

Indian Participation in Joint Ventures abroad

3808. SHRI P. K. DEO : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the firms which have shown interests in equity participation in joint ventures abroad; and

(b) the extent to which Government policies will encourage them to collaborate outside India?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Apart from the Indian firms already permitted to set up industrial joint ventures abroad, a list of firms who have shown interest in equity participation in joint ventures abroad is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. I.T-3537/72.]

(b) The Government policy in respect of setting up Indian industrial joint ventures abroad is embodied in the general guidelines prescribed by the Government for setting up such ventures abroad, a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. I.T-3537/72.]

Supply of water from Tenu Ghat Dam Project to West Bengal free of cost

3809. SHRI R. N. BARMAN :
SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Agreement in regard to Tenughat dam project in Bihar stipulates that the Government of Bihar will supply water to West Bengal power plants free of cost;

(b) whether Government of Bihar now propose to supply water to Santaldih Power Station in West Bengal at the rate of 58 paise per 1,000 gallons, and

(c) if so, Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) to (c). The agreement entered into in 1964 between the Governments of West Bengal and Bihar dealt with only the capacity for which the Tenughat Project could be planned by the Government of Bihar. It did not provide that Bihar would supply water free to West Bengal.

The Tenughat Project is being built in stages by the Government of Bihar at their own cost and it has been indicated by the Government of Bihar that the rate mentioned represents the cost of supply derived from Stage 1 of the project.

Stay Orders issued by Munsif's Court, Jhansi in regard to an enquiry into the accident to 22 Up Express

3810. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Munsif's Court, Jhansi had issued a stay order on 26th April, 1971 to restrain the Railway Administration to proceed further in connection with the enquiry into the accident to 22 Up Express of 11th April, 1970.

(b) whether the General Manager, Central Railway has published the causes of the accident in his safety Bulletin of May/June, 1971; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor while the stay order is still in operation?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI T. A. PAI) : (a) Yes. The stay order restrains proceeding further on the charge sheet dated 2-6-1970 served on Shri R. S. Sharma.

(b) Yes.

(c) Stay order does not restrain publication of the causes as found by the Fact Finding Committee. The publication was meant for the guidance of the train working staff.

Allegations against M/s. Kothari and Sons, Madras

3811. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the fact that the management of two tea gardens viz., "Glendale" and "Colacambic" under the ownership and control of Kothari & Sons, Madras, have been, since January, 1972 adding Methyl Salicylate in the tea at the rolling stage and selling the same at high prices through J. Thomas & Co., Cochin;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into these allegations;

(c) if so, the findings thereof; and

(d) if not, whether Government propose to order an immediate probe into these allegations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) to (c). Tea Board received complaints that two lots of teas of Colacumbie and Glendale estates contained added Methyl Salicylate. Representative samples of the lots were drawn by the Tea Board and subsequently got analysed by the Public Analyst, Government of Kerala. The report of analyst did not reveal presence of any foreign matter including added chemical substance in the tea samples concerned.

(d) Does not arise.

Criteria for appointment of Railway Advocates

3812. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Railway Advocates at big stations are nominated to contest cases in courts on behalf of Railways all over the country; and

(b) the criteria adopted for the nomination of Advocates?

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

(b) The names of competent advocates are brought on the panel of Railway advocates after making full enquiries about reputation, proven ability, integrity and status of the advocate concerned. Only deserving and promising lawyers are empanelled by the competent authority.

Loss of two bundles of Tickets from New Delhi Station

3813. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether two bundles of tickets from Delhi to Bombay Central and Delhi to Howrah (HIM/Exp) were lost in the years 1968 and 1969 respectively;

(b) if so, what was the amount of loss suffered by Railway administration; and

(c) the persons held responsible for the loss and the action taken in the matter?

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

(b) The value of the lost tickets was Rs. 5,538.45.

(c) The Chief Booking Clerk and two other Booking Clerks of Delhi station were held responsible in this regard. They were suitably punished in that the annual increment of the Chief Booking Clerk was withheld for 3 years with permanent effect and that of the other two booking clerks was withheld for 2 years with permanent effect.

Demand in Foreign Countries of Indian books on religion

3814. SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZALPURKAR: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the demand for Indian books on religion is increasing in foreign countries;

(b) if so, the names of the authors and the titles of the books exported to foreign countries, country-wise, during last three years; and

(c) the encouragement Government are giving to promote export of religious literature to foreign countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). As 'Indian books on Religion' is not classified separately in Revised Indian Trade Classification, information is not available for such books. Exports of Indian books, pamphlets, booklets, brochures and leaflets including books on religion for the three years to East European countries, U.S.A., France etc. is given below:—

(Value in Rs. lakhs)

1969-70	1970-71	1971-72 (upto February, 1972)
101.46	76.78	108.07

(c) Participation in International Book Fairs, sending of Publishers' Delegations abroad, grant of import replenishment and cash assistance are some of the steps taken by Government for encouraging the export of books including religious literature.