

the hon. Minister say whether this disease has been declared as an occupational disease for this particular industry?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** He may put a separate question, and I shall answer.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Inasmuch as this matter has been engaging the Central Government's attention since 1951, may I know what steps are being taken to expedite the matter, so that relief would be given to these unfortunate workers?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** I have already said that I shall go into the matter very carefully and try to do what is possible.

**Shri Nambiar:** Is any special allowance like milk allowance or some other such allowance being given to them?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** Notice.

**Shri T. N. Singh:** May I request the hon. Minister to lay a statement on the Table as regards the actual steps taken in this matter, which is a very serious one?

**Shri V. V. Giri:** Yes.

#### P. AND T. SERVICES TO OTHER DEPARTMENTS

\*1341. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the rates charged by the Post and Telegraph Department on the following service rendered to other departments of Government:

- (i) Sale of Cash and National Savings Certificates,
- (ii) Issue of Radio Licences,
- (iii) Sale of Revenue Stamps, and
- (iv) Sale of Health Seals; and

(b) when these rates were fixed?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) (i) Annas -/7/- per transaction (Issue, discharge or transfer).

(ii) Rs. 2 per license issued or renewed.

(iii) Nil.

(iv) Nil.

(b) Sale of Cash and National Savings Certificates:—From 1st April, 1951.

Issue of Radio Licences:—From 1st October, 1939.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Are Government contemplating a revision of these rates in view of the fact that the costs have increased in the P. & T. Department?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The rates in respect of the transactions of Cash and National Savings Certificates were revised as late as 1951, and the matter about revision of the rates for licences of radio sets is under consideration.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know the reasons for exempting from any charge the sales of revenue stamps and health seals?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It is simple. It is on the basis of reciprocity. The Government Treasuries keep our stamps, stationery and all that. They do not charge us anything for that purpose, and so we also do not charge them anything.

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

\*1342. **Dr. Nataraj Pandey:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the total mileage of roads that will come under National Highways in Orissa under the Five Year Plan; and

(b) the mileage of roads that have been completed up to the end of 1953 and that is expected to be constructed in 1954?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 84.]