

| As on 1st January | Indians | Per-centage | Non-Indians | Per-centage |
|-------------------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1964 | 165 | 16.8 | 815 | 83.2 |
| 1965 | 222 | 21.0 | 837 | 79.0 |
| 1966 | 283 | 24.8 | 859 | 75.2 |
| 1967 | 371 | 25.7 | 1072 | 74.3 |

(c) Government have been able to secure increasingly higher percentage of employment for Indian nationals by following a policy of persuasion.

FAIR PRICES OF TRACTORS AND AGRICULTURAL MACHINERY

10. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by the Committee set up last year by Government to fix fair prices of tractors and agricultural machinery after the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 was made applicable to them ;

(b) whether Government have received complaints to the effect that no tractor is available in the market on the price fixed by Government ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) The Tariff Commission had been requested to institute a regular inquiry and recommend fair selling prices of tractors. The report of the Commission has been received and examined by Government. The recommendations made by the Commission and the decisions of Government thereon were announced through a Resolution bearing No. 5/44/67-AE.II, dated the 3rd June, 1968, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

EXPLORATION OF MICA AND GYPSUM DEPOSITS IN KASHMIR

11. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether rich deposits of Mica and Gypsum have recently been found in Kashmir ;

(b) whether any survey about the economic feasibility for undertaking exploration of the deposits has been made ; and

(c) if so, the results thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHOWDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c) No occurrences of mica have been recorded in Kashmir. However, deposits of gypsum from various areas in Kashmir State have been found. The estimated reserves are of the order of about 91 million tonnes. The exploitation of the deposits will be considered by the State Government.

रेलवे में बेकार पड़े रेलवे इंजन

12. श्री सूरज प्रसाद : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रेलवे प्रशासन के पास इस समय कितने देशी तथा विदेशी रेलवे इंजन बेकार पड़े हुए हैं और उनकी कीमत कितनी है ; और

(ख) पिछले दो वर्षों में कितने डीजल इंजन रेलवे प्रशासन द्वारा चलाए गए हैं और आगामी दो वर्षों में कितने और इंजन चलाने का अनुमान है ?

†[LOCOMOTIVES LYING IDLE WITH THE RAILWAYS

12. SHRI SURAJ PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of indigenously manufactured and imported locomotives which are lying idle with the Railway administration at present and the cost thereof ; and

(b) the number of diesel engines put into service by the Railway administration during the last two years and the number of engines expected to be put into service in the next two years ?]

†[] English translation.

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० एम० पुनाचा) : (क) रेलवे प्रशासन के पास देशी या विदेशी कोई रेल इंजन बेकार नहीं पड़े हुए हैं। लेकिन 31-8-68 को बड़ी लाइन के 77 और मीटर लाइन के 80 रेल इंजन ठीक हालत में रखे हुए थे ताकि यातायात को देखते हुए यदि आवश्यक हो, तो उनका इस्तेमाल किया जा सके।

(ख) 1966-67 और 1967-68 में 166 डीजल रेल इंजन चलाये गये जब कि 1968-69 और 1969-70 में 265 डीजल रेल इंजन चलाये जाने की आशा है।

†[THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) No locomotive either imported or of indigenous manufacture is lying idle with the Railway administration. On 31-8-68, 77 B.G. and 80 M.G. locomotives were however kept in good order to meet fluctuations of traffic.

(b) The number of diesel locomotives put into service during the years 1966-67 and 1967-68 was 166 while the number of diesel locomotives expected to be put into service during 1968-69 and 1969-70 will be 265.]

BARTER TRADE AGREEMENTS

13. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) the names of countries with which India has barter trade agreements ;

(b) whether efforts have been made to enter into similar agreements with other countries to whom India is at present required to pay in foreign exchange for items of import; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) to (c) India has not entered into any barter trade agreement on a country to country basis. Barter trade agreements are usually between firms in India and those outside India through the agency of the STC or MMTC. India has entered into bilateral trade agreements with other countries, mainly with countries in Eastern Europe, but these

†[] English translation.

cannot be described as barter agreements. It is also not proposed to enter into barter trade agreements with other countries on a country to country basis.

TOTAL LENGTH OF NEW RAILWAY LINES

14. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the total length of new Railway lines laid during the last five years (zone-wise) in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : The total length of new Railway lines laid during the last five years (zone-wise) is as follows :—

| | Km. |
|--------------------------------|----------------|
| (1) Central Railway | 101.98 |
| (2) Eastern Railway | 234.59 |
| (3) Northern Railway | 164.21 |
| (4) North-Eastern Rly. | 12.75 |
| (5) Northeast Frontier Railway | 447.55 |
| (6) Southern Railway | 147.90 |
| (7) South-Eastern Rly. | 141.34 |
| (8) Western Railway | 262.52 |
| GRAND TOTAL | 1512.84 |

TRACTOR MANUFACTURE WITH CZECH COLLABORATION

15. SHRI CHITTA BASU : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the reply to the Unstarred Question No. 17 given in Rajya Sabha on the 22nd July, 1968 and state :

(a) the nature of the modified report received from the Czech Agency with regard to manufacture of agricultural tractors ;

(b) in what way, the nature of this report differs from the previous report ; and

(c) what are the reasons for not taking a decision on the report ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) Reference is invited to