

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b). The Seventh Joint Conference of the Central Councils of Health and Family Welfare, which took place in June, 1981, has recommended the adoption of the draft National Health Policy with certain observations. The policy document, recast on the basis of the aforesaid recommendations has also since been considered by the Consultative Committee of the Parliament. The document will now be processed further.

Demand for passenger ships between Bombay and Mangalore

3698. DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a great demand for passenger ships between Bombay and Mangalore;

(b) if so, what action Government has taken in this regard; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI VEERENDRA PATIL): (a) Some requests have been received for operation of passenger service between Bombay and Mangalore.

(b) and (c). Mogul Line Limited is considering a proposal to introduce Roll-on Roll-off passenger-cum-cargo service between Bombay and Goa which may be extended, if necessary, to Mangalore.

Betel Leave Booking in West Bengal

3699. SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the betel leaves worth crores of rupees are sent to other States from West Bengal;

(b) whether he is aware that for the last one year, the Railway authorities are denying betel leave booking from various railway stations like Ulberia, Bagnan, Mecheda, Panskura, Serampore, etc. by reducing the time of stoppage of various Mail and Express Trains and thus running economically about ten lakh families of West Bengal;

(c) if so, whether he would look into the matter to save the economy of West Bengal; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALIKARJUN): (a) Betel leaves Traffic is being offered for booking from stations in West Bengal.

(b) Betel leaves traffic is being accepted for booking from the stations under reference and cleared by nominated trains.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

Israeli Type Raid on Pak Nuclear Complex

3700. SHRI SUBHASH YADAV:
SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:
SHRI R. L. BHATIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the report published in Pakistan Press saying that military advisers in India have suggested an Israeli-type raid on Pakistan's nuclear research centre; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report is baseless, tendentious, and mischievous. It is surprising and regrettable that it has been given currency in Pakistan. We have expressed our serious concern to Pakistan over the report.