

August, 1954. Action on matters concerned with the State Governments has already been taken or initiated by the Governments concerned. The main recommendation with which the Central Government is concerned is with regard to the setting up of a machinery for financing the marginal gardens. This recommendation is under consideration.

INDIAN EMBASSY AT PRAGUE

*591. **Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to certain complaints against Indian Embassy at Prague, made by Sri J. C. Kumarappa which appeared in certain sections of the Indian Press; and

(b) whether instructions have been issued to Indian Embassies abroad to assist Indian Nationals when they are in need of their assistance?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) Yes. Government have received a detailed report from their Embassy in Prague and are satisfied that the allegations made have no substance and are uncharitable. Dr. Kumarappa arrived in Prague unannounced and without a Czech entry visa. The Embassy had not been informed about his arrival. Nevertheless, they extended every facility they could to him and even succeeded in getting some visas for him which are normally not issued at short notice. Dr. Kumarappa had apparently gone to Europe at the instance of some Peace Committee whose guest he was and who were supposed to look after him. It appears that the Peace Committee were not very successful in the arrangements they made.

(b) Instructions were issued to our Missions abroad in January 1949 to render all possible assistance to Indian nationals visiting their areas. But such assistance can only be rendered satisfactorily if intimation is sent to the Missions of the visit and of the facilities required.

PLASTIC INDUSTRY

*592. **Shri Dhusiya:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Plastic Industry is a protected industry; and

(b) whether plastic manufactures are of the standard recognized by the Indian Standards Institution?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Only two sections of the Plastic Industry are protected viz., (i) Phenol formaldehyde molding powder and (ii) electrical accessories made of plastic.

(b) No standard specifications for plastic goods have yet been formulated. The Indian Standards Institution have, however, set up a Sectional Committee for formulating standards for Phenolic Moulding Powders both for general and electrical purposes.

If the term "Plastic material" is, however, taken in a wide sense so as to include rubber insulated cables, wiring accessories, lac, shellac, etc., the Indian Standards Institution has laid down standards for these products which are being followed by the industry.

INVITATION TO THE KING OF CAMBODIA

*593. **Shri Madhao Reddi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether an invitation has been extended to the King of Cambodia to visit India in the near future?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): The Prime Minister extended a personal invitation to the King of Cambodia during his recent visit to Cambodia.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING SCHEME, MALHYA PRADESH

*594. { **Shri N. A. Borkar:**
Mulla Abdulla Bhai:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question

No. 853 asked on the 13th September, 1954 and state:

(a) the total number of houses constructed under the Industrial Housing Scheme during the last three years in the State of Madhya Pradesh;

(b) the total number of the houses occupied by the workers during the said period; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the workers are not occupying the houses due to the high rent fixed by the Housing Board?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):

(a) Out of a total 1,000 tenements sanctioned during 1951-52 to 1953-54, 100 units have been completed in all respects; 292 are complete except for water and sewer connections and 50, nearing completion, will be ready for occupation soon. The remaining 558 tenements are at various stages of construction.

(b) 100 tenements have been occupied.

(c) No, Sir; The rents do not exceed the maxima prescribed by the Govt. of India.

PASHMINA WOOL

***595. Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether in spite of the ban on the export of *Pashmina* wool, it is being exported by postal parcels and other means to U.S.A.; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to check its export?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The export of *pashmina* wool was banned from 14th June 1951 except in the case of exports by post parcel. On a further review, the ban has been extended to exports by post also with effect from 30th November 1954.

SURPLUS DEFENCE STORES

***598. Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 1739 asked on the 12th April, 1954 and state:

(a) whether any surplus defence stores were disposed of by private negotiations during the current year;

(b) if so, the value thereof; and

(c) the total value of surplus defence stores still in hand?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 31,800.

(c) Rs. 30.12 crores (Book value) as on 31st October 1954.

भूमि विकास सुधार

***509. श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न राज्यों में भूमि सुधार संबंधी कार्यक्रमों को कार्यान्वित करने के लिये प्रशासनीय और विकास संगठन स्थापित करने की दिशा में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) क्या भूमि सुधार में चाब लेने वाले और आयोग की समिति को सलाह देने के लिये तैयार गैरसरकारी लोगों की एक सूची तैयार की गई है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उन व्यक्तियों के नाम क्या हैं ?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) State Governments carry out their land reform programmes through their revenue administrations and the appropriate departments.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.