

Storage Facilities at Calcutta Port

2213. SHRI M.L. SONDHI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a wide divergence of views between India and Nepal on matters relating to deflection and storage facilities at the Calcutta Port ;

(b) whether India will take steps to meet, as far as possible, Nepal's legitimate requirements ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to reach better accord in the future on this matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (CHOW DHARY RAM SEVEK): (a) to (c). Measures to prevent deflection of trade and provision of further facilities in Calcutta for Nepalese traffic in transit are two of various issues currently under discussion between officials of India and Nepal.

It is the earnest endeavour of the Government of India to find mutually acceptable and beneficial arrangements for trade and transit which while helping Nepal to maximise the export of goods of Nepalese origin to India and to third countries and facilitating the import of goods needed for consumption in Nepal for the development of the economy of Nepal, will take care to avoid diversions and distortions harmful to India's economic interest or injurious to Indian economic policies.

Floods in Burdwan and Arambag Sub-Division of Hooghly District of West Bengal owing to release of water from D. V. C. Dams

2214. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether a part of the District of Burdwan and Arambag Sub-Division of Hooghly District, West Bengal had been severely affected by the recent flood ;

(b) whether unplanned release of water from the D. V. C. Dams aggravated the flood situation in these areas ;

(c) if not, what are the facts, besides heavy rain fall, responsible for the extensive floods in the areas served by the DVC system ; and

(d) the role played by the D. V. C. during heavy rain fall ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI SIDDEESHWAR PRASAD) : (a) to (d). The release of waters from the Damodar Vally Corporation reservoirs are carried out in accordance with planned schedules release to maintain the safety of dams. The release of waters from the DVC dams in September last were well below the releases prescribed in these schedules. The damages in the Lower Damodar Valley are mainly due to the drainage congestion in that Valley. A scheme for the improvement of drainage in this Valley is already under consideration of the State Government.

Persons killed and injured during communal Riots in Bombay

2215. SHRI RAM KISHAN GUPTA : SHRI D. N. PATODIA :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons killed and injured in the latest communal riots in Bombay during the months of September and October, 1970 ;

(b) the latest law and order situation in the city ;

(c) whether the cause of riots has been ascertained ;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the extent of damage caused to property ; and

(e) whether any compensation has been given to the family of the deceased and to those whose property was damaged ?