

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS):
 (a) and (b) The information is not readily available.

WOODEN SLEEPERS FOR INDIAN RAILWAYS

*313. SHRI PALAT KUNHI KOYA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wooden sleepers for broad and metre gauge required by our Railways annually, of high and low grade, separately;

(b) the names of the States which are supplying sleepers and the quantities supplied by each of them annually;

(c) the present rates paid by the Railways per piece respectively;

(d) whether any sleepers are purchased from outside India; and if so, the price paid therefor; and

(e) what is the average life of a high grade sleeper and a low grade sleeper (creosoted) used on railway tracks?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) Apparently the Honourable Member is referring to the annual requirements of durable and non-durable wooden sleepers. The latter require preservative treatment using creosote. The current year's requirement is about 25 lakhs broad gauge, 22 lakhs metre gauge and 5 lakhs narrow gauge wooden sleepers.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(d) Occasionally, due to shortage of indigenous sleepers, imports were made and the prices paid are given in the statement referred to in parts (b), and (c) above.

(e) The average life is 18 years for durable sleepers and 12 years for non-durable sleepers after treatment.

STATEMENT

1. Names of the States supplying wooden sleepers.	Quantity of sleepers supplied during the year 1962-63			
	Broad gauge (Nos.)	Metre gauge (Nos.)	Narrow gauge (Nos.)	Special size sleepers (C. ft.)
1. Andhra Pradesh	2,691	6,652	1,269	..
2. Assam	1,49,416	4,20,769	90,599	1,18,635
3. N.E.F.A.	78,768	1,52,490	7,815	..
4. Nagaland	7,114	18,554
5. Bihar	4,175	16,422	22,276	870
6. Himachal Pradesh	49,243	32,144	5,867	..
7. Jammu & Kashmir	6,10,061	1,30,817	63,363	..
8. Kerala	14,009	7,630	3,007	2,596
9. Madhya Pradesh	5,298	6,751	5,852	75,025
10. Madras	15,160	2,378	1,013	226
11. Mysore	3,93,433	7,06,269	1,25,528	67,141
12. Orissa	25,134	41,470	51,842	5,31,260
13. Uttar Pradesh	1,69,115	1,59,831	60,535	3,20,950
14. West Bengal	7,508	17,646	10,421	1,25,485
From TISCO	43,004	1,62,348	19,864	3,12,281
TOTAL	15,74,269	18,82,171	4,69,251	15,54,469

2. Current rates paid per sleeper (Excluding Sales Tax and overhead charges)

Durable wooden sleepers	Non-durable wooden sleepers
Broad gauge—From Rs. 21.30 to 32.50	From Rs. 15.74 to 21.00
Metre gauge—From Rs. 10.50 to 15.60	From Rs. 8.00 to 10.50
Narrow gauge—From Rs. 7.00 to 11.40	From Rs. 5.00 to 7.70
Special size sleepers—From Rs. 8.00 to 13.00 per cft.	

3. Prices paid for the imported sleepers. (Prices are F.O.B.)

Durable wooden sleepers	Non-durable wooden sleepers
Broad gauge—From Rs. 22.72 to 24.75	Rs. 17.76 (F.A.S.).
Metre gauge—From Rs. 10.44 to 11.07	—
Narrow gauge—From Rs. 7.58 to 7.98	—
Special size sleepers—From Rs. 8.00 to 10.80 per cft.	

LICENCES FOR SUGAR FACTORIES

*314. SHRI P. C. MITRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons granted licences for opening of sugar factories during the last three years and how many of them have so far built factories and purchased machineries to manufacture sugar;

(b) the State-wise distribution of licences so granted; and

(c) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a reported observation of the Chief Minister of Mysore State to the effect that the Centre is discriminating against the South in granting licences for sugar factories; if so, what is the reaction of the Central Government to this charge of discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI A. M. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Three licences were granted for establishment of sugar factories; these were granted to three co-operative societies, one each in Maharashtra, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh. Of these, one factory in Maharashtra has gone into production this year, while the

other two have placed orders for the required machinery.

(c) The attention of the Government has been drawn to the Chief Minister's speech but there seems to be no complaint in it of discrimination. The Chief Minister is reported to have observed that the Southern States as well as Maharashtra deserved more encouragement for establishment of new sugar factories as better cane was grown there.

ईस्टर्न रेलवे द्वारा बुक किये गये माल पर कस्टम ड्यूटी

*३१५. श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मार्च १९६२ में ईस्टर्न रेलवे द्वारा बुक किये गये माल का कस्टम प्रयोजनों के लिए जो वास्तविक मूल्य २,०२,७३३ रुपये था तथा हिसाब लगाकर आंका गया मूल्य २१,३८,३४९ रुपये रखा गया था इन राशियों के अन्तर का कब पता लगा; और

(ख) क्या कारण थे कि इस भूल के फलस्वरूप रेलवे विभाग को ड्यूटी चार्ज के ऊपर इतनी भारी रकम देनी पड़ी ?