

RAJYA SABHA

Tuesday, the 6th September, 1960/
the 15th Bhadra, 1882 (Saka)

The House met at eleven of the clock, MR. CHAIRMAN in the Chair.

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST PAKISTAN

*640. SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the present number of displaced persons from East Pakistan who are living in (i) camps and (ii) in squatters' colonies;

(b) what is the number of squatters' colonies; and

(c) the daily amount of doles now distributed *per capita* and what is the annual expenditure incurred in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS (SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA):

(a) (i) There were about one lakh persons in camps on the 31st July, 1960.

(ii) It is estimated that 1.25 lakh persons are residing in squatters' colonies.

(b) 147 colonies.

(c) Doles are not paid on daily basis. The estimated average cost of maintenance of displaced persons in camps amounts to Rs. 21 *per capita* per month. The expenditure for the year 1959-60, was Rs. 416.23 lakhs.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: May I know, Sir, the number of families now proposed to be settled in Dandakaranya?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: This question has no relation whatsoever with Dandakaranya, but I

think we have sent round about eight to ten thousand persons. They come from West Bengal as well as from Bettiah in Bihar.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: How many houses have already been built and how many more are required to be built?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Sir, only on the 10th August, last month, I circulated a very detailed note to Members of Parliament, giving some particulars about the Dandakaranya scheme. Houses there are under construction, but during the monsoon nothing much can be done.

SHRI N. SRI RAMA REDDY: It looks as if the Dandakaranya scheme offers some very good scope for settling the landless people, apart from the refugees from Pakistan. Is there any possibility of settling the landless people who are there all over the country, apart from the Pakistan refugees?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: This question was discussed in a broad manner between the Chief Minister of West Bengal and the Prime Minister of India on the 16th of June and certain priorities were laid down in the statement that was issued by the Prime Minister's Secretariat then. I think the date was 17th June. The first priority is the rehabilitation of displaced persons who are in the camps in West Bengal and also the interests of the tribals. After this aspect of the matter has been fully considered and persons are rehabilitated, the general question of rehabilitation of persons from other parts of India can be considered, because in the words of the Prime Minister, Sir, it is a national project which will go on being developed for quite some time to come.

CARRY-OVER OF FINANCIAL OUTLAY FROM SECOND TO THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN

*641. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of PLANNING be pleased to state: