

INDIAN SHOW ROOMS ABROAD

*184. SHRI M. D. NARAYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Government of India Show Rooms and Trade Centres existing abroad at present;

(b) how many of them are being supervised by the Ministry of Commerce and the number of those that are linked with and supervised by Indian Embassies; and

(c) the amount of orders received and supplied through these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) The following is a list of Showrooms/Trade Centres maintained by the Government of India.

1. Cairo (U.A.R.) Trade Centre.
2. Baghdad (Iraq).
3. Beirut (Lebanon).
4. Bangkok (Thailand).
5. Tehran (Iran).
6. Legos (Nigeria).
7. Kabul (Afghanistan).
8. Jeddah (Saudi Arabia).
9. Khartoum (Sudan).
10. Bahrain (Persian Gulf).

(b) All these Showrooms are at present directly supervised by Indian Missions, but it has been decided to transfer S. Nos. 1—7 to the State Trading Corporation of India and to close down S. Nos. 8 and 9 with effect from 1-4-1967. The future of the Showroom at S. No. 10 is under examination.

(c) Trade enquiries received as a result of displays in the Showrooms/Trade Centres are immediately passed on to the Indian exporters concerned who get directly in touch with

foreign importers. Since Indian businessmen or foreign importers do not generally report to the Showroom authorities or this Ministry the business secured by them as a result of these trade enquiries, it is not possible to assess separately the volume of business materialising through Showrooms.

COAL FOR EXPORT

*185. SHRI SURJIT SINGH ATWAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for sparing larger quantities of superior grades of coal from internal consumption for export?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): The possibilities of export of superior grades of coal are being examined by the Government.

भिलाई इस्पात कारखाने में काम का
निलम्बित किया जाना

*186. पंडित भवानी प्रसाद
तिवारी : क्या इस्पात, खान और धातु मंत्री
यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भिलाई
इस्पात कारखाने की छठवीं धमन भट्टी का
निर्माण कार्य निलम्बित कर दिया गया है,
जिससे मजदूर बेकार पड़े हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो कार्य को शीघ्रता
से करने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही
है ?

† [SUSPENSION OF WORK AT BHILAI
STEEL PLANT

*186. PT. BHAWAN PRASAD: TI-
WARY: Will the Minister of STEEL,
MINES AND METALS be pleased to
state:

(a) whether it is a fact that construction work of the sixth blast furnace of the Bhilai Steel Plant has

† [] English translation

been suspended thereby rendering the workers idle; and

(b) if so, what action is being taken to expedite the work?]

इस्पात, खान और धातु मंत्री (डॉ० एम० चन्ना रेड्डी): (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

†[THE MINISTER OF STEEL, MINES AND METALS (DR. M. CHANNA REDDY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.]

EXPORT OF TEA TO U.K.

*187. SHRI G. R. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starr-ed Question No. 625 in the Rajya Sabha on 8th December, 1966 and state:

(a) the total quantity of tea exported to United Kingdom during the year 1966-67;

(b) whether there has been a shortfall in export of tea to that country; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) and (b) During the first eleven months of 1966-67, India's exports of tea to U.K. stand tentatively at 96.3 million kilograms as against her export of 98.4 million kilograms during the corresponding period of 1965-66. The shortfall is 2.1 million kgs.

(c) In 1966 U.K. imported about 234 million kgs. of tea as against 254 million kilograms in 1965. Her purchases from the African countries in 1966 were also higher than those in 1965. Consequently there is a fall in the share of India in the U.K. market.

†[] English translation.

RAILWAYS IN PUNJAB DURING FOURTH FIVE YEAR PLAN

*188. SHRI NARINDER SINGH BRAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places in Punjab which are to be covered by Railways during the Fourth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether the Government of Punjab has forwarded any scheme in this connection to the Government of India; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): (a) The proposals for construction of new railway lines during the Fourth Plan have not yet been finalised.

(b) and (c) The following new lines have been proposed by the State Government of Punjab for construction in the Fourth Plan:—

1. Chandigarh-Ludhiana (BG, 84 KMs.)
2. Nangal-Talwara (BG, 90 KMs)
3. Gohana-Panipat (Restoration) (BG, 39 KMs.)

MERGER OF MINING AND ALLIED MACHINERY CORPORATION, DURGAPUR, WITH H. E. C. RANCHI.

*189. SHRI A. D. MANI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of the USSR has proposed that the Mining and Allied Machinery Corporation of Durgapur should be merged with the Heavy Engineering Corporation at Ranchi; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this merger?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED): (a) and (b) During the