

Railway Schools at Kharagpur

3024. **SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY** : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 710 dated 21 November, 1985 regarding Railway High and Higher Secondary Schools at Kharagpur and state :

(a) whether the old yard sticks are still being followed with regard to the appointment of teachers in Railway Schools at Kharagpur;

(b) whether the number of teachers in these schools falls short of requirement;

(c) whether in these schools the number of students exceeds the permissible limit and boys and girls are allowed to study under co-education system ignoring the recommendation of the District Inspectors of Schools and the desire of the guardians; if so, the details thereof, separately for each school; and

(d) the likely time by which the Railway propose to implement the recommendations of the District Inspectors of Schools, Midnapur particularly in regard to aforesaid matters ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Drug Needs of Rural Population

3025. **SHRIMATI VYJAYANTHI-MALA BALI** : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the mechanism Union Government have adopted to cater to the drug needs of rural population;

(b) whether it is adequate to meet the minimum essential drug needs of the poor who need it most; and

(c) if not, whether Government have worked out ways and means to cover the deficiencies and if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE

(SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) The primary responsibility for arranging health and medical services is of the State Governments. Their effort is supplemented by the Union Government by provision of drugs worth Rs. 6000 per annum to each Primary Health Centre under Village Health Guides Scheme besides the supply of elementary medicines worth Rs. 600 per annum to each Village Health Guide. There is approximately one Village Health Guide for every 1000 population. In addition to the general medicines, specific medicines for diseases like Leprosy, Tuberculosis, Malaria and vaccines for diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio are provided by the Government of India along with iron and folic acid tablets and Vitamin 'A'. Government of India also supplies medicines worth Rs. 2000 per annum to sub-centres which serve a population of approximately 5000 in general area and 3000 in tribal and hilly area. The above does not include the cost of medicines required for acceptors of terminal method of contraception and intra-uterine device.

(b) and (c). The question of adequacy of funds was considered by a Working Group set up for the preparation of Seventh Plan proposals. Owing to constraints of resources, it has not been possible to increase the outlay for supply of medicines.

Appointments in Indian Council of Historical Research

3026. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA** : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken to appoint the Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research;

(b) whether the post of Director Administration and Finance has also fallen vacant recently;

(c) if so, the steps taken to fill up that vacancy also;

(d) whether some of the retired persons from the Department of Education have been appointed in ICHR; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) The appointment of the Chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research is under consideration of the Government.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The post is to be filled by the Indian Council of Historical Research.

(d) and (e). A retired Section Officer from the Department of Education was appointed as Administrative Officer in the Council w.e.f. 1-4-1985 in accordance with the rules of the Council.

Storage of Eyes in Eye Banks

3027. **SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that eyes can now be stored in eye banks upto 30 days;

(b) if so, whether it will relieve the pressure on operation theatres and anxiety of the patients;

(c) the number of persons who will be benefited on account of longevity of eyes kept in eye banks as compared to the old system of operation for fixing eyes;

(d) whether Government propose to extend such facilities in all States; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) The eyes can be stored upto 30 days in special "organ culture media" in some International Eye Banks. This facility, however, is not available in India at present.

(b) and (c). Pressure on Operation Theatres and anxiety of the patients would

definitely be reduced when this facility becomes available. The number of beneficiaries will also increase.

(d) and (e). Do not arise at present.

Priority to Female Literacy as a part of the Population Control Programme

3028. **DR. T. KALPANA DEVI :** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to give a priority to female literacy as a part of the Population Control Programme; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). The current adult education programme lays special emphasis on women's education because adult education is an important component of socio-economic development and also a crucial element in promoting the family welfare programmes. National Policy on Education—1986 also visualises systematic programmes of adult education linked with national goals, among others, observance of small family norm. The Ministry of Human Resource Development, in collaboration with UNFPA, has launched a five year (1985-90) Population Education Project in Adult Education, with the main objective of introduction of a component of population education in the existing curriculum under Adult Education Programme in order to develop awareness and understanding among beneficiaries. Likewise a similar project has also been launched in formal education system to help students develop an insight into inter-relationships between population growth and socio-economic development. According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, a new strategy visualising proper linkages between Female Literacy Programmes and the Family Planning Programmes for promotion of National Family Welfare Programme is under consideration of that Ministry.