

yards, though un-built, forms part of the plot area of the tenements.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: I would like to know whether it is a fact that these tenements were transferred to the displaced persons against their claims?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: Yes, Sir. That is provided in the compensation rules and that is the policy that we have been following for the last five years in the case of tenements.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that in the Kingsway Camp tenements there is only one room and that there is no store room or godown or any other space?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: That would be correct. This is one of the colonies built about the year 1948-49 when we hardly had any building materials. Steel, cement and bricks were scarce commodities those days.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of the Minister that in some cases twelve to fifteen or even more persons live at present in one room?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: We allotted one room for a family. If the birth rate has been so high, I do not know . . .

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that there is no proper arrangement for drainage or for drinking water in that colony?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: It may be partly correct, Sir, but we have made arrangements to give substantial grants—I am talking from memory—to the Delhi Corporation to provide all the necessary amenities, I mean the civic amenities in that colony.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that about twenty persons suffering from tuberculosis are living with the families in those rooms?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: I will pass on that information to the Health Minister.

MANUFACTURE OF SODIUM HYDROSULPHITE AT ELOOR

•104. SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether a plant for the manufacture of Sodium Hydrosulphite is to be set up at Eloor; and

(b) if so, what will be the initial cost of this project and what amount of Sodium Hydrosulphite will be produced annually by the plant?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : (a) The plant has already been set up and is in production.

(b) Capital cost of the project is about Rs. 40 lakhs. Annual production of the plant is 900 tons.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know the quantity of Sodium Hydrosulphite imported nowadays from other countries?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: About 2,000 to 3,000 tons.

♦105. [Trans/erred to the 20th April, 1960.]

PAKISTANIS POSTAGE STAMPS ON KASHMIR, HYDERABAD AND JUNAGADH

/DR. A. SUBBA RAO: SHRI
JASWANT SINGH:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the press report* that the Pakistan Postal Authorities have issued postal stamps showing Hyderabad, Junagadh and Kashmir as parts of Pakistan; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken in the matter?

*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. A Subra Rao.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) and (b) The Pakistan Posts and Telegraphs Department released four new postage stamps for sale on March 23, 1960. These stamps indicated that the final status of Jammu and Kashmir State, Juna-gadh and Manavadar is yet to be determined.

The issue of these stamps cannot affect the status of those territories or the sovereignty of the Union of India over them. The Government of India regret that this unfortunate, provocative and propagandist step, which introduces a new irritant in Indo-Pakistan relations, has been taken. The Government's concern at this step was conveyed to the Government of Pakistan, through their High Commission at Delhi and through the Indian High Commissioner in Pakistan. No other action has been considered necessary.

DR A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether the issue of these postal stamps showing these Indian territories as Pakistan is not a violation of the international postal law and practice?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It is not shown as territories of Pakistan at all. As I mentioned in the reply, it is shown as areas the status of which is not determined.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I would like to know what measures the Government propose to take to counteract this propaganda because we have the experience of China issuing maps and we know what bitter experience we had. So was it not necessary that we took some measures to counteract this propaganda which has potential risks?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: There is no provision in the Universal Postal Union Convention which debar any country from issuing any particular stamps; whether they are correct or not, we cannot object to that.

As for its being propaganda, propaganda can be met by correct facts being stated and that is done to the best of our ability.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: We agree that technically there is no breach of international postal laws but how has the Government of Pakistan reacted to our protest? Have they sent us any reply or have they stopped selling these stamps?

SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON: It was pointed out that we have not sent a formal protest but we have taken up the matter with the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi and with our High Commissioner in Pakistan.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: But what has been the reaction?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not know if there was any internal reaction*; externally there has been none.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Can we not take this action that letters received from Pakistan bearing these stamps be treated as bearing and made not acceptable here?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not know; possibly it is a breach of the Universal Postal Union. Anyhow, it will also involve the setting up of a vast apparatus in every post office which we do not propose to do.

SHRI FARIDUL HAQ ANSARI: May I know whether the attention of the United Nations has been drawn to this unfortunate incident?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not think so.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: The Prime Minister said that it will require large staff. But when the action of a foreign Government harms our country, is it so necessary that we should take into consideration the amount of money that we spend on such matters?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not think this matter, however irritating it is, is a kind of matter in which we should enlarge our establishment

to stop letters and all that. I do not think it is at all necessary or desirable.

TAKING OVER OF THE MISMANAGED TEA PLANTATIONS IN ASSAM

•107. DR. A. SUBBA RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Assam has sought the permission of the Government of India to take over the badly managed tea plantations in Assam;

(b) if so, how many estates are involved; and

(c) whether Government have considered the request of the State Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO) : (a) to (c) The control of the tea industry vests in the Central Government. Some time back the Assam Government drew the attention of the Government of India to a few cases of closure or threatened closure of small tea estates in Assam either due to financial difficulties, neglect or mismanagement and suggested that the Central Government may consider the desirability of assuming powers similar to those contained in the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 for dealing with such cases. The question is still under examination.

DR. A. SUBBA RAO: May I know whether it is a fact that a large number of these plantations are refusing to give any wage increase to their workers?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I do not know; I have no information on that point because the question relates to a particular legislation.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether the Government is aware that actually a Bill was proposed to be brought before the State Assembly saying that that measure had been necessitated due to the fact

that a large number of tea plantations, especially owned by the British, had refused to give any wage increase under the Government regulations?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: I have no information about any Bill of the Assam Government. The question was about a particular legislation to be brought forward by the Central Government and that legislation is under consideration.

SHRI N. M. LINGAM: Before taking resort to this extreme step and considering the taking over of these gardens, what other measures have the Government taken for the rehabilitation of these gardens?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: Various measures have been taken, the most important of which is that a Directorate of Development has been set up and it advises the estates on how to improve their management.

FRENCH ATOMIC TEST EXPLOSION IN SAHARA

*108. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the Afro-Asian countries have requested the United Nations Secretary-General to summon a special session of the United Nations General Assembly to consider the French atomic test explosion in the Sahara and if so, which are those countries; and

(b) what is Government's attitude in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Yes, Sir. Afghanistan, Burma, Ceylon, Ethiopia, Federation of Malaya, Ghana, Guinea, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Republic and Yemen requested on the 14th March the Secretary-General of the United Nations to summon a special session of the General Assembly to consider the French