

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि ये वस्तुएं उच्च रेलवे अधिकारियों को दी गई थी ; और

(ग) इस प्रकार चोरी-छिपे कितनी मात्रा में वस्तुएं लायी गईं और दोषी अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जे० मु० पुनावा) :

(क) मार्च और अप्रैल, 1964 में अमरीका से आयातित कुछ डीजल रेल इंजनों के कैबिनो से कुछ ऐसे विदेशी सामान बरामद हुए थे जिनकी घोषणा नहीं की गयी थी।

(ख) उनमें से कुछ सामान या तो कुछ रेलवे अधिकारियों के थे या उनके लिए थे।

(ग) पकड़े गये सामान का मूल्य अनुमानतः 50,000 रुपये था। सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध तटकर प्राधिकारियों द्वारा समुद्र तटकर अधिनियम के अधीन कार्रवाई की गई थी। इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो द्वारा भी जांच की गई थी और उसकी रिपोर्ट पर केन्द्रीय चौकसी आयोग ने सलाह दी थी कि किसी अधिकारी के विरुद्ध अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई अपेक्षित नहीं है।

EXPORT OF COKING COAL

*273. SHRI K. HALDAR : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering a proposal to use low grade and blendable cooking coal at all public sector steel plants in order to release quantities of superior coking coal for export;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) the quantity of superior coking coal to be exported and the value thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) to (c). Public sector steel plants are already using medium coking coals and blendable coals along with prime coking coals in order to conserve good quality coals. A proposal to export a limited quantity of superior coking coal is under the consideration of Government. It's too early yet to

say anything about the quantity which can be exported and still less about the likely value thereof.

EAST EUROPEAN MARKETS

*275. SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Indian goods are facing competition from Pakistan in the East European markets; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) Pakistan, like other developing countries, has been trying various measures to increase her exports to East European countries, but there has so far been no serious effect on the marketability of Indian goods.

(b) The trade is constantly under review and effective steps for increasing our competitiveness are under consideration.

NON-SUPPLY OF MATERIALS BY THE STEEL PLANTS

*276. SHRI P. RAMAMURTI :
SHRI UMANATH :
SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINGH :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the statement of the senior Vice-President of the Steel Association of India at the recent Annual Conference of the Association held in Calcutta in December, 1967 wherein he cited cases of non-supply of materials by the steel plants even against orders placed in 1961;

(b) if so, how far the statement is correct; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL MINES AND METALS (SHRI P. C. SETHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. The statement was made in the context of the financial arrangements required to be made by the stockists in advance of the despatch of materials and no specific cases have been cited.

(b) In the case of most of the categories, the despatches are not delayed; only in some of the 'Scarce' categories delays in the supply of materials by the main producers have been known to occur.

(c) Government has been taking all possible measures to increase the production of scarce categories.

DURGAPUR STEEL PLANTS

*277. SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of bombs were recovered from the house of an employee of Durgapur Steel Plant;

(b) whether it is also a fact that certain incriminating papers including literature and flag of Communist Party were recovered from that house; and

(c) if so, the action taken against the said employee and the steps which are being taken to prevent sabotage in this steel plant ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. CHANNA REDDY) : (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF ASSAM

*279. SHRI LILADHAR KOTOKI :
SHRI BENI SHANKER
SHARMA :

Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and nature of new industries started in Assam during the last five years;

(b) whether the industrial development of the State is proceeding according to the schedule and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the new industries proposed to be started in the near future in the State in the Public and private sectors ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) (c). Information is being collected and

it will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

DIESELISATION ON RAILWAYS

*280. SHRI NAMBIAR :
SHRI E. K. NAYANAR :
SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINGH :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that due to test dieselisation or railway traction the coal industry is facing crisis;

(b) whether it is a fact that Steel, Mines and Metals Ministry have requested Ministries to go slow with the Railway dieselisation; and

(c) if so, the decision taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Dieselisation will largely cover additional traffic generated on the Railways. The total coal consumption on the Railways is, therefore, not expected to go down materially, and such reduction should not cause a crisis in the coal industry.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of the operational advantages of diesel over steam traction, and its superiority in terms of the return on capital outlay and in quickly building up capacities for additional traffic, it has not been considered necessary to revise the policy of diselisation. Dieselisation is, however, being suitably tailored to match the reduced traffic anticipations in high density areas.

RECOVERY OF STEEL SHEETS FROM RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*281. SHRI C. K. BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that about 1000 steel sheets valued at about Rs. 25,000 have been recovered from railway employees' quarters near Ballygunge on the 30th January, 1968;

(b) whether 3 class IV Railway employees including a Shunter and a Pointsmen have been arrested; and

(c) whether it is a fact that these steel sheets were removed from a wagon during transit ?