

wagons, have not been installed. Loadings in these are measured by markings in the wagon. It is in a few of such cases that under-loading has been reported. These cannot, however, be said to be cases of deliberate and chronic under-loading. To prevent recurrence of such cases weigh-bridges are being installed in collieries which do not yet have them. Specific instructions have been issued that till weigh-bridges are installed, loadings must be fully according to the markings in the wagons.

Retirement Age of Government Employees

864. { Shri S. M. Benerjee:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken a final decision to raise the retirement age from 55 years to 58 years; and

(b) if so, whether a copy of the Government order will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). A copy of the Government's orders containing the decision is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 98.]

Accumulation of Tea Stocks in Assam

865. { Shri B. K. Das:
Shri Maheswar Naik:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been large accumulation of stocks with the tea plantations in Assam for want of transport facilities; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to clear the stocks without delay?

The Minister of International Trade in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). A certain amount of congestion had resulted due to strike by the personnel of the Joint Steamer Companies and this has been remedied by additional supply of railway wagons, availing of plantation labour for loading and unloading of wagons and pressing into service road transport for the movement of tea to Calcutta. As a result of these measures, tea arrivals in Calcutta are showing marked improvement. With the strike now called off, there should be further considerable improvement.

मद्य-निषेध

८६६. श्री भक्त दर्शन क्या गृह कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार को इस आशय की सूचना मिली है कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने इस वर्ष १ दिसम्बर से अपने राज्य के उन ग्यारह जिलों में पूर्ण मद्य-निषेध को समाप्त करने का निश्चय किया है जहां वह पिछले कई वर्षों से लागू था ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या राज्य सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में भारत सरकार की सहमति तथा स्वीकृति प्राप्त कर ली है ; और

(ग) क्या इस मामले में सम्पूर्ण देश को ध्यान में रखते हुए बुनियादी नीति तय कर ली गई है ?

गृह-गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : (क) से (ग) नहीं। इस बारे में उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को लिखा गया है और सूचना यथा समय मभा-पटल पर रख दी जायगी।

Prohibition

867. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Governments have communicated their reactions