

**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

its mind whether it is temporary or whether it is going to stay put.

**Shri H. N. Shastri:** How did the stock position in textile mills prior to the slump period compare with the present stock position?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Government have only details of stocks with the mills and they are now in a position to say that the stock position with the mills has not varied considerably during the last four months. At any rate, one need not take a very alarming view of the position, as things are today. It may be that dealers have got larger stocks and the slump is accentuated because of that. The information that we possess is with regard to stocks with mills.

**Shri H. N. Shastri:** In view of the fact that there is still acute shortage of cloth in the country, what is this slump due to, in the opinion of Government?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Well, I do not think, Sir, I shall hazard an opinion.

**Seth Govind Das:** Besides facilities which the hon. Minister just mentioned, are there any other. . .

**Some Hon. Members:** Hindi, Hindi.

**Seth Govind Das:** The hon. Minister does not understand Hindi; hence I am putting the question in English.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Seth Govind Das:** Besides facilities which the hon. Minister just mentioned, are there any other facilities which the mill-owners demand from the Government and which Government are thinking of giving them?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** Sir, it is a matter of a continuous process of demands being made and demands being met partially or refused *in toto*. Government is in constant touch with the mill-owners and the Textile Commissioner makes his report every now and then. I am not in a position to say if all the demands made by the mill-owners are met. Unless the situation develops for the worse I do not think Government need do anything now.

**Shri G. D. Soman:** Are the Government satisfied that the measures taken so far are adequate to meet the situation?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. He is asking for opinion. He can ask for information, not for opinion.

**Shri N. S. Nair:** Are Government aware of the fact that this is a concerted snare on the part of the employers to get more concessions from Government as well as to get more facilities for black marketing?

**Shri T. T. Krishnamachari:** I shall take that information from the hon. Member.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Is it a fact, Sir, that the closure of the mills was being resorted to by mill-owners with a view to compelling the Government to abolish control prices on production and distribution?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member is making insinuations—let us go to the next question.

#### INDIAN INSTITUTE OF ART IN INDUSTRY

\*5. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the achievements of the Indian Institute of Art in Industry;

(b) the functions of the Institute;

(c) the personnel constituting it; and

(d) the estimate of annual expenditure on its establishment?

**The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) to (d). A note giving information on all these points is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 2.]

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know, Sir, whether this Institute is wholly and solely financed by Government, or some founder members or patron members have contributed towards the Institute?

**Shri Karmarkar:** The hon. Member will find that information in the note circulated. It is a full seven page note and contains all the relevant information.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** I have got the statement with me, but it does not contain the information.

**Shri Karmarkar:** On that point we have no information at the moment.

**Shri B. Das:** Has not there been a tendency recently on the part of industrialists who used to co-operate with Government, not to co-operate with them with the result that the work of this institution is not being properly done?

**Shri Karmarkar:** We have no information on that point. Sir.