

Assam and firing across the border; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI LAKSHMI MENON): (a) Pakistani forces were first noticed concentrating opposite Dawki towards the end of June. They started unprovoked firing on Dawki from 11 P.M. on 31st July.

(b) We had, both at State and Central levels, protested to Pakistani authorities against their threatening concentration. When the Pakistani forces opened unprovoked firing, our forces retaliated. A cease-fire was arranged between the Deputy Commissioners of Shillong and Sylhet on 2nd August. The two Deputy Commissioners met on 4th and 5th August and have decided on measures to reduce tension and prevent further firing.

*162. [For answer, vide cols, 471—73 Supra.]

ALLOTMENT OF GOVERNMENT-BUILT PROPERTIES IN BAIRAGARH (BHO PAL)

♦163. SHRI M. BASAVAPUNNAIAH: Will the Minister of REHABILITATION AND MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints from the residents of the Displaced Persons' Township, Bairagarh (Bhopal), regarding the allotment of Government-built properties; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry was made into these complaints?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF REHABILITATION (SHRI P. S. NASKAR): (a) No complaints have been received by the Central Government. If any specific case is brought to our notice, the matter will be looked into.

(b) Does not arise.

CRISIS IN THE SHOE INDUSTRY AT AGRA

27. SHRI N. C. SEKHAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the shoe industry at Agra is facing a crisis;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a deputation of shoe makers waited on Government; and

(d) if so, what are the steps taken by Government to solve the crisis?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise, in view of the answer to (a).

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The deputation had represented that the Director of Industries, Uttar Pradesh, was not issuing Essentiality Certificates to small-scale actual users for import of Boot and Shoe Grindery items as these were not open to them. The restriction on import of these items has since been removed and the Director of Industries, Uttar Pradesh has been requested to grant Essentiality Certificates to small scale actual users.

कपड़े के निर्यात में गिरावट

२८. श्री नवाबसिंह चौहान : क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारतीय कपड़े का निर्यात बराबर गिरता जा रहा है और यदि हाँ, तो इसके कारण क्या हैं;

(ख) इसे बढ़ाने के लिये सरकार क्या प्रयत्न कर रही है और किस परिणाम के साथ ; और