

(b) What steps do Government propose to take to meet the situation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) The effects of the taxes on Motor Vehicles and sales of petrol being levied in States at present are being studied by the Technical Committee of the Transport Advisory Council whose Report is expected to be submitted very shortly.

(b) The whole question of taxation of motor vehicles with reference to the recommendations of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Enquiry Committee will be discussed with representatives of States Governments at the meeting of the Transport Advisory Council in January 1953 and such action as is necessary and possible will be taken by Government after those discussions.

Shri V. B. Gandhh: Is it a fact that the Technical Committee was supposed to report in the early part of December?

Shri Alagesan: It will be submitting its report very soon and the report will be considered at a meeting of the Transport Advisory Council which is to be held in January. Before that they will be submitting their report.

Shri V. B. Gandhh: Will the Report of the Technical Committee be circulated to members?

Shri Alagesan: I do not think it is possible.

Shri V. B. Gandhh: Will Government please tell us what steps they propose to take to abolish the Inter-State taxes on motor vehicles?

Shri Alagesan: These and other things will be considered in that meeting.

Shri V. B. Gandhh: Is it the intention of Government to fix a ceiling on sales tax on petrol?

Shri Alagesan: It is to be discussed with the representatives of the various State Governments.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: May I know whether Government are taking any steps to end the deadlock in certain States regarding inter-State movement of traffic?

Shri Alagesan: We are not aware of any deadlock.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: In spite of the fact that Assam produces petrol, is it a fact that the price of petrol in Assam is the highest in India?

Shri Alagesan: I have no information.

THE HIND FLYING CLUB, LUCKNOW

*1184. **Sardar A. S. Salgal:** (a) Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state whether a plane belonging to the Hind Flying Club, Lucknow crashed between Terangna and Patna junction Railway Stations on or about 22nd November, 1952?

(b) How many passengers were there in the plane?

(c) How many died and how many were seriously injured?

(d) Has any inquiry been made and what are the causes of the accident?

(e) What arrangements were made to give first aid to the injured persons?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) One.

(c) None was killed but the pilot trainee was seriously injured.

(d) The accident is under investigation.

(e) They received first aid at the Terangna village dispensary before they were removed to Patna by train and admitted the same night into the General Hospital.

EVICTON OF LABOURERS

*1186. **Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that about 100 families and labourers from famine-stricken areas of Salem District, who have come in search of work, are living in hutments on the slopes of the embankment of the overbridge near New Delhi Railway Station;

(b) whether it is also a fact that they have been asked to vacate immediately;

(c) whether it is a fact that these families have no means to move to any other place; and

(d) whether Government will give them some space early and give financial assistance to build hutments before they are asked to vacate?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) There