

Sardar A. S. Saigal: It was distributed in the lobby and inside the House.

Mr. Speaker: Then I say it is very wrong on the part of any Member to distribute a personal leaflet.

Shri G. P. Sinha: Some of us found it on our seats.

Mr. Speaker: Maybe. Let us not pursue this matter.

Shri Syed Ahmed: It is a very bad attack on Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru.

Mr. Speaker: He is strong enough to take care of himself. Let us now deal with the Questions.

Shri Jasani: How much of this amount has been allotted to Madhya Pradesh?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Madhya Pradesh has had a fairly large share of Rs. 71-63 lakhs.

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Inasmuch as the finance for taccavi loan is being given by the Central Government, should not a directive that the loan should be granted within six weeks of the application, go from the Central Government of the Grow More Food Committee?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: The attention of the State Governments has been called to this recommendation.

Shri Punnoose: May I know, Sir, the amounts allotted to various States and also whether this Government has taken steps to see that these credit facilities really reach the cultivators and not go to others?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: This again is a matter for the States.

Mr. Speaker: The Central Government may give grants, but the administration of it is entirely with the States.

Shri Punnoose: Am I to understand that this Government has nothing to do with its administration?

Mr. Speaker: One need not come to that conclusion immediately.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know, Sir, how much has been allotted to the Madras Government and whether that money has been distributed by this time?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I could not answer the second part of the question. As regards the first part the amount allotted is Rs. one crore.

DIRECT RAIL LINK BETWEEN BOMBAY AND TRAVANCORE-COCHIN STATE

*313. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minister of Finance envisaged the possibility of a direct rail link between Bombay State and Travancore-Cochin in an address he made in Bombay;

(b) whether any such scheme has been drawn up;

(c) whether any steps have been taken for the implementation of the scheme; and

(d) if so, what?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): (a) I have not seen a text of the speech but the hon. Member's information may be correct.

(b) to (d). No such scheme has been drawn up, and I have so far had only some informal discussions with a few hon. Members and others.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Has the Government any idea with regard to the outlay that will be necessary?

Shri L. B. Shastri: We have no idea.

Shri A. M. Thomas: What is the mileage that will be covered, Sir?

Shri L. B. Shastri: 487. I think.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know, Sir, whether the hon. Minister has realised the feasibility of such a rail link between Bombay and Travancore-Cochin?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether there is at all any proposal on the part of the Government to do so?

Shri L. B. Shastri: Well, the project is bound to be very costly. The idea of having a rail link on the west coast is worth pursuing. If there are funds available, why should I have any objection to include it in the next five years' programme?

Shri N. P. Damodaran: May I know whether the Government is aware that at a recent conference held at Bombay the Government was requested to connect Mangalore with Bombay?

Shri L. B. Shastri: I do not exactly remember to have received any letter or representation on that, but

it is just possible that a proposal might have been made in the conference to which the hon. Member has just referred.

Shri Punnoose: May I ask whether this proposal will stand in the way of expediting the railway link between Ernakulam and Quilon?

Shri L. B. Shastri: No.

INTEGRATION OF AIR SERVICE COMPANIES

*314. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government have drawn up any scheme for the integration of Air Service Companies?

(b) If so, what is the nature of the scheme?

(c) If no scheme has been drawn up, is there any proposal for integration and if so, what is its nature?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The question of the future organisation of civil air transport in the country is under Government's consideration. I shall make a statement on the subject at the appropriate time.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether any enquiry has been conducted into the finances of these Companies?

Shri Raj Bahadur: All those points are under consideration. Enquiries as such have not been conducted, but from time to time the balance sheets come under examination.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether there is any proposal to nationalise air services?

Shri Raj Bahadur: All those things will be revealed in the statement.

Mr. Speaker: It is better to await the statement and not anticipate it.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I ask when we can have the statement?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think, Sir, in the very near future.

STOPPAGE OF AIR INDIA SERVICES

*315. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether Government have made any enquiries into the stoppage of Air India Services for some time?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): No

formal enquiry was necessary. The Government of India kept itself in close touch with the daily developments of the situation in consultation with the Government of the State of Bombay.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know for what period there was stoppage of the services and whether Government had any information with regard to the strike and, if so, whether the Government took any steps for preventing that strike or for effecting any conciliation?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The Government did not come into the picture very much. As a matter of fact, the strike began as early as 9th August, 1952 and ended on the 27th. It was for about eighteen days. We were watching the situation. But the whole matter was settled between the management and the workers.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know whether Government had any notice of the contemplated strike?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): No, the Government did not have any notice. As a matter of fact, the Central Government is not directly concerned. Labour disputes in air companies is a provincial subject, and it was being dealt with by the Bombay Government.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether any conciliation was offered by the Conciliation Officer concerned and, if so, what was the result?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Conciliation and negotiations were constantly going on between the employees and the employers.

Shri K. K. Basu: In view of the fact that the air services go beyond the State limit, has the Government ascertained who are responsible for this stoppage?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Well, the whole matter was discussed at a press conference which Mr. Tata held, and if my hon. friend will go through the report of that press conference as published in newspapers at that time he will come to know about all these things in detail.

Shri Nambiar: May I know whether Government have gone into the legitimate grievances of the workers which led to the strike?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The only grievance at that point was that the Labour Appellate Tribunal gave