

of post offices in Travancore-Cochin State under the circumstances detailed by him?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It is not possible to give the total number of mass petitions.

Shri V. P. Nayar: There are hundreds and thousands.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I am not quite sure; of course, it is not possible.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Are there any instances where post offices existing in villages with a population of more than 2,000 each have been closed, as they were found to be unremunerative?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There are instances, of course. We have got an experimental period of five years during which period if the loss on a particular post office goes over Rs. 750, we have got to close it down. Then we have a minimum limit of Rs. 240 and in the course of five years if the loss comes to 240, then we make it permanent.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know how many new post offices and telegraph offices have been opened in 1952-53?

Shri Raj Bahadur: A full report on this is given in the statement of the activities of the Ministry.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Is it under the contemplation of the Government to open a telegraph office in the Constitution House?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I will take note of the suggestion.

श्री जांगड़े : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जैसे संचरण विभाग ने दो हार की आबादी वाले गांवों में डाक घर खोलने का कानून बनाया है या एक ऐसा प्रतिबंध लगाया है, तो ऐसे क्षेत्रों में जहां सघन आबादी नहीं है, वहां डाकखाने खोलने का क्या सरकार का विचार है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इस से पूर्व एक अवसर पर मैं निवेदन कर चुका हूँ कि हम इस नियम में कि आबादी के आधार पर ये नये डाकखाने खोले जाय, इस प्रकार संशोधन करना चाहते हैं कि आबादी के साथ साथ दूरी या फासले का भी म्यालरक्खा जायगा; और यह बात अभी सरकार के विचाराधीन है।

Shri S. C. Samanta: One of the conditions stated by the hon. Minister for opening telegraph offices is that there should be no other telegraph office within a radius of five miles. May I know whether natural barriers and other things are considered and exemptions given?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Exceptions only prove the rule.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar: I heard the hon. Minister say that telegraph offices will be opened even if it is proved to be a loss. What are those exceptions?

Shri Raj Bahadur: One of the exceptions is when the State Governments are prepared to furnish a guarantee against the loss.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: Is the hon. Minister aware that Salem City which has got a population of 2 lakhs has got only one telegraph office and is it proposed to increase the number of telegraph offices.....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How can he remember that? Possibly, he has not seen Salem.

Shri Raj Bahadur: I have not seen Salem, but India is one and Salem as such is as good for me as my own home-town. I will take note of the information that has been given to me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is a comprehensive one and every hon. Member wants a Post office. I am sure the hon. Minister will consider them.

ANTI-MALARIA WORK

*899. **Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the programme of Anti-malaria work which is envisaged under the Five Year Plan;

(b) in how many States the scheme will be worked (i) partially and (ii) wholly;

(c) what is the percentage of Central help given to each State in this connection;

(d) whether any experts are being recruited for the purpose; and

(e) if any training is being given or is likely to be given to the workers for the efficient working of the scheme in each State?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). A note giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 29].

(d) The necessary staff for the spraying operations under the scheme

will be recruited locally by the State Governments concerned.

(e) Yes. Malaria medical officers and malaria inspectors requiring training will be trained at the Malaria Institute of India and arrangements for training spraying crews will be made locally in each State.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं देखता हूँ कि इस स्टेटमेंट में देहली स्टेट शामिल है, क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि देहली स्टेट में मलेरिया घटाने के वास्ते इस तरह की कार्यवाही शुरू हुई है या नहीं ?

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : दिल्ली स्टेट के बारे में ज़रूरी इन्तज़ाम स्टेट गवर्नमेंट खुद करती है और यह सवाल उन से पूछना चाहिए, वैसे उन के लिए सब ज़रूरी इन्तज़ाम कर तो दिया गया है ।

Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: May I know what efforts have Government taken to harness the Ayurvedic and other indigenous systems of medicine to fight Malaria and whether they intend to do it in future?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: This Malaria Control Scheme has got nothing to do with the Ayurvedic system. This is purely on modern lines.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: May I know if there is any scheme to control malaria during the jute growing season?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Doubtless the Bengal Government will see that the Malaria Control Scheme does help in those areas where it is most needed.

