

other linking routes are concerned, proposals may perhaps be considered in due course.

Expenditure on Tundla-Delhi electrification work is estimated at Rs. 22.5 crores, other than tolling stock. The estimated costs for electrification of other routes have not yet been worked out.

MEMORANDUM REGARDING CONVERSION OF RUPSA-BANGRIPOSI NARROW GAUGE LINE INTO BROAD GAUGE LINE

759. SHRI G. P. MAJHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum regarding conversion of Rupsa-Bangriposi narrow gauge line in South Eastern Railway into broad gauge line ; and

(b) is so,, whether Government have taken any decision in regard to the memorandum ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Based on the recommendations of the Uneconomic Branch Lines Committee, 1969 a traffic survey has been carried out for the conversion of the Rupsa-Bangriposi-Talband N. G. line into B. G. and the report is at present under the examination of the Railway Board. A decision regarding this conversion will be taken after this examination is completed.

PROVISION OF SENIOR-SCALE STENOGRAPHERS FOR SENIOR SCALE OFFICERS OF NORTHERN RAILWAY

760. SHRI K. SRINIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether senior scale officers are provided with senior scale stenographers in the Northern Railway ;

(b) if so, the reasons for not providing senior scale stenographers to the D. M. O. and D. E. N./I, Bikaner ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Sanction exists for provision of a Stenographer in scale Rs. 210-425 to D. M. O. Bikaner, but the incumbent of the post against this sanction was being utilised elsewhere in the exigencies of work. The Railway Administration has since issued instructions to the

Divisional Superintendent, Bikaner, to post the Stenographer in question (in scale Rs. 210-425) with the D. M. O.

On a review of the postings of Stenographers with various officers, Northern Railway Administration issued orders on 31. 3. 72 that a Stenographer in grade Rs. 210-425 should be posted to D. E. N. I. However, the Stenographer nominated for the purpose has not yet started working with D. E. N. I. The Northern Railway Administration has been specially instructed to ensure that a Stenographer (scale Rs. 210-425) is posted to D. E. N. I. Bikaner with the least possible delay.

TRANSFERS OF SCHEDULED CASTES EMPLOYEES OF RAILWAYS

761. SHRI K. SRINIVASA RAO : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the orders issued by the Railway Board vide their letter No. E (SCT) 70CM/15/3 dated the 19th November, 1970 to the effect that transfers of scheduled castes employees shall be confined to their native districts are being implemented ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to get these orders implemented ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

NEED FOR PASSENGER TRAINS IN SOUTHERN ASSAM, MIZORAM AND TRIPURA

762. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the growing need of passenger trains in Southern Assam, Mizoram and Tripura ;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering any proposal to improve the hill section line between Lumding and Badarpur ; and

(c) whether Government are also considering nationlisation of the Katakhal-Lalaghat line and introduction of two more passenger trains between Lumding and Badarpur ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes.

(b) Not at present.

(c) No. The question of nationalisation will be examined when the next option to purchase the Katakhal-Lalabazar Light Railway falls due. Lumding-Badarpur section is, at present, served by 2 pairs of trains. Introduction of an additional train is, at present, operationally not feasible for want of capacity as the section is working to saturation.

TRADE WITH BANGLA DESH

763. SHRI N. R. CHOUDHURY: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any specific policy has been laid down by Government in regard to issuing of licences for trade with Bangla Desh; if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether educated unemployed would

be preferred to rich businessmen in the matters of issuing of such licences; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to enforce the said policy ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c) For items covered by the Limited Payments Arrangement with Bangladesh, the two Governments have agreed that the trade exchanges will be handled by the agencies indicated in the attached statements. Imports and exports of other commodities are allowed in accordance with the import, export and foreign exchange regulations and other procedures including customs formalities as may be in force from time to time. A copy each of the Indo-Bangladesh Trade Agreement and Public Notice No. 57-I-T. G. (P. N.)/72, dated 20th April have been placed in the Parliament Library.

STATEMENT I

Exports to Bangla Desh

Commodities/Goods	Value (Rs. lakhs)	Eligible Exporters in India	Eligible Importers in Bangladesh
1. Cement	450	State Trading Corporation.	Director of Supplies.
2. Asphalt	100	Indian Oil Corporation.	Director of Supplies.
3. Coal	400	Minerals & Metals Trading Corporation.	Coal Controller.
4. Cotton textiles	25	{ Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council.	Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.
5. Cotton yarn	150		
6. Tobacco unmanufactured.	1000	State Trading Corporation.	Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.
7. (i) Stone Boulders		(i) Eligible exporters.	(i) Director of Supplies and Bangladesh Railways.
(ii) Hard wood (including Sal and Teak).		(ii) Eligible Exporters.	(ii) Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.
(iii) Soft wood		(iii) Eligible exporters.	(iii) Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.
(iv) Barytes (white)		(iv) Eligible Exporters.	(iv) Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.
(v) Lime & Lime stone.		(v) Eligible Exporters.	(v) Bangladesh Industrial Development Corpn./Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.
(vi) Dolomite	100	(vi) Eligible Exporters.	(vi) Bangladesh Industrial Development Corporation/Trading Corporation of Bangladesh.