

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) Of the indents approximating to Rs. 20 lakhs in value placed by the Road Transport Department of Hyderabad, and cross-mandated to the India Store Department, London, and India Supply Mission, Washington, stores of the value of Rs. 2 lakhs approximately have been supplied.

(b) It is contended that the total number of vehicles off the road owing to delay in procuring spare parts is 40 to 50.

(c) Director General, India Store Department, London has been asked to expedite supplies to the utmost and furnish periodical reports of the progress made in this respect.

MACHINERY, STORES ETC. TO SINGARANI COLLIERIES LTD., HYDERABAD

***52. Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state:

(a) the value of machinery, stores etc. that have been supplied to the Singarani Collieries Ltd., Hyderabad State, by the Supply Department since 1951;

(b) whether Government are aware that as a result of the short supply, there have been many break-downs resulting in the loss of production and wages to the employees of the Company; and

(c) whether the supplies have been fully made against the sum of 25 lacs paid in advance in 1951 by the Company for machinery and spares?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Buragohain): (a) and (c). So far as I have been able to find out no indents appear to have been received from the Singarani Collieries Limited, Hyderabad State since 1951 and no supplies to them appear to have been arranged through the Supply Organisation. It is also not clear as to whom the sum of 25 lakhs were paid in advance in 1951 by the Company. I am, however, making further enquiries and would greatly appreciate it if the Honourable Member would give me further particulars.

(b) In the light of the answer I have given to parts (a) and (c) the hon. Member would not expect me at this stage to concede that break-downs, if any, that may have occurred were directly related to any short supply of machinery or spares ordered through the Supply Department.

PASSPORTS FOR PEKING

***53. Shri Vittal Rao:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons from Hyderabad State who applied for passports to attend the Asian Peace Conference at Peking in September, 1952;

(b) how many of them were granted and how many were refused; and

(c) the reasons for refusal of passports?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). 20 persons from Hyderabad State applied for passports for China to attend the Conference. Of these, six were allowed passport facilities and three were refused. While the remaining 11 applications were under consideration, the sponsors of the Indian delegation to the Conference submitted to the Government a final list of delegates to the Conference. This list included only three names from Hyderabad State and all of them were refused passports.

(c) Passports were refused in these cases as Government did not think that the grant of passports to them would have been in the public interest.

MINORITIES IN EAST PAKISTAN

***54. Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position with regard to the question of treatment of minorities in East Pakistan as a result of representations if any, made to the Pakistan Government by India on a Governmental and diplomatic level just before and after the introduction of passports, and more especially since the Prime Minister's on the spot enquiry in Calcutta on 19th October, 1952 about the influx of displaced persons belonging to East Pakistan minority community into West Bengal; and

(b) what guarantees, if any, have been obtained from the Pakistan Central Government and East Pakistan Provincial Government for the unmolested journey to India and safe-crossing of the border by bonafide migrants who have now decided to settle in India as Indian citizens owing to the introduction of the system of passports, or by bonafide displaced persons who could not manage to wind up their establishment in East Pakistan and come into India before the due date for the introduction of passports?