

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b). Necessary steps are taken to settle grievances of employees quickly so as to ward off strikes.

Inadequate Bus Service on Route

1387. **KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that D.T.C. buses plying on Route No. 320 are inadequate and fail to meet the demand of the thick population of the area and they miss maximum trips in general and particularly the buses starting from Swaran Talkies are missing their trips regularly; and

(b) if so the steps being taken to tone up its efficiency?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI BUTA SINGH):

(a) Yes, Sir. There is some inadequacy in the services on route 320 operating between Shahdara and Central Secretariat. It is, however, not correct to say that maximum number of trips are missed in general and on services starting from Swaran Talkies. The operational efficiency of this route and that of the special trips starting from Swaran Talkies is over 80 per cent and the service frequency is of 10|20 minutes.

(b) 16 additional trips have been introduced on the regular route for the convenience of the commuters. Newer buses are proposed to be deployed to cover the operation of this route in order to ensure maximum reliability in the operation.

Use of private wards by patients in AIIMS, New Delhi

1388. **SHRI R. L. P. VERMA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the number of patients who have utilised private wards in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences New Delhi, during the last one year;

(b) what is their income group;

(c) the procedure for allotment of rooms in private wards;

(d) whether Government are aware that preferential treatment is given to rich category of patients;

(e) if not, whether Government propose to lay a comparative statement on the Table showing the income of patients who have utilised private wards during the last one year; and

(f) the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Total number of patients admitted directly in the private wards of the institute during 1979 was 1061.

(b) Their income groups are not known as there are no income restrictions for admission in the private wards of the Institute.

(c) and (d) The procedure regarding the admission of patients to the private wards of the Institute hospital is as under:—

(1) admissions of the patients in the Hospital, including the private wards are made on the advice of the clinicians;

(2) the admissions|transfers of the patients to the private wards is usually recommended by the concerned clinical consultants;

(3) the income of the patient is not a criteria for admission in private ward;

(4) all patients advised admissions to the private wards are registered for allotment of a room. Awaiting list of such patients is maintained;

(5) in the actual allotment of rooms discretion is exercised according to the advice of the clinicians, e.g. a patient advised admission on Top Priority basis is given precedence over all others. Similarly a patient advised admission on Priority Basis is given precedence over the patients advised admission as routine cases. In cases where patients are advised admission for planned procedures definite dates of admission are given and every attempt is made to make the rooms available to such patients on the due dates, to the extent possible;

(6) in all other cases not falling in the categories referred to in (5) above the patients have to wait their turn to get an allotment of a room, in case one falls vacant over and above the allotments made as per the afore-stated basis.

(e) On the basis of information extracted from case records the income of the patients admitted in the private wards of the Institute hospital, in 1979, was as under:

Monthly Income	Number of Patients
Rs. 799 and below	Nil
Rs. 800 to Rs. 1500	57
Rs. 1500 and above	858
AIIMS Staff	146

(f) Does not arise.

Scheme of Basic Health Worker

1389. SHRI P. RAJAGOPALA NAIDU: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of basic health workers is working satisfactorily; and

(b) if so, whether they have been appointed in all areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) and (b): The Government of India are not implementing any scheme called the 'Basic Health Works scheme'. However, under 'Multipurpose Workers Scheme', all unipurpose health workers associated with individual health schemes are being given re-orientation training to convert them into Multipurpose Workers manner. The Multipurpose Workers Scheme is being implemented throughout the country, in a phased manner.

Railway lines in Backward and Tribal Areas

1390. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering the relaxation of norms for construction of new railway lines in the backward and tribal areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) to (c) The National Transport Policy Committee, appointed in April, 1978, to evolve a national policy for construction of new lines including lines in backward areas, has recently submitted its report to the Planning Commission.

This report is under examination of the Planning Commission.

Dalli-Jagdalpur Railway Line

1391. SHRI ARVIND NETAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration with regard to the construction of a new Railway