

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P.R. DAS MUNSI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some of the steps taken/being taken by MMTC to increase export of iron ore are market diversification, improvement in infrastructural facilities at major ports and tying up of export sales through long term agreements with major buyers of iron ore.

(c) Total tonnage of iron ore procured by MMTC from different iron ore mines in Orissa for export in the last three years is as under:-

<i>Year</i>	<i>Qty. in lakh tonnes</i>
1986-87	20.25
1987-88	19.21
1988-89	19.34

Credit Deposit Ratio of Banks in Gujarat

3568. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the credit-deposit ratio of banks in Gujarat has remained low during the last three years against the All-India ratio;

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to push up the credit-deposit ratio in Gujarat; and

(c) the response of the banks to maintain the tempo of bank finance and to undertake specific bankable schemes in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Banks have been advised by the Reserve Bank of India to avoid wide regional disparities in the matter of credit deployment and to take effective steps to increase the flow of credit to all productive and identified viable proposals in deficient areas. Banks have also been advised to maintain minimum credit: deposit ratio of 60 per cent in respect of their rural and semi-urban branches separately. The percentage growth of advances of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in Gujarat increased from 15.8 per cent as at the end of December, 1987 to 23.1 per cent as at the end of December, 1988.

Revival of N.G. Sections in Gujarat

3569. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan in hand to harness the Potentiality of Narrow-Gauge Sections in Gujarat on Western Railway by providing better services to the people of these sections;

(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) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Steam Engines are being replaced progressively wherever justified.

Restoration of M.G. Section between Mehsana and Harij

3570. SHRI RANJIT SINGH GAEKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a metre gauge section between Mehsana and Harij

of North Gujarat on Western Railway remains suspended for quite a long time;

(b) whether Government have received representations for restarting trains on the above section;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. Train services have been suspended only on a small section of 21 Kms. between Chanasma-Harij from 2.8.1989.

(b) and (c). Yes Sir. Representations have been received from M.Ps. and others including Passengers Association for the

restoration of the train service.

(d) It is not proposed to reopen this uneconomic branch line as adequate road transport facilities are available in the area.

Financial Assistance to Orissa

3571. SHRI SOMNATH RATH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount given to Orissa during 1988-89 besides the grants allocated under various plans and schemes; and

(b) the progress of the schemes for which grants were given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI):