

New Policy to bring down Birth Rate

511. SHRI M. V. CHANDRASEHARA MURTHY:

SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:

SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK:

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the Union Government propose a new policy to bring down the birth rate to 30 per cent;

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme;

(c) when the scheme is likely to be introduced;

(d) whether the State Governments have been consulted in this regard; and

(e) the total cost involved in implementing the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (e). The Plan Frame Work (1980—85) approved by the National Development Council in August, 1980 envisages the objective of reaching a Net Reproduction Rate of 'One' by 1995. This will imply a reduction of the Crude Birth Rate to about 21 per 1000 from the existing 33 per 1000 and a reduction in the Crude Death Rate to about 9 per 1000 from the existing 14 per thousand. It will also imply the reduction of infant mortality to about 60 per 1000 from the present about 120 per thousand. During the Plan period 1980—85, it is proposed to bring down the Birth Rate to about 30 per thousand by 1984-85.

The National Family Welfare Programme is continuously in operation

from the first Plan Period as a Centrally operated and funded Scheme implemented through the agency of the Governments of States and Union Territories. The programme is based on motivation and education of the people on the advantages of accepting the small family norm on a voluntary basis by availing of services and supplies available from an infrastructure built right from the grass root level in the rural areas.

The progress of the programme is periodically reviewed in depth by the Central and State Government at the meeting of the Central Family Welfare Council which is headed by the Union Health Minister and in which all State Health Ministers, among others, are members.

The Planning Commission are engaged in finalising the Sixth Plan (1980—85) document and the cost estimates for the programme are under their consideration.

Extension of Jayanti Janta Express to Trivandrum

512. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Jayanti Janta Express running at present between Nizamuddin and Cochin, has not been extended to Trivandrum as yet though the proposal was there before the Government for long;

(b) if so, what are the difficulties in extending the same; and

(c) when it will be done?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). Extension of 131|132 Jayanti Janata Express was examined but was not found feasible. However, in order to provide additional accommodation for passengers between Trivandrum and New Delhi, it is proposed to double head 125|126 K. K.