

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri J. K. Bhonsle): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know how much has been spent this year out of the total allotment of about Rs. 7 crores?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Under two separate heads of grants and loans they have spent Rs. 66.28 lakhs, that is to say, booked by the Accountant General upto October 1954 and Rs. 123.34 lakhs upto October 1954 on loans.

Shri B. K. Das: I understand from the hon. Minister that about Rs. 5 crores remain unspent. What is the reason for that?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: As I have said, the greatest difficulty with the West Bengal Government is to find land for the displaced persons and that has become more so since the ruling of the Calcutta High Court, upheld by the Supreme Court, holding the West Bengal Land Development and Planning Act, 1948, *ultra vires* and secondly we have undertaken a lot of scrutiny in the allotment and expenditure.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know the allotment with regard to this particular item—and development?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: I have not got that figure now.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Of the Rs. 5 crores which remain unspent, does the total amount allotted for buying lands also fall into the category of business loans, etc.?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: It comes under three separate heads—urban loans, rural loans and housing loans.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: As the only difficulty is the question of getting lands—that is what the hon. Minister said—may I know why the other schemes have not gone through with the money sanctioned?

Shri J. K. Bhonsle: Schemes are going through; it is not the end of

the year yet. They have spent about one third the amount.

HANDLOOM WEAVERS

*785. **Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of handloom weavers who are Members of Co-operative Societies enjoying Government aids and the number of handloom weavers not Members of such Co-operative Societies; and

(b) whether there is any scheme to help the weavers belonging to the latter category?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Kanungo): (a) There were approximately 765,000 weavers within the co-operative fold on 31st March 1954. Precise information regarding those outside the co-operative fold is not available.

(b) Yes, Sir. (1) A rebate of 1 anna in the rupee is given on sales of handloom cloth.

(2) Reservation of certain fabrics for the handloom industry.

(3) An Export Marketing Scheme for handloom cloth.

Shri Ibrahim: In view of the fact that weavers, not under co-operative fold, are getting yarn at high prices, may I know the measures that Government are taking to protect the interests of such weavers?

Shri Kanungo: As a matter of fact, due to the various steps that Government took in the course of last year, the price of yarn has come down considerably. The fact that a co-operative society, by its organisation, gets at a cheaper price should be an incentive for others to join it.

Shri Ibrahim: Is it a fact that the handloom industry is facing a crisis in spite of the financial assistance given by Government?

Shri Kanungo: It is a perpetual crisis. The worst is over, I suppose.

Shri R. K. Chandhuri: May I know whether there is any intention

on the part of Government to help the household weavers, particularly in Assam where every woman weaves her cloth? Is there any intention to make yarn available to them so that the looms may work?

Shri Kanungo: Yes. Special provision has been made so that yarn could be made available cheaper in Assam than it was before.

कोक ओवन प्लांट

*७८७. श्री टी० के० चौधरी : क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दुर्गापुर में कोक ओवन प्लांट की स्थापना के सम्बन्ध में जो बातें केन्द्रीय सरकार ने पश्चिमी बंगाल सरकार से पूछी थीं, उन के क्या उत्तर प्राप्त हुए हैं ; और

(ख) उस की स्थापना में क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra): (a) No specific queries were made by the Government of India to the West Bengal Government in connection with the installation of the Coke-Oven Plant in Durgapur, but a number of issues arising out of this project were discussed with representatives of the West Bengal Government on August 30th, 1954.

(b) A Committee has been appointed to enquire into the demand for coke and the by-products and the position regarding the demand and availability of electric power and other questions relating to the economics of the Project.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the Press reports published on the 1st of September and also on several days afterwards that the Bengal Government has been asked to supply further information about their proposed project? Has it been done or not?

Shri S. N. Mishra: When the whole matter has been referred to a Committee, there has been absolutely no

occasion for a thing of that kind recently.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Am I to understand that a Committee has been appointed to enquire into the Durgapur Coke Over project cum the gas project of the West Bengal Government?

Shri S. N. Mishra: I think the whole of the project of the West Bengal Government would come under the purview of that Committee.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Under what terms of reference?

Shri S. N. Mishra: As I said earlier in reply to a question, the Resolution according to which the Committee has been appointed has been placed on the Table of the House and that contains the terms of reference which number seven.

PATENTS

*788. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how many valid patents are worked at present by (i) Indian Firms, (ii) Foreign Firms and (iii) Indian Firms with foreign collaboration for (a) Sulpha Drugs and (b) Antibiotics?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Karmarkar): Statement showing patents in force relating to Sulpha Drugs and Antibiotics is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 78.] No information is available as to which of these patents are at present being worked in India.

Shri V. P. Nayar: From the statement I find that 168 patents are in force for antibiotics out of which 166 are in the name of foreign firms, and that out of 49 patents for sulpha drugs, all except seven are in the name of foreign firms. The remaining, according to the statement, are said to be with Indian concerns. My question was whether the Government will give detailed information regarding the patents held by foreign