

the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 993/68]

#### Heat Insulating Bricks and Blocks

\*1394. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that heat insulating bricks and blocks are at present being manufactured in India with indigenous know-how, indigenous raw material and indigenous enterprise ;

(b) if so, the names of raw materials which are being imported and what are their substitutes at present ;

(c) how many firms in India are manufacturing such bricks and blocks ;

(d) whether India is importing any of these items now ; and

(e) if so, how the imported goods compare in quality and price ?

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

(b) The raw material used for the manufacture of heat insulating bricks and blocks are mostly fireclays and mica waste which are available indigenously. There are no imports of raw materials.

(c) Eighteen firms are producing heat insulating bricks and blocks in the country.

(d) Import of these items is negligible. During the period April to September 1967 total imports were of the value of Rs. 14563.

(e) The indigenous goods compare favourably with the imported goods. In view of the varied nature of fire bricks and blocks it is difficult to compare the prices of indigenous products with the imported ones.

#### Import of Jute from Thailand

\*1395. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL:  
SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :  
SHRI B. K. MODAK :  
SHRI SATYA NARAIN  
SINGH :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Starred Questions Nos. 16 and 594 on the 13th February and 12th March, 1968, respectively regarding import of Jute from Thailand and state :

(a) the name of the persons against whom there are *prima facie* cases ;

(b) the action taken by the C. B. I. ; and

(c) if no action has been taken, the reasons for the delay ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Central Bureau of Investigation have filed a charge-sheet on 11th April, 1968 against the following 8 persons in the Court of the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta :

1. Shri G. K. S. Navlakha.
2. Shri B. P. Saraf.
3. Shri K. L. Goenka.
4. Shri V. K. Goenka.
5. Shri C. L. Bajoria.
6. Shri S. L. Bajoria.
7. Messrs Mcleod & Co.
8. Shri A. C. Fotheringham.

#### Indian Railway Service of Engineers Examination

\*1396. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN :  
SHRI P. GOPALAN :  
SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPA-  
LAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that even after passing the Indian Railway Service of Engineers Examinations to become permanent in the job, an examination in Hindi is required to be passed ;

(b) if so, whether it is not contrary to the assurance given by Government to the non-Hindi speaking people ; and

(c) the steps taken to remove this condition ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) to (c). There has been a rule in existence for several decades that in the case of probationers of Class I Services not only of the Railways, but all other Central and All India Services also, that they should pass

a language examination before confirmation. Form 1951, this departmental language examination has been in Hindi. The standard of this examination is equivalent to the Middle School (Praveen Standard). Nothing new has been introduced in the above arrangements, and, therefore, the question of not abiding by any assurances given by the Government in this regard does not arise.

#### Members of Advisory Committees and Boards

\*1397. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of various Advisory Committees, Boards or any such organisations connected with his Ministry, the names of their members and functions assigned to each of them ;

(b) how many members in each Committee or Board are publicmen and how many of them are officials ; and

(c) the total expenditure incurred on these organisations during 1967-68 ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b). A statement showing the details in respect of the Boards and most of the important Advisory Bodies connected with the Ministry of Commerce is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT 994/68]. Information in respect of the remainder is being collected.

(c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### Export of Engineering Goods to Italy

\*1398. SHRI R. BARUA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is good potential market of Indian Engineering products in Italy ;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps to explore the possibility of exporting Indian engineering goods to that country recently and if so, with what results ; and

(c) the nature of the Indian engineer-

ing goods which are in demand in the Italian market ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Recently, a delegation of Indian businessmen visited Italy for exploring the Italian market and establishing contacts. There were four members from the engineering sector in the delegation. The delegation has found that there are prospects, among other things, for our iron and steel items and automobile spare parts, in addition to certain items like cutlery, dry batteries and Electro-plated nickel-silver wares which have been exported in recent times.

#### Mining and Allied Engineering Corporation, Durgapur

\*1399. SHRI K. RAMANI :  
SHRI P. RAMAMURTI :  
SHRI BHAGABAN DAS :  
SHRI GANESH GHOSH :

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

(a) the terms and conditions of service of the apprentice engineering Assistants of Mining and Allied Engineering Corporation, Durgapur ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of Apprentice Engineering Assistants were served with termination orders in March, 1968 ;

(c) if so, the total number of Apprentices served with termination order ; and

(d) whether Government propose to provide any alternative jobs to them ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) A copy of the letter of appointment containing terms and conditions of service sent to the Apprentice Engineering Assistants is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—995/68].

(b) and (c). 55 Apprentice Engineering Assistants were served with termination orders in March, 1968.

(d) It is not possible to provide alternative jobs to these Apprentices in the