INDO-PAKISTAN RAILWAY CONFERENCE

*1393. Shri Muniswamy: Shri G. P. Sinha: Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Shri Sanganna: Shri Raghunath Singh:

- (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Indo-Pakistan Railway Conference was held recently at Karachi?
- (b) If so, was any settlement reached at the Conference?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a)
Yes; the undernoted meetings were held at Karachi in November, 1953;—

- (i) Stores Sub-Committee (Railways) to determine division of outstanding items of rolling stock (16th-18th November, 53).
- (ii) Railway Standing Committee to decide current matters pertaining to interchange of traffic and stock with Pakistan (19th November, 53).
- (iii) A conference to consider resumption of passenger traffic between India and West Pakistan. (19th November, 53).
- (b) No settlement was reached in regard to resumption of passenger traffic between India and West Pakistan, but decisions were taken in regard to the division and exchange of outstanding items of rolling stock, stores and other matters pertaining to contractual and staff claims. The minutes are awaiting ratification by both the governments.

DISPLACED T. B. PATIENTS

*1394. Shri Bhagat Jha: (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the Ministry of Rehabilitation has placed any amount at the disposal of the Health Ministry for the treatment of displaced indigent T.B. patients during 1953-54?

(b) What is the total amount so far sanctioned to the Health Ministry for such purposes?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The total amount allotted by the Ministry of Rehabilitation to the Ministry of Health for the purpose since 1949-50 is Rs. 17,46,000/-/-

SOUTH BIHAR SUGAR WORKS, BIHTA

*1395. Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is proposed to permit the South Bihar Sugar Mills Ltd., Bihta to be shifted to Bombay State;
- (b) If so, whether Bihar Government was consulted in the matter; and
- (c) the reasons why it has been decided to shift the factory?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai); (a) Yes.

- (b) Yes.
- (c) The working of the factory at its present site (Bihta) is uneconomic due to paucity of cane in the factory area. At its new site it has good prospects of working to its full capacity.

RAILWAY SKILLED STAFF

- *1396. Shri M. N. Singh: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the recommendations of the Joint Advisory Committee in respect of higher skilled and master crafts-
- (b) Have these recommendations been implemented specially in the Railway workshop at Gorakhpore?
- (c) If the answer to the part (b) above be in the negative, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Sari Alagesan): (a) The recommendation was that there should be two grades of highly skilled workers—highly skilled grade I at Rs. 80-160. The Master Craftsmen will be highly skilled grade I.

(b) and (c). These recommendations have been implemented in most of the Railways. The proposals in respect of the Railway workshop at Gorakhpur are about to be finalised.

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TORACCO GRADING INSPECTORATE

*1397. Shri S. V. L. Narasimham: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the recommendations of the Central Pay Commission were implemented in regard to the pay scales of posts in the Tobacco Grading Inspectorate; and
 - (b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) and (b). The Central Pay Commission made no recommendation regarding the Tobacco Grading Inspectorate of the Indian Central Tobacco Committee. The Government has faken over the Inspectorate from the 1st March, 1953.

RAILWAYS CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION

- *1398. Shri Vallatharas: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Indian Railways Conference Association is a statutory body, and if so, under what enactment was it created?
- (b) Have Government any proposal or has there been any reorganisation of the Association after the integration of the Indian Railways?
- (c) Have Government under consideration any proposal to abolish the Association?
- (d) Is the expenditure of the Association met from the Consolidated Fund of India?
- (e) By whom is the audit of its accounts done?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The Indian Railway Conference Association is a Voluntary Association of all Railways (Government and non-

- Government) in India and not a statutory body. It is, however, under-Government control.
- (b) There has been no re-organisation as such, except that the powers of control and regulation of wagonswhich were exercised by the General Secretary of the I.R.C.A. in his capacity as Director of Wagon Interchange have been now transferred tothe Railway Board.
 - (c) No.
- (d) The expenditure is borne by Railways parties to the Association.
- (e) By the Accounts Department of the Northern Railway.

NATIONAL MALARIA CONTROL PROJECT

- *1399. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:
- (a) whether it is a fact that the National Malaria Control Project envisages a scheme in the endemic malarial regions of Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam and the East and West Godavari Districts of the Andhra State with the aid of the Technical Cooperation Administration and under the auspices of the Government of India: and
- (b) if the answer to part (a) above be in the affirmative, whether there will be any co-ordination between the Anti-malarial Teams working in the contiguous malarial areas of the Orissa State and the Andhra State in the interest of over-all control of malaria prevalent in the Agency Tracts of both the States?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes.

(b) There will be coordination between the anti-malaria teams, under the supervision of the Director of the Malaria Institute of India who is the coordinating authority for the National Malaria Control Programme for the whole of India.