

time record; these were higher by 12.9% compared to exports in April-December, 1967 and also higher by 5.7% over the earlier record of Rs. 964.2 crores, (in terms of the present rupee) reached in April-December, 1964.

The rise in exports during April-November, 1968 (for which country-wise export statistics are available) compared to April-November, 1967 was Rs. 112 crores. 60% of the rise in exports was in respect of exports to Asia and Oceania including ECAFE countries, about 10% in respect of exports to East European countries, 10% to America, 9% to Western Europe etc.

India's import bill during April-December, 1968 at Rs. 1376.5 crores was lower by 107.7 crores compared to April-November, 1967, India's trade deficit which stood at Rs. 581.8 crores in April-December, 1967 narrowed to Rs. 357.5 crores in April-December, 1968 i.e. by about Rs. 224 crores. The above reduction in the trade gap was achieved mainly through reduction in imports of food-grains and metals both ferrous and non-ferrous and increase in exports.

#### Assets of Business Houses

\*167. SHRI HIMATSINGKA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of business houses whose assets exceed Rs. 20 crores taking into account the companies and industries owned, controlled and/or managed by them and the number of such houses whose assets exceed Rs. 50 crores and Rs. 100 crores; and

(b) the number of firms or companies having assets exceeding Rs. 1 crore, Rs. 2 crores and Rs. 5 crores, the assets being computed per undertaking separately in case a company is operating more than one undertaking?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI F. A. AHMED): (a) According to the information collected by the Monopolies

Inquiry Commission about total assets of companies in various business Groups in 1964, 33 business Groups had assets exceeding Rs. 20 crores; 12 business Groups had assets exceeding Rs. 50 crores and 3 business Groups had assets exceeding Rs. 100 crores.

(b) According to the information collected by the Monopolies Inquiry Commission about companies (other than Government, banking and insurance) 838 companies had assets exceeding Rs. 1 crore; 474 companies had assets exceeding Rs. 2 crores and 169 companies had assets each exceeding Rs. 5 crores as on 31st March, 1964. Information about firms and undertaking is not available.

#### Industries in Malaysia

\*168. SHRI KAMESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have permitted the Indian Industrialists to start industries in Malaysia as joint ventures; and

(b) if so, whether the industrialists have made rapid progress in setting up industries?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE AND SUPPLY (SHRI B. R. BHAGAT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) So far seven proposals from different Indian parties for setting up joint industrial ventures in Malaysia have been approved by the Government of India. Of these, one project went into production in July, 1968. The other six are in different stages of implementation.

#### Conversion of Metre-Gauge lines into Broad-Gauge

\*169. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:  
SHRI J. M. BISWAS:  
SHRI C. JANARDHANAN:  
SHRI N. K. SANGHI:  
SHRI ISHAQ SAMBHALI:  
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:  
DR. RANEN SEN: