

tries for distribution abroad and visiting delegation and VIPs for promotional purposes. Only the actual cost of tea is charged and the caddy is given free by the Tea Board. Sale of tea in caddies or liquid tea from Tea Board's Bars/Buflets/Tea centres for promotional purposes is not prohibited under the Tea Act.

Manufacturing of Diesel Engines by Chittaranjan Loco Unit

5554. SHRI S C. SAMANTA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state by what time Chittaranjan Loco Unit will change over from manufacturing steam engines to Diesel ones?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : Production of steam locomotives has been discontinued from January, 1972 and the Chittaranjan Locomotive Works is now undertaking the manufacture of electric and diesel locomotives only

Schemes for Rural Electrification in Backward Regions

5555. SHRI P V. REDDY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation is sanctioning "Cluster" Schemes for rural electrification in the backward regions on the condition that the Consumers should pay 20 per cent of the estimated cost of the schemes as a loan to the Corporation;

(b) whether the small and poor farmers belonging to the backward areas are not being benefited by these schemes since they are unable to pay the said loan amount; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to waive the said condition in the backward regions of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (c). The Rural Electrification Corporation which has been set up in the Central Sector since July 1969, provides additive finances to the State Electricity Boards for implementation of rural electrification schemes. In respect of backward areas, 100 percent cost of the Project is financed by the Corporation. The consumers are not called upon to subscribe any part of the cost of the scheme.

Short Supply of box wagons for Movement of Iron ore to Haldia and Paradip Ports :

5556. SHRI BANMALI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) Whether large stocks of iron ore are piling up at Banspani and Barbil-Bajamla sector in Orissa due to short supply of box wagons for carrying iron ore to Haldia and Paradip ports;

(b) Whether the matter has been looked into; and

(c) If so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :

(a) Accumulation of iron ore at Barbil and Banspani has been reported. There is at present no programme for movement of export ore to Haldia as the port is not ready.

(b) and (c). With the reduction in the incidence of various anti-social activities in the Eastern sector which seriously impaired movement capacity of all traffic, including export ore and reduction in the various special moves for defence and refugees, drives have been instituted from April 1972 to maintain loading of export ore from Barajamda sector to Paradip and Calcutta Ports as per target.