

(d) whether the culprits were apprehended, tried and convicted ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) and (b). The visit to Shillong was on February 26, 1985 to inaugurate the Annual Meeting of the Association of India Universities held on the campus of the North-Eastern Hill University. University affairs were not discussed formally during this visit.

(c) and (d). During 1980-81, there were disturbances in the University. The then Acting Vice-Chancellor was shot dead in October, 1981. The State police is investigating the case with the help of the C. B. I.

Construction of over-bridge at North Coimbatore Railway level crossing

138. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that for want of road over-bridge at North Coimbatore Railway level crossing which connects the main thorough fares of the Coimbatore city, namely Cross-out road and Methupalayam road, severe traffic bottlenecks and the accidents are on the increase;

(b) whether Government of Tamilnadu have already recommended for inclusion of this project on a high priority in the Seventh Plan period ; and

(c) if so, the decision of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) It is true that the level crossing on the cross-out Road in North Coimbatore is a busy level crossing. However, there have been no cases of accidents of road vehicles with trains at this level crossing in past 5 years;

(b) The State Government of Tamil Nadu had included this proposal as item No. 8 in the list of 13 proposals sent for inclusion in 1985-86 Budget.

(c) Due to constraint of resources and a large number of works of road over/under bridges already in progress, the new works will have to be taken up in a phased manner according to the availability of funds.

High Powered Panel on Education

139. SHRI ANAND SINGH : Will the Minister of EDUCATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the high-powered panel on education recently set up by Prime Minister has submitted any report, short term or final;

(b) if so, its main recommendations and observations ; and

(c) decisions taken by Government in the light thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION (SHRI K. C. PANT) : (a) Government have not established any such panel.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Use of old types of wagons and their overloading causing accidents

140. SHRI C. JANGA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether use of old type of wagons having four wheels with bush bearing and illegal overloading (under invoicing) of these wagons are the two factors largely responsible for accidents; and

(b) if so, the details of suggestions made by the Railway Reforms Committee in this regard and the targets fixed for their implementation during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) No, Sir. Four-wheeler, old type wagons fitted with brass bearings have performed satisfactorily for decades and are not more prone to accidents than

other wagons. Over-loading of these wagons is not a factor largely responsible for accidents.

(b) The Railway Reforms Committee has suggested that the problem of over-loading of Box wagons which are eight-wheelers, should be tackled at the loading end itself and that a deterrent penalty, of about Rs 2,000/- per wagon, be imposed on the loader at bulk loading points for wagons found overloaded. The penalty on the consignors for overloading of wagons cannot be prescribed under the Indian Railways Act in force. It is proposed to incorporate a suitable provision in the Indian Railways Act which will empower the Central Government to enact rules regarding imposition of penalty on the consignors for overloading of wagons. In the mean time, rules provide for levy of penal demurrage charges on the consignors in respect of coal wagons received overloaded from the collieries.

[English]

High Rate of Cancer and help sought from foreign Country or Agency

141. Dr. KRUPASINDHU BHOI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a high rate of cancer in the country according to the Indian Cancer society;

(b) whether any help from any foreign country or agency has also been sought to check spreading of this; and

(c) if so, the details thereof with steps taken or proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA): (a) Cancer is neither a notifiable nor a registerable disease. Further no countrywide survey has been conducted so far to determine the morbidity and mortality due to cancer. However the data available from Cancer Registries established

during 1981 under the aegis of Indian Council of Medical Research indicate, that about 500,000 person develop cancer each year and 300,000 die of cancer every year.

(b) and (c). While the National Cancer Control Programme is basically funded from internal resources, assistance is being received from the World Health Organisation (W. H. O.) under their Inter-Country Programme for setting up Cancer Detection Centres. The assistance is in the shape of equipments worth Rs. 1/- lakh for each centre. Seven such centres have so far been established with equipment assistance from W.H.O. in addition, W.H.O. funds are also utilised for seminars and workshops organised in connection with the Cancer Control Programme.

Incidence of Ticketless travel

142. SHRI P. MANEK REDDY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidence of ticketless travel is on the increase;

(b) if so, reasons therefor;

(c) details of such cases detected, year-wise, for the last 3 years, actual fares involved and fines imposed and collected;

(d) what is the annual expenditure on staff specifically provided for detection of ticketless travel in running trains, ticket collectors and supervising staff both regular and casual;

(e) whether Government are increasing casual staff as in West Bengal; and

(f) what is the yearwise, annual passenger traffic and revenue for the last 3 years vis-a-vis actual, maximum rated passenger capacity and estimated maximum revenue therefor on 100 per cent occupancy basis?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.