

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, to what nationality these arrested persons belong?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Presumably Indians. But their nationality may also have to be investigated: they appear to be Indians.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Has it been found out whether all these transmitters came from one source, or from different sources?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In view of the fact that they have been seized at different places, it cannot be said that they have come from one source. But even that I cannot anticipate. That is also a matter for investigation.

BRIDGE AT MOKAMEH GHAT

*995. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated expenditure on the proposed bridge at Mokameh Ghat; and

(b) when the bridge is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Rs. 16 crores, approximately, for the entire Project.

(b) It is expected that the bridge and the ancillary and consequential works associated with it would be completed by about March, 1960.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know, Sir, whether Government propose to undertake the construction of the bridge at Mokameh Ghat this year or next year?

Shri Alagesan: The chief executive has already been posted and he has taken charge. The Financial Adviser and the Chief Accounts Officer, has also been appointed and he too is in position. The actual work is expected to commence by November next.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the machinery needed for

construction of the bridge has been set up?

Shri Alagesan: Detailed plans, etc., are under preparation.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether tenders for the construction of the bridge have been invited from foreigners also?

Shri Alagesan: This is rather a complicated piece of work and foreign firms also will be given a chance to compete with Indian firms.

Pandit S. C. Mishra: May I know whether lower grade staff and personnel are being recruited on the spot or brought from elsewhere?

Shri Alagesan: If the hon. Member has in mind Class IV staff they are recruited locally. Some perhaps might have been brought from other railways. They are not recruited elsewhere, but those who have been already employed on other railways might have been brought.

LADY HARDINGE MEDICAL COLLEGE

*996. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have received any complaints against the Chief of the X-Ray Section of the Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi; and

(b) whether Government have made any enquiries about this officer?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) and (b). Yes; there were some complaints of an administrative nature against the Professor of Radiology, Lady Hardinge Medical College, and enquiries in the matter were made by the Governing Body of the institution.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that the Government of India had given a sum of Rs. 1 lakh for the purchase of a new X-ray plant, and the plant which was purchased in 1949 could be set right

only in 1953 when Dr. Gadekar of the Irwin Hospital set it right.

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): The plant was installed in the Hardinge Hospital. It is quite true that it went out of order several times. But it has been put right and it has since been functioning quite well. It is absolutely all right.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I wanted to know whether the plant which was purchased in 1949 could be set right only after Dr. Gadekar of the Irwin Hospital put it right?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It has been set right and it is working very well—that is what the hon. Minister said.

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Even in between it was set right but since it was last set right it has been working well.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Are Government aware that both in Bombay and Jodhpur where this officer was formerly employed there were complaints and at Jodhpur the officer was dismissed and sent out under police escort?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not know about the Jodhpur incident; but I had heard that her work had not been satisfactory in Jodhpur.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that an officer who was serving as a Member of the Managing Committee of this College was removed on corruption charges?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not arise out of this question.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether it is a fact that under this particular officer, an X-ray assistant and two doctors, Dr. Nair and Dr. Tarkundi Das, were obliged to resign, and in the case of the X-ray technical assistant he was dismissed without showing any reason?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: It is not true to say that anybody's services were terminated without reason. As a matter of fact, the women who came

to this hospital did not like male assistants in the Radiological Department, and as soon as we could get the necessary women, the services of the male assistants were dispensed with.

Shrimati Kamalendu Mati Shah: Is it a fact, Sir, that in this hospital the staff demand money when they have to look after any patient?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It does not arise out of this question.

Kumari Annie Mascarene: May I know, Sir, whether Dr. Nair, who was forced to resign without any reason is now utilised by the Travancore-Cochin Government?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Was she employed in the X-ray Section?

Kumari Annie Mascarene: This is a corollary to Mr. Nayar's question.

(No answer was given.)

Shri Damodara Menon: The hon. Minister said that enquiries were made by the Governing Body. May I know the result of the enquiry?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Yes, Sir. Two ex-judges of the Supreme Court were asked to hold an enquiry and we abided by their decision. They said that in view of the fact that the officer against whom the charges had been levelled had complained that all these charges, or a great many of them, were due to the strained relations that had come about between her and the Principal and as a new Principal was coming in, the enquiry might be withheld until the new Principal had come and reported.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether it is not a fact that in the case which was fought in the Delhi courts, where the Technical Assistant was dismissed from service, the court held that because the Lady Hardinge Medical College was not a government institution the court is not inclined to interfere?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: I do not know what the court said. All I know

is that no censure against the Lady Hardinge Medical College for the dismissal of anybody was made.

RAILWAY PORTERS LICENCE FEES

*997. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the income from the issue of licences to the porters on the Northern Railway during the current year; and

(b) the various objects on which this amount is being spent?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The licence fee realised from the licensed porters by the Northern Railway during the current year upto October was Rs. 64,703/-.

(b) This amount is being spent in meeting the cost of the supervisory organisation and uniforms supplied to the porters.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how many persons have paid the licensing fees?

Shri Alagesan: It has been introduced in five stations on the Northern Railway, and the number of licensed porters in all the stations comes to 1,635.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if warm uniforms are given to these porters?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether these porters are appointed by the contractors or by the railway authorities?

Shri Alagesan: They are not railway employees as such. They are licensed by the Railway.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is no question of appointment.

Shri Boovaragasamy: May I know the conditions under which these licences are issued?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This question relates to the income from the issue of licences. Conditions may come later. Next question.

GUR

*998. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the quantity of gur produced in India during 1950-51, 1951-52 and 1952-53 and its respective prices?

(b) Is it a fact that the price of gur this year is higher than in 1951 and 1952?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):

(a) The estimated production of gur in India during the years 1950-51, 1951-52, and 1952-53 was as follows:—

(Figures in lakh tons)

1950—51	1951—52	1952—53
32.54	32.40	28.77

A statement showing the monthly average prices of gur during the above-mentioned seasons in the markets of Hapur and Muzaffarnagar, is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 68.]

(b) Yes. But the prices of gur have considerably declined during the last one month.

Shri K. P. Sinha: May I know the estimated production this year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The final figures for this year's production we cannot have just now.

Shri K. P. Sinha: Is it a fact that gur is not getting markets due to transport difficulty and hence the prices are going down?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is one of the reasons why prices go down generally.

Shri Thanu Pillai: Have the prices come down because of the ban on exports?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Sometimes that also contributes to bring down