

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is it a fact, Sir, that when the workers reported for work after the resumption of work, they were asked to sign a bond by the management?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I have heard stories of this sort, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Has the hon. Minister got any precise information?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I would like to go on the results which are extremely satisfactory. Most of the workers have come back and production is in full swing and has exceeded all previous records.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: That was not my question. Is it a fact that the Secretary of the Union gave a notice that only those who had been taken back into work would be given the liberty of voting as members of the Union?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Not so far as I know, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is not my hon. friend aware, Sir, of the information given in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Allegations of this sort might be made. I do not know what the West Bengal Government had to say about it and I have had no intimation from the West Bengal Government in regard to this matter.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister will take steps to see that the workers are encouraged to work and that all the provocations in the way of employment are discontinued?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: As I said, my information is that production has reached a new record. In October, production had exceeded the 1952 production by 27 per cent. and I am told that it has risen higher in

November. All these indicate that the workers are at peace with the management and that is the culmination that we had wanted all along.

INDUSTRIAL HOUSING SCHEME

*146. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to refer to the answer given to my unstarred question No. 65 on the 16th April, 1953 and state the actual amount of loan given for industrial housing schemes during the year 1952-53?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): As already indicated in answer to unstarred question No. 50, dated the 26th November 1953, the actual amount paid as loans during the year 1952-53 was Rs. 1,33,41,579. The whole of this amount was advanced under the Government of India Subsidised Industrial Housing Scheme.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, the rate of interest charged on this loan?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: That is mentioned in the published pamphlet copies of which were made available. It is, I think, 4½ per cent. I am saying from memory.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Can the hon. Minister give us the interest recovered on these loans for the year mentioned in my question?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: No interest has yet been recovered.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Can we know, Sir, the subsidy for industrial housing given in the year mentioned?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: Sir, I presume the hon. Member knows that payments are related to the progress of construction and as constructions have not reached a stage which should entitle them to earn the subsidy, no subsidy has yet been paid. If my hon. friend wants to know our commitments for the year in question, I may

inform him that they are to the extent of Rs. 270 lakhs by way of subsidy and Rs. 167 lakhs by way of loan. The payments are to be made during the current year as the stage which entitles them to earn subsidy would be reached.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know the actual amount which has been utilised so far for construction of houses under this scheme?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: This is the amount that has been advanced by way of loan; the actual expenditure is much more than that because loans have been given after construction had reached a particular stage. There is always a lag between the actual expenditure and the amount of loan advanced.

SHIFTING OF OFFICES OUT OF DELHI

*147. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any offices are proposed to be shifted out of Delhi; and

(b) if so, the particulars of such offices and the places to which they are proposed to be shifted?

THE MINISTER FOR WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY (SARDAR SWARAN SINGH): (a) and (b). It is proposed to shift out of Delhi such offices as are not integral parts of the Secretariat and whose location outside Delhi is feasible. Which offices should be thus moved out to which places is under consideration.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know since how long this subject has been under the consideration of the Government?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: For a pretty long time, at least for the past three or four years.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is it true that the Government are willing to transfer these offices but that the establishments are not willing to go out?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I must admit that there is a certain amount of reluctance on the part of the various establishments in the matter of moving out of Delhi but steps are being taken to sort out the cases where we could take a firm decision with regard to the moving out of offices without detriment to the efficiency of work.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: What are the places which are under the consideration of the hon. Minister?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I gave a list during the last session.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the offices that are to be shifted out?

MR. CHAIRMAN: "All these matters are under consideration"—that is what the Minister says.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it not a fact, Sir, that the previous list of the various offices to be shifted out of Delhi was prepared and decided upon by the Cabinet itself?

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I do not know, Sir, what the import of this question is. The decision of the Government is the decision of the Government, whether it is approved by the Cabinet or by the Ministry.

PROF. G. RANGA: A decision was taken earlier and a list was prepared.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH: I have already said, Sir, that a decision was taken with regard to as many as nineteen offices that they should move out. Later on, points were raised on behalf of these various Ministries that it would not be conducive to efficiency if those offices moved out. So, those decisions had to be suspended and we could not actually move out more than four offices.

MEETINGS OF THE CENTRAL WATER AND POWER COMMISSION

*148. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state the number of meetings held by the Central Water and Power Commission in the year 1952-53 and up to October this year?