

questions. The West Bengal Government sought our permission? I cannot positively say, possibly they might have. But they have our general instructions that when they think it right, they should give permission. These are general instructions. And the only question that arises is not of giving or not giving permission, but of giving it at the right time. We do not wish to keep them away because as I said previously, we do not want to hide anything. But sometimes when at wrong times a person goes, it creates trouble as perhaps it did. The other question was as to why we did not ask . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: To put it in writing.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: . . whether we asked him to contradict certain statements in the press. I do not know, I do not think we asked him.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He is going to make a statement.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I appreciate the Prime Minister's attitude . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Babubhai Chinai.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Let me ask one question. Will you allow me..

*293. [The questioner (Shri Babubhai Chinai) was absent. For answer, vide Cols. 2161-62 infra.]

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICIALS ON THE KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRIES COMMISSION

*294. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to reconstitute the Khadi and Village Industries Commission;

(b) if reply to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether it is proposed to include a representative of the Ministry of Finance and another

representative of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the Commission; and

(c) whether it is proposed to appoint an official Member-Secretary of the Commission?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) to (c) The Estimates Committee have made certain recommendations in regard to the reconstitution of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission and they are under consideration.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know by what time a decision is likely to be taken on the recommendations of the Estimates Committee?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Well, in a matter of a few weeks.

SHRI JAI NARAIN VYAS: Is it in the knowledge of the Government that only habitual khadi wearers can be on the Commission because they have to control the Khadi Boards in the different States? And while selecting members from the Secretariat or some other place, will they take into consideration that only khadi wearers are to be on the Commission?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: As a matter of fact, the remarks of the Estimates Committee have been sent to the Commission for their comments. After the comments are received, we will consider that.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know if there is any proposal to combine the Handloom Board, the Handicrafts Board and the Silk Board together with this Khadi Commission?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

STOPPAGE OF DOLES OF DISPLACED PERSONS IN WEST BENGAL

*295. SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND

SUPPLY be pleased to state what alternate relief arrangements have been made for the 34,000 camp refugees in West Bengal whose doles have been stopped by the Government of India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI P. S. NASKAR): All displaced families in camps in West Bengal were offered rehabilitation assistance. The doles of those who declined the offer were stopped after they had been given sufficient time to make a decision. The Government of India do not accept any further responsibility in regard to these families.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know whether the refugee organisations of West Bengal submitted alternative practical schemes for the rehabilitation of refugees in West Bengal and, if so, whether the Government have gone into those schemes or implemented any of them, if not, why not?

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is not at all brief. The answer will be brief.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The question is not clear.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you kindly repeat your question?

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know whether the refugee organisations of West Bengal have submitted alternative schemes for the rehabilitation of refugees in West Bengal?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Have they submitted any alternative schemes? That is what he asks.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The process of rehabilitation, whether in West Bengal or in other parts of India, is spread over a number of years, 14 or 15 years. And as regards West Bengal, we have schemes, we have rehabilitated lakhs of people within the State. But because the

State has now reached the saturation point, we are now taking people outside West Bengal to places like Orissa, Bihar and U.P. including Dandakaranya.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: Sir, my question was not answered. I asked whether the refugee organisations of West Bengal made alternative practical proposals to the Government for rehabilitation in West Bengal and whether the Government have gone into those schemes and implemented any of them and if they rejected them, why did they reject them?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The number of refugee organisations in West Bengal is very large. During the last six or seven years that I have been in West Bengal, they met me personally and made repeated representations. All these representations have been examined, and wherever practical propositions have been made and found feasible, they have been acted upon.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: How many industrial units have been started by the Government for the rehabilitation of the refugees and how many refugees have been employed in them?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Industrial units have been set up by the Rehabilitation and Industries Corporation which is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. I am prepared to answer this question in this way that we have set up a large number of industries in West Bengal. In terms of money we have spent very large sums and thousands of persons have found gainful employment.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: I want to know the definite number of the refugees who are employed in the units established exclusively for the employment of the refugees.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: All this information is given in detail in the Annual Reports of the Ministries

