pay and use community latrines and bath rooms are provided.

Vayudoot Service for Chandrapur

- *363. SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:
- (a) whether Government purpose to link Chandrapur (Maharashtra) with Vayudoot ervice:
 - (b) if so, by what time; and
 - (c) the reasons for delay in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ V. PATIL): (a) to (c). Subject to availability of aircraft capacity, development of infrastructure and economic viability of operations, Vayudoot has plans to airlink Chandrapur in the State of Maharashtra.

[English]

Specialists belonging to SC/ST Working in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital

- *364. SHRI GANGA RAM: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) the total number of specialists working in different departments in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital;
- (b) the number of those belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribe among them:
- (c) the number of specialists posted in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital in the month of December, 1987 and the number of those belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe among them;
- (d) the number of specialists including those belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, separately, transferred from Dr. R.M.L. Hospital since December, 1987 so far:
- (e) whether specialists belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe, particularly Orthopaedic Surgeons, have not been and are not being given independent charge of respective units/surgery; and

(f) if so, the reasons thereof and the remedial measures taken or proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY **SAROJ** WELFARE (KUMARI KHAPARDE): (a) Thirty Three.

- (b) One.
- (c) No specialist was posted in Dr. R.M.L. Hospital during the month of December, 1987.
- (d) Two. One each belonging to Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe.
- (e) and (f). Independent charge of units in various departments including Orthopaedic Surgery is given to an officer on the basis of competence, maturity and ability.

Child Mortality due to Insanitation and Unsafe Drinking Water

- 3520. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:
- (a) whether about 1.5 million children, below the age of five year die every year in the country due to poor sanitation and unsafe drinking water;
- (b) whether there are any schemes for improving the sanitary conditions and provision of safe drinking water;
 - (c) if so, the details thereof; and
- (d) the steps taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI **SAROJ** KHAPARDE): (a) This Ministry has not received any report from the State/Union Territory Governments that about 1.5 million children below the age of five years die every year in the country due to poor sanitation and unsafe drinking water. However, diarrhoeal diseases are a major cause of sickness and death among young children.

(b) to (d). To reduce mortality due to acute diarrhoeal diseases, Government of India has launched ORT Programme in the