

Commercial Clerks in Madurai Division of Southern Railway

*715. SHRI S. KUNDU :
SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have reduced the number of Commercial clerks in the Madurai Division of the Southern Railway;

(b) whether the number of trains on the Southern Railway (goods and passenger) has been reduced; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). (i) *Passenger Trains* : Two pairs of trains running between Mettupalaiyam and Coimbatore and between Mettupalaiyam and Ooty respectively were cancelled on account of poor occupation. The runs of one pair of passenger trains running between Mettupalaiyam and Palghat were curtailed in order to create line capacity on the Coimbatore-Olavakkot

Section for the movement of essential foodgrains to Kerala.

(ii) *Goods Trains* : The number of goods trains depends upon the traffic offering for clearance. In 1968-69, the goods traffic on Southern Railway did not decrease, but actually increased, the total train kilometres on the broad gauge and metre gauge combined being *14.4 million* during the period April, 1968 to January, 1969, as against *13.4 million* during the period April, 1967 to January, 1968.

Votes polled in Mid-term Elections

*716. SHRI HEM RAJ : Will the Minister of LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of votes polled in the recent mid-term elections in the States of West Bengal, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab, State-wise ; and

(b) the total number of valid and invalid votes ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI GOVINDA MENON) : (i) and (b). The required information is as under :-

Assembly

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total No. of votes polled	Valid votes	Invalid votes
1.	Bihar	5,391,256	14,940,955	450,304
2.	Punjab	4,836,135	4,707,086	129,049
3.	Uttar Pradesh	24,264,995	23,464,135	800,863
4.	West Bengal	13,758,000	13,404,238	353,762

Manufacture of Ceramic Machinery at Shabdol, Madhya Pradesh

*717. SHRI S. S. KOTHARI : Will the Minister of INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, INTERNAL TRADE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a letter of intent was issued to Gidwancy Bros.,

Calcutta for establishment of a factory for manufacture of Ceramic machinery at Shabdol (M. P.) and the party complied with the subsequent formalities indicated by the Ministry;

(b) if so, the reason why Government have not issued industrial licence to the party despite their repeated requests