

(Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A delegation consisting of the Transport Secretary, the Chairman, Calcutta Port Commissioners, the Chief Engineer and the Deputy Conservator of Calcutta Port proceeded to Washington in May, 1961 for negotiating with the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development a loan to cover foreign exchange requirements of the Third Five Year Plan of the Calcutta Port. The negotiations for the loan were held in June.

2. The Bank have agreed to grant a loan in various foreign currencies, equivalent to 21 million dollars (Rs. 10 crores) to the Calcutta Port Commissioners. The agreement is now in the process of being executed by the two parties. The particulars of the schemes covered by the loan are set out in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, Annexure No. 17].

3. The loan will be for a period of 25 years including five years of grace period. A commitment charge at the rate of 3/4% will be payable with effect from sixty days after the date of the agreement, on the loan amount not drawn upon by the Port Commissioners. On the amount actually drawn, interest is payable at the rate of 5½% per annum. The loan is repayable in 41 semi-annual instalments commencing from the 15th May 1966 and ending on the 15th May 1986. The last date for the withdrawal of the loan is 30th September, 1965.

4. The loan will be given by the Bank to the Calcutta Port Commissioners but the Government of India will be the guarantor for the loan.

Purchase of Rails from Russia

- *151. { Shri D. C. Sharma;
Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav;
Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri Subodh Hansda;
Shri Assar;
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal;
Shri N. M. Deb;
Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria;
Maharajkumar Vijaya
Ananda:

Will the Minister of Railways be

pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to buy rails from Russia to meet the immediate need of nearly 400,000 tons required for track renewal as well as for new lines; and

(b) the details of the proposal?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). An offer to supply about 60,000 Metric Tons of rails has been received from USSR, and is under consideration.

The salient features of the proposal are that payment will be made in non-convertible Indian Rupees, and delivery will be effected before 31-3-1962.

Hassan-Mangalore Rail Link

- *152. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta;
Shri Kunhan;
Shri T. B. Vittal Rao;
Shri Subbiah Ambalam;
Shri Achar;
Shri Agadi;
Shri Sugandhi:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1649 on the 20th April, 1961 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the proposal of Railway line between Hassan and Mangalore; and

(b) if so, with what result?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Mangalore-Hassan line is under consideration for inclusion in the Railways' programme for Third Plan in connection with the export of Iron Ore through Mangalore Port.

Small-Pox Control Commission

- *153. Shri Chuni Lal;
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to