

ex-ship prices of fine salt in Calcutta have risen from Rs. 205-255 per 100 mds. for West Coast Salt and Rs. 190-230 per 100 mds. for Tuticorin Salt in 1951-52 to Rs. 380-450 and Rs. 300-415 respectively in 1968 owing to the shortage of shipping space and port facilities for movement of salt from West Coast ports and Tuticorin ;

(b) the latest position with regard to ex-ship price of fine salt in the Calcutta market ;

(c) whether Government have received any representation from the West Bengal Government for linking salt supplies for the Calcutta market with inland sources of salt production like Hindustan Salts Ltd. Kharaghoda and Sambhar Salts Ltd. wherefrom industrial salt and domestic salts can be moved cheaply by Rail ; and

(d) what stands in the way of the acceptance of the proposals of the West Bengal Government in this regard ?

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

(b) Rs. 415/- for West Coast salt and Rs. 395/- for Tuticorin salt ex-ship per 100 B. maunds.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The Railways are against this movement in the face of the Cabinet Committee decision taken in 1961 which provided movement of salt from the manufacturing sources to Calcutta by sea alone. This is being reviewed now. Pending this review, the Railways have agreed to accept transport of salt from Hindustan Salts Ltd. at Kharaghoda for destinations in West Bengal, with a view to tide over scarcity of salt in that area. No such movement has, however, taken place so far.

**Manufacture of Printing Machines by  
H. M. T.**

3164. **DR. RANEN SEN :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to State :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., wanted collaboration agreement with various

foreign firms for the manufacture of Printing machines in India ;

(b) whether it actually entered into some agreement with West German firm ; and

(c) if so, the main features of the agreement ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :** (a) Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd. have been negotiating with various foreign firms for technical collaboration for the manufacture of Printing machines in India.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Collaboration between India and U. A. R.  
for Developing Phosphorus**

3165. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the United Arab Republic has sought India's Collaboration in developing phosphorus deposits in that country and in the manufacture of elemental phosphorus ;

(b) if so, the terms offered ; and

(c) whether India has accepted the offer ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI RAM SEWAK) :** (a) to (c). The Government of India is not aware of any proposal for the development of phosphorus deposits in U. A. R. However, the question of manufacturing elemental phosphorus was posed for Tripartite Co-operation between India, U. A. R. and Yugoslavia at the Tripartite meeting for Industrial cooperation held in August, 1967. The Government of India expressed interest in such a venture and the matter is still under discussion with U. A. R. authorities.

**Foreign Investment Board**

3166. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the constitution and pro-

cedures to govern the functioning of the proposed Foreign Investment Board have been finalised ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) when the board is expected to start functioning ?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) :** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Board will have as its Chairman a Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. Secretaries to Government in the Economic Ministries, Secretary, the Planning Commission, Director General of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and Director General of Technical Development will be its members.

The Board will deal with all cases except those in which total investment exceeds Rs. 2 crores of equity capital and where the foreign investment exceeds 40% of the issued equity capital. The Board will have a Sub-Committee which will deal with cases involving foreign participation upto 25 per cent and where total investment does not exceed Rs. One crore. Cases which involve only technical collaboration without any foreign investment will be decided by the administrative Ministries.

(c) The Board is expected to start functioning shortly.

#### Zund-Kandala Railway Line

3167. **SHRI P. N. SOLANKI :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for the delay in opening the Zund-Kandala railway sections ;

(b) whether it is a fact that several times arrangements were made for opening this section and then postponed ; and

(c) when Government propose to inaugurate this section ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) :** (a) and (b). The target date for opening of this line to traffic is 30-10-1969 and there has been no delay/postponement in opening it.

(c) The Jhund-Dhrangadhra (52.72 Kms.) portion of this line has already been opened

to goods traffic with effect from 27-3-1968. Further portion from Dhrangadhara upto Halvad (31.04 Kms., was opened to traffic on 8-11-1968. The remaining portion of this 230.84 Kms. BG line will be completed and opened to traffic by 30-10-1969 according to schedule.

#### Changes in Pattern of India's Export Trade

3168. **SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA :** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether after the recent tour of the Deputy Minister of Commerce of the East European countries, Government have initiated a process of refashioning our trade with those countries to meet the changing needs of our developing economy ;

(b) if so, the main changes contemplated in the established pattern of trade ; and

(c) their expected impact on India's export trade ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) :** (a) to (c). It has been the policy of Government to develop commodity exchanges with East European countries in keeping with the changing needs of India's developing economy. In this context the delegation led by the Deputy Minister of Commerce which visited some East European countries recently was successful in negotiating steadily increasing supplies of some industrial raw materials and fertilisers. Increased imports of such items from these countries will generate resources which would enable India to increase her exports particularly of engineering and manufactured goods.

#### निवाड़ी रेलवे स्टेशन पर प्लेटफार्म

3169. **श्री नाचूराम अहिरवार :** क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अक्तूबर, 1967 से 30 जून, 1968 तक फाँसी मानिकपुर रेलवे स्टेशन के निवाड़ी रेलवे स्टेशन पर कितने रेलवे माल डिब्बे आये और वहाँ से कितने माल डिब्बे गये ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि प्लेटफार्म भूमि