

Fund amount to a little over Rs. 82 lakhs as shown below:—

(i) Investment in the 5 year Post Office Term Deposit Scheme through Treasurer, National Endowments of India, Ministry of Finance	Rs. 50.00 lakhs
(ii) Three year Fixed Deposit Scheme in the State Bank of India, Rail Bhavan, New Delhi	Rs. 18.00 lakhs
(iii) Cash Balances available in Bank Accounts	Rs. 14.47 lakhs
	Rs. 82.47 lakhs

3. Steps taken/being taken to augment the resources of the National Children's Fund are:—

(i) Soliciting donations from public undertakings, Business/Mercantile Houses;

(ii) Approaching Indian residents abroad through Missions;

(iii) Installation of donation boxes at the Headquarters and the Regional Field Units of the National Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development;

(iv) Collections from public including schools;

(v) Printing and sale of greeting cards with special references to International Year of the Disabled Persons;

(vi) Continued sale of International Year of the Child seals up to 31 December, 1981.

4. Donations to the National Children's Fund presently qualify for 50 per cent exemption from Income Tax in the hands of donors.

5. So far no financial assistance has been released to any voluntary organisation from the National Children's Fund. However, proposals from voluntary organisations are under consideration for assistance from the National Children's Fund.

**Decreasing Trend in Breast-Feeding**

\*284. SHRI RAM SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is decreasing trend in breast-feeding

in the country and that too specially among the urban elite;

(b) whether it is also a fact that cases have been detected which revealed that contents of the baby-food manufactured and sold in the country were not upto the prescribed standards; and

(c) whether Government propose to set up laboratories in each State to provide more facilities of chemical analysis of baby-food?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRIES OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) All States except Meghalaya, Manipur and Sikkim have established laboratories for chemical analysis of foods, including baby foods. Amongst Union Territories Delhi, Pondicherry and Goa, Daman & Diu have established laboratories. Union Territory of Andaman & Nicobar has initiated action for establishing a food laboratory.

**Bookstalls at Stations**

\*285. SHRI KAMLA MISHRA MADHUKAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred Question No. 3692 dated 10-9-81 regarding Bookstalls for unemployed graduates and state:

(a) whether it is fact that two Private Ltd. Companies, A.H. Wheeler and M. Gulab Singh & Sons are holding a large number of Bookstalls on the big and medium stations and the policy of holding five Bookstalls does not apply on them;

(b) if so, what are the reasons thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Ministry of Railways have not curtailed the holdings of Bookstalls of the above two contractors during the period 1973 to 1981 for the sake of unemployed graduate persons;

(d) if not, what are the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRIES OF RAILWAYS AND EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) and (b) The three major bookstall contractors on Railways, viz. A.H. Wheeler & Co. (P) Ltd. M/s. Higginbotham (P) Ltd. and M/s. Gulab Singh & Sons (P) Ltd., were allotted the bookstall contracts under the old policy of allotting these contracts to established and reported book-sellers. Out of 840 stations, where bookstall facilities have been provided, these three contractors are holding contracts at 268, 48 and 17 stations respectively. There has been no increase in their holdings after 1964. As explained earlier in reply to unstarred Question No. 3692 on 10-9-81 and Unstarred Question No. 9330 on 30-4-81, there is no ceiling limit on bookstalls except that for allotting additional bookstalls to the contractors already holding five or more bookstalls, other than the Cooperatives/Associations of Unemployed graduates and the Cooperatives of Actual Workers Vendors of the bookstalls, prior permission from the Ministry of Railways is required to be obtained by the Zonal Railways.

(c) and (d) At the suggestion of the Ministry, M/s. A.H. Wheeler & Co. and M/s. Gulab Singh & Sons surrendered their bookstalls at 25 and 1 stations respectively for allotment to unemployed graduates pursuant to the adoption of new policy in 1973 reserving all future allot-

ments in favour of the unemployed graduates.

Indrail Tickets

\*286. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN: SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Indrail tickets issued by the Railways for \$240 do not cover the journeys indicated in the tickets;

(b) whether the holders of these Indrail tickets have complained in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and remedial steps taken therefor?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Resolution from Loco running Mechanical Staff Association (Eastern Railway)

\*287. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a resolution adopted in the 12th Annual General Conference of Indian Railways Loco Mechanical Staff Association, Eastern Railways;

(b) if so, what are the points raised in the resolution;

(c) whether Government have accepted any point of that resolution;

(d) if not, the reasons thereof; and

(e) how long it will take to decide it?