

(b) whether Government had sanctioned any loan for the development of the mill ;

(c) if so, the amount spend so far and present stage of the mill; and

(d) the quantum of thread to be manufactured therein ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) The Saibaba Textile Mill has not commenced production.

(b) to (d). The mills had been licenced for 12,096 spindles on which production on the basis of 20s counts is estimated at 1.30 lakh Kgs. per month. Because of financial difficulties, the mills have not made any substantial progress as they have not been able to obtain loans from Financial Institutions. Their request for financial assistance is reported to be under consideration of the state Government.

#### रेलवे में बिना टिकट यात्रा

65. श्री यशबन्त सिंह कुशाबाह :  
श्री भीष्मन्द गोयल :  
श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) लोगों द्वारा बिना टिकट यात्रा किये जाने के कारण गत तीन वर्षों में रेलवे को कितनी-कितनी हानि हुई है,

(ख) क्या सरकार ने बिना टिकट यात्रा को रोकने के लिए विभिन्न तरीके अपनाए का निर्णय किया है,

(ग) क्या कोई ऐसी लाइनें हैं जिन पर टिकटों की जांच करने वाले कर्मचारी बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वालों के टिकटों की जांच करने की हिम्मत नहीं करते क्योंकि ऐसे यात्री गुंडागर्दी पर उतर आते हैं; और

(घ) यदि हाँ, तो क्या ऐसी लाइनों पर

टिकटों की जांच करने वाले कर्मचारियों के साथ सशस्त्र पुलिस गार्ड की व्यवस्था करने के लिए कोई कार्यवाही की गयी है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) : (क) गत तीन वर्षों में बिना टिकट यात्रा के कारण हर साल रेलवे को कितनी हानि हुई, इसका ठीक-ठीक अनुमान उपलब्ध नहीं है। लेकिन सभी रेलों पर की गयी विशेष जांच के आधार पर मोटे तौर पर लगाये गए अनुमान के अनुसार प्रति वर्ष 20 और 25 करोड़ रुपये के बीच हानि हुई।

(ख) जी हाँ।

(ग) जी नहीं, हालांकि कुछ खण्डों पर कभी-कभी गुंडागर्दी की घटनाएँ हुई हैं।

(घ) आवश्यकता पड़ने पर सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस और रेलवे सुरक्षा दल के कर्मचारी टिकट जांच करने वाले कर्मचारियों की सहायता करते हैं। नियमित रूप से सशस्त्र पुलिस की व्यवस्था करना न तो व्यावहारिक है और न आवश्यक ही।

#### Enquiry against Birla Group of Companies

66. SHRI HEM BARUA :  
SHRI NAMBIAR :  
SHRI JYOTIRMROY BASU :  
SHRI R. K. SINHA :  
SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN :  
SHRI VISWANATHA MENON :  
SHRI BALRAJ MADHOK :  
SHRI RANJIT SINGH :  
SHRI D. C. SHARMA :  
SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA :  
SHRI HARDYAL DEVGUN :  
SHRI RABI RAY :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that certain

serious allegations of malpractices have been made against the House of Birlas ;

(b) if so, what are these allegations; and

(c) whether any enquiry has been ordered into these alleged malpractices ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Certain allegations of malpractices against the Birla Group of Industries have been made in three memoranda submitted by Shri Chandra Shekhar M. P.

(b) The allegations cover a wide range of subjects such as, violation of the regulations pertaining to customs, income-tax-insurance, central excise, capital issues and foreign exchange ; favours shown by certain State Government; employment of retired Government officials and the wives and relatives of executives of Birla Firms on high salaries; and manufacture of sub-standard products and profiteering etc.

(c) A preliminary inquiry into these allegations was taken in hand immediately after their receipt by the Government.

#### Fall in Prices of Tea International Market

67. SHRI HEM RAJ :  
SHRIMATI ILA PAL CHOUDHARY :  
SHRI BISHWANATH ROY :  
SHRI N. R. LASKAR :  
SHRI R. BARUA :  
SHRI SHRI CHAND GOYAL :  
SHRI S. S. KOTHARI :  
SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA :  
SHRI BISVANARAYAN SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of tea in the international market have fallen steeply creating a crisis for the Indian tea Industry ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to help the industry in this crisis;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from the tea growing State for giving help to the Tea Industry; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) The price of tea in the international market was lower during the year 1968 than in the previous year.

(b) With a view to offsetting the decline in prices, the following concessions were granted : (i) the export duty rebate was increased from 24 p to 35 per kg with effect from 1. 10. 68, (ii) the special excise duty of 20% of the basic excise duty was withdrawn with effect from 1. 10. 68 (iii) a replanting subsidy scheme at the rate of Rs. 3,500 per hectare for plains gardens and Rs. 4, 500- per hectare for hill gardens was also announced for helping the Industry in carrying out replantation of old tea areas.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Steps have been taken at the International level to attempt to reverse the falling trend in tea prices by more intensive promotion, and for identifying and correcting deficiencies in the market mechanism so as to remove factors that result in a depression of prices. Internal measures necessary for strengthening the position of the tea industry are also receiving action consideration.

#### Ashoka Mehta Committee's Report on Khadi and Village Industries Commission

68. SHRI HEM RAJ :  
SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :  
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :  
DR. RANEN SEN :  
SHRI J. M. BISWAS :  
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY :  
SHRI RAM GOPAL SHALWALE :  
SHRI RANJIT SINGH :  
SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :