

Progress of Elementary Education

(Figures in lakhs)

Year	Additional enrolment in Elementary Education
1980-81	26
1981-82	39
1982-83	49

A crore of adults have been covered in the National Adult Education Programme in the first three years of the Sixth Plan. It is proposed to step up the enrolment to 53 lakhs in 1983-84.

Railway Service Commission in North Bengal

707. SHRI SUBODH SEN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :—

(a) whether there is any proposal to establish a Railway Service Commission in North Bengal ;

(b) if so, details thereof ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHAUDHURY) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) As there are already 3 Railway Service Commissions in the Eastern region viz., Calcutta, Patna and Gauhati which will cater to the needs of this area.

Facilities for Haj Pilgrimage

708. SHRI ABDUL RASHEED KABULI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the shipping facilities to the people for going for the Haj pilgrimage are decreasing day by day in the country; and

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to transport passengers for Haj to Saudi Arabia and back on subsidised air fares ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI A.A. RAHIM) : (a) No, Sir. Traditionally two ships have been used for Haj Pilgrimage. As a result of rescheduling by the Saudi Government in 1982 of the arrival of pilgrims before Ramzan, the number of sailings has been reduced from 8 to 6.

(b) A corresponding increase in pilgrims travelling by charter air services during the Haj period has taken place since 1982. The fares are fixed as low as possible, taking into account the royalty payable to Saudia, the Saudi Arabian national airline.

Requirement and Availability of Hospital BEDS as per Bhor Committee

709. SHRI SURAJ BHAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) how many hospital beds are required for Delhi as per Bhor Committee recommendation and how many are actually there at present;

(b) how many these will be by the end of 1983-84; and

(c) the details of the plan ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND