

**Cooperation between India and Canada
In the field of Railways**

614. SHRI Y.S. MAHAJAN:
SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE
PATIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the railways are negotiating an agreement with Canadian firms to share their expertise and know-how in the high technology areas of high horse power diesel locomotives, telecommunications network for freight computerisation and the light rail transport systems for metropolitan cities;

(b) if so, the terms and conditions of cooperation and collaboration in these areas;

(c) whether Government have evaluated the Canadian offers with similar offers from other countries; if so, how does the Canadian offer compare with other countries; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to enter into a counter-trade agreement with Canada?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. Railways have under consideration the offers for High Horse Power locos received against tenders. A Canadian firm is one of the bidders. The offers are under evaluation and the stage for negotiations or award of contract has not reached.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The process of evaluation of offers is not completed.

(d) This will be decided after finalization

of global tender.

World AIDS Conference

615. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased state:

(a) the outcome of the "World Summit of Ministers of Health on Programmes for AIDS prevention" held in London in January, 1988;

(b) whether India had mooted no AIDS certificate for foreigners as part of travel documents as one of the preventive measures to check spreading of AIDS; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Conference to India's suggestion alongwith details of other suggestions made at the conference?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b). During the World Summit of Ministers of Health on Programmes for AIDS prevention held in London from 26th to 28th January, 1988, the then Minister of Health & Family Welfare in his speech had proposed that it would be helpful if national governments could accept HIV — free status health certificates issued from the country of origin. This would avoid inconvenience to foreign tourists and that in due course the HIV — free status certificate be made part of the travel documents carried by all foreign visitors. In addition, interaction between scientists and researchers for research on AIDS and prevention through public education coupled with effective surveillance was also proposed.

(c) The summit has recognised the fact that there could be a different strategy for AIDS control in countries which are yet free from HIV infection.