

cost only after a contractor has been selected.

(d) As per terms and conditions agreed to between Indian Iron and Steel Company and the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, goods to be financed out of the proceeds of the Loan given by the Bank have to be procured on the basis of international competition. Indian companies are also permitted to participate in the tenders, as is evident from the tender submitted by Heavy Engineering Corporation.

#### Clerks in Traffic Accounts Offices

591. Shri A. K. Gopalan:  
Shrimati Susseela Gopalan:  
Shri K. Ramani:  
Shri Jagannath Rao Joshi:  
Shri Hukam Chand Kachwai:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a ban on the promotion of Clerks in the Traffic Accounts Offices of the Indian Railways since 1963;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any representation in the matter; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) No.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

#### Cotton Prices

592. Shri A. K. Gopalan:  
Shri K. Ramani:  
Shrimati Susseela Gopalan:  
Shri D. S. Patil:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the statement made by the Chairman of the

Mill Owners' Association on the 31st April, 1967 that cotton prices continued to be higher than the ceiling prices despite assurances of Government; and

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

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shaif Qureshi): (a) and (b). The problem of prices of cotton ruling above the ceilings has been engaging constant attention of the Government. As a result of two successive droughts, cotton crop during 1965-66 and 1966-67 suffered a considerable decline giving rise to an upward surge in cotton prices. A number of measures including movement control, stock control, credit control and requisitioning of cotton and also curtailment of machine activity have been taken to keep the prices as near the ceilings as possible. These measures have been effective in checking the rising trend to an appreciable extent. Such further measures as may be necessary and found feasible will continue to be taken in the future.

1966-67 में कोयला खानों से निकाला गया कोयला

593. श्री श्रीकार नाल बेरवा : क्या इत्याद, खान तथा बातु मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि वर्ष 1966-67 में देश में खानों से कितना कोयला निकाला गया ?

इत्याद, खान तथा बातु मंत्री (डा० चन्ना रेड्डी) : 1966-67 में देश में कोयले का उत्पादन, लिगनाइट को छोड़कर, 68.43 मिलियन टन था। इस अवधि में लिगनाइट का उत्पादन 2.46 मिलियन टन था।

सबू उद्योग द्वारा निर्वात

594. श्री श्रीकार नाल बेरवा : क्या औद्योगिक विकास तथा समन्वय कार्य मंत्री