

stones, and what steps Government is taking to prevent such smuggling?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That is a separate question, Sir—the smuggling of diamonds—and yet I may say that we are taking all steps to prevent such smuggling.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: The hon. Minister in reply to part (a) of the question said that about Rs. 2 crores worth of gold ornaments have been exported. Does this figure include the value of ornaments purchased in India by foreign tourists and taken away by them?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I have yet to find out the details.

SHRI A. D. MANI: May I know which are the countries to which these gold ornaments have been exported? We would like to know which countries are in demand for gold ornaments?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The countries to which they have been exported? I am sorry I do not have the names of the countries. I want notice of that question.

SHRI LOKANATH MISRA: In view of the fact that the goldsmiths have been very adversely affected due to the Gold Control Order and in view of the difficulty of their getting enlisted as exporters, would the Finance Ministry suggest to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce to view leniently the cases of those who are themselves goldsmiths and want to be included in the list of exporters?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: If there are genuine cases like this that the goldsmiths themselves want to export their manufactures, certainly they will be encouraged.

बम्बई नगर में गन्दी बस्तियों की सफाई

*६६. श्री ए० बी० वाजपेयी : क्या निर्माण तथा आवास मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बम्बई नगर में गन्दी बस्तियों की सफाई के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा अब तक कितनी आर्थिक सहायता दी गई है ; और

(ख) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में महाराष्ट्र सरकार से कोई योजना प्राप्त हुई है ; यदि हाँ, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

†[SLUM CLEARANCE IN BOMBAY CITY

*69. **SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE:** Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance so far given by the Central Government for slum clearance in Bombay City; and

(b) whether any scheme in this respect has been received from the Government of Maharashtra; if so, the details thereof?

निर्माण तथा आवास मन्त्री (श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना) : (क) और (ख) गन्दी बस्ती सफाई योजना के अधीन प्रायोजनाएं राज्य सरकारों द्वारा मंजूर की जाती हैं और इन प्रायोजनाओं के लिए धन भी उन्हीं के द्वारा सीधे निर्माण-अभिकरणों (एजेंसीज) को वितरित किया जाता है।

६.६४ करोड़ रुपये की लागत के स्वीकृत २१,५५० वास गृह-एककों (डवेलिंग यूनिट्स) के लिए अब तक कुल मिला कर ३६३.६७ लाख रुपयों की केन्द्रीय सहायता महाराष्ट्र सरकार को दी जा चुकी है। इसमें बम्बई नगर में ७.६७ करोड़ की लागत के स्वीकृत १५,७१८ वास-गृह-एकक भी शामिल हैं।

†[] English translation.

†[THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) and (b) Projects under the Slum Clearance Scheme are sanctioned by the State Governments and funds for these projects are also disbursed by them directly to the Construction Agencies.

Central assistance aggregating Rs. 393.67 lakhs has so far been released to the Government of Maharashtra for construction of 21,550 dwelling units of the approved cost of Rs. 9.64 crores. These include 15,718 dwelling units of the approved cost of Rs. 7.97 crores in the city of Bombay.]

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it not a fact that the work of slum clearance in Bombay city is not progressing according to schedule and, if so, whether the Central Government have any machinery to keep in touch with the State Governments in regard to the work of slum clearance?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Sir, we have been reviewing the position all over, and with a view to improving matters, my amending Bill is coming before the House this afternoon it has already been before a Joint Select Committee.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is it a fact that at the instance of the late Prime Minister, a committee of officials was appointed to go into the question of slum clearance in Bombay city and other cities as well, and may I know whether anything has been done to implement the recommendations made by that Committee?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The Committee was presided over by our colleague, the Law Minister; it was, I think, in or about 1958, and action is being taken as far as the recommendations of that Committee are concerned, and we have made some progress. I do not say that we have made much progress. The problem is so colossal and the work that has been done is so small that unless very great efforts are made in this direction, we will not be able even to touch the

fringe of the problem. Now, this slum clearance is a State subject; we can only supervise from this part of Delhi. But as far as Delhi is concerned, we have been meeting with some difficulties in the working of the Act—the old Act that was passed—and therefore an amending Bill has been brought before the House, and I feel that after this Bill has been passed by this House and powers given and vested in the Ministry, we should be able to achieve some better results.

SHRI A. B. VAJPAYEE: Is there any proposal to constitute a central machinery to supervise the work of slum clearance at least in big cities like Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: My Ministry is the central agency.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: May I know the number of people now living in slums in Bombay and for how many slum dwellers these houses have been provided by Government? And Sir, you may not allow me to ask another question and so I would like to put another question along with this and ask whether the Government are aware . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You want to put two questions at a time? Go ahead.

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: It is in the same connection, Sir, and I shall do so with your permission. If not, I shall sit down.

MR. CHAIRMAN: One is enough at a time.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Sir, the number of slum dwellers must be running into lakhs, but the number of houses that have been sanctioned for them is only round about 21,000.

श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण : क्या मन्त्री महोदय यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि बम्बई शहर के स्लम्स का कोई सर्वे कभी किसी वर्ष में किया गया है और यदि किया गया है तो

क्या कोई ऐसा अन्दाज़ा लगाया गया है कि वहां स्लम ड्वेलर्स कितने हैं और वहां के स्लम्स दूर करने में कितना रुपया लगेगा ?

