

Rs. 13,096 has been sanctioned to the Government of Madras to establish an Appalam Production Unit.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: I want to know if the Government are aware that there are many brands of 'Appalams' such as Lakshmi, Ammami, etc., and there is Nehru brand also. May I know which of these brands the Government are encouraging?

Shri Kanungo: The primary purpose of this scheme is to provide employment to middle income groups or families, particularly, women. There is no special brand that is going to be marketed. The only idea is that the best of *pappadams* should be made available at a cheap price and that it should bring some income to the women concerned.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: May I know whether the Government have any information about the quantity that is being manufactured in our country and whether the Government have taken any steps to popularise these 'Appalams' in foreign countries?

Shri Kanungo: We are trying to see that they are made available at cheap prices. This scheme is meant to popularise them in our own country, and particularly Madras.

EVACUEE HOUSES

*1426. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the non-refugees who were allotted evacuee houses have been asked to vacate them; and

(b) whether any evacuee houses are still being allotted to non-refugees?

The Deputy Minister of Production (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Most evacuee houses were allotted to displaced persons and some to non-displaced persons. Cancellation of allotments cannot be carried out indiscriminately and care has to be taken to prevent avoidable hardship and unnecessary dislocation of the lives of the

individuals concerned. Rules have been laid down under the Evacuee Property Act specifying the circumstances in which allotments may be cancelled and the Custodians are following these rules.

(b) No.

Shri Gidwani: Is it a fact that there are a number of evacuee houses in the occupation of Government employees or Government officers and, if so, what are the steps taken to get those employees or those officers evicted?

Shri Satish Chandra: As and when the present leases expire, houses are taken over, and are sold by auction to realise money for compensation pool.

Shri Gidwani: Will the Government be pleased to enquire whether the Custodian of Evacuee Property in Bombay had been letting evacuee houses or flats of which he has the tenancy rights, to some officers who are non-D.Ps., in contravention of the definite orders of the Government that all evacuee houses have to be allotted to D.Ps., only.

Shri Satish Chandra: The matter will be looked into.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members, in future, if they get to know of any individual case of public importance, will first of all refer the case to the Minister concerned. The Minister cannot answer these questions off-hand. If an earlier reference is made about such matters, the Minister can answer the questions when the time comes up for it in the House. If the hon. Member does not get any answer or if he is not satisfied with the answer, we can see what can be done.

AUTOMOBILES

*1427. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that higher prices are charged for automobiles