

deficiencies/bottlenecks encountered by them in the implementation of the programme.

Proposal to appoint a High Level Committee in view of Train accidents

882. SHRI SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI;

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the number of accidents that have taken place during the last two years, Government propose to appoint a high level Committee to look into the matter; and

(b) if so, the main feature of the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) There is no proposal at present to appoint a high level Committee to look into the matter of accidents.

(b) Does not arise.

Plans for preventive and Promotive Health care in Rural Parts of the Country

883. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medical Services is facing acute inadequacy of manpower development for nursing environmental engineering and paramedical services;

(b) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the views expressed by Director, All Indian Institute of Hygiene and Public Health during the Third National Conference of the Indian Rural Medical Association at Calcutta in last week of December, 1981;

(c) whether it is a fact that approximately 25 million children (particularly infants) fall victim to diarrhoea due to unsafe and inadequate water supply to villages; and

(d) what concrete steps are being planned by the Government to build up preventive and promotive health care in rural parts of the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN. M. JOSHI): (a) There is no acute shortage of trained personnel for manning the Health Services. However in view of the expansion proposed in VI Plan the training capacity of health personnel has been augmented to meet the increased required of trained personnel during the VIth Plan period.

As regards environmental engineering, the Ministry of Works and Housing and its Apex Committee on International Decade for Water Supply and Sanitation has considered the matter and steps are planned and being implemented to augment the Public Engineering Training.

(b) Yes. The main theme of the address was a review of the general thinking on Public Health Care which was included in the report entitled "Health for All An Alternative Strategy", prepared jointly by ICSSR and ICMR Study Group and submitted to Government.

(c) No. The Provision for adequate State Water Supply along is not the cause for high Prevalence of diarrhoea, but factors such as insanitary disposal of excreta, poor personal hygiene and low standard of food hygiene are also responsible for the same. In view of this scheme for supply of State Water has now been integrated with sanitation.

(d) A minimum programme of Rural Health Care is planned to be implemented during the Sixth Five Year Plan with main emphasis on multi-purpose workers scheme, Health guid-

es scheme, re-orientation of Medical Education and Rural Health Scheme including Minimum Need Care Programme.

Increase in the Incidence of Anaemia and Goitre

884. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the incidence of anaemia and goitre is on the increase amongst the poor; particularly of the rural areas;

(b) whether the manufacture of Fortified Salt with iron has been decreasing over the last three years;

(c) whether the Food and Nutrition Board has taken a decision to take up the project of iodised-fortified salt and concentrate on its distribution on the vulnerable sufferings areas in the rural sector;

(d) if so, which are the areas identified under the pilot project in the State of Madhya Pradesh controlling anaemia and goitre; and

(e) details of progress, number of families to be covered, the amount of fortified salt required and the price thereof for controlling the incidence of anaemia and goitre in the country?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN. M. JOSHI): (a) The incidence of goitre and anaemia is more common among the poor. Goitre surveys conducted by the Central Goitre Survey Teams of the Directorate General of Health Services have revealed isolated pockets of goitre in areas outside the Himalayan Belt.

(b) The manufacture of iron fortified salt for the prevention of anaemia has been successfully tied in four centres.

(c) The Food and Nutrition Board, of Ministry of Agriculture, have decided to distribute only iron fortified salt for the prevention of iron defi-

ciency anaemia among the rural and tribal population in the selected areas in the first phase of the programme. The implementation of the programme is the responsibility of the Food and Nutrition Board of Ministry of Agriculture. Representative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare is a member of the Advisory Board.

(d) Iron and Folic acid tablets are being distributed to the pregnant mothers and children under the prophylaxis programme against nutritional anaemia. So far as goitre is concerned, only 4 districts of Madhya Pradesh viz. Sidhi, Sarguja, Raigarh and Shahdol have been identified to be goitre endemic. It is proposed to set up one iodisation plant in Shahdol district for supply of iodised salt to the goitre affected areas of the State during 1982.

(e) Under the National Goitre Control Programme, all families in the goitre endemic areas are covered with iodised salt on its commencement. The Government of India bears 100 per cent cost of iodisation of salt. During 1980-81, the Government of India incurred an expenditure of Rs. 19 lakhs for the control of goitre in the areas so far covered under the National Goitre Control Programme. So far as the control of anaemia with iron fortified salt is concerned, scientific working group on iron fortified salt has submitted a report on the multi-centre study with the use of iron fortified salt in rural and urban areas. The study has shown that iron fortified salt is effective in controlling anaemia. The Government is considering these results in the context of developing and control programme against anaemia.

Report of the working group constituted by expert committee on public enterprises on Shipping Corporation of India

885. DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working group constituted by the Expert Committee