

(c) if so, the result thereof?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

**Major Port on West Coast**

- \*1634. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
- Shri Kuttikrishnan Nair:**
- Shri Maniyangadan:**
- Shri Jinachandran:**
- Shri V. Eacharan:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken about the location of the new major port on the West Coast;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Chacko Committee reported Beypore in Kerala as the high location; and

(c) whether Government have considered his report?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the Sabha.

**STATEMENT**

Intermediate Ports Development Committee appointed by the Government of India for selection of suitable Intermediate ports in India for intensive development is expected to submit its report by the end of April, 1960. Thereafter, a clear picture of the development of ports in the Third Plan will emerge.

There was no Committee under the Chairmanship of Shri I. G. Chacko appointed to investigate the development of Beypore as an all weather port. However, Shri Chacko, who is Officer on Special Duty (Minor Ports), visited Beypore and submitted a preliminary report to the Government on the development of the Port. As in the meantime, the Government had appointed the Intermediate Ports Development Committee to examine the further intensive development of In-

termediate Ports including Beypore. it was decided to await this Committee's report.

**Locust Invasion**

- \*1635. { **Shri Achar:**
- Shri Raghunath Singh:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the danger of locust swarms that may come to India, as warned by the Anti-Locust Research Centre in London;

(b) whether Government are proposing to take any steps in the matter; and

(c) if so, the nature thereof?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 40.]

**Concrete Sleepers**

- \*1636. { **Shri P. C. Borooah:**
- Shri Raghunath Singh:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Ministry has given a contract to the Hindustan Housing Factory in New Delhi for the manufacture of reinforced concrete sleepers; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) An order for 50,000 Nos. Reinforced Concrete sleepers, 30,000 Nos. Through Type and 20,000 Nos. Block Type, has been placed on the Hindustan Housing Factory for supply to the Northern Railway. The rate is Rs. 16.50 for Through Type and Rs. 14.50 for Block Type, excluding