

Singh): The amounts spent for the maintenance of ferry services across Sakrigali Ghat—Maniharj Ghat, and Farakka-Khejuria Ghat for the last two years are as follows:—

Year	Expenditure (in lakhs)	Rs.
		1963-64
1964-65	39.52	

These figures are exclusive of expenditure incurred on major repairs to vessels in the Marine Workshops at Mokameh, as and when necessary. This expenditure varies from year to year and was approximately Rs. 12.00 lakhs in 1964-65, for combined repairs to vessels plying these services as well as across Mahadeopur Ghat—Barari Ghat and Paleza Ghat—Mahendru Ghat.

Exports to Malaya and Singapore

2294. **Shri Warier:**
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Daji:
Shri Indrajit Gupta:

Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that our exports to Malaya and Singapore have dropped heavily in the last quarter of 1965;

(b) whether it is also a fact that our trade balances have been almost washed away as a result of the drop in exports; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) There has been a decline in India's exports to Malaya and Singapore from Rs. 7.29 crores in 1964-65 (April-August) to Rs. 5.12 crores in the corresponding period of 1965-66.

(b) and (c). The decline has been mainly in petroleum products, cotton piece goods, sugar, cotton and synthetic fabrics and apparel. Owing to our inability to export sugar and petroleum products and the establishment of factories in Singapore for the

manufacture of textiles and ready-made garments. India has had favourable balances of trade with Malaya and Singapore in 1963-64 and 1964-65 and the question of trade balances being washed away by the decline in exports in the above period does not arise. Our exports are likely to pick up in the remaining period of the year.

Bangalore-Chickballapur - Bangarpet Railway Line

2295. **Shri Linga Reddy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been made for the conversion of the Bangalore-Chickballapur-Bangarpet railway into Broad Gauge;

(b) whether there is a great demand by the public for its conversion;

(c) whether the people of Chittoor, Andhra Pradesh are agitating for a rail link from Madanapalle to Chintamani; and

(d) the action taken by Government in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath): (a) and (b). Representations have been received for the conversion of the Bangalore-Chickballapur-Bangarpet narrow gauge line to broad gauge. Although no regular survey for this conversion has been undertaken, investigations made in this regard revealed that the conversion is not financially justified.

(c) and (d). Representations have been received for the construction of this line. However, this proposal cannot merit sufficient priority for its inclusion in the Fourth Plan schemes, in view of the very limited funds available for new lines. Hence no further action is proposed at this stage.