

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) The matter has also been taken up with the Nepalese Ambassador in New Delhi.

(b) The Nepalese Government have said that they are looking into the matter.

Dearth of Plastic Surgeons in the Country

1413. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA:

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

(a) whether Government are aware of the dearth of plastic surgeons in the country in view of the growing number of cases needing plastic surgery; and

(b) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by Government to meet the growing demand?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) and (b). Adequate facilities for Plastic Surgery exist in major hospitals in the country and there are Departments of Plastic Surgery with adequate facilities at several medical Colleges/associated hospitals. Besides, many medical colleges in the country have Post-graduate courses in Plastic Surgery where Surgeons are being trained.

Protest by Delhi Transporters' Association on 500 KM Ceiling on Movement of Goods by Trucks

1414. SARDAR MOHINDER SINGH GILL:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Delhi Transporters' Association has strongly protested against the 500 KM ceiling on movement of goods by trucks;

(b) whether this ceiling *inter-alia* nullifies the agreement reached at by

the Centre with the State Governments introducing zonal systems to enable the transport permit holders to carry goods through all zonal States without any break; and

(c) if so, whether the matter will be reconsidered in the interest of quick and safe transport of goods when railways are not competent to take the full load?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Certain instructions for effecting saving in consumption of High Speed Diesel by Road Transport Vehicles were issued to the State Governments/Union Administrations by the Ministry of Petroleum and Chemicals in August, 1974. These included restrictions on plying of commercial motor vehicles beyond 500 Kms. and on grant of new permits. On receipt of representations from Transport Operators/Unions, the instructions relating to road transport are being reconsidered.

Allocations of Funds for Delhi Hospitals

1415. SHRI BISWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA:

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

(a) what allocations were made by the Central Government for running different hospitals in Delhi during the last three years, year-wise and hospital-wise;

(b) whether even though the costs of medicines, food etc. have gone up, the allocations have not been raised proportionately;

(c) how far the cost of maintaining a patient in a hospital ward has gone up during this period;

(d) whether in the absence of adequate increase in financial allocation, the patients are made to suffer; and