

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) :** (a) The total working expenses incurred upto February 29, 1968 on three container services since introduced on the Indian Railways is about Rs. 8,22,701—.

Expenses incurred for creation of assets, e.g., containers and flats, road vehicles, garages etc., for all the three services works to about Rs. 28,90,814/-.

(b) The income derived by the railways from the three container services works to about Rs. 11,33,395/- upto February 29, 1960.

#### MODE OF TRADE WITH U.S.S.R.

4445. **SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the pattern and procedure of trade between the U.S.S.R. and India has undergone any change in the new arrangement for 1968; and

(b) if so, what are the salient changes and the reasons therefor ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :** (a) and (b). No new trade agreement has been signed between Indian and U.S.S.R. recently as the current agreement signed on 10-6-68 is valid upto 31st December, 1970. Only the commodities to be exchanged between the two countries during 1968 was finalised on 26-12-1967. Hence there has been no change in the pattern and procedure of trade between India and U.S.S.R. during 1968.

#### ENGINEERING INDUSTRY IN WEST BENGAL

4446. **SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of West Bengal submitted a report to the Central Government with regard to the crisis of engineering industry in West Bengal ;

(b) whether the report has indicated lack of orders from the Centre as one of the main causes of such crisis; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to meet the crisis ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :** (a) and (b). In response to a request from the Government of India, the Government of West Bengal submitted a report in the matter indicating the broad reasons for the recession in the Engineering Industries. These included lack of orders, not so much from Central Government Organisations as general feature of the market, lack of avenues for exports, inadequacy of credit facilities and general price of food and other consumer goods.

(c) The steps already taken by the Government of India to mitigate the effect of recession include the review of the various developmental programmes with a view to reviving the demand for capital goods to the extent possible; encouraging diversification in the manufacturing programmes of the affected industries, emphasis on the development of regular export markets through stronger marketing structures both for the public and private sectors; banning of imports to the extent the indigenous capacity can meet the requirements, including a review of imports already authorised but not irrevocably committed, and announcement of liberalised credit policy, including the recent announcement about reduction in the Bank rate.

#### RAILWAY LINES FROM DUM DUM TO PRINCEP GHAT AND DUM DUM TO BALLYGUNJ

4447. **SHRI B. K. MODAK :**  
**SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM :**  
**SHRI BHAGBAN DAS :**  
**SHRI K. ANIRUDHAN :**

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the survey of two railway lines from Dum Dum to Princep Ghat and another from Dum Dum to Ballygunj through salt lake area in Calcutta ;

(b) if so, when the survey is likely to be completed;

(c) whether this project will be included in the Fourth Plan ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?