

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INCLUSION OF RURAL SANITATION IN THE LIST OF NATIONAL MINIMUM NEEDS

*173. SHRI N. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether 'rural sanitation has been included in the list of national minimum needs; and

(b) if so, what provision has been made for it in the Third Five Year Plan in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) 'Rural Sanitation' is an integral part of the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme (Rural).

(b) Under this programme, a provision of Rs. 200-00 lakhs has been tentatively made for rural water supply and sanitation schemes in the Third Five Year Plan.

SETHUSAMUDRAM PROJECT

♦181. SHRI BABUBHAI CHLNAI: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Capt. J. R. Davis, R. N. R. (Retired) of Britain, has been requested to advise Government on the navigational requirements of the Sethusamudram Project;

(b) if so, what are the conditions on which his services have been obtained; and

(c) the details of the Sethusamudram Project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) Yes.

(b) Under Colombo Plan.

(c) It is proposed to cut a ship canal to connect Palk Strait with the Gulf of Mannar to avoid the longer trip round Ceylon; this would mean a saving in distances upto a maximum of 362 miles; and consequent saving in time of voyages upto a day and a half, if the Sethusamudram Project as designed by the Committee is executed on the lines recommended by them.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL HEALTH COMMITTEE

*184. SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether any recommendations about mid-day meals to school children have been made by the School Health Committee appointed by Government;

(b) if so, what are the recommendations; and

(c) what decisions have been taken by Government on the same?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a), and (b). A summary of the interim proposals made by the School Health Committee regarding mid-day meals to school children is placed on the Table of the Sabha.

(c) Government have not taken any final decision in the matter.

STATEMENT

1. The School meal should provide approximately 1/3rd of the total daily requirements of calories, proteins, vitamin A, Vitamin B complex and calcium in which the home diets of the children are inadequate.

2. School meal should be based as far as possible on locally available nutritious foods. Where possible the inclusion of milk in the school meals should be encouraged. The possibility of producing processed foods rich in