

Closure of Katihar Transhipment Yard

141. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Katihar transhipment yard in N. F. Railway is going to be closed and shifted to New Bongaigaon in Assam;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Katihar yard which had four lane tracks previously has been reduced to two and the two tracks have been uprooted; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that although smaller stations have quota in 1st class as well as IInd class sleeper in different trains, but Katihar which is an important station of North Bihar had no reservation quota in any important train and some of the quota of berths previously allotted to Katihar has been withdrawn?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) No. Katihar station has reservation quota by all important trains. Quotas already allotted to Katihar station have not been withdrawn except one AC two-tier berth by 155 Dn. Tinsukhia Mail with effect from 1-12-79 due to under-utilisation.

Funds for Conversion of Metre Gauge into Broad Gauge from Barauni to Katihar

142. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allotted for the conversion of metre gauge into broad gauge from Barauni to Katihar in N. F. Railway

in the current plan period has been diverted into some other project;

(b) if so, the reasons why this project has been shelved, although the survey and other relevant works were completed; and

(c) if not, when this work is going to be started?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c). Part of the funds allotted for the conversion of the MG section from Barauni to Katihar, to BG, had to be diverted, during 1981-82, to meet the additional urgent requirement of funds for the Barabanki-Samastipur, Gauge conversion project, which was completed and opened for BG traffic in July, 1982. A lot of residual ancillary works have still to be completed on the Barabanki-Samastipur section, and, therefore, the major portion of the funds available during 1982-83, for Gauge Conversions, allocated to N. E. Railway, had to be earmarked for the Barabanki-Samastipur project, leaving very little amount for the Barauni-Katihar conversion project.

The project has not been shelved, but only slowed down due to non-availability of adequate funds. The progress will be accelerated when the resources position improves.

Iranian Students Rusticated by Aligarh Muslim University

143. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of EDUCATION AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the disciplinary committee of Aligarh Muslim University has recommended for rustication of 40 Iranian students on charge of violence after the clash between pro and anti-Khomeini students resulting in death of one student;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Iranian Embassy wanted to get the Iranian students at Aligarh Muslim University sent back to Iran; and

(c) how many Iranian students are studying at Aligarh Muslim University at present?

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

(a) According to the information furnished by the Aligarh Muslim University, 57 Iranian students have been expelled from the University for periods ranging from 2 to 5 years for involvement in acts of gross misconduct and indiscipline.

(b) The University has not been approached by the Iranian Embassy for this purpose.

(c) The total number of Iranian students in Aligarh Muslim University during 1981-82 is 202.

Development of Anti-Leprosy Vaccine

144. SHRI D. M. PUTTE GOWDA:

SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

SHRI H. N. NANJE GOWDA:

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL
REDDY:

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

(a) whether Indian research scientists have recently found out a safe and effective anti-leprosy vaccine;

(b) if so, whether the Indian Council of Medical Research has tested and given their approval for the use of that anti-leprosy vaccine; and

(c) if so, full details thereof and by what time it will be available in the market?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FA-

MILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) No.

(b) and (c). The question does not arise.

Increase in Leprosy in South India

146. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the leprosy is increasing in South India especially in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Government to arrest it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD BEN M. JOSHI): (a) There is no available evidence that incidence of leprosy in South India especially in Andhra Pradesh is increasing. However, due to better coverage by the National Leprosy Control Programme, large number of new cases have been detected and recorded for treatment in Southern States during 1979, 1980 and 1981.

(b) Does not arise.

Substandard Drugs

147. SHRI MOHAN LAL PATEL:

SHRI NAVIN RAVANI:

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

(a) the names of the laboratories where sub-standard drugs are being tested;

(b) the number of cases detected during the last three years; and

(c) the action taken against the offenders?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUD-BEN M. JOSHI): (a) The following