

(a) whether Government are aware of the indirect methods by which liquor advertisements are carried in newspapers;

(b) whether liquor advertisements are indirectly given in the name of soda and snacks;

(c) whether guidelines regarding such advertisements are not followed strictly; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to stop such practices?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND WELFARE (SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN): (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid in the House.

New Transport System in Cities

8919. SHRI PRAKASH KOKO BRAHMBHATT: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government is considering the proposal to make partly over-ground and partly under-ground system on railways in a number of States;

(b) whether any survey has been conducted in his regard;

(c) to what extent Government propose to introduce these new systems of transport in various cities, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) As on date only two systems namely the Calcutta Metro System and the Madras metropolitan Transport system are under construction. A portion of the Calcutta metro system which is mostly underground has already become operational. The Madras mass rapid transport system has both the elevated and at-grade components.

(b) Some of the State Governments and local bodies have got feasibility study reports prepared, for introducing mass rapid transport systems in their cities. For example, cities like Bangalore, Hyderabad, Secundrabad, Ahmedabad etc. have been taken up for such studies, in addition of the Calcutta Metro Railway from Tollyganj to Garia and the extension of the Madras Beach -Luz line from Luz to Taramani and from Taramani to Villivakkam.

(c) Since the mass rapid transport systems are highly capital intensive, the implementation of such systems require participation from the Government of India, State Governments and local bodies. Depending upon the availability of resources with the various agencies including the Government of India, depending upon the urgency and priority these schemes would be considered at appropriate time by State Governments. Also the implementation would depend upon the allocation of funds for urban transportation projects during the Eight Five Year Plan.

[*Translation*]

Irrigation Facilities to Backward and neglected Districts

8920. SHRI RAM SAJIWAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Working Group constituted by the Planning Commission has submitted any interim report about providing irrigation facilities to the backward and neglected districts of Bundelkhand region in Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if not, whether the group is likely to be asked to do so immediately?