

- (b) if so, the details thereof; and  
(c) the estimated amount of expenditure for the expansion programme?

The Minister of Railways (Shri C. M. Poonacha): (a) There is no such proposal at present.

- (b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### Trade Agreements against Rupee Clearance Accounts

\*1300. Shri N. K. P. Salve: Will the Minister of Commerce be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are any safeguards in the trade agreements between India and other countries for export/import of goods against Rupee clearance accounts to ensure that the goods purchased from India are not diverted by the purchasing countries in the very same form to international market and sold at a discount to the detriment of Indian exports of such goods into the international market; and

(b) whether it is a fact that 10,000 tonnes of ferro-manganese purchased from the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation of India Ltd. by East Germany, with whom India has trade agreement of export/import against Rupee clearance accounts, has been sold to an American firm at a discount?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): (a) Yes, Sir. According to the agreements goods sold are meant for consumption in the buying country only.

(b) Government has no such information.

#### Small-scale Industries in Backward Areas

\*1301 Shri K. Barua: Will the Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the recommendations of the

Small Scale Industries Board regarding the need for special concessions and incentives to the backward areas for developing small-scale industries;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to implement the recommendations; and

(c) whether State participation in equity capital of small-scale units is being contemplated?

The Minister of Industrial Development and Company Affairs (Shri F. A. Ahmed): (a) and (b). At the 24th meeting of the Small Scale Industries Board held at Bangalore in July, 1966, a point was made that special concessions/incentives might be given to small scale units established in backward areas. The question of giving concessions/incentives in backward areas has been under the consideration of the Government for sometime past. It was felt by Government the recommendations made by the Committee on Dispersal of Industries as reviewed and adopted by the IV Plan Working Group on Small Scale Industries and the Committee on incentives for Rural Industrialisation might be considered for adoption. The report of the later Committee has been submitted to the Planning Commission and is now under their consideration. Details of the concessions/incentives to industrial units in the backward areas will be worked out after the recommendations of the Incentives Committee are approved by the Planning Commission.

(c) Yes, Sir. A scheme for State participation in equity capital of small scale industries was discussed at the first meeting of the Official Level Committee of the Small Scale Industries Board, in February, 1967. The scheme was broadly approved by the Committee. It was, further, recommended that the details of the scheme might be finalised in consultation with the Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance and other concerned Ministries/Departments. This is now being done.