

(b) whether Government have agreed to give a loan to the Bombay Corporation for the construction work; and

(c) if so, what amount of money have Government agreed to give as loan?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c). Government of India have offered to give a loan of Rs. 45 lakhs to the Bombay Corporation for the construction of about 900 tenements for displaced persons on land belonging to the Corporation in Kolwada. The proposal is now under the consideration of the Corporation.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know, Sir, if it is the policy of Government to replace the house building loans to refugees by entering into joint enterprises with private building companies?

Shri A. P. Jain: Well, if there is a suitable company, Government will have no objection.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the refugees themselves have come forward to construct these houses on a joint stock company basis?

Shri A. P. Jain: The type of structure which we are going to put up there is beyond the refugees to put up.

IRANIAN PRESS DELEGATION

*435. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Government of India have invited an Iranian Press delegation to tour India?

(b) If so, when is that delegation likely to arrive?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) No definite date has been fixed. But the delegation, probably consisting of five representatives of the Iranian Press, may be expected in India in November 1952.

INDIANS TAKEN PRISONERS IN TIBET

*436. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some Indians were taken prisoners by the advancing Chinese troops in Tibet?

(b) If so, how many Indians were taken prisoners by the Chinese troops?

(c) How many of them have so far been released?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Yes.

(b) Four who were employees of the Tibetan Government.

(c) All the four have been released.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: May I know, Sir, whether the Chinese Government has tendered an apology for having done so?

Shri Satish Chandra: I do not think, Sir, that there has been any apology.

COMMITTEES AND BOARDS

*437. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the number and names of statutory, ad-hoc and departmental Committees or Boards that were set up under his Ministry during 1951 and 1952 so far giving their functions; and

(b) the number and names of the statutory, ad-hoc and departmental committees that have submitted their reports during the period?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). It appears to me that the hon. Member refers to committees or boards set up statutorily or otherwise, for the purpose of submitting reports on specific issues referred to them. No such committee has been constituted in 1951, or 1952 up-to-date. But a team of officers has been recently entrusted with an enquiry into the conditions of the tea industry.

I, however, place on the Table of the House a statement showing the committees and boards appointed in 1951 or 1952 with somewhat different functions. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 11.]

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the Indian Cottage Industries Export Committee which was expected to submit its report during 1951, has submitted its report?

Shri Karmarkar: The Cottage Industries Board is continuing to exist, but it was not constituted to submit any report on any particular subject as such. It meets once in six months and it considers.

Shri S. N. Das: I want to know whether the Indian Cottage Industries Export Committee has submitted its report. I am not referring to the Cottage Industries Board.

Shri Karmarkar: There is a sub-committee under the Cottage Industries Board, I suppose with four members, functioning with a view to promote export of cottage industries products. But, so far as I know, there was no question of submitting any report. It meets and decides.

Shri S. N. Das: In a reply given to a question of mine during 1951, and in the statement which was laid on the Table of the House, it was stated that this Committee would finish its work at an early date in 1951. The Committee was appointed on the 10th June 1950, and it was expected to submit its report by 10th June 1951.

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to find out that information; the hon. Member has confused the matter.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the Development Committee on Industries, appointed for Labour specially, on the 1st February 1951, still continues to exist or has been abolished?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): May I make a submission, Sir, in this connection. If the hon. Member had put down a specific question in regard to the Committees about which he wants information, he could have had it. As it is, the question is of an omnibus nature, and we could not really find out what the hon. Member had in mind. That is why the answer given has been rather vague. We have given only such information as is available to us. If the hon. Member puts down a specific question in regard to the Committee which he has in mind, we shall certainly try to furnish the information required.

EXPORT OF MONKEYS

*445. **Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether the progress in export of monkeys to foreign countries by sea has been maintained?

(b) If so, what are the figures for 1950-51, and 1951-52?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes,

(b) 23,257 and 47,185 monkeys were exported in 1950-51 and 1951-52 respectively. May I also add, Sir, that I am happy over the fact that the hon. Member's interest in the subject is continuous.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is there any country which is competing with us in this trade?

GOODS HELD UP AT PORT SAID

*446. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that goods belonging to the Indian merchants shipped to India from Greece, Turkey and other countries are often held up at Port Said; and

(b) what steps, if any, Government have taken in the matter?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Only once to our knowledge, have goods been held up at Port Said. This was in October 1951 on account of a labour strike there due to the strained relations between Egypt and the United Kingdom. These goods had been unloaded at Port Said for transhipment eastwards and westwards. There was no discrimination against goods destined for India. Goods in direct transit were not held up at all.

(b) As soon as the Government came to know about the delay in the transhipment of goods at Port Said they took up the matter with the Egyptian Government in order to make some special arrangement for the goods destined for India. Before long the strike came to an end and goods began to be shipped on as usual.

FOREIGN SETTLEMENTS IN INDIA

*447. **Shri P. T. Chacko:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are at present taking any steps in regard to the merger of Foreign Settlements in India; and

(b) the attitude of the Foreign Governments concerned regarding the transfer of these Settlements to India?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) I invite the attention of the hon. Member to my reply to question No. 1434 on the 1st October 1951 in the last Parliament. Since then a report of some neutral observers sent by the French Government to the