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**SUGGESTION OF NATIONAL LABOUR COMMISSION ON WAGES OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES**

219. SARDAR RAM SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Labour Commission has suggested that the wages of the Railway employees should be "need based" and determined separately instead of being bracketed with other Civil Servants;

(b) if so, whether the suggestion has been considered; and

(c) the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) No.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

**SHORTAGE OF NEWSPRINT**

220. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total requirements of newsprint;

(b) the extent of import and indigenous production; and

(c) the details of the measures taken to tide over the constant dearth of newsprint in the country?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) Requirements of newsprint during 1968-69 on the basis of restricted demand are estimated at 1,70,000 tonnes.

(b) Imports of newsprint are of the order of about 1,20,000 tonnes and the indigenous production at present is 30,000 tonnes per annum. In addition, 20,000 tonnes of white printing paper are released every year for use by Newspapers.

(c) The following are the measures taken to increase the indigenous production of newsprint:—

(i) The capacity of Nepa Mills, the only newsprint Mill in the country, is being increased from 30,000 tonnes to 75,000 tonnes per annum.

(ii) A feasibility Report for the establishment of newsprint mill in the public sector has been prepared and is under consideration of Government.

(iii) A Newsprint mill in Himachal Pradesh is also proposed to be established, in private sector.

**IMPORT OF MEAT**

221. SHRI N. R. MUNISWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for the import of meat when the same could be had in abundance in the country; and

(b) the details of the particulars of meat imported alongwith the name of the country from which it was imported?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Import of meat is banned since April, 1963.

(b) Does not arise.