

Shri Daljit Singh:  
 Shri Narendra Singh Mahida.  
 Shri Narasimha Reddy:  
 Shrimati Akkamma Devi:  
 Shri M. R. Krishna:  
 Shrimati Renuka Barkataki:  
 Shri D. N. Tiwary:  
 Shri Man Singh P. Patel:  
 Shri H. V. Koujalgi:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a full passenger train running between Pamban and Dhanushkodi was totally lost in the cyclonic storm that hit the area on the 23rd December, 1964;

(b) if so, the total loss of life and property involved thereby;

(c) the loss to the railway property;

(d) whether any enquiry has been made into this disaster; and

(e) if so, the findings thereof?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). No definite information in regard to the total loss of life is yet available. According to the reports received, more than 100 persons were in the train. Cost of damage to railway property caused by this train accident is estimated at approximately Rs. 3,70,000. No data in regard to loss of public property are yet available.

(d) and (e). This accident was enquired into by a Committee of three Senior Railway Officers and their report is under scrutiny.

#### Trading Houses

\*56. Shri Surendra Pal Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 578 on the 18th December, 1964, regarding the setting up of Indian trading houses on the pat-

tern of big Department Stores in certain key centres abroad and state:

(a) the further action taken in the matter; and

(b) how many such trading houses have so far been opened?

**The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah):** (a) and (b). The matter has been referred to Export Promotion Councils and our Missions in Hong Kong and Singapore.

#### Production of Aluminium

{ Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 { Shri Subodh Hansda:  
 \*57. { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
 { Shri Yashpal Singh:

Will the Minister of Steel and Mines be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to set up five new projects and expand the existing ones to increase the production of aluminium in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

**The Minister of Steel and Mines (Shri Sanjiva Reddy):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, see No LT 3797/65].

#### Fifth Steel Plant

{ Shri P. C. Borooah:  
 { Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
 { Shri Surendra Pal Singh:  
 { Shri D. C. Sharma:  
 { Shri M. L. Dwivedi:  
 { Shri R. S. Tiwary:  
 { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
 { Shri Sidheshwar Prasad:  
 { Shri K. C. Pant:  
 { Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand  
 { Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:  
 { Shri Yashpal Singh:  
 \*58. { Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:  
 { Shri Sezhyan:  
 { Shri D. D. Puri:  
 { Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:  
 { Shri Murlī Manohar:  
 { Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey: