

Trade with East European Countries

*346. Shri R. Barua: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's trade with East European countries has perceptibly declined in the recent months; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to check the decline and the result thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir. The trade registered progressive increase from August, 1958 onwards, although there was some decline in the month of November, as can be seen from the attached statement, which can be treated as casual. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-312/67].

(b) Does not arise.

प्रखिल भारतीय टिकट निरीक्षण कर्मचारी परिषद्

*347. श्री मोहन स्वल्प: क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि प्रखिल भारतीय टिकट निरीक्षण कर्मचारी परिषद् ने मांग की है कि उनके वेतन को बढ़ाया जाये तथा उन्हें रात्रि कर्म का भत्ता दिया जाये; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री सी० एच० गुप्ता) :

(क) जी हाँ, प्रखिल भारतीय टिकट जांच कर्मचारी परिषद् द्वारा पारित कुछ प्रस्ताव मिले हैं ।

(ख) टिकट जांच कर्मचारियों के लिये नियत किये गये मौजूदा वेतनमान वही हैं जिनकी सिफारिश द्वितीय वेतन प्रायोग ने की थी । वे वेतनमान उनके विभिन्न ग्रेड के पदों के कार्यों और उत्तरदायित्वों के बिल्कुल अनुरूप हैं । इसलिए उनमें संशोधन करने का कोई औचित्य नहीं है ।

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जहाँ तक रात्रि भत्ता देने का प्रश्न है, धम-संगठन से विचार-विमर्श करने के बाद इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ विनिश्चय किये गये हैं और उन पर शीघ्र धमल किया जायेगा ।

Railway Restaurants on Southern Ely.

*348. Shri A. Sreedharan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to departments'ise all Railway restaurants on the Southern Railway;

(b) whether it is a fact that there have been frequent complaints about the Railway Restaurants in the Olavakkot Division on the Southern Railway; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to remedy the situation?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Presumably the Hon. Member is referring to refreshment rooms in the Olavakkot Division run departmentally. There are three Vegetarian Refreshment Rooms at Erode, Coimbatore and Ernakulam stations which are under departmental management. Complaints received during the year 1958 in respect of these refreshment rooms were 6, 3 and 3 respectively.

(c) All these complaints were enquired into and staff held responsible in each of these cases, were suitably dealt with. Supervision has also been tightened up to ensure a good standard of catering.

Textile Industry

750. Shri George Fernandes:
Dr. Eanan Sen:
Shri J. M. Biswas:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has been holding talks with the representatives of the textile industry and the textile workers on the problems confronting the textile industry;

(b) the steps outlined by him to save the situation in the textile industry from further deterioration?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi):

(a) and (b). As a result of the discussions which Government have had recently with all the cotton interests concerned, the following steps have already been taken or are proposed to be taken:—

(1) A Bill has just been introduced in the Parliament for converting into an Act the Ordinance which was promulgated in December, 1966. This Ordinance provided enabling powers to the Central Government and its officers to reduce compulsorily machine activity in our mills with a view to effecting savings in the use of raw cotton which is in short supply.

(2) Intensification of steps already taken to secure an orderly and fair distribution of the limited supplies of raw cotton, both domestic and foreign, which are available. These steps included regulation of movement of cotton under permits issued by the Textile Commissioner, stipulation of maximum limits for the holding of cotton stocks by mills and requisitioning cotton supplies, wherever necessary and feasible.

(3) The possibility of importing further quantities of foreign cotton is also being investigated.

Location of Aluminium Factory in Maharashtra

751. Shrimati Sharda Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a public sector aluminium factory is to be located in Maharashtra;

(b) if so, whether the site for the factory has been determined; and

(c) the estimated cost of the factory?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals (Dr. Chenna Reddy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) After considering in consultation with an Expert Team of the West German Consultants, M/s. Vereignite Aluminium Werke (VAW) the various factors in determining the location, such as technical advantages, efficiency and ease of transportation and capital and operational cost, the Consultants were asked to prepare a detailed Project Report with Ratnagiri on the West Coast as location. The Project Report since received is at present under examination.

(c) The cost of the project, as estimated by the West German Consultants, is Rs. 76.09 crores (including Rs. 5.19 crores for township). The cost estimates appear to be on the high side and efforts are being made to revise them suitably.

Passenger Train Halt at Jadupur Village

752. Shri Chintamani Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any application from the residents of Jadupur Village near Bhubaneswar (South Eastern Railway) has been received for a passenger train halt there; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to meet their demand?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal was examined but could not be accepted for want of adequate justification.

इटारसी जंक्शन पर रेलवे फाटक

753. श्री नीति राज सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बातने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या मध्य रेलवे के इटारसी जंक्शन पर शहर के क्षेत्र में दो रेलवे फाटक हैं;