

AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any proposal for providing piped water to Khurda Town in the District of Puri in Orissa was received from the State Government ,

(b) if so, whether this proposal has since received the approval of the Central Government , and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. KISHU) . (a) to (c) No scheme relating to supply of piped water to Khurda Town was received by the Government of India from the Orissa Government. The powers for sanctioning the water supply schemes have been delegated to the State Governments and it is no longer necessary for them to obtain approval of the Government of India for urban water supply schemes upto Rs. 25 lakhs.

The Government of Orissa have however reported that they had approved the piped water supply scheme for Khurda Town costing Rs. 14 lakhs in 1967 and the execution of the scheme will start in 1971-72.

बिहार में कोयला खानों में कोयले का जमा होना

22. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : क्या पेट्रोलियम, रसायन तथा अलुमिना धातु मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार की कोयला खान मिलों में बहुत अधिक मात्रा में कोयले का स्टॉक जमा हो गया है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ग) सरकार द्वारा इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ।

पेट्रोलियम, रसायन तथा अलुमिना धातु मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री श्रीनिवास सिंह

श्रीधरी) . (क) और (ख). जी हाँ। यह इस्पात सयंत्रों, रेलवे और अन्य उपभोक्ताओं जिनकी हड़ताल द्वारा कोयले के लिए आवश्यकताएँ प्रभावित हुई थी, द्वारा कम अवक्रम के कारण से हुआ है ।

(ग) रेलवे से अनुरोध किया गया है कि वह गर्तें मुख के स्टॉक को उठाने के लिए बैगनों को अधिक सख्या में उपलब्ध करे ।

Compensation from Pakistan for Burning of an I.A.C. Plane

23 SHRI S.M. BANERJEE Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) what further steps have been taken to get compensation from Pakistan because of burning of an IAC plane ,

(b) whether Pakistan have not yet agreed to hand over the two hijackers to Government ; and

(c) if so, the steps likely to be taken.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) . (a) to (c) The Government of India continue their efforts to press Pakistan to pay compensation for the loss of the Indian plane, as well as its cargo, baggage and mail and to take suitable action against the two hijackers. The Government of Pakistan have not so far taken any satisfactory action on the demands made by us. In the meanwhile, the overflight of Pakistan planes over India remains suspended.

Shortage of Doctors in Rural Areas

*24 SHRI D.S. AFZALPURKAR : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of doctors in rural areas in the country ; and

(b) if so, the specific steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A.K. KISKU) : (a) There is an overall shortage of doctors in the country, which is more acute in rural areas than in urban areas.

(b) Suitable remedial measures are being taken to encourage doctors to serve in rural hospitals and dispensaries. Increased emoluments by way of special allowance, better facilities of living and working accommodation with adequate drinking water, sanitary arrangements and all-weather approach roads to Primary Health Centres or Sub-Centres are contemplated.

A pilot Scheme for Mobile Training-cum-Service Hospitals has already been taken in hand. Under the scheme specialist teachers with interns and final year students from medical colleges will camp in rural areas and render voluntary service at selected Primary Health Centres. 50 Hospital beds will be attached to each mobile unit. At the selected District Hospitals it is proposed to recruit additional specialists and these specialists would man the District Mobile Hospitals which would render medical aid in rural areas.

Drug Price Control Order

25. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND NON-FERROUS METALS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the "Drug Price Control Order" has come into force in all parts of the country ;

(b) if so, the retail prices of each drug before the promulgation of the Order in the States of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and the Union Territory of Delhi ;

(c) the price of each drug after "Drug Price Control Order" came into force in the States of Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal, and the Union Territory of Delhi ; and

(d) how far the order has been able to bring down the prices of essential drugs ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM, CHEMICALS AND NON-FERROUS METALS (SHRI D.R. CHAVAN) : (a) : Yes.

(b) and (c). There are thousands of drug formulations marketed by the various drugs manufacturing units and it is, therefore, not possible to furnish the required information in respect of each drug. A few examples of decreases and increases in the retail prices of popular drugs as a result of the issue of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order, 1970, are given in the pamphlet "Drugs Prices Control—Aims and Achievements" placed in the library of the Parliament. The retail prices as approved by Government are uniform throughout the country. Consumers have however to pay local taxes which vary from state to state.

(d) It is estimated that the community has benefited to the extent of about Rs. 20 crores in an annual turn-over of about Rs. 220 crores.

Visit of General Westmoreland to India

26. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) who proposed the recent visit of General Westmoreland to India ;

(b) which authority is to bear the expenditure in this connection ;

(c) the details of the said visit ; and

(d) the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM) : (a) General William C. Westmoreland was invited by General Manekshaw, Chief of the Army Staff, with the approval of the Government of India, to visit India.

(b) The expenditure on travel within the country and hospitality during his stay in India was borne by the Government of India and the expenditure on travel from USA to India and back was borne by the Government of U.S.A.