

(b) if so, the number of quarters that will be constructed during 1956-57; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to accelerate the construction of quarters?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) Most of the 230 collieries who have applied for construction of houses under the New Housing Scheme have offered sites for construction.

(b) and (c). The applications for construction of houses are being considered by the respective Coalfield Sub-Committees and after the number of houses to be constructed at each colliery has been settled, the sites offered have to be selected and surveyed. Arrangements for obtaining cement and iron and steel have also to be completed. The Coal Mines Welfare Commissioner is taking steps to expedite these, but much time is not left for actual construction of houses during 1956-57.

Sports Industry

214. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Commerce and Consumer Industries be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken for the revival of sports Industry of Sialkot; and

(b) the amount so far spent for this purpose?

The Minister of Heavy Industries and Commerce and Consumer Industries. (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) A statement showing the steps taken is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 36].

(b) Grants amounting to Rs. 5,84,373/- and loans amounting to Rs. 62,255/- have been sanctioned by the Government of India in respect of schemes sponsored by various States Governments for the development of the sports goods industry.

Patiala Telephone System

216. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the complaints regarding the Patiala Telephone System; and

(b) if so, the number of complaints investigated and the result thereof?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) In the last six months 16 complaints have been investigated with the following results:—

- (i) 9 complaints were due to ignorance on the part of subscribers regarding telephone rules and they have been convinced of the same.
- (ii) One complaint of a similar nature as above was withdrawn.
- (iii) Five cases were in respect of delay in answering to the subscribers and the officials concerned have been warned in this respect.
- (iv) One case was in respect of rudeness to the subscriber. The operator concerned has been taken to task and disciplinary action against him has been initiated.

Labour Disputes from Textile Mills

217. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Labour disputes in Textile Mills which have occurred so far during the current year; and

(b) the action taken by Government and the total number of disputes settled so far?

The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai): (a) and (b). From 1st January to 31st August 1956, there were 179 strikes or lockouts in the textile industry in the former Part 'A' States, Delhi and Ajmer. Industrial disputes in the textile industry fall within the jurisdiction of the State Governments. Information is not available as to the total number of disputes (including those not resulting in strikes or lockouts) in the industry, the action taken by the appropriate State Government in respect of them, or the number of disputes settled by the intervention of the appropriate State Government.

Rehabilitation Issues between India and Pakistan

218. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the Sabha showing the number and nature of rehabilitation issues between India and Pakistan which have not been settled so far?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): There are two major rehabilitation issues between India and Pakistan *vis.*, one relating to evacuee movable property and the other relating to evacuee immovable property. And Agreement has already been reached between the two countries on movable property and