

(b) if so, whether any decision has been taken in the matter; and

(c) the nature of assistance India has agreed to provide for?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). Yes Sir. Proposals for joint ventures for the manufacture of certain engineering products and a textile mill in Nigeria have been finalised; the proposal to establish a jute mill is still under discussion between the parties concerned in India and Nigeria.

(c) The assistance that the Indian party will provide will be in form of supply of machinery and equipment manufactured in India and technical know-how.

#### Level Crossing Accidents.

**860. Shri D. B. Raju:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of level crossing accidents that occurred on the Indian Railways during the last two quarters; and

(b) the loss of life and property involved therein?

**The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shash Nath):**

(a) Ninety-eight accidents took place on the Indian Government Railways during the two quarters ending June, 1964.

(b) Twenty-one persons were killed. The cost of damage to railway property was assessed at approximately Rs 23,066.

#### False Weights and Measures

**861. Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have got reports about false weights and measures being used by some dealers in Delhi; and

(b) the steps taken to bring such defaulters to book and the attempts made to stop this nefarious activity?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Metric weights and measures verified by Government Inspectors are of guaranteed accuracy. Weights and measures not so verified may be false, but their use is unlawful. The use of such weights is largely limited to hawkers, squatters and other small dealers particularly in fruits, vegetables and old newspapers. Inspectors raid places frequented by such dealers, and bring offenders before a Mobile Court or the regular Courts. In July 1964, eight raids were conducted, and 106 cases brought before the Mobile Court. On conviction fines totalling Rs. 934 were imposed.

#### Credit Facilities for Trade

**862. Shri Sham Lal Saraf:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that one important sector of international trade relating to the shipment on consignment basis, like tea, tobacco and manganese seldom get credit facilities from the banks; and

(b) whether steps are afoot to convert this consignment sale to regular sale with buyers abroad and if so, the details thereof?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). In the case of tea sent on consignment basis, there appears to be no difficulty in getting accommodation from banks against bills of lading. A very small part of tobacco exports goes on consignment basis and, here also, no special difficulties in obtaining credit on such exports of tobacco have come to the notice of Government. Manganese ore is not allowed to be exported on consignment basis. Exports of mica on consignment basis have recently been banned.