

(c) The University of Delhi has now abolished the pre-medical course and instead admit students after Higher Secondary to the B.Sc. courses so that those who fail to get admission in medical colleges can work towards the B.Sc. degree.

Inter-State Transport Commission

371. SHRI KHURSHED ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the contribution made by the Inter-State Transport Commission in improving Inter-State Road Transport; and

(b) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to reorganise the Inter-State Transport Commission to make it more effective?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) The Inter-State Transport Commission was constituted in March, 1958, under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 for developing, co-ordinating and regulating the operation of transport vehicles on inter-State routes. As a result of the efforts made by this Commission, almost all the States/Union Territories now have reciprocal agreements with each other for operation of goods and passenger services on inter-State routes. The Commission has also initiated Five Zonal Permit Schemes, viz., Southern, Western, Northern, Eastern and Central for the unhindered movement of a limited number of public carriers over the National/State Highways in any of the participating States/ Union Territories chosen for operation, on the basis of payment of tax at a single point and without obtaining counter-signatures on permits. The Commission have already finalized three such Schemes viz., Southern, Western and Northern Zone. The two remaining Schemes, viz., Eastern and Central, are being processed by it in consultation with the State Governments concerned.

The Commission has been able to bring about uniformity, to some extent, in the laden weight limits on the

National and State Highways by persuading the State Governments/Administrations to raise the permissible limit to 33,000 lbs. (about 15 tons.)

The Commission has also successfully endeavoured to bring about uniformity in the period for which tax is to be charged on Vehicles operating on temporary permits. A number of States/ Union Territories have agreed to the Commission's proposal to accept payment for a minimum of one week or a fortnight.

(b) There is no such proposal before Government at present.

Production of Foodgrains in Gujarat

372. SHRI IBRAHIM KALANIYA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the production of rice, paddy and wheat in Gujarat during the last three years, year-wise;

(b) what was the annual requirement for these items in Gujarat during the same period; and

(c) the per capita disbursement of foodgrains, item-wise to the weaker sections in Gujarat during the years from 1967-68 to 1973-74 year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHEB P. SHINDE): (a) to (c) A statement is attached.

Statement

(a) The production of rice including paddy (m terms of rice) and wheat in Gujarat during the last 3 years were as under: —

In '000 tons

Year	Rice including paddy in terms of rice	Wheat
1970—71	597.5	939.4
1971—72	571.5	897.4
1972—73	147.9	547.6