

(b) if so, whether this was done with a view to prevent the sullage from Najafgarh drain which has, or was likely to have polluted water supply; and

(c) what permanent measures have been adopted to prevent the sullage, so that the water supply to the city is not polluted and the health of the citizens jeopardised?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur) : (a) Yes. It was restricted for a few hours on the 17th November, 1955.

(b) Supply of filtered water was restricted in order to :

(i) prevent the sullage from the Najafgarh drain polluting the water supply; and

(ii) an insufficiency of water in the main stream towards the intake wells.

(c) Steps are being taken for diverting the Najafgarh drain water further downstream so as to minimise and possibly eliminate the chances of pollution.

तपेदिक

*७६२. श्री विगम्बर सिंह : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि :

(क) क्या देश में तपेदिक के रोगियों की समस्त संख्या का पता लगाने के सरकार के पास कोई व्यवस्था (तंत्र) और

(ख) तपेदिक से प्रतिबंध और सतन कितने व्यक्तियों की मृत्यु होती है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (राजकुमारी अमृत कौर) :

(क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Pilgrims Trains

*770-A. **Shri V. P. Nayar** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways have in October-November, 1955 run any special "Pilgrims Train" solely for pilgrims to visit holy places of Hindus;

(b) if so, the number of pilgrims who used it; and

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(c) whether Government propose to run such special trains for the benefit of students at concessional rates?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) Special trains are run whenever there is adequate demand, whether for purposes of pilgrimage or otherwise. A number of such special trains were run in October-November 1955.

(b) The number of pilgrims, who travelled by the special trains, is not readily available.

(c) Concessional fares for special trains for students on educational tours already exist and in fact the basis of these fares is lower than in the case of special trains for other purposes.

Catering Contracts on Railways

*774. **Shri Punnoose** : Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to abolish catering stalls, refreshment rooms and hand-garis run by private contractors in some Zones of the Indian Railways;

(b) if so, the names of these Zones;

(c) whether in deciding the matter Government have taken into consideration the question of the future of small contractors and their employees; and

(d) if so, what is the decision in this regard?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) : (a) and (b). The catering at certain stations, as indicated in the statement placed on the Table of the Sabha, is proposed to be taken over for departmental working. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 6].

(c) Yes.

(d) So far as small contractors are concerned, it is proposed to provide them alternative contracts at other stations, as far as possible. As for the employees of the existing contractors whose contracts are being terminated, every effort will be made to utilise them, if suitable, in the arrangements made for departmental catering.

Heron Aircraft

*776. **Shri Karni Singhji** : Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the 'Herons' purchased for the feeder line services are giving trouble?