

Disposal of Isotopes by Laboratories of JNU

(1957) SHRI SURESH KURUP : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the School of Life Sciences in Jawaharlal Nehru University has violated the instructions given by the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre regarding the handling and disposal of radio isotopes in its laboratories since 1973; if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the steps taken by the University authorities to clear doubts between the university on radiation related to hazards in the School of Life Sciences ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI) : (a) and (b). The radiation and isotope facilities in the School of Life Sciences of the University were installed in 1972. These facilities are being inspected from time to time by the Division of Radiological Protection of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC). After an inspection, the BARC pointed out in October 1985 that the radiation background on the general surface of the Gamma Chamber was slightly higher than the permissible level, which is computed on the assumption that the same worker continuously operated the Gamma Chamber for 8 hours a day and 40 hours per week. The Gamma Chamber in the University did not operate for 1/10 of the duration of 8 hours a day, and no one person operates this Unit even for this short duration.

The BARC had suggested in January, 1986 that all that was necessary was to adhere to the normal work practice and that the workers should wear film badges. The personnel operating the Gamma Chamber in the University have been wearing the film badges whenever they operate the radiation facility.

New Devices to Check Train Accidents

1918. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state ;

(a) whether Government have introduced some new devices to check train accidents;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) since when those new measures have been introduced; and

(d) the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) and (c). The following new devices have been introduced to check train accidents.

- (i) Auxiliary Warning System for automatic application of brakes in case a driver fails to stop his train short of a stop signal. This is being introduced in the first instance on Church Gate-Virar section of Western Railway.
- (ii) Axle Counters to ensure complete train arrival and clearance of track, installed as trial measure from 1970. 399 axle counters have been provided.
- (iii) Flasher lights on diesel and electric locomotives and on electric multiple units rakes, to warn trains coming from the opposite direction in case of any obstruction. Trial and fitment of flasher lights was started in 1981 and these are being further improved now by use of Xenon lamps.
- (iv) Progressive use of Ultrasonic testing of rails and axles for detection of flaws
- (v) On-track tamping machines and concrete sleepers with elastic fastenings for improved maintenance of track.
- (vi) Trials of last vehicle check device to ensure complete arrival of train are under way on the Northern Railway.

(vii) Route relay interlocking and panel interlocking is being progressively provided at stations. 712 stations have been provided with these devices.

(viii) Progressive provision of track circuiting at stations. This has been done at 2026 stations.

(d) While it is not possible to precisely correlate reduction in accidents with a specific Safety device, there was a 11.7% fall in the number of accidents during 1985-86 when compared to the preceding year. During the quarter April to June 1986-87 the number of accidents has been about 27% less than the corresponding quarter of 1985-86.

Demand for a Halt Station between Kalubathan and Ambana Station of Eastern Railway

1919. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the villagers of large number of Panchayats of Nibsa areas of Dhanbad district was held at Elakend-Fatehpur Railway gate on 6 July, 1986 demanding a halt station between Kalubathan and Ambana Station of Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard;

(c) whether it is a fact that the demand for halt station at that place is being raised since long time and it would be remunerative to railways; and

(d) if so, the steps taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) Government is not aware of such a meeting.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) and (d). There has been a demand for such a halt. Opening of this halt is not feasible from the operating and engineering points of view, as it will be on the busy Grand Chord, with a gradient of 1 in 200. It is also not justified financially.

Reduction of Seats by Colleges of Delhi University

1920. SHRI NITYANANDA MISRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been invited to the Newsitem appearing in the Hindustan Times dated 16 July, 1986 stating that Colleges in Delhi will be reducing 1800 seats in B.A., B Com. courses during the current academic year;

(b) the number of eligible students who are on the waiting list;

(c) whether this step will be retrograde one and deprive many students access to college education; and

(d) whether Government would intervene to avert the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE (SHRIMATI KRISANA SAHI) :

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For the purpose of admission the students have to apply to individual Colleges of their choice. A large number of students apply simultaneously to several Colltges. Admission will continue upto 14th August, 1986, therefore, the number of eligible students on the waiting list will not be available with the Delhi University. The number of students who have qualified in the Higher Secondary Examination from Delhi with 40% or more marks and have thus become eligible for admission to various courses in Colleges in Delhi is 43,856.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Recommendations of Working Group Regarding Production of Books for School Students

1921. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have asked the working group on National Book