

Shri Sanganna: May I know the probable time when the decision of the Government will be out?

Shri Kidwai: It is difficult to say because so many interests have to be consulted.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the Committee has given any idea of the amount that may be required for the implementation of the recommendations?

Shri Kidwai: That will be known when the Committee's recommendations are published.

HASSAN-MANGALORE RAILWAY LINE

*1081. **Shri Siddananjappa:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the progress so far achieved in the preliminary Survey Works undertaken in regard to the Hassan-Mangalore railway line?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): Field work of the Traffic Survey is practically over.

90 per cent. work on the Preliminary Engineering Survey in the Plateau Section between Hassan and Sakleshpur has been completed. The photographs of the aerial survey have just been received for further examination. 80 per cent. of the Reconnaissance work on the Mangalore-Sakleshpur section has been done.

Shri Siddananjappa: May I know, Sir, if final location survey is also included in the present work?

Shri Alagesan: That will come later, Sir.

Shri Siddananjappa: May I know if there is any general scheme for the future railway development of this area and, if so whether this present proposal forms part of it?

Shri Alagesan: We are considering the advisability of extending the scope of the traffic survey covering the entire

Malnad area and the General Manager of the railway concerned has been advised accordingly.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether the opening of this railway line is intimately connected with the development of backward areas of Malnad and whether it is also true that the hon. Minister of Food and Agriculture, Shri Kidwai inaugurating the Malnad Conference a few months back has assured that the development of the Malnad area will be the first duty of the Government?

Shri Alagesan: The construction of the line will go a great way in the development of the Malnad area.

AIR SERVICES

*1082. **Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the standard of the Air Services in the matter of cleanliness, food and other passengers' comforts has considerably deteriorated since the nationalization of the Air Lines; and

(b) if so, the steps that Government propose to take to restore the pre-nationalization standards in these services?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir. I might however add that with the prospect of nationalisation, several of the air companies prior to the 1st August, 1953, did not consider it worthwhile incurring expenses on timely replacement of furnishings etc. in aircraft.

(b) The Corporation has been renewing the furnishings and has also placed orders for new cabin equipment providing for better comfort to the passengers.

Shrimati Kamlendu Mati Shah: Does the Government propose to have any responsible officer to check up by periodical surprise visits the conditions of the aircraft or the services rendered to the passengers thereof?