

All these proposals are under examination of present.

**FOREIGN COLLABORATION FOR EXPLORATION AND MINING OF ROCK PHOSPHATE**

\*193. **SARDAR RAM SINGH**: Will the Minister of **STEEL, MINES AND METALS** be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 114 in the Rajya Sabha on the 10th November, 1966 and state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised the agreement with Messrs. Sofremines of France for technical assistance for exploration and mining of rock phosphate deposits in U.P. and Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement reached?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. M. CHANNA REDDY)**: (a) No, Sir. However, a proposal for technical assistance from M/s. Sofremines in this project is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

**EDIBLE OILS**

\*194. **SHRIMATI TARA RAM-CHANDRA SATHE**: Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state:

(a) the total annual requirement of edible oils in the country;

(b) the total annual production of edible oils in the country; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange involved in the import of edible oils in the financial year 1966-67?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH)**: (a) The total annual requirement of edible oils in the country is estimated to be of the order of 2.4 million tonnes.

(b) The total estimated production of edible oils in the country during 1965-66 is 1.591 million tonnes.

(c) No separate foreign exchange allocation has been made for the import of edible oils for the financial year 1966-67. However, Mustard Oil

worth Rs. 1.86 lakhs and Soyabean Oil worth Rs. 378.78 lakhs have been imported during April 1966 to November 1966. The figures for the later period are not available.

**PRODUCTION OF H.M.T. WATCHES**

\*195. **SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA**: Will the Minister of **INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the annual production of H.M.T. watches;

(b) what is the annual demand of these watches; and

(c) what are the export figures of these watches during the last two years and to which countries they were exported?

**THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED)**: (a) 2,40,000 watches.

(b) This is roughly estimated to be 1 million numbers a year.

(c) During 1965-66, 1680 watches were exported to U.K., U.S.A., and Canada and during 1966-67 (up to February 1967), 714 watches were exported to U.K., West Germany, Holland, Canada, U.S.A., Uganda, Kenya, Kuwait and New Zealand.

**BLENDING OF SUPERIOR COAL WITH MEDIUM AND LOWER GRADES OF COKING COAL**

\*196. **SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL**: Will the Minister of **STEEL MINES AND METALS** be pleased to state the steps being taken by Government for enforcing blending of superior coal with medium and lower grades of coking coal and for saving coking coal from being put to wrong uses?

**THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. M. CHANNA REDDY)**: The panning for production of coking coal has been proceeding on the basis that the steel plants will progressively use higher propor-

tion of medium coking coal and of blendable coal.

There is, at present, some surplus production of coking coal mainly in lower grades which has been released temporarily for non-metallurgical purposes. The development programme of coking coal during the Fourth Plan period is, however, being adjusted so as to match the demand.

### गुलाबगंज में पठानकोट एक्सप्रेस का रुकना

\*197. श्री निरंजन वर्मा : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पठानकोट एक्सप्रेस सेंट्रल रेलवे के झांसी डिब्बोजन के गुलाबगंज रेलवे स्टेशन पर गत आम चुनावों के दरम्यान रुकने लगी है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किस तारीख से यह गाड़ी रुकने लगी थी ;

(ग) क्या वहां इससे रोके जाने के लिए कोई मांग की गई थी ; और

(घ) यह मांग किन बातों के आधार पर स्वीकार की गई ?

†[STOPPAGE OF PATHANKOT EXPRESS AT GULABGANJ

\*197. SHRI NIRANJAN VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Pathankot Express began to stop at Gulabganj, Railway station of Jhansi Division on Central Railway during the last General Elections;

(b) if so, the date from which the train began to stop there;

(c) whether any demand was made for its stoppage there; and

(d) the grounds under which the demand was acceded to?]

रेल मंत्री (श्री सी० एम० पुनचा) :

(क) से (घ) नं० 57 डा न 58 अप पठानकोट एक्सप्रेस गाड़ियों को 26-1-1967 से परीक्षण के रूप में केवल तीन महीने के लिए गुलाबगंज स्टेशन पर ठहराने की व्यवस्था की गयी है, क्योंकि इस आशय का अभ्यावेदन मिला था कि गुलाबगंज अनाज की मंडी एक बड़ी और उन्नतिशील मंडी है और इस कस्बे का विकास हो रहा है इस कारण इन गाड़ियों यहां ठहराने से इस क्षेत्र के बहुत से लोगों को लाभ होगा ।

†[THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) to (d) Nos. 57 Dn/58 Up Pathankot Expresses were provided stoppages at Gulabganj station as an experimental measure for a period of only three months from 26th January, 1967 as it was represented that Gulabganj, being a big and thriving grain mandi and a developing town the stoppage would benefit large numbers of people in that area.]

### PRODUCTION OF VEGETABLE OILS

119. SHRI RAMPRASANNA RAY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of Mustard Oil, Coconut Oil, Linseed Oil, Castor Oil, Mahua Oil and other important vegetable oils in tonnage in each State and Territory of Indian Union year-wise since 1950-51 upto 1966-66;

(b) the average annual price in whole of India of the above oils year-wise since 1950-51 up to 1965-66;

(c) the total capital invested (fixed and working), and number of workers engaged (direct and indirect) in the Vegetable Oil Mills Industry in India as a whole on 31st March 1966; and