

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : It is a matter of language—a distinction the import of which I cannot sufficiently comprehend.

CLOSURE OF TEA GARDENS IN WEST BENGAL AND ASSAM

***32. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR :** Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) the number of tea gardens in West Bengal and Assam that have been closed recently due to financial stringency ;

(b) the number of labourers affected by the closure of those gardens ; and

(c) what steps are being taken by the Government to provide relief to the labourers thus affected ?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI) : (a) and (b). Precise information is not available and is being collected.

(c) Suitable action will be taken on receipt of the information if it is considered necessary.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : May I know whether Government is contemplating the introduction of a State Insurance scheme for tea garden labour ?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI : The question must be addressed to another quarter.

RECOVERY OF ABDUCTED WOMEN

***33. SHRI D. NARAYAN :** Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of abducted women recovered from East and West Pakistan respectively every year since the 15th August 1947 ;

(b) the number of such women (i) who have been accepted by their old families or relations and (ii) who are being cared for by Government ;

(c) what annual expenditure is being incurred by Government on the rehabilitation of those women ; and

(d) the number of abducted women returned respectively to East and West Pakistan every year since 1947 ?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : (a) From West Pakistan, in :

1947 (from 6-12-47 to 31-12-47)	564
1948	5,099
1949	609
1950	871
1951	743
1952 (up to 30-6-1952) . . .	320
TOTAL . . .	8,206

The required information relating to East Pakistan is not readily available. It will, however, be placed on the Table of the House in due course. It might be added that there are not many cases in East Pakistan.

(b) 8,071 out of those recovered from West Pakistan have been restored to their original families. In the case of 131 of them it has not yet been found possible to trace their relations. Four of them died in camps.

(c) After restoration to their original families, the recovered women are treated as other refugees for purposes of rehabilitation. The question of expenditure on the rehabilitation of such women only, therefore, does not arise.

(d) To West Pakistan, in :

1947-48 (from 6-12-47 to 31-12-48)	8,872
1949	2,680
1950	1,430
1951	1,974
1952 (up to 30-6-52)	897
TOTAL . . .	16,853

The required information relating to East Pakistan is not readily available. It will be placed on the Table of the House later.