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**Shri A. C. Guha:** In view of the admission made by the Minister, has any action been taken on the members of the Committee or on the Secretary?

**Shri Buragohain:** The only thing, Sir, was that the Committee did not acknowledge this in their report. So if they now make an acknowledgement, I think it will be satisfactory.

**Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Was this Committee consulted when the North and South Avenue buildings were constructed?

**Shri Buragohain:** I am not quite sure, but I think, Sir, their advice was available also with regard to these constructions.

#### FRENCH POSSESSION IN INDIA

**\*2046. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of holding a referendum to settle the future of French settlements in India has been shelved for the present by the French Government; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** (a) and (b). The Government have not received any information to this effect.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that conditions in French Settlements in India have considerably deteriorated during the recent months for holding a referendum?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, conditions have deteriorated. They have been in a deteriorated condition for a considerable time.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know, Sir, what are the reasons for this deterioration and how do Government expect to improve them?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** These are reasons internal to the French Settlements. I have already answered at some length some questions and quoted from a report by certain neutral observers who went there.

डा. रामनारायण सिंह : फ्रेंच सरकार  
से रिफरेंडम के बारे में प्रधान मंत्री कोई  
लिखा-पढ़ी करते हैं कि नहीं, अगर करते  
हैं तो उस का फल क्या होता है ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : जो हां, कुछ  
बीज बोये थे लेकिन अभी तक दस्त  
निकले नहीं हैं ।

**Shri P. T. Chacko:** May I know, Sir, whether the transfer of Chandernagore is completed, and if so, how the administration is carried on there at present?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, the *de facto* transfer of Chandernagore took place sometime ago and the *de jure* transfer took place only a short while ago. Immediately after that the existing administration of Chandernagore—some kind of a Municipal administration—became *functus officio* in law and for the moment the Administrator is carrying on pending fresh elections.

**Shri A. C. Guha:** May I know, Sir, what is the future plan for Chandernagore—whether it will be integrated with West Bengal or kept as a separate unit?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** That I cannot say now, except that the people of Chandernagore will be consulted.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** May I know, Sir, how the matter stands at present with regard to Pondicherry.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** It stands where it was.

#### CEMENT

**\*2047. Shri Dhusiya:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what quantity of cement Government propose to import this year and from where?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** The answer is in the negative.

#### EMPLOYEES' STATE INSURANCE

**\*2050. Pandit Munishwar Datt Upadhyay:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) in what places the scheme of Employees' State Insurance is to be implemented in the near future;

(b) what is the experience of the working of the scheme at Kanpur and Delhi; and

(c) how far the co-operation of the employers has been forthcoming?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** (a) It is the present intention to implement the Employees' State