

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: This is merely a question of closing down of one of the shifts. Subject to correction, I believe that the Textile Commissioner is kept informed of the intention of the closure. That is how we know about it.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the mills, before closing down the shifts, are required to take the approval of the Textile Commissioner?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not so far as I am aware.

Shri T. N. Singh: May I know whether the reason for the closing down of the shifts or for the giving of notice for closing down the shifts was extra production or the failure of the mills to distribute the goods produced in time and properly?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: In the case of one mill, I think they anticipated shortage of coal supply. In the case of most of the other mills, roughly about 43 of them, the difficulty they faced was because of the slump. The offtake had slowed down. State nominees refused to lift the goods and the mills feared that further production at the same rate would lead to a lot of investment of capital which it would not be possible for them to clear in the near future. That is the reason why they issued those notices.

Shri T. N. Singh: Was the failure of the State nominees to lift the goods due to the fact that they did not get the goods they wanted, or was it due to the fact they had no purchasing power and there was also no demand?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I think my hon. friend is right in assuming that both factors have operated, but today those factors have ceased to operate. The mills have not closed down. Goods are moving and we are merely discussing a thing which might have happened but has not happened luckily.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether any mill in South India, say in Madras, Coimbatore or Madurai, has threatened to close down or has already closed down?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I should like to have notice.

Shri Tushar Chatterjee: May I know whether Government have taken notice of the fact that the mills have closed down the shifts to create pressure and force the price of cloth to go up?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Not so far as we are aware.

Shri K. K. Basu: May I know whether the Government have any machinery for verifying the reasons given by the mill owners for closing down the shifts?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: We are in close touch with the industry. In fact, it is our duty to see that mills are not closed and production is kept up. The Textile Commissioner has adequate machinery at his disposal to cover the contingency that the hon. Member has in mind.

D. V. C.

*743. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendation of the Estimates Committee (Fifth Report) regarding the appointment of a Committee to investigate into the work done by the Rehabilitation and Development Department of the Damodar Valley Corporation, has been examined; and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken in this respect?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The recommendation is under examination of Government.

(b) No decision has yet been taken.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know the progress made in regard to rehabilitation and development, and also whether the same is commensurate with the money expended on it?

Shri Nanda: This same question is under examination. I may inform the hon. Member that the expenditure on rehabilitation and development on 31st March, 1952 was Rs. 18 lakhs and 45 thousand.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know the number of persons who have been uprooted as a result of the operation of this project and how many of these uprooted persons have so far been rehabilitated?

Shri Nanda: I require notice.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Is it a fact that many of the houses constructed gave way even before they were fit for occupation?

Shri Nanda: The whole question is under examination and as soon as that examination is over, the information will be supplied.

Dr. M. M. Das: May I know whether the report of Mr. Gorwala, who was asked by the Central Government to investigate into all the departments of the D.V.C., has been considered by the Government?

Shri Nanda: There was no specific reference regarding the D.V.C. to Mr. Gorwala.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know the average cost of the land per acre as reclaimed by this department and the price as compared to the prevailing price in Bihar?

Shri Nanda: The question relates to the operations under the Rehabilitation Department and there were some recommendations and remarks made in the Estimates Committee's report. All that material is under examination.

BOKARO THERMAL STATION

*744. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Estimates Committee (Fifth Report) regarding the early completion of the Bokaro Thermal Station and also giving higher priority to flood control and irrigation work have been examined by Government; and

(b) if so, what decisions have been taken on them?

The Minister of Planning and River Valley Schemes (Shri Nanda): (a) The recommendation is under examination of Government.

(b) No decision has yet been taken.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether steps are being taken to expedite the work on the Thermal Station?

Shri Nanda: Yes, Sir. The work is progressing very satisfactorily.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: May I know whether this part of the project is likely to be completed according to the schedule or before the schedule or after the schedule?

Shri Nanda: It is expected to be completed by early next year.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know when the flood control work will begin?

Shri Nanda: This is not connected with the question of the Thermal Station.

JOURNALISTIC AND CULTURAL DELEGATIONS

*745. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) how many official and non-official journalistic and cultural delegations

were sent to different countries in 1951-52;

(b) how the experiences gained by the delegations were utilised;

(c) the total expenditure incurred for delegations; and

(d) how many foreign journalists or parties of journalists visited India in 1951-52, and how their welfare was attended to?

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

(a) No delegation of journalists was sent by the Government of India to any country during the year. Five Cultural Delegations, sponsored by the Government of India, were sent in the course of the year. There were some non-official delegations about which no accurate information is available. The latter were not financed by the Government of India.

(b) The object of sending delegations is to promote better understanding between India and the countries visited. In this respect Government consider that the object was served.

(c) A little over Rs. two lakhs.

(d) It is not possible to give a correct figure of all the foreign journalists who have visited India during this period. Many of them did not seek Government's assistance in any way and hence are not included in our records. According to official records, 87 foreign journalists visited India in 1951-52.

Government invited a group of Turkish Journalists and these were treated as official guests during their stay in India.

All foreign journalists who sought Government's assistance were given help in establishing contacts, interviewing prominent people and visiting places of interest. Some were also entertained socially in order to enable them to meet Indian journalists and others.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether an invitation for sending journalistic delegations to India was sent to Iran?

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It has been sent.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any invitations from other countries have come to us?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I cannot answer that precisely. They might have come, but I am not aware at the moment.