

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will it be a commercial route within a year or two?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan:** The idea is not to have this as a commercial route. The importance of the road lies in its military strategic value.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** May we...

**Mr. Speaker:** Let us go to the next question.

#### HOSPITALS IN RURAL AREAS OF TRIPURA

**\*766. Shri Dasaratha Deb:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the number of hospitals in the rural areas of Tripura?

(b) Do Government propose to increase their number this year?

(c) What is the rate of child mortality in Tripura?

(d) If the rate is very high, what are the reasons for it?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) There are no hospitals in the rural areas of Tripura. Two out of the three hospitals in Tripura are situated at Agartala and one at Kailasahar.

(b) It is proposed to establish one hospital in the rural areas under the Community Projects scheme.

(c) Reliable figures are not available.

(d) The main reasons for a high infant mortality all over the country are poverty, ignorance and the lack of proper medical aid and relief.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Is it a fact that a scheme for a mobile anti-malaria medical unit has been submitted by the Health Officer, Tripura?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I have no information.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister tell us whether this scheme is going to get a grant this year?

**Mr. Speaker:** Which scheme?

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** The scheme that I mentioned just now.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Minister said that she has no knowledge about it.

**Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Is it a fact that, in order to check the high rate of child mortality, a women's organisation, namely the Tripura Rajya Ganantrik Nari Samity has demanded the opening of a training centre of Midwifery in Agartala and will the Minister consider this proposal?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** When the request comes up, I will certainly consider it.

#### RAILWAY WORKSHOPS

**\*767. Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many factories are there in India for the production of wagons?

(b) Are attempts being made to make India self-sufficient in the production of coaches and wagons?

(c) When is India expected to reach that stage?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Four:

(1) Messrs. Burn and Co. Howrah.

(2) Messrs. Indian Standard Wagon Co. Ltd., Burnpur.

(3) Messrs. Braithwaite & Co. (India) Ltd., Calcutta.

(4) Messrs. Jessop & Co., Calcutta.

(b) and (c). The wagon and coach production capacity in India is adequate at present to meet normal replacement requirements. Self-sufficiency in respect of the increased demands of coaching and Goods stock is expected to be reached in about 5 years time with the combined production of the new Integral Coach Factory, Perambur; Railway workshops; Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., the four firms referred to and some other Indian manufacturers who are at present being tried out with educational orders.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** What is the total requirement of coaches and wagons, (a) by broad gauge, and (b) by metre gauge?

**Shri Alagesan:** Normally, the replacement requirement for broad gauge is about 350 and metre gauge about 300; for goods wagons the proportion may be in the order of 2:1.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know when the wagon manufacturing factory in Perambur will start functioning?

**Shri Alagesan:** The work on the factory has just started, and in a few years' time, it will start functioning.

**Shri Nambiar:** How many thousands or hundreds of workers are to be employed in the factory?

**Shri Alagesan:** We have no idea at present.

**Shri Nambiar:** What is the proposal exactly, if they have no idea of the number of workers to be employed?

**Mr. Speaker:** The proposal may be to increase the work, and then to employ workers as the work increases.