

Inter-class has been renamed second-class and second-class has been renamed first-class. All the amenities that were previously made available in those classes are still being provided.

AIR-TRAFFIC

***2409. Chaudhri Muhammed Saffee:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of passengers carried by the Indian Airlines Corporation between Pathankot and Srinagar during the period from the 1st January, 1954 to the 28th February, 1955;

(b) the number of flights made and their frequency; and

(c) the total revenue earned by way of passenger fares?

The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 8,712.

(b) 669 flights with daily frequency.

(c) Rs. 3,33,146/-.

बाँधरी मुहम्मद शफी : क्या यह सर्विस बंद कर दी गई है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : जी नहीं, इसका कोई सवाल पैदा नहीं होता ।

MEDICAL EDUCATION

***2411. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to convene a conference to bring about reforms in medical education and curricula in the country; and

(b) if so, when the conference is expected to meet and the subjects to be discussed therein?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Yes.

(b) The conference is likely to be held before the end of this year. It will discuss the following subjects:—

- (i) Pre-medical studies;
- (ii) entrance requirements;
- (iii) selection of students;
- (iv) curriculum hours;
- (v) methods of teaching;
- (vi) subjects needing special emphasis;
- (vii) examinations; and
- (viii) internship.

Shri Gidwani: In view of the inadequacy of qualified medical men in India, is it contemplated to have different courses—I mean, dividing the courses into two, just as the licentiates and the graduates or any other system is being evolved?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: There is going to be only one course.

Shri Gidwani: What is the course at present? After Intermediate, what is the period for the M.B.B.S. course?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: I think it is five years.

Shri Gidwani: Before they come out of the college, is it five years' course or more?

Mr. Speaker: It is an argument.

Shri Gidwani: A shorter course may also be prescribed.

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action which is inadmissible.

SUBARNAREKHA BRIDGE

***2414. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Subarnarekha Bridge in Orissa is being constructed on the designs approved by the Central Designs Office, Government of India; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?