

quantum of agricultural products available for export, (2) foreign exchange difficulties during 1965-66 resulting in the slowing down of the investment programme of local industries, and (3) recession in Western Europe. These factors, combined with the unsettlement that came in the wake of devaluation interfered with the full realisation of the benefits of devaluation, during 1966-67. It is possible that our exports would have fallen still further but for the inbuilt general incentive of 57.5% provided by devaluation to the export trade. The up-trend in exports witnessed during 1967-68 is continuing in the current year. Exports during the first three months, viz., April—June, 1968 at Rs. 308.08 crores show a rise of 14.4% when compared with exports during the corresponding period of last year. In fact, these compare favourably with the best corresponding period

of exports in the recent past, viz., April—June, 1964 at Rs. 309 crores in terms of the present rupee. Devaluation and other favourable factors like good agricultural crop and export promotion measures (e.g., cash assistance, import replenishment schemes, credit facilities, tax concessions etc.) are expected to lead to a considerably higher level of exports during the year 1968-69.

India's imports during the year 1967-68 at Rs. 1,974.28 crores showed a fall of 5% as compared to imports during 1966-67. Devaluation provided a built-in disincentive to imports. During the three months of the current financial year, viz., April—June, 1968, India's imports at Rs. 520.43 crores are lower by Rs. 6.30 crores when compared with the corresponding period of the previous year.

STATEMENT

Comparative Statement showing exports and imports during the years 1964-65 to 1967-68.

(Value in Rs. crores)

Year	Exports including re-exports	Imports
1964-65	1,285.67	2,124.72
1965-66	1,268.88	2,218.43
1966-67	1,156.58	2,078.36
1967-68	1,198.67	1,974.28

Note: Figures upto 1965-66 have been arrived at by escalating pre-devalued rupees by 57.5%.

COMMITTEE ON PRICE OF COAL

6022. SHRI HIMATSINGKA: Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a committee, set up in March this year to go into the question of pricing of coal had entered a deadlock;

(b) if so, the circumstances leading to this deadlock;

(c) whether the talks have since been set going once again; and

(d) if so, when the report of the Committee is expected?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL,

MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK): (a) to (d), The Committee was set up with a limited purpose of looking into and recommend a reasonable and fair price that should be payable by the Railways and Steel Plants having regard to all available material on the subject. As a decision had to be taken quickly Government itself considered the matter further. Ultimately agreements were reached regarding price of coal supplied to the Railways, Steel Plants, Washeries and Cokeries.

बदरपुर के निकट गाड़ी और ट्रक की टक्कर

6023. श्री रघुबीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे की :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 23 जुलाई 1968 को दिल्ली में बदरपुर रेलवे श्रासिंग के निकट एक गाड़ी और ट्रक में टक्कर हो गई जिस के परिणामस्वरूप तीन व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु हो गई ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस के क्या कारण थे ; और

(ग) इस प्रकार की दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिये सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही करने का प्रस्ताव है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जे० मु० पुनाचा) : (क) सम्भवतः माननीय सदस्य का आशय उस दुर्घटना से है जिसमें 30-7-68 को मध्य रेलवे के फरीदाबाद और तुगलकाबाद स्टेशनों के बीच समपार फाटक नं० 579 पर एक ट्रक डाउन पलबल-दिल्ली शटल के साथ टकरा गया था ।

(ख) दुर्घटना का कारण यह था कि जब फाटक का चौकीदार अप दिशा से आने वाले एक ट्रक को गुजरने के बाद फाटक बंद कर रहा था तब, इससे पहले कि चौकीदार को डाउन लाईन का फाटक बन्द करने का मौका मिलता, डाउन दिशा से अचानक एक दूसरा ट्रक

आ गया जिसके ड्राइवर ने फाटक के चौकीदार की चेतावनी के बावजूद ट्रक को पीछे हटाने से इंकार कर दिया ।

(ग) इस समपार पर गेट सिगनल की व्यवस्था करने का विचार है ।

MANUFACTURE OF SCOOTERS

6024. **SHRI RAGHUVIR SINGH SHASTRI:** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a proposal from the Rajasthan Government this year for the setting up of a factory which would manufacture about 50,000 scooters each year and the selling price of each such scooter would be Rs. 2,000 each;

(b) if so, whether the above proposal has been approved; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) No such proposal has been received this year. However, an application for the establishment of a factory in Rajasthan for the manufacture of scooters was received from the Govt. of Rajasthan (State Enterprises Deptt.), Jaipur on 30th August, 1965. The scheme envisaged the manufacture of 173 c.c. scooters to be designed in collaboration with M/s. Lepage Consulting Engineers, Belgium with an initial capacity of 2000 units in the first year, going up to 60,000 units per annum in the fifth year. The price of the proposed vehicle was indicated as Rs. 2,260 in the first year coming down to Rs. 1,710 in the 9th year.

(b) and (c). The scheme was considered along with other similar schemes and was not considered suitable for licensing. It has accordingly been rejected.

पाकिस्तान का रूस के साथ व्यापार करार

6025. श्री रघुबीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :