

(c) and (d). Government have accepted the recommendation. The Ministries concerned with the various industries are being consulted and if an inquiry on the lines contemplated by the Committee is considered necessary in any particular case, a reference will be made to the Tariff Commission accordingly.

NOTE: The recommendations of the Committee together with the Government's decisions thereon have already been laid on the Table of the House on the 19th November, 1968. These are also available with the Parliament Library.

Foreign Collaboration

2153. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:
SHRI D. N. DEB:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a sharp fall in foreign collaboration proposals from 241 in 1966-67 to 140 in 1967-68;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to arrest the fall in foreign collaboration?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir. There has been a decline in the number of collaboration proposals approved by Government from 240 in 1966-67 to 140 in 1967-68.

(b) One of the reasons for the fall in foreign collaboration proposals approved during the year 1967-68 is the selective approach of the Government in the matter of according foreign collaboration approvals. With the increased level of technical development within the country, foreign technical collaboration is now not allowed in fields wherein technical know-how proposed to be imported is indigenously available or the product proposed to be manufactured with foreign collaboration is not of sufficient importance in the present context. The following may be the additional reasons

for the fall in the foreign investments/collaborations approved during the year 1967-68:—

- (i) Recession during 1967.
- (ii) Near drought conditions in the country in the past two years.
- (iii) Restrictions imposed by the capital exporting countries like the U.S.A. and the U.K. on the export of capital abroad.

(c) With a view to stream-lining the procedures for consideration of applications for foreign collaboration, it has been decided to set up a Foreign Investment Board exclusively for the purpose of dealing with foreign collaboration proposals expeditiously, so that industrialists are not debarred from applying for foreign collaboration in deserving cases.

Assistant Inspectors of Works

2154. SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4612 on the 20th August, 1968 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Assistant Inspector of works grade 206—280, Works Mistries Grade 150—240 and Tally Clerks Grade 105—135 (of Western Railway) now absorbed in the alternative job of Clerks have been allowed weightage of service only while fixing their pay, i.e., they have been allowed Rs. 110/- plus increments equal to the number of years they have served in the category from which rendered surplus, irrespective of the nature of their previous service;

(b) if so, how the Railway Board's letter No. E(NG)II-67REI/58 dated the 29th April, 1968 does not go against the contents of last para of GMCCG'S letter No. 1086/30/10 dated the 16th October, 1966;

(c) whether the information promised in parts (c) and (d) of Question No. 4612 referred to above has been collected; and

(d) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) The pay in the manner indicated in the question has been allowed to Assistant Inspectors of Works. Works Mistries have been given the minimum of the sale of a Clerk viz., Rs. 110/- increased by a personal pay equal to the number of increments based on the completed years of service put in by them. The pay of Tally Clerks has been fixed under the normal rules.

(b) There is no contradiction. The Western Railway's letter does not spell out the details. In any case, the matter has been examined at great length by the Railway Board who have issued instructions which are final.

(c) and (d). The information has been collected and is contained in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-2322|68.]

Delegation to Prague

2155. SHRI SAMAR GUHA Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) the considerations on the basis of which personnel of the Indian delegation to the 23rd International Congress held in Prague on the 19th August, 1968 were selected and whether prior advice of Education Ministry was sought for such selection;

(b) whether Dr. S. Deb, present Vice-President of the Geological and Metallurgical Society of India, who was invited to preside over two important sections of the Congress was not included in the Delegation; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether a foreign exchange of Rs. 300/- was not sanctioned to him to enable him to go to Prague and preside over the above two sections of the Congress;

(d) whether the Professor of Geology of Chandigarh University who was not a member of the official delegation was given all facilities to attend the Congress which were denied to Dr. Deb; and

(e) if so, the reason for such discrimination?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) The selection of the Indian delegation to the 23rd Session of the International Geological Congress held in Prague on the 19th August, 1968 was based on representations for office bearers of the 22nd Session held in New Delhi in 1964, Universities and State Departments of Geology and Mining. The composition of the delegation was finalised in consultation with the Geological Adviser to the Government of India who was the President of the previous International Geological Congress and the Ministry of Finance. The prior advice of the Ministry of Education was not considered necessary. However, proposals received from the Ministry of Education were considered along with other proposals.

(b) to (e). No, Sir. The selection of Chairman for the Sectional Meetings of the Congress was the responsibility of the Organising Committee of the International Geological Congress. The said Committee nominated Chairman for individual Sectional Meetings from registered attending members. Several Indian scientists other than Dr. S. Deb who were also Chairman/Secretary of other Committees etc. had also received similar invitations from the Czechoslovak Organising Committee, but all of them could not be included in the Indian delegation for reasons of economy in foreign exchange expenditure.

There were many requests especially from the University teachers to participate in the Conference. Many of them were to read papers and some of them had also been invited to preside over sectional meetings of the Congress. Two such persons were Dr. I. C. Pande of the Punjab University and Dr. C. Naganna of the Bangalore University. Since in these two cases, over and above the fact that they were to preside over sectional meetings, they also had been offered local hospitality covering entire expenses of their