

meagre and if so, what action has been taken by the Central Government on the request made by the Maharashtra Government for allocation of more funds for the purpose?]

नौवहन और परिवहन मन्त्रालय में प्रभारी राज्य मन्त्री (श्री चांद राम) : 1978-79 के दौरान महाराष्ट्र में राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग के अनुरक्षण और मरम्मत के लिए २२४.६२ लाख रुपए का राशि स्वीकृति की गई है। इसमें से राज्य सरकार ने दिसम्बर 1978 तक केवल 150.54 लाख रुपए के व्यय की सूचना दी है। इस आधार पर अभी 74.27 लाख रुपए की राशि अभी भी उपलब्ध है जो कि बाकी बचे तीन मास के लिए पर्याप्त समझी गई है।

†[THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): A sum of Rs. 224.61 lakhs has been released for the maintenance and repairs of National Highways in Maharashtra during 1978-79. Against this, the State Government have reported an expenditure of Rs. 150.54 lakhs only upto December 1978. On this basis a sum of Rs. 74.07 lakhs is still available which is considered adequate for the remaining three months.]

#### **Introduction of North Bengal Express from Calcutta to North Bengal districts**

2111. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the people of North Bengal for the introduction of the North Bengal Express from Calcutta to North Bengal Districts; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to introduce the said train?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) Yes.

†[ ] English translation.

(b) Introduction of an additional Express train between Calcutta and stations in North Bengal is at present, operationally not feasible for want of spare line capacity on sections en-route and of terminal facilities in Calcutta area.

#### **Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi**

2112. SHRI SATCHIDANANDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the ceiling of one of the blocks in the Safdarjung Hospital fell down due to dilapidated condition of the building; and

(b) if so, what measures Government are taking to protect the patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RABI RAY): (a) Yes.

(b) Administrative approval and Expenditure sanction for reroofing of the old barracks in Safdarjung Hospital have already been issued and the work is in progress. The Out-Patient Departments and Dispensaries which were housed in such barracks have been shifted either to the 'Pucca' rooms or the temporary tents provided for the purpose.

#### **Karnataka State served by Railway Service Commissions for recruitment**

2113. SHRI SATCHINDANANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka is served by three Railway Service Commissions for the purpose of recruitment;

(b) if so, what action has been taken to safeguard the interests of local people in the matter of recruitment in the Railways;

(c) whether Government propose to set up another railway Service Commission in Karnataka; and

(d) if so, by when it will be set up?