

factors such as extensive power cuts in the eastern sector, floods and breaches on Western, Northern and South Eastern Railways, labour troubles in mines at Bailadilla affecting iron ore for export movement, and less demand for raw materials to steel plants. Most of these factors are beyond Railways' control.

(d) Apart from closely monitoring the movement on day-today basis at the Railways' as well as Railway Board's level, greater co-ordination is also being maintained with the different agencies and rail users to improve the wagon turn-round. The help of State Governments is also being sought to improve the law and order situation. Besides, staff agitations have been dealt with suitably. Additional wagons are also being procured to supplement the present holding of wagons.

(e) Adequate arrangements exist for handling of goods traffic on the Railways to prevent the avoidable diversion of rail-borne traffic to road.

Indo-Soviet research on infection

1510. DR. VASANI KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had talks with Russian Scientists on the subject of Indo-Soviet research on infections ;

(b) if so, the Indian Officials who visited USSR and the details of agreement reached between the two countries; and

(c) the area in which research will be carried on and for what period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) and (c) : Yes, there have been discussions between a delegation of the Govt. of India and the U.S.S.R. authorities on collaborative efforts in the field of Medical Science and Public Health. The discussions covered proposals for collaboration in research in communicable diseases, immunology and vaccine production, blood and blood products, ophthalmology, oncology and neurophysiology as well as development of contacts in a large number of other fields of mutual interest, through exchange of medical and technological personnel.

(b) The Indian Delegation which visited U.S.S.R. for eight days, commencing 11th April, 1980, was constituted by:—

- (i) Shri Kripa Narain, Secretary, Health & Family Welfare, and President, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi
- (ii) Prof. V. Ramalingaswami, Director General, Indian Council of Medical Research, New Delhi
- (iii) Dr. B. Sankaran, Director General of Health Services, New Delhi
- (iv) Shri N.N. Vohra, Joint Secretary (Medical Education, Research, Rural Health & International Health), New Delhi

Functioning of primary health centres in Madhya Pradesh

1511. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) how many Primary Health Centres are operating under the Community Health Volunteers Scheme in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) how many Primary Health Centres are operating in the backward Districts of Rajgarh, Guna and Vidisha ;

(c) how many additional doctors have been appointed in the Primary Health Centres now operating in Madhya Pradesh ;

(d) how many health workers, males and females are working in the rural areas of Madhya Pradesh ;

(e) how many of these Health workers are working in the Districts of Rajgarh, Guna and Vidisha ; and

(f) whether Government propose to strengthen the number of doctors and workers per Primary Health Centre and the Central Health Volunteer Schemes and if so, the proposals sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE : (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR) : (a) The Health Volunteers Scheme is being implemented in 213 Primary Health Centres in Madhya Pradesh.

(b) Twenty two Primary Health Centres as per following details are operating in the districts of Rajgarh, Guna and Vidisha ;

Rajgarh	6
Guna	9
Vidisha	7