

(c) the number of industrialists who have requested for the import licences for importing machinery required for the manufacture of such wigs; and

(d) the amount of foreign exchange being lost by Government as a result of not allowing the export of wigs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) None; and

(d) Does not arise.

#### **Representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Services**

562. SHRI SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state how far the recommendations made by the Yardi Committee regarding the representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Services have been implemented by the Railway Ministry so far?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): The recommendations of the Working Group under the Chairmanship of Shri M. R. Yardi bearing on "Employment" have initially been considered by the Ministry of Home Affairs and they have issued orders on some of the recommendations. Action taken on the orders issued by the Ministry of Home Affairs in this regard is indicated in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1392/68.*]

#### **Impact of High Production Costs on Exports**

564. SHRI M. N. NAGHNOOR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high domestic costs on production are an impediment in the matter of our export promotion programme; and

(b) if so, the measures Government propose to take to find export markets for items like cement, paper, caustic soda, soda-ash etc. whose production and supply is in adequate measure?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Higher costs of production, inherent in a developing economy, make some of our industrial products priced out in foreign markets.

(b) Exports of industrial products are assisted through various measures such as cash assistance wherever necessary, drawback of import and excise duties and facilities for export production. Cash assistance is allowed on export of paper, cement and soda ash. The question of extending cash assistance on export of caustic soda is under consideration.

#### **Fall in Coal Production**

565. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been significant decline in the coal production in the country during 1967-68;

(b) if so, the decline in the production registered during the above period;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to raise the output?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) to (c). The total production of coal has declined by about 1.65 million tonnes during 1967-68 as compared to 1966-67. The decline is mainly due to lack of demand.

(d) The present level of production of coal matches with the existing demand for it and there has been no unsatisfied demand. The output could

be raised if the demand picks up. The demand is being reviewed periodically.

#### Looting of Passengers in Farrukhabad-Delhi Passenger Train

566. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the passengers of Farukhabad-Delhi Passenger, Train were looted in their compartments by dacoits on the 27th June, 1968;

(b) if so, the estimated loss suffered by the passengers as a result thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to compensate the sufferers;

(d) whether Government propose to deploy armed railway police in the running trains to protect the life and property of the passengers; and

(e) if not, the measures Government propose to take in this direction?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Yes, the incident took place on the night of 27/28-6-1968 in a third Class coach of 1FTD passenger train between Pakhana and Mota Railway Stations.

(b) the total loss has been estimated at Rs. 250 approximately.

(c) No.

(d) Armed Railway Police is already deployed on the affected section. This train was also escorted by armed Government Railway Police Constable who has been placed under suspension.

(e) Does not arise.

#### Fall in Mineral Production

567. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the production of minerals in Rajasthan

fell short by about 7 per cent in 1967 as compared to the output during 1966;

(b) if so, the minerals which recorded decrease in their production showing comparative output during 1966 and 1967;

(c) the reasons therefor;

(d) the loss suffered due to the shortfall in the production of these minerals; and

(e) the steps taken by Government to raise the output?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK) : (a) The production of major minerals in Rajasthan fell short by about 2.7 per cent in 1967 as compared to their output during 1966.

(b) A statement of major minerals in Rajasthan which recorded decrease in their production, showing comparative output during 1966 and 1967 is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1393/68].

(c) The fall in production can be attributed to various factors, such as depletion of reserves; break-down of machinery; labour troubles and lack of demand for certain minerals due to general recession in industrial production.

(d) The loss suffered due to the shortfall in the production would be negligible as the fall in the value of mineral production is marginal.

(e) The information is being collected from the State Government who are primarily concerned.

#### Exemption of Industries from Licensing

569. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to exempt those in-