

of the Residents and interns, which was received in the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare on 24-11-1980.

Daitari—Banspani Line

667. SHRI HARIHAR SOREN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted for the construction of the Daitari-Banspani railway line;

(b) what is the estimated cost of this proposed railway line;

(c) whether the construction of this railway line will be completed by the end of the current financial year; and

(d) the progress made so far in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) An amount of Rs. 50 lakhs has been allotted for the Jakhapura-Banspani project in 1981-82 budget. Daitari-Banspani section forms part of this project.

(b) The total cost of the scheme will be between Rs. 65 crores and 70 crores at present price levels.

(c) No.

(d) The first phase *viz* Jakhapura Daitari has been opened to traffic in March, 1981. Work on the second phase *i.e.* a length of 95 kms. from Daitari to Keonjhar will commence shortly.

News Item captioned "Adulteration High Prices and Shortages"

668. SHRI HARISH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention have been drawn to the News item captioned "Adulteration, High prices

and Shortages" appearing in Indian Express on July 29, 1981;

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

(c) what steps have been taken to ensure bringing down the prices and making things available besides ensuring their purity;

(d) have samples of pure ghee, mustard oil and other edible oils; butter etc., been lifted during the last 3 months with what results, from the producers/manufacturers,

(e) is it a fact that Prevention of Food Adulteration Act Inspectors show favour for some consideration at the time of raiding retailers shops, exploit them and those who fail to oblige fall prey to them, if so, what steps have been taken by the Government towards this including assessing the assets wealth possessed by them; and

(f) should Prevention of Food Adulteration Act be not amended to ensure that as far as possible samples be lifted only the manufacturers/wholesalers except when doubt exists about a retailer?

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

(b) and (c). The supply of essential commodities and their prices is the concern of Ministry of Civil Supplies. The honourable Member may kindly put a separate question in the name of Minister of Civil Supplies.

(d) and (e). The information is being collected from State Governments/Union Territories and will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course.

(f) This contains a suggestion and requires examination.