

and accidents, and in view of the fact that there has not been modernisation of safety measures in our country in the running of the Railways, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he does not feel the necessity for appointing a high-power committee to enquire into all these allegations and beliefs of the people so that it may go into them and make a final report in order that the people's faith and that of the railway passengers may be restored?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: The hon. Member has simply repeated the questions that the other Members had asked. I would say once again that so far as accidents are concerned only two are really most unfortunate, where people died and in them there have been admissions in the enquiry. They have said everything about it and there is no question of any management. In the worst accident at Matunga station the man said that he gave the signal and had gone. I don't know what sat on him, what ghost sat on him, but he went back again and set the point. He said the train was coming he was afraid and he ran away. So it happened. There is no question of any management in it. It is human failure and in it unfortunately 68 lives were lost. In another accident near Ajmer also it is given in the enquiry—I am not saying it on my own—that the train was standing and the Station Master could see it within a few feet and in spite of that he gave the signal for another train to come there. It was nothing about which the management could have done anything.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Is it not a fact that in the British days there was a special Railway Police organisation which had exclusive operational jurisdiction over the Railways and which operated under the

Central Government? What happened to that Central Railway Police?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: We have now got our organisation called the Railway Protection Force and the States have another organisation which is in charge of law and order. In the recent meeting of the Chief Ministers I posed this problem to them that in view of what is happening whether the Railways should amend the Act and take some more responsibilities. There is a consensus of opinion that that should not be done because law and order is the exclusive privilege of the States and they are not prepared to part with it. And thinking for myself, I am also feeling that when I want their co-operation it is no use passing some law whereby the Railways take all the responsibility on themselves and they say that they have nothing to do with it. This is a matter where a decision has to be very carefully taken.

EXPORT OF MOTOR VEHICLES TO NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM

*97 { **SHRI ARJUN ARORA†:**
SHRI M. AJMAL KHAN:
SHRI NIREN GHOSH:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of trucks, cars and scooters exported to (i) South Vietnam Nam and (ii) North Viet-Nam respectively during the year 1965-66; and

(b) the amount of foreign exchange earned as a result thereof?

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

The following types of commercial vehicles were exported during 1965-66, to North and South Vietnam.

STATEMENT

Descriptions of articles	Quantity		Value	
	North Vietnam	South Vietnam	North Vietnam	South Vietnam
1. Motor car new	—	5 Nos.	—	94,920
2. Buses	—	9 Nos.	—	3,20,648
3. Breakdown lorry	—	5 Nos.	—	97,320
4. Chassis with engine mounted	—	31 Nos.	—	6,14,141
5. Bodies, chassis, frames and other parts of motor vehicles	—	21,358 Kg.	—	1,65,602
6. Motor cycle parts and accessories	—	33,361 Kg.	—	41,142
			TOTAL	13,33,773

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Arjun Arora.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : May I know whether before exporting chassis, cars, lorries and what not the Government made sure that the goods exported from India would not be put to military use by the Government of South Vietnam?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : First I must make it clear that none of these vehicles is of a military type. If an ordinary vehicle of a commercial type goes, they can put it to any use they like.

SHRI ARJUN ARORA : The statement shows that there has been no export of any of these items to North Vietnam. May I know what is responsible for it? Did the Government try to negotiate some trade with North Vietnam or not?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : The point is, all this is private trade. There is no Government to Government trade with either of the countries. If the North Vietnam authorities want to buy goods from India they are most welcome to do so.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH : May I know whether it is fact that in 1960-61 TELCO was exporting military trucks or something like that to South Vietnam and since the Minister himself has admitted that these exports can be put to military use, may I know whether the Government of India is not directly helping the military aggression in South Vietnam? May I also know whether exports are being permitted from India under the orders of USAID and whether the Government of India will stop this practice of helping aggression in South Vietnam by the stooges and American imperialists?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : The whole question is being misunderstood. Normal trade goes on with countries with which we have no hostilities. There are so many scuffles going on in different parts of the world and if every time the trade is to be governed by so many protocols no trade can take place. We are not, as Government, assisting in any trade with these countries.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : The hon. Minister has said that the normal trade is going on but we do not see this thing in the case of South Africa and rightly so. We do not send anything there at all because of a particular attitude of the South African Government with regard to racial discrimination. Not only we do not

send anything but we ask others also not to send anything. But how is it that we trade with them when everybody knows that the policy of the United State of America in South Vietnam is to ensure some kind of physical presence of India there through such trucks, medical missions and so on, when these things are taken not only for military use which they certainly do but also to tell the South Vietnamese and others that India is helping the American troops and that India is on the side of South Vietnam? That is why they are taking these trucks and other things. How is it the Government of India makes proposals for peace and other things in Vietnam, talks of all kinds of things and at the same time they do not even stop sending these trucks which are convertible? I should also like to know from the hon. Minister how many such trucks have been sent there from TELCO alone. I think these things should be made clear and the world should know how the Government is behaving.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : If the hon. Member had asked me a question as to how much was exported last year I would have given him the figures which would have either displeased him or pleased him. But this is the normal trade that is flowing. We take care to see that no military equipment goes from this country. And what is the amount here? The total with regard to North Vietnam and South Vietnam comes to about Rs. 13 lakhs and it is hardly likely to make any change in the picture.

