(b) the comparative costs of good private sector collieries in India, Britain, West Germany and U.S.A.;

(c) the steps the N.C.D.C. and the Private Sector Collieries propose to take to reduce costs; and

(d) the average selling price of N.C.D.C. coal per tonne and the sell-price of coal of good private sector collieries in India?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals (Shri P. C. Sethi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to a recent enquiry the costs of private sector collieries varied from Rs. 16.02 to Rs. 33.769 per tonne.

In Britain, during 1965-66, the average cost of production for deep mine coal was S 92/6 d (about Rs. 97/-) per ton and for open cast mining, it was S 75/5 d (about Rs. 79/-) per ton.

During 1965, the cost of production of coal in the United States ranged between $3.19 (about Rs. 24|-) and $6.81 (about Rs. 51|-) per ton and averaged about $4 (Rs. 30|-).

The costs in West Germany are not known.

(c) The efforts made by the N.C.D.C. to reduce cost of production include increased production, vigorous sales drive, reduction in inventory holdings, check on fresh recruitment/promotions to the extent possible and optimum use of existing men and material.

Government are not aware of any special steps taken by the private sector collieries to reduce costs.

(d) The average selling price of N.C.D.C. coal during 1965-66 was Rs. 25.57 per tonne. Till recently all high grade and good quality coals were controlled. Their price, therefore, did not differ with the price obtained from N.C.D.C. coals of similar grade and quality.

Electrical Manufacturing Company Ltd. Calcutta

8891. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Madhu Limaye:
Shri George Fernandes:
Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia:

Will the Minister of **Industrial Development and Company Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3217 on the 2nd December, 1966 and state:

(a) whether Electrical Manufacturing Company Ltd., Calcutta has been awarded any contract by the Central Government or the Public Undertakings after the firm was blacklisted on the 24th June, 1966;

(b) if so, the total value of the contract;

(c) the stage reached in the hearing of the civil suit filed by the Company before the Calcutta High Court; and

(d) whether the new West Bengal Government have been asked by the Central Government to viorously contest the petition pending before the Calcutta High Court?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) On the basis of a "Civil Writ" petition and a petition for the issue of an interim injunction submitted by this firm, the Honourable High Court of Calcutta had directed that no action to the prejudice of the petitioner should be taken on the strength of the impugned black-listing order. The direction of the High Court has been brought to the notice of all concerned. The indenting organisations have to consider tenders and quotations submitted by the firm on merits, in view of the order of the Hon'ble High Court.

(b) Information is not available.

(c) The application of the firm has not yet appeared in the list of the Hon'ble High Court.

(d) The Government of West Bengal are no. listed as a respondent in the petition. The question of their contesting the petition does not, therefore, arise.

रक्सौल (पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे) में रेलवे की भूमि पर जबर्दस्ती कब्जा किया जाना

8892. **श्री विभूति मिश्र :**
श्री क० ना० तिवारी :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में रक्सौल में रेलवे की कुछ भूमि पर कुछ लोगों ने जबरदस्ती कब्जा कर लिया है, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने यह भूमि रेलवे को वापिस दिलाने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री चे० मु० पुनाचा) : (क) जी हां। रेलवे की जमीन पर अनधिकृत कब्जे के कुछ मामले हुए हैं।

(ख) सार्वजनिक परिसर (अनधिकृत कब्जे की बेदखली) अधिनियम, 1658 के अधीन अनधिकृत कब्जा करने वालों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाई की गयी है और कुछ अनधिकृत निर्माण हटाये जा चुके हैं।

Development of Leather Industry

8893. Shri R. S. Vidyarthi: Will the Minister of **Commerce** be pleased to state the amount spent on the promotion and development of the leather industry with particular reference to the assistance provided at cottage industry level in the shape of grants and loans during the first three Plans and the sum allocated in the Fourth Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): Amount spent by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission for the development of Cottage Leather Industry is as follows:—

	(Rs. lakhs) Grant	Loans
First Plan	17.69	14.11
Second Plan	102.22	102.23
Third Plan	86.30	138.23

Fourth Plan—Allocations for Fourth Plan have not yet been finalised. However, during 1966-67 Rs. 9.58 lakhs as grant and Rs. 21.36 lakhs as loans were disbursed by the Commission. Allotment for 1967-68 is Rs. 28.28 lakhs grant and Rs. 43.25 lakhs loans.

रेलवे पटरी का उड़ाया जाना

8894. **श्री ओंकार सिंह :**
श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :
श्री राम सिंह अग्रवाल :
श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुशवाह :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री 31 मार्च, 1967 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 263 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या पूर्वोत्तर सीमान्त रेलवे पर रेलवे की पटरी उड़ाये जाने की घटना का व्यौरा प्राप्त हो गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस घटना के लिये कौन जिम्मेवार हैं; और

(ग) सरकार ने सम्बन्धित व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री चे० मु० पुनाचा) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) पुलिस अभी मामले की जांच-पड़ताल कर रही है। इस विस्फोट के लिए जिम्मेदार तत्वों का अभी पता लगाया जाना है।

(ग) सवाल नहीं उठता।