

the industry and trade to utilise the existing licences in a short period;

(b) the number of import licences issued during the last three months; and

(c) whether it is the intention of Government to cancel a part of the existing import licences on account of acute scarcity of foreign exchange?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The increased level of imports in recent months has been due very largely to the higher pace of developmental activity, and there is no evidence to indicate that the rate of utilisation of licences has gone up as a result of speculative factor.

(b) The number of import licences issued during April-June 1957 was 47,287.

(c) There is no such intention.

Mining Areas in Orissa

669. Shri Supakar: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is absolutely no arrangement for labour welfare in any of the mining areas in Orissa; and

(b) whether there have been several cases of shooting, fatal assaults, and labour unrest on account of absence of labour welfare agency of Government in these areas?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Welfare facilities do exist in these areas.

(b) There have been cases of unrest, shooting etc. but they have not been due to absence of labour welfare agency of Government.

C.P.W.D.

670. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the ratio of Divisional Officers, Sub-Divisional Officers and Supervisors in the Staff of the Central P.W.D.;

(b) what is the average annual expenditure for works under the control of (i) a Divisional Officer (ii) a Sub-Divisional Officer and (iii) a Supervisor; and

(c) how many graduates in Engineering are employed in the above three categories?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) 1:4:16.

(b) Taking both maintenance and constructional loads into consideration, the average annual expenditure in a Divisional Office and a Sub-Divisional Office is Rs. 25.31 and Rs. 6.02 lakhs respectively. A Supervisor (Section Officer) is not an independent spending unit and as such no figure of average work load can be given.

(c) 151, 210 and 301 respectively.

Furniture

**671. { Shri Mohan Swarup:
Shri Khushwaqt Rai:**

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) how much furniture is supplied to the Cabinet Ministers, Deputy Ministers, Ministers of State and Parliamentary Secretaries and the cost thereof; and

(b) the maintenance charges of the bungalows occupied by the Ministers?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) Furniture is supplied at the residences of Cabinet Ministers, Ministers of State and Deputy Ministers in accordance with the 'scales' and monetary ceilings prescribed for the purpose. The monetary ceiling for furniture supplied in each of the eight Ministers' bigger bungalows is Rs. 32,000, in Ministers' other bungalows Rs. 28,000 and in Deputy Ministers' bungalows Rs. 13,500.

No 'scale' furniture has been prescribed for Parliamentary Secretaries

who are generally allotted accommodation in M.P.s' flats as well as in M.P.s' bungalows. Actual quantum of furniture given to them depends on the scale of furniture prescribed for a particular type of flat or bungalow occupied by them. The cost of furniture supplied at various types of M.P.s' flats varies from Rs. 1,578 to Rs. 3753, and in M.P.s' bungalows which are larger in size, the cost of furniture is Rs. 5,480.

(b) Maintenance charges of Ministers' bungalows are not recorded house-wise. However, the permissible limits are 2.75 per cent. of the building cost for annual repairs, and 1 per cent. for special repairs.

Maintenance charges for the electrical portion of the work is 8 per cent. of the capital cost of electrical installations for annual repairs, and 3.5 per cent. for special repairs.

Gypsum

672. Shri J. R. Mehta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of gypsum consumed by the various fertiliser factories in India; and

(b) the quantity obtained from Rajasthan in each case?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Gypsum is at present used in the production of ammonium sulphate by only two manufacturers of fertilisers. On the basis of 1.6 tons of gypsum being required per ton of ammonium sulphate produced, it is estimated that the following quantities of gypsum have been consumed during the past few years by these two factories:

M/s. Sindri Fertilisers and Chemicals Private Ltd., Sindri.	M/s. Fertilisers & Chemicals Travancore Alwaye. Ltd.,
1954 445,000 tons.	11,000 tons.
1955 514,000 tons.	17,000 tons.
1956 532,000 tons.	6,000 tons.
1957 (Jan. to June, 1957). 256,000 tons.	1,500 tons.

(b) Almost the entire quantity of gypsum consumed by Sindri Fertilisers is obtained from Rajasthan. Requirements of gypsum of M/s. Fertilisers & Chemicals Travancore Ltd., Alwaye, are met from Trichinopoly and from imports. Rajasthan gypsum is not used by this factory.

Hand-Pounded Rice

673. Shri Krishnasah: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government sanctioned any loans to any State Governments to encourage the use of hand-pounded rice during 1956-57; and

(b) if so, the amount granted (State-wise)?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the States and the amounts sanctioned are indicated below:

State	Amount sanctioned (Rupees)
Kerala	11,000
Madras	1,22,500
Manipur	1,25,000
Madhya Pradesh	1,40,000
Mysore	24,000
Punjab	10,500
Uttar Pradesh	1,25,000

Certain loans have been sanctioned for displaced persons' colonies also. Information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha.