

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

INDUSTRIAL UNITS

5226. SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 80 per cent of posts of Engineers carrying pay ranging from Rs. 600 to Rs. 2,000 are being manned by unqualified persons in the Industrial units, both large and small, resulting in production of low standard goods and consequent loss of markets; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to introduce certain rules for recruitment of qualified engineers for such posts to ensure high quality production?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED):

(a) Government have no detailed information about the qualifications of persons employed as Engineers in the Private Sector Industrial Units—both large and small. In so far as the Public Sector Units are concerned, only qualified persons are recruited for manning Engineering Posts.

(b) There are prescribed Rules for recruitment of Engineering Staff in Public Sector Undertakings.

RETRENCHMENT OF BRIDGE STAFF OF SOUTHERN RAILWAY

5227. SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of Railway staff (bridge staff) of the Southern Railway is facing retrenchment after having worked for nearly 15 years;

(b) whether any representation has been received from the Southern Railway Retrenched Workers' Association, Madras in this connection; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

DURGAPUR STEEL PLANT

5228. SHRI E. K. NAYANAR:
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:
SHRI K. RAMANI:
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU.

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

(a) whether the Central Electrical Maintenance in Durgapur Steel Plant is working three shifts;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any orders have been placed with some foreign firm for the manufacture of spares; and

(d) if so, the value thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A small portion of the spares needed by the Plant are still required to be imported.

(d) During 1967-68 orders have been placed for import of mechanical fabricated spares worth Rs. 14.9 lakhs and electrical fabricated spares worth Rs. 3.9 lakhs.

CHIEF ENGINEER, KHETRI COPPER PROJECT

5229. SHRI E. K. NAYANAR:
SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM:
SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:
SHRI K. RAMANI:

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

(a) whether there is any age limit prescribed for the Chief Engineers working in the Public Sector projects;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the age of the present Chief Engineer (Civil), Khetri Copper Project, Rajas-