss basis?

**Shri J. K. Bhonsle:** This scheme is not applicable to the East.

#### FLOOR RATE OF COTTON

**\*172. Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the floor rate of cotton is proposed to be reduced by Rs. 50 with effect from the coming cotton season; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):**

(a) It has been decided to reduce the floor price of cotton for the season 1954-55 by Rs. 55/- per candy.

(b) The floor price has been reduced keeping in view the price level of other competing crops.

**Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** May I know if the Indian Central Cotton Committee was consulted in this matter, and if so, what was its view in this regard?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The Committee made recommendations that the price should continue at the old level.

**Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** May I know whether the reduction of this floor rate will result in the reduction of cotton market price for the next season?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Might be; it is expected that there might be a slight reduction.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The hon. Minister while answering question No. 142 said that the Forward Marketing Commission has sent its report in respect