

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT) : Sir, the hon. Member has questioned as to why the train should originate from Jaipur. As a matter of fact, the people of Sikar have double benefit if the train originates from Jaipur. They can travel to Delhi as well as to Jaipur. In my view, it is in the interest of the people if the originating point of this train continues to be Jaipur. If the hon. Member does not have some other point in his mind, I think, it is in the interest of the people. If you want it to originate from Sikar, then the passenger who is held up at Jaipur will have to take another train or bus to catch this train. As things stand now, the people want it to originate from Jaipur.

MR. SPEAKER : The request made by Shri Ayub is limited to adding more coaches to this train.

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : I shall try to increase the number of coaches as requested by the hon. Member.

SHRI MOHD. AYUB KHAN : Sir, the people of this area have been severely hit by drought. They are running from one place to another in search of livelihood. A train in that area runs between Bikaner and Swai Madhopur. There are two towns Besau and Raigarh en route this train. Stoppages at these places were approved, but the train does not halts there. Will the hon. Minister ensure that this train halts at the above two stations keeping in view the condition of the people of that area ?

SHRI RAJESH PILOT : This depends upon the condition whether adequate passengers are there or not. This is the consideration for giving a stoppage to the train. I shall get the proposal of the hon. Member examined by the Department.

[*English*]

Youth Festivals and Integration Camps

*315. **SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE :** Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether a proposal to organise regional youth festivals and integration camps is under consideration of Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such festivals and camps are likely to be held in Maharashtra involving the rural youth also; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA) : (a) and (b). 36 national integration camps, including five regional youth festivals, are planned to be organised at different places in the country during 1986-87.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : You know the youths of the country now-a-days. Considering the unemployment problem in the country, do you have any specific programme for them ? I have read in the newspapers that you are organising folk festivals and songs programmes which will promote national integration. But most of the youths of this country who are unemployed are being utilized by different regional and political parties to exploit the situation. Has the hon. Minister any specific programme to utilize the energy of the youths towards national integration ?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : With the specific objective of promoting national integration among youths, we have got a definite programme for integration activities. We have inter-State visits of young people, that is, tours which take youths from one part of the country to another part of the country so that they learn the ways and the different languages and cultural inheritance in other parts of the country. We have also national camps of students in different universities to bring young people together to understand each other; and then we have other activities like youth cultural festivals which are specifically aimed at cultural

activities among young people from different parts of the country, besides seminars, conferences and other activities which are organised through the NCC, through the Nehru Yuvak Kendra or through voluntary organisations which send us youths.

SHRI MURLIDHAR MANE : I wanted to know specifically about the programmes for unemployed youths of the country particularly from the rural areas, about rural youths.

I want to know the position of the rural youth, because most of the youths are the people from the urban centres and only they are involved in such a programme. But there are rural youths who do not have the facility to read or they do not have the facility to see the television or they do not have the funds to go anywhere else. I would like to know whether the Government organises any specific programmes or such camps for the rural youth.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I would like to tell the hon. Member that the Nehru Yuvak Kendras which are in different districts aim only at mobilising the rural youth. All the activities of the Nehru Yuvak Kendras aim only at involvement of the rural youths and these camps are also organised through the Nehru Yuvak Kendras and they would bring only the rural youth together. But I would also like to tell him that this year, for the first time, we have organised the first National Rural Youth Festival at Hyderabad where about three thousand rural youths had assembled for ten days, that was very successful. We hope that it would become an annual feature.

KUMARI MAMATA BANERJEE : I want to know whether the Government have any proposal to organise youth camps in West Bengal, Tripura or Assam. If so, when this programme will be held and how many youths will join the programme, and whether the Government have any special powers to allot funds to some registered clubs to organise these camps so that these registered clubs could organise these camps better ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : Nothing about West Bengal Government !

MR. SPEAKER : For once !

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : For a change.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : I may point out to the hon. Member that the Question refers specifically to the camps which were organised or not organised in Maharashtra. I have got the details about other States, I can send them on to her. But I can say that we have arranged special programmes for the youth of the North-Eastern States. This year we had four groups of youths from the North-Eastern States who were taken to the other parts of the country. We got 450 youths from the North-Eastern region in three camps, two camps were held in Assam. I could not give the State-wise break-down but I can assure her that we are organising programmes and doing more for the North-Eastern region than for the other parts of the country.

As far as the rural youth clubs are concerned, I would like to say that we have a provision for youth clubs which are organised by the Nehru Yuvak Kendras, and a grant of upto Rs. 1,000 per youth club is given by the Ministry of Culture for sports and other activities which might be of interest to them.

SHRI DINESH GOSWAMI : The hon. Minister has mentioned about the tours and excursions which are rightly done. But has it come to her notice that in most of the tours and excursions, the metropolitan cities of this country are only covered, big interesting tourists sports are covered, but these metropolitan cities and the tourists spots do not really reflect the traditional and different cultural heritages of India ? So, has the Ministry given any guidelines to different educational institutions, while conducting the tours and excursions, that an effort should be made so that India may be projected as a whole before the travelling students.

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : The first experiment of this type, in these tours was conducted in 1985-86 any many suggestions have been made after that. In fact, some of the shortcomings have already been reviewed and one of the suggestions

made is that the youth should be shown not just tourist centres and big places, but they should also go to rural and tribal areas, where development is taking place, so that they know really what is happening. And therefore, this year we have instructed that there would be an equal mixture of the big industrial centres, of rural development projects, irrigation projects, as well as the others. Maybe one or two places may be included in the programme, but it would be a mix of both and not just the rural areas.

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : I have a very simple question. In my time youth festivals were supposed to be the means of integration.

MR. SPEAKER : Has that criteria changed now ?

SHRI SYED SHAHABUDDIN : That is what I wanted to know. We are using two terms now. I would like to know from the hon. Minister the precise difference between the youth festival and the integration camp, and also the total number of expected participants from the whole country in the youth festivals and integration camps that you propose to hold this year ?

SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA : As far as the youth festivals were concerned, I may remind the hon. Member that when we go back to the 'sixties, the youth festivals which used to be held were abandoned in the early 'sixties' because at one or two camps there were some incidents and the youth festivals had been discontinued. It was during the International Year of the Youth in 1985 that we revived it after about 20 or 25 years. And the festival was such a success that there has been an all round demand from our youth that this should become an annual feature. I may point out that when we held it in 1985, it started with four regional festivals and it was limited to university students. We have four regional festivals covering the four regions. The final one was hosted by Delhi, which was the All India Youth Festival which was broadened to invite also the delegates from the NAM countries. So, it was called NAMIFEST. But as I said that there is a request that this inter-

university cultural festival should be revived and this has been revived from this year.

About your specific question of integration, I do agree that these festivals integrate youth. But our aim is that we would integrate in these camps and tours the rural and the urban youth as well because the university festivals would be limited to a particular section of our youths who are university students. Therefore, the integration camps bring the university students, NSS and other cadets together with the NYKs who will bring the rural youth together.

About the average number of participants, there are 250 to 350 participants in each camp. The tours have less number of participants around 100 to 150.

MR. SPEAKER : Next Question. Shri Mullappally Ramachandran.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Question No. 316.

SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER : I would like to inform the House that there is a case in the Kerala High Court on the same question. But I would like to answer whatever I can, keeping that legal point in view.

Air Fares for Gulf Countries

***316. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN† :**
SHRIMATI GEETA
MUKHERJEE :

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Air India fixes its air fare on different international routes according to the distance to be covered;

(b) whether the air fares to Gulf Countries are also fixed on the same basis;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor and allowing disparity between fares for Gulf countries and for other routes with the same distance;