

given the quarters. If the hon. Member writes to me, I will give the information.

**श्री मोहम्मद इस्माइल :** मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि 40 परसेन्ट रेलवे कर्मचारियों को क्वार्टर दिए गए हैं और 60 परसेन्ट को अभी नहीं मिले हैं तो मुझे यह पूछना है कि 60 परसेन्ट जो बाकी हैं उनके लिए रेलवे ने अबतक क्या किया है और आप क्या करने जा रहे हैं ?

**SHRI T. A. PAI :** I think we will have to wait for some better time. Every year we are spending about Rs. 5 crores for house building for railway employees, and the cost of building materials is going up. I think we are accomplishing less and less year after year. Anyway, we are looking into this, and see what best can be done.

**SHRI B. V. NAIK :** There are 50,000—60,000 acres of land with the railways and the number of railway employees form a very select group. We are told land is available whether in the urban or the rural area along the railway track or in the various urban centres. Will the Railway Minister let us know whether since these are public properties and since these are public undertakings, it will be kept open for housing facilities for the railway employees alone or for other people also who ever deserve to be given or would it be kept as a sort of private reserve for railway men alone?

**SHRI T. A. PAI :** The land has been given to the Railways for a specific purpose. The Railways will have to decide for what purpose it has to be used. Otherwise, the land has to be given back to the State so that it may be used for other purposes.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### Deficit Trade with Federal Republic of Germany

\*303. **SHRI BHOLA MANJHI :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a trend of widening deficit trade balance developing in the trade between India and Federal Republic of Germany ;

(b) if so, the amount of deficit balance ; and

(c) the steps Government have taken to stop this?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) :** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

##### STATEMENT

During 1970-71, the adverse balance of trade with Federal Republic of Germany was of the order of Rs. 74.57 crores as against Rs. 54.55 crores during 1969-70. During 1971-72 (April-January) the advance balance of trade with Federal Republic of Germany was of the order of Rs. 74.88 crores as against Rs. 60.58 crores during the corresponding period of the previous year.

2. To arrest this trend of widening trade deficit with West Germany steps have been taken to intensify the efforts for accelerated promotion of exports to West Germany. These include efforts taken to secure reduction/elimination of tariff/non-tariff barriers on items of export interest to India, identification and concentration of export efforts on a few selected products, consideration of the question of launching a Commercial Development Programme, participation in fairs/exhibitions, exchange/sponsoring of sales teams/delegations, exploration of ways and means to secure increased West German investments in export-oriented ventures in India and also to secure Indian participation in joint-ventures abroad including consultancy services, effective utilisation of import agencies in West Germany, and measures for ensuring effective/dynamic functioning of export promotion agencies located in India and abroad.

##### Channelling Imports & Exports through S.T.C.

\*309. **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state the extent to which the State Trading Corporation has succeeded in channelling imports and exports in the best interests of the country's economy?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) :** The State Trading Corporation has been able to