

Social Welfare Centres in Himachal Pradesh

1407. Shri Virbhadra Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Social Welfare Centres run by the Social Welfare Board in Himachal Pradesh have been closed down; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken to provide alternative work to the employees thrown out of employment?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir; the Centres (of the Original Pattern Projects) have only been handed over to voluntary welfare organisations in accordance with a policy decision applicable to the whole country.

(b) Almost the entire staff has been taken over by the voluntary organisations who have taken over the activities of these Centres.

Re-finance Corporation

1408. { **Shri A. P. Jain:**
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Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what were the funds placed at the disposal of the Re-finance Corporation out of—

(i) PL-480; and

(ii) any other funds;

(b) what portion of these funds was expected to be utilised so far by way of advancement of loans and how much has been actually advanced;

(c) whether it is a fact that the State Financial Corporation have been

put on the list of institutions to which the Re-finance Corporation will advance funds;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the State Financial Corporations shall in future act as agents of the Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation; and

(e) what are the implications of the new facilities referred to in part (d) above?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Provision has been made for the grant of a loan of Rs. 26 crores in Indian rupees to the Refinance Corporation from out of the PL 480 funds. A sum of Rs. 8 crores has already been drawn by the Corporation. As the provision of Rs. 26 crores has not yet been fully utilised, the question of placing any other funds by the Government at the disposal of the Corporation or making any provision therefor does not arise.

(b). The loans sanctioned and disbursed by the Refinance Corporation upto the end of June 1962 amounted to Rs. 20.46 crores and Rs. 10.06 crores respectively.

(c) Yes.

(d) According to the provisions of the State Financial Corporations Act, 1951 as amended recently in 1962, the corporations can be appointed as agents of any notified financial institution. The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation has been notified as an institution for which the corporations can act as agents.

(e) The amendment referred to under (d) was promoted in order to enable the state financial corporations to act as the agents of other institutions granting loans to the small and medium-sized industrial concerns which are eligible for loans from the corporations themselves.