

(c) whether Government have found out any solution in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMEN- TARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) According to the ILO Year Book on Labour Statistics, 1977, among the countries listed, India has the largest number of child labour.

(b) According to the 1971 census, the State of Uttar Pradesh has the highest child population in India, and Nagaland the lowest. Child labour formed 4.7 per cent of the total child population in India according 1971 census.

(c) In order to look into the causes leading to and the problems arising out of employment of children, Government have set up a Committee on Child Labour.

Cancellation of Licences of Erring Drivers

5284. **SHRI S. R. REDDY:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to enact legislation providing for cancellation of driving licences of erring drivers; and

(b) if so, the details regarding the policy of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) and (b). Enabling provisions already exist in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1930 to provide for cancellation/suspension of driving licence or to disqualify the erring driver to hold such a licence. The relevant provisions are as under:—

Section 15.—Licensing Authority may disqualify a person for a specified period to hold a driving licence if he is a habitual criminal or a habitual drunkard or is using or has used a motor vehicle in the commission of a cognizable offence or has by his

previous conduct as a driver of a motor vehicle shown that his driving is likely to be attended with danger to the public.

Section 17.—Court may disqualify a person to hold the driving licence for such period as the Government may specify if he is convicted of an offence under the Act or for an offence in the commission of which a motor vehicle was used. In case of certain offences, disqualification for minimum periods specified in this Section is mandatory.

Section 17A.—Automatic suspension of the driving licence if a case is registered by a Police Officer on the allegation that a person, who had been previously convicted for reckless or dangerous driving, has again caused the death or grievous hurt to one or more persons, by such reckless or dangerous driving

Section 17B.—Court may cancel/suspend the driving licence of a person who is convicted of an offence of causing death/grievous hurt to one or more persons by reckless or dangerous driving. The Court has to cancel the driving licence if he is convicted for the second time for driving a vehicle under the influence of drink or drug.

Incidence of Cancer

5285. **SHRI K. MALLANNA:**
SHRI K. S. VEERABHADRA-
PPA:
SHRI SURENDRA BIKRAM:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention is drawn to the "Times of India" dated the 19th January, 1979 that authorities can reduce the incidence of cancer in India by at least 60 per cent by screening the people;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Dr. Usha K. Luthra Senior Director of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), has said that cancer of the uterine cervix and oral cancer compromised over 60 per cent of the cases; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the suggestions given by Dr. Luthra and the reaction of Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RABI RAY): (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The most commonly encountered cancer in our country in males is oral and oropharyngeal cancer and in females the cancer of the uterine cervix. A large percentage of these cases can be detected by exfoliative cytological studies in early detection centres. Because of limited resources, it has been suggested that to start with there may be a concentrated approach to tackling the cancer of cervix-uterus to start with. This can be done through Early Detection Centres which may form an integral part of the Regional Cancer Centres and Cancer Hospitals whose activities should be gradually projected to the periphery, in a phased manner. A close integration of the functioning of these Centres with the existing Maternal Health and Family Welfare Programme would be of immense value both functionally and financially.

A Sub-Committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of the Director General of Health Services to work out various proposals on 'Cancer Control Programme. Its report is expected shortly.

Accidents in Non-Coal Mines

5286. SHRI K. PRADHANI: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details regarding the accidents involving serious injuries and deaths occurred during the last two years in non-coal mines, year-wise;

(b) what are the details regarding number of persons of mines and managements and owners and the compensation paid to the persons killed;

(c) details regarding the investigations and causes of these accidents; and

(d) the steps taken by government for the safety in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND LABOUR (SHRI RAVINDRA VARMA): (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-4210/79*]

Compensation is payable by the managements under the provisions of the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the administration of which falls within the State sphere.

(d) Improving safety measures in mines is a continuous process. Steps taken by the Government to improve safety conditions and to reduce casualty rates are, as under:

(i) Carrying out routine and special inspections of mines to check compliance with the statute, pointing out violations, and taking further follow up action, where necessary.

(ii) Drawing attention of management to any unusual incidence of accidents/increase in accidents and asking for specific action programmes to arrest any such untoward rise in the number of accidents.

(iii) Carrying out periodic dialogue at various levels of management on results of inspections.

(iv) Implementing the recommendations of the reports of the Conferences on Safety in mines.