

Publicity campaigns are conducted regularly to bring to the notice of the travelling public through the Public Address System the hazards of roof travelling.

W.H.O. suggestion to ban smoking

*896. SHRI CHIRANJI LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the W.H.O. National Workshop on cardiovascular diseases which concluded in Post Graduate Institute, Chandigarh on 23rd April, 1980 has suggested a ban on smoking and advertisements of cigarettes and bidis; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) The W.H.O. sponsored National Workshop on Cardio-vascular diseases which concluded in Post Graduate Institute, Chandigarh on 23rd April, 1980 has suggested that the Government should take active measures to curtail smoking such as—

(i) Ban on smoking in public places.

(ii) Yearly increase in taxation of cigarette.

(iii) Enforcement of W.H.O. recommendation to mention the nicotine and tar content on cigarette packets.

(iv) Doctors and para-medical staff should set an example by stopping to smoke.

(b) There is no proposal to impose a total ban on smoking and advertisements of cigarettes and bidis. However, the Government of India has taken certain measures to restrict smoking and advertisements of cigarettes.

Population Policy

*897. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have enunciated a definite population policy; and

(b) to avoid uncertainties and ambiguities how soon will such a policy be laid on the Table of the House?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) and (b). There is already a population policy. Government's strategy to control population is to secure the willing acceptance of the people to promote the small family norm through a process of motivation, education and by provision of adequate services which can be availed of by the people on a free and voluntary basis.

जामसार-छत्तीसगढ़ लाइन

*898. श्री मनफूल सिंह चौधरी: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने का वृत्ता करेगे कि प्रस्तावित जामसार-छत्तीसगढ़ लाइन का कार्य कब तक आरम्भ होगा ?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सी०के० जाफर शरीफ) जामसार का रास्ते बीकानेर और छत्तीसगढ़ बीच एक नयी मीटर रेलवे लाइन के निर्माण के लिए एक प्रारम्भिक इंजीनियरी एवं यातायात सर्वेक्षण अभी हाल ही में पूरा हुआ है और सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट की जांच की जा रही है। जब तक सर्वेक्षण रिपोर्ट की सभी पहलुओं स जांच नहीं हो जाती और योजना आयोग की स्वीकृति नहीं मिल जाती, तब तक यह बताना कठिन होगा कि निर्माण कार्य कब शुरू हो सकेगा।