

(b) Two trains on 9th March, 1967 were held up. On 10th March, however, hold up lasted for 2 hours 37 minutes resulting in cancellation of 22 trains, termination short of destinations of 4 trains and detention to 9 trains. Hold up was due to demonstrations and squatting by passengers of SL 233 demanding to push their train ahead or SJ 45 which is scheduled to run earlier than SL 233.

(c) Yes.

(d) No.

(e) No.

(f) Does not arise.

खंडवा से खड़गांव तक रेलवे लाइन विद्यमान

852. श्री शशि भूषण : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि खड़गांव जिले (मध्य प्रदेश) के निवासियों ने यह मांग की है कि खंडवा से खड़गांव तथा जिले के अन्य स्थानों तक रेलवे लाईन बिछाई जाये ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस योजना के कब तक कार्यान्वित किये जाने की सम्भावना है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री सी० एम० पुनाषा) :

(क) और (ख) मध्य प्रदेश में खंडवा से खड़गांव आदि तक नयी लाइन बिछाने के लिए प्रस्तावदेन मिला है। संमित मात्रा में धन उपलब्ध होने के कारण इस क्षेत्र में एक-नयी रेलवे लाइन बनाये जाने की संभावना कम है।

**M/s. India Electric Works Ltd.,
Calcutta**

853. Shri Indrajit Gupta: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up to investigate into the affairs of M/s India Electric Works, Ltd. Calcutta has since submitted its report;

(b) if so, the findings and recommendations thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction in the matter?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) to (c). The Technical Committee's report has been received and it is under active consideration of the Government.

Issue of Import Licences

854. Shri Baburao Patel: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether, in view of the strong criticism against the system of issuing import licences, Government have initiated a new system of issuing import licences; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) and (b). The procedure for the issue of import licences has been simplified and streamlined. The following are the main features of the new procedure:

- (i) Duplication of effort between the sponsoring and the licensing authorities has been eliminated.
- (ii) In the case of small-scale actual users, a general clearance from indigenous angle is obtained from the technical authorities for the import of raw materials and components, instead of obtaining specific clearance on each individual application.
- (iii) Import licences are issued to actual users on annual basis and a mid-year endorsement for half the value has been discontinued.
- (iv) Levels of hierarchy have been reduced and time-limits have been prescribed for disposal of applications.
- (v) Counters have been set up in the major licensing offices for expeditious disposal of appli-

cations for revalidation or amendment of licences.

- (vi) The rules for the transfer of quota from one established importer to another have been simplified.

Guna-Maksi Railway Project

855. **Shri Baburao Patel:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the Guna-Maksi railway project in Madhya Pradesh stands at present;

(b) when it is expected to be completed; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in the project?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) The over-all physical progress achieved on this Project by the end of February, 1967, is 46 per cent.

(b) and (c). Due to paucity of funds, the target date for completion of this Project fixed for December, 1967, is likely to be further put back.

Running of an Additional Train between Tatanagar, Patna and Ranchi-Patna

856. **Shri Shiva Chandika Prasad:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one train makes only one round trip between Tatanagar and Patna as also between Ranchi and Patna;

(b) whether it is also a fact that during Holi and Marriage season, i.e. between March, and July, a large number of passengers travel between Tatanagar and Patna and between Ranchi and Patna and the Passengers, particularly labourers have to face great difficulty because of shortage of accommodation in the South Bihar Express and Ranchi-Patna Express; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to introduce one additional Express Train at least thrice a week between Tatanagar-Patna and Ranchi both ways, during March to July?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) to (c), Nos. 87-88 South Bihar Expresses, 24/23 Ranchi-Patna Expresses and two through service coaches, viz., one composite I & III and one III between Patna and Tatanagar via Gaya, cater adequately to the volume and pattern of traffic offering between Patna on the one hand, Tatanagar and Ranchi on the other, throughout the year, including during the period from March to July. There is, thus no justification for introduction of an additional Express train even triweekly on Patna-Tatanagar and Patna-Ranchi sections from March to July.

Tea Industry

857. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee set up to go into the problems of the tea industry and to recommend measures for increasing its production, has submitted its report;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to implement its recommendations?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) No, Sir. They have yet to start their work.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Electricity Meter Industry

858. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that single-phase and poly-phase electricity