

important factors for running the train is that cement transportation has to be given priority. For that reason already in the present budget Rs. 3 crores have been sanctioned to have further lining because of the high utilisation of the route from Ajmer to Ratlam. In the past three years only one new train has been started and one train has been extended.

SHRI B. R. NAHATA: Sir, the hon'ble Minister has said that a shuttle train has been started between Meghnagar and Chittor. Meghnagar is on broad-gauge and Chittor is on Meter-gauge. So, no train can be started.

My second supplementary is that Chetak Express has been started from Udaipur to Delhi and one train which was going from Khandwa to Ajmer has been stopped at Chittor in order to run Chetak Express from Udaipur. Is it a fact that the Chetak Express is not an additional train but an amalgamation of the two trains and it has caused great inconvenience to the passengers coming from Khandwa and going to Khandwa.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: This had happened in 1969. One fast passenger train which was running between Ajmer and Khandwa had been cancelled but in lieu Chetak Express has been introduced and it meets the requirements of the passengers of that section.

शोरगुल का स्वास्थ्य तथा मस्तिष्क पर प्रभाव

* 372. श्री मूलचन्द जगना : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि शहरों में शोरगुल का स्वास्थ्य तथा मस्तिष्क पर बुरा प्रभाव पड़ता है और क्या सरकार द्वारा शोरगुल रोकने के लिए कोई कानून बनाया जा रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो पर्यावरण-तथा श्रवण-सम्बन्धी कानून के अन्तर्गत कानून बनाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाये जायेंगे ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b). High frequency and high intensity noise has an adverse effect on health. The physiological manifestations may be related to annoyance, irritation or lack of concentration etc. Continued exposure to such noise may also result in fluctuation of blood pressure, impairment of heart functions and neurological and digestive disorders.

There is at present no proposal to enact any law to control noise pollution. At present, whenever necessary, noise pollution control can be effected by:—

- (i) operating on the relevant provisions of the Criminal Procedure Code and the Municipal Laws;
- (ii) proper maintenance of vehicles and enforcing the relevant provisions of the Motor Vehicles Acts to control noise pollution caused by road traffic;
- (iii) making necessary provisions in the Factories Act, 1948 to control noise within factories; and
- (iv) maintenance of silence zones, by the local authorities, around schools and hospitals.

श्री मूलचन्द जगना : जो प्रश्न किया था उसमें आपने यह तो मेहरबानी की कि वायु प्रदूषण और जल प्रदूषण के अलावा शोरगुल प्रदूषण की बात आपने बताई कि इसका बहुत बड़ा असर होता है, यहाँ हनुस में शोरगुल होता है उधर की तरफ से ... (अध्यास) ... देख लीजिए, यह प्रदूषण हो रहा है. शोरगुल का मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज भी मन्दिरों में, गुरुद्वारों में और धार्मिक स्थानों में भगवान की जगाने के लिए घ्राड-घ्रवम में हाई-पावर साउंड स्पीकर लगाते हैं, उसकी रोक के लिए क्या कोई उपाय आपने किया है या कोई कानून बनाया है या नहीं ? कुछ भी कानून है या नहीं ? यदि नहीं तो कोई कानून बनाने का कारगर काल है ?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR: At present there is no such proposal to enact any such law in this regard.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): There are municipal rules and municipal laws to prevent such noise pollution. It is for the Local Authorities concerned to prevent such noise.

श्री मूलबन्ध डगा प्रध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ क्या आपने दिल्ली और दूसरे बड़े-बड़े शहरों में हास्पिटल्स, स्कूल्स और दूसरे इंस्टीट्यूशन्स के पास, जहाँ पर शांत वातावरण की आवश्यकता होती है, कानन के द्वारा गार्डलैंग जोन्स बनाने की व्यवस्था की है या ऐसा करने का विचार है ? इसके अभाव में आज बीमारियाँ बढ़ती जा रही हैं और इसकी वजह से आपका खर्चा भी बढ़ जायेगा ।

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR: I can tell the hon. Member that this subject of 'Prevention of Pollution' is within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Works and Housing.

They have set up a Committee and the Committee has given certain recommendations.

One of the recommendations of the Committee is this. I quote:—

"The Committee, after examining in depth the various aspects of environmental pollution, are of the opinion that in order to have uniformity of approach towards environmental pollution control measures throughout the country, and to ensure strict enforcement, the Government might consider the feasibility of enacting a comprehensive legislation so as to provide for the control of all forms of Environmental Pollution."

So, this is under consideration.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINH: There is a contradiction in the reply given by him that there is no proposal now to enact any such law.

Sir, there is a National Committee of the Govt. of India for Environ-

mental Planning and Coordination, of which I am a Member. Now, Sir, this enactment for containing noise pollution is already on the anvil. So, this clearly proves this, that there is no coordination at all between the various agencies of the Government as far as Environmental Pollution is concerned. The information given by him is not correct, because this is on the anvil in the National Committee for Environmental Planning and Coordination.

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR: I have already said, it is under consideration. However I can say this: Parliament is competent to enact such laws. It is also there.

MR. SPEAKER: You have said that.

DR. KARAN SINGH: The Minister in his reply has pointed out rightly that noise pollution is accepted as a major health hazard. There are a number of studies undertaken by the WHO, which proves that this health hazard is very much more serious than what people originally thought. The Select Committee which looked into the Prevention of Air Pollution has given its report to the House. It has made a specific proposal that legislation with regard to noise pollution should also be undertaken by Parliament.

Will the hon Minister please let us know whether that Report of the Select Committee on the Prevention of Air Pollution Bill is under consideration; and whether the specific recommendation that we have made—I happened to be the Chairman of that Committee—that suitable legislation should be undertaken for prevention of noise pollution, is receiving the attention of the Government?

SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR: As I have already said, we are looking into this. We are trying to bring forward a comprehensive legislation in this regard.