

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR : The law enforcement agency is tackling this problem and they do not allow any such thing come into the country, and if anybody is found indulging in such activities, action is taken against him.

SHRI A.K. PANJA : Sir, will the Hon. Minister kindly answer whether the Government has received any information that the young students in universities, particularly the medical students are addicted to narcotic drugs because of its easy availability from various dispensaries and outdoor departments.

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRA-SEKHAR : As I said in replies, which have been laid on the Table of the House, study that was made clearly shows that it is not very predominant in our universities. The study was mainly centred round the universities. We are having a repeat studies are made at the same places to find out how much improvement has been there. We are concerned more not only about the students where the drugs can be abused but also about the industrial areas and other sectors.

New Railway Line between Chengannur and Trivandrum

*128. **PROF. P.J. KURIEN :** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a survey has been conducted for the construction of a new broad gauge Railway line from Chengannur to Trivandrum;

(b) if so, when the survey would be completed; and

(c) the details thereof.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANSI LAL) : (a) The survey is in progress.

(b) The survey is likely to be completed in 1986.

(c) This new line is being surveyed via Kottarakara as an alternative to direct doubling via Quilon.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Sir, I am happy that the survey is in progress but the Ministry is aware of the complaint from the State of Kerala that adequate consideration is not given to the legitimate demands of Kerala. Railways should be an instrument for minimising regional imbalances. The national average kilometres of railway line is ten whereas in Kerala it is four kilometres only. That means we are not having even 50 per cent of the share we should have. I would like to know the reason for this kind of step-motherly attitude towards Kerala and also whether the Minister will reconsider his present stand of not allowing any new lines to the State of Kerala.

SHRI BANSI LAL : There is no discrimination against Kerala. The line survey is in progress and as soon as the report comes, we will take that into consideration.

PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Since the line survey is in progress, I would like to ask a specific question that once the survey is completed, is the Hon. Minister prepared to take up the construction of this railway line.

SHRI BANSI LAL : I Cannot commit at this stage.

SHRI SURESH KURUP : I would like to know what proposals are there before the Union Government from the Government of Kerala regarding construction of new lines in Kerala.

SHRI BANSI LAL : This does not arise out of this question.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Question Hour is over now.