

society, it is really the unmarried girls who are forced to go to these quacks. That is the root of all this trouble.

Till now, the Minister has not given us the figure of illegal abortions. That question has not been answered; but that is a very big figure. He says that this is a matter for the Home Minister. But if this education, which the Minister refers to, is really to be given to the society, then one of the things to be done is that the Health Ministry should immediately coordinate their activities with the Home Ministry and bring these people to book. If that is not done, what is the education that is being given?

In view of this fact, I would like to know whether the Health Ministry, in collaboration with the Home Ministry, will really start a drive against these culprits who take advantage of this situation and go in for business. Secondly, will the Health Ministry also initiate, in collaboration with other Ministries and all the other parties in the country, a drive so that this unfortunate situation is not taken as a ground for castigation?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I can only say that the Health Ministry does not maintain the register of illegal abortions. And there has not been any survey of illegal abortions done in the country. All these figures and facts given about illegal abortions are mere guess work. If I could know it definitely we would have taken steps. The various suggestions which the hon. Member has given, viz. that we should work in coordination with the Home Ministry, etc. are good ones.

SHRI ERA AMBARASU: My question is one of national importance. The population of India is increasing by leaps and bounds. If you visit temples of Konarak and Khajuraho you will find display of sexual acts which are vulgar either in the name of culture or in the name of religion. In view of the increasing population, will the Minister take some steps to remove these things?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: No.

Signalling System for Speeding up of Goods Trains

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*356. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR:
SHRI ARJUN SETHI:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to modify the existing signalling system;

(b) whether Government's decision to increase the speed of goods trains has necessitated this change; and

(c) whether the increase in the speed of goods trains will also necessitate the replacement of couplers and the existing automatic vacuum brakes with heavy duty couplers and fail safe air brakes?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Air brakes on wagons are considered necessary to limit the braking distances to reasonable values and thereby achieve safe running of enhanced train-loads of 4500 tonnes or more even at present speeds. The capacity of the couplers does not limit achievement of higher speeds, but higher capacity couplers are required for hauling these higher train-loads.

श्री तारिक अनवर : अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे देश में जो रेल दुर्घटनाएँ होती हैं उसके बहुत सारे कारणों में एक कारण यह भी है कि हमारा सिग्नल सिस्टम बहुत पुराना हो चुका है और वह फाल्टी भी है। मेरा प्रश्न था कि सिग्नल सिस्टम में क्या कोई चेंज करेंगे, मॉडिफिकेशन करेंगे, उसके जवाब में उन्होंने कुछ नहीं कहा।

मैं मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस बारे में विचार करने में क्या हर्ज है, जब कि हम हर चीज में न्यू टेक्नीक

अपना रहे हैं ? रेलवे में जो दुर्घटनाएँ हो रही हैं, आम जनता में जो खौफ, डर पैदा हो गया है, उसको दूर करने के लिये अगर हम न्यू टैक्नीक अपनायें तो उसमें क्या हर्ज है ?

मैं यह भी पूछना चाहूँगा कि बम्बई रेलवे सिस्टम में जो आटोमैटिक सिग्नल सिस्टम है, अगर उसे देश में बड़े पैमाने पर अपनाया जाये, तो इस में क्या हर्ज है ?

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: There are two types of signalling systems existing at the moment, according to the drivers. One is semaphore and another is multi-aspect colour light signalling. These are the two devices of signalling exist. We have the research organisation. Off and on they have been continuously doing research to develop the signalling system also. So far as his main question is concerned and also the hon. Member has mentioned about accidents, the Government is taking adequate steps in order to augment the brake power and also to change the certain system. For example, wagons are there of four wheels. So far as modernisation of signalling system is concerned, it is in progress and all the time research is being conducted.

SHRI R.R. BHOLE: The question is that in a city like Bombay whether automatic signalling will be followed or not.

SHRI ARJUN SETHI: As the hon. Minister had just now stated in reply to part (a) 'No', I should point out for the information of the hon. Minister what has been written in the Indian Railways Year Book 1980-81 on page 31. It says, "To minimise the incidence of accidents particularly on account of human failure, stations are being increasingly equipped with modern signalling devices". This is the sentence they have mentioned in their Year Book published for the year 1980-81. How does the hon. Minister say that they are not contemplating, they are not having new devices of

signalling? So, I just want to have a clarification from the hon. Minister.

SHRI MALLIKARJUN: I have already informed the Members that there are two types of signalling system, existing. One is semaphore and another is 'mutiple colour' system. (*Interruptions*)

MR. SPEAKER: All right, that is all right. Shri K. B. Choudhari. I have gone into it. There is nothing more in it. Shri K. B. Choudhari is not there. Shri Navin Ravani. He is also not there. Shri Lakkappa.

Criteria for confirmation of Doctors of specialist grade in Central Health Service

*359. **SHRI K. LAKKAPPA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the criteria for confirmation of doctors of Specialist Grade of Central Health Service;

(b) what is the number of doctors who are due for confirmation against the permanent posts; and

(c) whether all such doctors have been confirmed and if not, the detailed reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Officers of the Specialist Grade of the Central Health Service who have satisfactorily completed their probation period, are confirmed according to their seniority, suitability and the availability of permanent vacancies.

(b) About 120 Doctors of specialist grade are due for confirmation.

(c) Proposals for the confirmation of 111 such officers have been sent to the Union Public Service Commission.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Mr. Speaker, there is large scale resentment among the doctors because their promotions and confirmations have been delayed