

have been reduced on all varieties of jute manufactures as indicated below:—

(i) Carpet backing	} from Rs. 900/- to Rs. 600/- per tonne
(ii) Specialities	
(iii) Other Hessian	from Rs. 900/- to Rs. 750/- per tonne
(iv) Sackings	from Rs. 600/- to Rs. 450/- per tonne
(v) Cotton bagging	from Rs. 600/- to Rs. 200/- per tonne with effect from 11th February, 1967.

Export of Manganese

1345. Shri Deven Sen:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a fall in the export of manganese in recent years;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken to find new markets/regain or retain old ones;

(d) whether any targets have been fixed for the Fourth Plan; and

(e) the foreign exchange likely to be earned during this period?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reasons for fall in export chiefly are:—

(i) Emergence of new sources of supply near the consuming countries.

(ii) Increase in the production of captive mines of the consumers.

(iii) Lesser dependence on manganese ore in steel production due to technological advances.

(iv) The internal requirements of manganese ore in India are growing on account of increasing production of ferromanganese and steel.

(c) Agency arrangements have been made in various important manganese ore consuming countries to find new markets/regain or retain old ones. In order to keep good business relations, delegations of Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation of India visit the major consuming countries of manganese ore from time to time to explore sales possibilities and effect sales.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The extent of foreign exchange earning would depend upon price and other conditions prevailing in the international market. However, export earning during 1966-67 is approximately Rs. 14,14,80,000.

Railway Complaint Books

1346. Shri Nihal Singh:
Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
Shri Madhu Limaye:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fact that Complaint Books are not sometimes made available to bonafide passengers by the Railway Employees at some stations whenever they are in the wrong;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) whether Government's attention also been drawn to frivolous complaints and harassment caused by people who want to take undue advantage of the Railway employees; and

(d) whether Government propose to introduce a system of deposit of say Re. one or Rs. 2 so that only bonafide complaints are made and no harassment is caused to the honest railway employees?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Ponnappa): (a) Yes. Some complaints have been received to this effect.