

(7) A Carpet Warehousing Depot has been set up at Hamburg in 1965, as a result of which our exports of carpets and handicrafts have shown a sharp increase to West Germany.

(8) Ever since 1967, India has been participating in various International Fairs and Exhibitions organised in European countries at different places.

(9) In the year 1968 the Export Promotion Council for Finished Leather and Leather Manufactures, Kanpur, deputed a footwear technician to Chamba to study the possibility of exporting Chamba shoes and chappals. A few samples of shoes and chappals were bought by the Council and shown to different merchants exporters as well as to foreign buyers.

(10) For the promotion of exports of canned fruits and vegetables study-cum-sales teams, market orientation tours (with the help of US AID) have been organised. There is a joint foreign office of a few Export Promotion Councils at Brussels (Belgium) which is entrusted with the task of also promoting exports and exploring new markets for canned fruits and vegetables.

(11) For promotion of exports of fresh fruits to European Countries, a cash assistance of 50% of air freight has been allowed subject to overall ceiling of 20% of the f. o. b. value of such exports.

(12) Export of silver jewellery is not encouraged.

**Introduction of Direct Train Services  
from Delhi to Mangalore  
(Southern Railway)**

337. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state

whether there is any proposal under the consideration of his Ministry to introduce direct train services from Delhi to Mangalore on Southern Railway to help the large number of people who travel between the West Coast and Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : No, for want of capacity on this route it is not possible to introduce any additional train.

**Agreement between Indian Government  
and Soviet Government for Calcutta  
Tube Railway**

338. SHRI N. K. SANGHI :  
SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet Government have once again indicated their willingness to be associated with the implementation of the Scheme for construction of a tube railway in Calcutta;

(b) whether any agreement has been signed with U.S.S.R. in this regard and if so, the salient features of the agreement;

(c) whether Government, before signing the agreement, had been offered assistance from other countries in this regard and if so, what made Government to choose the Russian offer; and

(d) when the project will be started and completed ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). A supplement No. 2 to contract No. 78077 of 16.9.70 was signed with the "Technoexport" of Moscow on 11.8.71 for the deputation of a team of Soviet specialists to India for giving further technical advice on the Metropolitan Transport Project in Calcutta. The salient features of the Agreement are :—

- (i) In accordance with the Customer's (Government of India, Ministry of Railways) request 'Technoexport' shall depute to the Customer's country his consultants and a technical Secretary for a period of 3 months for giving consultations on the problems of the development of the Metropolitan Rail Transport in Calcutta.
- (ii) The Specialists shall be deputed within three months of the date of signing the present agreement.
- (iii) Payment of expenses connected with the deputation to India of Soviet Specialists shall be effected in Indian Rupees.
- (c) No.
- (d) The Metropolitan Transport Project (Railways), Organisation, Calcutta have submitted a Project Report for an underground Railway in Calcutta. This Report is under consideration of the Railway Board, and the Project is yet to be approved by the Government.

**Late Running of Trains from and to Delhi and New Delhi**

339. SHRI RAMKANWAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the figures regarding late running of trains from and to Delhi and New Delhi during the last four months; and

(b) whether Railways have improved their punctuality ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) A statement showing percentage of trains arriving right time and leaving Right Time at and from Delhi and New Delhi stations during the last 4 months June to September, of 1970 and 1971 is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. L. T.—984/71.*]

(b) Yes.

**Boosting India's Exports to Europe  
Consequent upon Britain's  
entry into E. C. M.**

340. SHRI CHINTAMANI  
PANIGRAHI :  
SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY :  
SHRI VARKEY GEORGE :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether with Britain's entry into the European Common Market India has mounded a campaign to boost her exports to Europe, both Western and Eastern; and

(b) what has been its impact so far ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) In view of impending entry of U. K. into ECM steps taken by the Government to increase our exports both to W. Europe and East Europe are given in the statement enclosed.

(b) Our exports to Europe (both East and West) have increased during 1970-71 as compared to 1969-70. While exports to W. Europe rose from Rs. 295.22 crores in 1969-70 to Rs. 300.3 crores in 1970-71 exports to E. Europe were valued at Rs. 361.7 cross in 1970-71 as compared to Rs. 327.8 crores in 1969-70.

*Statement*

The various steps and measures to expand and strengthen our exports to the European countries (both West and East) have been outlined in the Export Policy Resolution. In so far as the West European countries were concerned, special emphasis is being laid on collection of marketing information, visits/exchange of trade delegations, participation in fairs, exhibitions, establishment of direct trading relations etc. with a view to developing necessary commercial contacts and to show to the Western world the wide range of Indian products which are available for export on commercially competitive basis. Dearth of foreign exchange in India is, however, a big inhibiting factor in planning these activities on an appropriate scale. The assistance of