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[English]

## Sanctioning of Stalls on Railway Stations

4334. SHRI HUSSAIN DALWAI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) on what basis the stalls on railway stations are sanctioned;

(b) whether Railway authorities evolved any formula based on certain criteria to allot such stalls on the railway stations; and

(c) if so, the criteria fixed for such allotment ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MA-DHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). Catering/ vending contracts up to 1/2 unit are exclusively reserved for SC/ST candidates. Larger contracts are awarded in the following order of preference:—

- (i) SC/STs;
- (ii) Co-operative Societies of actual workers/vendors;
- (iii) Mahila Samities;
- (iv) Disabled ex-servicemen;
- (v) Individual unemployed graduates within the age group of 18 to 30 years;
- (vi) Freedom Fighters; and
- (vii) Others.

All fresh allotment of Bookstalls on new stations/ platforms except those platforms constructed due to gauge conversion, are exclusively reserved for individual unemployed graduates within the age group of 18 to 30 years, their partnerships, co-operatives, associations and the cooperatives of actual workers/vendors of Railway Bookstalls.

For award of catering/vending/Bookstall contracts on the Railway stations, applications are invited through press and or notices displayed on station Notice Boards. The applications so received are screened by the Screening Committee and on the basis of their recommendation, the contracts are awarded on merit basis.

## Overcrowding in Government Hospitals

4335. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAM-ILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is over crowding in Central Government Hospitals in Delhi;

(b) if so, whether Government are considering some proposals to reduce over-crowding in these hospitals; and

(c) if so, what are the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The proposals to ease the congestion in the Central Government Hospitals consist of establishing a chain of hospitals around the periphery of Delhi and rationalising the use of facilities and services in all the hospitals.

## Major Ports which are facing draught Problem

4336. SHRI BRAJA MOHAN MOH-ANTY : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) the major ports which are confronting with the problem of draught and as a result of which the commercial traffic is affected;

(b) the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to solve the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRAN-SPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI) : (a) Out of the 10 major ports, only the ports of