

26.12.1990 of whom 1,16,363 refugees are staying in various camps. These figures include those refugees who had arrived between 24th July, 1983 and 30th November, 1987. Since July, 1983 to November, 1990, an amount of Rs. 28.59 crores has been spent on providing relief facilities and for construction/repair work in the camps. The State Governments are the implementing agencies but the entire cost on relief and accommodation is being borne by the Government of India.

(b) The refugees have been accommodated in 298 permanent/temporary camps, tents/ temporary shelters/ cyclone shelters in 19 districts of Tamil Nadu. The refugees staying in camps are being provided with relief facilities aggregating about Rs. 1,000/- per month for a family/consisting of five members. These include cash doles, clothing, utensils and ration including subsidised rice/wheat.

(c) A reversal of the refugees influx into Tamil Nadu can only be expected when more congenial conditions are created in North-East Sri Lanka, which will enable the refugees to voluntarily return to their homes.

Losses in TAFCO

1621. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tannery and Footwear Corporation of India Limited has incurred further losses during the past six months;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the functioning of the corporation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons for the losses are low productivity of labour, obsolete technology, old machinery, products with low value added, un-remunerative price structure, labour trouble etc.

(c) Apart from appointment of Functional Directors on the Board of the Company, steps have been initiated to improve performance by way of modernisation, renewals and replacement of obsolete machinery. The Company has also prepared a revival plan involving upgradation of technology and manufacture of high value added footwear. Government have also requested IDBI to undertake an indepth study into the working of TAFCO and suggest ways and means for its revival.

Scheme to check Exploitations of Tribals and SCs

1622. SHRI KUSUMA KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have formulated any scheme to liberate poor tribals and Scheduled Castes from the clutches of traditional village money-lenders;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any such scheme was tried earlier in some States; and

(d) if so, the details and outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) and (d). the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Machinery for redressal of individual grievances

1623. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state: