

drinking water supplies in the villages. These, as well as other instructions, are reiterated in the Jan Swasthya Rakshak Shikshan Patrika, a quarterly bulletin being published by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare for the continuing education of the CHVs.

(d) Question does not arise.

Shortage of Blood in Delhi Hospitals

492. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of blood in all hospitals in Delhi and heart operations and other operations are not possible in time for want of blood;

(b) whether it is also a fact that commercially organised blood banks are selling blood at exorbitant prices; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHAN. KARANAND): (a) No.

(b) Yes; this is a fact.

(c) Steps are being taken to step up voluntary blood donation.

Transportation of Betel Leaves

493. SHRIMATI SANYOGITA RANE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that attaching of goods bogies at Bassein for transportation of betel leaves has been discontinued and this has increased the difficulties of the cultivators;

(b) whether Government propose to increase and make alternative arrangements for space in the bogies for betel leaves to be loaded;

(c) whether it is also proposed to classify betel leaves as a perishable commodity in the tariff schedule and provide the sheds to protect this perishable commodity at different places; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Betel leaves traffic from Bassein area is being cleared by loading in train service parcel vans at Vasai Road worked by passenger carrying trains and not by goods wagons. There were some shortage of parcel vans in the past and this has since been rectified and the clearance is now being done on a regular basis.

(b) The present volume of offering of betel leaves does not justify increase in and making alternative arrangements.

(c) and (d). On Western Railway, betel leaves traffic is already classified as perishable and preference is given. At Vasai Road and Palghar, normal covering of platforms is already available.

रेलवे में अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित जनजातियों के श्रेणी दो, तीन तथा चार के कर्मचारी

494. श्री राम विनास पासवान : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित-जनजातियों के श्रेणी II, III और IV के कितने कर्मचारी भारतीय रेलों में काम कर रहे हैं ;

(ख) क्या अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जन जातियों के कर्मचारियों के लिये विभागीय पदोन्नति का क्रमशः 15 प्रतिशत एवं 7½ प्रतिशत का आरक्षण कोटा भर लिया गया है ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो उसको भरने के लिये क्या कार्यक्रम अपनाये जाने का विचार है ; और

(घ) कितने प्रतिशत आरक्षित पदों पर अब तक अनुसूचित जातियों और अनुसूचित जन जातियों के लोगों की भर्ती की गई है और इस बारे में शेष पदों को भरने के लिये क्या कार्रवाई की जा रही है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन): (क) से (घ). सूचना क्षेत्रीय रेलों से इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सभा पटल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

Extension of Tatanagar Barjamda Passenger Train upto Bolani

495. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend the Tatanagar-Barjamda passenger train upto Bolani; and

(b) if so, from what date such decision is likely to be worked out?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Development of Dadar-Bombay Station

496. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to develop Dadar-Bombay station so as to facilitate interchange between Central and Western Railways;

(b) if so, when the work will be started and the period for the completion of the same; and

(c) whether Government propose to start Pune-Ahmedabad direct train

after the development of Dadar Station?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). With the opening of the Diva-Bassein link and the consequential possible reduction of Goods Traffic moving via Dadar, the Government are contemplating to provide additional Coaching facilities at Dadar. The scheme is yet to be formulated.

(c) In view of the reply to (a) and (b) above, this does not arise.

Railway Users' Committee

497. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway users' committee has not been constituted; and

(b) if so, when it will be nominated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) The matter is under active consideration and a decision is expected to be taken soon.

Local Purchase of Ayurvedic Medicines

498. DR. A. U. AZAMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether, unlike the practice obtaining on the Allopathic side, local purchase of Ayurvedic medicines prescribed by Specialists, either by the C.G.H.S. or the patient to be reimbursed later on, is not permitted and the incident is mandated to one supplier who has monopolised the whole supply and takes as many as 7—10 days to supply the medicine;

(b) the difficulties which lie in the way of Government in introducing the