

(c) whether there is any proposal to increase the volume of demand of all types of motor vehicles in the country in order to support the manufacturing industry?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). As stated in my reply to Starred Question No. 918 by Shri S. N. Das in this House on the 14th September, 1954, it is proposed to review the whole position relating to taxation on motor vehicles in the light of the findings of the Taxation Enquiry Commission on receipt of its report.

(c) As stated by the Minister of Commerce and Industry in reply to Starred Question No. 1004 asked by Shri Krishna Chandra in this House on the 16th September, 1954, the study Group (Transport Planning) is investigating the measures necessary for the development of road transport in the country.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether Government propose to appoint another committee to go into the whole question and consider it *de novo*?

Shri Alagesan: There is no such proposal before Government. As I said, a Study Group (Transport Planning) is going into the question.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: My question was with reference to the answer to (a) and (b), not to (c). I asked whether Government were going to appoint another committee to consider the whole question *de novo*.

Shri Alagesan: The reply is that we are awaiting the findings of the Taxation Enquiry Commission on the receipt of whose report only we can take action, not earlier. There is no proposal to appoint another Commission.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I know whether it is proposed to consult the State Governments also in order to find out their views in this matter?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Yes. The recommendations of the Motor Vehicles

Taxation Enquiry Commission have been placed before the Transport Advisory Council on which are represented the State Ministers. It has been considered several times, and even now the Policy Committee of the T.A.C. is having this matter under consideration, whose recommendations may again be placed before the T.A.C.

Shri Joachim Alva: It was officially stated here that there are 2,00,000 drivers out of whom not more than 5,000 could manage a car if it went out of order on the road. What steps have Government taken to remove this bottle-neck?

Shri Alagesan: I do not know how it arises.

Mr. Speaker: The question is important, but it does not arise out of this.

Shri Joachim Alva: It arises in regard to (c).

Mr. Speaker: He invites attention to one particular fact. That is all. We will go to the next question.

PROVIDENT FUND OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*1363. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 1102 asked on the 17th March, 1954 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been arrived at regarding treating of 50 per cent. of the dearness allowance as dearness pay of those employees of the ex-Nizam-State Railway, who have opted to retain pre-absorption terms and conditions of service; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) No.

(b) The matter is still under examination as not only railway staff but staff employed in other Departments are also affected.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Sometime ago the hon. Minister said that the Rail-

way Ministry had recommended this to the Finance Ministry. May I know whether the case is pending with the Finance Ministry or with the Railway Ministry?

Shri Alagesan: As I said, it is not only the staff of the railway that are affected. The staff of other Central Government departments are also there. So a decision has to be taken in consultation with all the employing departments.

Mr. Speaker: His point is that there seems to be some block at the Finance Ministry.

Shri Alagesan: The Railways have recommended. But the Finance Ministry is the chief Ministry that has to guide us in this matter.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether, if and when a decision is arrived at, it will be done with retrospective effect, i.e. from the date the recommendations came into effect?

Shri Alagesan: At this stage, I am not able to answer the question.

Shri B. S. Murthy: How long will it take for the Government to decide upon this?

Mr. Speaker: That depends upon the Finance Ministry. Next question.

DESPATCH OF ARTICLES FROM MANIPUR

*1364. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that due to the dislocation of railway line in Assam by the recent floods, all articles including mail bags from and to Manipur are to be carried by plane?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): A statement furnishing the information is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 51.]

Shri Rishang Keishing: The statement is a negative answer to my question. Am I to understand that the recent floods have not in any way

affected the movement of goods to and from Manipur, and the prices of articles remain unaffected?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: The answer is exactly in relationship to the question asked. There is a lot of difference that has been created by these floods. About 37 maunds of mail bags are being airlifted by plane. But there is a difference of about 2,000 maunds of goods which should normally have been transported, but due to the floods, are not being transported.

दिल्ली इन्सूवमेंट ट्रस्ट

*१३६५. श्री जी० एल० चौबरी :
क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली इन्सूवमेंट ट्रस्ट द्वारा अमृतकौरपुरी के लगभग ८०० हरिजन मकानों से निकाले जा रहे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो वे लोग वहां पर कितने समय से रहते हैं ?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

POPULARISATION OF "FISH MEAL"

*1366. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India were represented at the conference of Food and Agriculture Organisation held at Hongkong recently; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken on the recommendations of the Conference?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) No conference was held.

(b) Does not arise.