

LOK SABHA

Saturday, April 6, 1963/Chaitra 16,
1885 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Export of Steam Locomotives

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741. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri B. K. Das:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Will the Minister of Railways be
pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in finding
out the foreign market for export
of steam locomotives;

(b) whether any order was plac-
ed by any country; and

(c) if so, by which countries?

The Deputy Minister in the Minis-
try of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz
Khan): (a) It has not been possible
to locate an export market for
steam locomotives, although efforts
to do so are being continued.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know
in which of the countries it has
been tried to find out the markets
for Indian locomotives?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We tried
our neighbouring countries like
Ceylon, Malaya, Pakistan etc.

111 (A) LSD—1.

Shri Subodh Hansda: In case the
Government is able to find out the
markets, may I know whether the
Government will be exporting the
locomotives through the State Trad-
ing Corporation or through any other
agency?

Mr. Speaker: Hypothetical.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know
whether any accounts have been
taken as to how much surplus of
locomotives we will be having in
the near future and whether before
that all old steam locomotives will
be replaced?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That is a
continuous process. As the steam
locomotives become unserviceable,
they are automatically replaced. But
that does not in any way come in
the way of our efforts to find an ex-
port market.

Shri B. K. Das: May I know the
reasons for our attempts not being
successful so far?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The pre-
sent trend in the world is towards
having diesel locomotives and elec-
tric locomotives.

Shri Virbhadr Singh: May I know
whether non-finding of the export
markets for our locomotives is due
to the high prices of our locomo-
tives.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, Sir.
Our prices compare very favourably
with the prices of locomotives in
other countries.

Dr. Ranen Sen: May I know whe-
ther our rate of production has
reached such a stage of surplus that
these exports to other countries are
possible?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We are able to meet the internal requirements of the country and we are just making efforts to find an export market. It does not mean that we will be able to export large quantities

Dr. Ranen Sen: I asked about production.

Mr. Speaker: Not yet.

श्री कछवाय : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस कार्य को कब तक पूरा कर लिया जायेगा और इसमें सरकार की कितनी लागत बगयी ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : कार्य क्या है ?

श्री कछवाय : भाप के इंजिन पूरी तरह से लेने के लिये ।

श्री साहनवाज खाँ : इंजिन तो पूरे बन चके हैं ।

Shri Basumatari: What is the opinion of other countries in regard to the quality of these locomotives?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We have not tried the opinion of other countries about our locomotives. But our locomotives, we consider, are as good as any of the best in the world.

"Maps of India" Postage Stamps

*742. **Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to replace the present 'Map of India' series postage stamps with a more attractive design; and

(b) if so, the details of the new series of stamps to be brought out?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagvati): (a) Yes Sir,

(b) Details are being worked out.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: May I know whether the Government pro-

pose to design our stamps to show the various developmental activities that have been taken up in our country both in the agricultural and industrial fields?

Shri Bhagvati: The subjects to be portrayed in stamps are under consideration. It has been decided to adopt subjects having a direct...

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether it is intended or is being considered that our development schemes might be shown on them.

Shri Bhagvati: That is also under consideration.

श्री भक्त वरानं : श्रीमन्, यह जो नये टिकट छापने का विचार किया जा रहा है, तो क्या पहले के टिकट इतने सुन्दर और आकर्षक नहीं थे, जिसकी वजह से यह बरत पड़ रही है ?

Shri Bhagvati: The last series was introduced on 1-4-1957, some years past. So, it is necessary to replace them by new designs and new series.

Mr. Speaker: Everything with age gets less attractive.

Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah: How long will it take for the Government to take a decision in the matter and see that these things which are being contemplated are introduced?

Shri Bhagvati: The first stamps in the series may be issued by the end of this year.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: May I know whether it is proposed or whether the Government has a programme to give a bias of defence outlook to our stamps and if so whether the Government is contemplating the introducing of pictures such as that of Major Shaitan Singh, the hero of Chushul and other heroes of the war on the various stamps that are issued by us?

Mr. Speaker: A good suggestion.

Dr. L. M. Singhvi: I am asking whether it is proposed or whether they have a programme.