

## COLLIERIES LEASED ROYALTY-FREE

**\*2238-B. Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are some collieries in Assam which are leased to some European firm royalty-free perpetually; and

(b) whether Government are contemplating the effecting of any change in this royalty-free status of the company?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. This matter is under the consideration of the Assam Government.

## ASSAM TIMBER

**\*2239. Shri Beli Ram Das:** Will the Minister of **Commerce and Industry** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the customs difficulties the State of Assam has not been able to sell their timber to the Eastern Pakistan; and

(b) what step Government propose to take to find out a market for the Assam Timber?

**The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

## SLEEPERS FOR HIRAKUD AND D. V. C.

**\*2240. Shri Beli Ram Das:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Conservator of Forests, Assam, was approached by the Government of India to supply sleepers for use in the Hirakud Dam and Damodar Valley Projects before asking the Conservator of Forests, Punjab;

(b) what is the rate at which sleepers were supplied by the Conservator of Forests, Punjab and what is the rate at which sleepers were supplied by the Conservator of Forests, Assam; and

(c) what was the railway freight for the sleepers supplied?

**The Minister of Planning and Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) For rates of sleepers obtained from the Punjab for the Hirakud Dam Project the hon. Member is requested to refer to item 6 of the statement laid on the Table of House in

reply to Starred question No. 1517 by Shri S. N. Sinha on the 4th October, 1951. The rates for the supply of sleepers by the Conservator of Forests, Assam, are not readily available and are being ascertained.

(c) The railway freight from the despatching station to the destination for sleepers of the size of 10ft. x 10" x 5ft. was Rs. 1/15/- each and for all other sizes Rs. 1/8/10 each.

## CHIEF ENGINEER, D.V.C.

**\*2240-A. Shri Krishna Chandra:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any contract of service made with Mr. Andrew M. Komora, Chief Engineer of Damodar Valley Corporation and if so, what are the terms of the said contract; and

(b) was his selection made with the assistance of the Indian Embassy in Washington or the Tennessee Valley Authority and the World Bank?

**The Minister of Planning, Irrigation and Power (Shri Nanda):** (a) Yes, Sir. A copy of the contract entered into with Mr. Andrew M. Komora which *inter alia* contains the terms and conditions of his service is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix X, annexure No. 50.]

(b) The selection was made with the assistance of the Indian Embassy in Washington and the Tennessee Valley Authority. It had also the support of the World Bank.

## UNLICENSED MANUFACTURE OF SALT

**\*2241. Shri Nana Das:** Will the Minister of **Production** be pleased to state:

(a) the total extent of land under salt manufacture by the unlicensed manufacturers in the area adjacent to the salt factory at Iskapalli in Nellore District;

(b) the total number of such unlicensed manufacturers; and

(c) whether there is any *kutchra* road in the Central Government lands, which leads to the unlicensed salt fields which are adjacent to the Iskapalli Salt Factory?

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy):** (a) About 435 acres.

(b) About 400.

(c) Yes; but this road runs partly through Central Government land and partly through State Government land.