

know whether the Government have ever considered that the civil side of the defence services should be amalgamated with the Central Health Services or not?

Shri Karmarkar: So far as the defence services are concerned, we have also agreed to keep them out of the Central Health Services

Mr. Speaker: Shri D C Sharma

Shri Raghunath Singh: I request that Question No 1308 may also be taken along with Question No 1295

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

D.T.S. Fare

*1295. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that children between 3 and 12 years of age are being charged full rate of fare in the Delhi Transport Service buses, and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Although operational costs have gone up considerably, the fare structure has remained unchanged since the nationalisation of the Delhi Transport Service in 1948. In addition, the Delhi Road Transport Authority has provided a number of concessions to the travelling public, such as monthly concession tickets for students as well as the general public and special services for Displaced Persons' Colonies at reduced rates. Now that the financial position of the Authority has improved and substantial additions to its fleet have been made, the question of granting half-ticket concession to children will also be considered sympathetically

D.T.S. Buses

*1308 **Shri Karni Singhji:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that unhygienic conditions are created by

the profuse exhaust smokes omitted by Delhi Transport Service Buses plying on the roads as most of them are not properly maintained; and

(b) if so, whether necessary steps will be taken in this behalf?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Occasionally some buses of the Delhi Road Transport Authority do emit excessive smoke, but they are withdrawn from service as soon as replacements are available and steps are taken to remove the defect with the help of special equipment which has been acquired for the proper maintenance and repair of the fuel injection system of diesel buses. The number of such buses of the Delhi Road Transport Authority however, is too small to affect the hygienic conditions of the city

Mr. Speaker: They have nothing in common. The hon. Member ought not to have made the suggestion. Only they relate to the DTS

Shri Karni Singhji: May I know whether—

Mr. Speaker: I shall call Shri Karni Singhji in his own turn. He can wait.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know when this committee will be appointed to rationalise the fare structure in the DTS?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I did not refer to any committee. I have said that as soon as the financial position has improved, and as soon as the additions to the fleet have been made, this will be done. I can add for the Member's information that we expect that the fleet will be complete before the end of this calendar year, and then the question will be taken up.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What are the—

Mr. Speaker: It is not necessary to allow further questions. The Minister is considering the question of concessions.