

Shri Punnoose: May I know whether it was due to a defect in the original planning of the pattern or it was due to some defect in the working?

Shri Alagesan: It was due to a defect in the original design itself.

Shri Vittal Rao: May I know, Sir, whether the capacity to manufacture cylinders at Chittaranjan has since reached the stage where it will meet all our requirements?

Shri Alagesan: I can't say that we have established a capacity to meet all our requirements, but at present we are manufacturing cylinders.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know the number of cylinders cracked and whether Government have made any enquiries into the causes also?

Shri Alagesan: The matter was enquired into and the design was modified by the Central Standards Office. 30 locomotives had to be withdrawn so far, of which 11 have already been repaired and put back in service. The rest are under repair.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: May I know the proportion of these defective engines in relation to the total number of engines in service?

Shri Alagesan: The number of engines in service runs into thousands. As I have said, only 30 had to be withdrawn so far.

Shri V. B. Gandhi: I mean engines produced at Chittaranjan?

Shri Alagesan: As far as the cylinders that were cracked, are concerned, some of them were imported ones, and some were cylinders manufactured in Chittaranjan. Because they were also manufactured to the original design, they had cracked.

QUALIFIED SCOUTERS IN RAILWAY SCHOOL

*1193. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements already exist for the scouting in certain Railway Schools in India;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce the same in all Railway Schools;

(c) whether scouters with higher scouting and cubbing training are regarded as on a par with physical instructors and trained teachers; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It depends on the policy of the State Government Education Departments as the Railway Schools have to follow the curricula prescribed by those Governments.

(c) and (d). No information is available.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know, Sir, whether the curricula of the State Governments are strictly followed or whether the Railway Administration add something to it?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We follow them very strictly.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact, Sir, that for the scouters to be regarded as at par with physical instructors applications have been made to the Ministry of Railways and whether those applications have been forwarded to or consulted with the State Governments?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir. The applications of students or staff who took special interest in this field were given encouragement by the Ministry of Education.

Shri Radha Raman: In how many schools under the Railways is this facility provided?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: In ten schools out of 152.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether these scout teams are affiliated to the All-India organisation?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir.

Shri Punnoose: It was stated that the Railways encourage scouting. May I know what are the forms in which that encouragement is given?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: In the normal way of encouragement.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Do the Railway Ministry contemplate to discourage this system of scouting as they are not able to provide the scouters with posts of physical instructors?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): Generally scouting is encouraged by us and by the State Governments. I am not actually aware of the practice prevalent in regard to the recruitment of physical instructors. But I should think there is no bar to recruiting men who are well versed in scouting and are otherwise fit.

TOBACCO RESEARCH STATION AT VEDASANDUR

*1194. **Shri Muniswamy:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state how far the Tobacco Research Station at Vedasandur in Dindigul Taluq (Madras State) has progressed in its objects?

(b) What experiments are being carried on in this station and with what results?

(c) Is the station provided with all necessary requirements?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). A note is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 3.]

(c) No.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know when this station was established?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: On the 12th July, 1948.

Shri Muniswamy: It is stated in the statement that for want of funds the station has not been fully developed. Has Government considered the question of sanctioning any additional funds to this institute?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, enlargement of the activities of the station is under consideration.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Could I know the number of research workers who are working on tobacco research in this Station?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I want notice of the question.

Shri Heda: Particularly in respect of such recommendations which go against the economic interests of the farmers, what measures do Government propose to adopt to popularise those measures which are essential in the interests of national growth?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Every possible step to encourage national growth is taken by Government.

Shri Dabhi: May I know whether any experiment is being carried on at this Station with regard to the manufacture of nicotine from tobacco dust and, if so, with what results?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I would ask for notice of the question.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो ऐक्सपेरिमेंट किये जा रहे हैं उन से यह मालूम हुआ है कि तम्बाकू पीने से सेहत को नुकसान होता है या फायदा ?

डा० पी० एस० देशमुख : इस स्टेशन में इस बात पर रिसर्च नहीं हो रही है ।

Shri Muniswamy: It is given in the statement that they have been only collecting data. May I know whether any practical research has started or not?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: It is mentioned in the statement itself that it has been established and that better results would be produced by planting lesser plants per acre, etc. All that is given in the statement itself. Besides, if the hon. Member wants, I can give him a full list of the problems tackled in the Station.