

Shri Raghuramaiah: I would like to say that Government are as much perturbed by the accident, perhaps much more in view of its gravity and the urgent nature of the work that is being done there. The enquiry will be by a high Army officer as is usual in these cases.

As for the bodies, I said that they are missing. At present, as far as my information goes, no body has yet been recovered.

About the bridge, on the 27th August the existing suspension bridge there was washed away by high floods. This was a temporary bridge which was under construction.

As to the exact reason how it could have happened, I have already indicated that according to the information I have it might be due to the anchorage giving way, but it is to find out the exact reason for it that we are proposing to order an enquiry.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Bodies are missing and intimation has been sent to the next of kin that they have died.

Mr. Speaker: Order, Order; the hon. Member himself will put a question, if the bodies are missing, you did not intimate. If they are recovered, both the Government and the next of kin will only be too happy—not merely if they are recovered, but recovered in whole. If intimation is not given, the hon. Member himself would have tabled another Adjournment motion why intimation has not been given.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Can we expect from the Minister a statement giving detailed information about this before we adjourn?

Mr. Speaker: Before we adjourn, if he gets any more information, he will try to place it on the Table of the House. If hon. Members had waited, he would have done so. Hon. Members must have faith in the Government. I do not think there is any need for this adjournment motion. It

is due to an accident. Therefore, I am not called upon to give my consent to this adjournment motion.

Shri Braj Raj Singh has given a Call attention Notice. I will call it on the 8th.

12.11 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REJECTION OF APPLICATION FOR REHABILITATION COMPENSATION CLAIMS

Shri Inder J. Malhotra (Jammu and Kashmir): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

“The situation arising out of the large-scale rejection of the rehabilitation compensation claims of displaced persons settled in Jammu and Kashmir State.

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): Claims in respect of immovable property left in Pakistan were invited under Ordinance No. 5 of 1950 issued on the 19th January, 1950, which was subsequently replaced by the Displaced Persons (Claims) Act of 1950. All displaced persons from West Pakistan, whether settled in Jammu and Kashmir State or elsewhere, were, according to Section 5 of the Act, required to register their claims from 1st July, 1950. The last date for receipt of applications was fixed as 30th September, 1950 but was subsequently extended to 30th November, 1950. Delays in submission of applications were freely condoned by the Claims Commissioners up to January, 1952. Subsequently delays were even condoned up to 31st August, 1952 in hard cases.

One thousand three hundred and thirty Compensation applications from displaced persons settled in

Jammu and Kashmir State were received, of which 1310 were registered and a sum of Rs. 27.51 lacs has so far been paid as compensation to 1,307 claimants in the form of cash, statements of account and adjustment of public dues. The claims Act expired in the year 1952 and no applications can be made under that Act now.

One more opportunity was given under Rule 95 of the Displaced persons (Rehabilitation and Compensation) Rules of 1955 to the displaced persons who had not filed their claims under the Claims Act to file rehabilitation grant applications provided they could produce documentary evidence in support of their claims. The last date of filing these applications was 31st December, 1955. Another 585 applications were received from the displaced persons settled in Jammu and Kashmir State but only 35 were accepted as the rest failed to provide the necessary evidence in support of their claims.

Mr. Speaker: How long is the statement?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Only another three-fourths of a page. It is just less than two pages.

Mr. Speaker: Nobody is interested. He may place it on the Table of the House.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I lay it on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 50.]

12.13 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) RULES

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table the document in item (3) of the Order Paper.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister must read it out. It is only one item.

Shri Manubhai Shah: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (Amendment) Rules, 1961 published in Noti-

fication No. G. S. R. 1053 dated the 26th August, 1961, under sub-section (3) of section 26 of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3193/61.]

ANNUAL REPORT OF EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE CORPORATION AND COAL MINES (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS

The Deputy Minister of Planning and Labour and Employment (Shri L. N. Mishra): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers:

- (i) The Annual Report of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation for the year 1960-61, under section 36 of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation Act, 1948. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3192/61]
- (ii) The Coal Mines (Amendment) Regulations, 1961, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1014 dated the 5th August, 1961 under sub-section (7) of section 59 of the Mines Act, 1952. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-3195/61.]

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): About the Annual Report of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation for the year 1960-61, we would like to know when the statement of accounts and also the Audited accounts will be submitted. Formerly, they were submitted after two years. You were pleased to direct that the Annual report may be submitted and there will be an indication when the Audited accounts will be submitted. I would like to know when the Audited accounts will be submitted.

Shri L. N. Mishra: I cannot say precisely. This question was raised some time back also in this House. We got it examined by the Corporation which is a statutory body. They said that this report should be placed before the House and the Audited accounts will follow.