

industrial specialists visited this country in October, 1964; and

(b) if so, what was the object and outcome of their visit?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : (a) It is understood that a delegation of industrial specialists from E. Germany visited India in October, 1964.

(b) The Government of India have not received any report about the outcome of their visit.

RAIL CONCESSION FOR STUDENTS

270. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have restored the rail concessions for students desiring to undertake educational and round tours;

(b) if so, when and for what reason the concession was withdrawn; and

(c) what is the total annual loss to the railways on this account?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHAM NATH) : (a) Yes.

(b) This concession, alongwith a large number of other concessions, was withdrawn with effect from 1st January, 1963 in view of the acute stage of the National Emergency at that time.

(c) No such statistics are maintained by the Railways and it is not possible to make an estimate. It may, however, be stated that the sum would not be considerable as the concession itself often makes possible such tours.

LOCATION OF ALUMINIUM PLANTS

271. SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have since taken a decision for the location of two major aluminium plants; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI N. SANJIVA REDDY) : (a) and (b) The question presumably relates to projects in the public sector. Proposals to establish two new aluminium smelters in the public sector— one in the Koyana region of Maharashtra State based on Koyana Hydel Power and another near the Korba Thermal Power Station in Madhya Pradesh— are under consideration.

SALE OF IMPORTED ROCK-SALT BY STATE TRADING CORPORATION

272. COL. B. H. ZAIDI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the price paid by the State Trading Corporation for the rock-salt from West Pakistan; the total cost including duty and freight up to Delhi and the price at which the State Trading Corporation sells it to the cooperatives and traders in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : The price paid by S.T.C. for rock-salt imported from Pakistan is Rs. 26.50 per metric ton f.o.r. Wagha. The total cost of rock-salt includes duty, freight and other charges and as such the price at which the S.T.C. is selling this to co-operatives and wholesalers: throughout India varies from time to time.

TRADE DELEGATION TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES

SHRI N. SRI RAMA J REDDY:

1 SHRI MULKA GOVINDA J REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the recommendations made by the Murugappa Chettiar delegation to African countries in the matter of improvement of trade and other prospects?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : The delegation led by Shri Murugappa Chettiar