

and laboratories are wholly run at Government expense?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I do not know, Sir. In West Bengal, Orissa, Bombay, Madhya Bharat and Delhi there are some centres which are meant for research work and they are given Government aid, but I do not know whether they are mainly run by Government.

Shri Badshah Gupta: What are the results achieved as the result of experiments made so far?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I would require notice for the question.

Shri Kelappan: May I know, Sir, if any Ayurvedic hospitals are attached to these centres?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I do not know for certain, but most probably there will be some hospitals attached to the centres where research is being done.

Shri Kelappan: Is it in the contemplation of Government to start centres in Malabar, which has a unique system and where Ayurvedic treatment is highly developed?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I have no information.

COMMUNICATIONS IN SAURASHTRA

*1182. **Dr. J. N. Parekh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether there is any plan to extend telegraph or telephone communications in Saurashtra?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): Nine out of 13 important exchanges in Saurashtra have already been rehabilitated. The remaining four exchanges will be rehabilitated shortly and given trunk facilities. Extension of telegraph and telephone facilities will also be taken up wherever justified.

Dr. J. N. Parekh: May I know, Sir, when important industrial and commercial cities like Jamnagar and Morvi, which have so far only public call office will be given trunk connections to individual subscribers?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Yes, Sir, they will be soon rehabilitated.

Dr. J. N. Parekh: May I know the policy of the Government about existing village telephones in Saurashtra?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Various small States have merged in Saurashtra and they had for their administrative purposes a single-line telephone system, which functioned for small distances and they cannot function for longer distances. We have at present handed over those rural exchanges to the Saurashtra Government and they are maintaining it. The extra expenditure incurred thereon is to be met by them. I do not think it will be possible for us to take all those rural exchanges which were more than 60 in number.

DIBRUGARH RAILWAY WORKSHOP

*1185. **Shri Beli Ram Das:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that some costly machineries have been removed from Dibrugarh Railway Workshop and if so, why?

(b) Is it a fact that the Railway Minister during his recent visit to Assam assured that the Dibrugarh Workshop will be steadily developed?

(c) If so, what steps are being taken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes. This is an adjustment necessary to utilise this equipment to the best advantage for the North Eastern Railway as a whole and in this chain of arrangements it is proposed to instal other machines at Dibrugarh.

(b) The Railway Minister's assurance regarding Dibrugarh Workshop referred to the permanency of this installation, its further development as and when required by the Railway, and the improvement of the existing facilities for training trade apprentices.

(c) Some expansion of the training facilities is being planned. Other developments will be progressed as and when found necessary.

Shri Beli Ram Das: Have the Government drawn up any scheme and a target fixed for the development of the workshop?

Shri Alagesan: There are certain plans, as I said, with regard to training facilities for trade apprentices.

Shri Beli Ram Das: Is it a fact that some of these machineries removed from Dibrugarh Railway Workshop were new ones and in perfect order and that there was necessity for these at that workshop? If so, why did Government remove them?

Shri Alagesan: In fact, these particular machines—two or three in number—were installed in the Dibrugarh Railway Workshop temporarily. They were intended to be removed to Gorakhpur as soon as accommodation became available. When accommodation became available at Gorakhpur, they were so removed.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: May I know if it is a fact that representations were made to the Minister and he wired to stop despatch but the machines were transported from Dibrugarh all the same?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir. A representation was made to the Minister, but it was too late for the Minister to intervene as the machinery was already despatched.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Is it a fact that many student graduates entered that workshop to have higher training, but the removal of these machineries deprived them of the facilities of higher training?

Shri Alagesan: No, Sir. The hon. Member is misinformed.

KATHMANDU-DELHI TELEGRAPH LINE

*1186. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a direct wireless telegraphic line is going to be established between New Delhi and Kathmandu;

(b) whether the line will be operated by the personnel of Nepal Government or by the Indian Post and Telegraph Service; and

(c) the cost of such construction?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) This direct link has already been established with effect from 1st December 1953.

(b) The personnel of the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department already stationed at these two stations are working the new service—viz, 'Kathmandu—New Delhi'.

(c) No extra cost for any construction is involved as the existing equipments with minor adjustments have been used.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: May I know, Sir, if it is a fact that the Government of India has taken the responsibility of further developing the postal communications in Nepal?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: If they require any technical advice; we have agreed to give them.

Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad: Is it a fact that some officers of the Government of India have been sent to Nepal for giving these development facilities?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I think one or two officers are there.

INJURIES TO RAILWAY STAFF

*1187. **Shri Frank Anthony:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state in how many cases have trains been held up by unruly mobs and students within the last six months?

(b) In how many cases have the railway staff been injured?

(c) What steps are Government taking to give protection to the railway staff?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) In 426 cases.