

interlocking was disconnected. For that purpose temporary station working rules were framed. The officers authorised to frame the rules are the Divisional Signal and Tele-communication Engineer and the Divisional Operating Superintendent. These were the officers who actually framed the rules in this case. They approved those rules. The rules were actually signed by the Divisional Signal and Tele-communication Engineer and the Assistant Operating Superintendent in the absence of the D.O.S. who was away on tour.

Shri Subiman Ghose: I want to know whether that officer who signed the rules was authorised to do it?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The rules were actually approved by the Divisional Operating Superintendent. It was just to avoid the delay that this officer signed it. There is nothing wrong in that.

Ship from Poland

+

*377. { **Shri P. K. Deo:**
Shri Assar:
Kumari M. Vedakumari:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any negotiation with Poland for the purchase of some ships for India;

(b) if so, the details of the negotiation; and

(c) progress made so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). An offer from a Polish party for the construction of some vessels for India has been received and communicated to the Indian Shipowners, who are considering the same. No final decision has yet been arrived at.

Shri P. K. Deo: May I know whether global tenders were invited for the manufacture of ships?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Generally, Sir, the Indian shipping companies in the private and the public sector choose their own shipyard, start negotiations with them and place orders after coming to some sort of conclusions.

Shri P. K. Deo: May I know whether the payment will be made in rupees?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The offer of the Polish firm has been that they can undertake construction of ships for Indian shipping companies on payment in terms of rupees.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: Is it a fact that the Polish Government has offered 30,000 tons tankers on easy credit terms; if so, whether the Government of India are prepared to consider that offer?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Polish shipyard people have also made an offer by which orders for construction of ships can be placed on a Danish shipyard. In that connection such an offer has been made.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: As Polish ships are considered to be the most suitable for India because they deal with smaller ships, would it not be possible for the Government themselves to, a sort of, close the deal with them now that the prices offered are the least in the world?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is giving an advice.

Import of Wheat under P.L. 430

+

*378. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shri Kalika Singh:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Kumari M. Vedakumari:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Koratkar:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:
Shri P. G. Deb:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage is the proposal of subsidising or assisting our shipping