

**Assistance Provided By India To
Iran's Earthquake Victims**

2656. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Iran had been struck by a massive earthquake resulting in considerable loss of life and property; and

(b) if so, the assistance provided by India to help Iran in meeting this natural calamity ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO) : (a) Yes, Sir. There have been two earthquakes in the Kerman Province of Iran, one on the 11th June and the other on the 28th July, 1981.

(b) Government have donated a sum of Iranian Rials 2 million (equivalent to Rs 2,32,558.15) to the Iranian Government for providing relief to the victims of the earthquakes. The Government have also decided to provide relief assistance in kind.

**Traffic Load on Patna-Bhagalpur
Station of Eastern Railway**

2657. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINHA : Will the Minister of RAILWAY be pleased to state :

(a) whether any study has been made for the traffic load on Patna-Bhagalpur Section of the Eastern Railway on account of Kanwariya rush during the month of Shrawana and Bhadrpad; and

(b) if so, what necessary steps are being taken by the Railway authorities for tackling the peak period rush ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI (MALLIKARJUN) ; (a) and (b): No special study has been made. However, on the occasion of Shrawana Mela during July-August, 1981 the following arrangements were made to clear the extra rush of passengers. 137/138 Jamalpur-Gaya Passenger had been extended to run between Jamalpur and Bhagalpur. Load of 13/14 Upper India Express and 327/328 Howrah-Danapur Fast Passenger had been augmented by one extra II class coach each on Bhagalpur-Patna and Bhagalpur-Danapur sections respectively. Duration of stoppages of 13/14 Upper India Express, 327/328 Howrah-Danapur Fast Passenger, 339 Dn Howrah- Muzeffarpur Passenger and 351/352 Burdwan-Kiul Fast Passenger trains had been increased by 2 mts. at Sultanganj.

Similar arrangements are also being made for the Bhadra Mela to be held from 11-9-81 to 17-9-11.

**Sending Non-Aligned fact Finding
Mission to Lebanon**

2658. SHRI CHINGWANG KONYAK : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the organisation of Non-Aligned countries proposed to send a fact finding mission to Beirut, Lebanon, to assess the damage caused by Israeli bombings on the city;

(b) if so the representative of the Non-aligned mission;

(c) whether the schedule of the visit of the mission has been finalised; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?