

**Shifting of orthopaedic department in AIIMS to ground floor**

\*350. PROF. ANIL KUMAR SAHANI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that physically disabled patients find it difficult to reach orthopaedic department and office of the Director, AIIMS which are located on upper floors of the building; and

(b) if so, whether there is any proposal to shift them to the ground floor for the convenience of the disabled persons?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) The office of Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), is located on ground floor. The department of orthopaedic in AIIMS is located on the first floor of the hospital and is accessible by means of ramp and lift for physically disabled patients. Hence, there is no problem of access for physically disabled patients.

(b) Does not arise.

**Norms for plying over-loaded vehicles on highways**

\*351. DR. CHANDAN MITRA: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken any steps to regulate and enforce norms to curb plying of over-loaded vehicles which causes frequent accidents and severe damage to highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to put in place Intelligent Transport System (ITS) on all the highways across the country in order to check road accidents caused by over-loaded vehicles?

THE MINISTER OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI C.P. JOSHI): (a) to (c) The problem of overloading of motor vehicles has been drawing attention of the Government for a long time and has also been discussed with State Governments/Union Territories at various fora, including National Road Safety

Council meetings. In order to curb overloading, adequate provisions have been provided in the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 to check overloading of motor vehicles. The Gross Vehicle Weight of various categories of motor vehicles were notified vide SO 728(E) dated 18.10.1996 and 517 (E) dated 26.5.2000. Every motor vehicle is required to adhere to the specified load ceiling.

The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways has been continuously writing to the State Governments/Union Territories to curb the menace of overloading of motor vehicles.

(d) Traffic control, including overloading is the responsibility of the State Governments, hence many States have tried to use applications and Intelligent Transport System (ITS). The Government of India has also taken the following steps to curb overloading of motor vehicles on national highways:

- (i) Effective surveillance and effective traffic movement, including surveillance of overloaded vehicles, through ITS have been made a part of Eastern Peripheral Expressway (EPE);
- (ii) Focused enforcement of limits of overloading have been undertaken in six pilot projects in build-operate-transfer (BOT)/operation-maintenance-transfer (OMT) modes through electronic instrumentation systems;
- (iii) Procurement of 13 electronic Weigh-in-Motion -cum-Automatic Traffic Counter cum Classifiers (ATCCs) for installation on National Highways for controlling overloading;
- (iv) As part of the National e-Governance Programme, the Government is implementing a mission mode project namely, 'Vahan' and 'Sarathi'. Out of 993 Regional Transport Offices (RTOs)/District Transport Offices (DTOs) in the country, 987 have been computerized. State Transport Departments officials as well as enforcement authorities have been provided access to the data on the National Register for enforcement of overloading through handheld devices.

#### **CBI investigation into corruption cases in MCI**

\*352. SHRI PIYUSH GOYAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by the Ministry on the allegations of corruption cases in the Medical Council of India (MCI);