

Bombay Port Trust Railway

2540. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bombay Port Trust Railway has refused to honour the claims arising out of losses in transit made by several traders from Bombay ;

(b) whether this refusal is not in contravention of the relevant provisions of the Indian Railways Act and other conventions in this regard ;

(c) whether the Railway Claims Agency of Bombay has made several representations in this matter to the Railway Board ; and

(d) if so, the reason why the Railway Board has failed to settle this matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) and (b). In dealing with claims for compensation, the railways are guided by the provisions of the Indian Railways Act concerning their liability in respect of goods entrusted to them for transport. There certainly are a number of claims repudiated by the railways, but whether the repudiation is in contravention of any provision of the Act can only be examined with reference to any particular case or cases.

(c) The Railway Claims Agency, Bombay, have been making representations in regard to claims repudiated by different railways, including the Bombay Port Trust Railway.

(d) When any case of the wrong repudiation of a particular claim is represented to the Railway Board the matter is duly examined. The general matter of settlement of claims is of course guided by the legal provisions in this regard.

Loans Taken by Companies from Foreign Agencies

2541. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) total amount of loan taken by (1) Indian Iron & Steel Company under the management of Martin Burn & Company, (2) Tata Iron & Steel Company under the

management of Tata and (3) Hind Motors under the management of Birla Brothers, upto-date from International Monetary Fund, World Bank, International Development Association other international financial agencies and other foreign sources ; and

(b) the present ratio of equity capital and loan capital of each of the above mentioned three companies ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE & COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) From the available figures, it is seen that :—

(1) M/s. Indian Iron & Steel Company has so far obtained 4 loans aggregating to the equivalent of US \$ 98.65 Millions from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development Washington, U. S. A.

(2) M/s. Tata Iron and Steel Company Ltd., has obtained 2 loans from the same source viz. IBRD aggregating to the equivalent of US \$ 107.5 Millions. In addition, TISCO secured a loan of £ 1.5 Millions from the National and Grindlays Bank, United Kingdom.

(3) M/s. Hindustan Motors has received 3 loans from the Agency for International Development, U. S. A. aggregating to the equivalent of US \$ 41.775 Millions. In addition, this company obtained a loan of about £ 0.5 Million from the Commonwealth Development Finance Company.

No information regarding loans, if any, obtained from other international financial agencies and sources is readily available.

(b) The ratio of Equity Capital to Loan Capital in each of the three companies as on 31-3-1968 in as follows :—

| Name of Company | Ratio of shareholders equity to loan capital | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------|
| | Equity | Loan |
| Indian Iron & Steel Company | 1.8 | 1 |
| Tata Iron & Steel Company | 2 | 1 |
| Hindustan Motors | 1 | 1.5 |

Equity stands for paid up capital and reserves.

Loans include both secured and unsecured loans.

Small Scale Agro-Industries in West Bengal

2542. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme to set up small-scale agro-Industries in south 24 Parganas, West Bengal during the Fourth Five Year Plan period ;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes, the number of rural unemployed persons expected to get employment, the method of utilisation of local forest resources ; and

(c) if the reply to Part (a) be in the negative the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) No specific scheme for 24 Parganas has been formulated. The Central Government's programme of development of small scale industries applicable to the country as a whole, applies to this area as well.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Plans for setting up of small scale industries are formulated by the State Govts. The Central Government's programme is confined to rendering various types of assistance to State Governments and to entrepreneurs.

Development of Railway Projects in Kerala

2543. SHRI MANGALATHUMADAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a growing feeling among the Kerala Public that Kerala is being totally neglected in the field of Railway projects and its development while the neighbouring Mysore and Madras States are stepping further in Railway development ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in the matter, and the steps taken to improve the developmental work ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) and (b) Railway development is not envisaged on any state-wise or region-wise concepts, but on overall development considerations in the national interest. It is therefore not fair to bring in regional bias in this matter. However, it may be stated that it has been decided to undertake preliminary engineering and traffic surveys for conversion of Ernakulam-Quilon-Trivandrum M G. Section to B. G. and to re-assess the earlier survey reports of Trivandrum-Cape Comorin-Tirunelveli line and these surveys have been included in the 1969-70 Programme.

Annual Reports by Societies

2544. DR. MAHADEVA PRASAD : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the societies registered under the Societies Registration Act of 1860 have unfailingly to submit their annual reports to the concerned Registrars ;

(b) whether there are any statistics showing the list and number of such societies which have failed to submit their annual reports during the last three years ; and

(c) action, if any, taken against such societies ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) to (c) Government have no information in regard to parts (a) and (b) of the question. The subject matter of the Societies Registration Act falls exclusively within the State List in terms of entry 32 of the List II in the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India. Part (c) of the question does not, therefore, arise.

Centres for Homeless Children

2545. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Govern-