

Shrimati Maydeo: Is it a fact that 47 per cent. more people are infected by leprosy every year?

PAKALA-DHARMAVARAM RAILWAY TRACK

*1964. **Shri Viswanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the re-railing of the track in the Pakala-Dharmavaram Section with heavier rails will be completed; and

(b) when heavier engines are expected to be introduced on this Section with a view to speed up the trains?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) In about 3 years' time.

(b) After the re-railing is completed.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: In view of the fact that very little provision has been made in the Budget in the current year for this work, may I know whether the work is suspended, or, is there any other reason?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: During this year, provision has been made for about 30 miles. If there is any hold-up, it is due to the shortage of materials, non-availability of rails and sleepers.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether this scheme also includes the linking up of Madanapalle town with the nearest railway station?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No.

Shri Nanadas: May I know whether the development of this backward region requires that the existing metre gauge line should be replaced by broad gauge?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is beyond our scope as well as our means.

NEW STATIONS BETWEEN MADRAS AND CHINGLEPET

*1967. **Shri Muniswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to open some new Railway stations

between Madras Egmore and Chinglepet on the Southern Railway;

(b) if so, how many;

(c) whether the estimates have been prepared and if so, the amount thereof; and

(d) when the work will commence and is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes.

(b) One train halt and one station.

(c) Yes, Rs. 51,660.

(d) The train halt between Tambaram and Vandalur has been opened to traffic. The work on the station between Chromepet and Tambaram is in progress and the station is expected to be opened very shortly.

I may also add that it has been decided to open a station between Chetpet and Kodambakkam near about the Loyala College.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether all these stations are only halts on contract system, or pucca station? How many of them at pucca stations?

Shri Alagesan: Perhaps, the hon. Member was not listening to my answer. The one between Tambaram and Vandalur is a train halt; the other one is a station.

Shri Muniswamy: May I know whether the stations have already been named, and if so what are they?

Mr. Speaker: I think he is going into too many details.

ACQUISITION OF LAND IN KAILASAHAR

*1968. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the peasants of Kailasahar (Tripura) whose land had been requisitioned for the purpose of constructing the Airport have been given compensation;

(b) whether it is a fact that the peasants are still being asked by the