

think it pertains to the question and I take strong objection to this.

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Ansari, it is not good to refer to them like this.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: Sir, it is absolutely clear to everybody that he has been carrying on pro-Chinese propaganda in the country. It is well known.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I have no idea about the political affiliations either of Dr. Tara Chand or of Shri Sunderlal. I know nothing about it. I said that if an allotment has been made for a particular purpose and if I find that that purpose is not being fulfilled I can look into the matter and take necessary action.

HOUSES FOR WORKERS

*614. SHRI ARJUN ARORA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to make it obligatory for industrial employers to provide houses for their workers?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): The matter will be discussed in the Conference of the Housing Ministers to be held at Chandigarh on the 29th, 30th and 31st December, 1964.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know what progress, if any, has been made in the scheme of the Government to subsidise and grant loans to employers to build houses for the workers?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Sir, according to my information which I even gave to the House when the Slum Clearance Bill was under discussion, the response from the employers has not been very encouraging. We have given them a number of concessions but still I find that they

have not taken up construction of houses for the workers in the same earnestness that we would like them to do. So this matter is coming up before the Conference of Housing Ministers and at the suggestion of the Ministry of Labour I am issuing invitation to some of the important employers and requesting them to attend the Conference so that this important question can be discussed there fully.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if the advisability of making workers' housing the responsibility of the employers before granting them industrial licences has also been considered by the Government and whether in this matter of labour housing there is complete coordination between the Ministry of Housing and the Ministry of Industries.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: We have discussed this matter but as far as the Ministry of Industries is concerned, they feel that if it is made obligatory that might in a way affect our industrial programme because a large sum of money will have to be diverted from industry to housing. That is an aspect which has been placed before us and it will be discussed at the next Conference.

SHRI A. D. MANI: The hon. Minister stated just now that the Government had offered certain concessions to industrial employers and the employers had not availed themselves of those concessions.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I did not say they have not availed themselves of those concessions.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I know what those concessions are?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Some of the concessions are: the quantum of financial assistance to employers which was initially 62½ per cent, that is, 37½ per cent as loan and 25 per cent as subsidy, has been raised to 75 per cent, that is, 50 per cent loan and 25 per cent subsidy; the

period of repayment of the loan has been increased from 15 to 25 years. The procedure for the drawal of the financial assistance has been revised to enable the employers to draw funds as construction proceeds or even before starting construction against bank guarantees. Then we have given them some concessions in the matter of insurance.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA: May I know if there have been any cases in which the employers have taken financial assistance from the Government and diverted the funds to uses other than labour housing and if so what action has the Government taken in the matter?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The schemes are implemented through the State Governments and if the hon. Member would give some indication I shall certainly have the matter looked into.

SHRI SANTOKH SINGH: It has just been stated by the hon. Minister that the employers are not coming forward in spite of certain concessions being given to them. May I know what are the difficulties in the way of the employers who are in general a very co-operating lot?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I never said that the employers were not coming forward; I only said they were not coming forward to the extent that we would like them to come forward. The difficulty, as I have said, is possibly capital investment and the question of diversion of the capital from industry to housing.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौधरी : क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलाएंगे कि जब इतनी सुविधाएं देने के बावजूद भी कारखानेदार मकान बनाने के लिए तैयार नहीं है तो ऐसी स्थिति में क्या सरकार कोई कानूनी अधिकारों लेकर के उनको बाध्य करना चाहती है कि वे ऐसी व्यवस्था करें अन्यथा उनके खिलाफ कार्यवाही की जायगी ? ऐसा कुछ करने की आप सोच रहे हैं या नहीं ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : कानूनी अधिकार लेने का सवाल जो है उसको भी हमने सोचा लेकिन अभी तक हमारा विचार यह है कि शायद कानूनी अधिकार लेना फायदेमन्द नहीं होगा, यह नुकसानदेह होगा, इसलिए कि इसका इण्डस्ट्री पर असर पड़ेगा ।

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know whether the hon. Minister has any information about the number of workers classified as industrial employees?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: No, I do not know that. That question may be addressed to the Ministry of Labour. They would know it.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: In view of the unwillingness of employers to provide housing for their labour, will Government consider the advisability of introducing a comprehensive housing law compelling employers to provide housing for their labour and, meanwhile, will Government consider the advisability of setting a good example to other employers by providing housing for all their labour and for all their employees?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: As regards the first part of the question, I am only repeating myself that they are not over-enthusiastic. They are perhaps a little lukewarm. As regards the introduction of legislation, I have just answered in Hindi that it is not considered desirable, it might retard the progress of industrialisation of the country. As regards the third aspect, I can assure the hon. Member that in the public sector the Government is doing its level best to provide houses for the workers.

श्री गिरिराज किशोर रूपूर : क्या मन्त्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उन्होंने अभी फर्माया कि चण्डीगढ़ कान्फरेन्स में कुछ मजदूरों को बुलाया जायेगा . . .

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : मैंने तो नहीं कहा ।

श्री गिरिराज किशोर कपूर: बिग इण्डस्ट्रियलिस्ट्स को बुलाया जायगा। तो क्या स्माल स्केल इण्डस्ट्रीज के लोगों को बुलाया जायेगा या नहीं?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना: जी नहीं। हम इण्डस्ट्रियल एम्प्लायर्स को बुला रहे हैं जिनकी बड़ी बड़ी फैक्ट्रियां हैं और उनके नाम हमने लेबर मिनिस्ट्री से मांगे हैं। उन्होंने चन्द नाम दिये हैं और उन्हीं को हम बुला रहे हैं।

SHRI T. V. ANANDAN: Was it not a fact that our late beloved leader, Jawaharlal Nehru, refused to inaugurate an industry when he went and found that there were no quarters built for the working class?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I have no information.

*457. [The questioners (Sarvashri Niren Ghosh and M. Basavapunnaiiah) were absent. For answer, vide cols. 3925-3926 infra.]

*615. [The questioner (Shri Abdul Ghani) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3926 infra.]

*616. [Withdrawn]

CREDIT OF SERVICE TO DOCTORS IN I.N.A.

*617. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether any reference has been made to the Government of India in the matter of giving credit to the Doctors of their period of service in the I.N.A. who are now in Government service; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI P. S. NASKAR): (a) No such reference has been received in the Ministry of Health.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: May I know, Sir, if the Government of India knows that there are so many doctors of ex-INA who are serving in the different State Government departments?

SHRI P. S. NASKAR: As I said, there is no representation received in the Ministry of Health regarding credit of service or whatever their grievances or demands may be. But the Home Ministry has issued certain orders regarding persons who were in Central Government service before they joined the INA and the second category relates, to persons who were not in Government employment when they joined the INA. The Home Ministry has issued certain orders regarding these two categories of ex-INA personnel, if there are any at the moment, regarding their service.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: What are the instructions of the Home Ministry? Is it to give them credit for their past service in the INA or not? That is the point.

SHRI P. S. NASKAR: Yes, Sir. In certain cases if the ex-INA personnel had joined Government service and if they were Central Government employees before they joined the INA, certain concessions have been given. There is another category of ex-INA, those who were not in Government service, but joined the INA. For certain purposes they have been treated as political sufferers. The same concessions have been given to such persons as have been given to the political sufferers.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: May I know, Sir, what are the concessions in the service conditions that have been given to those who were in the INA?

SHRI P. S. NASKAR: Which category?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those who were in Government service or those who were not in Government service?

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: Those who were in Government service.