

(b) the progress made so far in the matter of clearance of those bills;

(c) the number of such bills for reimbursement of CAT scanning charges done in the private hospitals during the hospitalisation of the patient because of the non-functioning of CAT scanning machine in Government hospitals pending for more than one year; and

(d) the effective measures taken to clear all these bills to avoid further hardship being caused to the CGHS beneficiaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). Out of 11,349 claims received during 1.4.91 to 15.12.91, 337 are pending; these are under process at various stages for final disposal.

(c) The claims for CAT SCAN are included in the main medical claim and no separate records are maintained.

(d) The procedure of re-imburement of medical claims of Central Government employees has been streamlined by decentralisation i.e., the concerned Ministries/ Departments have been authorised to reimburse the medical claims. The claims of pensioners only are being reimbursed by the CGHS Directorate.

#### **Wagons for Alleppy**

4788. SHRI THAYIL JOHN ANJALOSE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wagons demanded and made available for loading of coir goods at Alleppy Station in Kerala during 1991-92; and

(b) the efforts being made to provide

required number of wagons for this purpose as per the demand made during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) During the year 1991-92, 500 indents were placed and all were supplied and loaded.

(b) In the current year 1992-93 from April to November, 265 indents were placed which have been supplied and loaded.

#### **Travel Concession to Freedom Fighters**

4789. SHRICHANDRESH PATEL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether freedom fighters are not allowed to travel in Shatabdi and Rajdhani Expresse and some other trains on free rail travel passes;

(b) if so, the names of such trains and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether some representations have been received in this connection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Freedom Fighters are not allowed to travel by Rajdhani, Shatabdi and August Kranti Expresses on their Complimentary Passes, as these are special type trains having different fare structure and limited capacity.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Representations were received from

certain freedom fighters which were considered and replied suitably.

### **Cultural Agreements Between India and France**

4790. SHRI SUBASH CHANDRA NAYAK: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some cultural agreements have recently been signed between India and France; and

(b) if so, the details thereof including the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b). A programme for Educational, Scientific and Cultural Cooperation between India and France for the years 1993, 1994 and 1995 was signed in New Delhi on 16th October, 1992. The Programme envisages closer cultural interaction between the two countries in the fields of Art & Culture, Language and Education, the Social Sciences and Humanities, Youth Affairs and Sports, Radio, TV & Films; Literature and Publishing, Public Administration and Social Welfare.

### **AC-3Tier Coaches in Trains**

4791. SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to introduce AC 3-Tier coaches in some important trains; and

(b) if so, when and the names of the trains in which these coaches are proposed to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) and (b). There is only a proposal to evolve a design for AC 3-Tier Coaches. It is too premature to comment on this as the design is yet to be taken up.

### **Dialysis Facilities**

4792. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE will be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend financial assistance to States to make available dialysis treatment to poor section of the society at economical rates;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to make available dialysis treatment to all sections of society at reasonable cost?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARAD & SIDDHARTHA): (a) to (c). Under the Constitution Health is a State subject and the States are primarily responsible for meeting preventive, promotive and curative health needs of the people. The assignment of funds is done on the basis of the priorities determined by each State within the over-all resources available.

However, major Hospitals like All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi, Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi, Dr. R.M.L. Hospital, New Delhi, PGIMER Chandigarh, JIPMER, Pondicherry etc. which are funded from the Central Health Sector budget have the facilities for dialysis treatment and these facilities are open to all needy patients, from all sections of Society, either free or at reasonable cost.