Shri Punnoose: Government's statistics show that there are 100 million patients and one million mortality due to Malaria. May I know whether any improvement has been made on account of the work done in the last few years?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I could not give the statistics for the incidence of Malaria for the last two years, except in certain places. For example in Delhi it has come down tremendously and in four areas where the Malaria Control Schemes have been worked, namely, in Orissa, Madras, Mysore and Uttar Pradesh, definitely the incidence has come down. By and large in the Bombay State, I know the incidence of Malaria has been brought down considerably.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: May I know whether anti-malaria units have been provided to all the Part A and B States except Madhya Bharat and whether Madhya Bharat Government has requested for the supply of any anti-malaria unit, and, if so, what action is being taken by the Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is a long question.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Sir, I will answer it very quickly. All States were requested to let us know whether they would have these units. Those States who replied in time have been supplied. Madhya Bharat was one of those which did not let us know in time. But, I am trying my best to see that Madhya Bharat too will have the two units, they now ask for.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether any particular aid was given to those States for the cultivation of cinchona plants?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Cultivation of cinchona does not come under this Plan but aid is given where cinchona is grown. Madras and Bengal grow cinchona.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is stated in the report of the Planning Commission that we have 100 million people suffering from malaria. May I know whether there is any programme to evolve a positive cure for malaria and whether this cure will be made available to all people who are now suffering from malaria free of cost?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not see how this arises from this. I may say that in this particular programme about 125 million people residing in the malarious parts of India will be helped. Quinine is distributed wherever it is needed.

संठ गोविन्द दास : क्या माननीया मंत्रिणी जी को यह बात मालूम है कि कुछ वर्ष पहले नई दिल्ली में मलेरिया के मच्छर नहीं थे और अब वह खूब बढ़ रहे हैं ?

राजकुमारी अमृत कौर : जनाब, मलेरिया के मच्छर तो नहीं बढ़ रहे हैं, हाँ, मच्छर बढ़ रहे हैं । मलेरिया की बीमारी दिल्ली में आज पहले से कम है, ज्यादा नहीं है ।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Hon. Members, if they want, may have half an hour discussion over this.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether the hon. Minister is aware that Ayurvedic and Homoeopathic remedies are more effective than allopathic remedies in the matter of malaria?

Shri M. L. Dwivedi rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have had sufficient questions. The next question also stands in his name.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: I wanted to put a question regarding malaria control.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am prepared to allow half-an-hour discussion on that.

ABOLITION OF CLASS I ON RAILWAYS

***900. Shri M. L. Dwivedi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the proposal to abolish Class I on the Railways is likely to materialise;

(b) whether Intermediate class has also been decided to be abolished;

(c) if so, when;

(d) what are the details of this plan; and

(e) what are the financial implications of the implementations of the plan, if any?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) First class accommodation has already been withdrawn from most of the branch lines and also from certain trains on the main lines. The complete withdrawal of first class accommodation, except from suburban trains, is expected to be effected by the 1st October 1953.

(b) and (c). It has not been decided to abolish the inter-class accommodation as such, but Railways have been left free to dispense with this class of accommodation on minor branch lines in the light of traffic requirements.

(d) A reference is invited to my reply under part (a) of the question.

(e) It will not be possible to precisely assess the financial implications of the proposal to withdraw first class accommodation from trains till after its full implementation and till we have had experience of its actual working.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: What is the loss likely to be incurred by the abolition of the first class?

Shri Alagesan: That is what I have stated in answer to part (e) of the question that it is rather difficult to assess this now.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether Government are aware that most of the people in India travel in inter-class and they are against the abolition of that class and they want that more inter-class compartments should be provided in the trains?

Shri Alagesan: There is no question of the abolition of inter-class as such. The railway administrations have been given the choice to handle that question as per traffic requirements.

Shri Raghuramaiah: May I know whether it is the intention of Government to substitute air-conditioned compartments in all cases where first class is removed,—at any rate on major lines?

Shri Alagesan: Not in all cases, Sir, but in mail and express trains.

Shri C. D. Pande: Is Government aware that in most lines, the second class is crowded, and when the first class is abolished, there will be still less accommodation in second class?

Shri Alagesan: First class coaches will be converted into second class coaches.

Shri V. G. Deshpande: When first class is abolished, will second class be called first class?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What will be the names of the classes when first class is abolished, will they be first, second and third or second and third?

Shri V. G. Deshpande: Or whether there will be second class without first class?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He wants to know the nomenclature.

Sardar Hukam Singh: When a question was put the answer was that there was no proposal so far for changing the classification. Now, we want to know if there is any proposal for changing the classification when first class is abolished, when second class will be the highest class in India?

Shri Alagesan: I have stated that first class coaches will be converted into second class and second class will be the highest.

Sardar Hukam Singh: The highest class will be the second class?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member need not argue.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, why 1st October is fixed when the Minister gave an assurance that from 1st April first class will be abolished?