

Private Buses under DTC Operation

3068. SHRIMATI SUNDERWATI NAVAL PRABHAKAR : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether she is aware of the difficulties of the commuters travelling in private buses under Delhi Transport Corporation operation having 3 × 2 seating layout because it is not possible to board or to get down from these buses on the way without being injured or getting one's clothes torn due to narrow gaugway;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to withdraw such inconvenient private buses; and

(c) if not, the remedial measures proposed to be taken to remove inconvenience to the commuters ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) to (c). Passengers have been experiencing some difficulty in moving in the Private buses particularly during peak hours. The DTC has in November, 1985 taken a decision to engage only such new P.O. buses as have 2 × 2 seating design. The replacement of the old private buses will also be allowed only by the buses having 2 × 2 seating layout.

[English]

Inadequate Stock of Medicines in NDMC Run Hospitals

3069. SHRI MOHD. MAHFOOZ ALI KHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the inadequate stock of medicines in hospitals run by the New Delhi Municipal Committee and the patients are required to buy the prescribed medicines from the open market; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY

WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) and (b). The New Delhi Municipal Committee has informed that sufficient stock of essential medicines including life-saving drugs are available in the New Delhi Municipal Hospitals.

Gujarat's Irrigation Projects pending Clearance

3070. SHRIMATI PATEL REMABEN RAMJIBHAI MAVANI : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some irrigation projects submitted by the Government of Gujarat to the Union Government are pending for clearance; and

(b) if so, the details of such projects and reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). 8 major and 3 medium irrigation projects are under scurtiny and certain clarifications/details in respect of 5 major and 3 medium schemes are awaited from the State Government. Out of the remaining schemes, one major scheme, namely, Sardar Sarovar Project is awaiting clearance from the forest and environmental angle. In respect of Watrak project certain inter-State issues are to be resolved. The Kharicut Modernisation Scheme is under the consideration of the Planning Commission.

[Translation]

Floods in North Bihar and East Uttar Pradesh

3071. SHRI MANOJ PANDEY : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the catchment area of the main rivers in North Bihar and Eastern Uttar Pradesh falls in Nepal;

(b) whether it is also a fact that these rivers are the main cause of floods every year in these States; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to hold talks with Nepal to solve the flood problem of these States permanently and approve the scheme to avert the floods ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) The Government propose to continue the dialogue with His Majesty's Government of Nepal to mitigate the flood problem to the extent possible.

Allowing MST Holders to Travel in Howrah-Kalka Mail

3072. SHRI KESHAORAO PARDHI : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether passengers holding Monthly Season Tickets are not allowed to undertake journey between Delhi and Khurja, Aligarh and other places in Howrah-Kalka Mail whereas Monthly Season Ticket holders are allowed to travel by this train between Allahabad and Kalka;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether, keeping in view the fact that Assam Mail has been withdrawn, there is any proposal to allow these commuters to travel upto Khurja, Aligarh and other places by Howrah-Kalka mail with a view to remove the difficulties being experienced by them; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) and (b). 1 Up/2 Dn Howrah-Delhi-Kalka Mail is a superfast train with a distance restriction of 480 Kms. in Second class. Monthly Season Tickets are issued only for distances upto 150 Kms. Hence, Second class Monthly Season Ticket holders are not permitted by this train. First Class Monthly Season Ticket holders, however, can travel in Kalka Mail by paying superfast charges subject to availability of room. Since Monthly Season Tickets are issued only for distances upto 150 Kms., as such no Monthly Season Ticket can be issued from Allahabad to Kalka.

(c) No, Sir. There is no such proposal.

(d) There are only two unreserved coaches on Kalka Mail which are meant for long distance passengers and if commuters are allowed, long distance passengers will be highly inconvenienced as the coaches are already overcrowded.

[English]

Doctors Migrating Abroad for Employment

3073. SHRI MURLI DEORA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the average number of doctors leaving the country each year for taking up employment or residence abroad, causing brain drain; -

(b) the estimated annual loss through such drain in real terms;

(c) how much does it cost to Government to train a doctor before he migrates to a foreign country; and

(d) the steps being considered by Government to prevent such erosion in our national infrastructure ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) to (c). Migration of Medical Manpower is a complex phenomena resulting from a variety of factors. Since Indian Doctors go abroad for employment through various sources including those serving in the States or in the private sectors, the number of such doctors working in the foreign countries and the loss the country suffers by way of such emigration each year, in terms of costs, is not available with the Government of India. It has been estimated that the cost of training a doctor is about Rs. 2.50 lakhs.

(d) The following steps have been taken to discourage the migration of medical manpower to foreign countries :

(i) restrictions have been placed on medical graduates going abroad