

(a) the details of recommendations made by the Soviet team of experts in the case of Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation, Durgapur;

(b) the decisions taken by the Board of Directors of the Corporation on each recommendation; and

(c) the extent to which these decisions have been implemented?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) to (c). A statement giving the relevant particulars is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, See No. LT—1374/68].

#### Indo-Soviet Trade

358. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India's target of trade with the U.S.S.R. estimated at Rs. 300 crores is likely to be achieved during this year instead of by 1970; and

(b) whether this increase in pace of trade with the U.S.S.R. has adversely affected India's trade with Western countries?

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

(b) No, Sir. The increase in trade with U.S.S.R. is mainly due to the export of such non-traditional and specially manufactured goods which are available in sufficient quantity for meeting all export demands.

#### Export of Steel Rails

359. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that India is exporting steel rails in a big way; and

(b) if so, what will be the earnings from this export in terms of foreign exchange?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) and (b). During the year 1967-68, 40,717 tonnes of rails were exported resulting in a foreign exchange earning of Rs. 2.6 crores.

#### Balance of Trade

360. SHRI HIMATSINGKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries with which India had adverse balance of trade during the year 1967-68 and how it compared with the balance of trade with those countries in 1966-67;

(b) the countries with which India had favourable balance of trade during this period and how it compares with the corresponding figures for the preceding year;

(c) what was the overall balance of trade during the years 1966-67 and 1967-68; and

(d) the steps taken for eliminating the adverse balance of trade with each of these countries during the year 1968-69?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b). Statement I and II are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1375/68].

(c) The overall adverse balance of trade during 1967-68 and 1966-67 was of the order of Rs. 776 crores and Rs. 922 crores respectively.

(d) The adverse balance of trade with majority of the countries is not likely to be eliminated in 1968-69 in view of the need to import essential requirements of raw material, machinery, food-grains etc., necessary for the economy of our country. Efforts are, however, being made towards import substitution and to