

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) House building loans in urban colonies are given in accordance with the Government orders issued on the 7th September 1950, a copy of which is laid on the Table [See Appendix I, annexure No. 30].

Such loans for rural areas range between Rs. 300 and Rs. 1,000 per family according to the requirements of the particular locality.

Small loans for setting up in business or trade are given in urban areas up to a maximum of Rs. 5,000 and in rural areas up to Rs. 800.

(b) and (c). Loans for business or trade are normally given in a lump sum. Loans for house building are given in instalments and as far as possible in the shape of building materials. Payment of instalments depends upon the progress of construction.

Shri A. C. Guha: Has the Government received any complaint that the intervening period between the two instalments has sometimes been as long as one year or two years?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes. Some complaints were received, not exactly that the intervening period has been one year but that it has been fairly long.

Shri A. C. Guha: Is it possible to construct a house when the instalments are given at such a long interval?

Mr. Speaker: This is distinctly a matter of opinion. Next Question.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Question 110.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I understand that this question has been transferred to my colleague the Finance Minister.

Mr. Speaker: I never called Question 110. I was going to call 111, when the hon. Member miscalled 110.

Anyhow, Question 111.

Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay: Yes, Sir.

EFFECT OF SLUMP ON PRODUCTION

***111. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** (a) Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how far the recent slump in the commodity markets has affected the production of commodities?

(b) What steps have Government taken to prevent the adverse effects of the slump on production?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) It is too early to assess the effect on production of the fall in prices of certain commodities.

(b) A close watch is being kept on the situation. Whenever a fall or expected fall in prices results in accumulation of stocks which threaten to hamper production, suitable relaxations are being made in the administration of controls where they exist.

Government have also taken steps to buy cotton at flour prices already announced.

Shri P. C. Bose: May I know whether in the hon. Minister's opinion this is a slight recession in prices or a slump?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: It is a matter of nomenclature. I do not dispute the right of my hon. friend to call it a slight recession in prices.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether it is a fact that due to the slump, there is a reduction of working hours and also a reduction of the shifts for the workers in the textile industry in various mills in Bombay, Ahmedabad etc.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: There have been notices of possible reduction of shifts, but no serious reduction has taken place.

Shri Nambiar: May I know the number of employees who are affected or who will be affected within a short time?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: This question has been answered on a previous day. I believe that the number of employees affected either by reason of reduction of shifts or of closure of mills all over India is in the region of 5,000.

EXTRADITION TREATY BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

***112. Dr. M. M. Das:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Extradition Treaty has been concluded between India and Pakistan after India became a Republic;

(b) if not, the reasons why such a treaty has not been concluded;

(c) the total number of persons wanted by India who have fled to Pakistan and cannot be got owing to the absence of an Extradition Treaty; and

(d) the number of persons required by Pakistan from India?