

sol-Barddhaman local of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Resource and operational constraints.

New Passenger Trains for Kerala

2289. PROF. K.V. THOMAS:
SHRI K. MURALEEDHARAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to run more trains to Kerala from New Delhi; Bombay and other places during 1990-91 in view of heavy traffic;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b). New trains are introduced at the time of revision of Time Tables twice in a year. In May '90 Time Table a weekly express train between Jammu Tawi-New Delhi-Mangalore is being introduced.

(c) Does not arise.

Prices of Finished Leather

2290. SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been abnormal

increase in the price of finished leather in West Bengal;

(b) whether smuggling of raw hide across the border to Bangladesh has adversely affected the small leather units in West Bengal; and

(c) the action being taken by Union Government to help the small scale units?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI AJIT SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government is not aware.

(c) Government has taken the following policy measures for the benefit of leather industry.

(a) Export of raw hides and skins have been banned since licensing year 1973-74.

(b) Export of semi-finished leather are allowed under limited ceiling which is also likely to be discontinued with effect from 1.4.90.

(c) Export of finished leather is allowed, but CCS has been withdrawn w.e.f. 1.4.87. In addition, Government is reviewing the export policy keeping in view to make finished leather available for leather goods manufacturers.

(d) Duty free import under OGL has been allowed of raw-hides/skins/chrome tanned leather, crushed leather and finished bovine leather to augment availability of leather to production units at international price.