

(b) The State Government have not communicated their final decision regarding opening these new centres without which the proposal for financial assistance to them could not be considered by the Ministry.

[English]

Duty Hours of Railway Staff

4187. PROF. SUSANTA CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the actual duty hours for running staff in the Railways;

(b) whether the International Labour Organisation convention No. 1 of 1919 (Washington Convention) is followed for railwaymen, by the Government; and

(c) whether longer duty hours for railway running staff is a contributory factor for railway accidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Maximum rostered duty hours for running staff on Railways who are classified as 'Continuous' are 104 hours in a fortnight against the statutory maximum limit of 54 hours a week on an average in a two-weekly period of 14 days as prescribed in the Railways Act, 1989. However, they may be required to work beyond the rostered hours in unavoidable operational exigencies or of accidents, floods, emergencies, etc. and for which overtime allowance is paid.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir.

Employment of Women in Unregulated Sectors

4188. SHRI R. SRIDHARAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey/study has been undertaken by the Union Government or any State Governments on the employment of women in the unregulated sectors in recent past; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Modernisation of Udumalpet Stations

4189. SHRI B. RAJARAVI VARMA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide a face lift to Udumalpet station in Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether it is also proposed to modernise the station; and

(c) if so, when proposal is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Vayudoot Services to Mysore

4190. SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the airstrips at Mysore, Hubli and Bellary have been closed down recently and the Vayudoot services suspended to Mysore city; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefore and the

steps taken to re-open the airstrips and re-introduction of the Vayudoot services for these places?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRIMADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b). The air strips at Mysore, Hubli and Bellary have not been closed down. For commercial and operational reasons, Vayudoot has discontinued its flights to these places. There is no proposal to resume these flights, for the present.

Medical Facilities to Parliament staff and other VIPs in Parliament House Annexe

4191. **SHRI PHOOL CHAND VERMA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the medical facilities available in Parliament House Annexe is meant for the Members of Parliament only;

(b) if so, the reasons for providing such facilities to the journalists there;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend these facilities to the Parliament Staff who are not able to avail medical facilities of the dispensaries due to exigencies of Parliamentary work and other VIPs such as senior Government officials, Metropolitan Members and Members of Delhi Municipal Corporation there; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b). The medical examination centre at Parliament House Annexe was initially set up to provide medical facilities to sitting members of both the House of Parliament. Subsequently, the medical facility was extended to Ex. Mem-

bers of Parliament. The medical facility has been extended to the accredited journalists covering proceedings of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha at the specific request of the Association of Accredited Journalists. The reasons for providing such facilities to the journalists are that these journalists, by virtue of their long hours of work, do not get time to go to their area dispensaries for taking necessary treatment.

(c) and (d). There is no such proposal under consideration of the Govt. other CGHS beneficiaries who attend Parliament work are provided facilities in the dispensary close to their place of residence.

Indo-CARE Agreement

4192. **SHRIMATI SUSEELA GOPALAN:** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state the details of the Indo-CARE agreement of March 1950 between the Government of India and the American Agency CARE Inc. with modifications, supplements or other agreements in respect of its activities?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): The purpose of Indo-CARE Agreement is to facilitate and maximise gifts of food and other commodities from individuals and organisations outside India to the beneficiaries in India.

Every year CARE submits to Government of India action Plan called List of Provisions containing the details of quantum of food assistance, number of beneficiaries and the administrative costs the State Government are required to pay to CARE. As approved by the Government, CARE shall be providing 2.42 lakh MT of commodities to 87 lakh ICPS beneficiaries and 14.64 lakhs beneficiaries, under school feeding programme during 1991-92. In addition, CARE