

West Bengal Government's request for Railway Experts to run Martin's Light Railway

3151. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI SAMAR GUHA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the West Bengal State Government has requested the Centre to send a team of Railway experts to advise and assist them in matter of reopening the Martin's Light Railway ;

(b) if so, the progress made in this regard ; and

(c) whether Government would bear any part of the burden involved in reopening and operating the said Railway ?

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

(b) A Committee of Experts has since been set up by the Eastern Railway. The Committee has been asked to expedite the report.

(c) This will be examined in consultation with the Government of West Bengal.

Late running of trains and over-crowding in Bandel Katwa suburban section (Eastern Railway)

3152. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether representations have been received on behalf of a number of Railway passengers associations regarding the neglect of the Bandel-Katwa Suburban section of Eastern Railway (Howrah Division), resulting in late running and over-crowding ; and

(b) the action being taken to introduce shuttle services between Bandel and Katwa ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI
MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) 47 Up/48 Dn. Bandel-Katwa Locals which were cancelled from 12th December, 1971 for movement of high priority traffic during Emergency have been re-introduced from 1st August, 1972.

Electrification and Doubling of the Track of the Bandel-Katwa Suburban Section (Eastern Railway)

3153. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for non-electrification of Bandel-Katwa Suburban Section of Eastern Railway ;

(b) whether pending electrification, Diesel Engine is proposed to be introduced ; and

(c) the action being taken on the passengers' demand for doubling of the track on this section ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) An examination of the existing and anticipated traffic on the Bandel-Katwa section reveals that the existing as well as the anticipated traffic at the end of 1973-74 and even beyond can be easily worked with the existing mode of traction. As such, electrification of the section is not considered justified from the economic as well as operational point of view in the near future.

(b) Not at present.

(c) There is no traffic justification for doubling the track as sufficient spare capacity exists to cater for the anticipated increase in traffic, if any, in the near future.

Action taken against Firms for not meeting Export Obligations

3154. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the firms who did not meet their export obligations in 1970-71 and 1971-72 have been prosecuted ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE
(SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Export of Lenses for Spectacles

3155. SHRI M. S. SIVASWAMY :
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India has started the export of lenses for spectacle to foreign countries ;

(b) if so, the names of the countries to which the lenses are exported ; and

(c) the quantity and value of the exports made, country-wise, for the last three years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Separate trade statistics of lenses are not maintained. However, Optical elements, Unmounted which includes lenses for spectacles have been exported.

(b) and (c). Export of "Optical elements, unmounted" is given in the statement enclosed.

STATEMENT

(Value in Rs. '000'
Quantity in Nos.)

Name of the Country	1969-70		1970-71		1971-72	
	Qty.	Value	Qty.	Value	Qty. (upto Feb.' 72)	Value
South Yeman Peoples Republic .	70	1	283	2	..	
Bahrein Is. .	280	2	..	..	..
Nigeria	288	3	..	..	..
Ethiopia .	..	..	216	2	..	..
Lebanon . .	..	..	..	..	216	0.2
TOTAL .	638	6	499	4	216	0.2

Export of Tea, Coffee and Jute

3156. SHRI M. S. SIVASWAMY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the countries to which India exported tea, coffee and jute during the years 1970-71 and 1971-72 ;

(b) the quantity and the value of the exports made during the said period ; and

(c) the expected exports to be made during the year 1972-73.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The following are the principal countries to which India exported tea, coffee and jute during 1970-71 and 1971-72 :—

Tea :

U.K., U.S.S.R., Afghanistan, Sudan, Egypt, U.S.A., Irish Republic, Iraq, Poland, Canada, West Germany, Netherlands, Australia, Iran, Jordan and Tunisia.

Coffee :

- (A) U.S.A. and Canada.
 (B) Countries of West Europe including U.K., European Economic Community, Scandinavian countries and European Free Trade Association countries.
 (C) East European countries of U.S.S.R., Poland, Hungary, Rumania, German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.
 (D) Oceania.
 (E) Middle East Countries.
 (F) Far East countries.