

well as permanent posts in the Railways; and

(b) if not, the alternative arrangement made for filling up the reservations?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) and (b). Common roster is being maintained for permanent appointments and temporary appointments likely to become permanent or to continue indefinitely. For purely temporary appointments which have no chance whatever of becoming permanent or likely to continue indefinitely, a separate roster is being maintained.

Neyveli Thermal Plant

*1145. **Shri S. Kandappan:**
Shri Sivasankaran:
Shri Mathu Gounder:

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

(a) whether any slackening of power production is apprehended at the Neyveli Thermal Plant; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to avert it?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shortfall in Agricultural Export

*1146. **Shri Flordia:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether any assessment has been made of the likely shortfall in the agricultural export due to the prevailing drought conditions for the year 1965-66; and

(b) to what extent the shortfall thus created would be set-off by other exports?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) According to provisional assessment made recently, the total loss on account of the

fall in the exports of agricultural commodities was estimated at Rs. 70 to 80 crores in 1965.

(b) The fall in the export of agricultural commodities was almost wholly made up by higher exports of industrial products, manufactured goods, minerals and other commodities. The total value of exports from India during the calendar year 1965 was estimated at Rs. 807.5 crores showing a nominal fall of Rs. 2.3 crores as compared to Rs. 809.8 crores in 1964.

Export of Iron Ore from Orissa

*1147. **Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mines and Metals Trading Corporation is not receiving supplies of iron ore from suppliers in Orissa for export purposes;

(b) whether this is due to the allegedly uneconomic prices offered by the Mines and Metals Trading Corporation to the producers and suppliers of the iron ore; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken in the matter?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). A price increase has already been offered with effect from 1-1-1966 and has been accepted by the generality of the mine-owners though one section of them is still asking for further increase.

Loss of railway property on S.E. Railways

*1148. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Vishwa Nath Pandey:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether reports of attempted arson and interference with the track in some places on the South-Eastern Railway have been received recently; and