

including widows of ex-servicemen and disabled service personnel in setting up SSI projects for self-employment, IDBI jointly with the Director General of Re-settlement, Govt. of India, has formulated a special scheme of assistance for ex-servicemen. Under the scheme, which is operated through State Financial Corporations (including Himachal Pradesh Financial Corporation) and twin function State Industrial Development Corporations, entrepreneurs will be provided equity type of support to the maximum of Rs. 1,80,000 per project for starting small scale industry including transport and other service industries. This is besides the normal term loans granted for the project. Inter-alia, the scheme is applicable to projects costing upto Rs. 12 lakhs and the minimum promoters contribution is 10% of the project cost.

Extension of Shatabdi Express upto Bombay

3600. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to extend Delhi-Bhopal Shatabdi Express upto Bombay V.T. in view of heavy rush on Delhi-Bombay section;

(b) if so when it is likely to be done; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The distance from New Delhi to Bombay V.T. is 1538 Kms, which is well beyond the range of operation of an inter-city day express like the Shatabdi.

Conveyance Allowance

3601. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to give conveyance allowance to its employees on the pattern of public sector undertakings; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B.K. GADHVI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The service conditions of Central Government employees are different from those in the public sector undertakings. It is not therefore, appropriate to seek to bring such parity in individual items like conveyance allowance etc. However, the existing rules applicable to Central Government employees already provide for the grant of conveyance allowance to a Government servant, who is required to travel extensively at or within a short distance from his Headquarter subject to certain laid down conditions. For occasional performance of official journeys within municipal limits, conveyance hire charges are also reimbursable to the employees.

Rail Link to All Sub-Divisions

3602. DR. PHULRENU GUHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of Railway sub-divisions which have not yet been provided rail link;

(b) whether Government have any plan to link these places in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Recommendations of Railway Reforms Committee

3603. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had accepted and implemented the major recommendations of the Railway Reforms Committee including the creation of new zones and divisions;

(b) if so, the dates on which the recommendations have been implemented and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the details of such recommendations as still remain to be partially/fully implemented and the reasons for their non-implementation to the full extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Railway Reforms Committee submitted their Report in 25 parts and touched the entire gamut of railway working. A large number of recommendations like creation of new zones, divisions, etc. cannot be straightaway implemented due to constraints of resources and other operational difficulties. Similarly recommendations concerning upgradation of technology like track circuiting, modernisation of marshalling yards and workshops etc. are again dependent upon availability of adequate funds and can only be implemented based on the priorities accorded to the various projects in the Corporate Plan. Wherever possible, action has already been initiated to implement the

accepted recommendations.

Trade with European Countries

3604. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is great scope of expanding trade in the European countries;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to adopt new strategies to expand trade with European countries in view of the tremendous untapped potential still available in European markets; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

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

(b) and (c). Efforts are made to expand trade through various measures like undertaking specific commodity oriented market studies; participation in fairs and buyers sellers meets; organisation of specialised exhibitions; distribution of publicity material; exchange of business delegations; joint ventures; encouraging contacts between business organisations of India and European countries and increasing the scope of Trade Plans.

Overhead bridge In Jabalpur

3605. SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government has sent a proposal for construction of an overhead bridge on Gorakhpur railway crossing in Jabalpur on South Eastern Railway; and

(b) if so, the details thereof; and reac-