

effected. The rough diamonds so imported are cut and processed and then exported.

(c) There is no export duty on export of Cut and Polished Diamonds and no import duty on rough diamonds.

Prices of Refrigerators

5678. Shri B. K. Amin: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total sale of refrigerators both imported and home manufactured, in India since 1956 (yearly-wise);

(b) the price charged for each standard variety from the consumers in India with details since 1956; and

(c) the prices charged by the manufacturers, and final selling agent along with the part of the price going to the Centre, the State or any local authority as tax?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) Information in respect of the sale of refrigerators is not available. The production figures during 1956-66 and imports between April '55 and January 1967 are however furnished in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1046/67].

(b) and (c). With the prices varying from variety to variety and also from time to time and in the absence of any statutory control over the prices of refrigerators, it is very difficult to collect information in this regard as well as in respect of share of taxes between the Centre, the State or any local authority over a period of ten years.

B.G. Lines from Dhrangadhra to Kuda

5679. Shri Sriraj Meghrajji Dharamgadhra: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration to lay a B.G. line from

Dhrangadhra to Kuda alongside the M.G. line or to connect the line with a tri-rail track for both M.G. and B.G.;

(b) if so, the approximate cost of each of the alternative schemes; and

(c) the probable period it will take to implement each of the alternative schemes?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) to (c). Investigations carried out recently have revealed that conversion/provision of mixed gauge between Dhrangadhara and Kuda is not warranted at present. The approximate cost of a broad gauge line between Dhrangadhara and Kuda would be about Rs. 1.50 crores, and for providing a mixed broad gauge|metre gauge, Rs. 1.70 crores. The proposal for introduction of mixed gauge between Dhrangadhara and Kuda will be reconsidered when warranted by increase in traffic. The question of implementation of the scheme, therefore, does not arise at this stage.

Cottage Industries in Gujarat

5680. Shri D. R. Parmar: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state the details of the schemes formulated by Government to encourage the cottage industries in Gujarat State during 1966-67 and 1967-68?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

Overbridge at Level Crossing Near Palanpur Station (Western Rly.)

5681. Shri D. R. Parmar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that vehicular traffic on the main road is seriously obstructed on account of the frequent and long steady closure of the level crossing at the Southern end of Palanpur station on the Western Railway; and