

gories of workers. However during the same period there was an improvement in the employment of Godown khalasis, Mineral Sampling Workers, Rock Phosphate Workers, Sulphur Workers, Iron and Steel (Manual) Workers and Drums Handling Workers.

(c) The fall in the employment under the Registered workers was mainly due to the decline in the import of foodgrains and fertilizer, fall in the export of iron and steel materials and general cargoes and decline in the exports of manganese ore.

In the category of unregistered workers, the fall in the employment was due to declines in the receipt of manganese ore and arrivals of pig iron and general export cargo. Further, general exports are now being increasingly handled at alongside berths resulting in non-employment of boatmen.

CLOSURE OF PARVATHI TEXTILE MILLS IN KERALA

*439. DR. K. MATHEW KURIAN :
SHRI K. P. SUBRAMANIA
MENON :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वासि मन्त्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Parvathi Textile Mills, Quilon (Kerala), is closed for the last few months ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) whether the Mill had not deposited more than Rupees 12 lakhs of Employees' Provident Fund contribution and ESI contribution to Government ; and

(d) if so, the action taken against the management and the steps taken by Government to reopen the closed mill ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वासि मन्त्री (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). According to the information received from the Ministry of Foreign Trade, the Mills which were closed on June 14, 1971 due to financial and labour difficulties, are understood to have resumed working from September 13, 1971.

(c) and (d) The position about the default in the payment of contributions is as follows :—

(i) Till July 1971, the mills were

in default of provident fund contributions amounting to Rs. 2.79 lakhs. The Government of Kerala allowed them the facility of clearing the areas upto April 1969 in monthly instalments of Rs. 8,000/- plus current contributions. In view of this facility given to them, no action was taken to realise the arrears. The position is however, being reviewed by the Central Provident Fund Commissioner ; and

(ii) The mills were in default towards payment of contributions under the Employees' State Insurance Act to the extent of Rs. 1.47 lakhs inclusive of interest upto 19th November, 1971. Legal action for the recovery of arrears on account of employers' special contribution upto April 1971 was taken against the mills as a result of which an amount of Rs. 10,000 has been recovered from them on 1st October, 1971. For the recovery of the balance of the arrears, action is in hand.

VISIT OF PROF. A. NORDON

*440. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA :
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मन्त्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Professor A. Nordon one of the leaders of the G.D.R. met the Prime Minister in New Delhi recently ;

(b) whether he requested Government to accord full diplomatic recognition to the G.D.R. ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS/विदेश मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The relations between India and the German Democratic Republic are developing satisfactorily. As the House is aware,

India and GDR raised the level of their representation to consulate General last year. It is the desire of Government to further strengthen these relations at the appropriate time.

**REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EAST BENGAL
REFUGEE REHABILITATION**

*441 SHRI DWIJENDRALAL SEN
GUPTA :

DR. MATHEW KURIAN :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मन्त्री be pleased to state :

(a) the progress of work of the Committee on Refugee Rehabilitation ;

(b) by when it will be completed ;
and

(c) the amount spent so far on the Committee ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION/श्रम और पुनर्वास मन्त्री (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) The Committee have covered a substantial portion of the work assigned to them. They submitted nine reports dealing with various aspects of the problem of rehabilitation of refugees in West Bengal. A list of these reports is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

As a number of problems of complicated nature are still to be looked into by the Committee, it is difficult to indicate precisely as to when the remaining work will be completed. Efforts are, however, being made by the Committee to complete the work as early as practicable.

(c) So far, a sum of about Rs. 7.06 lakhs has been spent on the Committee and its staff.

LIST

1. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan living at Asrahabad ex-camp site and in Vagrants' Homes.

2. Educational Facilities for New Migrants from East Pakistan in West Bengal.

3. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan at ex-camp Sites in West Bengal.

4. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan Squatting on Government and Requisitioned Properties in West Bengal.

5. Rehabilitation of East Pakistan Displaced Persons through Poultry Schemes in West Bengal.

6. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan living at Bagjola Group of ex-camp Sites in West Bengal.

7. Medical Facilities for new Migrants from East Pakistan in West Bengal.

8. Industries Training Institutes for Displaced Women from East Pakistan in West Bengal.

9. Establishment of Industrial Estates in West Bengal for Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan.

**RESTORATION OF NORMAL OPERATION OF
ROURKELA STEEL PLANT**

*412. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मन्त्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps for the restoration of normal operations at the Rourkela Steel Plant have been taken ; and

(b) if so, whether the restorations of the normal operations at the Rourkela Steel Plant will involve a cost of Rs. 1 crore ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मन्त्री (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is estimated that the cost of reconstruction of the roof and repairs in the Steel Melting Shop will be about Rs. 1.5 crores.

ESCALATION IN THE PRICE OF STEEL

*443. SHRI ABDUL QAIYUM ANSARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES/इस्पात और खान मन्त्री be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Public Sector Undertaking has allowed escalation in the rates of