

T. B. patients in Delhi

*458. SHRI V. VENKA:
SHRI M. KADERSHAH:
SHRI E. R. KRISHNAN:

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

(a) what is the total number of T.B. patients in Delhi;

(b) what is the number of beds which have been provided for them in each Government hospital in Delhi; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the number of beds for T.B. patients?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI RABI RAY): (a) It is estimated that about 80,000 persons in Delhi are suffering from active Tuberculosis as evidenced by their chest X-Ray. Of these about 17,000 to 18,000 are Sputum positive or infectious.

(b) 1,539 beds are provided in different institutions in Delhi.

(c) with the advent of potent anti-TB drugs most of the patients can be treated effectively on domiciliary basis living in their own homes. As such there is no proposal to increase the number of beds for TB patients.

Losses suffered by Shipping Corporation of India

*459. SHRI PIARE LALL KUREEL
URF PIARE LALL TALIB:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:
SHRI LAKHAN SINGH:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to the reply to Unstarred Question 387 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 23rd February, 1979 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Shipping Corporation of India has suffered huge losses on certain transactions;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Corporation is in debt to the extent of Rs. 200 crores due to reckless purchases; and

(c) if so, what action Government have taken against persons responsible for such losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Conversion of narrow gauge line between Kotshila and Purulia on the S.E. Railway

*460. SHRI AMARPROSAD CHAKRABORTY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to convert the narrow gauge line to a broad gauge line between Kotshila and Purulia on the South Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if the answer to part (a) above be in the negative, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SHEO NARAIN): (a) and (b) There is no proposal at present to convert the Purulia-Kotshila narrow gauge section into broad gauge.

(c) Traffic expected on the line is limited and would not justify the conversion.