

**Shri Buragohain:** I have already stated that. This related to part (c) of the question. I have said that the construction of the factory is expected to be completed by March 1953. Already the work has been begun and it is expected that it will be completed some time next year in order to enable the machinery that will arrive then to be installed.

#### HOUSES FOR DISPLACED PERSONS FROM KASHMIR

\*3. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have opened a Home for old and infirm displaced persons from Kashmir; and

(b) what is the number of displaced persons admitted to this Home?

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** Do Government propose to open such a Home?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** No.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** Is the Government prepared to extend any relief to such weak, old and infirm persons?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** They are already receiving relief, but they are living in the camp.

**Shri Hukam Singh:** What about those outside the camps?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** There is none.

#### NIGHT SHIFTS IN TEXTILE MILLS

\*4. **Shri B. R. Bhagat:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of textile mills in the country have decided to cut down production by closing their night shifts;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the number of workers who will be affected thereby; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to meet this situation?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) One mill has actually closed down and four mills have closed down partially.

(b) Accumulation of stocks.

(c) 5,058 to the best of our information.

(d) The following steps have been taken to meet the situation:

(1) Mills have been permitted to sell to buyers of their own choice the entire production of fine and superfine varieties of cloth and yarn of all counts made out of foreign cotton.

(2) Mills have been permitted to sell 80 per cent. of the production of coarse and medium cloth to buyers of their own choice. Similarly they have been allowed to sell yarn made out of Indian cotton if it is once rejected by the State nominees.

(3) Export of fine and superfine cloth is allowed freely for shipment till the 30th September, 1952.

(4) Movement of cloth and yarn by postal parcels within the country has been made free.

(5) Production control has been relaxed by permitting mills to utilise 40 per cent. of wide looms for the production of *dhoties* and *sarees*, instead of 50 per cent. which was the maximum limit laid down.

(6) State Governments have been asked to license freely wholesale and retail dealers in cloth and they have already proceeded to do so.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** In view of the reported statements by almost all the labour organisation leaders that the cut in production is resorted to by mill-owners for increasing their profit and increasing prices of cloth, has Government examined the real position regarding the cost of production and other relevant data in regard to production?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Government is not aware of any validity behind this complaint, because, I think, April more or less recorded the highest output in regard to production during recent months. The matter is being very carefully watched and as I said only one mill has actually closed down. If the situation is such that Government action is required, they are empowered under sections 15, 16 and 17 of the Industries (Control and Regulation) Act to take the necessary action.

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** May I know whether Government views this aspect of the matter as a temporary crisis or as a permanent feature coming in the textile production of the country?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Government is not in a position to make up