

Rehabilitation always answers like this. He always says "What am I to do? So and so Minister has not done his part of the job." This has become a habit and every time a question is put on rehabilitation the Minister says that some other Minister has to reply. Do you think that we should start having three Ministers replying to every question?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I am sorry, I never made that statement. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty is twisting my words entirely. What I said was, and I repeat it now, that there are two agencies with me for the execution of development projects—one is the Corporation and the other is the C.P.W.D. I get my work done through these two agencies, and I am trying to chase and pursue them till the work is done. I am not shrinking my responsibility.

Shri Tyagi: May I suggest that in cases where information pertains to more than one Ministry it must be the responsibility of the Minister concerned to collect the information from the sister Ministry and lay it on the Table of the House?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I have collected information and laid it on the Table of the House. I have stated the various percentages of work completed, like 90 per cent, 98 per cent., 95 per cent. and so on. It is all incorporated in the statement.

Mr. Speaker: Let us be clear about this matter. The Minister who is mainly responsible to gather information from all sources, including the Ministries, should watch the progress from time to time. If in any particular technical matter he is not able to explain himself as fully as the Minister in charge can, then that Minister should also be present here. Otherwise, it will be the responsibility of the Minister in charge to make information available to this House as fully as possible.

श्री अशोक वर्मा : इन विवरण से ज्ञात होता है कि बहुत से कार्यों के बाड़े में अभी तक

किया नहीं हो रहा है। उबर रिहैबिलिटेड मिनिसट्री खत्म होने वाली है। इसलिए, वे जानना चाहता हूँ कि समाप्त होने से पहले वह इन सब कार्यों को पूरा कर जाना चाहता है और अगर नहीं तो उसके बाद इन कार्यों को कौन पूरा करेगा ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : इस सवाल के दो पहलू हैं। मेरे भाई को खत्म नहीं है। कि जहाँ तक सवाल है मकान बनाने का, वह तो आसान है। लेकिन जहाँ पानी, सिमुएल और वाटर इंस्टालेशन का सवाल आता है, वे चीजें ऐसी हैं कि एक दो दिन में नहीं हो जाती हैं। पानी जमुना से लेना पड़ता है, पंजाब और यू० पी० का पानी होता है। झगड़ा करना पड़ता है और उस में तकलीफ हो जाती है। दूसरा सवाल इस मिनिस्ट्री के खत्म हो जाने का है। उस में मुझे बहुत जल्दी है और यह काम परमिंट मिनिस्ट्रीज के हवाले कर दिया जायेगा और वह खुदा-उसखूबी से होगा।

Indian Traders in Tibet

*764. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarbadi:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to evacuate Indian traders at present stranded in Tibet; and

(b) whether the Consul General, Lhasa is keeping contact with such traders?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):
(a) Indian traders in Tibet include those doing business in Gyantse and Yatung and have shops there. There are also Kashmiris from the Ladakh region who have been resident in Tibet for some considerable time. So far as the former group are concerned, they can come back to India if they so wish and some have come back in the recent past. As for the Indians from Kashmir, difficulties have been raised

by the Chinese authorities who claim that they are not Indian nationals. The Government of India have addressed the Chinese Government on this subject. No reply has been received so far.

(b) Our Consul-General at Lhasa has not been able to maintain regular contacts with these Kashmiri traders because of certain restrictions placed by the Chinese authorities. But occasionally, he has been able to contact them.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Is it a fact that Kashmiris who are resident and doing business there have given their nationality as Indian and have also exercised their option to come out to India and yet are being kept there?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It is true.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: What steps have been taken to bring them here?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: It is not a question of our persuading anybody. We have taken up the matter with the Chinese Government and have informed them that they are Indian nationals. Some of them have Indian passports also and have received visa from the Chinese Government. Therefore, they are Indian nationals and should be recognised as such.

Shri Dinesh Singh: Since the opening of the Consulate-General in Tibet is based on the Sino-Indian Treaty, which has a reciprocity clause, has the attention of the Government of China been drawn to it and, if so, what is their reply?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have already stated in my answer that the reply is awaited. It is true that since March a security guard has been posted outside the Consulate which prevents not only the Chinese including Tibetan nationals but also our own people from calling on the Consulate. All these things have been brought to the notice of the Chinese Government. That is all we could do.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Is it not a fact that according to the interna-

tional law it is dependent on the individual to say what his nationality or domicile is and not for the Chinese Government?

Mr. Speaker: All this is true, but the hon. lady Minister says that police or military guard has been posted there and nobody is allowed inside. They have made a protest to the Chinese.

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: We have pointed out that under international usage, persons of Indian origin found eligible both for Indian and Chinese nationality should be given the option of exercising their right to choose whatever nationality they prefer without compulsion from any party. This has been pointed out. More than that we can do very little.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether Indian traders who have succeeded in coming over to India from Tibet have been allowed to bring their sale proceeds and, if so, in what currency or they have been asked to keep in Tibet some of the commodities which they took there?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have already pointed out that Indian traders, who are not Kashmiri of Ladakhi origin, can come back and some of them have come back. There are no restrictions because they are registered as our nationals.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether they have been permitted to come here with the sale proceeds and, if so, in what currency? Were they asked to deposit the commodities which they took there with the Tibetan employees in Tibet?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I would like to have a separate notice for this question.

Shri Dinesh Singh: My question has not been answered. I said that this was governed by a treaty which has a reciprocity clause...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members forget larger issues. 40,000 square miles

have been claimed by them. We are sending protests. What is it that can be done?

Shri Dinesh Singh: It is reciprocal. We can restrict their Trade Agent's movement here.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. Hon. Member is suggesting that similar steps should be taken here. These are all suggestions for action. Hon. Member knows as to how difficult it is even in respect of territory that has been occupied. Hon. Ministers are considering as to what ought to be done. They can only send protests at this stage. The only other alternative is to invade their territory.

Weavers' Co-operative Societies in Bombay

*765. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bombay Government have furnished a detailed account for the additional funds required to reimburse the rebate claims to Weavers' Co-operative Societies;

(b) if so, the amount of additional fund required to be reimbursed; and

(c) whether the allotment has been made?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 23,63,861.73 nP. upto the end of 1958-59.

(c) The amount claimed is under examination by the All India Handloom Board. After the claim has been checked, the amount together with such claims from other States will be reimbursed.

Shri Pangarkar: What was the demand of Bombay State for meeting the rebate claims during the year 1958-59 and how far has it been satisfied?

Shri Kanungo: The claim that I have mentioned is upto the end of 1958-59.

Shri Pangarkar: May I know the production of handloom cloth in Bombay State through the Weavers' Co-operative Societies during the year 1958-59?

Shri Kanungo: I have not got the figures.

Shri Tangamani: Why is there so much delay in meeting the claim made by the State Government? The claim for 1958-59 has already been made. May I know as to how long it takes for sending the money claimed by the State Government for payment of rebate and other expenses?

Shri Kanungo: The State Government sent accounts and statements which are not reconcilable. Therefore, the accounts and papers have been sent back for reconciliation. When it is done the payments will be made.

Buildings Construction Corporation

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*766. { **Shri Sadhan Gupta:**
 { **Shri Hem Barua:**
 { **Shri Goray:**

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to set up a Buildings Construction Corporation in the public sector; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). The matter is still under the consideration of the Government.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Am I to understand that no Corporation has yet been formed?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: No, not for buildings construction purpose. But I may say that under the Ministry of Irrigation and Power there is the National Projects Construction