

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sit down. Sit down. Please listen to him.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: We follow the Delhi practice, and according to the Delhi practice whenever we quote the price of the house, the price of the land is not there. May I submit one thing for the kind consideration of the House? Diwan Chaman Lall and one or two Members from the other House, say, Chowdhury Brahm Prakash—I would humbly suggest to them—should look into the entire matter and see where the fault lies. I am prepared to make this offer to these gentlemen.

(Interruptions.)

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: All the notices should be withdrawn.

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी ने वहाँ की जो मेजरमेंट बुक है, जिस की कापी मेरे पास है, देखी है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: How many of you have got these letters?

SHRI NAWAB SINGH CHAUHAN: This is not a copy of that letter. This is a copy of the measurement-book entries.

इसमे आइटम वाइज दिया हुआ है।

श्री मेहर चन्द खन्ना : टोटल बतलाइये, क्या है ?

श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : टोटल १७६३ रु० २ आना है। इसमे भी कम है। इसमें आइटम नम्बर २५ पर लिखा हुआ है कि कॉस्ट आफ लैंड क्या है।

70 ft. x 30 ft. at Rs. 2/7| per square yard including development charges. It comes to Rs. 568.

क्या माननीय मंत्री जी इस बात को जानने की कोशिश करेंगे कि उनके अफसरों ने उनको गलत इंफार्मेशन क्यों दी है ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is another letter.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: If Mr. Chauhan passes that on to me, I will be very grateful.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There are letters sent by your office of which you are not aware.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Let us have a half-an-hour discussion, Sir. Please ask him not to proceed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Sir, on a question of personal explanation which brings in a question of privilege. It took place yesterday.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sit down, Mr. Roy. Let us finish. We cannot have consideration of privilege motions until the Questions are over.

SHRI BIREN ROY: It is not a privilege motion. It is a personal explanation. Something has been published today in a newspaper regarding a speech about the election in the Calcutta South-West Parliamentary Constituency in which it is stated clearly that my hon. friend, Mr. Basu, has stated that the election was set aside by the Election Tribunal for large-scale impersonation, which is not a fact, because there was no question not only of impersonation . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Sit down please.

SHRI BIREN ROY: I will finish in one minute.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is not a question of your finishing. We have got to get through the Short Notice Questions before I can listen to you.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: He wants a little rest.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He wants to gate-crash.

SHRI BIREN ROY: I did not know, Sir, that there was another Short Notice Question.

SETTLEMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS LIVING IN CAMPS

2. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state;

(a) whether any agreement was reached between him and Shri P. C. Sen, Rehabilitation Minister of the Government of West Bengal in regard to:

- (i) the issue of notices to the displaced persons living in camps;
- (ii) the *Bayananama* Scheme;
- (iii) the removal of displaced persons from camps to Dandakaranya or other places outside West Bengal;

(b) whether any meetings were held between him and Shri P. C. Sen in this connection; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, when these meetings were held and what are the details of the agreements reached at those meetings?

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

(b) Yes, seven meetings were held between the 1st August, 1959 and the 31st March, 1960.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

I. Background

Policy decision of July, 1958.—At the Ministers' meeting held at Calcutta on the 4th July, 1958, between the Central Government, represented by the Finance Minister, the Law Minister and the Rehabilitation Minister and the Government of West Bengal, represented by the Chief Minister and the Rehabilitation Minister, it was decided that:—

- (a) of the 45,000 families, then in camps, the State Government would rehabilitate 10,000 families within the State and the Government of India would make arrangements for

the rehabilitation of the remaining 35,000 families in States outside West Bengal, including the Dandakaranya Project.

- (b) When the families are moved, they would be provided with shelter and work during the initial period until they are rehabilitated.
- (c) Each family would be allowed time upto two months to accept or to decline the offer of rehabilitation. Any family which declined the offer would be paid a sum equivalent to six months' cash doles. After such payment, the refugee family would cease to be the responsibility of Government.

Position on 1st August, 1959.—There were 1·58 lakh displaced persons in camps on the 1st August, 1959, comprising 35,000 families of whom about 30,000 were agriculturists and 5,000 non-agriculturists.