श्री रामकुमार भुवालका : क्या मंत्री जी बताएंगे कि जितनी ट्रक्स, कारें बगैरह गई हैं वे कौन-कौनसी हैं, कितनी कितनी ह, कहाँ-कहाँ गई हैं और उनकी कीमत क्या है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : स्टेटमेंट पढ़िए । उसमें सब दिया हुआ है ।

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : Sir, may I ask the hon. Minister....

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Humbug Government....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Please put your question.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : . . . humming the world.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : If I have his permission I might proceed.

Now the total quantum indicated in the statement is Rs. 13 lakhs. May I ask if the attention of the hon. Minister was drawn to the fact that such vehicles were being exported to South Vietnam and whether the Government passed a specific order? Secondly, what is the total quantum of exports from India to South Vietnam and North Vietnam of other commodities?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : The Government passes no order on every shipping Bill. It is an impossible task. With countries with whom we have direct hostilities as during some conflict we actually direct the trade by protocols and notifications. There is no such notification in the case of either of the two countries. Therefore the trade flows normally.

SHRI I. K. GUJRAL : What about the figures of exports of other commodities?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : If you ask a question I might be able to give. I am not keeping all the data with me.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : India is the Chairman of the International Control Commission and India is also a signatory to the Geneva Agreement and one of the terms of the Geneva Agreement is that no military equipment should be imported into South Vietnam.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : This is no military equipment.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE : Nothing that could be used for military purposes should be allowed to be imported into South Vietnam. As Chairman of the International Control Commission India has a duty to see that no such military goods are imported into South Vietnam. In that context, will the hon. Minister tell the House why actually he has taken steps to export goods which may be used for military purposes to South Vietnam, goods including military type vehicles?

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH : This has been completely taken into account and I mentioned so.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : Sir, may I ask . . . (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : You have put two questions and you now propose to put a third?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : No, Sir. Not third; this is my second question. I am not asking many questions. The point is this; you kindly allow me. You know I do not ask other questions.

Now, India has been Chairman of the International Control Commission and under the Geneva Agreement there should be no military build-up. And in some of the reports of the International Control Commission it has been pointed out—even otherwise everybody knows that—that there are plenty of soldiers and we know they are puppet troops of the Americans. And all the materials are now put to military uses. Some of these trucks are certainly convertible; we have found it out from the Telco; the Union is there. May I know why the Government is not taking this aspect into account that when they send these trucks they are liable to be put to military use as in fact they are being used? When Manchuria was attacked by Japan the Congress did not send anything; they asked the British not to send anything and not only that, they sent a medical mission to support the victims of aggression led by Dr. Kotnis. We know how the Congress used to behave on similar occasions. But how is it when Vietnam has been turned into a military base which is not now denied and the abolition of which is asked for by the Government . . .

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA : What is the question, Sir? He is going on.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Mr. Bhupesh Gupta cannot be brief.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA : But this is Question Hour; it is not to be converted into discussion or a debate.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA : It is a question. I am asking this because one thing you go and tell Moscow and another thing you do here.

That is why I am asking it. Now, therefore, I want to know clearly from the Government why this military build-up is being helped, aggressive forces are being helped directly with material assistance on the part of the Government of India. I should like to know why these things are not being stopped. Therefore, this matter should be answered in that light, not technically in the way the hon. Minister has done it.

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: On a point of order . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: What is your point of order? Do you want to say that this question should not have been put?

SHRI A. P. CHATTERJEE: I put a question, but the hon. Minister did not answer it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is not a point of order. You were rising on a point of order when Mr. Bhupesh Gupta had put his question. So, I presumed that your point of order was against his question.

DR. M. M. S. SIDDHU: On a point of order. May I know, Sir, whether any Member can ask a question on behalf of Moscow or for the knowledge of Moscow?

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: I have never done that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A Member can say everything that I allow him to say.

SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH: Does the hon. Member suggest that we should have no trade with these two countries? Here we are having open trade with all these countries, excepting that no military type of equipment is being sent. This we take care of.

FIFTH STEEL PLANT

*98. **SHRI M. V. BHADRAM†:**
SHRIMATI C. AMMANNA RAJA:
SHRI N. R. M. SWAMY:
SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY:
SHRIMATI LALITHA RAJA-GOPALAN:

Will the Minister of IRON AND STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether any final decision has been taken regarding the location of the fifth Steel Plant in the public sector; and

(b) if so, the name of the place selected for location of the plant together with its size and the investment involved in it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRON AND STEEL (SHRI P. C. SETHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM: It is already more than a year since the report has been received by the Government. How long will the Government take to come to a decision in the matter?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: We are still having final discussions with the Planning Commission and as soon as it is cleared by them we will put up a note to the Cabinet, when we will be able to take a decision.

SHRI M. V. BHADRAM: The Prime Minister during her recent tour of Andhra and particularly at Vishakapatnam told an all-Party deputation that there was no argument against Vishakapatnam for the fifth steel plant being located there. Will the Minister give an assurance that when it is decided, it will be decided accordingly?

SHRI P. C. SETHI: All the points which have been put forward by the Consortium will be placed before the Cabinet and they will take a decision in the light of all the views before them.

SHRI M. S. GURUPADA SWAMY: This question has been there since very long and there has been thinking, rethinking and re-rethinking on this and there seems to be no end to this kind of thinking. For some time past there has been a report that the Prime Minister has said that instead of one plant, there may be a number of small plants located in various States and I want to know whether this is also being considered. I would like to

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri M. V. Bhadrām.