

(b) whether the Corporation has prepared any scheme to ensure that it becomes a viable unit during the next five years; and

(c) the tonnage which will be carried through water transport by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) It is presumed that the information is asked for in respect of the Central Inland Water Transport Corporation Ltd., Calcutta. If so, the total loss suffered by this Corporation since its inception is Rs. 771.02 lakhs upto 31-3-1974, which is inclusive of the unaudited figures for 1973-74.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) 5.53 lakhs tonnes approximately.

Import of Aluminium

461. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have chosen to import Aluminium at more than double the indigenous price of this metal;

(b) whether Government have not tried to increase the utilization of the installed capacity of the existing Aluminium plants, which have been working only at about 60 per cent of the installed capacity; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) to (c). Owing to heavy power cuts imposed on the aluminium smelters by the different State Electricity Boards in 1973-74 and in the current year (1974-5), the installed capacity for the production of aluminium has not been fully utilised, and this has resulted in a substantial drop in the production of aluminium as compared

to previous years. In order to meet the requirements of the Cable/Conductor manufacturers, who can use high priced imported aluminium for export production, it was decided to import metal as a short-term measure. The shortage of aluminium is primarily due to inadequate power supply to the aluminium smelters and Government have taken up the matter regarding maintaining/increasing power supply for aluminium production with the concerned State Electricity Boards/State Governments. However, there has been no improvement in the power supply position. It is apprehended that due to inadequate power supply the shortage of aluminium metal may continue for quite some time.

राज्यों के बीच परिवहन-बाधाओं को हटाना

462. श्री विभूति मिश्र : क्या नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि-

(क) क्या देश भर में सुचारू ढंग से परिवहन सुनिश्चित करने के लिए राज्यों के बीच बाधाएँ हटाने के लिए निम्न बन्ताने का सरकार का विचार है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो किस प्रकार की कार्यवाही करने का प्रस्ताव है ?

नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० त्रिवेदी) : (क) और (ख) : सम्भवतः माननीय सदस्य अन्तर्राज्यीय सड़क परिवहन यातायात के सुव्याह में अग्राने वाली बाधाओं का जिक्र कर रहे हैं ।

करों के आधिक्य, कर वसुली की दरो और विधि में एक रुपता के अभाव के कारण परिवहन गाड़ियों के परिचालनपरि परिमिदों पर प्रति-हस्ताक्षरी की आवश्यकता है

तथा चुंगी और अन्य पड़तल चोकिचों अन्तर्राज्यीय यातायात के सुववाह में मुख्य बाधायें हैं। संविधान के अन्तर्गत, मोटर परिवहन संबंधी कार्यकारी जिम्मेदारी, राज्य सरकारों की है। मोटर गाड़ियों और उनमें ले जाए जाने वाली माल और यात्रियों पर कराधान, राज्य सरकारों के क्षेत्र में आता है।

अन्तर्राज्यीय यातायात के सुववाह में विभिन्न बाधाओं को दूर करने हेतु अन्तर्राज्यीय परिवहन आयोग ने इन्हें कर के भुगतान के आधार पर और परमिटों पर प्रतिहस्ताक्षर किये बिना सभी राष्ट्रीय और राज्य राजमार्गों पर अपने अपने क्षेत्रों के अन्दर माल गाड़ियों के निर्वाह रूप से आने जाने के लिए क्षेत्रीय परमिट योजनाओं अर्थात् दक्षिणी, पश्चिमी उत्तरी केन्द्रीय और पूर्वी योजनायें शुरू की हैं। इन में से दक्षिणी, पश्चिमी और उत्तरी क्षेत्र परमिट योजनाएँ क्रमशः 1 जनवरी, 1967, 1 जनवरी, 1973 और 1 जनवरी, 1974 से पहले ही से चालू हैं।

चुंगी समाप्त करना भी राज्य सरकारों के क्षेत्राधिकार में है। इस बारे में, सड़क परिवहन कराधान जाच समिति की सिफारिशों के कार्यान्वयन के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार, राज्य सरकारों से आग्रह कर रही है। परन्तु चुंगी की समाप्ति, राज्य सरकारों द्वारा दूसरे स्विकार्य करों के बढ़ने पर आघातित है।

Proposal for talks with Pakistan on overflights

463. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Pakistan has not responded to the Government's communication inviting her to send a team for talks on overflights; and

(b) if so, the facts thereabout and Government's reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS):

(a) In response to Government's earlier communication to Pakistan suggesting commencement of bilateral talks regarding the 1971 case pending before I.C.A.O. and on resumption of air links including overflights in accordance with the Simla Agreement, Pakistan has now agreed to have talks in Islamabad in the second half of this month.

(b) An Indian delegation is likely to visit Islamabad accordingly around the 17th of November.

India's help for famine-stricken Bangladesh people

464. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state the nature and extent of India's help to feed the hungry people of Bangladesh where 70,000 to 80,000 people are said to have died of hunger in Rangpur District alone?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): We have received no such report or request for assistance from Bangladesh.

Representation by Federation of Associations of Small Industries for higher rates of supply contracts

465. SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: Will the Minister of SUPPLY AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Federation of Associations of Small Scale Industries and its various State Branches about the difficulty faced by their constituents owing to the reluctance of the Directorate of Supplies and Disposals to sanction higher rates for legitimate escalation of raw material prices for the execution of supply contracts tendered by them; and