

(c) and (d). In one of the case to avoid undue delay in commissioning the project and to allay misgivings that the Collaborators had in the matter of guaranteeing performance, imports had to be allowed. In another case, import of certain items was allowed after careful scrutiny by the technical authorities and discussion with the Collaborators, in order to ensure that they could be integrated with items of equipment procured earlier. Details in respect of the third case have been received only recently and the matter is under examination.

(e) Government have of late tightened examination of imported items with a view to securing maximum utilisation of indigenous capacity.

#### CASH ASSISTANCE FOR EXPORT COMMODITIES

1714. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :  
SHRI MARANDI :  
SHRI Y. A. PRASAD :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering the desirability of stepping up the rate of cash assistance for export commodities mainly engineering goods and steel; and

(b) if so, when the decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### DISCUSSIONS WITH WEST GERMANY FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIAN RAILWAYS

1715. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO :  
SHRI MAYAVAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that discussions were held between the Government of India and West Germany in New Delhi in September 1967 on the question of financial assistance to the Indian Railways ; and

(b) If so, the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes.

(b) No final decision has yet been taken.

#### ACCUMULATION OF WOOL STOCKS WITH S.T.C.

1716. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that wool stocks have accumulated with the S.T.C. ; and

(b) if so, the quantity and value thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) and (b). In terms of an agreement entered into between the Governments of India and Australia, the Australian Government has agreed to supply 4 million lbs., of greasy wool under the Colombo Plan for constituting a raw wool pool for giving advances to exporters of woollen goods. During the period November, 1966 to August, 1967, the State Trading Corporation which is operating the pool imported 16.26 lakh lbs. of wool valued at Rs. 92.93 lakhs. Releases of raw wool valued at Rs. 14.95 lakhs have already been made to exporting firms. The State Trading Corporation has discussed the question of further releases with the industry and it is expected that the entire quantity will be taken up by the industry shortly.

#### WAGONS FOR HARYANA, DELHI AND PUNJAB

1717. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that most of the Railway wagons bound for the Industrial towns of Haryana, Delhi and Punjab are at present stuck up in the yards ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### RAILWAY TIME TABLE

1718. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the new Railway timings for winter came into force on the 1st October, 1967 ; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the Railway Time Tables of Northern Railway were not available on the Northern Railway stations till the 17th October, 1967 ?