

LAND REFORM

*409. **Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission have assessed the effect of the Bhoodan Movement on their policy of land reforms; and

(b) if so, what is the expected effect thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) and (b). The Planning Commission endeavours to keep in touch with the progress of the 'Bhoodan' movement, but has not had occasion to make a first hand and detailed assessment of its working or its effects.

Shri Heda: May I know whether there is any frequent exchange of views between the Government and the Planning Commission on the one hand the leaders of the Bhoodan Movement on the other?

The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda): Yes, there is frequent exchange of views between Members of the Planning Commission and the workers referred to by the hon. Member.

Shri Heda: In view of the fact that many State Governments have fixed ceilings and what they call economic or family holding, was the question discussed with the leaders of the Bhoodan Movement and what was their reaction? What are their views on these points?

Shri Nanda: So far as ceilings are concerned, the policy has been settled and it is being worked out. There is no objection to that from any quarter.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury: May I know how the fragmentation of land under this movement is expected to be counteracted?

Shri Nanda: Those who are conducting this Movement have made it very clear that they prefer the co-operative

pattern of development for the land they are securing as donations.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Are Government aware that in Bihar a target of 40 lakhs acres was fixed for solving the land problem of Bihar, and out of it, 30 lakhs acres has already been achieved? Does Government think that the land problem of Bihar is solved?

Shri Nanda: It has nothing to do with this question.

RATIONALISATION OF CLOTH MILLS

*410. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cloth mills where rationalisation was introduced in 1954; and

(b) the number of labour thrown out of employment due to introduction of rationalisation in 1954?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) Rationalisation is a continuing process covering all aspects of production and management. It is not possible to specify particulars relating to individual mills in any given year.

(b) Does not arise.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any estimate or any figures are maintained by Government of the rationalisation in the mills?

Shri Kanungo: Rationalisation of what aspect? Is it spinning or weaving?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Weaving.

Shri Kanungo: Government have not calculated it because there is not very extensive demand for such rationalisation in the weaving department.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Is it a fact that in view of the rationalisation of weaving, the rates per yard become cheaper and also the rate of distribution or sale as a consequence, become cheaper?

Shri Kanungo: It all depends:—if it is balanced with other rationalisation elsewhere

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Does the hon. Minister remember the resolution passed in this House that adequate facilities will be given if the labour is retrenched, and if so, may I know—in view of the ignorance of the hon. Minister in not knowing that rationalisation is going on—how these adequate facilities will be provided to labour which will be retrenched as a result of rationalisation in the different mills?

Shri Kanungo: The resolution has said that in case labour is provided for, rationalisation in the shape of labour-saving machinery will be permitted to be done and machinery installed.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In how many mills automatic looms have been started since the resolution was passed in Parliament?

Shri Kanungo: None.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any unemployment of labour has been reported to Government due to rationalisation?

Shri Kanungo: It has not happened. There is no automatic loom in the weaving sector which has been put up after the resolution.

RURAL ELECTRIFICATION

*412. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred so far out of the grants given to the various States for rural and small town electrification schemes, from the very outset of the First Five Year Plan upto the 31st December, 1954;

(b) whether the rural and small town electrification schemes have resulted in providing employment to the unemployed; and

(c) if so, their number?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : जो बिजली का चार्ज है आने हैं क्या उसको सरकार घटाकर छोर्ट छोर्ट व्यवसायियों को, जैसे लुहार, बढ़ई या साइकिल रिपेयर करने वालों को अपना व्यवसाय चलाने के लिए बिजली प्राप्त करने में सहायता करेगी ?

श्री हाथी : यह रंट अभी तक हमारा सामने नहीं आए हैं ।

Shri Heda: Have Government made it a matter of principle or made it a rule that a certain percentage of the electricity produced will be distributed in the rural side near that project?

Shri Hathi: In fact, this is meant for rural electrification schemes. The scheme about which the question is tabled relates to giving more employment by expansion of power in places where there is no power or places where there are prospects of development of cottage industries in the rural areas.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know whether, in view of the fact that large sums are being spent on the rural electrification schemes, the Government has got any assessment of the percentage that has been covered by the electrification schemes by the different States?

Shri Hathi: Actually, the State Governments were required to make this, and have the schemes planned accordingly.

STEEL RE-ROLLING INDUSTRY

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

(a) whether Government propose to re-organise the present mode of production in the Steel Re-rolling Industry of India;

(b) whether the various units of the industry are running economically and efficiently; and

(c) whether there is any internal competition amongst the units?