

packets of chilly powder mixed with sand, packets containing chemical powder, one flag of Communist Party of India and one blood-stained sheet were recovered and seized by the police from the quarter.

(c) Chittaranjan Police registered a case on Crime No. 1 dated 1-1-1968 under Section 6(3) of the Indian Explosives Act. Ten Railway workers and family members of the Mistry have been arrested so far. Explosive Expert has also inspected the spot. Report of the Explosive Expert is awaited and the case is still under investigation by the police.

#### Pandey Committee on Car Quality

33. SHRI D. C. SHARMA:  
 SHRI ESWARA REDDY:  
 SHRI ANBUCHIZIAN:  
 SHRI DEVIKAN:  
 SHR VASUDEVAN NAIR:  
 SHRI K. HALDAR:  
 SHRI HEM RAJ:  
 SHRI C. K. BHATTACHARYA:  
 SHRI G. VISHWANTHAN:  
 SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA:  
 SHRI M. N. REDDY:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 709 on the 15th December, 1967 and state:

(a) the main recommendations of the Pande Committee on the quality of cars manufactured in the country and whether these have been considered; and

(b) the recommendations accepted and the steps taken to implement them?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) and (b). The report of the Committee together with Government's decision on the recommendations made in it will be placed on the Table of the House shortly

#### Controls on Price and Distribution of Cement

34. SHRI D. C. SHARMA:  
 SHRIMATI TARA SAPRE:  
 SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR:  
 SHRI MRITYUNJAY PRASAD:  
 SHRI C. K. BHATTACHARYYA:  
 SHRI MOHSIN:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has described the decision of Government to reimpose controls on the price and distribution of cement as a retrograde step;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) No, Sir. But some of the organisations representing Commerce and Industry have represented against the decision of the Government to control and regulate the sale and distribution of cement during 1968.

(b) and (c) The existing arrangements for regulating the distribution of cement through the Cement Corporation of India instead of C.A.C.O. does not amount to a total control and is to continue during 1968. In view of the various organisations would however be kept in view while considering the policy for distribution of cement to be followed in 1969 and onwards.

#### Export of Tea

35. SHRI D. C. SHARMA:  
 SHRI C. K. BHATTACHARYYA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the tea exports crossed an all time record of 205 million Kgs. in 1967 after a gap of two years;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to keep up the position; and

(c) the efforts made to explore more markets for Indian tea?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) The exports of tea during the year 1967 are reported to have exceeded the exports in 1965 and in 1966. Final figures are however awaited.

(b) and (c) The possibility of increasing exports of tea whether to traditional or to new markets, is continuously engaging the attention of Government. The recent downward readjustments of export duties is one such step. The talks which took place between the Governments of India and Ceylon had the same objective in mind. How to increase the export earnings of the developing countries through higher exports at better prices of primary commodities like tea is also engaging the attention of various international organisations including the UNCTAD II which is currently in session.

#### Capital Punishment for Sabotage on Railways

36. SHRI MAYAVAN:  
SHRI ANBUCHAEZHIAN:  
SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN:  
SHRI DEIVEEKAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to introduce legislation during the current session for the capital punishment for sabotage on Railways in the country;

(b) if so, when the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken;

(c) whether the views of the States have been ascertained in this regard; and

(d) if so, their reaction in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) (b). Yes, but it is not likely to be introduced in the current session.

(c) As the matter falls in the concurrent list of Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, the Union Government is competent to enact the legislation on the subject.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Closed and Mismanaged Tea Plantations

37. SHRI MAYAVAN:  
SHRI ANBUCHAEZHIAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to take over closed and mismanaged tea plantations in the country;

(b) if so, the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken;

(c) the total number of such plantations and the reasons for their closure; and

(d) whether any compensation is proposed to be given to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHR MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

#### Aerial Mineral Survey

38. SHRIMATI SUSHELA GOPALAN:  
SHRI UMANATH:  
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:  
SHRI P. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an American Company has been given charge for carrying out the said survey;

(b) if so, the name of the American firm; and