

**Repair to Railway Lines and Property
Damaged during Indo-Pak War**

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*117. SHRI R. S. PANDEY :
SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-
GRAHI :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether heavy damage was caused to Railway Stations and Railway Lines in the border areas during the recent Indo-Pak War;

(b) if so, the extent of the damage; and

(c) the steps taken so far to repair the damaged Railway lines and property ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD SHAFI QURESHI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Rs. 7.59 Lakhs approximate.

(c) Repairs were carried out promptly to the damaged track, Electrical installations & Signalling & Telecommunication gear. Action regarding repairs to buildings and Bridges is in hand.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Thank you very much.

MR. SPEAKER : Thanks to the chair or to the Minister ?

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Both.

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Chintamani Panigrahi,—absent. Thank you very much for not putting any supplementary.

U.K. Trade Team's visit to India

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*119. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :
SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH
MALIK :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) Whether a high-powered U.K. Trade team visited India during the last week of

February, 1972; and

(b) If so, whether any agreement has been signed with it and if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). No Trade team from U.K. visited India during the last week of February, 1972. A team consisting of some British industrialists and Officials of the British Government, however, visited India during March, 1972. This visit was not for signing any agreement with the Government of India. A copy of the Press Communique issued by the Ministry of Industrial Development issued in this connection is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in library See No. L.T. 1499-72.]

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : I would like to know from the Minister whether he is in a position to say whether any effort has been made by the Government to secure even an interim agreement regarding the export of cotton goods to the UK after it entered into the EEC.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : If the hon. Member is referring to the cotton textile exports, we have come to some understanding about it. Regarding the other matters, we are still in touch with the United Kingdom.

SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : May I know if the Minister is in a position to state what are the concessions he has secured regarding cotton ?

SHRI A.C. GEORGE : Regarding cotton, we have come to an understanding that 220 million sq. yds. of cotton textiles can be imported into the United Kingdom.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN : In view of the fact that Britain happens to be one of our major customers, what action is the Government going to take after the entry of Britain into the EEC ? I particularly want to know whether we are negotiating some sort of associate membership in the EEC to keep up our exports.

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Such a suggestion has not been mooted so far.

I R. RANIN SEN: The hon. Minister says that a industrial team from Great Britain visited India this month. Has the Government of India entered into an agreement with the industrialists to purchase some old junk of machinery and bring it to India so that their products could be resold to them through the Ministry of Foreign Trade and, if that is so, why are old junks purchased ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: We have not come to any agreement to purchase old junk

MR. SPEAKER: The question is simple : whether a UK trade team visited India and whether any agreement has been signed.

DR. RANIN SEN: The point is that those factories are being transferred to India so that their Products could be sold outside India.

MR. SPEAKER: The main question is in general terms whereas this question is specific. Anyway, he has replied no

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Is it not a fact that the UK team suggested shifting to the oil of India certain industries which are labour-intensive because they wanted the cheap labour of India and, if so, what products do they propose to produce ?

SHRI A C GEORGE: The proposals are still under consideration of the Government.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What are the items ? They may be rejected or accepted I do not want that. What are the items which the UK industrialists feel could be produced in India by cheap Indian labour for which they are bringing their old plants to the soil of India ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: If the hon. Member is interested in detailed items, they could be furnished subsequently.

SHRI VASANTRAO PURUSHOTTAM SATHE: Among the Items of textiles which the UK has agreed to import from India, which is the most prominent, which type of textile—whether it is superfine, or medium or coarse ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE: Predominantly coarse and grey.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Was there an offer by the Indian side to the British side that whole industries, including those industries whose parts could be locally manufactured in India, would be brought into India to the detriment of our national industry ? On Page 3 of the joint communique it is stated that the British side drew attention to the 'stringent export requirements' laid down by the Indian Government where a company wanted to expand its activities. The British side felt that these requirements were likely to discourage companies from expanding and thereby increasing exports. The Indian side agreed to consider these views further. Which are those stringent measures which the Government of India wants to consider only for the British companies ? What are the measures that they are considering ?

SHRI A C GEORGE: Even in answer to an earlier question I replied that we had preliminary discussions about export-oriented industries. I am not able to furnish the details right now

SHRI PARIPOORNAND PAINULU: Q. 120 is of vital importance. would you allow some other Member to put this question ?

MR. SPEAKER: Instead of asking me, consult the rules. At least spare me some time for other things.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

सवारी गाडियों की रफ्तार में बृद्धि और उन्हें समय पर चलाने का माल यातायात से प्राप्त राजस्व पर अस्तर

*102. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाण्डेय :
श्री राम रतन शर्मा :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि विभिन्न सवारी गाडियों की रफ्तार बढ़ाने और उन्हें समय पर चलाने के लिये प्रारम्भ किये गये अभियान का माल की दुलाई और उससे प्राप्त होने वाले राजस्व पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ा है।