

appointed their own nominees to import salt from the salt sources and distribute it to their approved retailers. In other States the import and distribution of salt are effected through the normal trade channels.

(b) The Government of India have not appointed any nominees for the distribution of salt. The internal distribution of salt within each State is the responsibility of the State Government.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No separate establishment is maintained by Government exclusively for the distribution of salt. The annual expenditure on staff for distribution work may however be estimated at about Rs. 2 lacs.

(e) Government do not at present contemplate any change in the existing system of distribution.

PLOTS FOR DISPLACED PERSONS IN MANIPUR

*1926. **Shri L. J. Singh:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government took or are taking steps to allot plots in and around the Imphal town, to the middle class displaced persons in Manipur; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the local people have protested against any such allotment?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

EAST AFRICAN COTTON (ALLOCATION)

*1927. **Shri S. G. Parikh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that textile mills were asked to state their requirements of East African Cotton before negotiations were initiated for the bulk purchases by the Joint Chief Controller of Imports;

(b) whether it is a fact that after purchase of the same, instead of allocating it on the basis of needs the Joint Chief Controller of Imports allocated it on the principle of average consumption;

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative what were the reasons for this decision;

(d) whether Government are aware that the change in the policy of allocation of East African Cotton has created

resentment and has affected production of the relevant variety of cloth; and

(e) what steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Yes; but only those mills that received allocations of East African cotton during the last season were so asked.

(b) Yes; allocations were made on the basis of average consumption of like varieties of cotton during the three years 1946-47, 1947-48 and 1948-49.

(c) There has been no departure from the procedure followed last season.

(d) and (e). Do not arise in view of answer to part (c).

STATE PURCHASE CORPORATION

*1928. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Supply** be pleased to state:

(a) when Government propose to set up a State Purchase Corporation;

(b) at what stage the proposal is at present;

(c) when they propose to finalise it; and

(d) what is the proposed composition of the Corporation?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swan Singh): The matter is under consideration of the Government of India.

MINES BOARDS OF HEALTH

*1929. **Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Labour** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Hyderabad have since enacted legislation on the lines of Bihar and Orissa Mining Settlement Act, 1930;

(b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether Mines Boards of Health have been constituted at Kothagudium and Bellampalli?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) No; they are examining that question.

(b) Does not arise.

छोटे रेशे वाले कपास के दाम

*१९३०. श्री चण्डक : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बतलाने की कृपा