

improvement programmes. These include programmes like Centres of Advanced Study, Departments of special assistance, restructuring of courses, etc. Grants are approved under these programmes for different Universities which are selected on the basis of the criteria prescribed for them. In such cases also, the approved grants are released on the basis of the progress of expenditure reported by the Universities.

In the case of colleges, during the Seventh Plan, the UGC has laid down the conditions of eligibility and the extent of grants

available for different purposes. Generally, development grants to colleges vary between Rs.4.00 lakhs and Rs.5.00 lakhs per college depending upon its enrolment. Within these ceilings, grants are released for approved programmes on the basis of the expenditure incurred by individual colleges.

Comparison of grants paid to universities and colleges in Bihar with those paid to other Universities/colleges on the basis of annual disbursement will not therefore be appropriate.

STATEMENT

Grants to Universities and Colleges in Bihar

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Name of Universities | Amount of grants given in 1985-86 | | Amount of grants given in 1986-87 | | Amount of grants given in 1987-88 (upto Oct. 1987) | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---------|-----------------------------------|---------|--|---------|
| | University | College | University | College | University | College |
| Bhagalpur | 21.27 | 9.45 | 9.54 | 8.32 | 24.61 | 18.36 |
| Bihar | 14.09 | 20.39 | 19.04 | 34.80 | 3.49 | 24.39 |
| K.S. Darbanga | 2.26 | - | 5.35 | - | - | - |
| Magadh | 25.50 | 20.09 | 17.87 | 44.48 | 3.86 | 35.66 |
| L.N. Mithila | 1.98 | 13.48 | 1.14 | 54.33 | 4.26 | 31.00 |
| Patna | 40.87 | 1.76 | 39.50 | 4.55 | 32.16 | 1.48 |
| Ranchi | 16.78 | 15.88 | 36.66 | 29.98 | 12.00 | 27.97 |

Note: L.N.Mithila University has not yet become eligible for general development grants.

[English]

Introduction of a New Mail Train between Ahmedabad-Baroda-Bombay

5217. SHRI RANJITSINGH GAIKWAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the continuous increase in passenger traffic

on Bombay-Ahmedabad section of Western Railway;

(b) if so, whether there is long waiting list of Bombay-bound passengers from Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat and vice-versa; and

(c) if so, whether a new mail train between Ahmedabad-Baroda-Bombay is proposed to be introduced?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (c). There is an increase in passenger traffic on all the trunk routes of Indian Railways, including Ahmedabad-Bombay section. However, the number of passengers left behind after the departure of trains at Bombay, Surat, Baroda & Ahmedabad is only marginal.

There is no proposal to introduce a new mail train between Ahmedabad and Bombay at Present.

Fixation of prices of Aluminium

5218. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to order special costing for fixation of price of aluminium, as the large industrial houses have got fixed high price of aluminium through the Bureau of Industrial Cost and Pricing and selling their products at very high prices; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA): (a) and (b). The prices of primary aluminium are statutorily controlled. Bureau of Industrial Costs and Prices (BICP) conducts the study of aluminium industry and determine the retention prices of each primary producer taking into account the normative consumption norms of raw materials and utilities and reasonable return on net worth. The sale price is thus determined on the weighted average retention price. Two primary producers in the private sector, whose retention price is lower than the sale price, are contributing towards the Aluminium Regulation Account, whereas two other primary producers, one in the public sector and the other in the private sector, whose retention prices are higher than the sale price, receive the difference from the Aluminium Regulation Account. These principle have withstood judicial scrutiny.

It is significant to mention that power constitutes about 40% of the cost of production of aluminium. The power tariff in aluminium exporting countries is much less as compared with India, yet the indigenous price of aluminium at present is close to the international price.

There is, however, no price control on prices of downstream products of aluminium, which are manufactured by the large, medium as well as small scale sectors.

Pricing and Distribution of Aluminium

5219. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take over the pricing and distribution of aluminium in the country; and

(b) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF MINES IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA): (a) There is already a statutory price control over primary aluminium and distribution control on Electrical Conductor grade aluminium metal.

(b) Does not arise.

Patients requiring Surgical Treatment in Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi

5220. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great rush of patients requiring surgical treatment in Safdarjang Hospital, New Delhi and they are unable to get admission early because there are only a few surgical units; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to increase the number of surgical units to six as in Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital so that larger number of surgical patients could be attended to?