

**Shri Satish Chandra:** The Report of the Estimates Committee was presented to the House towards the end of September. This involves large issues of policy; the matter is being considered expeditiously.

### Regional Stationery Depots

\*9. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to open some Regional Stationery Depots to facilitate supply of stationery articles to offices;

(b) if so, the number of such depots already opened or proposed to be opened and their locations;

(c) the transport and other charges likely to be saved by starting the depots at the various places; and

(d) the capital likely to be invested?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) and (b). For the present one regional stationery depot is being set up in New Delhi. The question of opening similar depots at Bombay and Madras will be considered later.

(c) and (d). A Statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, Annexure No. 3].

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** In the statement, it is mentioned that there will be a capital outlay of Rs. 8,00,000 in the case of the depot in New Delhi. May I know what expenditure will be incurred on the establishment?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I have not got the break-up with regard to that expenditure. The major part of this capital outlay is on the new building that is under construction.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know what difficulty is felt now, as a result of which the proposal has been mooted for opening such a depot for supplying stationery to offices?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** A departmental committee had been set up to examine the working of the stationery and printing organisation. They had recommended that as large quantities of stationery were being consumed in the offices in Delhi and New Delhi, it would be a matter of convenience if a depot could be started in New Delhi. Otherwise, the supplies from Calcutta take a pretty long time, and then transport expenditure also is involved.

**Shri Velayudhan:** Is it a fact that the Central Government Offices in South—India in Ernakulam and other places—will have to

wait for about three or four months for getting pencils, papers, blotting etc.?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** It is very difficult for me to accept that proposition in a general way. But when supplies have to be moved from Calcutta, it will certainly take some time, and these were the considerations which had prompted the expert committee to recommend that a depot could be started in Madras.

### Karve Committee

\*10. **Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the Karve Committee on Village and Small Scale Industries; and

(b) if so, whether they have taken any decision on the recommendations of the Committee?

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** (a) The Report of the Karve Committee is still under consideration.

(b) No decision has been taken on it so far.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know the definite time when the decision will be taken?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** We hope to take some view on the report before the finalisation of the draft Plan during the next few weeks.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the report is a unanimous one or whether there is difference of opinion on some important subjects?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** Sir, since the report has been placed on the Table of the House, the hon. Member will profit by its study.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether the Committee has recommended salt to be taken up as a small scale industry?

**Shri S. N. Mishra:** I would again draw the attention of the hon. Member to the report submitted.

### Exodus from East Pakistan

\*11. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exodus of minorities from East Pakistan is increasing;

(b) whether this exodus is likely to affect the economy of West Bengal; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehar Chand Khanna):** (a) The monthly influx which was on an average less than 10,000 per month during the year 1954, and over 22,000 per month during the first eight months of 1955 showed a decline during September, 1955, to 10,966. It has, however, shown an upward trend during October, rising to 16,144.

(b) No. The mere exodus from East Pakistan will not upset the economy of West Bengal. As, however, a large number of migrants have come into West Bengal, its economy has been affected.

(c) Apart from the loans and grants that have been made to the Government of West Bengal, proposals are under consideration for rehabilitation of displaced persons in other States.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know what are the main reasons for the exodus?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I would request my colleague the Deputy Minister for External Affairs to reply.

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** Several times on the floor of the House we have stated what are the reasons. They are economic distress as also the unfavourable atmosphere for them to live in those places.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether any special scheme has been prepared for the rehabilitation of these persons?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** Apart from the normal rehabilitation schemes special efforts are being made to locate land outside West Bengal, to set up industries and open new training and production centres.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** In view of the discussion we have had at M.P.'s Conference and the recommendation of the Rehabilitation Ministers' Conference that the Chief Minister of West Bengal would meet the Chief Minister of East Pakistan, how far has that recommendation been proceeded with and what is the position now?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** No special recommendation of that nature was made by the Conference held at Darjeeling. What we decided at the Darjeeling Conference was that certain steps like better communications, trading facilities, remittances and all that should be taken into consideration. There was no definite recommendation that the Chief Minister, West Bengal, should meet the Chief Minister of East Pakistan. It was a suggestion made by one of the Ministers.

**Shri B. K. Das:** May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement made by the Chief Minister of East Bengal some time ago on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the

late Liaquat Ali Khan that it was only the false propaganda of the Indian press that there has been any increase in the exodus?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I have not seen the statement; but, I do not subscribe to it. The reasons have been very clearly stated by my hon. colleague.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** May I know whether the hon. Minister's attention has been drawn to a statement by myself that there is enough land in the eastern region and there is no need for sending these people outside Bengal; and has he enquired into the fact why refugee rehabilitation in Bihar and Orissa has been a total and unqualified failure and why they are going to commit the same mistake over and over again?

**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna:** I have seen the statement issued by the hon. Member. It was published in the papers yesterday. This question has been discussed in the meetings of the Standing Advisory Committee as well as in the informal meetings with Members of Parliament, at Calcutta. The premises on which the hon. Member is working, I am afraid, are not acceptable to me.

As regards the failures in Bihar and Orissa, there have been various reasons; we have gone into them. In some cases, the refugees have left on account of pressure which has been brought to bear from outside; in certain other cases, there have been some defects in our rehabilitation schemes too. Those defects are being removed.

#### U. S. A. Trade Mission

\*12. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a six-man U.S.A. Trade Mission came to India in October, 1955; and

(b) if so, the outcome of their visit?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarker):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Mission has been sent by the Government of the United States of America in connection with their participation in the Indian Industries Fair and also to collect first-hand information about the potentialities of the Indian market. The Mission has been having discussions with businessmen and the Chambers of Commerce in different parts of the country. Government have no other information.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या एक्सपोर्ट के सम्बन्ध में श्री इस मिशन के साथ कोई बातचीत हुई है या समझौता हुआ है ?

**श्री कर्मकर :** मैं ने जो कुछ भी कहा है उसके पलावा हमें कुछ पता नहीं है ।