

Setting up of SOS Children's village to rehabilitate gas victims at Bhopal

308. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up SOS Children's villages with a view to helping and rehabilitating the children who were orphaned as a result of the disastrous leakage of the highly toxic gas from the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(b) whether any arrangements have since been made to provide immediate guardianship to these children by way of adoption and otherwise through various social and voluntary organisations, if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AND WOMEN'S WELFARE (SHRIMATI MADGATHAM CHANDRASEKHAR):

(a) No proposal to set up SOS Children's Villages has been received from the Government of Madhya Pradesh. A proposal for setting up a Home for 25 children only has been received and this has been approved.

The Government of India have, however, already sanctioned three additional Integrated Child Development Services projects for covering the population affected by gas leakage at Bhopal. Some voluntary organisations have also been advised to get their proposals routed through the State Government for sanctioning grant to them under the Scheme for the Welfare of Children in Need of Care and Protection for rehabilitating the affected children.

(b) The cases of guardianship/adoption are handled by competent Courts which have to be approached by the applicants, desirous of obtaining the guardianship of children

or adopting them according to law. For processing the cases of inter-country guardianship/adoption of Indian children in the Courts, some welfare agencies have been given recognition in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Supreme Court on the subject in their judgment dated 6 February, 1984 in Miscellaneous Petition CRL-1171/1982.

Conversion of Delhi-Gurgaon-margpur metre-gauge line

309. SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal for linking the Delhi-Gurgaon-Margpur metre-gauge line with Charkhidadri via Jajhar and Beri;

(b) whether survey of the alignment has already been completed;

(c) what is the present position of the scheme and whether financial provision for the said link has been or is being made in the current year; and

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

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

(a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no such proposals under consideration, due to severe constraint of resources and heavy commitments already in hand.