

(c) Construction of road over/under-bridges in replacement of existing level crossings is jointly financed and executed by the Railways and the State Government/Road Authority. Proposals therefor have to be sponsored by the latter together with an undertaking to bear their share of the cost as per extent rules. So far no definite proposals have been received from the State Government/Local authorities regarding these level crossings.

**Name of Institutions engaged in Research of Contraceptives**

3774. SHRI BHIKHU RAM JAIN:  
SHRI CHHITUBHAI GAMIT:  
SHRI JANARDHANA  
POOJARY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the institutions which are engaged in research projects for the preparation of non-hormonal oral and other contraceptives with the Central financial assistance;

(b) the success achieved by these projects;

(c) whether the efficacy and suitability of their actual application has been tested; and

(d) what efforts have been made to popularise and make available these contraceptives to the people?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) The Central Drug Research Institute, Lucknow and the Central Council for Research in Ayurveda and Siddha are getting central financial assistance for developing non-hormonal contraceptives. Besides this, the assistance is also provided for contraceptive research to ICMR, New Delhi/ Central Councils for Research in Ayurveda/ Homoeopathy/Unani.

(b) and (c) The initial clinical trials have shown encouraging results. Fur-

ther trials are going on. The clinical trials with centchroman—a non-hormonal pill developed by Central Drugs Research Institute, Lucknow are in an advanced stage and final report is likely to be available soon.

(d) Question does not arise.

**Multiplicity of Road Transport Taxes**

3775. SHRI BHIKHU RAM JAIN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what concrete steps the Government propose to take to reduce the multiplicity of road transport taxes, rationalise the rate structure, simplify the methods of assessment and centralise collection for smooth inter-State road movement; and

(b) what measures are proposed to bring in uniformity in the basic rates of tax structure among State; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) In order to facilitate smooth inter-State movement in the road transport sector, the Government of India has introduced two schemes i.e. National Permit Scheme (for goods vehicles) and All India Tourist Permits (for Omni buses and tourist cabs) under which the taxes are to be paid only in the Home State. Similar facility is also available in the case of transport vehicles operating under the zonal permit schemes.

The rate of composite tax, under these schemes, is uniform.

(b) and (c) Levying of taxes for motor vehicles is within the competence of the State Governments in terms of the provisions of the constitution.

**Gross and Net Profits of Railways**

3776. SHRI B. R. NAHATA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the gross and net profits of all the Railways during the

last three years and also its gross and net losses;

(b) the amount of development expenditure being spent on different Railways during the last three years for expansion of the Railway lines; and

(c) what is the expenditure on expansion of Ajmer-Khandwa Metre Gauge Section for the last three years?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1057/80.*]

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-1057/80.*]

(c) Total expenditure incurred on the various works on Ajmer-Khandwa Metre Gauge Section, during the last three years, is given as under:—

(Rupees in lakhs)

Year	Expenditure incurred
1977-78 . . . . .	70.62
1978-79 . . . . .	83.86
1979-80 . . . . .	67.54 (This figure is provisional as accounts for the year have yet to close finally.)
<b>Total</b>	<b>222.02</b>

#### Overbridge at Manapparai

3777. SHRI S. A. DORAI SEBASTIAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any action has been taken on the representations for an overbridge in Manapparai level-crossing (Southern Railway) on National Highway-45; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN):** (a) No representation has been received regarding provision of overbridge in replacement of level crossing on National Highway No. 45 at Manapparai.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Places of Sub-Regional Offices in EPF Organisation

3778. SHRI V. KISHORE CHANDRA S. DEO: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several Sub-Regional Offices have been opened in the Employees Provident Fund Organisation as a matter of policy of decentralisation and quick

settlement of final payments; and

(b) if so, what are the places where Sub-Regional Offices in the Employees Provident Fund Organisation have been opened and what is the strength of employees category-wise and percentage-wise in proportion to the Regional Office of the same State?

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH):** (a) and (b) Eighteen Sub-Regional Offices have been set up in various parts of the country. A statement showing the names of Sub-Regional Offices and the staff posted, is enclosed. The Sub-Regional Offices are concerned with the maintenance of accounts, issue of annual statement of accounts, grant of loans/advances and settlement of claims. The number of staff to be provided depends upon the number of accounts handled which varies from office to office. The staff provided to the Sub-Regional Offices cannot also be compared with that of the Regional Offices as the latter deal with many other items of work. Efforts are, however, made to ensure that Sub-Regional Offices get adequate staff to cope with the work.