

by thousands of old and ailing passengers ; and

(c) whether Government would take steps to keep the promise of the former Railway Minister and extend the sub way upto the present and new bus stand ?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. The proposal was to consider it for inclusion in 1985-86 Budget subject to availability of funds. A foot-over bridge is already available at Kharagpur to enable the passengers to go from one side to another and connecting all platforms, as is the general practice on other stations.

(c) Due to severe cut in funds, it has not been possible to consider this work for inclusion in 1985-86 Budget.

Work Load to K. G. Students

113. **SHRI K. PRADHANI :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state : (a) whether a recent study by the National Institute of Public Co-operation and Child Development has revealed that KG workload is injurious to kids and discourages early schooling of children; and

(b) if so, whether Government have examined the research study conducted by the above Institute and taken necessary steps to set matters right ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) The study is yet to be completed.

(b) Does not arise.

Modernisation of Jalpaiguri-Darjeeling Railway Section

114. **SHRI ANANDA PATHAK :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to modernise the Jalpaiguri-Darjeeling Section of railway in North Bengal to

make the train journey more attractive there ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken so far in this regard, if any ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) to (c). A proposal has been approved for the improvement of the New Jalpaiguri-Darjeeling narrow gauge train service coaches which provide for modern sitting accommodation with cushion seats and large glass windows for better view of the outside scenery. Bath room facilities are also being modernised. 4 such modernised coaches have been pressed into service.

Construction of Bridge Over Railway line

115. **SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Railway Station Nagda on Western Railway is an important Junction being industrial area with the coming up of industries there;

(b) whether Government are also aware that a large number of people of Nagda cross the Railway line to come to Birlagram, the industrial centre and every year there are accidents ;

(c) if so, whether there is a demand for constructing a bridge over the railway line ; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to meet the demand of the people of the area ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) & (b). Nagda is an important Junction on Delhi-Bombay Trunk Route. For for the use of passengers at Station, two foot over bridges are provided connecting Nagda town on North and Birlagram on South side of the Station. As a part of Kota-Nagda doubling project the Railway has also constructed a road overbridge on Ingoria Road which branches off

to Birlagram. There have been no train accidents. There might have been some cases of accidents involving persons crossing tracks at unauthorised locations.

(c) & (d). As per extant rules, the proposals for new foot over bridges required for the use of general public and new road over/under bridges are to be sponsored by the State Government/Local Authority and entire cost has to be borne by them. In case of road overbridges replacing existing level crossings, Railway bear broadly 50% of the cost. So far no proposal has been received from the State Govt./Local Authority to provide additional foot/road overbridge.

**Recommendations of Regional Conference
On Women And House Hold**

116. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the action being taken on the recommendations of the Regional Conference on Women and Household held in New Delhi from January 27 to 31, 1985, with particular emphasis on the recommendation that the women's movements all over the world to participate in the struggle for nuclear disarmament to ensure humanity's right to life ; and

(b) the action being taken by Government to prevent the use of sex symbols in promotional media throughout the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI MARAGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR) : (a) The recommendations of the Conference on Women and Household pertain to wide range of activities falling under different sectoral Ministries like Ministries of External Affairs, Labour and Employment, Health & Family Welfare, Petroleum & Chemicals etc. This matter is being taken up by this Ministry with the concerned Ministries.

(b) At the instance of this Ministry, the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting has issued guidelines to all the State

Governments and Administrations of Union Territories stressing the need for observance decency in the display of firm posters, advertisements etc. etc.

**Increase in Guinea-Worm Disease And
Affected States**

117. SHRI AMAR SINGH RATHAWA :
SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the dreadful guinea-worm disease is rapidly increasing in the country ;

(b) if so the names of the states which are most affected ;

(c) number of persons affected in each such states ; and

(d) steps being taken by the Government to eradicate the diseases ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA) : (a) No. There is a declining trend in the incidence of Guinea worm disease since the implementation of the National Guinea worm Eradication Programme with effect from 1982.

(b) The disease is prevalent in the states of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

(c) According to the reports received during 1984, 40443 Persons living in 79 districts and 524 Primary Health Centres of the country were reported to be affected with Guinea worm disease.

(d) The following steps are being taken to eradicate the disease :

(i) Active case searches, twice in a year for accurate delimitation of the problem.

(ii) Provision of safe water supply through the State Public Health Engineering Departments,