

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) to (d). The Indo-Soviet trade is subject to the rules, regulations and laws of the respective countries. The importers and exporters of the two countries operate within the provisions of the Trade Agreement which envisages that exports and imports of goods shall be carried out at prices competitive in relation to the world market prices for the corresponding goods.

The existing system of bilateral trade has worked satisfactorily and had led to a rapid growth in trade. No review of this system is presently contemplated.

[Translation]

Rail line between India and Pakistan

*260 **SHRI TEJA SINGH DARDI :**
SHRI BALWANT SINGH
RAMOOWALIA :

Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that it has been decided recently by India and Pakistan to construct one more rail line linking Rajasthan and Sind; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). India and Pakistan have finalised a draft agreement for re-opening of the Khokrapar-Munabao rail route linking Sind and Rajasthan. The Pakistan Government have been informed that Government is ready to send its delegation to sign the agreement so that the rail route can be opened early.

Tourist Information centre in Lucknow

*261. **SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR SINGH :** Will the Minister of **TOURISM** be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tourism Department of Union Government had opened an information centre in Lucknow in 1983 and that it was closed in October, 1986;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the time by which the information centre will be re-opened there?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (MUFTI MOHD. SYED) : (a) to (c). The Government of India Tourist Office, Lucknow was opened on 22.1.1983. Due to administrative compulsions this office was closed with effect from 1.12.1986. At present there is no proposal to re-open the Government of India Tourist Office at Lucknow.

[English]

New policy on deep-sea Fishing

*262. **SHRI SRI HARI RAO :**
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of **COMMERCE** be pleased to state :

(a) whether a new policy on deep-sea fishing has been announced by Union Government whereby joint venture in deep-sea fishing has opened up for large industrial houses coming under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof;

(c) whether the policy will affect the life of fishermen in the country; and

(d) if so, the corrective steps proposed ?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) : (a) Yes, Sir. The new policy regarding joint ventures in deep sea fishing also envisages setting up joint ventures in deep sea fishing by large industrial houses coming under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, subject to the exemption/clearance to be given by the Deptt. of Company Affairs, as prescribed under the relevant Acts and Rules.

(b) The salient features for such joint ventures are:

(i) The foreign equity participation upto 40 per cent would be allowed.

(ii) Joint Venture company would be registered in India within the