

and one Stenographer in the scale of Rs. 130--300 continue to work with two Junior Scale Officers;

(b) whether it is a fact that the yardstick of providing one stenographer in the scale of Rs. 130--300 to two Junior Scale Officers is not working satisfactorily and both the officers and Stenographers are experiencing numerous difficulties in discharging their duties smoothly;

(c) if so, whether Government would consider to provide the Junior Scale Stenographer with one Junior Scale Officer; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND RAILWAYS (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (a) and (b). In terms of extant orders Senior Scale Officers are to be provided with Stenographers in scale Rs. 210--425 and Junior Scale Officers with Stenographers in scale Rs. 130--300. Posts of Stenographers in these grades are created by the Zonal Railways based on the quantum of work involved. The existing arrangement is working satisfactorily.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Decontrol of Cement from 1970

1257. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :
SHRI ESWARA REDDY :
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :
SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :
SHRI SEZHIAN :

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

(a) whether Government have decided to decontrol cement from next year;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the decontrol of cement is likely to lead to increase in prices especially in areas where cement is in deficit; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose

to take to guard against such increase in prices ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The attention of the Hon'ble Member is invited to the statement made by me in the House on 14.4.1969.

(c) and (d) : The position will be known only when the decontrol comes into force on 1.1.1970. Government would however, keep a close watch on the situation as it develops and take such remedial measures as may be necessary.

Probe into affairs of Birla Group of Concerns and Big Business Houses

1259. SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA :
SHRI S.M. BANERJEE :
SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :
SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR :
SHRI V. NARASIMHA RAO :
SHRI RABI RAY :

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

(a) whether the proposal to set up a Commission to probe into the affairs of the House of Birlas and other big business houses has been finalised;

(b) if so the terms of reference and the names of members of the Commission; and

(c) when the Commission is expected to submit its report ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b) . The terms of reference and the composition of the proposed Commission of Inquiry which is to go into cases of irregularities, lapses and improprieties referred to in the Report of the Industrial Licensing Policy Inquiry Committee

and also into certain specific allegations against the Birla Group of concerns are being finalised and are likely to be announced very shortly.

(c) Does not arise at this stage.

Applications for Licences to Manufacture Stainless Steel

1260. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the parties, State-wise, who have applied for licences for the manufacture of stainless steel;

(b) the names of the parties who have already been granted licences so far, State-wise; and

(c) the reasons for not granting licences to other parties ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND HEAVY ENGINEERING (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) to (c). The following parties hold valid licences for the manufacture of stainless steel, State-wise :—

S. N.	Name of the Party	State
1	M/s. Vummiadiars (P) Ltd., Madras. (Name of the industrial undertaking changed to M/s. Madras Alloy & Stainless Steel, Ltd.)	Tamil Nadu.
2	M/s. Mahindra Ugine Steel Co., Ltd., Khapoli.	Maharashtra.
3	M/s. Alloy Steels Project, Durgapur.	West Bengal.
4	M/s. Mysore Iron and Steel, Ltd., Bhadravati.	Mysore

During the years 1968 and 1969 only one application for the manufacture of prime stainless steel was received. The particulars of this application are indicated below :—

S. N.	Name of the Party	Date of application	Remarks
1	M/s. Prem Cond-actors (P), Ltd., Ahmedabad. (Gujarat).	20.2.1969	Rejected because there is no scope for establishment of further capacity for the manufacture of stainless steel.

No application for prime stainless steel is pending at present.

Repair charges of Typewriters in I.D.I.T. & C.A. Ministry

1261. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 8567 on the 6th May, 1969 regarding expenditure on maintenance of Typewriters in offices and state :

(a) whether the information in respect of parts (a) and (b) of the above question has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof and, if not, the reasons for the delay;

(c) whether it is a fact that the repairs/maintenance charges on the Hindi/English typewriters manufactured by M/s. Godrej Typewriters Co. are abnormally high coupled with poor performance; and

(d) if so, the amount spent by those offices of his Ministry during the years 1965, 1966, 1967 and 1968 for maintenance and repairs of different makes, separately ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F.A. AHMED) : (a) to (d). Information has been received from most of the Central Govt. Offices. Replies from the remaining few are expected to be available soon. As already explained in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Question No. 8567 on the 6th May, 1969, details of expenditure on repairs-