

(b) what are the reasons for such inordinate delay in providing appointment to the selected candidates ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI A.B.A. GHANI KHAN CHOUHDURY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Arising out of allegations of irregularities, the selections covered by the above Employment Notice have been the subject matter of a recent Vigilance investigation. Pending finalisation of the Investigation Report, further action in operating the Panels of these selections has been kept in abeyance.

#### Post Delivery Deaths

5466. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that India almost at the bottom of the list as far as progress in minimising post-delivery deaths concerned as 76 per cent of pregnant mothers of the country's annual tally of 23 million belong to rural areas, strengthening of maternal health centres had assumed paramount importance;

(b) whether it is also a fact that although medical termination of pregnancy had been legalised, illegal abortions constitute a major cause of maternal morbidity and mortality and Family Planning education would a long way in lowering maternal mortality; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take for screening of every mother for proper antinatal and post-natal care, provision for blood transfusion facilities, motivation of expecting women to use these services, iron and tetanus toxoids to all women, and suitable spacing of children ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) to (c) Data regarding post delivery deaths in the country are not available. Abortions is one of the causes of maternal morbidity and mortality; however definite data in this regard are not available. A number of mother and Child Health Care Programmes directed towards reduction of

morbidity and mortality among mothers during pregnancy, child-birth and after, are in progress. These include immunization of pregnant women against tetanus prophylaxis against nutritional anaemia, expansion of facilities under Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, expansion of basic maternal and child health services like : antenatal supervision, delivery under skilled attendance and post-natal supervision through the establishment of health infrastructure and training of medical personnel, including indigenous dais at various levels. Couples are also being motivated for spacing of children through Information, Education and Communication under Family Welfare Programme and the required services are being provided.

#### Raising of Para-Medical Corps in Delhi

5467. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention is invited to the 'Hindustan Times' dated 1 February, 1984 stating that a dedicated team of senior doctors of Delhi is actively engaged in raising a para-medical corps from among Government employees for providing emergency attention towards people in need; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI KUMUDBEN M. JOSHI) : (a) and (b) Yes. National Association of Critical Care Medicine (India) is a voluntary organisation registered under the Societies 'Registration Act'. This Association with the help of doctors has been imparting practical training of one day duration on first-aid for cardio respiratory brain resuscitation for emergency cases of heart attack, brain stroke, road accidents or sudden collapse, etc.

#### Success In Lowering Birth Rate In West Bengal

5468. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made a note of West Bengal's success in lowering birth rate; and