

(a) whether Government are considering for an incentive system for safety consciousness among the railway staff ;

(b) what are these incentive systems ; and

(c) whether Government would organise some workshop for the rail drivers and other running staff of the railway to make the railways smooth running and accidentless ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) A scheme already exists for rewarding the Railway staff concerned for accident-free record. The need, if any, for refining this scheme introduced in April, 1984 is being examined.

(b) Under the present scheme, three medals. viz. bronze, silver and gold, in addition to cash reward of Rs. 500/, Rs. 1000/- and Rs. 1500/- respectively, are awarded for accident-free service of various lengths.

(c) Workshops/seminars are regularly organised on the Railways to educate the staff and promote their safety consciousness. Recently, a special programme has been drawn out to intensify safety measures and minimise accidents on Railways.

Proposed Mini Hydel Projects

2598. **SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL :** Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to start Mini Hydel Projects in the country ;

(b) if so, which are the rivers and sites selected for the same ; and

(c) how many megawatts of total power is expected to be generated during the next plan out of these projects ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). State Governments are empowered to implement hydel schemes costing upto Rs. 5.0 crores without techno-economic clearance of the Central

Electricity Authority. At present, 72 mini/small hydel schemes with a total capacity of 149 MW are under implementation in the country.

Allotment of Book Stalls at Railway Stations

2599. **DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :**
SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) what is the policy of Government for the allotment of contract for Book Stalls at different Railway stations ;

(b) whether there is any reservation for physically handicapped, Freedom Fighters and other categories, for allotment of such contracts ;

(c) if not, whether Government are considering to make such reservation ; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (d). As per extant policy, all fresh allotments of bookstalls at different Railway stations are exclusively reserved for individual unemployed graduates within the age group of 18 to 30 years, their partnerships, co-operatives, associations and co-operatives of actual workers/vendors of Railway Bookstalls. If the persons who are physically handicapped, freedom-fighters etc. fulfil the above conditions, their cases for allotment of Bookstalls are considered sympathetically.

Spread of 'Kala Azar' in Bihar and West Bengal

2600. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether "Kala Azar" have re-appeared in many districts of Bihar and West Bengal recently ;

(b) if so, whether there is any preventive treatment for it ; and

(c) if so, what preventive steps have been taken in this regard ?