

of 16—20, why these have not been brought to the notice of the government and if so whether the government will immediately institute a comprehensive Health survey of the student population with some survey programme?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: The hon. Member's question refers to the general health care of the students at large. The question is not concerned with it. It is a question which covers a large number of students. In this country there are about 475,000 primary schools covering 500 lakhs of children, 111,000 middle schools covering 220 lakhs and 42,000 secondary schools covering about 180 lakhs, excluding university and higher education that alone will come to about 900 lakhs. It is a gigantic task and the government is concerned about the health of children.

MR. SPEAKER: He asked about drug addiction by students.

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: I need a separate question.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: While agreeing with the hon. Minister that this is a vast task, are the government aware of the existence, since 1952, of unique institutions, like the self reliant institution called Students Health Home in Calcutta. It has been recognised by the Association of Indian Universities as the model in this field. Does he know anything or has he cared to find out about the activities of this Institution and will the Government give them any help and assistance to see that their work which is supposed to be a model in this field is pursued further?

SHRI B. SHANKARANAND: It is a separate question. It has nothing to do with this question.

MR. SPEAKER: He wants notice.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I know it is a separate question. But will he find out,

श्री चन्द्रपाल शैलानी : स्कूलों और कालेजों के छात्र छात्राओं में नशीली वस्तुओं के सेवन की प्रवृत्ति बढ़ती जा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय की जानकारी में यह बात है या नहीं है और अगर है तो वह इस विषय में क्या कार्रवाही करने जा रहे हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह सवाल पूछा जा चुका है।

श्री हाकम सिंह : गांवों में जो विद्यार्थी रहते हैं उन में जो बीमारियां पैदा हो जाती हैं और उनका जो स्वास्थ्य खराब हो जाता है क्या उसकी तरफ भी विशेष ध्यान दिया जाएगा और उनको जो पहले काफी चालीस पैसे में मिला करती थी और पिछली सरकार के जमाने में साठ पैसे में मिलनी शुरू हो गई थी, उसकी तरफ भी आप ध्यान देंगे और उनको कापियां आदिस्स्ती मिले, इसकी व्यवस्था भी आप करेंगे।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह दूसरा सवाल है। नैक्स्ट क्वेश्चन।

Railway Dispensaries

*44. **SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Railway hospitals for local purchase of medicines for (i) Class I & II (ii) Class III, and (iii) Class IV employees separately during the current year; and

(b) the reasons why the railway dispensaries are not equipped with medicines like the CGHS dispensaries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) From 1-4-1979 to 31-12-1979.

Railway	Class I and II	Class III	Class IV	Total
Central	1307.70	2985 90	1993.22	6286.82
Eastern	67902.27	461072.12	551232.30	1080206.69
Northern . . . . .	..	..	..	1542114.00
N. E. . . . .	..	..	..	104195.00
N. F. . . . .	..	..	..	159947.00
Southern	9761.09	45339.82	58653.14	113754.05
S. C. . . . .	..	..	..	102491.00
S.E.	22769.79	43595.51	37795.41	104160.71
Western . . . . .	..	..	..	504761.00
GRAND TOTAL Rs. . .				37,97,916.27

On the Northern, Northeast Frontier, N.E., South Central and Western Railways, separate figures, classwise, are not maintained.

(b) The Railway dispensaries are equipped equally well, like the CGHS Dispensaries.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: The Railway hospitals generally have no medicines. There is a rule, if there is no medicine available in the hospital, the same can be bought from the market and the cost be reimbursed. But this is rarely done. Is the Government aware that there is a secret circular issued to the doctors of the Railways that they should not prescribe such medicines which are not available in the hospital. Even if the patient needs them, they prescribe only on white paper and do not put their signatures for reimbursement to be made.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: I am not aware of such things. The local purchases were made whenever certain medicines were of utmost need were not available in stock. If the Member can bring to my notice any specific cases, we will examine.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: The statement that you have laid on the

table of the House fails to indicate the position in regard to the Northern, North/Eastern and South Central Railways. But whatever you have given, you have given for the Central Railways, Southern Railways and South Eastern Railways. Why have you failed to give figures in regard to Northern, Northeast Frontier, North Eastern, South Central Railways, That is number one.

It shows that for these Four Railways for which figures have been given, for Class I and Class II you have bought medicines worth Rs. 1,01, 739 but for Class IV you have bought medicines worth Rs. 6,51,673. Will you kindly state what is the percentage of Class I and Class II officers in the Indian Railways and what is the ratio by which you have bought these medicines?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: There are no instructions for the Rail-

ways to mention record of separate figures classwise in this contract. The rate for everybody is uniform. It is a classless society and we do not believe in making any class distinction.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Ratio of Class I, Class II and Class IV.

MR. SPEAKER: For that you have to give separate notice.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: Ratio is already there.

MR. SPEAKER: You are asking the number.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY: The statement that has been laid on the Table of the House shows the amount of medicine bought for Class I and II and Class IV.....

MR. SPEAKER: The Minister has gone through that.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: I have answered that. There are no instructions to have any classification or to make purchases of medicines on the basis of classification of officers. We believe in classless society. I do not know why office is maintaining these figures.

(Interruptions)

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: I know that. If you go through the statement you will find that the figures for Class IV and Class III are more than that of Classes I & II.

Late Running of Trains

*45. SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the late running of trains continue on par with the position obtaining at the time of the outgoing Ministry;

(b) whether Government propose to improve the operation efficiency of

the running of trains on the level it existed in the year 1976; and

(c) if so, by what time pre 1977 position will be restored?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF): (a) to (c). The punctuality performance of Mail/Express trains has shown improvement from January '80 and various measures including monitoring at different levels are being taken to bring the performance at par with 1976-77 levels. It is hoped that very soon the railways will be able to attain these levels.

SHRIMATI RAMDULARI SINHA: May I know what steps were taken in 1976 to improve the punctuality of the running of trains and if steps have been taken, why is it that the same steps were not producing the same results as they were producing in pre-1977 days?

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: In 1976 we can have a look at through the figures. In 1976-77, the punctuality figures were 93 per cent on broad gauge and 94.5 per cent on metre gauge. The corresponding figures for 1977-78 were 90.3 per cent and 91.8 per cent; for 1978-79 and these figures further dropped to 85.7 per cent and 88.3 per cent. In 1979-80, upto December, 1979, these figures relating to punctuality came down to 84.5 per cent and 86.5 per cent respectively. For January, 1980 the figures were 86.9 per cent and 89.5 per cent. For Feb. 1980, the figures were 88.6 per cent and 89.1 per cent.

MR. SPEAKER: The hon. member wanted the enumeration of the steps you have taken to improve the punctuality of the trains.

SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF: From the day we have taken over, one could see from the performance of the trains that the punctuality rate has gone up to about 90 per cent.

SHRI BHAGWAT JHA AZAD: The factors for running of trains are the rail track and the driver himself. May