

**Passenger traffic handled by suburban railways**

1290. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state.

(a) what is the percentage of passenger traffic handled by the suburban railways in the country zone-wise; and

(b) what steps are being taken to improve the functioning of suburban *railways* in the country?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): (a) The zone-wise percentage of suburban traffic to total passenger traffic on concerned Railways for the year 1982-83 is indicated below:—

Zonal Railway	Percentage
Central	.
Eastern	.
Southern	49.3
South Eastern	38.9
Western	71.0

(b) Besides regular monitoring of performance of suburban services at various levels, a senior officer viz. Divisional Railway Manager (Suburban), has been posted on each of Central, Western, Eastern, South Eastern and Southern Railways to exclusively look after the performance and quality of service of the suburban system.

**Reducing consumption of edible oils**

1291. SHRIMATI SUDHA VIJAY JOSHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to State;

(a) whether Government propose to consider a major campaign to reduce consumption of cooking oil and provide subsidy to such utensils and cook.

ing methods,, etc. which require less oil in view of the huge import bill account of edible oil;

(b) whether Government have detailed information regarding consumption pattern and preferences for various kinds of edible oils; and

(c) whether the import of surplus butter oil from the European Economic Community is likely to be cheaper than import of not-so-popular vegetable oils?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRONICS, AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI M. S SANJEEVI RAO): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The consumption pattern depends basically on the availability of different edible oils in the particular region.

(c) There is no proposal for import of butter oil from European Economic Community on commercial basis.

**Book stall contracts on railway stations**

1292. SHRI SUSHIL CHAND MOHUNTA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 828 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 13th October, 1982 and state what is the number of book stalls allotted by the Ministry of Railways as well as Northern Railways to the unemployed partnership associations?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A. B. A. GHANI KHAN CHOUDHURY): No book stall has so far been allotted to any partnership association under the orders of the Ministry of Railways. Northern Railway has so far allotted seven book stalls to different partnerships of unemployed graduates, of which contracts for two book stalls have already been surrendered (terminated, but no-book stall stands allotted to any association.