

के प्रत्यायिक पादरी की सेवाएं ग्रहण की जाती हैं।

Progress in Construction of Mahendra Highway

3522. SHRI HIMATSINGKA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress so far made with regard to the construction of the Mahendra Highway in which Government are collaborating with Nepal Government ;

(b) the time by which the construction is likely to be completed ; and

(c) the expenditure to be incurred by Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of India are at present engaged on the construction of the Eastern Sector of the Mahendra Rajmarg (East-West Highway) under the Indo-Nepal economic co-operation programme. The total length of this Sector is 300 KMs. The work of jungle clearance has been completed in full and a service track has been completed over a length of 283 KMs. The major items of work now in progress are on bridges, soling and the metalling of the entire alignment.

(b) 31st March, 1971.

(c) Rs. 22 crores.

Show Rooms in Foreign Countries

3523. SHRI N. R. DEOGHARE : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of show-rooms at present in foreign countries ;

(b) whether all these show rooms are earnings profits or incurring loss ;

(c) the names of countries where show rooms are running in loss ;

(d) the number of show rooms closed down during the last three years and the reasons therefor ; and

(e) the loss suffered by Government as a result of closure of showrooms ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI

RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c). Three show-rooms *viz.* at Bahrain, Kabul and Cairo are at present maintained by the Directorate of Exhibitions essentially for publicising and popularising Indian merchandise abroad. The question of profit and loss therefore does not arise.

(d) Three showrooms have been closed down, namely at Khartum, Jaddah and Baghdad. The principle object of setting up the showrooms was initially to create interest abroad in our products through visual publicity and trade information. These showrooms were closed down, initial objective having been achieved.

(e) Does not arise.

कुम्रालालम्पुर में दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया के देशों का सम्मेलन

3524. श्री यशपाल सिंह :

श्री ए० ए० बाबूपाल :

क्या बहिष्कार-कार्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया के देशों की एसोसिएशन की एक बैठक 15 दिसम्बर 1969 को कुम्रालालम्पुर में होने जा रही है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है भारत को इस बैठक में भाग लेने के लिये नहीं बुलाया गया है, और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

बहिष्कार-कार्य मन्त्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) सरकार ने इस आशय की खबरें देखी हैं।

(ख) और (ग). इस बैठक में भाग लेने के लिए भारत को निमंत्रण नहीं मिला था, क्योंकि वह दक्षिण पूर्व एशियाई राष्ट्र संघ का सदस्य नहीं है।

Supply of Railway Wagons to Poland in Exchange of Sulphur

3525. SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Poland has