

**Auxiliary Mid-wives**

\*1287. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to train auxiliary mid-wives at Prayag Mahila Vidyapith for the community development programme;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the proposal and accorded their sanction for the same; and

(c) the cost involved in undertaking the training programme there?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar):** (a) Yes.

(b) Yes. The Government of India have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 14,500 as the first instalment of the grant-in-aid to the institution for implementation of the scheme during 1957-58.

(c) Rs. 75,800.

**Air Services to Tripura**

\*1288. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the cost of freight and passengers rates in air services have increased beyond economical means of the public of Tripura;

(b) whether the frequencies of scheduled and non-scheduled Freighter air-craft to Tripura have been reduced to less than half of pre-nationalised frequencies; and

(c) whether Government will consider restoring air-communications to Tripura on pre-nationalisation rates of Tariff, frequencies and open commercial basis?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The question does not arise, as Indian Airlines Corporation is provid-

ing adequate air communications to Tripura at rates which are substantially the same as the pre-nationalisation rates.

**Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Is it a fact that the freight charged per lb. was 5 to 7 ps. before nationalisation whereas after nationalisation it has been doubled, that is, to 14 ps. per lb?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** With regard to the first question, the freight charges were 0-3-9 before nationalisation and it is the same even today on the scheduled passenger services.

**Shri Bangshi Thakur:** May I know whether it is a fact that after nationalisation the frequency of the services was reduced so as to cause inconvenience to the people of Tripura?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Again, I have to say, 'No', because there were I find 21 services a week between Calcutta and Agartala before nationalisation and there are 21 services even today.

**Shri Biren Roy:** What is the basis of arriving at the cost per mile for passenger fare and for freight in India?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** That hardly arises out of this question, but I will give the answer. It was fixed originally when the Air Transport Licensing Board was set up. They had fixed certain rates and made certain recommendations. With certain adjustments, the same rates are still obtaining. Very recently, the Air Transport Council went into the question and made recommendations for a more rational basis for air passenger and freight rates for the different air-lines of India.

**Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Is it a fact that more than 60 per cent of the total revenue of the I.A.C. are coming from that sector, that is, Manipur Tripura, Assam and N.E.F.A. etc.?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** I will not vouch for the exact figure but I agree that a very large proportion of the revenues of the I.A.C. comes from that section.