

**Amount spent on Shere Kashmir Medical Institute, Srinagar**

303. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of money so far spent by the Central Government on Shere Kashmir Medical Institute, Srinagar;

(b) what is the amount of allocation made in the Seventh Five Year Plan;

(c) what are the recommendations made by the Jammu and Kashmir Government for the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) whether the Central Government propose to fulfil the requirements of this Institute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (SHRI YOGENDRA MAKWANA):

(a) to (d) The Central Government did not provide any funds for the Shere Kashmir Medical Institute. As per information furnished by the State Government, the expenditure incurred on the Institute from the J & K State Plan is as follows:—

During 5th Five Year Plan  
Rs. 894.60 lakh

During 6th Five Year Plan  
Rs. 3010.00 lakh

Allocation during 1984-85  
Rs. 850.00 lakh

**TOTAL : Rs. 4754.50 lakh**

The Government of J & K has proposed an outlay of Rs. 25 crores for the Institute in the 7th Five Year Plan and the allocation of outlay for the Institute has to be finalised by the State Government, out of the total approved outlay for the State as a whole.

**Transportation of fruits from Kashmir to Delhi**

304. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the Minister of SHIP-PING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of non-availability of transport facilities and high charges demanded by transporters in the Kashmir valley a huge quantity of fruits get rotten every year;

(b) whether Government propose to start a new zonal permit system for transporting fruits from Kashmir to Delhi and issue the permits to the fruit growers and dealers only; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) to (c) Information is awaited from the State Government of J & K.

**Jammu-Udhampur, rail line**

305. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) by when Jammu-Udhampur Railway line is likely to be completed;

(b) whether there is any proposal for extension of this line from Udhampur to Srinagar; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA):

(a) Target date has not yet been fixed.

(b) No. Sir

(c) The extension of the line from Udhampur to Srinagar can be considered only when the Jammu-Udhampur New Line is nearing completion, subject to availability of resources.

### **Blocking of Jammu Srinagar Highway**

306. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL KAR: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) how many times in the last three years the Jammu and Srinagar Highway got blocked;

(b) the number of passengers who were stranded;

(c) the number of them who died as a result thereof;

(d) whether any compensation was given for the dead and what arrangements were made for the stay of the stranded persons;

(e) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration for a better alternative route to the valley; and

(f) whether any survey has been done in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) to (f) During 1982-84, Jammu-Srinagar Highway was blocked nine times. Information regarding number of passengers stranded, number of passengers who died, if any, and the compensation paid to them is not maintained by the Government of India. At present there is no proposal to provide an alternative National Highway route to the valley.

### **Sethusamundram Project**

307. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study in the past was conducted on the Sethusamundram Project;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken to implement the same;

(c) whether Government propose to conduct any study on this project during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI):

(a) Yes.

(b) The Report of the Expert Committee set up to examine the economic viability of the Sethusamundram Canal Project has been received by the Government. The Committee has observed that the economic viability of the Project is not amenable to exact quantification since certain factors, relevant to the Project's assessment, are based on a number of probabilities. The cost of the Project has been estimated at Rs. 282 crores with reference to February, 1983 prices. The Committee has also found that the Project might yield a return varying from 4.72 per cent to 11.93 per cent under different sets of assumptions. The Committee did not find it possible to quantify the indirect economic benefits to the country and the social benefits which the Project could confer. The internal rate of return with reference to the Project's estimated cost has been considered rather low. The Committee has recommended that the Project could be implemented in view of other considerations, and for making the Project financially and economically viable, concessions like treating the investment on the Project as a grant, etc. could be extended. No decision on the report has been taken.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.