

(c) whether any estimate of expenditure for infrastructural development to allow international business has been made;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) whether Government are aware that a large section of Indian businessmen in Hongkong are enthusiastic to come to Andaman?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) to (e). Some interest has been shown by some of the Non-resident Indians for Andaman and Nicobar Islands being developed as a free port. No firm estimates of expenditure involved in the development of the project have been made so far. No specific offer has been received from NRIs for investment in the project nor for development of infrastructural facilities.

[*Translation*]

Export of Railway Coaches

874. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT :
SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is increasing the export of railway coaches and if so, the number of coaches exported, country-wise and the amount of foreign exchange earned during the last three years; and

(b) whether Government propose to phase out the existing dilapidated coaches?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) Exports of railway coaches from India during the last three years are given below :

Year	Country	Number	Value (Rs. crores)
1982-83	—	—	—
1983-84	—	—	—
1984-85			
	(a) Mazambique	15	1.58
	(b) Banglades	9	1.06
	Total	24	2.64

(b) All coaches in service are given the prescribed maintenance schedules/overhaul to keep them in good condition. Coaches which are uneconomical to repair are condemned.

[*English*]

Setting up of Steel Plant at Goa by Indian-Born Industrialist

875. SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA :
SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJU :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any Indian-born industrialist and presently settled in a foreign country, has offered Government to set up a steel plant at Goa;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any decision in the matter;

(d) whether setting up of a steel plant at Goa would adversely affect the steel plants operating in the private sector and public sector in the country; and

(e) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI K.C. PANT): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. An Indian born industrialist based in London has offered to set up a one million tonne capacity steel plant at Goa, based on direct reduction of iron together with electrical steel melting.

(c) to (e). The proposal received on the subject is under examination.

Reduction in Cost of Steel Production

876. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD :
DR. G.S. RAJHANS :
SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a proposal under