

THE

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PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 29th April, 1953

The House met at a Quarter Past
Eight of the Clock

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

LOANS TO DISPLACED FAMILIES

*1685. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state the various ways in which the sum of Rs. 2.7 crores, given to West Bengal for rehabilitation work, is to be spent?

(b) What is the extent of loan to be given to each displaced family in the three districts specified for the grants?

(c) What is the method of selection of families to be given the grants or loans?

(d) How many families in all are likely to be benefited by the grant?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The loan of Rs. 2.7 crores sanctioned to the Government of West Bengal was intended for the distribution of housing, business and agricultural loans to the displaced persons living in or outside camps in the districts of Burdwan, Nadia and 24-Parganas.

(b) The maxima are as follows:—

(1) *Housing Loans:*

(i) Rural—Up to Rs. 500/-.

(ii) Urban—Up to Rs. 1,250/- without any contribution by loanees to the cost of houses.

Above Rs. 1,250 and up to Rs. 5,000 provided loanees bear a prescribed proportion of the cost of the houses.

(2) *Business Loans:*

(i) Rural—Up to Rs. 500/-.

(ii) Urban—Up to Rs. 750/- by the District authorities.

Above Rs. 750/- and up to Rs. 3,000/- by Refugee Businessmen's Rehabilitation Board.

(3) *Agricultural Loans:*

Up to Rs. 1,150/-.

(c) All inmates of camps are eligible for rehabilitation benefits, whereas in the cases of outsiders requiring rehabilitation benefits, individual cases are considered on their merits.

(d) About 31,000 families.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the displaced persons in these three districts are entitled to have business loans from the Rehabilitation Finance Administration or from the West Bengal Government?

Shri A. P. Jain: From both.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any more families are contemplated to be settled in other districts of West Bengal?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that the cost of land that is acquired for these displaced persons is high and so the rehabilitation work is being delayed?

Shri A. P. Jain: Certain relaxations have been made recently.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that the housing loans granted to refugees in urban areas have not enabled them to complete their houses, and has it been represented to the hon. Minister that if a little more grant could be sanctioned then these houses could be completed?

Shri A. P. Jain: We have stretched our purse to the maximum. There

have been some cases in which the houses could not be constructed, but in 95 per cent. of the cases the constructions could not be completed because the refugee did not contribute his share of the contribution.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Was there any condition precedent for the refugees contributing any share in respect of urban houses?

Shri A. P. Jain: So far as urban housing loans up to Rs. 1,250 are concerned no such condition existed, where it exceeded Rs. 1,250 and went up to Rs. 5,000 the refugee had to contribute 25 per cent.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know whether any interest is charged on this?

Shri A. P. Jain: Yes, interest is charged.

Shri Gidwani: What are the terms of the loans, when will they have to be returned and what will be the rate of interest?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Are there no announcements issued about these?

Shri A. P. Jain: A number of announcements have been issued, they are all mentioned in the report, and many questions have been asked on this.

Shri Thanu Pillai: May I know whether the sum of Rs. 2.7 crores given to West Bengal is by way of grant or loan?

Shri A. P. Jain: Loan.

Shri B. K. Das: Are these loans, house building loans and business loans, given in one instalment or in more than one instalment?

Shri A. P. Jain: House building loans are generally given in two instalments. Business loans are given in one instalment.

COMPENSATION FOR DISPLACED PERSONS

*1686, **Shri Bahadur Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state whether any decision has been taken by the Government of India with regard to the rate of compensation to be paid to the displaced persons from West Pakistan in respect of their properties left behind in that country?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): The matter is under the consideration of the Government and a decision is likely to be reached soon.

Shri Bahadur Singh: How long would it take for the Government to

come to a decision with regard to this problem?

Shri A. P. Jain: The Sub-Committee has finished its proceedings and now it will go to the Cabinet.

Shri Bahadur Singh: What are the reasons for this delay?

Shri A. P. Jain: I don't accept that there has been any delay.

Shri Gidwani: Has the attention of Government been drawn to a report published in a section of the press this morning that the Cabinet Committee yesterday came to no decision regarding the compensation scheme as the Finance Ministry was not agreeable to any contribution from the Government to the compensation pool?

Shri A. P. Jain: Government very seriously deprecates all these speculative reports.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether the evacuee property has been assessed and verified and if so, what is the amount of verification reached?

Shri A. P. Jain: The value of the evacuee property has been assessed. The figures will be given at the appropriate time.

Shri Gidwani: Do I understand that there is no truth in this report?

مستتر آف ایجوکیشن اینڈ

نہچرل ریسورسز اینڈ سائنٹیفک ریسرچ

(مولانا آزاد): کیمپلٹ نے ایک سب

کمیٹی بنائی۔ اس نے جلسے کئے اور اب

وہ اپنی رپورٹ کیمپلٹ میں بھیج رہی

ہے۔ اس اسٹیج میں ظاہر ہے کہ

گورنمنٹ اس پوزیشن میں نہیں ہے

کہ کوئی بات بھی کہہ سکے۔

[The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): The Cabinet set up a sub-Committee. After holding its meetings, it is now sending its report to the Cabinet. It is clear that at this stage Government are not in a position to say anything definite.]

PAKISTAN SECURITIES

*1687, **Sardar Hukam Singh:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether there is any estimate of the value of Pakistan Securities and shares held by Indian citizens on the 27th February, 1951 and the 31st December, 1952?