

in the buses. Special squads are deputed to check the driving habits of drivers on line and anyone found with faulty driving habits is sent for refresher course. An incentive reward to the tune of Rs. 1000/- is being given to the drivers with accident free record during the calendar year. Besides these steps, if the driver is found guilty for rash and negligence driving suitable departmental disciplinary action is taken including dismissal from service.

Meals in three-piece casseroles in Express trains

*229. SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Southern Railway is going to improve the meals in all Express trains in three-piece casseroles service ;

(b) if so whether there is going to be a further price increase in the improvised service of meals ; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to streamline the Dining/Pantry Car services in trains with particular stress on hygiene ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD) : (a) Three piece casserole service is being gradually extended.

(b) There is no such proposal at present.

(c) Steps taken/proposed to be taken include modernisation of Base Kitchens for preparation of meals in hygienic condition

and supply to pantry cars, use of disposable cups, casserole service, intensive inspections, provision of improved hot cases in pantry/dining cars.

Achieving 100 per cent literacy in some cities and states

*230. SHRI RAM AWADSH SINGH : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that National Literacy Mission is taking special steps to have 100 per cent literacy by February, 1991 in four metropolitan cities and in the States of Kerala and Gujarat and if so, what special steps are envisaged therefor ; and

(b) what is the rate of increase in literacy in these cities and states during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER) :

Statement

(a) The National Literacy Mission seeks to enlarge the base of the on-going Centre-based programme of RFLP and SAEP by launching volunteer-based mass campaign in selected areas with a view to mobilising and involving all sections of the society in the Mission, and achieving complete eradication of illiteracy in a specific area within a prescribed time schedule. The Mayors of the metropolitan cities of Bombay, Calcutta, Delhi and Madras have been requested to prepare and put into operation an Action Plan for this purpose.

In Gujarat, the Gujarat Vidyalaya has launched a campaign to cover 35,00,000 illiterate

persons by 1991. In Kerala, the Kerala Shashtra Sahitya Parishad, Triyandrum, is implementing a project for ensuring 100% literacy in Ernakulam district by December, 1989. In Kottayam, a campaign is being undertaken for complete eradication of illiteracy in Kottayam town. A

proposal to extend coverage to the entire State of Kerala is under preparation.

(b) The national literacy data is compiled only through decennial census. The following are the literacy percentages in the given areas as per the 1981 census :

(Greater) Bombay	68.18%
Calcutta (Urban agglomeration)	69.12%
Delhi (Do.)	61.54%
Madras (Do.)	68.40%
Gujarat	43.70%
Kerala	70.42%

The growth rate for the decennial period 1981-91 as a whole would be available after the next census due in 1991.

Postponement of Referendum in Eastern Provinces in Sri Lanka

*231. SHRI ALADI ARUNA alias V. ARUNACHALAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of India have urged the Government of Sri Lanka to postpone the Referendum in Eastern Province of Sri Lanka ; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of the Government of Sri Lanka thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH) : (a) and (b) On 29th December, 1988 the Sri Lankan Government announced the postponement of the Referendum from 31st December, 1988, to 5th July, 1989. Government

continue to be in touch with all the parties in this regard.

Setting up of hotels in Buddhist Centres in U.P.

*232. SHRI BEKAL UTSAHI : DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up some hotels in Buddhist tourist centres in Uttar Pradesh in the near future; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL) : (a) ITDC's annual Plan 1989-90 does not include any provision for setting up of hotels in the country including the State of U.P.

(b) Does not arise.