

and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that certain factories are selling electricity meters below the cost of bare raw materials; and

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

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Rail Link between Lakhpat and Bhuj**

532. Shri Virendrakumar Shah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to connect Lakhpat with Bhuj by laying a 100-mile line with a view to exploiting the resources of limestone and lignite in the State of Gujarat;

(b) the total investment earmarked by the Railways to lay new rail lines in Gujarat during the next four years or so; and

(c) whether there is a potential in Saurashtra for setting up a number of factories to produce cement and that non-availability of rail transport is a major handicap?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) There is no proposal to construct a railway line connecting Lakhpat with Bhuj.

(b) The tentative allocation of funds for construction of new railway lines in the Fourth Plan period is about Rs. 181 crores.

(c) The Government of Gujarat has not brought to the notice of this Ministry the fact that they are being handicapped in any way in setting up cement factories or any other factories in that State for want of rail transport. Porbander Port is also being

improved by the State Government into an all-weather port to meet the transport requirements of cement factories near the Sea-board.

#### Issue of Industrial Licences

533. Shri Virendrakumar Shah: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial licences issued during the time when Sarvashri Nitayanand Kanungo, T. T. Krishnamachari and Manubhai Shah were the Commerce Ministers; and

(b) the financial outlay including the foreign exchange involved in each case?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) Information regarding number of industrial licences issued during the time when Sarvashri Nitayanand Kanungo, T. T. Krishnamachari and Manubhai Shah were holding the portfolio of industry is not readily available and its collection will involve considerable time and labour. Particulars of licences issued indicating also the dates of issue of each of the licences are contained in the following printed publications:—

- (i) "List of Industrial Undertakings Licensed by the Central Government under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 during the period upto the 31st December, 1957";
- (ii) "List of Industrial Undertakings Licensed by the Central Government under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, during the year 1958";
- (iii) The Weekly, "Indian Trade Journal", issued by the Director General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta (in respect of the period