In the context of the 'July-1958' decision, the State Government had rehabilitated about fifty per cent. of the 10,000 families to be settled within the State and the balance had still to be rehabilitated.

The Dandakaranya Authority had indicated that they would be ready to receive families for work/rehabilitation in the Project area after the monsoon, i.e., from October, 1959, at an average rate of about 1,000 families each month.

II. Details of the meetings held between the Union Minister for Rehabilitation and the Rehabilitation Minister, West Bengal and decisions/Agreements reached at the Meetings.

- (i) *August 1959.*—In August, 1959, the two Ministers decided that non-agriculturist camp families should be notified to make arrangements for their rehabilitation within a period of 90 days, either under Government rehabilitation schemes or under the

Bayananama Scheme. If the notified families failed to exercise the option of rehabilitation within the specified period of 90 days, their names, along with those of their family members would be removed from the rolls of the camps.

(ii) *September 1959*.—In September 1959, the Ministers decided that the agriculturist families may also be notified and asked to exercise their option of either moving to Dandakaranya when called upon to do so or to make arrangements for themselves under the *Bayananama* Scheme within a period of 90 days, failing which their names would be removed from the rolls of the camps.

(iii) *25th December 1959*.—On the 25th December, 1959 the two Ministers reviewed the position as follows:—

(a) The State Rehabilitation Minister was of the opinion that in view of the paucity of suitable agricultural lands and the very limited prospects of economic rehabilitation of non-agriculturist families within the State, the *Bayananama* Scheme could be implemented only to a very small extent in selected areas. Schemes for the development of sub-marginal lands were at best long-term development projects requiring years for fruition. The camps could not be kept open till then and the State Government were definitely of the view that the Government of India should make early arrangements for the removal of 35,000 families from camps in West Bengal in accordance with the decision taken at the Ministers' Conference in July, 1958. The State Rehabilitation Minister further suggested that notices should be given to these families calling upon them to move to Dandakaranya within a period of two months; failing that they should be paid six months' doles and their names removed from the camp registers.

(b) The State Rehabilitation Minister stated that the State Government had already rehabilitated about 6,000 families within West Bengal and in

respect of the remaining 4,000 families, details would be worked out by the State Government taking into account the availability of tenements plots, etc. and notices served in accordance with them. Specific families would be asked to move to specific plots and tenements; failing that they would also be paid six months' doles and their names removed from the camp registers.

(iv) *29th December, 1959*.—The two Ministers approved the decisions taken on the previous day at a meeting between the Secretaries of the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation and the State Rehabilitation Department, with the following modifications:—

(a) The distinction between pre-June, 1954 and post-June, 1954 displaced persons would be discontinued.

(b) The period of notice both for agriculturist as well as non-agriculturist families would be 60 days, and the State Government would have the discretion to extend it upto another 60 days in cases in which they considered this necessary.

(c) The State Government would furnish to the Ministry of Rehabilitation a list of the families to whom notices had been issued by them. The Ministry would then inform the Accountant-General of these names.

(v) *4th January, 1960*.—The Ministers agreed to the issue of notices to 2,000 agriculturist families during January 1960, the families to be selected by the State Government.

(vi) *28th January, 1960*.—It was decided by the Ministers that the State Government would notify another 2,000 camp families during February, 1960, for movement to Dandakaranya.

(vii) *17th March 1960*.—It was decided by the Ministers that since notices had already been served on

about 14,000 camp families, no further notices need be issued for about one month and the position should be reviewed in the middle of April, 1960.

