

incidence of diphtheria has been conducted. However, on the basis of information received from the Medical institutions of the States/U.T.'s it is estimated that the annual incidence of deaths due to diphtheria is considerably reduced.

(b) Yes Sir, it is so reported.

(c) and (d). WHO is assisting the Government of India under the Expanded Programme on Immunization which includes vaccination of infants with DPT and school children with DT. WHO is providing assistance for training of personnel, supply of cold chain equipment and technical support to the programme.

Health and Family Welfare Projects with Foreign Assistance

*487. SHRI C. CHINNASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to launch a project to strengthen the health and family welfare services in all States with foreign assistance;

(b) if so, particulars thereof;

(c) the names of the countries engaged in this proposal; and

(d) when the proposed project is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND):

(a) Projects are being, or are to be taken up to strengthen Health and Family Welfare infrastructure, in 46 districts falling under 12 States, for which foreign assistance is expected.

(b) The projects are designed to increase and strengthen, in about five years facilities and manpower for delivery of Health and Family Welfare services in an integrated manner in the selected districts to reach a level that over a longer period will be ultimately reached in the entire country

(c) Assistance is expected from the following countries or agencies:—

(i) World Bank

(ii) United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)

(iii) Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA)

(iv) United Kingdom

(v) USAID (USA).

(d) The Project to be assisted by World Bank and another project to be assisted by United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA) have been sanctioned. Others are in different stages of finalisation, including negotiations with concerned Foreign Agencies. Exact date by which the projects will commence is not yet known.

Direct Train from Daltanganj to Patna

*488. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is no direct train from Daltanganj to Patna and no train has been given from Barwadih to Patna as yet;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to provide one direct train from Daltanganj to Patna; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFER SHARIEF):

(a) and (b). 131/132 Gomoh-Patna Passenger (via Barwadih-Daltanganj) provides a direct train service between Barwadih-Daltanganj and Patna.

(c) Due to line capacity constraints on sections enroute and also lack of terminal facilities at Barwadih/Daltanganj and Patna, introduction of any additional train between Daltanganj and Patna has not been found feasible at present.