

buses of DTC are going to various towns of Uttar Pradesh.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The DTC is running inter-state services to areas in Uttar Pradesh on reciprocal basis on a fixed ratio of Kilometrage. The scheduled DTC services to Uttar Pradesh fully cover the mutually agreed Kilometrage to it. This position has been explained to the concerned representationists.

[English]

**Time for loading, unloading and removal of commodities**

4766. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railway Board has constituted a Committee for reviewing demurrage and wharfage rules with a view to evolving a more realistic and workable policy with regard to free time for loading, unloading and removal of all commodities;

(b) whether due to the effective measures taken by the Northern Railway for removal of operating restrictions, its earning from freight traffic has gone up; and

(c) if so, the other measures being considered in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As a result of various measures taken including lesser incidence of operating restrictions, earnings from freight traffic have increased on Northern Railway.

(c) The other measures being considered for developing and retaining the traffic are :—

- (1) Monitoring of supply and clearance of stock.
- (2) Intensification of contacts with the trade and industries.

(3) Before and after sales service to important customers.

(4) Undertaking of road/commodity surveys.

(5) Quotation of more station to station rates.

**Use of hexagonal precast ribbed concrete blocks for laying highways**

4767. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central Road Research Institute has developed hexagonal precast ribbed concrete blocks for laying highways across desert sands;

(b) if so, whether an experimental 50 metre double lane stretch is being laid on the National Highway bypass at Suratgarh in Ganganagar District of Rajasthan;

(c) if so, which other National Highways are proposed to be undertaken during the current financial year for laying hexagonal precast ribbed concrete blocks; and

(d) the total amount to be spent on these highways ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research in cooperation with Border Roads Organisation propose to lay a 50 metres long stretch with precast ribbed concrete blocks on Dadusar-Bijidiyar road in Rajasthan on an experimental basis. This stretch is on a State Road and not on the Suratgarh Bypass of National Highway No. 15 in Ganganagar District of Rajasthan.

(c) & (d) The new pavement design developed has yet to be field tested and further work for laying such pavements on Highways will depend upon the evaluation of the results of field tests by the concerned agencies.

**Maternal deaths in pregnancy cases**

4768 SHRIMATI D. K. BHANDARI Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that one in 50 pregnancies in India ends in maternal death because of lack of medical care and awareness and if so, the corrective steps proposed under the Seventh Plan;

(b) the corresponding position in some of the developing countries in South East Asia and the Western developed nations;

(c) the other more frequent causes of deaths amongst women and children in the country and plans to reduce the same; and

(d) whether medical education and training will be extended on a wide scale to help the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) Precise estimates of maternal mortality for the country as a whole are not available. However, study conducted by Indian Council of Medical Research in urban slums of Calcutta, Delhi and Madras and rural areas of Chandigarh, Hyderabad and Varanasi showed a maternal mortality of 3.6 & 2.6 per 1000 deliveries respectively. During VII Five Year Plan, health infrastructure is being expanded to provide better care to mothers during pregnancy, delivery and after child birth. Traditional birth attendants are also trained in a septic deliveries in the villages.

(b) The maternal mortality rates per 1000 live births in the countries of South East Asia and Western countries are :

South East Asia : Bangladesh — 7.0  
 Burma — 1.3  
 Nepal — 8.0  
 Sri Lanka — 0.8  
 (including abortions).

Western countries : England &  
 Wales — 0.09  
 (including abortions)  
 U.S.A. — 0.10  
 Canada — 0.06

(c) Some of the other frequent causes of deaths among women besides those related to pregnancy and labour are :

Nutritional deficiencies.

Chronic anaemia.

Cancer cervix and breasts Tuberculosis etc.

Among infants and children the frequent causes of death are :

Prematurity.

Disorders of respiratory system.

Diarrhoea.

Tetanus

Malnutrition &

Fevers.

Under maternal and child health care programmes various schemes covering both women and children have been taken up.

(d) Special curriculum has been introduced in Medical Education. In-service training is also given to both medical and para-medical personnel.

#### Centrally sponsored dug well programme

4769. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the centrally sponsored dug well programme is proposed to be launched in the States during the year 1985-86; and

(b) if so, the names of the States proposed to be covered under the above programme and the total amount sanctioned for the year 1985-86 for this programme ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) & (d) There is no proposal for launching any Centrally Sponsored programme exclusively for dug wells in the States during the year 1985-86. However, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for assistance to small and marginal farmers for increasing agricultural production which is being implemented by the Department of Agricul-