

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

University levels; provision of Sanskrit studies as part of non-formal education; appointment of retired Sanskrit scholars in universities; opening Kendriya Sanskrit Vidya-peethas and Adarsh Pathshalas in the border areas as well as adjoining countries; Survey, Collection, Cataloguing and Publication of Sanskrit manuscripts.

**Duty of Orthopaedic Specialist in
Emergency Ward of Dr. R. M. L.
Hospital.**

2721. SHRI SAJJAN KUMAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no orthopaedic specialist is available in Emergency Ward of Dr. R. M. L. Hospital, New Delhi where specialists in other fields are available all the time;

(b) if so, the reasons for not detailing for duty an orthopaedic specialist in Emergency Department also; and

(c) the remedial steps Government propose to take in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) to (c). Orthopaedic Surgeons are available in Emergency Department of Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital on call duty.

Coach Factory in Kerala

2722. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to have a new coach factory;

(b) whether its location has been finally decided; and

(c) will he consider Kerala's claim in view of the fact that there is not a single railway establishment in Kerala?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). In view of the increasing demand for Railway Coaches there is a proposal under consideration for setting up a new Railway Coach Production Unit. On receipt of the Planning Commission's clearance of the Project the question of location of the New Railway Coach factory will be finalised.

(c) All relevant factors will be considered while finalising the site for the proposed new Coach Factory.

**Overbridge near Alwar Railway
Station**

2723. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

Whether Government have any proposal to construct a railway overbridge near the Alwar Railway Station to facilitate the road traffic?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): Proposals for construction of road over/under-bridges in replacement of busy level crossings have to be sponsored by the State Government/Road Authorities who have to also give an undertaking that they will bear their share of the cost as per extent rules. No firm proposal for construction of a road overbridge in replacement of any of the existing level crossings near Alwar has so far been sponsored by the Government of Rajasthan.