

(e) the reasons for which the Indian Railways were not given affiliation so far?

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

(b) The application for affiliation of the Indian Railways Sports Control Board with the Union Sportive Internationale des Cheminots was considered by the Board of Directors at their meeting held at Mamaia (Romania) from 9th to 13th June, 1967. The Board of Directors have unanimously supported the affiliation of the Indian Railways with the Union Sportive Internationale des Cheminots and have recommended to the General Council—the main body—for affiliation of the Indian Railways.

(c) The Indian Railways applied for affiliation during the year 1966 and their application was considered at the first meeting of the Board of Directors referred to in (b) above.

#### Cottage Industries

5046. Shri Shiva Chandra Jha: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to bring about technological revolution in the cottage industries;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme; and

(c) whether any scientific improvements, (like the Ambar Charkha) are going to be made in the mode of production of the Khadi industries?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) and (b). It is the constant endeavour of Government to improve productivity and thereby the income of the artisan through application of the results of research especially in the field of technology. Information about such improvements in different cottage industries during the last three years is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) An all metal charkha with six spindles is under trial.

#### Trains Running Between Ambala Cantt. and Saharanpur

5047. Shri Suraj Bhan: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that almost all the passenger trains running between Ambala Cantt and Saharanpur are always over-crowded and the passengers have to swing on foot boards at the risk of their lives; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to improve the situation?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poomacha): (a) and (b). Whereas some overcrowding exists, as per April 1967 census, on long distance Mail/Express trains running on Ambala-Saharanpur section, others are not fully occupied. Loads of 4 pairs of trains were augmented during 1966. Further augmentation of loads is not, at present operationally feasible due to load limitations and other operational factors.

#### Railway Employees Uniforms

5048. Shri Suraj Bhan. Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that for getting the uniforms stitched for the employees, the Railway authorities pay fifty paise and seventy paise as stitching charges for a trouser and bush-shirt respectively to the contractor,

(b) whether in spite of taking measurements of the wearers, the uniforms supplied are either too loose and long or too tight and short for the wearer and thus the employees have to get the uniforms re-stitched;

(c) the steps taken to get the uniforms stitched according to the measurements of the Individual employees; and

(d) whether it is proposed to give cloth and stitching allowance to the employees to enable them to get the uniforms stitched themselves?