

coastal ferry traffic so that the Ferry wharf, the coastal passenger terminal at Bombay port, might be used as cargo berths is true;

(b) whether Government are aware of the hardship such a step would inflict on people living in the coastal districts of Kolaba, Ratnagiri and Karwar; and

(c) what alternative means of transport Government have in view so far as this area is concerned?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No. The Chairman Bombay Port Trust has reported that the statement made by him in the course of his speech at the Bombay Rotary Club on the 27th August, 1957, has been misquoted in the Press. According to him what he actually stated was that the Scindias had approached Government for financial assistance in the matter of replacement of their fleet of ferry steamers and that unless suitable assistance was given by way of loans or permission to raise fares, the Scindias would not be in a position to run the ferry service after 1961.

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

D. T. S. Buses

***1710. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of D.T.S. buses on some of the routes remain idle beyond peak hours of the day;

(b) if so, the total number of such buses and their seating capacity;

(c) whether any steps have been taken to utilize the D.T.S. buses for providing transport facilities for thousands of school-going children in Delhi and New Delhi; and

(d) if so, with what results?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). In addition to the ordinary services connecting residential areas with the University and various schools, 11 special buses are operated by the Delhi Road Transport Authority exclusively for students.

Delhi's Interim Master Plan

***1711. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred Question No. 141 on the 20th May, 1957, and state:

(a) whether any steps have been taken to invite suggestions for the improvement of Delhi's Interim Master Plan;

(b) if so, the nature of the suggestions received, if any; and

(c) what progress has been made in finalising the Plan?

The Minister of Health (Shri D. P. Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir. The charts and panels of the Interim General Plan were exhibited during 1956 to the:—

(i) Members of Parliament;

(ii) Press Representatives; and

(iii) Representatives of the Institute of Town Planners.

In addition, the Town Planning Organisation held a series of discussions with representatives of Government departments and non-government agencies during May, 1957.

(b) The major proposals in the Interim General Plan were endorsed by the officials and individuals who visited the exhibition and took part in discussions.

(c) The Town Planning Organisation, after completion of the Interim General Plan, is now drawing up the comprehensive Master Plan for Delhi.