

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). A delegation led by Deputy Minister (Foreign Trade) visited Yugoslavia in February/March 1972 and discussed with the representatives of Yugoslav Government various matters related to Indo-Yugoslav trade and economic relations, including the ways and means for clearing the debts incurred by the two countries during the rupee trade era.

#### Decline in Export of Tobacco

902. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH :  
SHRI B. K. DASCHOW-  
DHURY :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to State :

(a) whether decline in the sale of Cigarettes in Britain last year has had adverse affect on tobacco exports from this country ;

(b) the extent of fall in tobacco export in 1971 ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Our tobacco exports to U.K. have declined because of swing to filter tipped cigarettes by the consumers of that country which requires 80% of tobacco normally used in a plain cigarette.

(b) There has been fall in the export to U.K. to the extent of 1.67 million Kgs. in 1971.

(c) Tobacco Study Team had recently visited West European countries including U.K. to study and explore new markets.

#### Family Pension and Death-cum-Retirement Gratuity for Judges

903. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-  
GRAHI : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to State :

(a) whether the scheme of family pension and death-cum-retirement gratuity for judges appointed from the Bar has been finalised ; and

(b) if so, an outline thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) No, Sir ; but the question is under examination-

(b) Does not arise.

#### Control of Adhwara Group of Rivers in Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga

904. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :  
Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to States :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to control the Adhwara Group of Rivers in the District of Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga ; and

(b) if so, whether the proposed project will be included in the Fifth Five Year Plan ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B.N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). The State Government of Bihar have reported that the investigations for preparation of a comprehensive scheme for control of floods in Adhwara Group of Rivers are being carried out. Inclusion of the Scheme in the Fifth Five Year Plan is to be considered after the scheme report is prepared and examined.

#### Construction of Guide Bundhs on Old Bed of River Begmati

905. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :  
Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently received any representation from the people of Piprashi, Shechar, Belsund, Runnisaipur, Auraj, Katra and Gaighat Blocks in regard to the construction of guide bundhas on the old bed of river Begmati ;

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the suggestions contained therein; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) to (c). The Government of Bihar have informed that the construction of flood embankments along the present active channel which is one of the old courses of Bagmati is in progress and that they have not received any representation in this regard.

#### Railway Lines run by Private Companies

906. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Railways run by private companies in the country at present ;

(b) whether certain Railway lines run by private companies in the country have been closed and if so, their names ;

(c) the number of persons rendered jobless as a result thereof ; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to reopen these lines and if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) There are 8 private-owned Railways, out of which 5 are run by the contiguous Govt. Railways and 3 by the Companies themselves.

(b) Yes, Sir. The private Railways which have recently been closed are :

- (1) Shahadara-Saharanpur Light Railway
- (2) Howrah-Amta Light Railway and
- (3) Howrah-Sheakhala Light Railway.

(c) 2749. But it has been decided to absorb them in the Government Railways subject to their suitability.

(d) No, Sir. The owning companies do not propose to re-open these lines and the take-over of these Railways by the Government of India is not justified financially.

#### Rate of Daily Wages to Casual Labourers of Engineering Department in Bombay Area (Western And Central Railways)

907. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the rate of daily wages paid to the Casual labourers in the Engineering Department of Western and Central Railways in Bombay area ; and

(b) how these wages compare with the wages paid in Bombay area, for similar work, outside Railways in the open market ?

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

Category	Rates	
	Central Railway	Western Railway
Skilled labour :	Rs. 6.20	Rs. 5.00
Semi-skilled labour :	Rs. 4.30	Rs. *4.00
Unskilled labour :	Rs. 3.15	Rs. **3.00

\*Rs. 3.60 for Mate

\*\*Rs. 3.30 for Gangman.

(b) The market rates fixed by local civil authorities vary from area to area. Broadly in areas covered by Western Railway, local rates range from Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 4.50 for skilled labour, Rs. 2.50 to Rs. 4.50 for semi-skilled labour and Rs. 1.75 to Rs. 3/- for unskilled labour. In areas covered by Central Railway, the local rates range from Rs. 5/- to Rs. 7.36 for skilled labour, Rs. 4.25 to Rs. 5.36 for semi-skilled labour and Rs. 3.45 to Rs. 4.86 for unskilled labour.