

(c) the extent to which the shortage of wagons has hampered industrial production of the country ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HA UMA THAIYA) : (a) to (c). Total coal production from the collieries in Bihar from April to July 71 (latest figures available with this Ministry) has been 10.20 million tonnes, including 5.12 million tonnes coking coal and 5.08 million tonnes non-coking coal. How much of this production does not require rail transport due to the collieries' own consumption, quantity consumed in the production of hard coke and soft coke, unconsumable rejects from the pit mouth washeries and coal moving by the other modes of transport etc. is not known to this Ministry. The level of production in the first four months of the year would require loading of about 4000 wagons a day to clear the entire production by rail. Allowing for other modes of transport, rail despatch requirements will be about 3800 wagons a day.

The stocks of coal in the Bihar fields at the end of July 71 were 5.59 million tonnes against 3.66 million tonnes at the end of March 70, which can be assumed to be normal. The number of wagons required per day to clear the accumulated pithead stocks would depend upon the period over which the excess stocks are to be cleared.

The number of wagons loaded from collieries and washeries in Bihar from April 1971 are as under

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| April     | 3,544 |
| May       | 3,444 |
| June      | 3,231 |
| July      | 3,404 |
| August    | 3,834 |
| September | 3,480 |
| October   | 3,525 |

The information regarding the extent to which the shortage of wagons has hampered industrial production in the country is not readily available with this Ministry. According to the information available production of major industries like steel plants, power houses etc. have not been affected as particular care was taken to meet their essential demands.

### मेवे के आयात व्यापार को अपने हाथ में लेना

\*42. डा० संकटा प्रसाद : क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या मेवों के गैर-सरकारी आयातकर्ता अत्यधिक लाभ कमा रहे हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार इस व्यापार का अपने हाथ में लेने का है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इसका पूर्ण व्यौरा क्या

विदेश व्यापार मन्त्रा (श्री एल० एन० मिश्र) : (क) से (ग). मेवों तथा खजूरों पर लाभ की गंजाइज, अन्य कारणों के साथ-साथ भारत में उनकी माँग और प्रतिबंधित आयातों के कारण वास्तव में बहुत अधिक है। सरकारी उपक्रम अथवा उपक्रमों के माध्यम से मेवों तथा खजूरों के आयात के मार्गीकरण का प्रश्न गत कुछ समय से सक्रिय रूप से सरकार के विचाराधीन रखा है। इसके संबंध में अन्तिम निर्णय निर्यातक देशों—अफगानिस्तान और ईरान तथा ईराक को सन्नाह लेकर शीघ्र ही ले लिया जायगा।

### Foreign Exchange Earned through Jute and Tea

\*43. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the actual foreign exchange the country has earned through Jute and Tea in the year 1970-71;

(b) whether due to the recent floods in some parts of West Bengal and Bihar and the shortage of coal wagons in Duars, North Bengal and Assam, the jute and tea trade in the foreign market has been affected; and