

courses in Ayurvedic Colleges, including DR. N. R. S. Government Ayurvedic College, Vijayawada for the present.

Cancellation of flight at airport in AP

1738. SHRI BHATTAM SRIRAMA-MURTY : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times the flights of Indian Airlines were either rescheduled or cancelled during the last one year at different airports in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V PATIL) :
(a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Fluorosis in Orissa

1739. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of persons are suffering from fluorosis in Orissa;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Union Government are pursuing a central scheme to set up defluorination plants which can purify water, the main source of this disease;

(c) whether the disease is spreading in Orissa; if so the areas and the estimated number of people affected; and

(d) whether the defluorination plants set up in Orissa are capable of meeting the requirements of the State, if not, the number of plants at present, how many more are required and the time by which these are likely to be set ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) There is no authentic data to prove that a large number of persons are suffering from fluorosis in Orissa.

(b) Under the National Drinking Water Mission, a sub-mission, on Control of excess fluoride has been taken up. Setting up of defluorination plants forms part of this programme.

(c) On the basis of survey conducted so far, 10 villages in Phulbani district are reported to have excess fluoride in drinking water. Water quality analysis in other districts is being conducted and the exact number of villages affected will be known after water quality analysis is completed. The disease is not spreading as it is not a communicable one.

(d) Efforts are being made to provide alternative source of safe drinking water in affected villages. Where such alternative source is not available, it is proposed to set up defluorination plants for removal of excess fluoride. 10 defluorination plants are being installed in Orissa in 1988-89. The number of plants to be installed in 1989-90 will depend on the outcome of the water quality analysis, the availability of alternate source of drinking water etc.

[Translation]

Allocation to U.P. for family welfare programme

**1740. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH :
SHRI RAJ KUMAR RAI :**

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

(a) the amount allocated during the current Plan period to Uttar Pradesh for family welfare programmes;

(b) whether U.P. Government has asked for more help; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Union Government on the request of U.P. Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) : (a) Amount allocated to Government of Uttar Pradesh for Family Welfare Programme during current Plan period is as under :

Year	Amount Allocated (Rs. in lakhs)
1985-86	5682.02
1986-87	4979.51
1987-88	6385.63
1988-89	5860.82

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The State Government has been assured that arrears admissible on account of excess expenditure by the State Government will be reimbursed during 1988-89.

[English]

Decline in Vanaspati output

1741. SHRI KAMAL NATH : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the output of Vanaspati has declined between February and June this year;

(b) if so, the extent of decline in the output and the reasons for drop in production;

(c) whether the Vanaspati Producer's Association has urged Government for a long term policy for allocation of imported edible oil; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL

SUPPLIES (SHRI D. L. BAITHA) : (a) and (b). The production of vanaspati for the period February to June, 1988 is given below :

Month	Production (in MT)
February	81,554
March	80,654
April	73,692
May	75,210
June	82,005

One of the main reasons for declining production is the shortage of tinplate for packing of vanaspati.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Due to fluctuations in production of edible oils in the country from year to year and other related factors like prices of edible oil in the international market and constraint of foreign exchange etc., it is not possible to have a long term policy for allocation of imported edible oils to the vanaspati industry. However, the position is reviewed from time to time to ensure the availability of vanaspati at reasonable prices to the consumers.

[Translation]

Setting up of Directorate of Passenger Amenities

1742. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made in the setting up of the Directorate of Passenger Amenities; and

(b) whether complaints of railway passengers are also proposed to be looked into by this Directorate ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) and (b). A Directorate of Passenger Amenities has