

equal facility to all categories of telephones including telephone provided to Social Workers. However, normally, the shift of telephone from one exchange to another is not permitted until a period of three years is over. The three-year is over. The three-year condition is not applied if in the exchange area to which the shift is required, there is no applicant on the waiting list in the concerned category who had applied for a telephone earlier than the person asking for the shift.

The rules for transfer and shift are constantly under review.

#### Accidents on ships berthed in Indian Ports

\*256. DR. RAJAT KUMAR:  
CHAKRABARTI:  
SHRI NRIPATI RANJAN  
CHOUDHURY:  
SHRIMATI LEELA DAMO-  
DARA MENON:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the accidents on ships berthed in the Indian ports during the period 1971-75; and

(b) the steps taken to prevent the accidents?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Number of accidents on ships berthed in major ports:—

1971	1651
1972	1461
1973	1094
1974	794
1975	882

(Provisional)

(b) There are 14 Dock Safety Inspectors including 3 Junior Inspectors in the major ports. They look after safety and welfare of the workers working on ships. They also carry on periodic inspections to ensure that lifting gears are in proper order

and there are no violations of the relevant regulations regarding safety. As a result of their activities the accident rates on ships berthed in major ports have shown a declining trend since 1971. Provisional figures of accidents in 1975 is only 882 which indicates that there has been a reduction of 46.5 per cent of accidents as compared to 1971.

The Dock Safety Inspectorate under the guidance of the Directorate General of Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes also promotes safety consciousness among the workers and employers. Tripartite dock safety committees are functioning in all the major ports. Safety training programmes are also being conducted by the Dock Safety Inspectors.

#### Workers participation in private sector undertakings

\*257. SHRI D. N. DWIVEDI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the names of private sector undertakings which have taken steps to ensure workers' participation at the shop floor and plant level?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI K. V. RAGHUNATHA REDDY): A statement prepared on the basis of information so far in the Ministry showing the names of the private sector undertakings which have taken steps to ensure workers' participation at shop floor and plant level is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix XCV, Annexure No. 27].

#### Enhanced benefit rates for the workers of the Employees State Insurance

\*258. SHRI S. KUMARAN:  
SHRI LAKSHMANA MA-  
HAPATRO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether benefits rates for workers under the Employees State Insurance Scheme have been raised; and