

(b) The commuters demanded that 9 coach-trains should be run instead of 6 coach-trains and that all fast trains should stop at the Malad Station.

(c) Rs. 6 lakhs approximately.

GAZETTED CADRE FOR PURCHASE ORGANISATION ON INDIAN RAILWAYS

*440. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the report of the sub-committee appointed by the Railway Board for determining the Gazetted cadre on the Indian Railways for purchase organisation has been received;

(b) if so, when Government's decision is likely to be implemented;

(c) whether this sub-committee has been made some recommendations about the non-gazetted staff also; and

(d) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report has been received very recently and the same is still under examination.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of remarks against (b) above.

TEXTILE INDUSTRY

*441. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA :

SHRI UMANATH :

SHRI M. L. SONDHI :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the textile mills have been closed down recently and some others are likely to be closed down particularly in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to revive them ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) to (c). Owing to various reasons, such as in-

efficient management, financial difficulties, labour disputes, uneconomic working, etc., some cotton textile mills always remain closed at any given time of the year. Recently there have been no serious developments in Gujarat. During November, 1967, to January, 1968, 14 miles closed down while 10 mills were re-opened.

2. Government are fully alive to the situation and they have been taking over mis-managed or closed mills under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. The Cotton Textile Companies (Management of Undertakings and Liquidation or Reconstruction) Act, 1967, has also been enacted to enable Government to liquidate such companies and to sell the undertaking as a running concern. It also provides for the re-construction of the Company in suitable cases and the Government acquiring interest in them. Textile Corporation is also proposed to be set up to manage mills taken over under the above mentioned acts.

3. The Government of Gujarat have appointed a Committee, under the Chairmanship of their Chief Secretary, to recommend Government guarantees to banks for advance of loans to textile mills. This Committee has already recommended guarantees in the case of certain mills, while the cases of some other mills are under its consideration. Another Committee has been appointed by the State Government under the Chairmanship of Shri Manubhai Shah, to suggest a programme for renovation and modernisation of marginal textile mills in the State.

TRADE RELATIONS WITH LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

*442. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the question of improving India's trade relations with Latin American countries has been considered by Government; and

(b) if so, the steps take in this direction ?