

[**Giani G. S. Musafir:** Can the Government consider supplying more arms to the people living in the border areas so that they may protect themselves effectively?]

**Mr. Speaker:** I am afraid these are all suggestions.

#### QUARTERS FOR DISPLACED GOVERNMENT SERVANTS

\*96. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Production and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced Government servants to whom residences were provided by the Estate Office during 1951-52; and

(b) the number of applications received during this period for provision of accommodation?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) 654.

(b) 2,162.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** May I know the number of displaced government servants that still require to be rehabilitated and provided with residences?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** There is no question of rehabilitating them. Government is doing everything possible to give accommodation to displaced government servants.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** What is the number that require residences now—that is, the number pending before Government?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** That number is 1,958.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** Do Government undertake to provide residences to everyone of them?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Government is doing its best to provide accommodation for all of them. They were first accorded a preferential treatment, but from 29th February last that preferential treatment is no longer applicable and they have to take their chance along with other government servants.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** What is the number that might be given accommodation during this year, that is 1952-53?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** That is covered by the reply that has been given. There are no separate figures available from 1st January till the last date

which is asked in the question. But I may add that the overall position of these displaced government servants who are still unprovided as compared to government servants in general is quite favourable and there is no real hardship so far as these displaced government servants are concerned.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know how long Government proposes to take in order to provide residences for these 2,000 people?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I have replied that the number of government servants in general who are still unprovided with government accommodation is pretty large and the proportion of unprovided displaced government servants does not compare unfavourably with the other government servants in general who are still unprovided with government accommodation.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** Do Government consider other government servants at par with displaced persons who have no home in India?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** Government has never considered them at par—in fact Government has afforded them greater facilities. There was a time when allotment to general government servants was entirely stopped and all the accommodation was being allotted to displaced government servants. Then they were accorded preferential treatment for a certain length of period, every fifth vacancy going over to a displaced government servant. By adopting these methods the position has greatly improved and as at present advised there is no need for according a preferential treatment. But the matter is still being examined and if anything requires to be done it will certainly be done.

#### TELEPHONE CABLES FACTORY

\*97. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Works, Production and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) how far the construction of a telephone cables factory at Mihijam has progressed up till 31st March, 1952;

(b) when the equipment is likely to arrive on the spot; and

(c) when it is expected to start production?

**The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain):** (a) to (c). The construction of Factory and residential Buildings are in progress. The orders for the purchase of plant and machinery have

been placed and the equipment is expected to be received by the end of the current year. The factory, it is anticipated, will start production by the middle of 1953.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** Is the construction to depend entirely on foreign imports or are we purchasing some at present also?

**Shri Buragohain:** The position is as stated by the hon. Member. We have to depend entirely on imports.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** What was the amount of foreign exchange that was exhausted on this particular item during the last year?

**Shri Buragohain:** India's requirements are estimated at a value of about Rs. 80 lakhs in a year.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** Is the contract with the Standard Telephone Cables Company simply for the construction of this factory or would they have any further interest in the running as well?

**Shri Buragohain:** According to the agreement the consultants will prepare the drawings, designs and estimates etc., for the erection of the factory, supervise its erection, provide engineers at their cost for initial construction period and take special responsibility for putting into service the plant and machinery erected. They will also supply technical information required for the manufacture and train Indian personnel in their works in the United Kingdom.

**Shri A. V. Thomas:** Is it the intention of the Government to instal telephones and provide public call offices in all the post offices in India?

**Shri Buragohain:** How does it arise out of this question?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** Will it be a purely Government factory or the Standard Telephone Cables Company will also have some interest in it?

**Shri Buragohain:** It will be a purely Government factory, but the company will earn some royalty on the sales.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** What will be the rate of the royalty?

**Shri Buragohain:** Two per cent. on the sales.

#### INDIANS PENALISED IN SOUTH AFRICA

\*98. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of Indians who have so far

been penalized by the Government of South Africa for participating in the passive resistance movement against the Apartheid policy of that Government?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra):** According to the Government of India's information, the proposed passive resistance movement by the African National Congress and the South African Indian Congress has not yet started, though meetings and demonstrations were held by these two organisations on the sixth April, 1952, in different parts of South Africa, to record their protest against racial laws.

**पंडित ए० आर० शास्त्री :** क्या

सरकार कृपा करके यह बतायेगी कि दक्षिण अफ्रीका में भारतीयों के प्रति जो दुर्व्यवहार हो रहा है उसको रोकने के लिये सरकार ने कोई कार्यवाही की है या नहीं, और अगर की है तो क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

[**Pandit A. R. Shastri:** Would the Government be kind enough to inform the House whether they have taken any steps to prevent the bad treatment being meted out to Indians in South Africa; if they have taken any steps, what are they?]

**श्री सतीश चन्द्र :** यह एक दूसरी गवर्नमेंट का मामला है। वहां के लोगों की जो स्ट्रगल है गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया की मारल सपोर्ट ही उसके साथ हो सकती है।

[**Shri Satish Chandra:** Another Government is involved in the matter. The Government of India's moral support is with the people's struggle there.]

**सेठ गोविन्द दास :** जो आन्दोलन दक्षिण अफ्रीका में चल रहा है उसकी निस्वतः क्या भारतीय सरकार के पास वहां की कांग्रेस समय समय पर कोई रिपोर्ट भेजती है और इस रिपोर्ट से क्या इस बात का भी पता लगता है कि वहां के इस आन्दोलन में वहां के मूल निवासी कितनी दूर तक भाग ले रहे हैं ?

[**Seth Govind Das:** Does the South African Indian Congress send any reports to the Government of India in connection with the movement going