

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 Nowshehra 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 Nowshehra 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

machinery required for the Pong Dam, to passenger traffic ; and

(b) if not, what is the difficulty envisaged by the Railways ?

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

(b) The proposal is not financially justified; there is also adequate road transport capacity for carrying both goods and passenger traffic.

### संसद भवन में रेलवे कैंटीन का कार्यक्रम

1275 श्री हरी सिंह :

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी :

क्या रेल मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संसद भवन की रेलवे कैंटीन प्रति वर्ष घाटे पर चलती है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तीन वर्षों में इसे कितनी हानि उठानी पड़ी और उसके क्या कारण थे ?

रेल मन्त्री (श्री टी० ए० पाई) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों में पार्लियामेंट हाउस की रेलवे कैंटीन को जो घाटा हुआ वह इस प्रकार है :-

1969-70 में 1,06,685.42 रुपए

1970-71 में 1,22,227.41 रुपए

1971-72 में 1,45,003.76 रुपए

(अपरिशोधित आंकड़े)

इस घाटे का मुख्य कारण यह है कि वर्तमान नियत टैरिफ दर कैंटीन चक्राने के खर्च को पूरा करने के लिए अपर्याप्त है जबकि बढ़ती हुई कीमतों के कारण उक्त खर्च प्रति वर्ष बढ़ रहा है ।

### S. T. C. team for West Asian countries to study Demand of Cement

1276. SHRI HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state .

(a) whether a special team has been set up by State Trading Corporation to examine and

study the demand of cement in West Asian countries ; and

(b) if so, who are the members of the team and when the team is leaving on tour of the countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No special team has been set up by STC to examine and study the demand of cement in West Asian countries. However, a sales team visited some of the West Asian countries from 25th June, 1972 to 3rd July, 1972.

(b) The sales team comprised of representatives of the cement exporting companies and STC viz.

1. Mr. M. R. Shivdasani of M/s. Associated Cement Co. Ltd., Bombay.
2. Mr. J. V. Mehta of M/s. Shree Digvijay Cement Co., Ltd., Bombay, and
3. Shri Bhupendra Singh, Addl. Chief Marketing Manager, STC, New Delhi.

### Effect of Bombay High Court Judgment on Export Trade of Precious Stones

1277. SHRI HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether their directive contained in a Circular dated 11th January, 1967 enjoining the Export Promotion Councils and Export Promotion Officers at ports to consider requests for the registration of exporters of precious stones has been declared *ultra vires* and illegal by the Bombay High Court ; and

(b) if so, the effect of this judgment on the export trade of precious stones ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The export trade of precious stones will not be affected by the judgement of the Bombay High Court.