

(e) whether there was any proposal to set up a transmission centre at Araria in the District of Purnea in Bihar State ; and if so, whether any action to construct the same has been taken ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) The target date of commissioning the first generating unit of 84 MW of Chukha Hydro-electric Project is June, 1986. The other 3 units of 84 MW each will be commissioned in stages thereafter. The project will serve primarily Thimphu and Phuntsholing areas in Bhutan and the States of Bihar, Orissa, Sikkim and West Bengal in the Eastern Region and Assam in the North-Eastern Region in India.

(b) Progress is according to the revised schedule.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The transmission lines from this Project to Purnea are practically complete, except for two river crossings and the substations which will be completed by June, 1985.

(e) There is no proposal for a transmission centre at Araria under this project.

Railway Service from Calcutta to Karimganj through Bangladesh

*395. **SHRI LAL DUHOMA :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether acute scarcity condition of essential commodities prevails most of the time in Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Cachar District of Assam and particularly in the Union Territory of Mizoram due to extremely inadequate railway system connecting these areas with the rest of country ;

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to open a sealed/closed railway service from Calcutta to Karimganj in Cachar District through Bangladesh as is being done in the case of Central Inland Water Transport Corporation ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Rail movement to most of the areas in Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Cachar District of Assam and Mizoram is via Lumding-Badarpur section, which has a capacity constraint and, as a result, occasional shortfalls occur in rail movement of essential commodities to the area. However, close monitoring is being done by the Railways in coordination with the Departments concerned to avoid scarcity of essential commodities to the extent possible.

(b) There is no prospect to open a sealed/closed Railway service from Calcutta to Karimganj in Cachar District through Bangladesh.

(c) It is not practicable.

Proposal to set up Medical University

*396. **SHRI CHINTA MOHAN :** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to start a full-fledged Medical University in order to maintain uniform medical education and excellence of training in the country ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI) : (a) and (b). The Medical Education Review Committee has made recommendations regarding the setting up of Universities of Health Sciences in order to bring about coordination between various educational and training institutions of the modern and various Indian systems of Medicine, Nurses, Pharmacists etc. Government are yet to take a final view in the matter.

Demonstration by Delhi University and College Karamchari Union

*398. **PROF. M. R. HALDER :** Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Delhi University and College Karamchari Union