

Supply of Drinking-water in Sarvodaya Housing Cooperative Society Colony, New Delhi

6692. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Municipal Water supply has been provided in the residential colony of Sarvodaya Housing Cooperative Society, New Delhi ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the action Government are taking to ensure that filtered water is made available to the residents of this Colony ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI D. P. CHATTOPADH-YAYA) : (a) No.

(b) The Water Supply and Sewage Disposal Undertaking of the Municipal Corporation, Delhi, has informed that—(1) presently there is no filtered water supply available near the area ; and (2) the service plans of this colony were sanctioned on the specific understanding to the coloniser that (i) he will have to make arrangement of an overhead tank of 41,000 gallons capacity of 50' high staging with deep tubewell of sufficient yield ; and (ii) no municipal mains were existing near the colony for supply of filtered water and the coloniser will have to connect distribution system to the municipal mains at his own cost whenever it would be laid.

(c) Arrangements to provide filtered water are being made under the Kailash Reservoir Scheme. This Colony is to be supplied filtered water from Malviya Nagar overhead tank which is expected to be commissioned by December, 1972.

12 hours

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

REPORTED DISLOCATION OF N. E. RAILWAY STEAMER SERVICE IN THE GANGES NEAR PATNA

SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH (Chapra) : Sir, I call the attention of the

Minister of Railways to the following matter of urgent public importance and request that he may make a statement thereon :

“Reported recent dislocation of N. E. Railways steamer service in the Ganges opposite Kurzi, Patna causing harassment to thousands of passengers.”

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : On 27-7-71 Steamer Yamuna while working 487 Up from Mahendrughat to Palezghat arrived opposite Kurzi at about 18.30 hrs. At this time there was some minor trouble with the boiler feed pump and in order to build up adequate steam pressure in the boiler, anchor was dropped at that point. The pump was set right in a short time but the anchor could not be pulled up as it got stuck due to some obstruction in the river. Help was asked for from the Shore Establishment at Mahendrughat and the AME (Marine), Mahendrughat left immediately in a Diesel Tug. In spite of the efforts made for about 7 hours, the anchor could not be pulled up and ultimately the chain had to be dropped in the river. When the anchor and the chain were released the steamer could move. The steamer berthed at Palezghat at about 02.45 hrs. The river condition on that night was extremely difficult, the river flowing above the danger level and there was also very heavy wind.

Arrangements were made to despatch food and drinking water from Mahendrughat at about mid-night but it could not be reached to the passengers in the steamer as suitable craft to cross the river in that difficult condition was not available.

The normal capacity of Steamer Yamuna is about 1500 passengers. Though it has not been possible to ascertain the exact number of passengers in the Steamer on that day it is estimated that the number was well under 1000.

SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD SINGH : Only the railway Steamer service is dependable and the best means of communication between north and south Bihar, especially for the passengers who come from the northern side to Patna. There are four or five steamers running daily, but unfortunately these days, and last year also, the steamers are stranded in the river without any rhyme or reason. You