

(c) So far 12 persons have been arrested. 18 bales and some loose cloth valued at about Rs. Thirty two thousand and sale proceeds valued at Rs. Nineteen thousand six hundred (in three bank drafts of five thousand each and Rs. Four thousand six hundred in currency notes) have so far been recovered. Police investigation is still in progress.

BIRLA GROUP OF FIRMS

1890. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of ex-Government officials working with the Birlas as contract-men and in other capacities;

(b) whether they sought Government's permission to join the Birla enterprises;

(c) whether permission was given by Government to these officers to join this group of industries; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Only officers who held Class I posts are required to seek the permission of the Government for taking up Commercial employment within two years of their retirement. No officer of Class I Services had applied or been granted permission to join any of the Birla enterprises within two years after retirement in the Ministry of Industrial Development and Company Affairs.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

IMPORT OF EGYPTIAN COTTON

1891. SHRI P. RAMAMURTI :
SHRI K. RAMANI :
SHRI VISWANATHA MENON :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Egyptian Cotton Shippers have decided to cut their sales to India of Giza 45 variety;

(b) if so, the extent thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of U.A.R.; and

(d) if so, the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir, but the cuts have been applied to other markets for Giza 45 also.

(b) The extent of the cut varied with the shippers and depended on the shortfall in the production of Giza 45 in the cotton growing districts allotted to them.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The matter was taken up during the visit of an Indian Trade Delegation to the UAR in January, 1968. The representatives of the East India Cotton Association and the Indian Cotton Mills Federation were associated with the discussions in Cairo. During these discussions, the UAR authorities regretted that they had been constrained to make these cuts owing to an unexpected fall in the production of Giza 45. They also gave categorical assurances that the cuts had been uniformly applied by every individual shipper to all his markets.

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में नई रेलवे लाइन बिछाना

1892. श्री मोहन स्वरूप : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में नई रेलवे लाइनों बिछाने का है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जे. ए. मु. पुनाचा) :

(क) जी नहीं।

(ख) सवाल नहीं उठता।

COPPER PYRITES REFINING PLANT

1893. SHRI MOHAN SWARUP : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a copper pyrites refining plant is being set up at Indalghal in Chetradurga District;

(b) if so, the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon; and

(c) the output of the plant when it starts production ?