

Issue of Licences to Birla Group of Firms

**664. Shri Kameshwar Singh:
Shri A. Sreedharan:
Shri F. Viswambharam:**

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the extent to which the grant of licences to Birla Group of companies blocked the entry of other firms between the years 1960 to 1966;

(b) whether other firms applying for the same licences were not fit enough to carry out the projects; and

(c) the names of leading firms which applied for the same items in which Birlas were also the applicants?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (c). Under the procedure for issue of licences under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, all applications for licences are considered by the Licensing Committee. Whenever more than one application for the manufacture of identical items are received at the same point of time, they are put up to the Licensing Committee together to enable the Committee to assess the comparative merits of the individual schemes and make its recommendations. In making its recommendations, among other things, the Committee takes into account the technical feasibility of the scheme, the need for balanced regional development, the need to avoid concentration of economic power in a few hands, the amount of foreign exchange involved and other relevant considerations.

The recommendations of the Committee are subject to the approval of the Minister (Industrial Development and Company Affairs). The decisions taken on the applications are also subject to periodical review by a sub-Committee of the Central Advisory Council of Industries consisting entirely of non-official members.

Industrial Estates in Rajasthan

**665. Shri K. Pradhani:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Heerji Bhai:**

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of industrial estates opened in Rajasthan during 1966-67 (so far) and the names of Districts where opened; and

(b) the amount allotted by the Central Government to Rajasthan for this purpose during the same period?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) The information is being collected from the Government of Rajasthan and will be placed on the Table of the House.

(b) Rs. 1.60 lakhs.

Supply of Cement in Rajasthan

**666. Shri K. Pradhani:
Shri Ramachandra Ulaka:
Shri Dhuleshwar Meena:
Shri Heerji Bhai:**

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the present requirement of Rajasthan for cement; and

(b) the quantity of cement actually supplied to that State during 1966-67?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). As control on the price and distribution of cement has been lifted, the State Governments are no longer required to intimate their demand for cement to the Central Government for allotment. Instead, their requirements of cement are directly met by the industry itself through normal trade channels. The