

(b) if so, the norms for such assistance and its pattern; and

(c) the number of cultural organisations which have received assistance under this scheme for building and other purposes, state-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) Yes, Sir. These are covered under the scheme of building grants given to cultural organisations.

(b) The institutions/organisations exclusively working in the cultural field of dance, drama, music, fine arts, indology, literature, other than religious institutions public libraries, museums municipalities, schools, universities institutions fully financed by Central Government/State Governments, for the last 5 years and registered at least for a period of two years under the Registration of Societies Act (XII of 1860) or similar acts and which are recommended by State Governments/Union Territories Administrations will qualify for applying for a grant. The selection is recommended by an Expert Committee constituted for this purpose. The maximum assistance admissible to an organisation will be 50% of the expenditure, excluding the cost of land subject to maximum of Rs. 2.00 lakhs per organisation to be utilised at the option of the grantee either exclusively for the construction of building or for the construction of building and equipments. The quantum of assistance for equipments shall not exceed Rs. 50,000 and shall be of non-recurring nature. The grants are given in suitable instalments.

(c) From 1980-81 onwards 166 cultural organisations have received financial assistance under the scheme of building grants to cultural organisations. The State-wise number of the cultural organisations are given below :

Andhra Pradesh	4
Assam	32
Bihar	8

Gujarat	5
Haryana	1
Jammu and Kashmir	1
Karnataka	12
Kerala	29
Madhya Pradesh	2
Maharashtra	8
Manipur	6
Meghalaya	3
Orissa	16
Punjab	3
Rajasthan	9
Sikkim	1
Tamil Nadu	8
Tripura	1
Uttar Pradesh	5
West Bengal	2
Andaman and Nicobar Islands	1
Chandigarh	5
Delhi	3
Goa Daman and Diu	1
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[Translation]

Daily Wage Workers in Delhi Hospitals

2606. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of workers working on daily wages in various Central hospitals of

Delhi and since when they have been working there;

(b) the rules for regularising their services; and

(c) the time by which the services of these daily wage workers will be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) Casual wage workers are engaged against absentee vacancies/ purely casual nature of work. The number of such workers in the three Central Government Hospitals in Delhi at present are as follows:

1. Safdarjang Hospital	135
2. Dr. Ram Manohar Lobia Hospital	125
3. Lady Hardinge Medical College and Smt. S.K. Hospital	76

(b) A minimum 240 days service per year for two year is required to regularise the services of daily wage workers.

(b) As and when the casual wage workers complete the requirement at (b) above subject to the availability of regular vacancies.

Additional Trains between Delhi and Varanasi

2006. SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during summer trains in Eastern Uttar Pradesh are so overcrowded that seats are not available in trains and reservation is not available even months before;

(b) if so, the measures being taken by the Ministry to tackle the problems of passengers in the coming summer vacations;

(c) whether Government propose to run an additional train from Delhi to

Varanasi *via* Jaunpur with a view to deal with the situation;

(d) if so, the time by which this train is likely to be introduced; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Trains do get overcrowded and reservations at the last minute become difficult during the summer rush.

(b) In addition to the normal trains, Railways run summer specials between a number of points.

(c) to (e). No, Sir. Daily service between Delhi and Varanasi is already available *via* Jaunpur.

[English]

Health Problems Ascribed to Soft Drinks

2607. SHRI MANIK REDDY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the use of saccharine, caffeine, phosphoric and citric acids etc. in soft drinks is permitted despite scientific evidence of their harmful effects;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether it is proposed to ban their use and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). Saccharin, caffeine, phosphoric acid are allowed in the manufacture of soft drinks. The maximum limit of 100 mg/kg of saccharin is permitted as per Prevention of Food Adulteration Rules, keeping in view the Average Daily Intake recommended by FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission. Caffeine, phosphoric and citric acid are self-limiting in soft drink. Scientific studies conducted on the possible harmful effects of soft drinks have revealed that