

Government account during the year 1968 and so far during 1969 at the instance of his Ministry;

(b) the countries which were visited in each case and the duration of such visits;

(c) the amount of money spent on each visit along with the foreign exchange involved;

(d) the precise nature of advantage that accrued to Government as a result of such visits;

(e) whether any agreements were concluded; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) to (f) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [-See Appendix LXVII. Annexure No. 76]

*515 [Transferred to the 25th March, 1969]

THEFTS AT JAMALPUR Loco WORKSHOP

*516. SHRI S. A. KHAJA MOHI-DEEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Crime Bureau of the Railways have recently unearthed a gang responsible for large scale thefts of non-ferrous material from the Jamalpur Loco Workshop;

(b) if so, the number of persons, so far, arrested in this connection;

(c) whether it is also a fact that some leading businessmen are associated with this gang; and

(d) what action Government propose to take against the persons who have been arrested in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Five.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Cases have been registered under Railway Property (Unlawful Possession) Act, 1966 and are being investigated.

*517. [Transferred to the 26th March, 1969.]

EXTENSION OF NEW BONGA GAUhati RAIL LINK

*518. SHRI G. BARBORA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Board has recently sanctioned Rs. 9 lakhs survey work in connection with the proposed extension of the broad gauge railway line from New Bongaigaon to Gauhati;

(b) if so, the time likely to be taken to complete the survey work and to start the actual extension work on the line; and

(c) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to extend the broad gauge line from Gauhati to Dibrugarh?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Preliminary Engineering and Traffic Surveys have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 2,88,424 for considering the conversion of the Bongaigaon-Gauhati MG section into BG.

(b) The survey is likely to be completed by the end of this year. The actual conversion of this section is dependant on the results of the surveys, the priority this work will merit among similar other proposals and the availability of funds.

(c) Not at present.