

(c) what steps have been taken to bring the welfare amenities available to the iron ore miners at par with those provided for other sectors of the mining industry?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT AND PLANNING (SHRI L. N. MISHRA): (a) and (b) Labour employed in the iron ore mines enjoy the same statutory welfare amenities like drinking water, canteens, creches, first aid etc. as are enjoyed by other miners. They do not however, have the special amenities provided to coal and mica miners under the Coal and Mica Mines Labour Welfare Fund, Acts.

(c) A scheme of a welfare fund for iron ore miners on the lines of the welfare funds for coal and mica miners will be placed before the next meeting of the Industrial Committee on Mines other than Coal for consideration.

ISSUE OF IDENTITY CARDS TO SETTLERS OF INDIAN ORIGIN IN CEYLON

*324. SHRI P. N. RAJABHOJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Ceylon have decided to issue identity cards to the settlers of Indian origin who have neither acquired Ceylonese citizenship nor are qualified for Indian nationality; and

(b) if so, what is the purpose of such a measure?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

EXECUTION OF WORKS

*325. SHRI SATYACHARAN: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the total value of works executed by his Ministry through department-

tal agencies and the value of works done through contractors during the years 1959-60 and 1960-61;

(b) whether any contractors were black-listed during the above period and if so, for what reasons; and

(c) whether Government are considering the proposal of execution of works through co-operative societies?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) The information is being collected.

(b) Four contractors of the Central Public Works Department were blacklisted by the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply for doing substandard work, unauthorized disposal of Government materials etc.

(c) It has been decided to award on merits works costing upto Rs. 10,000 to co-operative societies without call of tenders.

LOANS UNDER LOW AND MIDDLE INCOME GROUP HOUSING SCHEMES

*326. SHRI SATYACHARAN: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the amount of loan of Rs. 8,000 and Rs. 20,000 fixed for Low and Middle Income Group Housing Schemes is very meagre, especially for a place like Delhi?

(b) whether it is a fact that loanes have to face considerable difficulties and sometimes even to stop work as loans are granted in instalments and a lot of time is taken in the completion of the formalities; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to remove the difficulties and to give sufficient loan in the Capital?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) The quantum of loan assistance admissible under the two Schemes is considered reasonable.