

(b) The Out Agency was required to observe operational and other restrictions.

(c) The Out Agency maintained a record of registration of wagons.

(d) and (e). Normally on traffic coming into Delhi by rail for onward despatch by road or coming into Delhi by road for onwards despatch by rail, terminal tax is paid and a refund applied for later as terminal tax is not leviable on goods that enter Delhi as in transit and are not intended for consumption in Delhi. In order to facilitate and attract traffic, the Railway Administration approached the Municipal Corporation of Delhi to waive the formality of payment of terminal tax in the first instance and later claiming refund thereof in respect of the Out Agency traffic.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know the reasons why this out agency was allotted such a large number of wagons, prior to July and whether it is a fact that though the merchants used to bring their goods by their own trucks the out agency used to charge the entire cartage within the freight charges?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The out agency was recommended by the zonal railway users' consultative committee and in pursuance of that the out agency was granted. Subsequently, it was represented that unless there was a special quota of wagons the out agency could not function successfully. But later on complaints were made that this was being abused and therefore it has been withdrawn.

Sale of Spurious Stamps at Imphal

*78. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some postal employees of Imphal were arrested during the last week of August, 1961 for the sale of spurious stamps; and

(b) if so, the number of such arrests and the amount of loss of Government revenue through the spurious sale of stamps and understamping of parcels?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan):

(a) Arrests were made in connection with suspected removal and resale of undefaced genuine postage stamps from postal articles.

(b) Two officials were arrested. No loss has so far been established due to sale of spurious stamps and understamping of parcels.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I could not hear the answer, Sir. I wanted to know whether any arrests had been made.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Yes, Sir. Arrests were made and I have said so in my main answer.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: May I know whether any judicial proceedings had been started against those who had been arrested and if so, what is the position?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I could not hear the question.

Mr. Speaker: He asks whether cases have been launched against these persons who had been arrested.

Dr. P. Subbarayan: Investigation is being made and the case will be launched when the investigation is completed.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know whether any enquiry has been made as to where these spurious stamps were printed?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: We do not know. Investigations are being made and if the hon. Member will give me any information, we will be pleased to take it.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: May I know whether any departmental action has been taken against those employees who have been found guilty or who

have been connected with these things?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: No, Sir, not yet. I said that investigations were in progress.

Shri Hem Barua: Are Members of Parliament expected to behave as policemen and work as policemen? .

Mr. Speaker: Nobody expects them to do so.

Shri Hem Barua: The hon. Minister said: 'If the information is available about the place where the stamps were printed, I shall be glad to accept that information.'

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I will be glad to receive any information which the hon. gentleman has.

Mr. Speaker: There is no purpose. There is no force in this. If any hon. Member has got information, why should he withhold it from the Minister? Whatever information could be gathered is gathered by the hon. Minister. The hon. Member need not go about as a policeman but if he gets to know something why should he keep it to himself? Next question.

T.B. Patients

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*80. { **Shri Hem Barua:**
Shri Goray:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he has stated at the Ninth meeting of the Central Council of Health held recently at Hyderabad that the number of tuberculosis patients in the country would increase at the end of the Third Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to counteract this unfortunate situation?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No. It was, however, apprehended that such a situation might arise in case all round efforts were not made to implement the various T.B. Schemes included in the Third Five Year Plan.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Hem Barua: What are the other reasons on account of which this extra-ordinary phenomenon was apprehended by the hon. Minister? What are the basic reasons?

Shri Karmarkar: The basis is obvious: overcrowding in cities, malnutrition and various other factors congenial to the increase in T.B. If better efforts are not made it is likely that the number of patients will increase. I hope the hon. Member agrees with me.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether this increase in the number of T.B. patients was apprehended to occur more in the rural areas or in the urban areas?

Shri Karmarkar: These days the cities are getting overcrowded and overcrowding is also the reason for the increase in all types of diseases, not only T.B. Hon. friends know that in the last ten years on account of the developmental activities and other reasons, people are crowding into cities and unless proper steps are taken, the incidence might increase. I expressed that fear.

Shri Nath Par: The hon. Minister attributed the growing incidence of T.B. to malnutrition, insanitary conditions, etc. May we know how this fits in with the claim made by the hon. Prime Minister when he submitted the Third Five Year Plan that there was improvement in health, there was improvement in housing and there was better nutrition and greater standards of health.

Shri Karmarkar: As against a small loss in one sector, there has been a hundredfold improvement in other sectors.

Shri Basumatari: Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that 80-90 per cent of the incidence occurred in tribal areas? Is there any statistics with the Government?

Shri Karmarkar: I could not follow what he said.