

**Shri Jagdivan Ram:** It does not say that the defects about signals have not been removed. He says about periodical checks, and I will read what steps we have taken.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is a matter of this kind to be thrashed out only during the question hour by supplementaries? In that case, only one question can be disposed of.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** I agree I would suggest a discussion.

**Mr. Speaker:** There are other devices like half-hour discussion one hour discussion, one-and-a-half our discussion two-hour discussion etc.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** Yes.

Corneal Grafting

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\*48. { **Shri V P. Nayar.**  
**Shri Easwara Iyer**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1142 on the 16th August, 1956 and state what progress has been made in regard to legislation regarding the setting up of eye banks and corneal grafting?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar) The State Governments have been addressed for their views on the desirability of enacting Central Legislation on Corneal Grafting and Eye Banks. Replies in the matter are yet to be received from some of the State Governments. A final decision will be taken in the matter after the outstanding replies from the State Governments have been received.

**Shri V P. Nayar:** In August 1956 also, the then Minister of Health stated that the matter had been referred to the State Governments. I want to know which of the States have so far reported and which have not.

**Shri Karmarkar:** The States which have not replied are Kerala

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** What about his State?

**Shri Karmarkar:** and four other State Governments.

**Shri V P. Nayar:** May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a private member's Bill introduced in the Bombay Legislature on this subject? If so, do Government propose to have legislation on the pattern set in that Bill?

**Shri Karmarkar:** We shall consider all the patterns. It is a fact that the idea was provided by a private member who introduced a Bill in the Bombay Legislature. On the Government themselves offering to introduce a Bill, I understand the Bill was withdrawn by Dr Sathaye, the member concerned. I also understand that the Bombay Government propose to have such a Bill considered in their Legislature.

**Shri V P Nayar:** In answer to the original question last year, the hon Health Minister stated that Government were pursuing the matter in regard to a news item which appeared in the press about grafting by the cornea of chicken. Do I understand that Government have further pursued the matter, and are in a position to make a statement on that?

**Shri Karmarkar:** We have, however been advised by experts that the question of hetero-transplantation in keratoplasty is a dead chapter in the history of corneal transplantation. We do not propose to revive the same.

#### Telephone Traffic

\*49. **Shrimati Ila Falchoudhuri.** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that for about three weeks beginning from the last week of May 1957 telephone traffic between Delhi-Calcutta, Delhi-Bombay, Delhi-Madras, Calcutta-Bombay Calcutta-Madras, and vice versa had been subject to heavy delays,