

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) Yes Sir, on 30-1-68 evening, 2125 pieces of mild steel sheets were recovered from a railway quarter near Ballygunge station valued at Rs. 25,000 approximately.

(b) 3 class IV railway employees have been arrested in this connection.

(c) So far it has not been possible to ascertain as to wherefrom the above property was obtained.

PROGRAMME TO FIGHT RECESSION

*284. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA :
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO :

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have drawn up a five-point programme to fight recession; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED) : (a) and (b). Government have taken some steps to fight the effect of recession on industrial production. These steps include the review of the various developmental programmes with a view to reviving the demand for capital goods to the extent possible; encouraging diversification in the manufacturing programmes of the affected industries; emphasis on the development of regular export markets through stronger marketing structures both for the public and private sectors; banning of imports to the extent the indigenous capacity can meet the requirements, including a review of imports already authorised but not irrevocably committed; and announcements of liberalised credit policy.

यूरोपीय आर्थिक समाज

*290. श्री रघुबीर सिंह शास्त्री :
क्या बाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यूरोपीय आर्थिक समाज के सदस्य देशों के साथ व्यापार करार करने के

लिए सरकार ने कोई बातचीत आरम्भ की थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला है; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में किये गये करार का व्यौरा क्या है ?

बाणिज्य मंत्री (श्री दिनेश सिंह) :

(क) से (ग) : भारत तथा यूरोपीय आर्थिक समुदाय के बीच सर्वांगीण व्यापार करार के लिए बातचीत आरम्भ करने की सम्भाव्यता के सम्बन्ध में समुदाय के आयोग के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ गत कई महीनों से समय समय पर बातचीत हुई है। पश्चिमी यूरोप में आर्थिक मामलों के हमारे राजदूत ने समुदाय को पिछले महीने एक ज्ञापन दिया जिसमें अनुरोध किया गया कि ऐसे करार को सम्पन्न करने के लिये यथासंभव शीघ्र बातचीत प्रारम्भ की जाए। इस अनुरोध के आशार पर समुदाय की ओर से कार्रवाही की जाने की प्रतीक्षा है।

TRADE BETWEEN INDIA AND NEPAL

*291. SHRI SITARAM KESRI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a decline in the quantum of trade between India and Nepal due to the restrictions imposed by the Government of Nepal since the devaluation of Indian Rupee in June, 1966; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to step up the trade ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH) : (a) No, Sir. There has been no decline in the quantum of trade between India and Nepal since devaluation of the Indian rupee in June, 1966. The total volume of Indo-Nepalese trade for the year 1966-67 was around Rs. 31.20 crores as against Rs. 27.15 crores for the year 1965-66. However, there was a marginal decrease in India's exports to Nepal from Rs. 19.66 crores in 1965-66 to Rs. 19.56 crores in 1966-67, following the