

Grievances of Refugees from Pak Occupied Chamb Area

1779. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grievances of the refugees coming to India from the Pakistan occupied Chamb area have been brought to the notice of the Government; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for the redressal of these grievances?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI G. VENKAT-SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. The Hon'ble member had on 26-10-73 forwarded to the Minister for Rehabilitation a memorandum containing some of the grievances of Chamb Displaced Persons.

(b) A statement indicating the steps taken in this respect is attached.

Statement

(i) Replacement of old tents

2037 tents were provided by Government of India during July, 1973 to replace the old tents. In addition, 3000 tarpaulins were supplied in September, 1973 to provide reinforcement to the existing tents. Keeping in view the further replacement needs in this connection, arrangements have already been made for the purchase and supply of 4000 new tents.

(ii) Education

24 schools which were being run in the Chamb Niabat are now accommodated in tents in Kishanpur Mauwal the Chamb Niabat are now accommodated in school buildings to ensure proper ar-

rangements, and the work on 2 prototype school buildings is likely to commence soon.

(iii) *Compensation for standing crops left behind by Chamb Displaced Persons.*

The State Government are taking necessary steps for payment of *ex-gratia* assistance for loss of Rabi 1972 crop to the Chamb Displaced Persons.

(iv) *Permanent resettlement of Chamb Displaced Persons.*

The Government of India set up on 1-5-1973, a Joint Team consisting of representatives of the Jammu and Kashmir Government and the Central Government to go into the whole problem and make suitable recommendations for expeditious resettlement of these displaced persons. The report of the Team was received towards the end of September, 1973 and it is under active consideration.

Apart from above, necessary steps have been taken to improve the sanitation, water supply and medical arrangements in the Camps. Recently a water supply scheme costing about Rs. 11.25 lakhs to ensure regular supply of filtered water to these displaced persons has been sanctioned (9-11-1973).

Purchase of Coir Items

1780. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for buying more items of coir for the use of Government with a view to save coir industry, which is highly labour incentive, from a crisis; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR): (a) and (b). The Department of Supply do not initiate any purchases by themselves; they make purchases on behalf of Government indentors as and when required.