

#### CONCESSION TICKETS FOR BLIND PERSONS

♦49. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints to the effect that blind persons have to face considerable difficulty in getting concession tickets on the Railways; and

(b) if so, whether any proposal to simplify the present procedure is under Government's consideration ?]

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री डा० राम सुभग सिंह : (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) जी हाँ।

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

(b) Yes, Sir.]

#### DIFFICULTIES FACED BY EXPORTERS DUE TO TIGHT CREDIT

•50. SHRI BABUBHAI M. CHINAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the difficulties experienced by exporters due to the general stringency in the field of credit; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to provide every credit facilities to help the export trade of the country?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI MANUBHAI SHAH) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government is fully alive to the credit needs if the exporters and the problem of export finance is kept under constant review. Besides offering several facilities to the exporters through the Export Credit and Guarantee Corporation Ltd. Under its various schemes of assistance, the question of devising ways and means for the flow of credit on easy terms to the export sector is also under the exadination of the Government.

This question was also discussed at the 23rd meeting of the Board of Trade held in Delhi on the 30th April, 1966. A copy of the Press Release of this meeting is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix LVI, Annexure No. 1.]

उत्तर रेलवे की लूनी-मुनाबाव लाइन पर गाड़ियों का अस्थायी रूप से बन्द किया जाना

3. श्री सुन्दर सिंह भंडारी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर रेलवे की लूनी-मुनाबाव लाइन पर गडरा रोड से आगे रेलगाड़ियों का चलना कब अस्थायी रूप से बन्द किया गया था तथा इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) क्या गडरा रोड और मुनाबाव के बीच 39 किलोमीटर के टुकड़े पर सवारी गाड़ियों का आना जाना अब भी बन्द है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो मुनाबाव तक सवारी गाड़ियाँ कब जाने लगेंगी ?

t[SuspENSioN OF TRAINS ON LUNI-MUNABAO LINE OF NORTHERN RAILWAY

3. SHRI SUDER SINGH BHANDARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state :

(a) when the running of the Railway trains on the Luni-Munabao line on the Northern Railway beyond Gadra Road was suspended and what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether the running of the passenger trains on the 39 kilometre stretch between Gadra Road and Manabao continue to remain suspended and;

(c) if so, when the passenger trains will start running upto Munabao ?]

t[ ] English translation.

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) : (क) 6-9-65 को, पाकिस्तान के साथ युद्ध छिड़ जाने के कारण ।

(ख) जी हाँ ।

(ग) रेल-पथ आदि की मरम्मत हो जाने और सैनिक अधिकारियों तथा रेल संरक्षा के अपर आयुक्त से निर्बाधता-पत्र मिल जाने पर सबारी गाड़ियां चलाई जाने लगेंगी । इस काम को जल्दी करने के लिये पूरा प्रयास किया जा रहा है ?

[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) On 6-9-65, following out-break of hostilities with Pakistan.

(b) Yes.

(c) As soon as the damage to Railway track: etc. is repaired and necessary clearance from military authorities as also from Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety, is received. Every effort is being made to expedite it.]

#### HOSIERY EXPORT

4. SHRI JAGAT NARAIN : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have explored the possibility of expansion of the export trade in hosiery goods produced in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI M. SHAFI QURESHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Hosiery is included as an item for export from India in the various bilateral agreements with other countries. Encouragement is given to hosiery exporters to organize themselves into sales teams. Under the Export Promotion Scheme, manufacturer-exporters of hosiery are allowed import entitlements for raw wool, man-made fibre/tow, machinery and dyes and chemicals. In addition, a cash grant is given by the Indian Woollen Mills Federation.

tf ] English translation.

#### OPTION OF RETIRED RAILWAYMEN FOR PENSION RULES

5. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is a proposal under Government's consideration to extend the option given under the Railway Ministry's letter No. P (R) 500/P/Vol. IX of 10th March, 1966 to those Railwaymen who opted for State j Railway Provident Fund, but who were not in service on the 31st December, 1965; and

(b) if so, when the proposal will be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### REVISION OF GRATUITY RULES

6. SHRI T. V. ANANDAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal for revision of the Gratuity rules on the Railways is under Government's consideration; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

#### REPRESENTATION OF DIESEL RUNNING STAFF OF KALKA

7. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 558 in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th March, 1966 and state.

(a) whether any decision has since been taken on the representation of the diesel running staff of Kalka;

(b) if so, how Government propose to absorb the staff to be rendered surplus by the gradual non-functioning of the steam locomotives; and