

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL):

(a) and (b). No Sir. The Government has, however, plans to set up four National Institutes in each area of disability viz. visually handicapped, orthopaedically handicapped, hearing handicapped and mentally retarded. The National Institute for the Visually Handicapped and National Institute for Orthopaedically Handicapped have already been set up at Dchradun and Calcutta respectively. The National Institute for the Hearing Handicapped is coming up at Bombay. The National Institutes for the Mentally Retarded will be set up at Hyderabad. These Institute will be apex bodies in their areas in the field of education, research and training, dissemination of information and national level model of services.

अहमदाबाद और बड़ौदा-सूरत के बीच
उपनगरीय रेल गाड़ियां

2717. श्री छीतू भाई गामित :
क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :—

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गुजरात सरकार ने अहमदाबाद और बड़ौदा तथा बड़ौदा और सूरत के बीच उपनगरीय रेल-गाड़ियां चलाए जाने के बारे में अनुरोध किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका व्योरा क्या है तथा सरकार की इस बारे में क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

रेल मंत्रालय में तथा संसदीय कार्य विभाग में उपमंत्रि (श्री मल्लिकार्जुन) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) इस क्षेत्र में यातायात की सुविधाओं का विकास करने के लिए एक तकनीकी एवं आर्थिक सर्वेक्षण किया जा रहा है ।

Programme for the prevention of Blindness chalked out by Royal Commonwealth Society

2718. SHRI GULAM MOHAMMAD KHAN:
SHRI BAGUN SUMBRUI:

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

(a) whether the number of children going blind is increasing in India every year ;

(b) if so, the details in this regard ;

(c) whether any programme for the prevention of blindness in India is being chalked out by the Royal Commonwealth Society ; and

(d) if so, the names of the States where this programme would be implemented and the amount of expenditure to be incurred thereon and other details in this regard ?

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

(a) No.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) and (d). Yes. Royal Commonwealth Society has informed that they have launched a programme for the prevention of nutritional

blindness. The projects are being set up in 1981-82, such as—

Already started

1. Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh
Bhimaweram

2. Madurai Tamilnadu

Under consideration

1. Chikodra Gujarat

2. Gauhati Assam

3. Chinglepet Tamilnadu

4. Dharavi Slum, Maharashtra
Bombay

5. Bastar Madhya Pradesh

6. Devangiri Karnataka

7. Sitapur Uttar Pradesh

The projects being set up are in development blocks having an estimated child population of 15,000 children under 6 years of which 1500 children are at risk of blindness. Over a period of 5 years R. C. S. B. hopes to cover 40 areas in 16 States having high prevalence of nutritional blindness and expects to save eye sight of 60,000 children. The annual estimated cost for 40 blocks by 3rd year is likely to be in the region of ₹3,40,000.

Contract Carriage issued permits

2719. DR. A. U. AZMI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) how many Contract Carriage have been given permits in Delhi recently to carry passengers and luggage from various parts of the city to the Railway Stations and Airport with details together with reasons for resorting to such a proposition;

(b) what is the permit fee prescribed for these carriages;

(c) for how long will these carriages ply; and

(d) authority under which these vehicles will ply in Delhi ?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL) : (a) None. However, in order to tide over the situation created by the taxi/auto-rickshaw strike in Delhi, Delhi Administration took a decision on 25-7-81 to press into service about 100 contract carriage buses from important nodal points such as ISBT, Railway Stations, Airport, Central Secretariat, Connaught Place etc. These buses were started on important routes w.e.f. 25-7-81 and continued till the morning of 29-7-81. The buses were allowed to charge flat fare of of Re. 1.00 per passenger and these buses were operating as supplementary services to DTC. These buses were asked to operate on local permits already with them.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Promoting study of Sanskrit

2720. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH : Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Sanskrit Board have formulated several proposals for promoting the study of Sanskrit; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRIMATI SHEILA KAUL) : (a) and (b). The Central Sanskrit Board in its meeting held on 20th July, 1981 made several recommendations for promotion of Sanskrit studies. These recommendations include ensuring a place for Sanskrit at School, College and