

tance to the States/UTs to provide benefit under it in accordance with the norms, guidelines and conditions laid down by the central Government.

The scales of benefit under the National Social Assistance Programme are as the following :

1. NOAPS : Rs. 75/- per month per beneficiary
2. NFPS : Rs. 5000/- in case of death due to natural causes and  
Rs. 10000/- in case of accidental death of the primary bread-winner to the bereaved household.
3. NMBS : Rs. 300/- per pregnancy upto first two live births.

Te other specific conditions of the three schemes are as below :-

1. NOAPS : (1) The age of the applicant shall be 65 years of above.  
(2) The applicant must be a destitute in the sence of having little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own source of income.
2. NFBS : (1) The primary bread-winner shall be the member of the household male or female, whose earning contribute the largest proportion to the total household income.  
(2) The death of such primary bread-winner should have occurred while he or she is in the age group of 18 to 64 years.  
(3) The bereaved household should belong to the below poverty line group according to the criterion prescribed by the Government of India.
3. NMBS : Pregnant women who are of 19 years of age and above of household below the poverty line are eligible.

Rs. 550 crores have been earmarked for this programme during the year 1995-96.

#### Stage Carriages

2344. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 3 dated 27th November, 1995 and state :

(a) whether Section 66, 72 and 80 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 deal with only stage carriages to be run as contract carriages on inter-state routes and not on the city roads as has been clearly stated in Section 66(1) that "no owner of a motor vehicles shall use or permit the use of vehicle as a transport vehicle provided that it can be used as a contract Arriage etc;"

(b) whether section 7 of the said Act only provides

for grant of permit for a route of fifty kilometres or less and that to with the provise that such permits will be given to a States transport undertaking and upon its refusal can be given to individuals etc.;

(c) if so, whether the DTC issue no objection certificates for the issues of permits to private operators; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir. Section 66 and Section 80 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 are related to conditions of permits of all categories for all types of vehicles. So far as Section 72 of Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is concerned, it generally deals with conditions for the grant of stage carriage permits.

(b) No, Sir. Section 71 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 is regarding procedure of Regional Transport Authority in considering application for stage carriage permit.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

#### Efforts made by Indian Embassy in us to Desist from supplying arms to Pak

2345. SHRI M.V.V.S. MURTHY :

SHRI MOHAN RAWALE :

SHRI K.M. MATHEW :

SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the India Embassy in Washington made all efforts it was capable of making to persuade the US Government to desist from supplying arms to Pakistan; and

(b) if not, the reasons and the facts about the failure of the Embassy in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Road Transport Corporation Act, 1950

2346. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether under the Road Transport Corporation Act bus permi(s) can be issued by the S.T.A. to private persons only when the Public Transport Corporation (DTC in the case of Delhi) have expressed the inability to run buses;

(b) if so, did the DTC gave no objection certificate to the S.T.A. Delhi consequent to which thousands of Redlines and Bluelines were given permits in Delhi;

(c) if not, the reasons for giving such permits to Redlines and Bluelines;

(d) whether the provisions contained in road Transport Corporation Act, 1950 were thus breached; and

(e) what corrective action does the government propose to take in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Since the fleet of Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) could not be augmented on account of financial constraints and DTC was not being able to meet the increasing demand for Public Transport, Stage Carriage Permits to private operators were granted by the State Transport Authority in terms of Sections 66, 71, 72 and 80 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

#### FCI at Gorakhpur

2347. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plant belonging to Fertilizers Corporation of India at Gorakhpur has been lying closed for the last five/six years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the production of "Urea" has been affected to the closure of this plant; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to revive this plant, so as to meet the shortage of urea in the region ?

THE MINISTER OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI RAM LAKHAN SINGH YADAV) : (a) to (d) The Gorakhpur unit of Fertilizer Corporation of India Limited (FCI) with an installed capacity of 2.85 lakh tonnes per annum (TPA) of urea is closed since 10.6.90 due to an accident in the plant.

FCI has been declared a sick company by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction (BIFR). The Government has approved, in principle, a revival package for FCI which envisages revamp of Sindri, Ramagundam and Talcher units of FCI. The revamp of Gorakhpur unit was not found to be techno-economically viable. Since its revival would require setting up of a new plant involving fresh investment of Rs. 810 crores it has been decided to consider the option of attracting private capital for rehabilitation of Gorakhpur unit. However, the final decision on revival of FCI, including its Gorakhpur unit, would depend upon the outcome of proceeding pending before the BIFR, which is a quasi-judicial authority.

Adequate availability of urea in accordance with the State-wise allocation made under the Essential Commodities Act, 1995 is ensured through linkages with suppliers of indigenous and imported urea. Equitable regional

distribution within a state is ensured by the State Government concerned. The overall availability of urea in Uttar Pradesh has been quite satisfactory.

#### Power Grade Coal

2348. SHRI BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have decided to set up separate berths in southern ports to facilitate import of power grade coal to feed the coastal power stations;

(b) if so, whether the Government have examined the views of experts on this imported coal;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken thereon; and

(d) the quantity of such coal imported so far ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) A project for setting up a Satellite Port at Ennore near Madras was sanctioned in April, 1993 for handling coal for the thermal power stations in Tamil Nadu.

(b) No Sir. Coal import is under Open General Licence and can be imported directly by the consumers.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) During April-October, 1995, the Tamil Nadu Electricity Board has imported 7.59 lakh tonnes of thermal coal through the existing facilities.

#### Red Line Buses in Delhi

2349. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no state government can add any stage carriages on city roads in cities with population of more than 5 lakh without the directions of the Union Government; and

(b) if so, how could the Redline buses in Delhi be introduced by the Delhi Administration ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. RAJASEKARA MURTHY) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### [Translation]

#### Foreign Investment proposals for FPI Sector

2350. SHRI RAJENDRA KUMAR SHARMA : Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state :

(a) the name of countries which have sent their proposals to strengthen and revitalise food processing sector in India;

(b) whether their proposals have been considered;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and