

(c) The value of Service Contract with M/s E.T.P.M., France was Rs. 8.85 crores for the total scope of work split into two phases, viz. pre-monsoon 1986 and post-monsoon 1986. The rates quoted by M/s. E.T.P.M. against the Shipyard's competitive tender were the lowest among the the five bids obtained and technically acceptable. The prevailing rate for this scope of work was in the same range at the time the contract was concluded. To date, the Hindustan Shipyard has not released any payment to the party though a part of the work has been completed pre-monsoon 1986.

[Translation]

Public Health Care Scheme

1047. SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Public Health Care Scheme introduced by the Union Government has been withdrawn ;

(b) if so, whether a large number of employees will become jobless as a result thereof ;

(c) if so, the measures being taken by Government to provide alternative employment to these persons ; and

(d) if no measures are being taken, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR) : (a) There is no such Scheme being implemented in rural areas.

(b) to (d) Does not arise.

[English]

School dropouts

1048. DR. CHINTA MOHAN : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details of school dropouts during the last three years, year-wise and State-wise ; and

(b) the steps taken for their vocational training, employment and development as useful citizens ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) :

(a) The data about drop-outs for the country as a whole was last collected by this Ministry's Planning and Monitoring Division in 1981-82 wherein it was found that the drop-out rate for classes I—V was 50.5% and by Class VIII 72.1%. Data about drop-outs for the last three years has not been collected.

(b) Whereas facilities of vocational education at +2 stage are available in many States, there is no specific programme at present under implementation in this Ministry for imparting vocational education to the drop-outs at elementary stage. Education system is not directly involved in getting students employed. The education programmes are designed and implemented in a manner that they would help in developing students as useful citizens.

News item "Dhaka Violates J.R.C Accord"

1049. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : (SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to newsitem in the 'Times of India' dated 29 June, 1986 under the caption "Dhaka Violated Joint River Commission Accord" and constructing solid spurs on the river Feni ;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken up this matter with Bangladesh Government ;

(c) the extent to which Indian territory in Tripura will be seriously affected in the monsoon season as a result thereof ; and

(d) the reaction of Bangladesh Government to India's protest, if any in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) :

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The effect on the Indian territory in the monsoon season cannot be precisely stated now.

(d) No reply has yet been received.

Newsitem captioned "Banned drugs on sale in Patna"

1050. SHRI V. TULSIRAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have seen a newsitem published in the 'Times of India' dated 14 June, 1986 under the caption "Banned drugs on sale in Patna" ;

(b) if so, the details of the drugs which are on sale and the number of persons affected adversely as a result of use of banned drugs ;

(c) whether some of the drugs which are as old as 1938 A.D. and banned almost all over the world, are still sold in India ; and

(d) whether similar complaints have also been received from other States particularly Andhra Pradesh ; if so, details thereof and steps being taken by Government to prevent sale of such drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The required information has been called for from the Bihar Government and will be laid down on the table of the Sabha.

(c) It is not a fact that drugs as old as 1938 AD and banned almost all over the world, are still sold in India.

(d) The Drug Controller (India) has not received any such complaint from other States, particularly Andhra Pradesh.

New norms and projects for laying new Railway lines

1051. DR. B.L. SHAILESH : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Railways have proposed new norms for approving new railway lines ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ;

(c) the particulars of the projects for laying new railway lines already approved, completed and those on which work has already started ; time to be taken in completing them ;

(d) the estimated capital outlays involved in these on-going projects ; and

(e) whether in future no new railway line will be approved and built ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b) As per the accepted recommendations of the National Transport Policy Committee, criteria for choice of the new railway lines is as under :—

(i) project-oriented lines to serve new industries or tap mineral and other resources ;

(ii) to serve as missing links which can form alternative routes to relieve congestion on existing busy rail routes ;

(iii) on strategic considerations ; and

(iv) as developmental lines to establish new growth centres or give access to remote areas.

(c) and (d) Particulars of approved new lines including expenditure upto 85-86, outlay for 86-87, balance to complete and date of