

Purchases Abroad

470. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state.

(a) the total value of stores purchased abroad during 1956-57, and

(b) the steps taken to bring down foreign purchase to the minimum?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Rs. 198 crores

(b) Before purchases are made abroad, indents are thoroughly screened to ensure that only stores which are not available in the country are imported

Subsidy to Spinning Mills

471. Shri A. C. Guha: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the amount paid to the different spinning mills as subsidy for the supply of American cotton, State-wise, and year-wise and the number of mills in each State, and

(b) on what grounds Government were satisfied that the mills really complied with the conditions viz the full supply of the yarn to handlooms?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table [See Appendix II, annexure No 73]

(b) Following steps were taken to see that the mills complied with the condition for free supply of yarn produced out of the subsidised cotton for handloom industry

(1) The mills which were allocated subsidised American cotton, were told in specific terms that the cotton is allotted to maintain the production of

medium counts of yarn in the country and had, therefore, to use it for production of yarn according to the specifications laid down by the Textile Commissioner. An undertaking to that effect on stamped paper was also obtained from such mills.

(ii) Such cotton having been obtained by the mills, they were not allowed to sell it to any other party without prior permission

(iii) The mills were required to submit returns of the yarn produced out of the cotton subsidised in order to verify that the actual yarn production was according to the specifications and the quantity of yarn produced was what could be realised from this cotton

(iv) Export of yarn made wholly out of this cotton as well as the yarn of counts between 16s and 24s, made from subsidised cotton in mixing with Indian cotton was totally banned. This ban was subsequently extended to yarn upto 32s. This was done with a view to ensuring that the yarn produced from subsidised cotton was consumed in the country. The yarn so produced, was released to the State Governments for distribution to the handloom industry

Low Income Group Housing Scheme

472. Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state the amount sanctioned by way of loans and grants to Bombay State under Low Income Group Housing Scheme so far since inception of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): The Low Income Group Housing Scheme provides for financial assistance in the form of loan only. The requisite information is given below:—

. f		Amount allocated	Amount disbursed
(Rs. in lakhs)			
1954-55	Bombay & Saurashtra Kutch	225.00	52.00
1955-56		50.00	35.00
		3.20	Nil
1956-57	Bombay & Saurashtra Kutch	70.00	35.60
		12.00	3.45
		1.70	0.20
1957-58	Bombay	75.00	Nil so far
TOTAL		436.90	126.25

Indo-Pakistan Agreement on Movable Property

474. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 10 on the 14th May, 1957 and state the further progress, if any, made in the implementation of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement on moveable property?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): Some further progress has been made in regard to recovery of personal and household effects, exchange of verified lists relating to Postal accounts and certificates, and recovery of buried treasures. In all other matters there has been hardly any progress—even the meeting of the Implementation Committee which should have been held in May, had to be postponed on the suggestion of the Pakistan Government.

Displaced Persons from East Pakistan

475. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any new scheme for the resettlement of displaced persons

from East Pakistan has been devised by the Government of India, and

(b) if so, what is its nature?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) and (b) Information regarding the schemes in operation and the important schemes under consideration for the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan is given in the Annual Report of this Ministry for 1956-57 and the Six-monthly review for the period January-June, 1957, copies of which have been circulated to Members of Parliament.

Employment Exchanges

476. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of (i) educated and (ii) un-educated persons who were registered with the various Employment Exchanges in the country during 1957 as far as available (State-wise); and

(b) the number who have been given employment?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The required information, relating to the period January-June, 1957, is given