

Loans to Refugees in Punjab

1583. { **Shri Gulshan:**
 { **Shri Y. N. Singha:**
 { **Shri P. H. Bheel:**

Will the Minister of **Works, Housing and Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of refugees who were granted loans up to Rs. 200 per family in Punjab State;

(b) whether Government declared later on that these loans would not be recovered;

(c) whether recoveries are now being made from the refugees in Punjab; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a), (c) and (d). The required information is being collected from the State Government of Punjab and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

(b) Small urban and rural loans (for non-agricultural purposes) upto Rs. 300 and educational loans (in India) irrespective of amount paid to the non-claimant displaced persons from West Pakistan upto 31st March, 1954 are being remitted provided the eligible loanees submitted their applications to their respective State Governments before the target dates fixed for the purpose.

Standing Counsels in Income-Tax Department

1584. **Shrimati Jyotsna Chanda:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had offered new terms of appointment to the Standing Counsels to the Department of Income-tax of various zones which were much derogatory to the terms and conditions on which they were appointed and in consequence of which their remuneration was reduced; and

(b) whether any of the Standing Counsels has refused to accept the new terms and if so, whether their services have been terminated?

The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): (a) Standing Counsel in the various charges in the Income-tax Department are engaged after mutual settlement of terms for a period of one year generally in the first instance. The engagement is, thereafter, renewed from year to year if the arrangement is found mutually convenient. The engagement is terminable by one month's notice on either side.

It was decided some time ago in consultation with the Ministry of Law that the terms of engagement of all the Standing Counsel in the Income-tax Department should be in a Standard Form. Since then, while considering proposals for fresh or continued engagement of Counsel, the terms of engagement have, as far as possible, been drawn up in the prescribed Standard Form. The terms in the Standard Form, involving rationalisation of the terms in some respects, are adopted only after mutual consultation in each case.

(b) The terms in the Standard Form have been accepted by the Standing Counsel in most cases. In one case, the terms were not acceptable to the Counsel and his engagement has been terminated.

Kathmandu-Trisuli Road

1585. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the up-to-date progress made in the construction of Kathmandu-Trisuli Road; and

(b) the amount spent thereon so far?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Dr. K. L. Rao): (a) Most of the cross-drainage structures have been completed except a few causeways, which are nearing completion.