

RAILWAY RESTAURANT IN TAX ARREARS

*657. SHRI M. V. BHADRAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the restaurant run by the Railway Catering Department at Waltair Railway Station was in arrears of tax to the tune of Rs. 21,000 to the Commercial Tax Department of the State Government;

(b) whether the officers of the Commercial Tax Department went to the restaurant on the 27th March, 1968 to attach the properties of the restaurant in this connection; and

(c) if so, the reasons for non-payment of taxes ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) and (c) No, Sir. In response to two demand notices received from the Sales Tax Authorities of Andhra Pradesh for payment of Sales Tax for the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 in respect of the Railway Catering Units at Waltair, Vizianagram and Palasa the Railway paid Rs. 15,312, and disputed liability for the sum of Rs. 18,176.62. Appeals in regard to the disputed amount were filed with the Assistant Commissioner of Commercial Taxes and are pending decision.

(b) No. Sir.

IMPORT OF WOOL FOR GARMENTS OF ARMED FORCES

*658. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether investigation into the import of wool worth crores of rupees for providing woollen garments to the Armed Forces in the year 1962-63 which was far in excess of requirements, has since been completed;

(b) whether any Defence Officers have been indicted by the Investigating Authority; and

(c) if so, the nature of this indiction and the punishment given to the offenders?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) The investigations in respect of import of wool for meeting Defence requirements during 1962-63 have been completed.

(b) No, Sir,

(c) Does not arise.

DETECTION AND SURVEY OF MINERALS

*659. SHRI LOKANATH MISRA:

SHRI SUNDER MANI
PATEL:

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) the names of minerals which have so far been detected and surveyed in each State by the Department of Geological Survey of India and the State-wise location, area of deposit, the quantity and quality or percentage of each mineral;

(b) the policy adopted by Government for exploitation of these minerals and for granting of leases to either corporations or individual persons;

(c) the number of mines leased out to (i) Public Sector Corporations, (ii) Private persons and (iii) Companies in different States with the details of the area of lease, lease amount and the period of lease in each case; and

(d) the total annual revenue by way of royalty and dead rent derived separately from (i) public sector corporations and (ii) individual persons and companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI):

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

(b) The policy of Government about exploitation of minerals is laid down in the Industrial Policy Resolution of the 30th April, 1956, and the grant of leases is governed by the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957 and the Rules framed there under.

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

JUTE REQUIREMENTS

*660. SHRI M. K. MOHTA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the estimate of the crop of jute during the current season;