

and fulfilling the conditions prescribed in the scheme are eligible for the subsidy. Normally, therefore, there should be no staff canteens which are not receiving Government subsidy.

Hiring of private buses by DTC

744. SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the terms and conditions on which private buses are hired by the Delhi Transport Corporation;

(b) whether Government propose to make a provision in the contracts to bar the hiring of worn out and uncomfortable buses, as for example buses with low ceiling and exit gates permanently closed; and

(c) whether it is a fact that private buses under DTC operation are not allowed to carry standing passengers whereas DTC buses are allowed to carry standing passengers; if so, what are the reasons for the discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) Private buses have been engaged by the Corporation under the following two schemes:

I. Administrative & Operational Control Charges Scheme.

Under this scheme, the bus owners are required to pay administrative charges to DTC at different rates ranging from Rs. 125/- to Rs. 1000/- per bus per month, depending on the route. The entire income is retained by the bus owners, who employ their own crew.

II. Kilometrage Scheme:

Under this scheme, the bus owners are paid hire charges at the following rates with a guaranteed kilometrage of 250 per bus per day:

(i) Rs. 1.30 per K.M. for buses which are more than six years old.

(ii) Rs. 1.40 per K.M. for buses which are between 2 and 6 years old.

(iii) Rs. 1.50 per K.M. for buses which are less than two years old.

The driver is provided by the bus owner and the conductor by the DTC. The income is deposited with the DTC.

(b) Under the kilometrage scheme, only those buses have recently been engaged which are in good condition and have separate open entrance and exit gates with a ceiling at 6 feet height from the floor.

(c) No, Sir.

Requirement of buses on different D.T.C. routes

745. SHRI MAHENDRA BAHADUR SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what are the routes on which the services of D.T.C. have deteriorated during the last six months;

(b) what steps government have taken to improve the service on these routes;

(c) what is the number of buses under repairs at present; and

(d) whether any loading census is being conducted by the Delhi Transport Corporation to assess the requirement of buses on different routes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI CHAND RAM): (a) DTC have intimated that, on the basis of complaints received during the relevant period, some deterioration in the bus services on some of the DTC routes has taken place. Information in regard to the actual routes on which the services deteriorated is not readily available.

(b) Steps have been taken by the Corporation to improve the maintenance of the buses and augment the services suitably.

(c) As on 23-11-77, 390 buses were held up for major repairs and 151 for routine maintenance and motor vehicle inspection, etc.

(d) On receipt of public complaints regarding the inadequacy of bus services, the Planning Cell of the Corporation carries out periodical surveys to assess the actual transportation needs on the routes involved.

Setting up of a paper plant in Siliguri

746. SHRI ANANDA PATHAK: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a paper plant in Siliguri in North Bengal; and

(b) if so, by when the plant will be set up and what are the other details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) and (b) A Letter of intent has been issued to the West Bengal Industrial Development Corporation on 31st July 1974 for setting up a newsprint project with a capacity of 200 tonnes per day. Although the exact location is yet to be decided, the project is to be set up in North Bengal using the locally available forest resources. The State Government are carrying out detailed studies of techno-economic viability, availability of raw materials, additional plantation requirements, transport operations and other related matters, with the assistance of the Hindustan Paper Corporation.

Inauguration of Projets by Union Ministers

747. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the names of the projects sponsored by the Central Government or the State Governments which were inaugurated or foundation stones of which were laid by the Union Ministers since the 1st April, 1977?

THE PRIME MINISTER (SHRI MORARJI R. DESAI): Information is being collected from State Governments and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

Cases involving charges of Corruption

748. SHRIMATI SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state the number of cases involving charges of corruption instituted during the period from the 22nd March, to 31st October, 1977, against (i) top ranking officers, and (ii) politicians, and the action taken in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. D. PATIL): Information is being collected and will be laid on Table of the House.

I.A.F. Plane Crash near Jorhat

749. DR. M. R. VYAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the period of service rendered by each of the five I.A.F. officers killed in the I.A.F. plane crash near Jorhat on the 4th November, 1977;

(b) the amount of compensation paid or payable to the families of the deceased officers;

(c) the names of persons who were travelling in the plane at the time of the crash;

(d) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to raise the quantum of compensation payable to the families of the aircrew who are killed or to those who are injured as a result of accident to aircraft carrying V.I.P.s.; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?