THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA): (a) and (b) In view of the inadequate growth of some industries producing essential consumer goods, the development of these industries in the public sector is now under consideration. The details of the proposals have yet to be worked out.

BROAD GAUGING OF POONA-MIRAJ
RAILWAY TRACK

*19. { SHRI D. B. DESAI : SHRI M. M. DHARAI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

- (a) what is the estimated amount of expenditure for broad gauging the Poona-Miraj Railway track;
- (b) what amount will be spent upto March 1965; and
- (c) what is the time schedule for completing the work?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH): (a) The conversion of the Poona-Miraj M. G. section to broad gauge is estimated to cost Rs. 15.39 crores.

- (b) An expenditure of about Rs. 180 lakhs is likely to be incurred upto the end of March 1965 on this project.
- (c) The conversion work is expected to be completed by December, 1967.

DECLARATION OF POONA-LONWALA
AND POONA-LONI RAILWAY AREA AS
SUBURBAN AREA

- *20. SHRI M. M. DHARAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the demand for declaration of Poona-Lonawala and Poona-Loni railway area as Suburban area; and
- (b) if so, what steps are being taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (2) Yes, Sir.

(b) The request has not been agreed to.

CUT IN IMPORT LICENCES

to Questions

[18 FEB. 1965]

- *21. Shri K. C. BAGHEL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that Government imposed a cut on import licences during the second half of the year 1964; and
 - (b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) The cut has been applied in view of the difficult foreign exchange position.

APPLICATIONS FOR INDUSTRIAL LICENCE

- *22. SHRI BHANU PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that certain applications for Industrial Licence under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act have recently been received by the Government; and
- (b) if so, number of such applications and the action taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND SUPPLY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA): (a) and (b) The number of applications received and accepted for consideration during the year 1964 was 2,321 and during 1965 (upto 15th February, 1965) 283. Information as to action taken thereon is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

*23. [Transferred to the 26th February, 1965.]

FOREIGN COLLABORATION IN INDUSTRIES

*24 Shri U. S. DUGAL: Shri P. ABRAHAM: Shri ARJUN ARORA:

Will the Minister of Industry and Supply be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of proposals for foreign collaboration in various industries approved during the year 1964;
- (b) the number of collaboration agreements involving foreign capital participation;