

**Extension of Inland Water Transport Service to Calcutta now Started between Patna and Ghazipur**

1121. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether an inland water transport service on the Ganga between Patna and Ghazipur has since been started ;

(b) whether it is proposed to extend the service to Calcutta and if so, when; and

(c) the number of the barges along with their capacity to be run for the Inland Water Service ?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) An experimental-cum-promotional river service on the Ganga between Patna and Ghazipur has been started with effect from 10th November, 1971.

(b) The question of extending the service to Calcutta will be considered after the completion of Feeder Canal of Farakka Barage Project and after watching the results of the present experimental cum-promotional service.

(c) One pushtow unit consisting of four barges having a total carrying capacity of 500 tons is being operated for the present.

Work done by Indian Council of Agricultural Research for better quality of Wheat

1122. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the work done by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for improving the quality and flavour of wheat ;

(b) whether any comparative study has been made in the protein content of indigenous and imported wheat and the findings thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken to popularise among the farmers the technique of growing better quality of foodgrains ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE) (a) the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sponsored research work under the All India Coordinated Wheat Improvement Project both on the production as well as the nutritional and physical characteristics of wheat. The work on these aspects is also in progress in the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. As a result of this work, a large number of wheat varieties have been produced at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute and other centres. These varieties are being evaluated for such characteristics as their protein content and chapati making quality. Some of the released varieties like Sharbati Sonora, Hira and U. P. 301 have good protein content and chapati making quality. All the strains under development are being tested both for yield and quality, so that high yielding cum-high quality varieties can be released.

(b) Both the indigenous and imported varieties of wheat have been studied for their protein content. It has been found that the protein content in both types of varieties varies with environmental factors and that many of the indigenous wheat varieties are not inferior to the imported types in their protein content. The imported varieties have, however, stronger gluten, making them suitable for automatised bread making.

(c) The seed of new varieties of wheat and other food grains having improved nutritional quality are distributed to the farmers through the National Seeds Corporation, Extension Directorate and the State Departments of Agriculture take active steps to popularise these varieties among the farmers.

**Conference of India Society of Nuclear Medicines**

1123. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Society of Nuclear Medicines during the fourth week

of October, 1971 explored the possibility of popularising radiation medicines in the medical sphere ;

(b) the outcome of the conference ; and

(c) the steps taken for the development of nuclear medicines ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU) : (a) and (b). The Third Annual Conference of the Society of Nuclear Medicine held at Varanasi from 25th to 27th October, 1971 provided an excellent opportunity for exchanging and updating of information on the availability of Radiopharmaceuticals and equipment necessary for the practice of Nuclear Medicine.

The exhibition put up by the Electronics Corporation of India, Hyderabad at the time of the Conference made it clear that all the instrumentation required for the practice of nuclear medicine is now indigenously available. The radiopharmaceuticals are already on a regular production schedule from Bhabha Atomic Research Centre.

(c) Application of Radioisotopes can be of very great practical benefit in medicine, in agriculture, in industry, in food preservation and in research, in the field of medicine the following programme is envisaged by the Department of Atomic Energy:—

- (i) Establishment of medical products sterilisers.
- (ii) Establishment of 5 Zonal Radiation medicine centres.
- (iii) Providing assistance in setting up 100 small isotope laboratories in hospitals attached to medical colleges throughout the country.
- (iv) Establishment of Teletherapy Centres for treatment of cancer.

#### Acute shortage of X-Ray Films in Delhi Hospitals

1124. SHRI N. K. SANGHI :  
DR. KARNI SINGH :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state;

(a) what are the total requirements of X-Ray films for each of the Government hospitals in Delhi and those that are run by the Delhi Administration per year;

(b) what is the extent of shortages in each of these hospitals and reasons for non-supply in adequate quantities; and

(c) to what extent the present shortage can be attributed to delay in effecting supplies by the Supplies Department and whether the hospitals will be permitted to secure their minimum requirements through direct purchase or direct import ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISKU) : (a) The approximate annual requirements of the two centrally run hospitals are as follows:—

#### *Safdarjung Hospital*

Size	Quantity
15 x 12	2100 pkts (25 films each packet)
10 x 12	3000 " " -do-
10 x 8	1020 " " -do-
8½ x 6½	840 " " -do-
4 x 4	480 " (50 films each packet)
Dental	180 " (25 films each packet)

#### *Willington Hospital*

Size	Quantity
13 x 14	1 x 25 90 pkts.
14 x 14	-do- 150 pkts.
12 x 15	-do- 1500 pkts.
10 x 12	-do- 1000 pkts.
8 x 10	-do- 900 pkts.
5½ x 8½	-do- 650 pkts.
5 x 7	-do- 100 pkts.
4 x 4	1 x 50 350 pkts.
Dental C x 3 cm	1 x 25 100 pkts.
Dental Occlusal films.	1 x 25 20 pkts.