

(b) if so, whether Government have analysed the reasons which led to the fall in prices; and

(c) whether any report has been called for from the said non-Congress Ministries in the matter for guidance of other State Governments?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Prices of food-grains and other commodities both in States with Congress Governments and Non-Congress Governments have recently shown a mixed trend and the prices of some food-grains have in particular exhibited a declining trend.

(b) It is usual for the prices of foodgrains to come down at this time of the year as the stocks held back are brought into the markets in anticipation of the coming of rabi crops and to avail of the prevailing prices.

(c) Does not arise.

Export of Bristles Via Nepal

*335. **Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that some Indian trading houses are exporting Bristles via Nepal to European countries thereby depriving this country of a good amount of earnings of foreign exchange;

(b) whether Government propose to stop this practice; and

(c) the action, if any, taken so far against those who have indulged in this practice?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) to (c). It was brought to Government's notice that some traders were exporting bristles from India to Nepal for re-export to third countries thus causing loss of foreign exchange to India. These complaints were looked into but no specific cases could be detected. However, as a precautionary measure, steps have already been taken to prevent exports of bristles to Nepal.

पश्चिम रेलवे में छंटनी

*337. **डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया :**

श्रीशिष्यभारता :

श्री रबी राय :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पश्चिम रेलवे के लगभग 40 प्रसिस्टेंट इन्स्पेक्टर आफ वर्क्स की मितव्ययता के आधार पर छंटनी की जायेगी ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि उनके प्रशिक्षण आदि पर लगभग डेढ़ लाख रुपये व्यय किया गया था ;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने यह कार्यवाही करने से पहले उन्हें अन्य रेलवे में नौकरी देने की संभावना पर विचार किया है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री सी० एम० गुलाबा) :

(क) जी हां। अभी तक केवल 29 सहायक निर्माण निरीक्षकों की छंटनी की गयी है तथा 5 और की छंटनी शीघ्र होने की संभावना है।

(ख) जी हां। 34 सहायक निर्माण निरीक्षकों के प्रशिक्षण पर बकीके के रूप में लगभग 1,05,000 रुपये खर्च किये गये हैं।

(ग) जी हां।

(घ) सवाल नहीं उठता।

Import of Railway Stores

*338. **Shri Jyotirmoy Basu:**
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri C. K. Chakrapani:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have imported from U.S.A. large quantities of Railway stores during 1965-66;

(b) if so, the total value of the stores purchased during the period;

(c) whether Government are aware that some of the stores could be produced in this country; and

(d) if so, the reasons for purchasing these stores from abroad?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) and (b). Railway stores involving foreign exchange payment of Rs. 18.81 crores only were imported from U.S.A. during 1965-66 whereas the total value of stores purchased during the same period was Rs. 329.71 crores.

(c) The stores imported from U.S.A. referred to above did not include any items produced in India at the time they were ordered.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Venkatchelam Committee

*339. **Shri S. R. Damani:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Venkatchelam Committee has submitted its recommendations for suggesting special incentives for backward areas;

(b) if so, whether the said Report has been scrutinised and if so, Government's decision thereon; and

(c) if not, when the Report is expected to be submitted?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Committee on Dispersal of Industries (commonly known as Venkatchelam Committee) submitted its report in December, 1961. While the recommendations of this Committee were under consideration in consultation with the other Ministries concerned, the national emergency was declared and it was felt that further consideration might be deferred for the time being. Later, in connection with the drafting of the Fourth

Five Year Plan, the Government of India, at the instance of the Planning Commission, appointed various working groups to draw programmes on different aspects of the economy. As a part of this work, the sub-group on small scale industries was appointed with Shri K. V. Venkatchelam as the Chairman. This sub-group considered the recommendations made by the Committee on Dispersal of Industries for formulating its own recommendations for decentralization of industries.

In the meantime, the Rural Industries Planning Committee of the Planning Commission appointed a committee called the "Committee on Incentives for Rural Industrialisation" with Dr. D. K. Malhotra, Joint Secretary as the Chairman in December, 1964. (On Dr. Malhotra taking up an U.N. assignment later, Shri K. V. Venkatchelam took over as the Chairman of the Committee). This Committee was to consider the incentives required for accelerating the development of industries in selected rural industries project areas. This Committee submitted its report in June, 1966. In making their recommendations, this Committee also considered the recommendations of the earlier Committee on Dispersal of Industries and came to the conclusion that the concessions and incentives suggested in the report should be admissible to small scale units in 49 rural industries project areas only during the Fourth Five Year Plan Period. The recommendations of this latter Committee are under consideration of the Planning Commission.

(c) Does not arise.

Shift from Industrial Policy Resolution

*340. **Srimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of the Industries Minister of Kerala in which he hinted at the possibility of