

imports are allowed are given in the Import Trade Control Policy (Red Book). As mentioned therein, import is allowed normally for hospital equipment and appliances, fountain pen nibs, razor blade, watch industry and other industrial uses except for manufacture of utensil cutlery, kitchen ware, table tops and furniture. Registered Exporters' Import Policy permits, however, import of stainless steel even for manufacture of utensils, cutlery etc. against export of stainless steel utensils, cutlery, etc.

*Imports (Gaugewise in tonnes)*

1968-69 1969-70 1970-71

(April-Sept. 70)

(i) Stainless steel sheet 1.26 mm and above but below 3 mm.	3774	2431	2145
(ii) Stainless steel sheet 0.9 mm to 0.56 mm thick.	350	89	36
(iii) Other stainless steel sheet below 3 mm thick.	2423	6765	2154
Total :	6547	9285	4335

**मेरठ सिटी रेलवे स्टेशन के प्लेटफार्मों का बढ़ाया जाना**

\*168. श्री मान सिंह वर्मा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि मेरठ सिटी रेलवे स्टेशन के दोनों प्लेटफार्मों को बढ़ाने और उनको शैंड द्वारा ढके जाने की योजना स्वीकृत हुई थी ।

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि उक्त निर्माण कार्य के लिए आवश्यक सामग्री भी सप्लाई कर दी गई थी किन्तु कुछ अज्ञात कारणों से उक्त सामग्री किसी दूसरे स्टेशन पर भेज दी गई और मेरठ सिटी स्टेशन पर कोई निर्माण कार्य नहीं किया गया ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं ?

†[EXTENSION OF PLATFORMS AT MEERUT CITY RAILWAY STATION

\*168. SHRI MAN SINGH VARMA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme to extend both of the platforms at the Meerut City Railway Station and to cover the same by sheds has been sanctioned ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the necessary material for the said construction work was also supplied but due to some unknown reasons the said material was sent some other station and no construction work was undertaken at the Meerut City Station ; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor ?]

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) और (ग) यह सही नहीं है कि इन कामों के सम्बन्ध में कोई निर्माण कार्य नहीं किया गया । वास्तव में दोनों प्लेटफार्मों के विस्तार का काम पहले ही पूरा हो चुका है और प्लेटफार्मों की वर्तमान छतों का विस्तार किया जा रहा है । लेकिन प्लेटफार्मों की छतों के कुल 800 फुट के अपेक्षित विस्तार में से 200 फुट विस्तार के लिए इस्पात का काम इस स्टेशन की अपेक्षा कुछ अन्य स्टेशनों पर किया गया क्योंकि वहां इसकी तत्काल आवश्यकता थी । इस्पात सम्बन्धी इस काम के अधिकांश भाग की आपूर्ति की जा चुकी है और आशा है कि यह काम 1971 के अन्त तक पूरा हो जायेगा ।

†[THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). It is not a fact that no construction work was undertaken in regard to these works. In fact, extension of both the

platforms has already been completed and extension of existing shelters on the platforms is also in progress. However, steel work for 200 ft. extension of the platform shelter out of a total requirement of 800 ft., was diverted to certain other stations on grounds of urgency. Most of this steelwork has since been recouped and the work is expected to be completed by the end of 1971.

#### THEFTS IN RUNNING TRAINS

\*169. SHRI K. SUNDARAM : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of thefts in running trains, thefts of overhead wiring, stoppage of trains by alarm chain pulling and the number of occasions on which the Railway Protection Force had to open fire showed alarming increase in 1970-71 as compared to 1969-70 ;

(b) if so, the comparative details thereof

showing the number of persons died, if any, as result of RPF firing ;

(c) the loss suffered by Government as a result thereof ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to minimise such incidents ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes, there has been some increase.

(b) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

A comparative statement indicating the number of cases pertaining to running train thefts, thefts of overhead wiring, stoppage of trains by alarm chain pulling and firings resorted to by the Railway Protection Force during the year 1970-71, as compared to 1969-70 is given below :

	Year	No. of Cases	Approximate loss due to property stolen
			Rs.
Running train thefts	1969-70	988	12, 12, 690
	1970-71	1112	16, 29, 056
Overhead wire thefts	1969-70	467	16, 11, 805
	1970-71	676	33, 05, 009
Alarm chain pulling ;	1969-70	262558	Not possible to assess the loss.
	1970-71 (upto Jan. 1971)	297355	
			No. of persons killed
Firings	1969-70	104	48
	1970-71	158	77

I. The following preventive steps are being taken to minimise the incidence of thefts in running trains :

(1) Proper rivetting, E. P. locking (E. P. Ellis Patent) and pad locking of wagons carrying valuables is insisted upon to prevent criminal interference.

(2) Escorting of goods trains carrying valuable consignments/foodgrains in open wagons is done by R.P.F. personnel, specially in vulnerable sections. Patrolling by armed R.P.F. personnel as well as dog squads in affected places is also undertaken.

(3) Intelligence staff of the R. P .F. are