

[*Translation*]

Train on Samastipur Section

792. SHRI MANJAY LAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is no train during day time except two trains in the morning and one train at 5.30 p.m. in the evening on the Muzaffarpur-Samastipur Section;

(b) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to introduce passenger or DMU trains on this section during day time;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) There are over nine Mail/Express/Passenger trains each way on Samastipur-Muzaffarpur Section during day time (from 6.00 A.M. to 7.00 P.M.).

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

(d) Due to operational and resource constraints.

[*English*]

Promotion of Science Education

793. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to introduce any special programme under the promotion of Science Education in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the achievements made during the last two years under this Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION) (DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI) : (a) to (c). A Centrally Sponsored Scheme, 'Improvement of Science Education in Schools', has been operational since 1987-88. The Scheme envisages assistance to State Governments/Union

Territory Administrations for provision of science kits to upper primary schools, upgradation of science laboratories in secondary/senior secondary schools, supply of books on science related subjects to secondary/senior secondary schools and training of science and mathematics teachers. Voluntary agencies are also eligible for assistance under the Scheme for conduct of experimental and innovative programmes.

During the last two years, 12,608 upper primary and 7077 secondary/senior secondary schools have been covered at a total expenditure of Rs. 43.51 crores. Further, a sum of Rs. 1.27 crores has been sanctioned to 14 voluntary agencies for conduct of various experimental and innovative programmes.

Poverty Eradication Programme

794. SHRI RAJENDRA AGNIHOTRI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme has introduced an anti Poverty Plan for hills in India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the areas to be covered under this programme;

(c) the fund allocated for this purpose; and

(d) the criteria adopted to incur this fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT (DEPARTMENT OF URBAN EMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION) AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA) : (a) to (d). It has recently been decided to extend the Prime Minister's Integrated Urban Poverty Eradication Programme (PMI UPEP) to all the district towns having urban population in the States of north-eastern region, Sikkim, J & K Himachal Pradesh and Garhwal and Kumaon Regions of UP provided the population of the District does not exceed 1,00,000 and also no other town classified as Class II Urban Agglomeration in that District as per 1991 Census is already converted under the Programme. It is proposed to allot funds to such District towns @ Rs. 15 lakhs per town, to avoid sub-critical allocation.

Corruption Cases

795. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :