

included in the current five year programme and is proposed to be taken up in 1953-54. Surveys are in progress.

MADRAS-CALCUTTA RAILWAY LINE via KAKINADA

*214. **Shri K. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to divert the Madras-Calcutta main railway line via Kakinada has been given up;

(b) how many times it was put on the agenda of the Central Board of Transport;

(c) how many times it was discussed; and

(d) for what reasons its consideration was postponed?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) No, it is still to be decided.

(b) Twice; once in 1949 when the Central Board of Transport decided to carry out Traffic and Engineering surveys and secondly in August last.

(c) Once in 1949.

(d) At their meeting in August last the Central Board of Transport postponed consideration of this project to their next meeting at the request of representatives of the Madras Government.

AYURVEDIC AND UNANI PRACTITIONERS AND HOMEOPATHS (REGISTRATION)

*215. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state in what states has the registration of Ayurvedic and Unani practitioners and Homeopaths been undertaken and completed?

(b) What is the total number of each class in each state?

(c) What states have not yet undertaken such registration?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) to (c). The information required is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

MEDICAL STORES AND DEPOTS

*216. **Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working of medical stores and depots has recently been examined; and

(b) whether adequate and timely supplies of medicines are made to the

medical institutions or Hospitals under Government and Local Bodies?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Yes. As a matter of fact the working of the Medical Store Depots has been constantly under review.

(b) Yes.

DEEP-SEA AND COASTAL FISHING

*217. **Shri Achuthan:** (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether any survey was conducted to assess the scope of deep-sea and coastal fisheries in India, and if so what are the results?

(b) How many persons have been sent for training in fisheries abroad and is any programme being chalked out to utilize their services when they return?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai): (a) Preliminary surveys undertaken so far have given the following results:—

Deep-sea: Surveys off the Bombay coast, in places over a radius of 200-300 miles from Bombay have been completed, and we have been able to chart fishing grounds, determine fishing seasons, fishing intensities, assess suitabilities of different kinds of fishing craft and gear for Indian conditions, conduct research and experiments on methods of preservation of fish, and train Indian personnel in modern fishing methods.

In addition, the four fishing vessels attached to the Government of India Deep-sea Fishing Station, Bombay landed a total catch of 5,422 maunds of fish and three lakhs of Mackerels (weighing about 734 maunds) valued at Rs. 1,21,980/- during the financial year 1951-52 (excluding the monsoon season from June to October).

Coastal: The biology of a commercial prawn of the West Coast, has been investigated in detail. Studies on the commercially important fishes like Sardines, Mackerel, the Bombay-Duck, Ribbon-fish, Perches and Malabar sole have been undertaken. Salinity distribution in the sea has also been determined by collection of sea-water samples, along with temperature records of the surface seawater.

(b) Under Point Four Programme, the Government of India have deputed one of their Research Officers of the Central Marine Fisheries Research Station, Mandapam, to the U.K. for training in fisheries biology. On return he will be engaged on research work of major Marine Fisheries at the Mandapam Research Station.