

whole district to the medical college situated in the areas.

So, these are the objective of the Re-orientation of Medical Education Scheme.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: You have done one review in 1985-86.

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: The scheme was again reviewed in 1985 and the workshop was held here. In this workshop a number of points arose. The entire faculty of the medical colleges were not involved but more emphasis was given. A number of suggestions were given in 1985 and we have got the record.

DR. V. VENKATESH: Even after 40 years of independence, we are just following the medical education from the old British system of education. Actually, instead of reorientation medical education. I would like to put one straight question to the hon. Minister through you, Sir, as to whether in order to improve and to bring this medical education to the rural orientation, he is going to establish the medical universities in the country because there are some in other States which they are doing and if the Government of India takes this up on a war-footing, at least, there will be a change and we can have our own medical education system.

SHRI MOTI LAL VORA: The suggestion is very good but the implementation is difficult.

**Separate Coaches for Non-smoking Passengers and ban on Sale of Smoking items etc.**

\*1063. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised

plans for earmarking compartment/coaches for non-smoking passengers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are also considering to ban sale of cigarettes, bidis, pan and pan-massala at all the railway stations or on some selected railway stations?

[Translation]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) and (b). Instructions have been issued to the Zonal Railway Administrations to earmark one second class 3-tier coach as non-smoking on 3 pairs of long distance trains as an experimental measure.

(c) There is no proposal at present to ban sale of cigarettes etc. However, a decision has been taken to stop sale of pan at railway stations gradually.

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: Instructions are stated to have been issued to the zonal Railways. May I know about the Railway zones where this plan is proposed to be taken up.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): Mr. Speaker, Sir, instructions have been issued and three trains have been identified where the plan is proposed to be taken up. These trains are 2 down Kalka Mail between Delhi and Howrah, 25up-26 down between New Delhi and Bombay Central, 15up-16 down GT Express between New Delhi and Madras. As these trains come under Computer Reservation System, change in softwares would be needed. I have talked to software consultants. I think it will take two months or so to bring out this change till then it will have to be postponed. Besides, a second class 3 tier

sleeper coach in Rayalseema Express has been reserved in South Central Railway for the non-smokers. It will be started from 1st July. Similarly a coach will be kept reserved from 1st July in 507-508 Gorakhpur-Lucknow Express in north eastern Railway.

[English]

SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI: I thank the hon. Minister for his exhaustive reply. I understand that some time ago, the Railway Administration had conducted some study as to the ratio of smokers to non-smokers in the Indian railways. Is it a fact that the study revealed that for every three passengers, only one passenger smokes. In other words, the smokers are in a minority, while the non-smokers are in a majority. It should be a case of reservation of coaches for the smokers. What is the point in reserving coaches for the non-smokers?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I have no such information. I will find out about this, but if what the hon. Member is saying is correct, this is another example of the appreciation of the minority on the majority.

SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA: In his reply, the hon. Minister has stated that the railway authorities have issued instructions to ban the sale of pan gradually on the railway stations. Thousand of railway hawkers are dependent on the sale of pan and the livelihood of the pan growers is also dependent on them. One day in the name of cleanliness, the Minister will issue instructions to remove all the latrines and lavatories from the railway stations. Would that be all right? In this context, when the livelihood of thousands of hawkers and thousands of pan growers is dependent on this, will the Minister consider to withdraw the order pertaining to the ban of sale on pan on the railway stations.

[Translation]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI: Let him understand the difference between pan and latrine.

[English]

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: I too am surprised that the hon. Member equates the two subjects he has just mentioned. As I said, the intention of the Railway Ministry is to gradually implement this proposal. I think, it has been generally welcomed by the majority and the Railway Ministry has no intention as yet to withdraw this order.

[Translation]

SHRI UMAKANT MISHRA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, smoking habit is Rajasi and Tamasi while Pan Chewing is 'satavik'. Pan is offered even to Gods. Sale of pan has been banned alongwith with the sale of cigarettes. But the ban on the sale of pan is not reasonable. I would, therefore, urge upon the hon. Railway Minister that since pan is a 'satavik' thing its sale should be allowed to continue. Would the Government consider this matter?

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: Railway Ministry is cautious about the health of Shri Umakant Mishra. It has, therefore, clearly been stated in the orders issued that Varanasi is an exception to this.

MR. SPEAKER: Hon. Minister, Shri Umakant Mishra might have realised that Pan in itself is purely Vegetarian. It is simply a leaf. Shri Parasram Bhardwaj.

[English]

#### Computer Education in Schools

\*1066. SHRI H.B. PATIL†: ·  
SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA: