

(b) whether it is also a fact that earnings of the foreign controlled firms, both before and after recession, were more than the Indian controlled firms ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Recession has mainly affected the engineering industries especially the heavy engineering industries producing items like machine tools, structurals, steel castings, railway wagons etc. Foreign controlled companies among these industries constitute only a very small percentage. Recession was mainly caused by lack of orders, which should have affected both foreign controlled and Indian companies equally.

(b) The information that is being collected from firms is not adequate to permit of such a detailed comparative study.

#### CONSULTATIVE GROUPS OF INDUSTRIALISTS

6115. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Deputy Chairman of the Planning Commission is reported to have suggested that small groups consisting of industrialists be constituted for frequent consultations in formulation of the programmes for the development of the industry;

(b) whether such groups have been formed; and

(c) the different industries that have been represented in the group?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Not yet.

(c) Does not arise.

#### FAST TRAIN FROM NEW DELHI TO AMRITSAR

6116. SHRI SURAJ BHAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to introduce a new fast train named 'Golden Temple' between New Delhi and Amritsar;

(b) whether there is also any proposal to run the De-luxe train to and from Amritsar on all week days; and

(c) if so, whether the Railway authorities propose to change the route of the Flying Mail from the present *via* Karnal to *via* Saharanpur?

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

(b) No.

(c) There is at present no proposal to change the existing route of 27/28 Flying Mails.

#### IMPORTS FROM RUPEE-PAYMENT COUNTRIES

6117. SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the break-up of the items of imports from the rupee payment countries during the last year;

(b) the excess payment made last year on account of their prices being above the world level;

(c) the items in short supply in India which were exported; and

(d) how is the adverse balance of trade going to be met by the Communist countries?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI):

(a) A break up of major items of imports from rupee payment countries during 1967-68 is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—1926/68.*]

(b) Comparison of prices is only possible when purchases are made through a centralised agency as in the case of Government departments. As there is large number of private import licences, the information asked for is not available. It may, however,