

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.