

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) 149 pre-1951 and 175 post-1950 squatters' colonies have been regularised. About 46,000 plot-holders will be benefited.

(b) to (d) According to the Report of the R. R. Committee appointed by the State Government of West Bengal which has been received, 956 squatter colonies have been mentioned including the ones which have already been regularised as mentioned in part (a) above. No norms have yet been formulated in respect of these colonies. A view on the Report will be taken shortly.

Refugee problem of West Bengal

632. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Government have received a composite plan for completing the rehabilitation of refugees in West Bengal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Government of West Bengal has placed a demand amounting to Rs. 750 crores for completing the rehabilitation of refugees in West Bengal; and

(c) whether the Central Government is agreeable to this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) and (b) We have received a copy of the report of the Refugee Rehabilitation Committee appointed by the State Government in which a demand of Rs. 750 crores has been made.

(c) The demand has several items. Each one is being examined. A view on which item should be funded by us and to what extent will be taken shortly.

New electricity projects in West Bengal

633. SHRI RAMKRISHNA MAZUMDER: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) how many new projects for electricity from West Bengal State Government have been received by the Central Government for approval or sanction;

(b) whether it is a fact that Government have received from the State government proposals for a new project for 700 MW electricity generation in Darjeeling District on the Testa River and also a new plan for Purulia District on Ajudhya Hill; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not sanctioning the projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) Three thermal and five hydro schemes have been received from West Bengal for approval by Central Government.

(b) and (c) Project Report of a hydro-electric project with 700 MW capacity and located in Darjeeling District has not been received in the Central Electricity Authority for techno-economic clearance. A pre-feasibility report on Kisto-bazar pumped-storage project (1050 MW) in Purulia District was received in the Central Electricity Authority in January, 1980, and comments thereon were forwarded to the West Bengal authorities. It was subsequently indicated by the project authorities that further detailed investigations and studies had been taken up. Project report has not been received so far.