

(c) the corresponding data about exports invoiced in dollars, sterling, rouble mark & yen separately with the percentage of total invoicing in each case.?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DASMUNSI): (a) According to the provisional figures, India's exports during April-December, 1988 amounted to Rs. 13926.68 crores as compared to Rs. 11197.41 crores during April-Dec., 1987, thereby registering an increase of 24.4. per cent.

(b) In SDR terms, the growth rate works out to 10.6 per cent.

(c) The details of exports invoiced in dollars, sterling, rouble, mark and yen are not yet available for the period specified.

Punctuality, Speed and Frequency of Trains

454. SHRISYED SHAHABUDDIN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the punctuality rate, quarter-wise during 1988 of the express and mail trains connecting various part of the country with the North-East in particular with Guwahati; and

(b) the steps taken to improve punctuality to reduce travel time and to increase frequency during 1988?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) During 1988 the overall punctuality performance of Mail/Express trains of Northeast Frontier Railway which serves the North East region, is as under

I Quarter	89.3
II Quarter	87.3
III Quarter	85.4
IV Quarter	93.0

(b) Frequent Agitations/Bundhs in the region is the main reason affecting punctuality of trains. Round the clock monitoring is being done to improve the punctuality performance. Increasing the frequency and speeding up of trains is an on-going process. During 1988, on N.F. Railway, 18 trains were speeded up and frequency of train No. 57/58 was increased.

Setting up of National and Zonal Advisory Committees for Banking

455. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to set up national and zonal advisory committees for banking, involving Members of Parliament, so as to advise and monitor the role of the banks in socio-economic transformation of society, particularly in respect of self-employment and poverty alleviation schemes;

(b) if so, the likely date by which such committees are likely to be set up; and

(c) if not, whether any mechanism involving the Members of Parliament would be evolved for this purpose in the near future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c). Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has reported that there is no proposal to set up national and Zonal advisory committees for banking. However,

the nationalisation scheme provides for constitution of Regional Consultative Committees (RCCs) which periodically reviews the performance of banks in different States. The State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) has also been constituted for each State to review the position of banks in the concerned State. At the District level the performance of banks is reviewed in the District Level Review Meeting and District Consultative Committee. The existing machinery for assessing the performance of banks including with reference to the lending to priority sector, poverty alleviation schemes etc. is considered quite adequate.

Railway Examination Centres In Himachal Pradesh

456. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board has received a request for the opening of Railway Examination Centres in Himachal Pradesh during the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the decision taken by the Board on this request and the places in Himachal Pradesh where the Examination Centres have been sanctioned; and

(c) if not whether such centres would be set up at the places for which the demand has been received and the likely date by which it would be done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No such request has been received by the Railway Board. However, prior approval of the Ministry of Railways is not necessary for opening of examination centres by the Railway Recruitment Boards.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Railway Recruitment Boards, which conduct examinations for recruitment to Group 'C' posts on the Railways, open examination centres, wherever justified.

Passenger Amenities at Guler and Nandpur Bhatoli

457. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Northern Railway has earmarked adequate funds of the construction of a railway rest house and rain-shelter on the platforms at Guler and Nandpur Bhatoli stations of Kangra Valley Railway and also for other passenger amenities at these two stations;

(b) if so, the exact amount provided for the two stations for these facilities in the works programme; and

(c) the likely date by which the facilities would be provided?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Adequate passenger amenities, including cover over platform and Rest House facilities are available at Guler railway station. At Nandpur Bhatoli railway station, provision of a rest house is not considered justified. Railway has initiated action to provide a cover over platform at this station at an estimated cost of Rs. 50,000/- during 1989-90. Other amenities provided at Nandpur Bhatoli railway station are considered adequate.

(c) The work of cover over platform at Nandpur Bhatoli railway station shall be completed in 1990.