

rakes to 9 bogie rakes gradually on receipt of more coaches. However, introduction of additional train is not immediately possible due to paucity of Electric Multiple Unit stock and capacity constraints on the sections and terminals.

(c) An outlay of Rs. 5 lakhs has been provided in the Budget for 1983-84 for augmenting the line capacity requirements on this section.

Amount Allocated for National Highways in Kerala

8993. SHRI A. NEELALOHITHADASAN NADAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount allocated for National Highways in Kerala during the Sixth Plan period and the details of the work proposed to be undertaken;

(b) whether Government of Kerala has demanded more amount in this respect; and

(c) if so, the details of the demand and the action taken by the Government on it?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI): (a) The programme drawn up for development of National Highways for the country as a whole in the Sixth Plan includes works of a total cost of Rs. 19.25 crores pertaining to Kerala as detailed in the statement laid on the table of the house (Placed in Library, See No. LT 6527-183)

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In March 1981, the Kerala Government had asked for a total provision of Rs. 52.5 crores for the Sixth Plan but this could not be accepted due to overall financial constraints.

Demonstration by Experts of Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, U.K. RE. Treatment of Arthritis of Knee and Hip.

8994. SHRI ANATHA RAMULU MALU:

SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a team of experts of Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital, U.K. has demonstrated the latest advances in the treatment of arthritis of the knee and hip-total knee replacement-at the Ganga Ram Hospital, Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reports of our surgeons and Government's reaction in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI): (a) to (c) It is a fact that a team of Orthopaedic Surgeons sponsored by the Commonwealth Foundation visited Sir Ganga Ram Hospital from 13th March, 1983 to 16th March, 1983. Consultations were provided in 82 cases and 3 operations were performed. Similar orthopaedic surgical procedures are presently commonly adopted practices at Indian institutions like the Central Institute of Orthopaedics at the Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.

Vigilance Officer Working in Railways

8995. SHRI RAMESHWAR NEEKHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Vigilance Officers working in Indian Railway, Zonal-Railway-wise and Grade-wise.

(b) What is the deputation period of Vigilance Officers and whether it is a fact that several Vigilance Officers are still continuing after expiry of deputation period; and

(c) if so, why they are continuing and have not been returned to their original/parent posts.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURI): (a) A statement is attached.

(b) and (c) The normal period of tenure of Vigilance Officers of the Railways is 3 years, extendable in public interest. Extension beyond 3 years requires Railway Board's approval. Out of a total of 55 Vigilance Officers, only 6 officers have been continued beyond 3 years in public interest.