[Shri K. C. Reddy]

crores during this period. During the Second Five Year Plan period, the U.P. Government asked for an allocation of Rs. 33.00 crores, against which the Government of India, on the advice of the Planning Commission, could make an allocation of Rs. 4.83 crores only as the State Government's ahare, against the total provision of Rs. 40.00 crores for the entire Plan period.

Out of a total of Rs. 4.83 crores earmarked for the U.P. Government under this Scheme, a sum of Rs. 1.45 crores was disbursed to the State Government in the first year of the Second Five Year Plan (1956-57). A further sum of Rs. 0.49 crore has been earmarked for the U.P. Government during the year 1957-58. The balance amount will be disbursed to the State Government during the remaining three years of the Second Five Year Plan period.

All allocations under the Scheme are made on the advice of the Planning Commission, keeping in view the availability of funds for various Housing Schemes of the Government of India.

CLOSING DOWN OF SAYAJI JUBILEE COTTON AND JUTE MILLS, SIDHPUR GUJARAT

Shri M. B. Thakore (Patan): Sir, under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

"Situation resulting from closing down of Sayaji Jubilee Cotton and Jute Mills, Sidhpur, Gujarat."

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the Table.

957 to Matters of Urgent 3212 Public Importance

Statement

According to the information given to Government the Sayaji Jubilee, Cotton and Jute Mills, Sidhpur, in Bombay State, served a notice of closure in March, 1957 and subsequently closed down on the 24th April, 1957, on account of financial difficulties. The number of workers affected by the closure is 1064.

2. As the House is aware, an Ordinance was promulgated on the 27th April, 1957, which provided for the payment of retrenchment compensation even on bonafide closure. This Ordinance has retrospective effect from the 1st December 1956. The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Bill, 1957, which seeks to replace this Ordinance has just been passed by both the Houses of Parliament. The position of the Mills is being looked into from the point of view of deciding the retrenchment compensation due to workers. Government will take suitable steps to see that workers are not deprived of any benefits due to them under the law.

3. Representations have been received from the Indian National Textile Workers Federation, the Textile Labour Association and other unions of employees that Government should take action under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act and take over the mill and take such other action as is considered necessary to avert unemploy-ment. I may inform the House that the Textile Commissioner, Bombay has been asked to undertake a survey of this mill immediately, with a view to finding out what steps could be taken to put the mill in a better working order. Enquiries are also being made to have the mill restarted by giving it on lease. The question of taking other action under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act is also under consideration.