

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri S. N. Das:** One supplementary, Sir. With regard to rationalisation, retrenchment and re-training of retrenched workers, a circular was issued by the Central Government.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I have called the next question. What is the hon. Member asking?

**Shri S. N. Das:** One question, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No. Next question.

#### CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF SHIP-OWNERS

**\*496. Shri S. N. Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state what are the important recommendations so far made by the Consultative Committee of Ship-owners?

(b) Which of these recommendations have been accepted by Government and given effect to?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). The Consultative Committee of Shipowners which consists of representatives of the Indian shipping industry, is a purely advisory body and has been set up to enable the industry to have discussions with representatives of Government on current problems facing the industry and to offer suggestions. The Committee has so far held two meetings. The important subjects discussed at these meetings included the question of the grant of certain income-tax concessions to the Indian shipping industry, the collection of shipping statistics, the setting up of a salvage organisation in India and the improvement of existing facilities in certain ports. The suggestions made at the meeting are under Government's consideration.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether this Committee is likely to be terminated or it will continue?

**Shri Alagesan:** It will continue and it will have its next meeting in April.

#### DIGHA GHAT

**\*497. Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that no conveyance except automobiles are allowed to carry passengers from and to Digha Ghat (N.E. Railway)?

(b) If the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, what are the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Are the Government aware that many times the station staff have refused to allow any transport except automobiles?

**Shri Alagesan:** There is a slope and perhaps they themselves do not go to the jetty. The Railway staff do not prevent them from coming near the jetties.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** I myself have gone and was not allowed to bring my rickshaw there.

**Shri Alagesan:** That would be looked into.

#### PATNA MEDICAL COLLEGE

**\*498. Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the Patna Medical College for upgrading of the Physiology Department;

(b) whether the whole amount has been spent; and

(c) whether the upgrading has been effected?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shri-mati Chandrasekhar):** (a) The amounts allotted by the Central and Bihar Governments for meeting recurring and non-recurring expenditure are:—

(i) by the Central Government:

Non-recurring Rs. 55,000/-

Recurring Rs. 17,000/- per annum

(ii) by the Government of Bihar:

Non-recurring Rs. 72,000/-

Recurring Rs. 35,000/- per annum.

The Central Government have paid the non-recurring grant of Rs. 55,000/-.

(b) No.

(c) The regular session of the upgraded department is likely to start in July, 1953.

#### CALCUTTA PORT

**\*499. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state how far the congestion at the Calcutta Port has been relieved during the current year and also the progress made in the implementation of the plan for improvement of Calcutta Port?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** There was some congestion in the Port of Calcutta during a period of about four months from middle of July to middle of November 1952, due to the rush of ships for cargoes of coal.

Port facilities at Calcutta are adequate for handling present traffic. Certain schemes of improvement estimated to cost approximately Rs. 72.35 lakhs are in progress. Further schemes estimated to cost Rs. 11.08 crores have been included in the Five Year Development Programme of the port.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** May I know whether the plan for the improvement of the port of Calcutta has been finalised, and if so whether the Man Singh Committee's recommendation for the implementation of this improvement work has been accepted by Government?

**Shri Alagesan:** The programme has been drawn up, and will be carried out as per the availability of finance during this five year period.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** My question was whether the recommendations of the Man Singh Committee have been accepted by Government. That is the information I want.

**Shri Alagesan:** The Port Authorities have drafted a programme, taking into consideration the requirements of the port for development, and the Man Singh Committee's recommendations, and the programme have been finalised. The money has to be allotted, and in the remaining three years' period of the Plan, there will be great progress.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Man Singh Committee's recommendations have been looked into, considered and acted upon in a way.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** What is the point of giving such a vague answer? The hon. Minister might have asked for notice instead.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** He has given more answers than are called for.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** But what is the point in giving such a vague answer?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The way of answering is different for the different Ministers. That is all. Now so far as I am concerned, I have been able to follow the hon. Minister's answer. He said that the Man Singh Committee's report was sent to the Port Authorities, they considered these recommendations, and these recommendations

have been accepted and included in the five year programme of development. What more is required? He has given more answer than was expected.

#### POSTAL DIRECTORY AND GUIDE

**\*500. Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state the number of new sub-Branch and village post-offices opened since 1950 (up-to-date)?

(b) Have the names of all such post offices been included in the latest Postal Directory and Guide and if not, why not?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Between the 1st April, 1950 and the 31st December, 1952, the number of new urban and rural post offices opened was 512 and 9,709, respectively.

(b) The names of all newly opened Post Offices have been included in the latest P. & T. Guide, which is under print. In addition to the Guide, the names and particulars of the newly opened Post Offices are published in a monthly circular.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know the reasons why the quarterly list of post offices, which was being printed previously, has been suspended now?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** They are published monthly.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Are the Government aware of the fact that a very large number of letters are lost or reach the addressees late, due to the ignorance of the sorters about the existence and location of new post offices?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It was in order to overcome that difficulty, that we have begun publishing monthly lists.

**Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** May I know the reasons why many incorrect things are now visible in the present list of the post offices?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** They may be brought to the notice of the hon. Minister.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Is the hon. Minister aware that considerable difficulty is being experienced in sending telegrams, because there is no list maintained in post and telegraph offices about the other telegraph offices?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** If the hon. Member has met with any difficulty, on that score, I shall be grateful to him if he