
1

2

76 University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Building No. 7, Street No. 1 Vasant Vihar Enclave, Dehradun-284006 (Uttanchal)

77 University of Patanjali, Patanjali Yogpeeth Haridwar

DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Sir, part (b) of the question says, 'how their teaching standards are determined by the UGC and the Government.' The reply says, 'Standards of education in private universities, including those relating to teaching, are regulated through the University Grants Commission (Establishment of and Maintenance of Standards in Private Universities Regulations, 2003)'. Sir, here the question is how the teaching standards are fixed. But the Act talks only about the qualification of the staff and other requirement. How is the standard of education maintained by the UGC?

SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI: Sir, as far as the minimum qualification for appointment of teachers and other academic staff in the universities and colleges and measures for maintenance of standards in higher education institutions are concerned, the NET, the National Eligibility Test, and also the SET, which is the State Eligibility Test, remain the minimum qualification for teachers. I am sure, my hon. colleague will agree with me that unless we have well and good qualified teachers in place we cannot provide quality education to our children. When it comes to the maintenance of standards, it is the responsibility of the UGC to look into the minimum standards regarding the physical infrastructure, which are well laid down. However, it is also the responsibility of the universities to look into the standards whether the institutions are living up to these standards that are required to ensure that quality education is being imparted to our children.

Delhi-Chennai Rajdhani Express

*230. SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps being taken to reduce the running time between Delhi and Chennai to 24 hours;

(b) whether Railways proposes to increase the frequency of Rajdhani Express between Delhi and Chennai to at least five days a week to cope with the passenger rush;

(c) if so, by when; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI):
(a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) to (d) The fastest train between Chennai and Nizamuddin is 12269 Chennai-Hazrat Nizamuddin Duronto express which takes 27 hours 55 minutes in transit. 12433/12434 Nizamuddin-Chennai Rajdhani Express is presently taking 28 hours 10 minutes in transit from Chennai to Nizamuddin and 28 hours 15 minutes from Nizamuddin to Chennai. 12433/12434 Nizamuddin-Chennai Rajdhani Express has seven commercial stoppages enroute while 12269 Chennai-Hazrat Nizamuddin Duronto express has no commercial stoppage enroute. Speeding up of trains including reduction of running time of Nizamuddin-Chennai Rajdhani Express to below 24 hours is a continuous process on Indian Railways and is dependent on optimization of the investments made by Railways in modernization of technology, high powered locos, modern coaches and better tracks.

Increase in frequency of existing trains including 12433/12434 Nizamuddin-Chennai Rajdhani Express is subject to operational feasibility, availability of resources, traffic and commercial justification. Presently, there is no proposal to increase the frequency of 12433/12434 Nizamuddin (Delhi)-Chennai Rajdhani Express from bi-weekly to 5 days in a week.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister regarding the cleanliness in the trains and at the railway stations. The task of cleanliness is given to private contractors. But the cleanliness is not maintained properly because the contractors further appoint sub-contractors for this purpose. Can the maintenance of cleanliness be given to the women self-help groups? It will facilitate their livelihood also.

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Hon. Member may put a separate question in this regard.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do you wish to put any other supplementary?

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: Yes, Sir. Will the Department of Railways think about creating more booking counters, at least, in the metropolitan cities, considering the increase in the
...(Interruptions)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please read your question. Read your own question.

SHRIMATI VASANTHI STANLEY: I have been asked to put some other question. I am asking particularly for the Southern Railway. However, I have included other metropolitan cities also.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It does not arise out of the question. But anyway, Mr. Minister, do you wish to say anything in this regard?

SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI: Sir, the supplementary does not arise out of the present question. But the hon. Member has made a good suggestion.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 231

* 231 [The questioner **Shri Mahendra Mohan** was absent]

Use of pesticides banned in other countries

*231. SHRI MAHENDRA MOHAN: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the pesticides which are banned in several foreign countries are indiscriminately used in the country;

(b) if so, the facts and the details thereof;

(c) whether Government proposes to take concrete steps to limit/ban the use of such pesticides in the country; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARUN YADAV): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (d) Use of pesticides in the country is regulated under the Insecticides Act, 1968. A pesticide is registered only after scrutiny of bio-efficacy and bio-safety as per the provisions of the Insecticides Act, 1968. Further, to ensure continued safety of such products, the Government appoints expert groups from time to time to review any registered pesticide which may be reported to cause any adverse effect or are banned/severely restricted in other countries and action is taken on