

perhaps a project like Thein Dam on Ravi which again involves agreement as to allocation of waters, power and the costs and which are being sorted out.

#### TRAFFIC HANDLED AT QUILON JUNCTION SI/HON

275. SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the extent of increase in the passenger and goods traffic at the Quilon Junction of the Southern Railway during the year 1971 as compared to the figures for the three previous years ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : The extent of increase/decrease in passenger and goods traffic booked from Quilon Junction Station during 1971 as compared to the figures for 1969 and 1970 was as under :

| No. of<br>passengers     | Extent of increase<br>over<br>the previous year.          |
|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Passenger Traffic</b> |   |
| 1969 11,93,417           |   |
| 1970 12,13,276           | +19,859   |
| 1971 13,02,199           | +88,923   |
| <b>Tonnage</b>           |   |
| originating              | Extent of increase/<br>decrease over the<br>previous year |
| <b>Goods Traffic</b>     |   |
| 1969 51,035              |   |
| 1970 50,358              | — 677   |
| 1971 53,798              | +3,440  |

Comparative figures for 1968 are not available.

#### DEMANDS OF RUBBER BOARD EMPLOYEES

276. SHRI G. GOPINATHAN NAIR : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any communications from the Chairman of the Rubber Board during the last two years about the demands and grievances of the employees of the Rubber Board including the demand for payment of bonus;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what decisions have been taken by Government thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c) The following "demands have been received from the Rubber

(i) The absorption of an Accountant as Deputy Accounts Officer in the Rubber Board,

(ii) The retention on deputation of a Superintendent (Training) from the Office of the Accountant General, Kerala, and

(iii) The payment of bonus to the staff of the Rubber Board.

While item at (i) above is pending as it is before the High Court of Kerala, the other two items are being looked into.

#### INDIA AS TEA EXPORTER

277. SHRI S. A. KHAJA MOHIDEEN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) how does India rank as an exporter of tea vis-a-vis other tea exporting countries;

(b) the steps taken by Government to popularise Indian tea abroad; and

(c) the quantity of tea likely to be exported during the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) India ranked first as an exporter of tea in the year 1971 having exported 212.6 million kgs. against 201.3 million kgs. exported by Ceylon, which ranked second as an exporter of tea.

(b) (1) Promotional activities by the Tea Board's offices established in London, New York, Brussels, Cairo and Sydney to create greater possibilities for export of India tea to various traditional and new markets.

(2) Promotion of special packs of Indian tea in selected markets abroad with the co-operation of the local blenders/packers;

(3) Advertisement through appropriate media of publicity in countries abroad;

(4) Participation in Trade Fairs and exhibitions;

(5) Exchange visits of traders and tea experts to promote the interest of tea;

(6) Setting up of a Tea Trading Corporation in the Public Sector for export of packed and blended teas.

(L) A quantity of 215 million kgs. tea is estimated to be exported during 1972.

#### SETTING UP OF FACTORIES FOR MANUFACTURING SYNTHETIC RUBBER

278. SHRIMATI LAKSHMI KUMARI CHUNDAWAT : Will the Minister of Petro-

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to set up factories for manufacturing synthetic rubber; and

(b) if so, the names of the places where the factories will be set up and the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) A unit to manufacture 20,000 tonnes of stereo Specific Polybutadiene Rubber is proposed to be set up in the public sector as a down-stream unit of the Gujarat Olefins Project at Baroda. The estimated capital outlay for this project is Rs. 13.50 crores including a foreign exchange component of Rs. 3.43 crores.

#### LOCATION OF SUB-SEA OIL

279. SHRI N. G. GORAY : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state :

(a) what progress has been made in locating the sub-sea oil in Aliabet and Bombay high seas;

(b) whether any contract has been concluded with any foreign firm in this regard; and

(c) if so, by what time drilling operations are likely to start ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) to (c) As far as drilling in shallow waters off Aliabet islands is concerned, the first offshore well in the Aliabet West structure was spudded in on 19.3.70 and there was an oil-show, a year later. The results of production testing of the Well showed, however, that the oil find in this well was not of "commercial" importance. Drilling of a second well, this time in Aliabet-East structure, is presently under consideration.

As for Bombay-High area, various preparatory steps for commencing drilling in that area are already in progress. The self-propelled, mobile offshore platform is under construction in Japan and is expected to arrive in India in November, 1972.

In connection with the work of drilling in Bombay-High area, a contract with M/s. Mitsubishi Shoji Kaisha Ltd. of Japan was concluded on 25.2.71 for construction and supply of the mobile offshore drilling platform. A contract was also concluded with M/s Offshore International S. A. [or providing the services of certain experts for conducting the drilling operations along with Indian personnel, for a

period of one year from the start of drilling, and for training of the Indian personnel in this regard. Drilling in the Bombay-High area is likely to commence soon after the Mobile Platform arrives in India in November, 1972.

#### एशियाई तथा अन्य देशों के साथ व्यापार

280. श्री वी० के० सखलेचा : क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत का क्रमशः 1970-71 और 1971-72 के वर्षों में विभिन्न एशियाई, योरोपीय और अफ्रीकी देशों तथा संयुक्त राज्य अमरीका, कनाडा और दक्षिण अमरीकी राष्ट्रों के साथ कितने-कितने करोड़ रुपयों का व्यापार हुआ ;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि एशियाई देशों से व्यापार और बढ़ाने की काफी संभावनाएं हैं; और

(ग) 1972-73 के वर्ष में कौन-कौन से खाद्यान्नों और शस्त्रों तथा गोला बारूद के निर्यात किये जाने की संभावना है ?

#### TRADE WITH ASIAN AND OTHER COUNTRIES

280. SHRI V. K. SAKHALECHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding trade, in terms of crores of Rupees, which had been transacted with the various Asian, European and African countries and also with the U. S. A., Canada and South American nations during the years 1970-71 and 1971-72 respectively ;

(b) whether it is a fact that there are considerable possibilities for further development of trade with the Asian countries; and

(c) the details regarding foodgrains and the arms and ammunition which are likely to be exported during the year 1972-73 ?]

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) : (क) एक विवरण संलग्न है ।  
[दिखिये परिशिष्ट LXXX, अनुपत्र संख्या 22]

(ख) जी हां ।

(ग) बंगला देश सरकार को सप्लाई करने के अतिरिक्त, वर्ष 1972-73 के दौरान 106,000 टन मक्का, 20,000 टन बासमती चावल और

† [ ] English translation.