

3. All India Prohibition Council, All India Milli Conference, 400th Anniversary of Sri Amritsar, 1977.

4. Janata Party Rally, 1977.

(c) Yes. As a measure of incentive and in recognition of the commendable work done by railway employees in the performance of their official duties, awards are given to railway servants.

(d) In view of the reply to part (c) above, this question does not arise.

#### Chartered Buses

3236. PROF. AJIT KUMAR MEHTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that contract carriages in Delhi ply on parallel routes of the Delhi Transport buses as chartered buses carrying thousands of passengers daily in contravention of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1939 and these buses do not pay any fee either to the Delhi Transport Corporation or to the State Transport Authority;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to combat this irregularity and when; and

(c) how many such buses ply in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). The Delhi Administration have informed that there are about 50 buses holding regular Contract Carriage permits. Further about 1850 temporary Contract Carriage permits are also being issued against the payment of necessary fee as permissible under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

These buses cannot operate as Stage Carriages. Vehicles plying in violation of the provisions of the Act or conditions of permit are liable for legal action. During the last calendar year, 141 contract carriage operators were prosecuted for violating the conditions of their permits.

#### Note on National Leprosy control Programme with reference to Bihar

3237. SHRI HARINATHA MISRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Note on National Leprosy Control Programme with special emphasis on Bihar has been received by the Government through the Prime Minister;

(b) what important suggestions have been given in the note and reaction of Government to each of the suggestions made therein; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take for complete eradication of the scourge from the country in general and Bihar in particular?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR). (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the information is enclosed—Statement I. Laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in library. See No. LT-2107/81]

(c) A statement giving the information is enclosed—Statement II. Laid on the Table of the House. Placed in library. See No LT-2107/81]