

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) to (d). Discussions are in progress between the two Governments on the subject of air services in Nepal. I regret I am not in a position to give any details about the discussions at this stage.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** When did the discussions begin? In which month did they begin?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** They started sometime towards the beginning of this year.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** How many conferences have been held, either in Nepal or in India, so far?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** One.

#### THEFT OF INSURED PARCELS

**\*73. Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether two insured parcels addressed to a Bank in Kanpur and containing currency notes were removed from the Kanpur Post Office sometime in June, 1954; and

(b) if so, whether any enquiry has been made and the culprits traced?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Six insured parcels, addressed to the Central Bank, Kanpur and one insured parcel, addressed to the Hindustan Commercial Bank, Kanpur, alleged to have contained currency notes, were shown by the postman as delivered but the addressees have disowned receipt.

(b) Police enquiries are in progress, culprits not yet traced.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** What was the value of those parcels of currency notes?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The six parcels, which were to be delivered to Messrs. Central Bank of India, are reported to have contained currency notes to the aggregate value of Rs. 1,27,000, but they were only insured for Rs. 600. The other parcel addressed to Messrs.

Hindustan Commercial Bank, was alleged to have contained currency notes of the value of Rs. 25,000.

#### LIGHTING IN TRAINS

**\*74. Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that often there are either no lights at all or there are only dim lights in the compartments of Delhi Mail and other trains running between Ahmedabad and Delhi on the metre gauge section of the Western Railway;

(b) whether it is a fact that complaints about the state of affairs mentioned in part (a) above have often been made to the Railway authorities; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government are taking to remedy these complaints?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) and (b). Generally speaking the Lighting arrangements are satisfactory, although there have been cases reported of dim lights in certain compartments.

(c) (i) Generators of low capacity are being replaced by those of higher capacity.

(ii) More coaches are being equipped with generators.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether it is a fact that the President of the Railway Passengers' Association, Ahmedabad and fifteen other passengers travelling by Delhi Mail lodged a complaint with the conductor of the train at 10 P.M. on 20th June 1954 that several coaches were not lighted, including the ladies' coaches?

**Shri Alagesan:** There was a complaint from the Railway Passengers' Association and others.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether there are any checks to see that there are proper lights in these coaches?

**Shri Alagesan:** I may inform the hon. Member that a drive is now being made to fit all the coaches, which are without generators, with generators and also to replace low capacity generators with high capacity generators.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Is it a fact that sometimes no lights or dim lights are given to facilitate the unburdening of the loads of passengers?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Next question.

#### MEDICO-SOCIAL WORKERS

\*75. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have introduced the new system of employment of medico-social workers in Medical College Hospitals; and

(b) how many States have agreed to adopt the same?

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

(b) Four States have so far agreed to join the scheme—namely, Bombay, West Bengal, Madhya Bharat and Saurashtra.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know whether there is any response in the medical colleges for this system of employment?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** Yes. The Government of India thought that this scheme was important enough to put in the Five Year Plan and we have set aside a sum of Rs. 3.2 lakhs to help the States. Unfortunately, the response from the States has not been as good as I expected it to be.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** May I know whether any payment is made to these workers towards the services they discharge, and if so, their scales of pay and the qualifications they are required to possess to make themselves fit for this appointment?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** In the case of medico-social workers, the minimum

qualifications are the diploma that they get from the three schools of social service that exist in India, one in Madras, one in Bombay and one in Delhi. The scales of pay have to be settled by the States themselves, but I may say, speaking for myself in Delhi, that we give up to Rs. 250 a month.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know how many training centres have been opened for the training of medico-social workers?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I have just said that there are three centres, one in Bombay, one in Madras and one in Delhi.

#### SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNT

\*76. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of allowing more than one withdrawal in a week from the Postal Savings Bank Accounts has been decided; and

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase the limit of deposits?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Yes. A notification will be issued shortly.

(b) There is no proposal at present to raise the maximum limit of deposit in Post Office Savings Bank.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know whether this facility will be extended to all the post offices or only to a select few?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** To all post offices.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know whether any calculation has been made of the extra expenditure involved in this?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That will be very difficult to say because in post office work, while calculating expenditure, we do take note of the transactions and perhaps very remotely the expenditure may be increased slightly.