

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY) :

(a) The Election Commission had evolved a model Code of Conduct for the guidance of political parties and candidates and circulated it.

(b) A copy of the Code is laid on the Table of the House. (Placed in Library Sec No. LT-1501/172)

(c) The Election Commission have no information as to how far the Code was followed during the recent elections to State Legislative Assemblies.

Improvements in Third Class in Trains.

877. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to State ;

(a) whether the Railways have not been able to improve the conditions in third class ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b) The condition of third class coaches has been considerably improved over the years. Further improvement is undertaken regularly to the extent possible.

Stoppage of Export of Traditional Items by U.S.A.

878. SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cotton, vegetable oils, fertilizers, steel, lubricants, newsprint and non-ferrous metals have been the items of traditional imports from the U.S.A. and if so, whether their export to India has been stopped by the U.S.A.;

(b) whether U. S. S. R. has agreed to increase the supply of the aforesaid items; and

(c) if so, to what extent

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) (a) to (c). These items are imported from the U.S.A. as well as from other sources. Imports of some of these from the U.S.A are likely to be affected due to the cessation of U.S. Aid. Efforts are being made to secure increased supplies from all other sources, including the U.S.S. R., to meet our needs.

Railway line linking Ernakulam with Madhura via Idikki.

879. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any Resolution adopted by the Ernakulam District Development Council demanding the construction of a new Railway line linking Ernakulam with Madhura via Idikki;

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) (a) : Yes.

(b) Due to paucity of funds and lack of adequate traffic justification, it is not possible to consider construction of the suggested rail link at present.

Sending of a Trade Delegation abroad to find out markets for handloom products

880. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to send a Trade Delegation abroad to find out markets for the handloom products; and

(b) if so, an outline thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). No, Sir, However, the Handloom Export Promotion Council, Madras, propose to send two delegations—one to European countries and the other to U.S.A. and Canada, and