

sent to the AH India Railwaymen's Federation explaining the position; these issues are discussed from time to time in the regular forums established for the purpose in which the AIRF is also associated.

Train service between Jodhpur and Jaisalmer

1552. SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to, state:

(a) the constraints which inhibit the introduction of an efficient and effective train service between Jodhpur and Jaisalmer; and

(b) what passenger conveniences are available at Jaisalmer and Pokra, railway stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Two pairs of trains provide convenient day time and overnight services between these places and adequately meet the traffic requirements of this section. The punctuality of these trains has also been quite satisfactory.

(b) Passenger amenities such as platform (covered shed at Jaisalmer), piped water supply, second class waiting halls and upper class waiting rooms, latrines for ladies and gents, benches and shady trees at the platform, booking windows, electric lighting arrangements and tea stalls are provided at Jaisalmer and Pokra.

Propaganda by drug producers

1553. SHRI K. L. N. PRASAD: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that doctors in the country are prescribing wrong medicines due to propaganda of drug producers:

(b) if so, whether this was one of the points mentioned in the

study group report on the alternative strategy for health;

(c) whether the Indian Council of Social Sciences research expert team had also submitted its report stating that even illiterate villagers have been brainwashed to demand an injection when a simple tablet can be more effective; and

(d) if so, what is the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKART: (a) to (d) The study Group set up jointly by the Indian Council of Social Science Research and the Indian Council of Medical Research has submitted a report in August, 1980, under the title "Health for all: An alternative strategy". This report *inter-alia* seeks to redefine the position of the doctor and the drugs in this new model of an integrated, promotive, preventive and curative approach to health care." This report needs through in-depth study before any detailed opinion is formed by the Government.

It may be correct to some extent that some doctors do prescribe drugs with limited medical potential, but to impute the entire medical profession would not be correct. Government has no information regarding the prescribing habits of doctors engaged in private practice. Moreover qualified doctors are expected and do prescribe what they consider to be in the best interest of the patients.

Entry about New Delhi-Hazrat Nizam-ud-din-Bhubaneswar in the Railway time table

1554. SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to an entry about New Delhi-Hazrat Nizam-ud-din-Bhubaneswar in the Railway time table?

eshwar Puri" of the Time Table of the South Eastern Railways published in November 1980 stating that the 176 Dn leaves from New Delhi on Saturdays;

(b) if so, whether it is a correct entry; and

(c) if not, by when Government propose to rectify this mistake?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) This mistake will be rectified in the next edition of S.E. Railway's Time Table. However, the days of 176 Nilachal Express have been shown, correctly, at page 47 of South Eastern Railway's Time Table.

Change in Timings of Nilachal Express

1555. SHRI JAGDISH JANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had received a request for changing the starting time of the Nilachal Express from Puri earlier to enable the train to reach New Delhi by the evening;

(b) if so, whether Government have taken into consideration the difficulties faced by the passengers in finding conveyance at odd hours at New Delhi Railway Station to their respective destinations; and

(c) if so, the date from which Government propose to change the timing to give relief to these passengers?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MALLIKARJUN): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c) It is not feasible to bring this train earlier into New Delhi as suitable path and platforms are not available. Earlier start from Puri is also not feasible at present for want of a path for the train on Puri-Khurda Road single line section.-

Growth rate of population in North Eastern States

1556. SHRI AJIT KUMAR SHARMA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of growth of population in the States and Union Territories of the North-Eastern Region during the period 1976—1978; and

(b) the measures adopted by Government to control population in this region and the extent of success of such measures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI NIHAR RANJAN LASKAR): (a) Estimates are available regarding the natural growth rate of population. According to the sample Registration System of the Registrar General, India, the annual natural growth rate of population obtained as difference in the average birth rate and death rate in each of the States and Union Territories in the North-Eastern region during the period 1976—78 was as follows:—

States	Average Annual Growth Rate (%)
1. Assam	1.7
2. Meghalaya	2.1
3. Nagaland	1.1
4. Mizoram	1.9
5. Tripura	1.1
6. Arunachal Pradesh	1.5
7. Mizoram	No. available.