

year are lower than the prices obtained in 1967.

The prices paid by the State Trading Corporation to its suppliers are derived from the prices it settles with the buyers abroad.

(c) It is not in the business interests of the Corporation to divulge details

#### Dr. Hazaria's report on Industrial Licensing

6131. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD:  
SHRI LOBO PRABHU:  
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:  
SHRI GIRRAJ SARAN  
SINGH:

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

(a) whether Government had verified the accuracy of the statistics used by Dr. Hazari in his report on Industrial Licensing; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) and (b). A statement is attached.

#### Statement

Dr. R. K. Hazari has himself said in his Report on 'Industrial Planning and Licensing Policy' that the data used by him suffer from severe limitations. He has added that the data are partial incomplete and in some cases not fully reliable and that they should be taken as rough indicators of magnitudes and not precise amounts. As the working of the industrial licensing system is being enquired into in some detail by the Industrial Licensing Policy Inquiry Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Prof. Thacker, that Committee will no doubt examine whether there is any serious discrepancy in the statistics as cited in the Report.

#### Afforestation of vacant land in possession of Railways

6132. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD:  
SHRI N. K. SOMANI:  
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:  
SHRI PILOO MODY:  
SHRI LOBO PRABHU:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total length of vacant land in possession of Railways;

(b) whether the Railways have consulted forestry experts and have satisfied themselves that afforestation on such vacant lands will not affect the safe running of trains;

(c) whether there are any areas, which can be given on lease for cultivation; and

(d) if so, whether Government propose to give the lease only to those who will demonstrate improved agricultural practices?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Approximately 90 thousand acres of cultivable land.

(b) Yes, provided while doing afforestation necessary precautions regarding track & signal visibility, minimum distance of plant line from the track and choice of species etc. are taken.

(c) Yes.

(d) No. Part of surplus cultivable land has been handed over to the State Governments for licensing to cultivators. The balance cultivable land is being licensed to the extent possible, by the railways directly, preference being given to adjoining field owners.