

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): The Project has been included in the Budget 1984-85 with a provision of Rs. 5 crores. The work on project is proposed to be commenced from the beginning of 1984-85 financial year and completed in 4-5 years subject to requisite allotment of funds.

Conference on Population and Development

1105. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR :

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO DHABE :

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by the Conference of Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development held in Delhi in the third week of February, 1984 with regard to increase in population in the Asian region;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a decision to attain a growth rate of one per cent by 2000 A.D.; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take to achieve this objective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI): (a) The recommendations made by the Conference have not yet been received by the Government.

(b) As per the National Health Policy the goal is to reach Net Reproduction rate of 1 by the year 2000 A.D.

(c) A Statement showing the steps taken by Government to achieve the goal is annexed.

Statement

The following steps are being taken to achieve the objectives of the Family Welfare Programme:—

(1) Adoption of "Small family norm" is being continued to be promoted entirely on a voluntary basis.

(2) Intensified efforts are being made to spread awareness and information about small family concept by effective and imaginative use of multi-media and interpersonal communication strategies.

(3) Each couple is allowed to choose the method most suitable to it.

(4) Services and supplies are being provided as close to the doorsteps of the acceptors as possible.

(5) The programme is designed to continue to be an integral part of health care and socio-economic development efforts.

(6) Facilities and efforts for rapid increase in female literacy are being intensified and expanded.

(7) Population education is being extended to youth in schools and colleges as well as those out of school. It will also be introduced in all workers' education and training programme conducted by Government departments/agencies and by the organised sector.

(8) Elected Representatives of the people at all levels grass-root level, village organisations, voluntary organisation etc. are being closely assisted and provided encouragement and support.

(9) Linkages with other concerned Ministries and Departments have been strengthened.

(10) Effective observance of the law relating to minimum age for marriage for girls and boys is being pursued.

(11) Maintenance of records of all marriages at the village or community level is being pursued.

(12) In respect of States lagging behind in performance area specific approach is being followed.

(13) Under the "Village Health Guide Scheme" which has now been made a fully Centrally funded scheme, the Health Guides (who will prominently be women) are responsible for spreading knowledge and information to each individual household and to

provide at peoples door-steps supplies for non-clinical methods.

2. The Government has also set up a Population Advisory Council consisting of Members of Parliament and eminent persons from fields relevant to population control as members to analyse the implementation of the family welfare programme and also initiate and suggest new ideas and strategies with a view to improving the performance of the Programme and achieving the demographic goals.

3. In order to further accelerate the pace of the Programme, Government has taken a number of important decisions. These are mainly:

(1) Monetary rewards in the form of community assets will be given to recognised and identifiable groups actively engaged in the implementation of the Family Welfare Programme.

(2) Cash awards are being given to the best performing States. The prize money is to be utilised for the promotion of the Family Welfare Programme.

(3) Innovative publicity in selected areas on campaign basis is being organised. This will be suitably dovetailed with services and supplies.

(4) With a view to revamping the organisation and service delivery outreach system for Family Planning and MCH, health posts consisting of nurse, midwives and health workers are being established in urban slums and congested areas.

(5) States have been requested to introduce a scheme of issue of 'Green Cards' to individual acceptors of terminal methods after two children as a mark of recognition and priority attention. This card will enable the acceptors to be accorded preferential treatment in schemes where such preferential treatment is feasible.

(6) States have been requested to give to acceptors of sterilisation, 5 State lottery tickets for the next draw.

(7) Compensation money payable to individual acceptors of sterilisation has been increased by Rs. 30 raising it from the present level of Rs. 70 to Rs. 100.

(8) The amount payable to the acceptors of IUDs has been increased from Rs. 6 to Rs. 9.

Private Railway Company in Operation in Bombay

1106. DR. BHAI MAHAVIR:

SHRI SHRIDHAR WASUDEO
DHABE:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the route between Yeotmal and Achalpur in Vidharba area of Maharashtra there is railway run by a private company by name Martin Burn and Company;

(b) if so, since when it is operating and what is the name of the company;

(c) which other railway routes are being operated by private companies in the country;

(d) whether there is any accountability and coordination between the Railway Board with the managements of these private companies; and

(e) by when Government propose to nationalise them and take over?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. K. JAFFAR SHARIEF): (a) and (b) Yeotmal-Achalpur line forms part of the Central Provinces Railway which is made up of the following three sections:

1. Yeotmal-Murtizapur.

2. Murtizapur-Illichpur (Achalpur).

3. Pulgaon-Arvi.

These narrow gauge lines are owned by M/s. Killick Nixon Limited, Bombay, but are worked by the Central Railway.

These lines were opened for traffic in phases between 1-12-1913 and 25-9-1917 and trains are being run on these lines.