

Long Bus Queues in Delhi

2550. SHRI UGRASEN : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the lengthening bus queues near Central Secretariat, Connaught Place, Madras Hotel etc. in the Capital; and

(b) if so, what remedial action is proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) and (b). At the opening and closing timings of Government Offices and commercial and industrial establishments in Delhi, there is concentration of commuters travelling to work centres in the mornings and to their residences in the evenings. To clear the rush in these peak hours, a large number of additional work-trips are being operated by the Delhi Transport Corporation from important bus stops including Central Secretariat and Connaught Place. Besides, 85 private buses have been engaged specifically to cater to peak period traffic both in the morning and evening. The Corporation also deputes its Inspectorate staff to important bus stops during rush hours to ensure orderly clearance of traffic and make arrangements for provision of additional buses, whenever there is an unusual rush, which cannot be catered to by the scheduled services on the routes. Further, the Corporation expects to be able to acquire 303 more buses during the current financial year, including 66 out of the programme for the 1977-78. With this augmentation of the bus fleet of the Corporation, transport services in the Capital are expected to improve further.

Merger of Telefunken Unit, Faridabad with Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Ltd.

2551. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received a proposal for merger of Telefunken units at Faridabad in Dalmia Cement (Bharat) Limited ; and

(b) if so, the details and Government's decision thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) No final decision in the matter has been taken.

Cash Subsidy for Stepping up Cement Production

2552. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have proposed under consideration to offer cash subsidy to cement units to step up their production ; and

(b) if so, the details and reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRIMATI ABHA MAITI) : (a) and (b). With a view to stepping up production of cement in the country Government have announced a cash incentive of Rs 30/- per tonne for every tonne of additional production of cement over the best production of each manufacturing unit during the last three financial years or 85% of its licensed capacity, whichever is higher. The reasons for this are the inadequate availability of cement as a result of the demand exceeding the production and the need to meet the gap between the demand and supply.

Congestion at Bombay Port

2553. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) what are the reasons for the congestion at Bombay Port and how many ships were waiting during June-July at Bombay and what was their waiting time ;

(b) by how much have the shipping companies raised congestion charges during last 6 months on routes touching Bombay Port ; and

(c) what are the reasons for the go slow tactics of Bombay Port workers and how far have Government removed the grievances of port workers ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM) : (a) The main reasons for congestion at Bombay are given below :—

(i) No. of ships entering Bombay Port has been increasing.