

number of families are leaving the colony?

(b) Is it a fact that due to the above reason, some of the workshop machines are lying idle?

(c) If the reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative what are the reasons therefor?

(d) What was the population of the Nilokheri Colony as on the 1st November in 1949, 1950, 1951 and 1952?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No census for the population was taken in the month of November, 1949, 1950, 1951. Nor has a census been taken during the current month. The census of the population at Nilokheri was however, taken in August, 1950, March, 1951 and January, 1952 when the population was found to be 6131, 6287 and 6315 respectively.

MIGRATION FROM EAST PAKISTAN

*274. Shri Beli Ram Das: (a) Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of migrants from and to East Pakistan for the last six months, month by month?

(b) What are the reasons for East Bengal displaced persons to come out from that country and again almost equal numbers of migrants to go back to East Pakistan?

(c) What step do Government propose to take to stop such to and fro movement of Bengalee displaced persons?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 11.]

(b) The reasons presumably are:—

- (i) a feeling of insecurity,
- (ii) deteriorating economic conditions, and

(iii) apprehension at the introduction of the passport system and fear that this might lead to restriction of travel.

(c) The introduction of the passport system has greatly reduced the movement between East Pakistan and West Bengal, Assam and Tripura. At the same time, under the passport system,

there is considerable freedom of travel, though there are checks. Steps have been taken by the Governments of India and Pakistan to reassure the minorities that the passport system is not intended to restrict freedom of movement. The Central Minority Ministers of both countries have conducted a joint tour for the purpose of removing misconceptions in regard to the passport system.

HOUSES FOR WORKERS IN JUTE INDUSTRY

*275. Shri Tushar Chatterjea: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India are aware of the housing problem of the workers in the Jute Industry;

(b) whether the Government of India have any scheme for construction of houses in this area either directly or in collaboration with the Indian Jute Mills Association; and

(c) whether there was any discussion between the Government of India and the Indian Jute Mills Association on this subject?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes: Government are aware that the worker in the jute industry are in no way better off than the workers in other industries.

(b) The Government have plans for the construction of industrial houses in accordance with the Subsidised Housing Scheme. State Governments, employers and industrial co-operatives are expected, under this scheme, to build houses for the workers and Government are confident that the workers in the Jute industry will take advantage of the Scheme.

(c) No.

JUTE PRODUCTS

*276. Shri Balmiki: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken to improve the quality of jute articles?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I would invite the hon. Member's attention to the answer given by me on the 27th May 1952 to part (c) of his starred question No. 200.

PRICE OF PETROL IN ASSAM

*277. Shri Beli Ram Das: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state what is the

amount of revenue derived in various shapes by the Central and State Governments from Petrol in the last five years?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh): I place on the Table of the House two Statements. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 12.] Statement No. I shows the revenues derived from petrol by the Central Government and the Assam Government during the last five years. Statement No. II contains the same information so far as available about the other State Governments.

ELECTRICITY FOR RAILWAYS AND INDUSTRIES

*278. **Shri Krishna Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state whether it is planned to utilise electric power made available from the various river valley projects now under construction on development of industries and Railway electrification?

(b) How has it been planned to utilise the power that would be available from Mandi, Mach-Kund and Damodar Valley schemes under the above two heads?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The electric power made available from river valley projects under construction will be utilised almost entirely for development of industries, domestic consumption in urban and rural areas and for agricultural purposes. Power for railway electrification can, however, be made available from the D. V. Project, the Rihand Project in the U. P., the Bhakra-Nangal Project in the Punjab and the Tungabhadra Project, further stages of Pykara and Papanasam and the Periyar and Kundah Schemes in Madras.

(b) The electric power from the three projects will be utilised in the following manner:

Mandi.—No project of this nomenclature is under construction in the Punjab. Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to the Bhakra Nangal Project. This project provides for the electrification of all industrial undertakings in the State which are at present being run by oil or steam, and for further development of industries. Though power can be made available for railways, there is no proposal for railway electrification in the project area.

Machkund.—This project is a joint undertaking of the States of Madras and Orissa. The load forecast on the Madras side includes demands from industries such as ship building, cement, jute, textiles, sugar, groundnuts, etc. The needs of Srikakulam, Visakhapatnam, East Godavari, West Godavari, Krishna and Guntur Districts now served by thermal stations will be met by power from this project. In Orissa, power will be utilised to meet the requirements of existing industries such as rice mills, oil mills, vegetable ghee factory, sugar mill, etc. and development of new industries such as manufacture of ferro-manganese, spinning and weaving mills, paper and pulp making plant, etc. No railway electrification is proposed in the area served by this project.

Damodar Valley Project.—Power from this project will be supplied for the development of the following industries:

- (1) Iron & Steel;
- (2) Coal mining;
- (3) Mica mining and Mica processes;
- (4) Engineering industries;
- (5) Bicycle manufacture;
- (6) Copper smelting;
- (7) Aluminium;
- (8) Refractories and Glass; and
- (9) Heavy chemicals.

There is no proposal at present for electrification of railways in the Damodar Valley area.

LIGNITE COAL IN MADRAS

*279. **Shri Krishna Chandra:** (a) Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state whether a deposit of Lignite coal, one of the best varieties, has been discovered in enormous quantity in South Arcot district of Madras State?

(b) Has any method been found to work this precious coal mine and of tapping the water above and below the huge Lignite layer to irrigate the barren neighbouring country?

(c) Have the Government of India decided to help the Madras Government in providing a pilot plant for working this Lignite deposit?

(d) What progress has been made in the matter so far?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Yes. According to the data collected so far by the Madras Government, the lignite field