

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to provide mobile hospitals to augment Primary Health Services in every village in the country.

Doubling of Jalandhar-Pathankot Rail Track

3627. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board have taken a decision to double the Railway track between Jalandhar and Pathankot in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the estimated cost and the likely period for the completion of the project;

(c) whether Government have also received any representation for linking Pathankot via Nangal and Amb by speeding up the construction of Nangal-Talwara railway line by making suitable adjustments/alterations beyond Amb, so as to relieve congestion on the existing track between Jalandhar and Pathankot and open out a new area for development, keeping in view the shortage of funds and thus fulfil the purpose of developing the existing track ; and

(d) if so, when a decision would be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) An Engineering-cum Traffic Survey for doubling of track between Jammu Tawi and Jalandhar City (217 Kms.) is in progress. On examination of the survey report and the project estimates, a decision regarding the proposed doubling will be taken, subject availability of resources

(c) and (d) Construction of a new Broad Gauge line from Nangal Dam to Talwara (84 Kms.) and taking over of siding from Talwara-Mukerian is an approved project. The line between Nangal Dam and Rai Mahatpur (7 Kms.) has since been completed and opened as a siding. The progress of the line beyond Rai Mahatpur upto Una and Amb Andaura will depend on availability of funds in the coming years and also

on land being made available and earthwork executed by the State Government of Himachal Pradesh.

Higher T. B. Patients In Rural Areas than Urban Areas

3629. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of patients suffering from the T. B. are much more higher in the rural areas than the patients suffering from T. B. in the urban areas;

(b) whether it is also a fact that there is no proper treatment available to the poor patients in the rural areas whereas there are more facilities available in the urban areas; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to set up T. B Hospital in the rural areas also ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The prevalence rate of T. B. is almost the same in the rural as well as in the urban areas. As about 80% population of the country is living in the rural areas, and prevalence rate being the same, the number of patients suffering from T. B. and living in the rural areas is higher as compared to the population living in the urban areas.

(b) A new thrust has been given to the T. B Control Programme, with its inclusion in the 20 point programme T. B. case detection and treatment activities are being augmented, with a network of 360 fully equipped and manned with trained staff, District T. B. Centre and 319 T. B. Clinics.

With a view to provide proper treatment facilities to the patients in the rural areas, the services of Primary Health Centres, Multi-Purpose Health Workers and Village Health Guides are also being utilised under the Programme for the benefit of the T. B. suffering population living in the rural areas.