

countries other than those with whom there are rupee trade agreements, by 57.5 per cent.

(b) and (c). The Indian exporter would raise the value in terms of Rupees to the extent necessitated by devaluation. So far as the foreign buyer is concerned, he will not be put to any loss in terms of the currency of his country, and this would thus cause no hardship to him. This will ensure that Indian exporter will receive his payment in parity with the currency value of the Rupee and the foreign buyer will pay the same amount in foreign currency. This will also ensure that there is no avoidable loss in this country's foreign exchange earnings.

Goods Handling Contract Agreements

**3395. Shri Ram Sewak Yadav:
Shri Madhu Limaye:**

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether goods handling contract agreements contain provision for arbitrating claims in case differences arise between the contractors and the Railway authorities

(b) whether it is the practice of the Railway Administration to start litigation on arbitrator's awards;

(c) whether it is a fact that vast sums have been spent on litigation involving the award in respect of the claim of Binod Bihari Singh, ex-Goods Handling Contractor (*vide* Misc. Case No. 38 of 1961 in the Court of 2nd Sub-judge, Patna and Appeal No. 326 of 1962 in the High Court of Patna);

(dd) if so, the total amount spent by the Railways on litigation in respect of this matter so far and whether this sum exceeds the arbitration award of about Rs. 82,000; and

(e) whether the Railway Authorities intend reviewing their policy in regard to litigation in respect of arbitration awards in the light of the wastage involved?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):

(a) Yes.

(b) No, except in very exceptional cases.

(c) No.

(d) So far Rs. 4,297/- only.

(e) Each case is carefully examined, obtaining legal opinion before a decision is taken to contest the award of an Arbitrator.

Deposits of Graphite in Kerala

3396. Shri M. K. Kumaran: Will the Minister of **Mines and Metals** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Geophysical Survey in the Trivandrum District of Kerala has revealed large deposits of graphite of high quality;

(b) the main recommendations made by the Geological Survey of India in this regard; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to follow up the recommendations?

The Minister of Mines and Metals (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) to (c). The Geological Survey of India carried out systematic geophysical investigations for graphite at a number of places, e.g. Vellanad, Kuttichel, Chenga, Kizathingal, Aryanad, Venganoor, Chengalloor and Puliarkonam, in Trivandrum district during 1958-63. The occurrence of the mineral was located in the form of lenticular bands. A systematic programme of drilling to prove the deposits was recommended by the Geological Survey of India and drilling operations were started in April 1956 in the Chenga block at Vellanad. The investigations are in progress.

Halt Station between Garh Baruari and Supaul Stations

**3397. Shri Kishen Pattanayak:
Shri Madhu Limaye:**

**Shri Hukam Chand
Kachhavaiya:
Shri Bade:
Shri Yudhvir Singh:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made to Government about opening a Halt Station between Garh Baruari and Supaul on the North Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, whether the matter has been investigated; and

(c) the conclusions reached?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):
(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The proposal is under examination.

Industrial Units run by Panchayats

**3398. Shri B. N. Kureel:
Shri Ram Harkh Yadav:**

Will the Minister of Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have appointed a Study Team to go into the working of the industrial units run by Panchayats in Orissa and U.P.

(b) if so, the details of the Study Team;

(c) the scope of study; and

(d) the expenditure involved on the scheme?

The Minister of Industry (Shri D. Sanjivayya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A team consisting of four official representatives of Planning Commission, Ministries of Industry, Food, Agriculture, Community Development & Cooperation and the Khadi & Village Industries Commission has been set up to study the working of Panchayat industries in Orissa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Uttar Pradesh and to suggest measures for strengthening the existing units and

the pattern for such industries which could be followed in other States, including the type of industries, the appropriate organisational arrangements therefor and the role of the Panchayati Raj institutions.

(d) The expenditure involved will mainly be on the travelling allowance of the members.

Cashew Industry in Kerala

3399. Shri Vasudevan Nair: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Cashew Industry in Kerala State is facing a crisis due to the uncertainties of getting raw nuts from the African countries; and

(b) the steps being taken to arrange an uninterrupted supply of raw nuts?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Import of rawnuts is freely allowed under Open General Licence. Measures are also being taken to increase indigenous cashewnut production. Introduction of better collection methods to avoid wastage is also engaging the attention of the Government.

Railway Traffic between Hardwar and Rishikesh

3400. Shri Ram Harkh Yadav: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railway traffic between Hardwar and Rishikesh has been restored;

(b) if so, since when; and

(c) the reasons for the suspension of services?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Sham Nath):
(a) Yes.

(b) Since 5-8-1966.