

NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY): (a) A report of certain observations made by Mr. Justice V. Khalid, Judge of the Kerala High Court regarding the Muslim Personal Law appeared in the 'Hindustan Times' dated June 30, 1972.

(b) The State Government of Kerala has been requested to furnish full details of the case and the matter will be examined after receipt of reply from the Kerala Government.

Boost in India's Exports

1271. SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's export will get a boost as a result of India's increased supply of items to Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). It is the desire of the two Governments to expand and promote trade between India and Bangladesh on the basis of mutual advantage. The Trade Agreement concluded on the 28th of March 1972 provides for exports of specific commodities to the extent of Rs. 25 crores under the Limited Payments Arrangement. Commodities other than those listed under the Limited Payments Arrangement can also be exported to Bangladesh in accordance with the normal import policy against payment in free foreign exchange.

Low utilisation of Irrigation Potential

1272. SHRI BHOGEN德拉 JHA: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether utilisation of irrigation potential in some areas is much below the national average;

(b) if so, the reasons for the low utilisation of irrigation potential in these areas; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken to ensure full utilisation of the irrigation potential in these areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) In some Projects like Kosi, Gandak, Banas, Shatrungi, Kakrapar,

Mahi, Chambal, Mula, Purna, Pus etc., the utilisation of irrigation potential is significantly below the national average.

(b) The under utilisation is due to delay in the construction of smaller channels of the distribution system; delay in construction of field channels of the beneficiaries; some irrigation systems still having outlets of capacities greater than 3 cusecs; inadequate extension services; delay in land levelling and shaping by the farmers and inadequate facilities for marketing etc.

(c) The State Governments have been urged to synchronise the construction of the smaller canals to serve 100 acre blocks along with the main canals and branches and to construct the field channels and recover the cost thereof from beneficiaries wherever there is inordinate delay. On the bigger Projects the State Governments have also taken up comprehensive ayacut development programmes.

Construction of a bridge over Beas river between Nowshetra Pattan (Gurdaspur) and Mukerian (Northern Railway)

1273. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:
SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to construct a bridge across the river Beas between Nowshetra Pattan (Gurdaspur) and Mukerian to meet the needs of the defence in case of Emergency; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the time by which the construction work will be undertaken and the bridge will be opened for traffic?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Opening of Mukerian-Talwara Railway Line to Passenger Traffic

1274. SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA:
SHRI HARI SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to open the Mukerian-Talwara railway line, which was constructed many years ago for taking the