

### Special Train for Sabarimala

3564. SHRI KODIKKUNNIL SURESH : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any steps for introduction of special train service in Kerala during the Sabarimala Pilgrim Season; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Special trains are being run from Madras, Vijayawada, Hyderabad, Guwahati etc. to Kottayam/Trivandrum. Loads of trains from other stations including New Delhi are being augmented.

### Ban on Smoking

3566. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGARHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have taken up any survey of non-smokers deaths from heart disease brought on by passive smoking;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor and, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to ban smoking in Government offices and other Offices?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) and (b). The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) had focussed on operational research for control of tobacco as related to oral cancer during the Eighth Plan. However, two studies conducted in the United States of America have shown higher mortality rate among passive smokers as compared to non-smokers.

(c) There is a proposal to bring a comprehensive legislation to discourage the use of tobacco and tobacco products including a ban on use/consumption of tobacco in public places.

### Higher Birth Rate in Assam

3567. SHRI PROBEN DEKA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Government have provided any special assistance to the Assam State Government to arrest the higher birth rate during the year 1994-95; and

(b) if so, the details thereof;

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A.R. ANTULAY) : (a) and (b). Besides, assistance for ongoing programme, an amount of Rs. 5.25 crores has been released to Assam during 1994-95 for implementation of Ninth India Population Project. This

project is for a period of seven years at a total cost of Rs. 108.57 crores for augmenting the Health & Family Welfare Infrastructure and Training of Manpower in the State.

### Train Accident

3568. SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Medical officers injected tranquilizers to the persons wounded Ferozabad train accident on the day of the Prime Minister's visit to the hospital; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the action taken in the matter?

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

(b) Does not arise.

### Konkan Railway Corporation

3569. DR. RAMESH CHAND TOMAR :

SHRI RAM KAPSE :

SHRI RAM NAIK :

MAJ. GEN. (RETD.) BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI :

DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA :

SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH :

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether any probe has been made into the alleged irregularities in the working of the Konkan Railway Corporation;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the remedial action taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SURESH KALMADI) : (a) to (c). A committee of MPs is looking into various aspects of the Konkan Railway Corporation. The Committee is yet to submit its report.

### Polio Vaccine

3570. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the details of vaccines produced by public and private companies in the country and imported during the last three years;

(b) whether any scheme has been formulated by the Government to boost the indigenous production of polio vaccines; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?