

**Supply of Shoes to Poland**

1475. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether orders for 54,000 pair of shoes have been placed on India by the Polish Government; and

(b) if so, whether this order will also be completed by the National Small Industries Corporation (Private) Ltd.?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). Yes.

**Karnatak Khadi and Cottage Industries Board**

1476. Shri Sugandhi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Zonal Head Office of the Karnatak Khadi and Cottage Industries Board was shifted from Hubli to Bangalore and again from Bangalore to Dharwar within the last three months;

(b) if so, the dates of shifting and the expenditure incurred thereon; and

(c) what amount of rent per month is being charged for the building where the office is now housed at Dharwar?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

**Scheduled Castes Personnel in External Affairs Ministry**

1477. { Shri D. A. Katti:  
Shri Siva Raj:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state the number of Scheduled Castes personnel in the Ministry of External Affairs and their proportion to the total number?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

The number of Scheduled Castes employees in the Ministry of External Affairs is 84. Their proportion to the total strength is 3.5 per cent. approximately.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE****AMENDMENT TO TEA RULES**

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of Section 49 of the Tea Act, 1953, a copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 2744, dated the 31st August, 1957, making certain amendments to the Tea Rules, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. S-257/57]

**NOTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER NATIONAL HIGHWAYS ACT**

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under section 10 of the National Highways Act, 1956, a copy of the Notification No. S.R.O. 2761, dated the 31st August, 1957. [Placed in Library. See No S-259/57]

**REPORT ON LABOUR MANAGEMENT IN TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY**

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report on Labour Management, Consultation and Co-operation in the Tata Iron and Steel Company. [Placed in Library. See No. S-256/57].

**COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS****SEVENTH REPORT**

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda): Sir, I beg to present the Seventh Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

**COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS****FIRST REPORT**

Shri Barman (Cooch Behar—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Sir, I beg to

## Statement

present the First Report of the Committee on Petitions.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER  
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**IMPLEMENTATION OF FACTORIES ACT  
AND OTHER LABOUR LAWS IN THE CERAMIC  
INDUSTRY IN DELHI.**

**Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad):** Sir, under rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Labour and Employment to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

"The high incidence of silicosis and tuberculosis among workers in the Pottery and Ceramic Industry in Delhi State as disclosed by the Report of the Chief Adviser of factories and action taken by Government to implement the Factories Act and other Labour laws in the Delhi State."

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** As the statement is a long one, shall I lay it on the Table?

**Mr. Speaker:** He can give a summary and lay it on the Table.

**Shri Abid Ali:** It has been found that this process is hazardous and, therefore, it was considered desirable to have information on the factual condition of the worker in the industry and its effects on the health of the workers. Of the 41 factories employing about 8900 workers in the six States where the survey was conducted, 12 factories employing about 920 workers (including two factories in Delhi) were selected for study. Statistics has been taken and the State Governments have been informed. Further details have been mentioned in the statement.

Sir, I beg to lay a statement on the incidence of silicosis and tuberculosis among workers in the Pottery and Ceramic Industry in Delhi.

It is now well recognised, as a result of investigations carried out in other countries, that a serious hazard of silicosis is associated with the pottery industry, and unless suitable control measures are taken, conditions in the industry could be detrimental to the health of the workers. Under the circumstances, it was considered desirable to have information on the factual conditions of work in the industry and their effects on the health of workers. With this end in view, an industrial hygiene investigation was carried out by the organisation of the Chief Adviser Factories in the pottery and ceramic industry and a report on the survey was published in June, 1957.

Of the 41 factories employing about 8900 workers in the 6 States where the survey was conducted, 12 factories employing about 920 workers (including 2 factories in Delhi) were selected for study. Medical examinations of a large number of workers employed who were exposed over a period of time to the ill effects of dusts were carried out. The Radiological studies of workers showed incidence of silicosis—15·7 per cent workers had x-ray evidence of silicosis and about 60 per cent of these showed evidence of tuberculosis. Pulmonary tuberculosis was detected in 6·3 per cent workers.

A number of recommendations for the control of dust hazards through such arrangements as separation of dusty and non-dusty processes, wet grinding, mechanical exhaust arrangements; provision of personal protective equipment; periodical medical examination of workers and methods of improvement of general hygiene of workplaces have been made in the report.

It is mainly for the industry to take action to given effect to the recommendations made in the report. Copies of the Report have been forwarded to all the State Governments and Union Administrations with the request that