

its consideration to all these problems.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: If on enquiry government finds that all the associations mentioned by the hon. Member have made that recommendation, is the Government contemplating any action in the near future?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I said that certain small collieries had protested .....

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a hypothetical question.

SHRI RATANLAL KISHORILAL MALVIYA: How long will the Government take to make up its mind to amalgamate?

SHRI K. C. REDDY: I can only say as early as possible.

#### IRRIGATION SCHEMES IN JAMMO AND KASHMIR STATE

\*683. MOULANA M. FARUQI: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to refer to para. 18 at page 129 of the Planning Commission Progress Report for 1953-54 and state the main causes for the slow progress in the irrigation schemes in Jammu and Kashmir?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): The main causes of the slow progress are:—

1. The works started late because the State contemplated certain changes and replacement of projects.

2. The technical organisation was not up to the mark and most of the schemes were in the preliminary stages of investigations and survey.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What is the -total amount involved in these schemes for Kashmir? Is it in the form of loan?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: For some it is in the form of loan—not for all. The total amount was Rs. 4814 lakhs

#### DEMOLITION OF QUARTERS IN NEW DELHI

\*684. SHRI A. S. RAJU: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme to demolish the Government staff quarters at Gole Market and Minto Road areas in New Delhi in order to construct multi-storied residential buildings there; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) Yes. Sir. Such a scheme is under consideration.

(b) The details are being worked out.

SHRI A. S. RAJU: What is the time required for working out the details?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: It will take some time—quite a bit of it, I should say.

#### BIDI MAKING MACHINES

-664. SHRI D. NARAYAN: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bidi making machines manufactured in the year 1954;

(b) how many of them are in use; and

(c) whether there is any difference between the prices of machine-made and hand-made *bidis*

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI N. KANUNGO): (a) It was reported that a firm in Bombay produced about 50 machines till March 1954. This firm, it is understood, has since stopped production.

(b) As far as the information of the Government goes, none of the machines is reported to be in production.