

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) One.

(b) The World Health Organization proposes to publish shortly the papers that were submitted as well as the recommendations made by the Study Group.

#### Manufacture of Snap Fasteners and Snap Buttons

\*270. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to manufacture snap fasteners and snap buttons on small scale basis in various States; and

(b) if so, how far these steps have proved successful?

**The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). The Development Commissioner for Small Scale Industries, Government of India, had prepared a model scheme on snap fasteners and snap buttons and circulated it to different States. It is understood that small entrepreneurs are taking advantage of this scheme and some units are reported to have been set up and some more units are likely to be put up soon.

#### Evacuee Houses in Punjab

\*271. **Shri Ajit Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the permanent allotment of evacuee houses in villages in the Punjab has been stopped; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Land Reforms

\*272. **Shri Thimmalah:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to

state the steps taken by Government to implement the programme of land reforms as envisaged in the Second Five-Year Plan?

**The Deputy Minister of Planning (Shri S. N. Mishra):** A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 23].

#### Bharathi Textile Mills, Pondicherry

\*273. { **Shri Tangaman:**  
**Shri Kodiyar:**

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

(a) whether 450 weavers of the Bharathi Textile Mills in Pondicherry State are under lock out for the past five months;

(b) what steps have been taken for restarting the mills; and

(c) whether alternative employment or relief has been provided by Government for the weavers thrown out of employment?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) There has been no lock-out. But for economic reasons the Bharathi Textile Mills have not been working the Weaving Section for the last four months and this has put 450 workers out of employment.

(b) The Mill has been representing:

(i) that as they have to buy yarn from outside, they should not be treated as a complete factory, but as a powerloom factory for the purpose of levy of excise duty.

(ii) that the electricity consumption charges should be reduced.

Both these matters are being considered.

(c) (i) Lay-off compensation has been paid to the un-employed workers to the extent of 45 days in a year in accordance with the Textile Arbitration Committee Award which is in force in this territory.