

No. of factory sheds utilised by the Rehabilitation Industries Corporations Units—21.

No. of displaced persons employed in the three Industrial Estates—953.

#### **Pending Election Petitions**

\*257. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) how many Election Petitions filed after the General Elections in 1967 are still pending in the different High Courts in India;

(b) whether the delay in disposal is mainly due to the shortage in the number of judges trying the Election petitions; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to expedite their disposal?

THE MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI GOVINDA MENON): (a) Out of 406 election petitions filed before the various High Courts after the Fourth General Elections there are only 96 petitions now pending before the respective High Courts of which 6 petitions were filed in the year 1968. These figures, however, do not include the election petitions filed before the High Court of Punjab and Haryana at Chandigarh in connection with the mid-term elections in Haryana, as the said information has so far not been received from that High Court.

(b) and (c). There has not been much delay in the disposal of the petitions by the High Courts. Adequate steps have already been taken in consultation with the Chief Justice of India for the expeditious disposal of the petitions.

#### **Damage of Foodgrains**

\*258. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government took adequate protection in advance to avoid

damage of foodgrains in anticipation of a good crop; and

(b) if so, the protective measures and the causes for damage in spite of such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNA-SAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Advance planning for procurement, movement and storage was done in consultation with all the agencies concerned as soon as the prospects of a good crop became clear. Close and constant coordination between these agencies was also established to anticipate various connected problems likely to arise and take appropriate measures, including expeditious handling movement and storage of procured grain. Despite these precautions and advance preparations, the unprecedented heavy arrivals in the mandis of Punjab and Haryana from the 15th May upto the end of June, 1968, created temporary problems of intermediate shortage and movement.

Because of the very heavy procurement of foodgrains in Punjab and Haryana during the months of May and June, a calculated risk of moving the foodgrains to some extent by open wagons had to be taken to meet the requirement of unprecedented movement within a short span of time. Since the monsoons broke out earlier in some areas than anticipated, some of the wagons despatched to these areas, particularly in the Eastern Region, got affected by rain.

#### **Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan**

\*259. SHRI D. N. DEB: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have fixed any target date by which the work relating to resettlement of the displaced