

MANUFACTURE OF CEMENT

717. SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY be pleased to state what was the target of production of cement by the end of the Third Five Year Plan and how much has been realised so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA): The target of production of cement by the end of the Third Five Year Plan is 13.2 million tonnes per annum. Production is now of the order of 10.75 million tonnes.

INADEQUATE RAILWAY SERVICE IN INDUSTRIAL AREAS OF POONA

718. SHRI M. M. DHARIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he recently visited Poona and the industrial areas nearby;

(b) whether any representations were made to him regarding the inadequate railway service in those areas; and

(c) if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, on 3-8-65.

(b) Yes.

(c) The demand for additional services in the industrial area served by the Pona-Lonavala section of the Central Railway having been gone into in detail it was found that the services available at present cater by and large satisfactorily to the existing level and pattern of traffic offering there and as such there is no immediate traffic justification for the introduction of additional trains on the section. Spare line capacity on the section and terminal facilities at Poona for handling additional services are also not available at present.

CONSORTIUM OF EXPORTERS

719. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Handicrafts Export Plan Committee of the Central Government has recommended the formation of a consortium of exporters to find out new markets and to strengthen India's competitive position in the existing markets; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Details relating to this among other recommendations of the Committee are being worked out.

INTERPOLATING GUARDS WITH HIGHER GRADE POSTS OF A.S.Ms. AND S.Ms.

720. SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the practice of interpolating guards etc., with the higher grade posts of Assistant Station Masters and Station Masters is still continued in certain Zonal Railways;

(b) whether, in view of the fact that definite percentages of higher grade posts are fixed for various categories of employees, such interpolation will adversely affect the chances of promotion of junior Assistant Station Masters; and

(c) if so, what is the remedy offered to the affected persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.