

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes,

(b) The suggestion to open a halt station at Barial will be kept in view and this would be provided if found justified on traffic considerations.

Financial Assistance to Himachal Pradesh for Electrification of Villages by R.E.C.

7910. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation of India has drawn up a plan to help in the electrification of the rural areas in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) if so, the amount of financial assistance sanctioned in the case of each of the 12 Districts of the Himachal Pradesh for the year 1973-74; and

(c) the number of villages proposed to be electrified during this year, District-Wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b). Additive finances are provided by the Central Government through Rural Electrification Corporation for rural electrification schemes of State Electricity Boards. So far the Corporation has sanctioned upto March 1973 nine rural electrification schemes of Himachal Pradesh envisaging loan assistance of Rs. 393.426 lakhs for electrification of 1,906 villages, energisation of 633 pumpsets and power supply to 972 small scale and agro industries. The break-up of financial assistance sanc-

tioned by the Corporation District-wise is given below:—

Nome of District	Amount of loan sanctioned (Rs. in lakhs)
1. Sirmur District	40.253
2. Kangra District	225.250
3. Bilaspur Mandi and Kangra District	28.660
4. Mahasu District	45.735
5. Kulu District	53.528
TOTAL	393.426

The loan assistance during the year 1973-74 will depend upon the number of schemes sponsored by the Himachal Pradesh State Electricity Board and approved by the Rural Electrification Corporation in accordance with the criteria prescribed by the Corporation.

(c) It is proposed to electrify about 500 villages in Himachal Pradesh during the year 1973-74. The district-wise break up of villages to be electrified has not been finalised so far.

Running of Trains of Kangra Valley Railway between Guler and Joginder Nagar

7911. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a representation has been received by Government regarding the running of trains on Kangra Valley Railways between Guler and Joginder Nagar after the dislocation of rail services between Jwall and Guler; and

(b) whether Government have considered this representation and if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes.

(b) It is not possible to operate train services on the isolated Guler-Joginder Nagar section. However, alternative arrangements have been made for carrying both passenger and goods traffic by road during the period of suspension of rail traffic on the section.

Examination conducted by Railway Service Commission, Calcutta for Class III (Technical and Non-Technical) Post

7912. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of class III posts (Technical and non-technical), region-wise for which written and oral examinations were held by the Railway Service Commission, Calcutta during the year 1972;

(b) the number of Bihari and non-Bihari candidates who appeared in the examinations region-wise, separately;

(c) the number of Bihari and non-Bihari candidates selected, region-wise, separately; and

(d) the percentage of Bihari and non-Bihari selected candidates, separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(b) to (d). Such State-wise statistics are not maintained.

Popularity of House Building Advance on Eastern Railway

7913. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:

SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether rules regarding grant of house building advance in Railways are complicated and time consuming;

(b) whether the scheme regarding the House building advance is not popular in Indian Railways, particularly on Eastern Railway; and

(c) the number of applications pending at present and the number of applications sanctioned on each division of Eastern Railway during 1972 and the steps Government proposes to take to popularise the scheme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MOHD. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) In the matter of advances for house building, railway employees are governed by the same rules as other Central Government servants. The rules on the subject have been framed by the Ministry of Works & Housing who are the controlling authority for these advances.

(b) The popularity of the house building advance scheme of the Ministry of Works & Housing *inter alia* depends on availability of land for individual construction and other allied factors at various places. On the Eastern Railway also the scheme is gradually gaining popularity.

(c) The particulars are given below:

Name of the Division	Applications pending at present	Applications sanctioned during 1972
Sealdah Division	4	2
Howrah Division	10	3
Asansol Division	1	1
Dhanbad Division	1	Nil
Danapur Division	1	1
Other Offices	46	51

(H. J. Workahopa, etc. on the Eastern Railway).

Wide publicity is given by publishing these rules in the Eastern Railway Gazette.