

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: May I know the progress made in slum clearance schemes in major cities like Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Kanpur in the years 1955-56 and 1956-57?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: So far as slum clearance in Delhi is concerned, it is looked after by the Health Ministry. Till now we have received 116 detailed schemes for slum clearance in various States out of which 30 have been sanctioned, 39 have been referred back to the States for recasting, 16 are being processed for sanction and 31 are under technical examination.

SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND: How many houses have been constructed till now in the slum areas?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: Some work has already been done in Madras but we have not yet received any detailed information about the actual execution of the scheme.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether the allocations under the slum clearance scheme by the Central Government are distinct from the allocations made for housing purposes?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: In the Second Five Year Plan Rs. 20 crores have been provided for slum clearance and sweepers' colonies and these allocations are made out of that fund, on a State-wise basis.

SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD: On how many of the 30 sanctioned schemes has work started?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: As I already said, we have not got detailed information. It is for the States to work out the schemes. We have sanctioned the money.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know whether these allocations are separate from those made for housing purposes?

SHRI ANIL K. CHANDA: These allocations have been made out of funds placed for slum clearance.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: How much amount is already given to these States for this purpose?

(No reply.)

TRIPARTITE ROAD AGREEMENT BETWEEN INDIA, U.S.A. AND NEPAL

*408. **SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND** (ON BEHALF OF MOULANA M. FARUQI): Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether a tripartite agreement between India, United States and Nepal has been signed recently for the construction of roads in Nepal; and

(b) if so, what is the cost of the scheme and how it will be met by the three Governments?

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

(c) Does not arise.

PRODUCTION AND DEMAND OF SULPHURIC ACID

*421. **SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI** (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR): Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for sulphuric acid in the country is far in excess of its indigenous production;

(b) whether any industry has been experiencing great handicap in its expansion programme owing to short supply of sulphuric acid; and

(c) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to augment the supply of sulphuric acid to such industry?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

**PRODUCTION OF RAYON GRADE PULP
FROM BAMBOO**

*422. SHRIMATI K. BHARATHI (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR): Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a recent report in newspapers that a Japanese scientist has evolved a process for producing rayon grade pulp out of bamboo; and

(b) if so, whether Government have taken or propose to take any action to exploit the process?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) and (b). With a view to developing the manufacture of dissolving grade pulp from Indian bamboo, small quantity of bamboo was sent to Japan for laboratory, pilot plant and commercial trials. A report on the results of the investigations has since been received and is under examination of Government.

PRODUCTION OF STUDEBAKER CARS AND TRUCKS

*423. SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND (ON BEHALF OF SHRI S. C. KARAYALAR): Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the production of Studebaker cars and trucks has been stopped by the indigenous manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): Production out of existing stocks is continuing, but technical collaboration between the indigenous manufacturer and the foreign firm is said to have ended.

DISPOSAL OF COCOONS BY U. P. SERICULTURE INSTITUTE, PREMUNAGAR

*397. SHRIMATI CHANDRAVATI LAKHANPAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of pierced and rejected cocoons available with the Uttar Pradesh Sericulture Institute, Premnagar (Dehra Dun), in 1955-56 and 1956-57;

(b) what is the method of disposal of these cocoons at present; and

(c) whether there is any scheme under consideration of Government by which these cocoons could be profitably used?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a)

	Pierced cocoons lbs.	Rejected cocoons lbs.
1955-56	207	2,205
1956-57	536	1,448

(b) They are utilised in spinning of *matka* yarn.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Uttar Pradesh contemplate setting up a full fledged *matka* silk spinning and weaving centre for utilising the entire quantity of such cocoons.

SHRIMATI CHANDRAVATI LAKHANPAL: May I know how long will it take the Government to implement this scheme that has been submitted by the Director of the Sericulture Institute?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: It is for the Uttar Pradesh Government to do it.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What is *matka* silk?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: *Matka* is a variety of silk which is spun.

SHRIMATI CHANDRAVATI LAKHANPAL: Is it a fact that the rejected cocoons are sold at 8 annas per seer while they are purchased at Rs. 7/8 per seer, which means that there is a loss of about Rs. 7 per seer to the Government?

SHRI N. KANUNGO: The U. P. Government is buying the whole of the rejected and pierced cocoons.