

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

(b) Does not arise.

Proposal to run Suburban trains on the Circular Railway route in West Bengal

2673. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering to run Suburban trains on the Circular Railway route so that the commuters can go direct to their destination in the City without detraining either at Howrah or Sealdah Station ; and

(b) if so, by when such trains are going to be introduced ?

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

(b) Does not arise.

[Translation]

Power crisis in Rajasthan

2674. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is aware of the severe power crisis in Rajasthan ;

(b) whether insufficient supply of power is badly affecting industrial and agricultural production in the State ; and

(c) the additional facilities proposed to be given by the Union Government to Rajasthan in order to meet the shortage of power ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) to (c). There is power shortage in Rajasthan. Government of India have decided to set up a gas turbine capacity of about 940 MW in the Northern region, including about 374 MW in Rajas-

than. Government have also decided to set up 2 × 235 MW atomic power units near Kota as expansion of the Rajasthan Atomic Power Station.

Restrictions on sending children abroad by orphanages

2675. PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that some orphanages give orphan children to those parents who wish to adopt such children ;

(b) the names of orphanages in the country which even send these children to foreign countries and the number of such orphan children sent abroad so far ; and

(c) whether Government are aware that many tests are conducted on these children in foreign countries ; and

(d) if so, whether Government are considering to impose some restrictions in the near future on sending such children abroad without proper permission of Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SMT. M. CHANDRASHEKHAR) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) An Indian child can be taken abroad for adoption by a foreigner only with the permission of the competent Indian Court. Only recognised Indian social/child welfare agencies can process such cases in Indian courts. A list of 68 Indian social/child welfare agencies recognised for processing such cases in Indian courts is annexed. Most of these agencies are maintaining orphanages of children's homes. According to the information received from some courts, 305, 594, 1736, 906 and 696 children were given as wards to foreigners in 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983 and 1984 respectively.

(c) The Government have no such information.

(d) The Government have implemented the norms and procedures laid down by