

that are being paid to the States are refundable or would lapse?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The amounts of the grants that are made are placed at the disposal of the State Governments for use by them in accordance with the schemes that have been approved by us.

**राष्ट्रपति मार्ट के पास सरकारी इमारतें**

\*११३३. श्री बाबसाह गुप्त : क्या निर्माण, गृह-व्यवस्था तथा रसद मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) राष्ट्रपति मार्ट के पास नई सरकारी इमारतें किस प्रयोजन से बनाई गई हैं; तथा

(ख) इन के निर्माण पर क्या व्यय हुआ है ?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) To provide accommodation for 15 married constables and 2 married Head-constables of Police attached to the President's Estate.

(b) About Rs. 60,000.

**Shri Badshah Gupta:** When were they completed and why are they lying vacant now?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I understand that they are not yet complete for occupation; some work is still required to be done.

**Shri Badshah Gupta:** May I know what is the work that has to be done still?

**Sardar Swaran Singh:** I think some fittings and electrical installations.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF KASHMIR

\*1134. **Shri Kakkan:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any resolution passed by the National Conference workers at the Convention held at Pulwama; and

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(b) if so, what reply has been given by the Government of India?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri (Sadath Ali Khan):** (a) and (b). No, but they have seen press reports of this resolution.

**Shri Kasliwal:** I want to know where is Pulwama, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** He can enquire elsewhere.

LOAN TO ANDHRA STATE

\*1135. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Planning be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal to give a loan of five crores of rupees to Andhra State is under consideration;

(b) whether a list of schemes proposed to be undertaken has been submitted to the Planning Commission; and

(c) if so, whether the list will be placed on the Table of the House?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) The matter is under consideration.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** May I know whether this financial assistance is in addition to the assistance that is proposed to be given under the proposals of the Bhattacharya Committee sponsored by the Finance Ministry?

**Shri Hathi:** This is in accordance with the programme of the Planning Commission to have irrigation schemes in the scarcity areas.

SALT

\*1136. **Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the President, Madras Provincial Salt In-

dustrialists Association regarding salt industry in Madras State and the need for relaxation of the standardisation measures where there are no facilities to export salt to Calcutta or abroad or to industrial concerns locally; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on the representation?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Production (Shri R. G. Dubey):** (a) Memorandum dated the 11th November, 1953, has been received from the Madras Provincial Salt Industrialists Association. The Memorandum includes *inter alia* a request for the reduction of the sodium chloride content of salt intended for human consumption from 94 per cent. to 85 per cent. The Memorandum does not, however, refer to the 'need for relaxation of the standardisation measures where there are no facilities to export salt to Calcutta or abroad or to industrial concerns locally'.

(b) Regarding the point in their Memorandum about provision of facilities for export of salt outside the country and exemption of such salt from the levy of establishment charges, necessary action has been taken and the Association informed. As to the other points, Government have under consideration the requests made regarding (a) revision of 10-acre concession to small manufacturers, (b) regulation of overproduction, and (c) revision of system of maintaining reserves in factories. Regarding the remaining items, *viz.* relating to quality control, levy of cess on salt etc. Government feel that there is no ground for altering their present policy.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** As part of the salt industry in the South functions more or less as a cottage industry, what effect will Government's present measures have on that cottage industry?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** As has been explained on a previous occasion, the position regarding the unlicensed manufacturers has changed recently. Now the tendency that has crept into

the industry is that the big dealers take advantage of the poverty and contiguous lands are brought under their control, just to evade salt tax.

**Shri C. R. Narasimhan:** Have Government any idea of the extent of unemployment and under-employment in those areas which these measures will cause?

**Shri R. G. Dubey:** No, Sir; for the present there is no such case.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know what steps Government propose to take in order to protect the indigent salt manufacturer who is always under the thumb of the landlord?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** The hon. Member has referred to a matter of detail, Sir. With regard to this I would like to say that the policy of the Government is to protect the small-scale manufacturer. The small salt manufacturer was allowed to manufacture salt without licence to a certain extent after the abolition of the salt duty in 1947. That policy is being continued. But certain abuses have crept in and the Government is giving active consideration as to what steps they should take to remove those abuses to save the small-scale industry in such a way that it does not, at the same time, come into conflict with the licensed salt works.

**Dr. Lanka Sundaram:** Arising out of the answer given to the supplementary, Sir, may I know whether Government is aware of the fact that small-scale salt producers in Visakhapatnam city have been thrown out and the licence was given to a manufacturer who has a monopoly in that area?

**Shri K. C. Reddy:** I would require notice to answer that question, Sir.

#### पटसन दर निर्यात-शुल्क

\*११३७. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान गनी एसोसिएशन के श्री राम सुन्दर कनोरिया