

accordance with the resolution adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on the 13th April, 1961, we have asked the Government of the Republic of South Africa through its Ambassador in London and its Permanent Representative in the United Nations to enter into negotiations. The South African Government has so far not complied with the request. The South African Ambassador in London has merely acknowledged the communication.

\*179. [*The questioner (Dr. A. Subba Rao) was absent. For answer vide cols. 691-93 infra.*]

#### CLOSURE OF JUTE MILLS

\*180. { SHRI GOVINDAN NAIR:  
SHRI M. S. GURUPADA  
SWAMY†:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have agreed to the block closure of jute mills in West Bengal on a proposal by the Indian Jute Mills Association;

(b) if so, how long will the mills be closed; and

(c) what are the reasons for this block closure?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI KANUNGO): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

Yes, Sir. Both the Government of India and the West Bengal Government had agreed to the proposal of the Indian Jute Mills Association to observe two block closures, each lasting seven days, during the months of

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. S. Gurupada Swamy.

June and July 1961. The proposal of the Association to observe a third block closure in August was not agreed to. The block closures were necessitated by the acute scarcity of raw Jute.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: May I know how long it will take for the mills to reopen?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: There is no question of reopening. The block closures were in the month of July. The block closures have not been permitted in the month of August. The West Bengal Government has not agreed to it. So the mills are working, but some of the mills which have run short of raw materials close intermittently.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over.

12 NOON

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### ALLOTMENT OF LAND AND GRANTS TO REFUGEES FROM EAST PAKISTAN

\*163. SHRI J. C. CHATTERJI: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been any discrimination in the allotment of land and grant of money for purchase of bullocks, implements and seeds, between refugees from West Pakistan and those from East Pakistan, who have been settled in the State of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and on receipt will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.