

cise in regard to endowing the Securities and Exchange Board of India with statutory functions, powers and responsibilities is in progress and it is expected that the proposed legislation will, inter alia, cover matters relating to the composition of the Board.

[English]

Exports to Nepal

3045. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian manufactured goods are discriminated in tax and duties by Government of Nepal; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Selling of Coffee in Open Market by Coffee Growers in Karnataka

3046. SHRI V. SREENIVASA PRASAD:
SHRI H.N. NANJE GOWDA:
SHRI H.B. PATIL:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the coffee growers in Karnataka have expressed a desire to market their produce instead of selling their entire produce to the Coffee Board;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard; and

(c) the impact thereof on the functioning of Coffee Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) and (b). Some planter

members had expressed a desire to market their produce by getting internal sale quota. Based on the recommendations of the Coffee Board, Government after due consideration have decided not to allow internal sale quota for the coffee season 1987-88.

(c) The implications of allowing internal sale quota include practical difficulties in its implementation and the prices to be realised by the growers owing to rush sales of the internal sale quota coffee during the short period of two to three months.

Laying of New Line Between Latur and Latur Road

3047. SHRI ARVIND TULSI RAM KAMBLE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to lay a new line between Latur and Latur Road;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). A survey was carried out for a railway line from Latur to Latur Road and the project was found to be unremunerative.

[Translation]

Restoration of Ahmedabad-Bhopal Passenger Train

3048. SHRI DILEEP SINGH BHURIA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Ahmedabad-Bhopal passenger train of Western Railway has been discontinued since a long time;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that poor Adivasis

of the States of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh and Gujarat are facing difficulties due to the discontinuance of this train and various organisations have demanded the re-introduction of this train; and

(d) if so, the time by which this train is proposed to be re-introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). Train No. 111/112 Vadodara-Bhopal Passenger has been discontinued since 28.2.1988 to provide a fast service between Rajkot and Bhopal (969/970 Express) with effect from 20.4.1988.

(c) and (d). In order to mitigate the hardships of the passengers, stoppage of 19 Dn at Mangal Mahudi, Bordi, Anas, Panch Piplia, Amargarh, Raoti, Bildi and Morwani; 20 Up at Panch Piplia, Anas and Bordi; 24 Up at Morwani, Bildi, Raoti, Panch Piplia and Anas and that of 969/970 Express at Dahod and Meghnagar have been provided with effect from 1.11.1988.

Hill Allowance to Bank Employees

3050. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the bank employees working in the hill areas are demanding the payment of hill allowance on the lines of hill allowance being paid to the employees of Central Government Undertakings in these areas; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) and (b). The Hill and Fuel Allowance is paid to the bank employees in terms of provisions contained in the Bipartite Settlements and Officers Service Regulations. Some of the banks have reported that Officers Organisations

and Award Staff Unions have submitted their charter of demands for revising their pay and allowances including Hill and Fuel Allowance. Negotiations between the Unions of Bank Employees and Indian Banks' Association for the 5th Bipartite Settlement are in progress. Indian Banks' Association has, however, reported that it has not received any such demand from any union of Bank Employees.

[English]

Organisation of Trade Fairs and Exhibitions Abroad by TFAI

3051. SHRI H.B. PATIL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of plans of the Trade Authority of India (TFAI) to organise trade fairs and exhibitions in foreign countries;

(b) the number of trade fairs to be organised abroad during 1988-89 country-wise;

(c) whether TFAI has adequate personnel and funds to organise such fairs; and

(d) the procedure followed in recruitment of the staff by TFAI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) The Trade Fair Authority of India's participation in fairs abroad falls into 3 categories:

- (i) General fairs organised by host country agencies in which TFAI participates.
- (ii) Exclusive Indian Exhibitions abroad organised by TFAI to introduce Indian products and highlight India's export capabilities; and
- (iii) Specialised commodity fairs. The programme for organising trade fairs is finalised by the