

(b) Since Irrigation is a State subject, the projects are planned, funded and implemented by State Governments. Government of India have been urging the State Governments to complete the one-going projects expeditiously by providing necessary funds for such projects on priority. To assist the States in completion of the projects expeditiously, the Central Water Commission monitors selected projects, in which bottlenecks and difficulties in supply of scarce material such as cement allocation for irrigation and power sector are indentified. Assistance for such supplies, and other technical assistance is arranged for the State Governments. Central Government also arranges for credit/loan assistance from external lending agencies such as World Bank, IFAD and other bilateral agencies to assist the States in getting additional plan assistance.

Central Assistance for Development of Minor Ports in Seventh Five Year Plan

*131. SHRI S.M. GURADDI : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to provide Central assistance in the Seventh Five Year Plan for development of minor ports in the country;

(b) whether any such plan for the development of minor ports in Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra has been included; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z.R. ANSARI) : (a) to (c). The Seventh Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised. However, the Working Group on the Port Sector has recommended selective Central Assistance for development of minor ports.

Increase in Passenger Fares

*132. SHRI AMAL DATTA : Will

the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of times the Indian Railways has increased the passenger fares during the last 10 years; and

(b) the proportion of increase in freights and passengers fare during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) Passenger fares were increased on seven occasions during the last 10 years i.e. between 1974-75 to 1983-84.

(b) The increase in passenger fares and freight rates during the above period was of the order of 85% and 168% respectively.

Incentives to Medical Graduates to Work in Rural Areas

*133. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : SHRI AMARSINGH RATHAWA :

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

(a) the number of unemployed medical graduates in each State as on the 31st December, 1984;

(b) how Government propose to tackle this situation vis-a-vis lack of medical personnel to man hospitals/dispensaries particularly in rural areas;

(c) the details thereof;

(d) whether it is a fact that there is lack of qualified medical personnel to man dispensaries in rural areas of the country;

(e) whether Government have any scheme to encourage the medical graduates to serve in rural areas and also to introduce mobile dispensaries for rural areas; and

(f) if so, the details of the scheme and when it is likely to be introduced ?