

(c) whether such finer deniers of yarn are also manufactured locally and if so, the quantity produced, the price at which the indigenous goods are sold and the companies that produce the stuff indigenously; and

(d) whether Government propose to stop the import of finer denier of yarn?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-21/68].

#### Indo-German Trade

45 SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:  
SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a statement made by Dr. J. M. Hanck, Editor of West Germany's largest financial daily Handelsblatt suggesting certain measures to boost the Indo-German trade;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered his suggestions;

(c) how far they have been accepted by Government; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to improve the trade between the two countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) to (d). Dr. J. M. Hunck published an article in the Indian Press on the occasion of the visit of the Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany in November, 1967. In this article he drew attention to some of the factors that impeded the growth of our exports and reduced the scope for collaboration with West Germany. His analysis have been noted and will be given due consideration in relevant context. Steps have been taken from time to time to remove existing han-

dicaps and make our goods more competitive both price-wise and quality-wise. Some of these steps are quality control and pre-shipment inspection, export promotion through organisation of India fortnights and participation in exhibitions, market research, exchange of delegations etc. In the case of the Federal Republic of Germany, a special scheme is already in the process of implementation for identifying those engineering items which have possibilities of growth in the German market and orienting production to exports.

#### Trade Agreement with U.S.S.R.

46. SHRI CHENGALARAYA  
NAIDU:  
SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN:  
SHRI PILOO MODY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement on the pattern of commodity exchange between India and U.S.S.R. for 1968 has been signed;

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

(c) the total increase in trade between the two countries during 1968?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The lists of commodities to be exchanged between India and USSR during 1968 have been finalised. Principal items to be exported from India to USSR during 1968 are traditional goods like tea, coffee, spices, mica, de-oiled cakes etc., in addition to many kinds of manufactured goods including leather shoes, ready-made garments, bed-linen, woollen knitwear, spectacle frames, enamel for wire, rolled steel products, accumulators, automobile tyres and tubes etc. USSR will supply Fertilisers, sulphur, rolled steel products, tin plates, chemicals, dye-intermediates, raw asbestos, wood-pulp, newsprint, machinery and equipment, spares and components for Soviet

Assisted Projects, tractors, machine tools, ball, roller and taper bearings etc.

(c) Trade between India and U.S.S.R. during 1968 is expected to be of the order of Rs. 300 crores as compared to our expectation of Rs. 280 crores in 1967. This, however, is a large increase as compared to the actual turn-over of Rs. 198 crores during 1966.

**Ticketless Travel on South Central Railway**

47. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU:  
SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the South-Central Railway Staff made massive checks on ticketless travellers during July-September, 1967;

(b) if so, the total amount collected by way of penalty and fine;

(c) the number of persons prosecuted and convicted; and

(d) the measures proposed to be taken to check ticketless travel?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Normal check were conducted on ticketless travel during July to September 1967 on S. C. Railway.

(b) Amounts realised during the above mentioned checks were as under:

Penalty	—	Rs. 1,36,791.67
Fine	—	Rs. 1,396.05

(c) Number of persons prosecuted and convicted was as under:

Prosecuted	—	3,234
Convicted	—	1,758

(d) Frequent checks including magisterial checks are being conducted to minimise ticketless travel. Educational propaganda is also being undertaken in this connection.

**Reversion of Travelling Ticket Examiners**

48. SHRI NAMBIAR:  
SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN:  
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the Travelling Ticket Examiners have been reverted as Ticket Collectors after 5 years of service in the Olavakkot Division;

(b) if so, the number of reverted Travelling Ticket Examiners; and

(c) the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) No.

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

**Purchase of Jute by S.T.C.**

49. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2626 on the 1st December, 1967 and state:

(a) the total quantity of jute purchased by the State Trading Corporation upto now and the rates at which purchased;

(b) the prevalent prices of raw jute since October, 1967; and

(c) whether the present low price of jute is adversely affecting acreage of jute cultivation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) So far, the State Trading Corporation has purchased a total quantity of 340,300 maunds of jute from different States. The purchase price is the derivative price for the secondary markets based on the minimum support price of Rs. 40 per maund for Bottom Grade of Assam Variety of Jute delivered at Calcutta.