

(b) The textile machinery manufacturing plants, being of recent origin, are by and large up-to-date, though there are some complaints of defects in indigenous machinery sometimes. These are being rectified.

Extension of Railway Lines

- *197. **Shri Bishwanath Roy:**
Shri K. C. Sharma:
Shri B. S. Tiwary:
Shri Samnani:
Shrimati Maimoona Sultan:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the war-like conditions created by the Pakistani aggression and Chinese intrusions in the Indian territory, any steps regarding the extension of the Railway lines for defence purposes towards the frontiers are being taken; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):
 (a) and (b). Proposals for extension of railway lines necessitated on strategic grounds, will naturally receive the highest priority. The matter is receiving urgent consideration in consultation with the Defence Ministry.

Trade with Pakistan

*198. **Shri Hari Vishnu Kamath:**
 Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan are heavily in arrears as regards payment for coal, steel and other goods and commodities supplied by India since the invasion of our country by China in October, 1962;

(b) if so, the break-up of the figures in respect of each commodity exported from India to Pakistan; and

(c) the measures being taken to recover the arrears?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (c). There are three major agreements under which trade with Pakistan has been conducted in recent years, the Rupee Payment Agreement of 1960, the Fresh Fruit Agreement of July, 1964 and two Rice Agreements of July, 1964 and January, 1965. While exports to Pakistan under the first Agreement exceeded imports from Pakistan by nearly Rs. 125 lakhs, under the other Agreements, imports from Pakistan have exceeded exports to Pakistan by Rs. 121 lakhs. No marked increase in arrears from Pakistan developed since the Chinese invasion of October, 1962. However, with the outbreak of recent hostilities with Pakistan and the consequent freezing of the assets of the National Bank of Pakistan, payments to some exporters are in arrears. A statement showing exports of different commodities under the Rupee Payment Arrangement as well as under the Rice Deals and the total value of imports under them is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-5132/65].

Export of Tea and Jute to U.S.S.R.

*199. **Shri P. C. Borooah:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Soviet market has shown a huge potential for the purchase of Indian tea and jute;

(b) if so, the quantity of tea and jute exported to that country in 1962-63, 1963-64 and 1964-65 respectively; and

(c) the steps being taken to promote our exports of tea and jute to Russia and other East European countries?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.