

(b) RBI has reported that 6 bank branches were opened in Dhubri and Jorhat Districts of Assam.

(c) The aim of current Branch Licensing Policy for 1985-90 is to achieve a coverage of 17,000 population per bank office in the rural and semi-urban areas of each development block and to make available at least one bank office within a distance of 10 Kms. from every village. In the hilly tracts, sparsely populated regions and tribal areas, the population coverage norm is relaxed from 17,000 to 12,000 10,000. On the basis of lists of identified centres received from State Governments, RBI as per the norms laid down in the branches expansion policy has allotted 421 rural and semi-urban centres to banks for opening branches in the States of North-Eastern Region.

#### **Freight Traffic**

4235. SHRI K.P. UNIKRISHNAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a shift in the movement of goods traffic from Railways to road transport over the years, during the last decade or more and whether this trend is persistent and if so, the details there of;

(b) revenue-earning goods traffic carried by Indian Railways in different zones/divisions and its percentage of variation,

year-wise since 1985;

(c) passenger traffic in different zones/divisions with percentage of variation, year-wise since 1985; and

(d) estimates, if any, of goods traffic carried by road transport year-wise since 1985.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) (a) Although Railways continue to be Principal mode of transport, yet there is shift of traffic in favour of road transport over the years. The details are given in the statement below:

(b) and (c). Details of revenue earning goods traffic and number of passengers carried in different zones and percentage variation over the previous year are given in the statement below:

(d) The estimated goods traffic carried by road transport is as under:-

	(Billion Tonne KM)
1985-86	224.7
1986-87	240.4
1987-88	257.3
1988-89	27.3

(b) and (c). Details of revenue earning goods traffic and passengers carried in different zones and percentage variation over the previous year

*Revenue earning goods traffic—Tonnes carried*

<i>Railway</i>	<i>1985-86</i>	<i>% age variation</i>	<i>1986-87</i>	<i>% age variation</i>	<i>1987-88</i>	<i>% age variation</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>7</i>

Central	69,894	7.15	78,159	11.83	80,371	2.83
Eastern	74,540	11.54	82,140	10.20	86,602	5.43
Northern	68,012	15.05	78,240	15.04	80,148	2.44
N. Eastern	11,094	25.93	12,544	13.07	12,729	1.47
N. Frontier	8,941	22.83	9,886	10.57	11,096	12.24
Southern	31,389	10.84	31,769	1.21	32,112	1.08
S. Central	43,183	12.17	45,586	5.56	46,285	1.53
S. Eastern	1,02,383	6.75	1,10,134	7.57	1,18,403	7.51
Western	46,374	7.65	50,721	9.37	52,710	3.92

*Number of Passengers carried*

Central	9,67,358	3.41	9,97,588	3.13	10,76,344	7.89
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Railway	1985-86	% age variation	1986-87	% age variation	1987-88	% age variation
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Eastern	4,64,249	2.60	5,04,733	8.72	5,42,637	7.51
Northern	3,97,329	8.76	4,20,377	5.80	4,30,489	2.41
N. Eastern	1,95,476	3.32	2,02,877	3.79	2,16,269	6.60
N. Frontier	33,085	4.26	35,181	6.34	32,028	(-) 8.96
Southern	2,89,913	1.47	3,03,308	4.62	3,15,120	3.89
S. Central	1,73,082	3.55	1,76,835	2.17	1,84,854	4.53
S. Eastern	1,67,804	2.60	1,77,950	6.05	1,91,851	7.81
Western	10,62,765	0.45	10,91,946	2.76	11,42,829	4.66