

Bridges on N. E. Railway

1164. Shri Vishram Prasad: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that so far only one bridge on the railway lines for the trains going to Varanasi from Aurnihar junction on the North Eastern Railway has been constructed; and

(b) whether Government have any plans to construct bridges on the adjoining railway lines for trains going towards Gorakhpur and Chapra at Aurnihar junction on North Eastern Railway?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There is no proposal at present.

TB in N.E.F.A.

1165. Shri D. Ering: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that TB is increasing in the country and in particular in N.E.F.A. and that as a result most of the patients are not admitted in the hospitals;

(b) what effective measures Government are taking to stop it at circle and village levels; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the Indian produced anti-biotic medicines are as costly as those of foreign countries?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) No. As far as we know there is no reliable evidence to suggest that the incidence of tuberculosis is rising in the country, including N.E. F.A. The surveys so far conducted have revealed a more or less constant rate of 1.5 to 2 per cent. All TB patients cannot be admitted in hospitals because there are not enough TB beds.

(b) A comprehensive "National TB Control Programme" has been drawn up and is being implemented in the

States/Union Administrations with Central Government subsidy. The Programme *inter alia* includes Mass BCG Vaccination, establishment of TB Clinics and Demonstration and Training Centres with emphasis on expansion of domiciliary treatment services and more Isolation beds for infectious cases living in overcrowded homes etc.

(c) Streptomycin, INH and PAS which are anti-Tuberculosis drugs are produced in India. The price of Streptomycin manufactured in India is lower by about 30 per cent than in U.K. The prices of other two drugs are comparatively higher.

Bridge over Krishna Near Kortli

1166. { Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri S. B. Patil:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any correspondence between the Government of Mysore and Government of India over the question of Central subsidy for the construction of the High Level Bridge over Krishna river near Kortli on Hubli-Sholapur State Highway; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The proposed bridge scheme is included in the proposals submitted by the Government of Mysore for grants-in-aid for the development of State roads of inter-State or economic importance in the State under the Third 5-Year Plan. The proposals are being examined.

National Highway

1167. { Shri R. G. Dubey:
Shri S. B. Patil:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount has been provided towards the construction of