

allowance when others are getting Rs. 2-4-0 per day?

Shri Alagesan: Perhaps, they should have opted for it.

FAMILY PLANNING

*347. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether, under the Family Planning and Population Control Research undertaken by Government, any specific research has been conducted to find out the effect of malnutrition on human fertility amongst the different income groups?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): No such specific research has been conducted so far.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government are aware whether it has been established that deficiency in proteins is conducive to increase in human fertility?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Government are aware that that opinion is held, especially in the book called *Geography of Hunger*. The Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Indian Council of Medical Research actually appointed a Committee in November, last year, to do some specific research and we are trying to collect data to establish results in our country.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether Government are aware that the latest *Census Report* of the Government of India indicates that in State like the Punjab where the average consumption of meat and milk products is much more than in Madras and Travancore-Cochin, fertility is much lower than in Madras and Travancore-Cochin where the average of protein consumed is considerably less?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: That is the data so far available.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of this revelation in the *Census Report* and in view also of the fact that population research is being conducted at 496 LSD.

the instance of the Central Government, may I know whether the Government would consider the desirability of conducting research on animals like rats, guinea pigs and rabbits with particular reference to the effect of protein deficiency on fertility?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: One of the recommendations of this Committee is that careful animal experimentation is necessary.

Shrimati Jayashri: May I know whether any research is undertaken in fertility Statewise?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: This Committee undertook research purely in regard to rice diets. We have done that so far. We will try to get more research done in the various States also.

SHAH NAWA COMMITTEE REPORT

*348. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to unstarred question No. 185 on the 1st September 1954 and state:

(a) whether the examination of the report of the Shah Nawaz Committee which enquired into the causes of accidents on the Railways, by another Committee has since been concluded;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to lay a copy of the same on the Table of the House; and

(c) if not, what are the main recommendations and to what extent they have been implemented?

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

(b) The report of the Reviewing Committee is under examination and a copy will be placed in the Library of the House after the examination is over.

(c) Does not arise in view of reply to part (b).

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if the Government propose to expedite examination, because during the

last Budget, the Railway Minister said that he wanted the original Shah Nawaz Committee Report by one month, that it took about 5 months to send the report and later that it was sent to this Committee? I want to know the specific reason why the original Shah Nawaz report was referred to the subsequent Shah Nawaz Committee?

Shri Alagesan: The Committee of the National Railway Users Consultative Council met subsequently and wanted to be associated with the examination of the report. So some Members of that Committee were associated with the examination. That is the reviewing Committee's report which is at present under examination. We propose to expedite the examination and take action.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: By what time will these recommendations be finalised?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri): I do not think it should take more than a month. I may also add that the Shah Nawaz Committee were asked to submit their report in three months and they submitted their report. They did not delay.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether the recommendations concerning departmental catering in railways have also been implemented by the Railway Board, and if so, in how many stations departmental catering has been started?

Shri L. B. Shastri: These are two entirely different things. This question relates to the Accidents Enquiry Committee. The hon. Member is asking about the Catering Committee.

Thermal Environment Health Consultant

*349. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an American Expert by name Dr. W. F. Ashe has been appointed as Thermal Environment Health Consultant; and

(b) if so, the terms of his appointment?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) His appointment is for a period of two years. The pay, cost of passage and allowances will be borne by the U.S. authorities and the cost of internal travel and secretarial assistance only will be met by the Government of India. I may however add that as Dr. Ashe had to attend to some important work in the U.S.A., he has already left India and may come back as and when required.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Has he given any proposal to increase the efficiency of textile labourers? He came here in order to ascertain whether Indian labourers, in certain conditions, work better. Has he given any report?

The Minister of Labour (Shri K. K. Desai): This question will be examined from the environment point of view. If the proper specifications laid down for good working conditions are ensured, efficiency will rise.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether the Government proposes to have a new data prepared for the workers to compile a new code of behaviour or something like that?

Shri K. K. Desai: We will await the report of this expert.

FAMILY PLANNING CENTRES

*350. **Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply to unstarred question No. 927 given on the 30th September, 1954 and state the number of Family Planning Centres opened in different States and the progress made by them so far?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): The information is still being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as it is available.

Shri Ibrahim: May I know the number of persons served by these centres?