

**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

of cotton. May I know whether this decision to reduce the floor price of cotton by Rs. 50 or Rs. 55 has been taken on the basis of the recommendations of the Forward Marketing Commission or by the Government independently?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** No, Sir; definitely not.

#### REHABILITATION OF EAST PAKISTAN DISPLACED PERSONS

\*173. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have prepared any new plan for the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan; and

(b) if so, the main features of the plan?

**The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle):** (a) and (b). No new plan, as such, for the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan has been prepared. However, the working of the existing relief and rehabilitation measures in West Bengal was examined by the Committee of Ministers who have laid down the lines of future policy in regard to relief and rehabilitation schemes in West Bengal and measures for their effective implementation. These decisions are being implemented in West Bengal and will wherever necessary, also be applied *mutatis mutandis* to the other States in the Eastern Region. A copy of the Report of the Committee of Ministers has already been circulated to all the members of the Parliament.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** May I know, in preparing these schemes, whether Government have consulted representatives of the refugees, refugee organisations etc.

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

#### ENGINEERING INDUSTRIES CAPACITY COMMITTEE

\*174. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Engineering Industries Capacity Committee has submitted its report; and

(b) what are the reasons for the non-utilisation of the installed capacity of industrial plants in the private and public sectors?

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

(a) The survey of the engineering industries by the Committee is with a view to advise Government regarding utilisation of existing capacity and also for purposes of expansion wherever such extension is possible. The Committee is not expected to submit a report in the conventional form, but it gives its impression and advice to Government on specific problems which are referred to it from time to time.

(b) Estimate of installed capacity and the non-utilisation of this capacity can only be dealt with in regard to specific units.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether Government is aware that in certain sections of the engineering industry at present there is idle capacity up to the extent of 60 per cent?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** If the hon. Member indicates precisely the section, I might be able to answer it in the affirmative or in the negative.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether Government have asked the Committee to enquire into the idle capacity of the industry section by section in these engineering industries?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Certain industries, yes. Not all industries.

**Shri Bansal:** May I know if this Committee has submitted any preliminary or interim reports to Government and if it is the intention of Government to lay them on the Table of