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : कभी-कभी मैं बम्बई, चार-छः महीने में जाता हूं तो यही देखता हूं कि यह प्राबलम दिन पर दिन बढ़ रही है। अभी मेरे पास आंकड़े तो मौजूद नहीं हैं जिनको देख कर मैं जवाब दे सकू कि कितने हैं, लेकिन मेरे ख्याल में लाखों की तादाद में होंगे। अगर हाउसिंग प्राबलम को असली मानों में हल किया जाय तो उसके लिये हजारों करोड़ रुपयों की जरूरत है और मुझे पांच साल के लिये सिर्फ़ १२० करोड़ रुपये ही मिले हैं।

SHRI B. K. GAIKWAD: Are the Government aware that the houses of these slum dwellers were demolished by the Government with the help of the police during the rainy days and some children and old people died for want of shelter?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: As far as the Government of Maharashtra is concerned, the Minister in charge of housing schemes is one for whom I have great admiration. His name is Homi Talyarkhan and he is doing very good work. As for this particular charge, the same charge may be levelled against me in Delhi.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Sir, the hon. Minister said that there has been some progress but the problem is a colossal one. I want to know the extent of this progress he refers to. What is this "some progress", he will please explain. And I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware that in Calcutta at least, the slum dwellers who have been evicted have not been given any alternative place to live in and as such there has been terrible hardship and suffering? If so, what does the Government propose to do to alleviate this suffering?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The question really relates to Maharashtra, but I have some knowledge of the problem in Calcutta also. The complaints are common and the remedies are also common.

PROF. M. B. LAL: The charge is made against the Bombay authorities. Do we take the hon. Minister's answer to mean that the charges are so common that they need not be taken notice of by the people concerned?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I have not said that. What I say is that I am doing my level best to come to grips with this problem. But the amount of money provided for this in the Third Plan is only Rs. 180 crores whereas I want a few thousands crores to be able to come to grips with this problem in an effective manner. May I add that for the Fourth Five Year Plan, I have taken up this matter very seriously with the Planning Commission and I am hoping that there will be a bigger allocation for this type of work in the Fourth Plan.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, the question was whether the Minister was aware that slums had been demolished with the help of the police in Bombay and this had resulted in the death of some people because of the circumstances in which this was done. But the hon. Minister only told us that the same charge could be levelled against him in Delhi. Beyond that he could say nothing. He should say firstly, whether he is aware of this, and secondly, what steps are being taken to stop such hooliganism and vandalism.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I am afraid the hon. Member is very vehement in his observations and attacks. We have laid down certain criteria. We have sector-wise clearance schemes and we have certain freezing dates. After that if people start squatting, this problem cannot be allowed to continue and to grow. So if huts are demolished and if the *jhuggiwalas* are to be provided with alternative accommodation, it has to be done according to a certain plan

and that plan has been approved by the Government and we are acting upon it.

THERMAL PLANT IN KERALA

*70. SHRI JOSEPH MATHEN: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any plan to establish a thermal plant in Kerala to meet the shortage of electricity during the summer;

(b) if so, when is it likely to be set up;

(c) what is the percentage of the demand for power that is met in the State at present; and

(d) by what time the State is expected to be self-sufficient with regard to its power needs?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO): (a) The question of setting up a Thermal Station in Kerala is under consideration.

(b) The Project Report is being prepared by the Kerala State Electricity Board. After the scheme is sanctioned, it might take about three to four years to commission the Power Station.

(c) During Summer months—73 per cent. During Monsoon months—100 per cent.

(d) By end of 1966, there will be adequate power to meet the expected demand.

SHRI JOSEPH MATHEN: Was there a representation from the Kerala Government to establish a thermal plant to meet the demand for power there?

DR. K. L. RAO: Yes, quite so. That is how this is being considered.

SHRI JOSEPH MATHEN: When will this be ready for erection and when can we expect power from this thermal plant?

DR. K. L. RAO: As I have already submitted in my answer, we are expecting the report from the State Electricity Board and when it comes and when it is examined and sanctioned then it will be commissioned in 3 to 4 years.

SHRI JOSEPH MATHEN: What will be the fuel used for this plant?

DR. K. L. RAO: The fuel will be partly from the oil refinery at Cochin and partly from coal.

SHRIMATI DEVAKI GOPIDAS: What will be the voltage or capacity of this plant?

DR. K. L. RAO: It will be 100 megawatts.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I understand that the Government of India had consultations with the Kerala Government. Now that, amidst countrywide celebrations, that State Government has gone, may I know . . .

(Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Go on. You have already said the relevant thing.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I am coming to that. This is of their own making. As you know that ill-famed Government has gone away. Now, whom are you going to consult?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The next government, perhaps.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Is there any danger of this project being delayed on account of the fact that you have made a mess of the situation there and you have got the nemesis of 1959-60 and now there is no proper government in Kerala?

DR. K. L. RAO: Sir, actually there are no consultations required now. All that is required is the preparation of the report by the State Electricity Board.