

entire position of seniority of temporary lower division clerks for the purpose of confirmation against the ten available permanent posts.

(d) The confirmation of the remaining 15 lower division clerks against available permanent vacancies will be considered after a decision on the regularisation of the appointments of the *ad hoc* lower division clerks is taken.

PROPOSAL FOR SPEEDING UP LONG DISTANCE TRAINS

775. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal for speeding up the long distance trains was under the consideration of Government ;

(b) whether a final decision has since been taken thereon ; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, by when a final decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

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

(b) and (c) The speed of following trains was increased from 1.11.1971 :

Howrah-Delhi Rajdhani Express from 120 km. p. h. to 130 km. p. h.

No. 1/2 Howrah-Delhi Mail from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

No. 3/4 Bombay-Delhi Mail from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

No. 1/2 Bombay-Howrah Mail from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

No. 15/16 Grant Trunk Express from 100 km. p. h. to 110 km. p. h.

From 17.5. '72 Bombay-Delhi Rajdhani has been introduced at 120 km. p. h.

INDIAN INVESTMENTS IN VENTURES ABROAD

776. SHRIMATI SAVITA BEHEN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be

pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of Indian capital invested in industrial ventures abroad during the last three years ;

(b) the details regarding the profits and dividends remitted to India during this period ; and

(c) the steps taken to ensure that profits and dividends are remitted to India in time and in full ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) During the last three years, Government of India has approved the investment of about Rupees Six crores by Indian entrepreneurs in joint ventures abroad in the shape of machinery and equipment exported from India, technical know-how etc.

(b) According to information received, an amount of Rs. 49.27 lakhs has so far been earned in foreign exchange by way of dividends.

(c) One of the conditions of the approvals accorded for participation in joint ventures abroad enjoins on the Indian participant to repatriate the earnings to India. They are required to submit periodical reports about their earnings and remittances.

EXPORT OF JUTE PRODUCTS

777. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of export of jute products in terms of value and tonnage in 1970-71 and 1971-72, country-wise ; and

(b) the target for export of this item in 1972-73 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) Quantity—750,000 tonnes.

Value —Rs. 250 crores.