

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** An enquiry committee has already been appointed.

**SHRI D. A. MIRZA:** Will the Government take steps to bring down the prices of cloth in the interest of the consumer?

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** Sir, this is not an arbitrary question. The consumer cannot profit by the closure of the mills.

**SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the wholesalers and retailers are not keen to have their normal offtake because there is consumer resistance?

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** There may be several reasons. But mostly because the existing stocks are not sold, they are not taking new stocks.

**SHRI LALCHAND HIRACHAND DOSHI:** How long do the Government propose to wait till they take any action with regard to accumulation of cloth?

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** Until the appropriate time.

**श्री राम सहाय :** क्या श्रीमान् ने इस बात की कोई सरखे की है कि भारतवर्ष की सब मिलों में कितना कपड़ा स्टॉक हो गया है ?

**श्री मोरारजी आर० देसाई :** फिगरस तो हमारे पास हैं ।

**SHRI PRITHVIRAJ KAPOOR:** May I know, Sir, whether the Government is contemplating to buy all that stock and give it at a lower price to the people who need it?

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** It is a suggestion for action. But there is no such consideration before Government, and it is not likely to be before Government at any time in the near future.

**SHRI H. P. SAKSENA:** Do Government ever think of issuing a directive to the textile industry to lower down the prices in order to clear all the accumulated stocks?

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** That is for them to consider, not for Government to tell them.

**SHRI AMOLAKH CHAND:** May I know, Sir, whether the working of the mills has also gone down—the mills were running with two shifts or three shifts—because of this accumulation of stocks?

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** Not appreciably yet.

**SHRI LALCHAND HIRACHAND DOSHI:** Is it not a fact that this accumulation is particularly acute with regard to the rough type of cloth and not the superior type of cloth?

**SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI:** It is difficult to say that.

#### ACCOMMODATION FOR LOW INCOME GROUP GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

13. **SHRI B. SHIVA RAO:** Will the Minister of WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made any survey about the accommodation available for the low income groups of Government employees in New Delhi;

(b) if not, whether there is any such proposal under the consideration of Government; and

(c) whether the problem of accommodation in the Capital will be tackled from the stand-point of the special needs of Government employees, belonging to Class III and Class IV?

**THE MINISTER OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SHRI K. C. REDDY):** (a) and (b). No special survey is necessary. Under the present Allotment Rules, all Central Government employees in Delhi and New

Delhi who desire Government accommodation have to submit applications by the 1st March of every year. Thus the annual demand for accommodation is known and Government's construction programme is based on this information, taking into account the demand and supply and the percentage of satisfaction in each class.

(c) Yes, Sir. The accommodation problem in the Capital has many aspects which affect different classes of Government servants differently. Government's construction programme is framed bearing in mind the special need of the lower income groups in Class III and Class IV and priority is being accorded and will continue to be accorded in an increasing degree to construct tenements for them.

SHRI B. SHIVA RAO: Sir, the hon. Minister has stated that no special survey is necessary. May I know whether there has been any general survey, apart from the enquiry of the Delhi Improvement Trust Committee some years ago, and has Government any approximate estimate with regard to the amount of overcrowding that these low income groups have at the present moment and also the exorbitant rents they have to pay?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Sir, the hon. Member has raised several aspects of this problem. In my answer I said that no special survey is necessary or called for. Government have figures and statistics with them, and for all practical purposes the information that they have at their disposal is enough to assess the size of the problem and to indicate what should be the solution and what should be the line of action. For example, for class IV servants the accommodation available in Delhi and New Delhi is for about 6,693 people. The demand is for about 15,219 people. So the gap is of the order of about 7,000 to 8,000. Now Government have under construction at present 2,000 tenements for these people, and the proposed construction is for about 3,000 people dur-

ing the next two or three years. So, 7,000 plus 5,000 comes to 12,000 and the balance will have to be made good thereafter. For each category of servants we have got sufficient information and no special survey is therefore called for.

Then, Sir, in regard to overcrowding, Government have specific information on this point also, and on the basis of the information available, Government have chalked out a programme for construction of tenements for specially this category of people.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know, Sir, the year to which these figures relate?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Well, these are the latest figures. Every year we review the position. In the months of March and April we review the position.

May I, Sir, refer to the last point that was raised by Mr. Shiva Rao in respect of rents? So far as Government tenements are concerned, the rents are calculated under Fundamental Rule 45A. As regards rents of private tenements which these people have hired out, there are certain definite rules. It is 10 per cent. of the salary, not beyond that. And house rent allowances are granted to them in Delhi, so far as class III and class IV servants are concerned. Generally it works out to Rs. 15 per month per person for persons drawing less than Rs. 500 per month, and for class IV the house rent allowance is about Rs. 10 per month.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know Sir, if the Government is taking due note, in its plans, of the increasing number of officers every year?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: That is a very general question. That does not specifically pertain to this question.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, whether the Government in any way encourages construction of

houses by these low income group employees by means of advances of loans or grants-in-aid?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: Yes, Sir. The hon. Member may be aware of the fact that we have the low-income group housing scheme which is administered and implemented by the respective State Governments. We have also a scheme for giving advances or loans to Central Government employees. But that is a separate scheme altogether.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know, Sir, how many employees of the Central Government belonging to this group have availed themselves of this opportunity so far.

SHRI K. C. REDDY: May I suggest, Sir, that the hon. Member may give separate notice of that question, and I shall collect the figures and supply those figures to him?

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### †CIVILIAN LABOUR OFFICERS EMPLOYED IN ORDNANCE FACTORIES AND DEPOTS

\*637. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Civilian Labour Officers employed in Ordnance Factories and Depots;

(b) the functions and duties of such officers; and

(c) whether they are under the control of the Ministry of Defence or the Ministry of Labour and Employment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ABID ALI): (a) 63.

(b) These are indicated in rule 11 of the Labour Officers (Central Pool)

†Postponed from the 11th September, 1957.

Recruitment and Conditions of Service Rules, 1951.

(c) They are under the administrative control of the Ministry of Labour and Employment who operate the Central Pool.

##### POSSIBILITY OF REDUCING THE RATE OF INTEREST ON LOANS GIVEN TO STATE GOVERNMENTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

\*645. SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of interest charged by the Government of India on loans given to State Governments for the development of cottage industries like coir and handlooms; .

(b) whether Government are aware that this rate of interest is higher than the rate of interest charged by the Reserve Bank of India on loans for agricultural purposes; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to consider the possibility of reducing the rate of interest on the loans given to States for the development of cottage industries like coir and handlooms?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a), (b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XVIII, Annexure No. 139.]

#### लघु उद्योग सेवा संस्थायें

१५४५. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विभिन्न लघु उद्योग सेवा संस्थानों ने अब तक कुल कितने लोगों और कितनी संस्थानों को सलाह मशवरा तथा अन्य प्रकार की सहायता दी है;