

(b) whether the tour was useful for any special project, and if so, the salient features of the project?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Tour was useful for Underground Railway Project Calcutta having the following salient features:—

- | | |
|--|--|
| (i) Alignment | Dum- Dum to Tollyganj |
| (ii) Length | 16.5 Kms |
| (iii) Cost Estimate | Rs. 140 crores |
| (iv) Time of Construction. | 7 years from 1972-73 |
| (v) Foreign Exchange | Rs. 23.7 crores |
| (vi) Passenger/day | 1.3 million |
| (vii) Construction Method. | 1. Cut and Cover.
2. Driven Tunnel. |
| (viii) Journey time from one end to another. | 32 minutes |
| (ix) Fare | Not yet decided. |

Revised Indo-Afghan Trade Agreement

3116. **SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI: SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAKODKAR :**

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether revised Indo-Afghan Trade Agreement has been finalised; and
(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The Indo-Afghan Trade Arrangement for 1972-73 period was signed in New Delhi on February 20, 1972. Attention is invited to the answer given in reply to part (b) of Unstarred Question No. 113 on the 14th March, 1972, wherein the salient features of the Trade Arrangement were mentioned.

2. The Trade Arrangement has not been modified but as was stated in reply to Starred Question No. 958 on the 23rd of May, 1972, there were talks between officials of India and Afghanistan with a view to explain the provisions of a Public Notice issued on March 20, 1972, in regard to imports from and exports

to Afghanistan. During the discussions, certain difficulties were brought to the attention of the Indian side. In order to overcome these difficulties, a fresh Public Notice was issued on June, 30, 1972, in supersession of the earlier Public Notice. Copies of the Trade Arrangement and of the Public Notices are available in the Parliament Library.

Idio-Soviet Trade Agreement

3117. **SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :**

SHRI PAMPAN GOWDA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether an agreement has been reached between India and Russia regarding Indian Textile Products; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The 1972 Trade Protocol with USSR provides for the export of Printed cotton cloth and other cotton piece goods, Ready-made garments, Bed-Linen, towels and hand-kerchiefs, woollen knitwear and woollen Textiles from India.

In addition to the above, a contract has been signed between Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Bombay and V/O Exportljan, Moscow, for supply of cotton to India by the Soviet Union for conversion into cotton fabrics and Towels to be exported to the USSR. India would receive the cotton free of cost and will get conversion charges. Items like Roller printed Chintz, printed satin, bleached sheeting, bleached poplin and Towels are covered under this deal.

Theft of Railway Fittings

3118. **SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been increase in the number of cases of theft of railway fittings in the recent years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the total loss to railways due to such thefts during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Yes, to some extent.