

Proposal to Nationalise or Control Private Transport

*93. **SHRI S. C. SAMANTA** : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to nationalise or control the private transport of goods;

(b) in what States this transport has passed into public hands already and the States contemplating to do so in future; and

(c) the reaction of the Central Government in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI OM MEHTA) : (a) to (c)—A statement giving the information required is laid on the table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

The State Road Transport Undertakings in Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Tripura and West Bengal (North Bengal State Road Transport Corporation) are operating goods services, to a limited extent, besides passenger services. The Central Government have established the Central Road Transport Corporation Ltd. which operates goods services between Calcutta and the northern parts of West Bengal and Assam. In some other States, nationalised passenger services also carry goods on a restricted scale as unaccompanied parcels.

2. In view of the constraint on resources, the emphasis is on consolidating and improving the passenger road transport services in the public sector. This aspect is particularly emphasised during the discussions with the State Governments in the Planning Commission on their Annual Plan proposals relating to road transport. The executive responsibility in respect of

road transport vests in the State Governments; information regarding their plans or proposals to enter the field of goods transport in the future is not available

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : I want to know whether the Central Road Transport Corporation which operates between Calcutta and Assam through North Bengal was created for some other reasons ? What are the reasons for such formation of Central Road Transport Corporation for West Bengal and Assam only.

SHRI OM MEHTA : There was some difficulty about transport of goods to these areas. So this corporation was formed, keeping this in view so that goods to Assam and other inaccessible areas could move more easily.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : Is it managed by Centre or by States ? In the statement it is stated that executive responsibility rests with State Governments.

SHRI OM MEHTA : State Government has nothing to do with it; it is a corporation under Central Government.

SHRI D. BASUMATARI : In view of the fact that Bangla Desh has been established, may I know whether the Government of India are thinking of reviving the shipping transport to Assam from Calcutta ? All the material of the Jayanti Shipping Company taken over by the Government have been destroyed. So, I want to know whether the shipping arrangement will be revived from Bengal to Assam now ?

MR. SPEAKER : The main question relates to nationalisation of road transport.

SHRI D. BASUMATARI : The Jayanti Shipping Company is also a nationalised corporation now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The hon. Member wants the nationalisation of Seventh Fleet.

SHRI D. BASUMATARI : All the material has been destroyed. The hon. Minister knows it very well. I want to know whether the service is going to be revived now ?

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry that this does not arise out of the main question. He may table another question some time on this.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : With regard to the proposal to nationalise goods traffic by road, may I know whether this matter was referred to the Planning Commission, and if so, the suggestion by the Planning Commission to the States in this regard ?

SHRI OM MEHTA : This matter was referred to the Planning Commission and the Planning Commission has said that at present in view of the severe financial stress and strain, the States can ill-afford to find resources required for nationalisation of goods traffic which would involve very substantial outlay, and the present emphasis is, therefore, on completing the nationalisation of passenger transport services and consolidating and improving these services.

Nutrition Programme for Children

*94. **SHRI C. CHITTIBABU :** Will the MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent under the Nutrition Programme for children during the last three years; and

(b) the areas covered in this country and the number of Balwadis in back-ward areas that have been given financial assistance for equipment and for maintenance and feeding of children ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI K. S. RAMASWAMY) : (a) and (b) A statement giving information required is placed on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

There are two schemes of Nutrition which are being implemented by the Department of Social Welfare at present :

- (i) Special Nutrition Programme for Children of 0-6 year and Pregnant Women and Nursing Mothers in tribal areas and slum areas of the country which was started as a non-Plan scheme in the year 1970-71.
- (ii) Nutrition Programme through Balwadis in Day-care Centres for Pre-school Children in the age-group 3-5 years of low income families which was introduced as a Plan Programme in the year 1970-71.

Information regarding the two schemes are as follows :

(i) *Special Nutrition Programme*

The Special Nutrition Programme for Children of 0.6 years and Pregnant Women and Nursing Mothers is implemented by the Department in the tribal areas and urban slum areas of the country through all the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations except Meghalaya, Arunachal, Laccadiv, Minicoy & Amindive Islands. The expenditure incurred on the scheme during 1970-71 and 1971-72 is as follows :

Expenditure

1970-71	1971-72
129.76 lakhs	993.06 lakhs (anticipated)