

(d) whether the Department of Railways will consider enhancing commission rates of commission vendors and if so, the time by which it is likely to be done ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. However, in consultation with ITDC, Railway has introduced fibre glass trolleys on one platform of New Delhi station on an experimental basis for sale of a few selected items.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) The rates of commission are fixed and reviewed by Zonal Railways taking into account various relevant factors like profit element, extent of sale, local conditions, etc. There is no proposal to review it at present.

[English]

Security arrangements at International Airports

466. **SHRI H. B. PATIL:** Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to take strong and active measures for security arrangements at the International Airport in view of the day-to-day happenings in the world; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is given below.

Statement

- (1) Perimeter security at all the four international airports has been tightened.
- (2) Entry on airside as well as other restricted areas of the airports has been further tightened.

(3) Air Carriers have been directed to ensure security of catering items.

(4) 'On-the job' training programme has been initiated for airport security police in the matter of civil aviation security.

Equipments lying unused in Sucheta Kripalani Hospital New Delhi

467. **SHRI SUBHASH YADAV :**
SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY :
SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH :
MALIK :

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

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that equipments worth crores of rupees have been spoiled for want of proper care and are lying unused in the Sucheta Kripalani Hospital, New Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has since been conducted in this regard; and

(d) if so, what action Government have taken against the officers found responsible for such lapses ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) to (d). To get a total picture of the equipments lying unutilised or under-utilised in the Central Government Hospitals, New Delhi, including the Sucheta Kripalani Hospital, New Delhi, the Government has constituted a one man Committee. The findings of the Committee are still awaited.

Funds released for construction of Second Hooghly Bridge

468. **SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA:** Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Union Government have released funds to the Government of West

Bengal for the construction of Second Hooghly Bridge; and

(b) if so, the year-wise break-up of the funds released so far and proposed to be released in near future, as assistance and loan (with rate of interest) ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : (a) Yes, Sir. Assistance has been provided to the Government of West Bengal only in the form of loan.

(b) A statement indicating the year-wise break-up of the loan assistance provided to the Government of West Bengal for the Construction of Second Hooghly Bridge is given below. It is proposed to release an additional amount of Rs. 1100.00 lakhs during the remaining period of the current financial year.

The interest rate on loan assistance varies from year to year. The latest interest rate per annum effective from 1st June, 1986 is 8.75 per cent.

Statement

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Loan Assistance provided
1	2
1972-73	50.00
1973-74	400.00
1974-75	207.00
1975-76	134.20
1976-77	230.00
1977-78	329.03
1978-79	106.38
1979-80	600.00
1980-81	1000.00
1981-82	1200.00
1982-83	1456.00
1983-84	500.00

1	2
1984-85	2000.00
1985-86	2525.00
1986-87	1400.00 (Released so far)
Total :	12137.61

Cure of diabetes by acupuncture

469. **SHRIMATI KISHORI SINHA :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news appeared in the 'Times of India' dated 13 October, 1986 stating that a Allahabad based Indian Acupuncture Centre has claimed that acupuncture has cured several cases of diabetes; and

(b) if so, the status of this institute as a research institution ?

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

(b) The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare or any of its research Councils is not extending any financial assistance to the Indian Acupuncture Centre, Allahabad. The Indian Council of Medical Research, has stated that there is no well documented controlled trial and clinical use data available on the role of acupuncture in diabetes. The experts are of the opinion that this therapy does not have any advantage and benefit over the current medical treatment available.

Recruitment of Railway Employees

470. **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons employed in the Indian Railways—Railway Administration-wise in 1975 and year-wise from 1980 uptodate;