

Zone. Government are not aware of the number of houses constructed by displaced persons outside these colonies. In the Western Zone, the number of houses constructed upto 1st April, 1952 is 93,203.

(f) 17,047. In addition, 37,000 plots have been allotted to displaced persons for private construction of houses.

Shri S. C. Samanta: With reference to parts (b) and (c) of the answer, may I know how many houses were built or are under construction by the Government itself?

Shri A. P. Jain: At present, no houses are under construction by the Government. As regards the number of houses that have already been built by Government, I should require notice.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether Government has in contemplation any scheme that four-storeyed buildings will be built in the old Alipore Aerodrome and each flat will be charged Rs. 1200 for rent purposes?

Shri A. P. Jain: The question of putting up buildings on the site occupied by the Alipore Aerodrome is under consideration. Beyond that, I am not prepared to commit myself.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many squatters' colonies have been removed and other colonies constructed for them?

Shri A. P. Jain: No squatters' colony has so far been removed. In regard to squatters' colonies, the policy is that where the value of the land to which the squatter is entitled to be allotted, if he was a regular allottee, is below a certain ceiling limit in value, that colony will be regularised and the land acquired there.

Shri S. C. Samanta: We were informed that Rs. 500 were given as housing loan for building on the site. May I know whether Government would consider the desirability of increasing the amount as it is impossible to construct a house for Rs. 500.

Shri A. P. Jain: In the rural areas, a sum of Rs. 500 is given for the construction of a house. Besides, a sum of Rs. 75 is given for the purchase of a site. That amount is quite sufficient to put up a single room hut in the rural areas.

IONOSPHERIC STUDIES

*2041. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state what are the results of the studies made by the Research Department of the All-India Radio in 1951-52?

(b) Has special equipment for ionospheric studies been built up?

(c) If so, what was the cost involved and how is it working?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) A statement showing the results of studies made by the Research Department in 1951-52 is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 10].

(b) Yes. An automatic ionospheric recorder covering the range 0.5-20 Mc/S was built by the Research Department.

(c) The approximate cost of the components used is about Rs. 5000. The recorder is on field test and is working satisfactorily. The experience gained during the field tests indicates the desirability of some improvements which are being effected.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether the equipment for testing the soil conductivity and atmospheric noise has been completed and how it is working?

Dr. Keskar: It is nearing completion. Sir.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, what place India has acquired as a contributor to the world pool for the supply of ionospheric data?

Dr. Keskar: It is too technical a question for me to answer off-hand. If my hon. friend will put a specific question, I shall certainly give an answer.

Shri S. C. Samanta: My question was whether anything special has also been done in comparison with those instruments used in other countries.

Dr. Keskar: The equipment and the amount of money available for us to do research in this particular line, if it is compared with other countries which are doing the same thing, is very much less, and though whatever research we may have done has been not only of use to us, but some of the results of the experiments have been conveyed to people outside. I am not able to say off-hand what place it occupies in international experiments in the ionospheric sphere.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether economy measures have in any way affected the experiments on ionosphere?

Dr. Keskar: Very much so, Sir.