

total area allotted to other displaced persons, the total area allotted to local men and the area still held by Government for allotment;

(c) whether Government received representations from displaced persons owning gardens in West Pakistan, that they should be given priority in allotment of gardens over those who did not own gardens; and

(d) whether Government have accepted that policy?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

(c) Yes. A representation has been received from displaced Urban Agricultural Land and Gardens Owners (within Urban Areas of West Pakistan) Association, Delhi, requesting that all evacuee urban garden and agricultural lands should be allotted on quasi-permanent basis to displaced persons who owned urban gardens and agricultural lands in West Pakistan.

(d) No. Claims for properties other than agricultural land in the West Punjab are being processed and an integrated decision will be taken in respect of all such properties.

ALLOTMENT OF URBAN LANDS

***1199. Shri Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that allotment of agricultural lands on quasi-permanent basis to the displaced persons coming from West Pakistan has been completed long ago, while the allotment of urban or suburban lands is still being delayed; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and how long this task will take to be completed?

The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The allotment of both rural and suburban evacuee lands in the Punjab and Pepsu on a Quasi Permanent basis has been completed. Allotment of urban evacuee lands on similar basis has not yet been made.

(b) The question of allotment of urban evacuee lands is being considered along with other urban evacuee properties, viz., houses and building sites. At this stage it cannot be stated how long this task will take to complete.

Shri Vidyalkar: May I ask why suburban lands were given to non-refugees?

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Shri A. P. Jain: Suburban lands are not ordinarily given to non-refugees. Only when refugees do not ask for them they are given to non-refugees.

GOVERNMENT HOUSING FACTORY

***1200. Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Production be pleased to state:

(a) the total money invested up to date by the Government in the construction and working of the Government Housing Factory, Delhi;

(b) whether any committee of experts was appointed to inquire into the ways and means to utilise and to make the best use of the existing factory and if so whether the Commission has submitted its report; and

(c) whether Government have taken or intend to take any legal action against the British consulting firm—Structural and Mechanical Development Engineers Ltd., Bucks, England and if not, why not?

The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Rs. 1,07,94,000 (Rupees one crore seven lakhs and ninety four thousand), net investment.

(b) Yes; the Committee have submitted their report.

(c) Government have not taken legal action so far. It is not in the public interest to disclose at present the line of action which Government intend to take in future.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know whether Government has come to any decision as to what use this factory will now be put and what will be the additional investment?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I have already answered that question on a previous occasion. Government have decided to make use of this factory for manufacture of certain pre-fabricated parts, in collaboration with a Swedish firm. They also intend to manufacture certain pre-stressed concrete components and also lignoma boards.

As regards further investment, Government are not committed to any further investment at present.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: May I know, Sir, if any of these pre-fabricated parts have been used for the Members of Parliament quarters?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am not aware of it.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know Sir, whether the contract that was entered into between the Government of India and the consulting firm had been sent

to India through the High Commissioner's Office before it was finally settled?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Which consulting firm—the present one or the past one?

Mr. Speaker: I think he is referring to certain contract, in regard to which the hon. Minister said that, it is not in the public interest to disclose the action which Government intend to take.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, the recurring expenditure of this Housing factory per mensem?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I am afraid I cannot give the exact figure.

Dr. Jaisoorya: May I know whether any German firm offered any formula towards this housing scheme?

Shri K. C. Reddy: I cannot give a definite answer straightway.

SURPLUS STORES FOR DISPOSAL

*1201. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the value of surplus stores disposed of since the 31st December 1950 out of those which were awaiting disposal as on that date; and

(b) the value of stores lying undisposed of since then?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Surplus stores of the total book value of about Rs. 34 crores were disposed of since 31st December, 1950 to 30th April 1952.

These disposals are not only against surpluses awaiting disposal on 31st December 1950 but also against fresh declarations during the period 31st December 1950 to 30th April 1952.

(b) The book value of stores awaiting disposal as on the 30th April 1952 was Rs. 37½ crores.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: May I know what time Government will take in disposing of these surplus goods and whether there is any proposal to wind up this Disposals Department?

Shri Buragohain: I may explain the position, Sir. Under the disposal policy it is compulsory for Civil Departments of the Government of India to report their surplus exceeding Rs. 1,000 in book value to the Disposals Organisation for disposal. The Defence Services report stores exceeding Rs. 5,000 in book value to the Disposals Organisation. So, it is more or less a continuous process. The new surpluses which are declared merge into the war surpluses. If my

hon. friend wants to know about the position of the war surpluses, the bulk of them have already been disposed of. It is expected that in the course of the current financial year most of the rest will be disposed of.

Pandit M. B. Bhargava: Am I to understand that it is the intention of Government to perpetuate this Department of Disposals?

Shri Buragohain: As I have already explained the position, it is more or less a continuous process. Some stores become surplus to requirements and others become obsolete. They are made over to this Organisation.

If I might further explain, the strength of this organisation has been reduced from time to time. In 1948 the strength of this organisation was more than 8,000. Last year when this Organisation was merged into the Supply Department it was reduced to 1,900. This year it has further come down to about 1,100.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is it a fact, Sir, that very often these goods are sold to contractors at very low prices?

Shri Buragohain: That might have been the position in the very initial stages when the insistence was on rapidity of disposal.

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Is any effort being made, where the prices offered by bidders is very low to offer the goods to displaced persons?

Mr. Speaker: He is making a suggestion for action.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether goods intended for the use of Government were later condemned and if so what is the value of them?

Mr. Speaker: How can it be replied?

Shri Velayudhan: The goods were meant for the use of Government. They were condemned so that the Disposals Department may go on.....

Mr. Speaker: At any rate the question appears to be too vague to be admitted.

UNEMPLOYMENT

*1202. **Pandit M. B. Bhargava:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether Government have collected statistics of educated unemployed persons in India from the various Employment Exchanges?

(b) if so, how many matriculates, non-matriculates, under-graduates, graduates and post-graduates are unemployed at present?