

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) to (c). It is resumed that the Member's reference is to the enhanced time limit introduced on Railways for advance reservation.

In order to meet the heavy rush of traffic during Summer effectively and with a view to giving relief to the travelling public by reducing the queues at the reservation offices and to avoid black-marketing in reservations by unsocial elements, the time limit for advance reservation has been enhanced on Railways as an experimental measure.

The working of this system is being watched. The question whether this arrangement should be extended uniformly throughout the year will be considered after a full assessment of the experiment is made.

Indian Pavilion at Montreal Exhibition

652. Shri Meetha Lal:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the cost borne by Government in terms of foreign exchange in setting up a pavilion for Indian goods in Montreal Exhibition 1967; and

(b) how much export orders of the goods displayed at this exhibition are anticipated?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) The total cost in foreign exchange in setting up the pavilion in the Exhibition 1967 at Montreal (Canada) is likely to be around Rs. 2,08,80,000.00.

(b) The exhibition, which is to last for six months, has opened recently on the 28th April, 1967 and it is too early to anticipate or forecast the export orders which would be obtained through this participation.

Montreal Exhibition

653. Shri Meetha Lal:
Shri Onkar Lal Berwa:
Shri V. Krishnamoorthi:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of girls was recruited and sent as guides for Indian Pavilion in Montreal Exhibition for six months;

(b) their service conditions and salary paid to them;

(c) why was it necessary to send girl guides from India at a high cost when guides could be recruited locally at a comparatively cheaper cost; and

(d) whether Government have selected other personnel also for the Indian Pavilion at the Fair?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-418/67].

(c) Taking all factors into consideration it was felt that guides from India would be more useful and less costly in terms of foreign exchange. However, local talent was also utilised to the extent possible and 10 Indian guides were selected.

(d) Yes, Sir. They are already in Montreal.

Import of Cotton from U.A.R. and Sudan

654. Shri F. G. Sen:
Shri Sharda Nand:
Shri Bharat Singh Chauhan:
Shri Ranjit Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether possibilities of barter have been explored for the import of Cotton from U.A.R. and Sudan; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Commerce (Shri Shafi Qureshi): (a) and (b). Agreement has already been entered into with the U.A.R. Government which provides, inter alia for the import of about 200,000 Indian bales of cotton upto June, 1968. Negotiations for reaching an agreement with Sudan will be held later in the year.

राजस्थान के बीकानेर डिवीजन में
जिप्सम की खोज

655. श्री प० सा० बाकपाल : क्या इस्पात, खान तथा धातु मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने राजस्थान राज्य के बीकानेर डिवीजन में उर्वरक बनाने के सम्बन्ध में जिप्सम की खोज प्रारम्भ कर दी है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उनको जिप्सम किन स्थानों पर मिला है तथा इस खोज के क्या परिणाम निकले हैं ?

इस्पात, खान तथा धातु मंत्री (डा० बन्ना देही) : (क) और (ख) भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण के द्वारा किये गये अन्वेषण के फलस्वरूप राजस्थान के बीकानेर डिवीजन के कई स्थानों पर जिप्साइट पर्याप्त पाउडर के रूप में जिप्सम पाया गया है। इन स्थानों में अधिक प्रमुख स्थान ये हैं—पल्लू, किशनपुरा, बंजासार, जोराबपुरा, लखसर, बेटीयान, बेरा, भूनीवाला घेरे, करली-सार घेरे, तुवरनवाला घेरे, निशुमा घेरे, जुना भूनीवाला घेरे, अकिलवाला घेरे, कबमवाला घेरे, ज्वालामुखी घेरे, कबरावाला घेरे, जुना धबुसार घेरे, जरखाली पश्चिमी घेरे, फलावाली घेरे, करमवाला घेरे, हंसीर घेरे, मयसर पूर्वी घेरे, मयसर पश्चिमी घेरे, बलसर घेरे, लम्बावाला, लम्बुवाला, सौनवाला, सप्यावाला, मोर्वावाला, बंढवावाला, और इस्लामवाला जिप्साइट

385 (A) LSD—7.

के समस्त संव्य 18 मिलियन टन के स्तर के हैं। जिप्सम तथा जिप्साइट मिलेपों के और अनुसंधान बीकानेर बण्ड में भारतीय भूविज्ञान सर्वेक्षण द्वारा प्रगति कर रहे हैं।

Import Licences

656. Shri Yajnik: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of foreign exchange involved in the import licences sanctioned by Government during 1967 so far;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange estimated to be earned by the industries in the public and private sectors with the help of the import licences sanctioned for them; and

(c) the total amount of foreign exchange estimated to be earned by Government as a result of the new production oriented import policy announced recently?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) The value of import licences issued from 1st January, 1967 to 31st March, 1967 amounts to Rs. 496.46 crores.

(b) and (c). While the liberal availability of import inputs will undoubtedly increase the capacity of industrial units to provide larger surplus for export, the actual quantum of exports and proceeds to be realised against these will also depend on the state of demand overseas for their products which in-turn depends on various aspects such as quality, price etc. As the size of the demand is difficult to forecast with precision, an estimate of the foreign exchange earnings as a result of import liberalisation cannot be made with any degree of exactness.

Dusty Iron Ore discovered in Orissa

657. Shri Samar Guha: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Metals be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a new type of dusty iron ore with