

based on factors, such as capacity additions, plant availability and utilisation norms, benefits likely to accrue from central sector and other projects, etc.

Bogies Reduced in Parasuram Express

6954. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of bogies in the Parasuram Express running in Kerala have been reduced from sixteen to eleven;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that the rush in this train is increasing day-by-day; and

(d) if so, whether the number of bogies is proposed to be restored to sixteen ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise,

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) It is already scheduled to run with 16 coaches.

Proposal to get Financial Assistance to Gulbarga University in Karnataka

6955. SHRI H. G. RAMULU : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for financing Gulbarga University in Karnataka is pending before the University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The Gulbarga University established in 1980 is yet to be declared fit by the UGC to receive assistance from the Commission under Section 12-B of the UGC Act, 1956. The Commission has suggested certain amendments to the Act of the University before it can be declared fit. The State Government's decision on these suggestions is still awaited. The

question of sanctioning any grants to the University can be considered only after the University is declared fit to receive such assistance.

Facilities Provided to Children under Community Aid and Sponsorship Programme

6956. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the 'Community Aid and Sponsorship Programme' has been introduced in some parts of the country and if so, what facilities are provided to children under the programme;

(b) what is the amount of expenditure expected to be incurred in a year; and

(c) whether there is any plan to introduce this programme in other parts of the country also and if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) The Ministry of Social and Women's Welfare has no such Scheme.

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

[Translation]

Setting up of Railway Zone in Bihar

6957. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a long standing demand for setting up a Railway Zone in Bihar with a view to expand railway facilities in the State and providing employment in Railways to the people of Bihar; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The demand for formation of a new zone in Bihar was remitted to the Railway Reforms Committee for their consideration. The Committee after carefully con-