

[*Translation*]**Concession in fare to Physically Handicapped persons**

1330. DR. CHANDRA SHEKHAR TRIPATHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Ministry have given permission to the blind and lame persons to travel with one attendant by paying one fourth of the actual fare ;

(b) if so, whether Government have not given this facility to the deaf and dumb persons ;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and whether Government propose to give this facility to these persons also ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir. The concession permissible is as under :

(i) *To Orthopaedically Handicapped persons* : Only such of the orthopaedically handicapped persons who cannot travel without an escort are entitled for the concession. The element of concession is 75% in first and second class single journey ticket fares for both the orthopaedically handicapped person and his escort. 50% concession in first and second class season ticket fares is also given to the orthopaedically handicapped persons and their escorts.

(ii) *To Blind persons* : They are entitled for concession both while travelling alone and when accompanied by an escort. The element of concession is 75% in first and second class single journey ticket fares. 50% concession in first and second class season ticket fares is also given to the blind persons and their escorts.

(b) to (d) Considering the nature of affliction, the deaf & dumb persons (both afflictions together) only, have been given 50% concession in first and second class single journey ticket fares. It is proposed to extend the same element of concession in first and second class season ticket fares to the deaf & dumb persons from 1.4.1987.

[*English*]**Bilaspur-Bhopal Superfast Train**

1331. SHRI SHIVENDRA BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bilaspur-Bhopal superfast train is making any profit ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons for its introduction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) to (c) Train-wise statistics of sale of tickets is not maintained. It is, therefore, not possible to make an assessment of profitability of Bilaspur-Bhopal Superfast train. It was introduced due to passenger demand.

**Study of Water Flow of Rivers**

1332. SHRI H.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have obtained the views of experts or have appointed any expert body to discuss the possibility of establishing a Commission to study the water flow of all the rivers in the country for the proper utilisation of water flow by the respective States ; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.