

lizer factories, these things are going on from year to year without any progress made. Will Government take a definite decision and start work so that even after five years the same thing may not be repeated?

**SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA:** It is true that some licences were granted to private parties in these States and they have not effectively materialised so far. That is why the Government has been thinking of a paper corporation.

**SHRI M. M. DHARIA:** Is the Government aware that the co-operative sugar factories in Maharashtra State have sent up their proposals to manufacture newsprint out of bagasse, which is just a waste at the present time? And if that proposal is accepted, the foreign exchange that we shall have to provide otherwise for such factories would be overcome within one year. When that is the state of affairs, may we know why this proposal is not being considered by the Government and why delay is being caused to this proposal? What are the difficulties?

**SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA:** Madam, this question, I think, came up also last week when I said . . .

**SHRI C. D. PANDE:** Last year also.

**SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA:** A letter of intent has been issued to the particular co-operative society, and the co-operative society in collaboration with the Government of Maharashtra is trying to get the project report from a foreign team for which, we are told, a Secretary of the Maharashtra Government is proceeding abroad.

**THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN:** Next question.

\*480. [The questioner (Shri N. Shri Rama Reddy) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3453 infra.]

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF TRADE AGREEMENTS

\*481. **SHRI M. S. OBEROI:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of implementation of different trade agreements between India and foreign countries concerned after devaluation of the Indian rupee; and

(b) whether any foreign country has suspended or curtailed its assistance to influence implementation of any agreement signed with it before devaluation about trade and Commerce between the two countries?

**THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

(b) No, Madam.

#### STATEMENT

(a) There was no effect on a majority of Trade Agreements between India and foreign countries. However, in the case of those countries with whom we had bilateral trade arrangements, the even flow of trade was affected. This led to negotiations with those countries. The results were as follows:—

In the case of all East European countries and U.A.R. it was agreed to revalue the existing but not yet executed contracts or unimplemented portion of contracts for export/import of goods on the 6th June 1966 by enhancing the value of those contracts by 57.5 per cent. In the case of USSR the existing export contracts were enhanced by 47.5 per cent.

On the conclusion of negotiations, the smooth flow of trade has been resumed.

SHRI AKBAR ALI KHAN: Has the Government taken into consideration the fact that the United Nations have declared 1967 as the Tourism Year? In view of that what further arrangements are being made?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Because Mr. Oberoi is interested in tourism, the hon. Member thought that he had the question on tourism. He has not asked on tourism.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

\*482. [The questioner (Shri Banka Behary Das) was absent. For answer, vide col. 3454 infra.]

DIRECT TRAIN FROM DELHI TO NANGAI AND BACK

\*483. SHRI R. P. KHAITAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made in respect of the proposal to run a direct train from Delhi to Nangal Dam and back; and

(b) whether recently a representation from the public has been received by the Railways for early implementation of the proposal in view of heavy traffic on the route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b) In response to public representations, including those received recently, the question of introduction of a direct train between Delhi/New Delhi and Nangal Dam has been examined several times in the recent past. The proposal has neither been found justified, having regard to the present level of through traffic; nor is it operationally feasible for want of spare line capacity on Delhi—Ambala section and terminal facilities at Delhi/New Delhi at present.

SHRI P. K. KUMARAN: May I know, Madam, whether the question

of introducing a direct train between Delhi and Hyderabad has also been examined?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Of course the demand is being repeatedly made and we have extended some facilities, and added more coaches on that line, but at the moment it is not possible to run a direct train.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Next question.

WORKING OF CEMENT DECONTROL

\*484. SHRI SITARAM JAIPURIA: SARDAR RAM SINGH:†

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to study the working of the cement decontrol; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI BIBUDHENDRA MISRA):

(a) and (b) Cement was decontrolled with effect from 1-1-66 for a period of one year subject to a review at the end of the period. The working of cement decontrol so far is at present under review and a meeting with representatives of Cement Manufacturer's Association and Cement Allocation & Coordination Organisation of the cement industry was also held on 15-11-66 for the purpose. The matter is still under consideration.

SARDAR RAM SINGH: Is the Government aware that cement is not available to the public after its decontrol, that because of shortage of cement, cement is not available in the market?

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Sardar Ram Singh.