

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the reply of the hon. Minister I gather that not even 2 per cent of the loans have been recovered. May I know whether those very methods will be adopted for the recovery of these loans which were adopted in the case of recovery of loans from people from West Pakistan?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I have already said that loans are advanced by the State Government. The Government of India does not advance loans directly to the displaced persons. Perhaps we might say that the State Governments in the western region had been a little more vigilant because there the losses had to be shared on the basis of 50-50. In the eastern region all losses are to be borne by the Government of India and so the same amount of effort may not have been made. Then, one or two more factors have to be taken into consideration and they are these. In the eastern region, in fact, there has been only one-way traffic. The strain on the Government of West Bengal and on the States in the eastern region has been much higher as compared to that in the western region. These may be some of the contributing factors. But I have no hesitation in saying that not much effort has been made for the realisation of these loans.

Shri Tyagi: It is a matter involving crores of rupees, that is, the loss which the Central exchequer has to bear. Why was the sanction of Parliament not taken when this discrimination was being made and the authority was being given to the Government of West Bengal to distribute loans without their agreeing to share the liability of losses? It means that we have given a free chit to them to distribute them in any manner they like.

Shri Mehar Chand Khanna: This arrangement was arrived at in 1950 in the early stages and the consideration that then weighed with the Government of India was that the financial condition of the State Government

was such that they were not expected to bear any responsibility for the repayment of these loans. It is now a matter nearly eleven years old. It was long before I was born.

Shri Tyagi: In that case why did the Government of India not agree to give a grant outright rather than to give loans?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is arguing. Shri Sarhadi.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I ask if the Central Government has considered the proposal to have a probe into how far the guarantee, surety or expectation of realisation of this huge amount of Rs. 54 crores is there?

Shri Mehar Chand Khanna: This matter has very recently been discussed. My hon. colleague has made a full statement about it. Again, the agency of the State Government shall have to be utilised for the realisation of these loans. I have no agency of my own. I have depend upon the State Government.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Calling attention notice.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Why did the hon. Minister not inform the House about these loans?

Mr. Speaker: I have proceeded to another matter.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Boundary Dispute Between Nagaland and Assam

*1837. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any boundary dispute has taken place in between the Nagaland and the Sibsagar District in Assam;

(b) if so what precisely is the dispute in question; and

(c) what action has been taken for the fixation of the boundary?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon): (a) to (c). The Naga Delegation which came to Delhi in July last had, in the course of discussions, referred to certain doubts regarding the precise boundary between the Naga Hills Tuensang Area and the districts of Sibsagar and Nowgong.

It is evident that the boundary should, in any case, be demarcated and clearly defined.

No action has been taken so far for the demarcation of the boundary due to the pre-occupation of the local authorities with law and order problems.

National Sample Survey Work

***1839. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there continue to be doubts and uncertainties regarding National Sample Survey work for 1961-62 being done by the Indian Statistical Institute;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefore, and what is at present position; and

(c) whether the Indian Statistical Institute faces the danger of being unable to function as an institution of national importance in view of uncertainties regarding its work and its future?

The Prime Minister and the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) I am not aware of any doubts and uncertainties regarding the work which the Indian Statistical Institute will do in 1961-62 in connection with the National Sample Survey. The programme of work is being settled in the usual way with the Institute.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952

***1845. Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952 applies to Manipur Administration; and

(b) if so, the categories of Government employees to whom the Act applies?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) The Act applies to the establishments engaged in any of the industries covered under the Act, employing 20 or more persons and it covers the employees whose basic wages including dearness and retaining allowance do not exceed Rs. 500 per mensem.

Wage Board for Newspapers Industry

***1851.** { Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Radha Raman:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the proposal to set up a wage board for the newspaper industry as a whole; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The suggestion made in this behalf was considered and the decision was that the Board need not be set up.

Production of Fertilizers

***1852.** { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a U.S. firm has offered to produce fertilizers in India from liquid ammonia; and