

industries under the Production Ministry as well as the other Ministries which are in charge of certain industries; and some information has already arrived.

I may also point out to the hon. Member that as far back as 1951, the Indian Tariff Board had made certain recommendations with a view to encourage the manufacture of these specialised materials, and Government have already passed orders on some of their recommendations.

EXPORT OF SILK

*4. **Shri KeshavaIengar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps Government propose to take to encourage the export of silk?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): The reference is apparently to silk fabrics.

(i) In order to stimulate export of handloom silk fabrics their display and sale abroad are being undertaken through the External Marketing Organisation of the All-India Handloom Board.

(ii) An Export Promotion Council has also been formed to promote exports of silk and rayon textiles.

श्री केशवचंगार : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि यह सही बात है कि हमारा देश में जो सिल्क पैदा होता है उसको इकट्ठा करने का सरकार विचार कर रही है और उसके बारे में सेंट्रल सिल्क बोर्ड से कोई रिप्रेजेंटेशन आया है ?

श्री कर्मरकर : इकट्ठा करने से क्या मतलब है ?

Some hon. Members: Collecting.

Shri KeshavaIengar: Pooling of all silk.

Shri Karmarkar: Pooling of silk with a view to distribution? मैं ने सिल्क फीब्रक्स के बारे में कहा और जनाब सिल्क के बारे में पूछते हैं। वह तो बिल्कुल एक अलाहदा चीज है।

Shrimati Ha Palchoudhury: May I know whether Murshidabad silk is exported to any country at present, and if so, to what countries and in what quantities?

Shri Karmarkar: I know Murshidabad silk is very lovely, and I should very much like the idea of its being exported. I fancy some of it is being exported. •

Shri Algu Rai Shastri: To what countries, and in what quantities?

INFLUX OF DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST BENGAL.

*6. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been recently an increased influx of displaced persons from East Bengal;

(b) if so, the estimated number of persons who have crossed the border during the last four months; and

(c) the steps taken to rehabilitate them?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) Yes.

(b) 65,391 persons during the four months from September to December, 1954.

(c) These persons are shifted from reception centres to transit camps and even in some cases direct to work-site camps within 48 hours. From transit camps they are shifted to work-site camps as soon as possible.

In the meantime lands are being acquired to settle these displaced persons and efforts being made to find them gainful occupation or to rehabilitate them by granting business loans.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is there any truth in a newspaper report that the Minister of Rehabilitation is going to visit East Bengal in company with the Minister of the Pakistan Government, in order to try and help to ease the situation?