

Starting of local trains between Dadar and Thana

498. SHRI PANDURANG DHAR MAJI JADHAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Dadar Station in Bombay is surrounded by the shopping centres;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this causes overcrowding and inconvenience to the old people, children and ladies who find it very difficult to board or get down from trains at Dadar stations, particularly at peak hours.

(c) whether Government propose to operate local trains between Dadar and Thana to reduce the over-crowding at Dadar terminal station; and

(d) if so, by when Government propose to make the above arrangements?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) Yes. But the shop, ping centres are not located on railway land.

(b) No.

(c) There is no such proposal at present.

(d) Does not arise.

Lack of passenger amenities at Vidya Vihar Railway Station

499. SHRI PANDURANG DHAR MAJI JADHAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:-

(a) whether it is a fact that there is inadequate facility for drinking water, tea stall for staff at Vidya Vihar railway station on the Central Railway ("Bombay"); and

(b) if so, by when Government propose to provide these facilities at this station?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI MAL-LIKARJUN): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

National Population policy

500. SHRIMATI MONIKA DAS: SHRIMATI SAROJ KHAPARDE:

Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the provisional figures compiled in the recent census reports, the population of the country has increased considerably;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring a comprehensive Bill in Parliament on National Population Policy in order to check the population growth effectively; and

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) The provisional figures of census 1981 revealed a decennial growth rate of 24.75 per cent during the 1971—80 decade as against the decennial growth rate of 24.80 per cent for the decade 1961—70

(b) and (c) There is no proposal at present to bring forward any legislation on the subject.

Vaniyambadi railway accidents

501. SHRI M KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recent Vaniyambadi railway accident could have been avoided if the warning given by the field staff regarding the defective safety system. 13 months ahead of that accident, had it been attended to in time; and