of Rehabilitation and Commerce and Industry.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know how many refugees are affected by the stoppage of doles? And I would like to know, in view of the fact that they have not been able to go to Dandakaranya or are hesitating—whatever the reason may be—to go there, why the Government have suddenly stopped it when we find at the same time that the Tibetan refugees are being pampered.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Sir, about ten lakh refugees have been taken to the various camps in West Bengal and in the eastern region. Practically every fourth man who came from East Pakistan was taken into the camps. Up till now we have spent about Rs. 55 crores on feeding them. It is considered to be wasteful and unproductive expenditure. But where sympathy is concerned, it is extended in full. Rehabilitation assistance was offered in each case, and if a D.P. is not prepared to accept rehabilitation in Dandakaranya where we have spent Rs. 10 or Rs. 12 crores, I am afraid I have nothing to offer to that man.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: May I know whether the Government would consider the proposal of arranging a team of refugees elected from the different refugee camps to visit Dandakaranya so that they can come and report and encourage them to go to Dandakaranya?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I have four thousand families in Dandakaranya and not one of them has come back to West Bengal. As far as the representatives of West Bengal are concerned, the representatives of the opposition parties plus the leading newspapers of West Bengal have been taken to Dandakaranya. They have visited the area and they are highly appreciative of the efforts made by the Government of India.

SHRIMATI MAYA DEVI CHETTRY: May I know what would be the livelihood of the 34,000 people who had been stopped their doles?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: The doles of some thousands of families have now been stopped. When a decision was taken in July, 1958 to close down the camps, the number of families then in camps was 45,000. Ten thousand was the responsibility of the Government of West Bengal and thirty thousand was to be that of the Government of India. Thousands of families have been taken to Dandakaranya, Bihar and Orissa. As for those who are in West Bengal, we have offered them relief for six months. I have given them thirty days' notice, extended it to 90 days, to 150 days, then extended it to 365 days. If my friends will not come and will not like to be rehabilitated, I cannot go on paying them doles.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: You see the way in which the hon. Minister is answering the question. See its very aggressive tone. We talk . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You are aggressive in your tone.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The content also is even more aggressive. Now, we know that they have not all found their way to Dandakaranya. There may be reasons which may be justified or not justified. But the fact remains that the doles of such people who are helpless are about to be stopped now. In view of this fact and the human consideration involved in this matter, why is not the Government continuing the scheme of giving doles for a longer time? And at the same time if they wish, they can persuade them to go, and they can seek the co-operation of others. This means the starvation of so many thousands of people!

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: If my friends would only like me to deal with the problem on human consideration and give me their co-

operation, I am prepared to extend my hand of friendship to him. We can both co-operate.

SHRI A. D. MANI: I should like the Minister to give clear answers to questions and not go round a circle. I should like to ask him, if the conditions in Dandakaranya are so good, what difficulty is there in the appointment of a mixed study committee consisting of elected representatives of the refugees and officials or non-officials to go and study the situation? That question was asked by my friend, Mr. Ghosh, and I am modifying his suggestion to make it a mixed team of representatives and officials or non-officials.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Sir, my replies are clear and specific. There are two aspects of the problem relief and rehabilitation. Rehabilitation is not being challenged; in fact rehabilitation is not the question before us. The question is that I should go on extending relief to those who do not want to be rehabilitated..

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: They do want to be rehabilitated.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA:and the policy of the Government of India in that connection is very clear.

HISTORY OF INDIAN ARMY

*296. SHRI GURUDEV: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state whether it is a fact that Government have printed a history of the Indian Army, commanded by Netaji Subash Chandra Bose and written by Dr. P. C. Gupta, Head of the Department of History at the Jadavpur University?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. GOPALA REDDI): No, Sir. This Ministry has

not brought out any history of the Indian Army commanded by Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

SHRI GURUDEV: May I know, Sir, if it has been published by anyone else?

DR. B. GOPALA REDDI: We have no information.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, the reasons why the Government of India is not taking initiative in the matter of publishing such a history? And do I take it that the Government of India does not like that a history of this kind should be produced in the country?

DR. B. GOPALA REDDI: It is a matter of suggestion. We cannot answer that kind of question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The question is very simple.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a suggestion for action.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: No suggestion; I want to know the mind of the Government. It is not a suggestion; I want to know the mental processes of the Government in this matter.

CONVERSION OF WOOLLEN SPINDLES INTO SHODDY SPINDLES

*297. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news item "Shoddy units concerned over conversion proposal" which appeared in the 'Economic Times' of 2nd April, 1962 (page 1, columns 6-7); and

(b) whether any representations have also been received by Government against the proposed conversion of woollen spindles into shoddy spindles?