

prices, pests and heavy tax burden; and

(b) whether Government have thought of any scheme to save the industry from ruin?

**The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). Government is aware that the prices of cardamom have shown a downward trend since September, 1961, owing to a fall in export demand and an increase in production both in India and in other producing countries. Various measures have been taken against pests. The question of relief from sales-tax is for the State Government to consider.

An Indian Central Spices and Cashewnut Committee has recently been constituted to deal with all aspects of research, development and marketing of these crops.

#### Loan to States for Industries

**244. Shri Bagri:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount Government propose to advance in the current year as loan for industries to different States; and

(b) for what purpose the State Governments can utilise such loan?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) and (b). The allocations of Central Loan Assistance to State Governments for 1962-63 for development of industries have not yet been settled.

#### Rehabilitation Industries Corporation

**245. Shri P. R. Chakraverti:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) when the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd., Calcutta, was constituted and when it started functioning;

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(b) the extent and the nature of work undertaken by it since its inception; and

(c) the number of employment secured to displaced persons from East Bengal and potentialities of further employment for them from the industries organised by the Corporation?

**The Minister of Industry in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo):** (a) April, 1959.

(b) Provision of employment to displaced persons from East Pakistan by

(i) setting up industries on its own or in collaboration with private enterprise;

(ii) arranging for training of displaced persons;

(iii) setting up Industrial Estates;

(iv) participating in equity share capital of corporate bodies; and

(v) granting financial assistance to deserving private industries.

The Corporation has sanctioned loans to 31 industrial units and has also established 2 Industrial Estates and agreed to set up 5 Industrial Projects.

(c) The Schemes agreed to have a potential of employing 7280 displaced persons. So far about 760 displaced persons have been employed.

#### Export of Tea to U.K.

**246. Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that export of Indian tea to the United Kingdom has fallen considerably during the first two months of the current year;

(b) if so, how do the figures relating to this period compare with those for the corresponding period in 1961; and