

(a) the acreage of land offered by the various States in response to the Prime Minister's appeal for the settlement of agriculturist displaced persons from East Pakistan;

(b) whether this land is cultivable; and

(c) if not, whether steps are being taken to make it cultivable?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR REHABILITATION (SHRI J. K. BHONSLE): (a) About 3 lac acres.

(b) and (c). Excepting some land in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, which is ready for cultivation, other areas will have to be made cultivable after considerable reclamation and development.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENTS OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

165. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any financial assistance was given by the Central Government to the Industries Departments of the various State Governments during 1954-55 and 1955-56 for strengthening the staff of these Departments; and

(b) if so, what is the total monthly expenditure on this account met by the Central Government during those years?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND IRON AND STEEL (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): (a) and (b). The Government of India have undertaken to bear 50 per cent. of the expenditure on the salaries and allowances (excluding T. A.) of all additional staff employed by the State Governments on small industries for a period of 3 years from 1955-56. No amounts have so far been sanctioned on this account as the statements of actual expenditure incurred by the State Governments have not yet been received.

A statement showing grants given for organisational and supervisory staff for Handloom Industry in the various State Governments is attached. [See Appendix XIII, Annexure No. 65.]

IDLE CAPACITY IN JUTE INDUSTRY

166. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there exists any idle capacity in the jute industry; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND IRON AND STEEL (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. 5 per cent. of the looms belonging to mills in the membership of the Indian Jute Mills Association, Calcutta, are reported to be lying sealed.

TRANSMITTERS PURCHASED AFTER AUGUST 1947

167. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of transmitters purchased by Government after August, 1947;

(b) how many of them are lying in ware-houses; and

(c) what is the amount spent for their maintenance in the ware-houses?

THE MINISTER FOR INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (DR. B. V. KESKAR): (a) Thirty-nine.

(b) Four low power F.M. transmitters, which are not meant for a broadcast service, but only to serve as an alternative link between studios and transmitters. Two out of these four will also be put into use shortly.

(c) These are kept in transit godowns along with other materials and no separate expenditure is incurred on their maintenance.