

whether this gift has been received in the form of buildings or lands and when the same is expected to be used?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Sir, a gift has been received. It is an old building which has not yet been used.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** In regard to part (c) of the question it is stated under item (v) that a sum of Rs. 1,25,000 will be utilized on the purchase of furniture for newly acquired or newly constructed buildings. May I know whether this amount is for all Missions or for particular Missions?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** This relates to all buildings which have been recently acquired or constructed, of course all over.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know when the construction work at Karachi is expected to be completed, and how much we are spending at present?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I just stated that we are spending Rs. 4 lakhs this year. The total cost of the project is Rs. 24 lakhs. It is proposed to spread this work over a period of three to four years.

#### FULIA TOWNSHIP

\*195. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the building programme in the new refugee township at Fulia in West Bengal has been completed;

(b) how many houses have been constructed;

(c) how much has been spent up-to-date on roads, waterworks, power houses, hospitals, parks and agriculture; and

(d) the population of the township as on 31st March, 1952?

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Not yet.

(b) 600.

(c) Roads—Rs. 55,780.

Water Works—Rs. 34,392.

Power House—Rs. 61,000.

Hospital—Rs. 35,000.

Parks (including Arboriculture)—Rs. 2,500.

Agriculture—Rs. 75,000.

(d) The population of the Township as on 31st March, 1952?—2,478.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the construction work at Fulia is being carried on by government agency or by displaced persons themselves with the help of materials?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** By government agency through the displaced persons.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know what percentage of the population is expected to be given accommodation towards the end of 1952?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Percentage of what?

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** Of accommodation.

**Shri A. P. Jain:** The entire accommodation will be placed at the disposal of displaced persons and they will be placed in these houses.

**Shri B. K. Das:** In view of the fact that this township is being developed on the lines of Nilokheri, may I know by what time full development will be effected on those lines?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** It is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

#### JUTE MILLS IN WEST BENGAL

\*196. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of working jute mills in West Bengal;

(b) the amount of capital invested in the jute mills with special reference to foreign capital;

(c) the number of officers and workers working in those mills during December, 1951; and

(d) the names of mills that use jute substitutes also?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) 101.

(b) Total paid up capital is about Rs. 28.33 crores and the total working capital is about Rs. 51.86 crores. Information about splitting up between foreign and Indian capital is not available.

(c) 2,73,000.

(d) No Indian mills are known to be using substitute fibres.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether any foreign capital has been transferred since 1947?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I would like to have notice.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether there is any jute mill which produces purely from jute substitutes these goods?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** The answer is contained in part (d) of the reply: "No Indian Mills are known to be using any substitutes."

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** Is it not a fact that these substitutes are being mixed with jute and goods are made?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** It all depends on what my hon. friend means by 'substitutes'. If it is the intention of hon. Member that we should give him particulars about the mixing of lower grade jute with better quality jute, it is a different matter altogether and we have not got exact information. But so far as the information which Government have in their possession no substitutes are being used.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** I am referring to mesta, hemp, etc.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Mesta and Bimli which are lower grade jute are categorized as jute; they are not categorized as substitutes.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May I know whether there is reduction of the working hours since American stock pilling had ceased?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I would like to have notice.

**Shri Tushar Chatterjea:** May I ask whether the number of officers and workers working in the mills in December 1951 are more or less than the corresponding figure in the previous year?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** In the first place I could not quite catch what the question is and from what I have understood of the question, I may say in reply that I have not got the information.

**Mr. Speaker:** I do not know whether this question will be admissible. The hon. Member wants to know whether he has information about the number of people employed and whether their number is now less or greater than what it was previously.

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I have already said that I have no information.

#### AGRICULTURAL LABOUR

\*199. **Shri Balmiki:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the States where minimum wages have been fixed for agricultural labourers under the Minimum Wages Act 1948; and

(b) what other steps are being taken by the Government of India to improve the conditions of agricultural labour?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948, minimum rates of wages for agricultural workers have been fixed in the States of Punjab, Delhi, Ajmer and Kutch and in the Patna District of Bihar.

(b) I would invite the attention of the hon. Member to the statement laid on the Table of the House on the 1st October, 1951, which contains an account of the steps taken by the Government of India and the State Governments for the uplift of agricultural and other labour of rural areas. I may, however, add that this is a matter primarily for the State Governments.

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** किन किन प्रदेशों में मिनिमम वॉजेज कमेटियां बनाई गई हैं और उनमें से किन किन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट गवर्नमेंट के सामने पेश की है ?

**[Shri Balmiki:** In which States have the minimum wage committees been appointed and which of them have submitted their reports to the Government?]

**Shri V. V. Giri:** The Government of India have been in constant touch with the State Governments and the State Governments have appointed Advisory Committees and they have sent some tentative reports, and as soon as all the reports are with us, we shall certainly place it for the information of the Members.

**श्री बाल्मीकी :** खेतिहर मजदूरों की कम से कम मजदूरी निर्धारित करने के लिए उन कमेटियों का क्या सुझाव है ?

**[Shri Balmiki:** What recommendation has been made by those Committees with respect to the fixation of a minimum wage for agricultural labour?]

**Shri V. V. Giri:** I would invite the hon. Member to read the report that is