It was further agreed that in cases where the period of notice plus extension upto 60 days allowed by the State Rehabilitation Secretary had already expired, he may extend the time limit further up to the 15th April, 1960.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: From the statement it would clearly appear that for the entire disastrous developments the Minister of Rehabilitation, Mr. Khanna, was responsible, and it would also appear that the State Rehabilitation Minister was responsible. May I know who actually made these proposals for closing the camps and issuing notices with regard to the *Bayananama* Scheme and removing the displaced persons to Dandakaranya and so on?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: In the statement I have made it very clear that in regard to moving the families to Dandakaranya, we wanted at least one thousand agriculturist families to be moved each month, and for that purpose a number of meetings were held between me and the Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal, Shri P. C. Sen, so that the displaced persons in camps could be notified and asked to move over to Dandakaranya or to disperse on six months' doles in accordance with the decision of July, 1958.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know whether any minutes of the meetings of the 25th December, 29th December, 4th January, 28th. January and 17th March were kept and whether there was some reference to this in the West Bengal State Assembly, and if so, whether the hon. Minister would be pleased to lay the records of those meetings on the Table of the House, since they affect a matter of public importance and no secret is involved?

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: As regards the first part of the question, I myself stated in the answer that these meetings were held on the 25th December, 29th December, 4th January, 28th January and 17th March, 1960. As regards the reference to the West Bengal Legislative Assembly, we received reports. So far as the last part of the question is concerned, I have given a good summary of the decisions taken at these meetings. Personally I have no objection to place these minutes before the House, but the other man is also party to them—that is, the Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal. I do not know whether it would be correct on my part to place these minutes on the Table of the House without consulting him. As I said, personally I have no objection. I would like your guidance in the matter, Sir.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, before I ask other questions, you can kindly direct him to do so, because we know that the Home Minister read certain things without consulting the Chief Minister of Kerala. Therefore, I request him through you that they be laid on the Table of the House immediately.

May I know in this connection whether the hon. Minister is aware—that is a very interesting subject . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: . . . that a letter written by Shri P. C. Sen to Shri Mehr Chand Khanna dated the 21st December, 1959, was partly read out in the West Bengal Assembly by the Deputy Minister, Shrimati Maya Banerjee and, if so, whether he would be good enough to lay a copy of the letter also on the Table of the House?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not a part of the letter was read out, but the whole letter.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: We want the whole letter. You are quite right.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: As far as the first part of the question is concerned, I did see the press reports that the Deputy Minister for Rehabilitation, Shrimati Maya Banerjee, in the course of the debate in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly either read out the whole letter or extracts from the letter which was written by Shri Profulla Sen to me, and the date is 21st December, 1959. Again, Sir, I ask your guidance whether the letter written to me by Shri Profulla Sen should be laid on the Table of the House. Personally I have no objection.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know in this connection whether the Government is also aware that there was correspondence between Shri Dharam Vir and Shri Sombu Banerjee with regard to this matter, whether he is in possession of this correspondence and whether he would be good enough to apprise the House of what passed between them by way of laying that information on the Table of the House.

SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA: If decisions at Ministers' level have to be implemented at Secretaries' level, there is nothing unusual or new about it.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

C.T.O. STAFF TRANSFERRED TO DANDAKARANYA

*229. DR. Z. A. AHMAD: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons of various grades working under the Central Tractor Organisation whose services have been transferred to the Dandakaranya Project;

(b) the service conditions on which they were transferred; and

(c) the date on which they were transferred there?

THE MINISTER OF REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS:
(SHRI MEHR CHAND KHANNA): (a) 358.

(b) Their pay and scales of pay have been protected and service in the Central Tractor Organisation is allowed to count for increment in identical time scales. In addition they are paid the Project allowance.

(c) Most of the staff were transferred on the 1st November, 1958.

LOANS ADVANCED TO ORISSA UNDER THE HOUSING SCHEMES

*233. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) the total number and amounts of loans advanced under each of the Low and Middle Income Group Housing Schemes to the State of Orissa during the year 1959-60; and

(b) what provision has been made in the current budget under each of the Schemes in respect of the State of Orissa?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA): (a) A sum of Rs. 9.78 lakhs has been finally released to Orissa Government under the Low Income Group Housing Scheme for the year 1959-60, after adjusting the over-payment made during the previous year. A sum of Rs. 15 lakhs was released by the Life Insurance Corporation to Orissa Government for the implementation of the Middle Income Group Housing Scheme during 1959-60.

(b) The State-wise allocation of funds for these schemes for the year 1960-61 has not yet been finalised.