

some of the States during the last two months; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

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

**EXPLORATION OF DIAMONDS OF CUDDAPAH FORMATION IN ANDHRA PRADESH**

397. **SHRI ESWARA REDDY :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Dr. C. V. Raman in his commemoration lecture on the eve of the golden jubilee celebrations of the Osmania University had suggested the exploration for diamonds of the Cuddapah formation in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether Government intend to start exploration of the Cuddapah formation ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK) :** (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd., had deputed two field parties to reconnoitre Wajrakarur, Bagana-palli and Ramalakottah areas in Andhra Pradesh with a view to look into the possibility of recovering the diamonds. The Corporation is now going through the data collected by it and will be preparing a plan of action for tackling the prospecting and exploration of diamonds in Andhra Pradesh.

**REVENUE EARNINGS FROM TRANSPORT OF ORANGES**

398. **DR. A. G. SONAR :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the revenue earned by Government due to orange transport from the Nagpur, Kalmeshwar, Katol, Narkher, Pandurna and Multai railway stations of the Central Railway;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is always shortage of wagons in the peak season; and

(c) how do Government propose to ensure that this would not happen in this season also ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) :** (a) The earnings during 1967-68 were Rs. 53,62,649.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**PRICES OF RAW COTTON**

399. **DR. A. G. SONAR :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of raw cotton are in a way controlled by the Textile Commissioner;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the prices are always fixed from the mill owners' point of view;

(c) whether Government propose to entrust the task of fixing prices of raw cotton to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) :** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Does not arise.

**STRIKE BY GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES**

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

(a) how many persons of the Ministry of Industrial Development and Company Affairs have been dismissed for joining the token strike on the 19th September, 1968;

(b) how many persons' previous services have been written off; and

(c) whether there has been any loss of life and Government property on account of the strike ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :** (a) None.

(b) 93.

(c) No.