

Booking of Cars

5799. Shri Girraj Saran Singh:
Shri S. K. Tapuriah:
Shri Meetha Lal:

Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of cancellations of bookings of new cars has nearly been as high as new booking in June, 1967;

(b) whether the number of cancellation is going up since April, 1967.

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) how these figures compare with the figures in corresponding period last year ?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Taking over of Textile Mills

5800. Shri S. K. Tapuriah:
Shri Meetha Lal:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the reduction made in the number of workers in those textile mills which have been taken over by Government, mill-wise;

(b) the increase in the production of cloth in these mills; and

(c) the amount spent by Government on new machinery for these mills?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1058/67.]

Freight Increase

5801. Shri S. K. Tapuriah: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the incidence of recent freight increase on the delivered prices of

minerals like manganese, iron-ore and coal at distances of 300 km., 500 km. and 1,000 km;

(b) whether Government have received representations from mining industries in regard to the adverse effects on export of minerals and internal consumption; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) As the Hon'ble Member would readily agree, the delivered prices of minerals like manganese ore and iron ore would depend on the quality of the product, which varies over a wide range. Besides, these minerals do not have an open competitive market and there are no public price quotations. There being a few big customers, the prices are negotiated between the buyer and the seller. In the circumstances, the percentage increase in the delivered price resulting from the recent revision of freight rates cannot be worked out.

The percentage increase in the freight rate itself, at 300 kms., 500 kms. and 1,000 kms., is shown in the statement Annexure 'A' laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1059/67.]

In the case of coal, the pit-head prices of different grades are notified by the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Metals. On the basis of that, the percentage increase in the proportion which freight charges form of the pit-head price has been worked out and is shown in the statement Annexure 'B' laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1060/67.]

(b) A representation has been received from the Federation of Indian Mineral Industries against the freight increase on iron ore and manganese ore for export.