

(a) Whether there is a provision of 16.2/3 per cent minimum posts of Leave Reserves in all grades for Station Masters, Assistant Station Masters, Drivers and Guards etc., vide Railway Board's letter No. E(G)67 LR1-11 dated the 25th November, 1968 ;

(b) if so, whether this was implemented for the Guards and Drivers in all grades, i.e., 'A', 'B' and 'C' in the Delhi Division of the Northern Railway ;

(c) whether this was also implemented in respect of Station Masters, Assistant Station Masters and, if not, the reasons therefor ;

(d) whether any procedure has been evolved by the Railway Board to ensure that orders once issued by the Railway Board are correctly implemented by the Zonal Railways within a reasonable time ; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons why the Railway Board failed to ensure proper implementation of the above orders in the case of the Station Masters ?

The Minister of Railways (Shri Nanda) : (a) The Minimum Leave Reserve percentage already prescribed for various categories of operating staff is 16.2/3 whereas for running staff this is 15 per cent. The Board's letter of 25th November, 1968 only authorises the Railway Administrations to bring the leave reserve percentages to the minimum prescribed in respect of categories connected with the safety of train operations if the same happen to be below that minimum.

(b) and (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) and (e). Board's orders are invariably implemented by Railway Administrations within a reasonable time, if no clarification is necessary or if no other practical difficulties are involved.

EXAMINATION OF COST OF PRODUCTION OF CEMENT IN MESSRS SAURASHTRA CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD., AND MESSRS MADRAS CEMENT

6359. Shri Latafat Ali Khan : Will the Minister of Industrial Development,

Internal Trade and Company Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tariff Commission 1961 on Cement had given an *ad hoc* price to Messrs. Saurashtra Cement and Chemical Industries Ltd., and Madras Cements and their costs were to be examined by the Commission in the second quarter of 1962 ;

(b) whether their cost of production has never been examined and they continued to get this *ad hoc* price which was maximum under the three-tier system upto 15th April, 1969 and; if so, the reasons why their costs were not examined ;

(c) whether those units also which came into production later on were given highest retention price without any cost examination and, if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(d) whether the cost of production of Saurashtra Cement and Chemical Industries Ltd., as revealed by their published Balance-Sheet is lowest as compared to other cement units and yet it continued to get highest retention price without any cost examination ?

The Minister of Industrial Development, Internal Trade and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed) : (a) to (d). The attention of the Hon'ble Member is invited to the Government Resolution on the subject, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See. No. LT-3196/70].

PRICE OF CEMENT FOR MESSRS SAURASHTRA CEMENT AND CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES LTD., AND MESSRS MADRAS CEMENTS

6360. Shri Latafat Ali Khan : Will the Minister of Industrial Development, Internal Trade and Company Affairs be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tariff Commission, appointed to study the cost of production and prices of cement in 1960, had recommended for Messrs Saurashtra Cement and Chemical Industries Ltd., and Messrs. Madras Cements a price lower than the price recommended for Sone Valley Portland Cement till the final cost of