

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know what the Bhutan Government has informed their agriculturists. We have not been called upon to give them any help in this respect. We are helping them in many other ways.

Rehabilitation Industries Corporation

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*1710. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shri Inderjit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of industries set up by the Rehabilitation Industries Corporation in West Bengal so far and the number of displaced persons employed therein;

(b) the total investment in the industries; and

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure that the displaced persons who have received training are absorbed in these industries?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah) (a) and (b). The Rehabilitation Industries Corporation has not as yet set up any industry on its own. It has however sanctioned loans of Rs. 12192 lakhs to 21 industries in West Bengal, out of which Rs. 11.69 lakhs have been disbursed so far. These industries have so far provide employment to 310 displaced persons, and when the loans are disbursed the employment potential will rise to 4367 displaced persons. In addition it has set up two industrial estates for the displaced persons.

(c) The Corporation collects details of displaced persons who receive training under various Government schemes and these details are communicated to the assisted industries as and when suitable vacancies occur therein.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know whether before giving these loans to industries, the Corporation gets fixed up the percentage which the loanee must employ before having

the loan, as was done in the case of Faridabad?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The project is three-fold. One is that the Corporation intends to set up industries itself. For that they are taking steps. The other one is to set up industrial estates to enable small-scale industries who will employ the displaced persons. And the third is to grant these loans. The loans vary according to the nature of the scheme, almost up to 75 per cent. of the capital required in many cases.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: My question was whether before giving the loans a condition is put on the loanee as in the case of Faridabad that a certain percentage of displaced persons should be employed? What per cent would it be?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is exactly the purpose. The purpose is to employ as many displaced persons as possible. But there are technicians. The displaced persons cannot all be skilled workers. Naturally, the technicians will have to be drawn from the general pool of technical persons available in this area and the country. The others are displaced persons.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I want to know whether this R.I.C. proposes to set up direct industries itself within the scope of the functions....

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I want to know whether anything has been done. It is more than one year old.

Shri Manubhai Shah: It has started giving loans. There are two industrial estates already under construction with 117 small scale industries. They are putting up another at Durgapur. And the fourth one is the expansion of Bone Hooghly Estate to employ 3,600 more displaced persons. They are also considering the establishment of industries of their own.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: Recently, the constitutional position of this Corpora-

tion has been changed. It appears from reports that whereas in the earlier corporation the great majority of members were non-officials, in the new corporation the vast majority are officials. May I know what considerations have influenced the Government in reconstituting the corporation in this way?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This is the first time I have been asked to look at this problem from this angle. We do not want the majority or the minority. The composition has been altered in order to have a proper co-ordination between the Dandakaranya Development Authority and this. The Chairman, Shri Sukumar Sen has been requested to be the Chairman of this Corporation so that he can use the experience gained by him in this place for the Dandakaranya project and the experience gained in the Dandakaranya project for the R.I.C.

Shri Chintamani Panigrahi: May I know whether the Government propose to take up industrial estates in the Dandakaranya area also for the benefit of the refugees there?

Shri Manubhai Shah: For the present the R.I.C. are confining themselves to the West Bengal area; but it is not barred out. The moment we find that they have done sufficiently good work in this area and rehabilitated a large number of displaced persons, certainly, we can consider that further.

Shri Aurobindo Ghosal: May I know whether the industries which have taken loans are not absorbing refugees according to their promise?

Shri Manubhai Shah: So far, that complaint has not come and we have been careful to be on the watch. As the hon. Member, Shri Sarhadi said in Faridabad we had sometimes the disappointing experience. Here we are watchful and we hope that as far as possible displaced persons would be employed.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether the Corporation is going to set up industries in Tripura also for the refugees in Tripura?

Shri Manubhai Shah: For the present, it is all confined to the West Bengal area.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: Figures were given by the hon. Minister regarding the loans which have already been sanctioned and the number of refugees actually given employment. The number is very very low. How does the Government account for this? In proportion to the loans the number of displaced persons who have actually secured employment seems to be very low indeed.

Shri Manubhai Shah: Eleven lakhs, 310 persons and 121 lakhs 4677 persons is more or less the same proportion.

Shri Basappa: Is there any machinery to check up that loans to the refugees are used for the purpose for which they are given?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That is what I said.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know the total number of persons employed in the Corporation itself and the total expenditure on the administrative set-up?

Shri Manubhai Shah: That would not arise out of this question. But if the hon. Member is interested in it, I have laid the annual report and the balance-sheet of the Corporation only recently on the Table of the House and if any further information is required, I will be prepared to furnish the same.

Shri Goray: I request that Q. No. 1709 may be taken up.

Mr. Speaker: It may be answered.
Small Scale Plastic Goods Industries
in West Bengal

*1709. Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri
Will the Minister of Commerce and
Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India's