

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have seen such a report in the Pakistani press.

(b) and (c). The alleged statement by the arrested person that he was associated with the Indian High Commission in Pakistan is utterly baseless.

Health Resort for Workers

*909. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to have some health resorts for the workers; and

(b) if so, at what stage is the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise

Rehabilitation Work in Tripura

*910. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal has been made by Relief and Rehabilitation Department of Tripura Administration for acquiring land in Simna (Tripura), owned by Krishnapur Tea Estate and Simna Tea Estate for the rehabilitation of displaced persons;

(b) whether it is a fact that such land has been occupied by the Tribal and Hindustani speaking people for the last 40 to 60 years;

(c) whether it is a fact that about 300 families shall have to face eviction if land possession is taken away from them for the rehabilitation of refugees;

(d) whether any representation has been made praying for not putting such proposal into effect; and

(e) if so, what steps are being taken in this regard?

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): (a) Yes. It is proposed to acquire some land lying fallow in these Tea Estates.

(b) and (c). Some people have claimed occupation of this land.

(d) Yes.

(e) Report from Tripura Administration is awaited.

Pottery and Ceramic Industry Workers

*911. Shri B. S. Murthy: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 274 on the 23rd July, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the State Governments have implemented the recommendations made by the Organisation of the Chief Adviser, Factories to reduce the high incidence of silicosis and tuberculosis among pottery and ceramic industry workers; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Chief Adviser, Factories for safeguarding the health of workers employed in pottery and ceramic industries were forwarded to the State Governments only about a month back. It is hoped that they are taking suitable steps to implement them.

Didwana Salt

*912. Shri M. D. Mathur: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the salt produced at Didwana is not allotted for consumption to the inhabitants of that district; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the Zonal Scheme for distribution of salt, Nagaur district (in which Didwana Tehsil is situated) was linked to Pachbadra and Sambhar Salt Sources in 1956 and 1957.

40,000 mds. of Treaty Salt supplied to Rajasthan Government from Didwana Salt Source was allotted to Churu District. The balance out of the limited production of edible salt at Didwana was supplied to metre gauge destinations of Hissar district of the Punjab in order to minimize the haulage.

However, it has now been arranged that Didwana should be supplied from the local source.

A.I.R. Programme

*913. Shri Nausahir Bharucha: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any principles governing allotment of time to music programmes, (e.g. classical or light) of the All India Radio; and

(b) if so, what is the basis of such allotment?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a) and (b). The Central Advisory Board for Music lays down in broad terms the music policy of All India Radio i.e. the scope of music programmes, the different types of music and the broad proportions in which they are to be broadcast, measures to be adopted for improving the quality of music programmes etc.

Shoe Manufacture

*914. Shri Ganpati Ram: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state what measures are taken by Government to encourage the production of shoes by Small Scale Units?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 24].

Closure of Textile Mills

*915. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 164 on the 22nd May, 1957 and state:

(a) the names of textile mills which have closed down due to un-economic working;

(b) since when they are lying idle; and

(c) whether the looms in those mills are in good condition?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 25].

(c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

Handloom Cloth

*916. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of accumulation of stock of handloom cloth in Madras State; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take for clearance of the stock?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) Government are aware that there is some accumulation of stocks of handloom cloth in the Madras State.

(b) The Standing Committee of the All India Handloom Board appointed a Sub-Committee in January, 1957, to examine this problem. The Report of the Sub-Committee with the Handloom Board's recommendations is awaited.