

the same for the Express/Mail/Passenger trains; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to change the fares according to the facilities and comforts provided?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Provision of facilities such as number of Mail/Express trains, accommodation provided in different Classes, Catering facilities etc. depend primarily on the pattern and volume of traffic offering on a particular section and not on the basis of regional or any other considerations. The pattern and volume of traffic varies even from section to section on the same railway not to speak of that between sections on two different railways. Comparison of the facilities provided on the rail sections in the Champaran Civil District of N.E. Railway with those obtaining on the Eastern Railway is therefore not tenable.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

'Dry Port' in Delhi

1449. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Northern India Regional Export Advisory Committee has recommended the creation of a 'dry port' in Delhi to facilitate exporters in the region; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government to the proposal?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It has not been possible to accept the recommendation of the Export Promotion Advisory Committee for Northern Region because of the following reasons:—

- (1) At present facilities of examination and scaling of export consignments at the factory site are granted all over India. Such facilities are available

for excisable goods or goods under claim for drawback of duty paid on materials used in their manufacture or goods of delicate nature such as works of art etc., the opening and repacking of which at the port of export would be dangerous or inconvenient.

- (2) Delhi is already having a foreign post office and both the airports at Delhi are declared to be customs airports. Thus, full-fledged customs facilities for export of all articles by post or air to a foreign country are already available in Delhi.

Water Supply at Patiala Station

1450. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that complaints have been made to Government that at many railway stations unhygienic water was being supplied to the public for drinking purposes;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a medical analysis of the drinking water supplied from a cooler at the Patiala railway station showed that the water was unfit and harmful for human consumption;

(c) whether it is also a fact that even after this medical report was obtained, the same water continued to be supplied for several months, and is still being supplied to the public; and

(d) if so, whether Government have taken notice of such serious lapses on the part of the railway Administration?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Railways (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.