

- (ii) South Central Railway
—1,73,606
- (b) Amount collected from ticketless passengers during the period was:
- (i) Central Railway—
Rs. 22,89,688
- (ii) South Central Railway—
Rs. 7,64,649
- (c) Special steps taken to check ticketless travel on these Railways are :—
- (i) Frequent surprise checks, with adequate strength of ticket checking staff, R.P.F. and G.R.P., accompanied by Railway Magistrates, using road transport for the movement of the checking party, wherever possible.
- (ii) Intensive and prolonged checks at important stations.
- (iii) Association of student volunteers with such checks, wherever feasible ; and
- (iv) An educational campaign through the Press and the public address system provided at stations and by arranging lectures in educational institutions.

PRODUCTION OF RADIOS AND TRANSISTORS IN SMALL SECTOR

2. SHRI G. R. PATIL : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) the total number of units in the small scale sector manufacturing radios and transistors in the country;
- (b) the total number of radios and transistors manufactured by these units during the last three years;
- (c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the fall in production due to restriction on import of radio components; and
- (d) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) 1,500.

(b) The total number of radios and transistors manufactured in Small Scale Sector is given below :

(Unit: In lakh nos.)

1964-65....	3.5
1965-66....	4.2
1966-67.....	5.5

(c) and (d) In view of (b) above, the question does not arise.

'INCENTIVE RATES' FOR GOODS TRAFFIC ON RAILWAYS

3. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have examined the desirability of introducing 'incentive rates' for the bulk movement of goods in goods trains in order to induce more traffic as has been done in the U.S.A. for transportation of commodities like barley, rye, wheat, dry fertilisers, urea, newsprint, vegetables etc.; and

(b) if so, what are the results of the examination ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA) : (a) Yes. Freight charges for traffic in full wagon loads are charged at rates considerably lower than the rates for smalls.

Certain traffic, by its very nature, is already moving in train loads. The question whether movement in train loads can be further induced by some reduction in freight charges is under examination.

(b) The examination has not yet been completed.

MISUSE OF IMPORT LICENCES

4. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 643 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th August, 1968 and state :

(a) what action has been taken against the firms for the misuse of import licences during the last five years ;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the adverse comments made against M/s Aminchand Pyarelal Group in the Sarkar Committee's Report on Steel Transaction and misuse of import licenses against barter deals by the said firm ; and

(c) what measures have been taken by Government to arrest such practices in future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) The information is contained in the statement already laid on the Table of the House in fulfilment of the Assurance given in reply to Starred Question No. 643 in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th August, 1968.

(b) The Report of the Committee of Inquiry (Steel Transactions) was considered by Government and their decisions are contained in Department of Iron & Steel Resolution No. SC-II-14 (3)/68, dated the 10th May, 1968, which was placed on the Table of the House on the same day.

(c) Misuse of import licences is punishable under the Imports & Exports (Control) Act, 1947, by way of prosecution and by departmental action of debarment from receiving any import or export licence for specified periods.

STEPS TO ENCOURAGE INDIGENOUS RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY SERVICES

5. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have since evolved a rational policy on the Foreign Collaboration Patents, Technical Know-how, Fees etc. with a view to encourage the indigenous research and consultancy services ; and

(b) what positive steps Government have taken to stop the import of goods while such goods are produced indigenously particularly engineering items, agricultural implements, marine diesel engines, light planes and rice mills etc. ?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED) : (a) With a view to encouraging indigenous research and consultancy services, each proposal involving foreign collaboration is examined in detail by Government. Some of the aspects which are *inter alia* considered are (i) whether the technology involved is not indigenously available, (ii) whether the import of capital goods involved is of such a high order that

without the collaboration proposal the implementation of the scheme would involve an avoidable drain on the foreign exchange resources of the country ; (iii) whether the approval of the collaboration will jeopardise the industries already existing in that particular field or in associated fields of industry and (iv) whether the proposal would involve any undue exploitation of foreign patents, trade names etc. Encouragement is also being given to the establishment of Indian Consultancy Organisations so as to minimise the need for utilising the services of foreign consultants.

(b) The general policy of the Government is not to permit import of items which are produced in the country or for which there is unutilised capacity. The import policy is constantly kept under review and having regard to indigenous production, suitable changes are made where necessary.

SCHEMES TO CHECK LOSSES TO HINDUSTAN STEEL LIMITED

6. SHRI A. G. KULKARNI: SHRI JAGAT NARAIN :

Will the Minister of STEEL, MINES AND METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any schemes have been formulated to bring down the cumulative losses of the Hindustan Steel Ltd., amounting to Rs. 120 crores, by retrenchment of staff, operational improvements and economy in the use of coal, during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details of the schemes for each of the plants, worked out together with the estimated economy estimated to be effected; and

(c) whether private industrialists were consulted while formulating these schemes ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (SHRI CHAUDHARY RAM SEWAK) : (a) to (c) The measures taken/being taken to improve the working of Hindustan Steel Limited have been spelt out in the Pamphlet entitled "Performance of Hindustan Steel Limited" laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on the 5th April, 1968 (copies made available to the Parliament Library). This integrated programme