

now in use for the so-called treatment of rheumatism?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur:** I have no information as regards the cost of the medicine.

#### WAGE COMMISSION

**\*61. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the suggestion made by the President of the Indian National Trade Union Congress, for the appointment of a Wage Commission to decide the question of industrial workers' wages, dearness allowance and bonus in his presidential address delivered on the 1st January, 1955 at Nagpur;

(b) whether Government have considered the same; and

(c) if so, the decision arrived at in the matter?

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

(b) and (c). The proposal is under consideration.

**Shri Gidwani:** Is it a fact that the Joint Consultative Board composed of workers and employers, which is working at present, has not been able to resolve satisfactorily the differences regarding the wages to be paid to workers, dearness allowance, etc.?

**The Minister of Labour (Shri Khandubhai Desai):** It is true that they have not been able to come to any final decision. But a meeting of the Consultative Committee is intended to be called very soon, when this question will again be discussed.

**Shri Gidwani:** Is it a fact that as stated by Shri Vasavada the first Five Year Plan has failed to solve the question as to what share the workers could legitimately claim in production?

**Shri Khandubhai Desai:** All these questions are under consideration.

**Shri Nambiar:** May I know whether Government are considering the question of fully integrating the dearness allowance with pay, for the industrial workers?

**Shri Khandubhai Desai:** The Gadgil Committee appointed a year and a half back has made a recommendation that fifty per cent. of the dearness allowance should be merged with the pay, as far as the Government employees are concerned. Now, that Committee's report had been sent to the Planning Commission, and the Planning Commission have recommended that the question should be looked into in all its aspects. Government propose to place this question before the next industrial labour conference sometime in April or May.

#### HEALTH SURVEY IN INDIA

**\*64. Shri A. N. Vidyalkar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme of Universal Health Survey in India;

(b) if so, the nature and extent thereof; and

(c) whether the scheme will be executed by the Government of India through their own agency or through the agency of the State Governments?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

#### NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

**\*65. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether Government have received any proposal for taking over more roads in Punjab as National Highways?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** Not recently.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Has any State other than Punjab made a similar request?

**Shri Alagesan:** I want notice.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if, in view of the fact that the Punjab is a border State, some preferential treatment will be given to it?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know the total length, in terms of mileage, of the national highways taken over by the Government of India?

**Shri Alagesan:** I would like to have notice. I can pass on the information to the hon. Member.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know how much money was spent on the construction of national highways in the Punjab during the last year?

**Shri Alagesan:** These are all statistics. I shall have to have specific notice.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants notice for such detailed questions.

#### IMPORT OF SUGAR

\*66. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement on the Table of the House showing:

(a) the total quantity and value of sugar imported during the years 1953-54 and 1954-55 so far;

(b) the names of the parties through whom it was purchased showing the purchase price and the country of origin; and

(c) the quantity that has already been received and paid for and the quantity which still remains to be received?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 16].

**Shri Morarka:** From the statement, I find that 9½ lakh tons of sugar worth about Rs. 50 crores were imported so

far. Out of this quantity, how much is sold and for what amount?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We have never sold anything for anything less than a good profit so far. I do not have the exact figure. We made a total profit, of more than Rs. 8 crores. We always sell at a price higher than we buy.

**Shri Morarka:** From the statement, I find that some sugar was purchased at £. 36 per ton while, at the same time, sugar from U. K. was purchased at £. 39/5 per ton. May I know what was the reason for the difference in price?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** While making purchases, we generally consult all the Embassies and take a world view of the whole affair, and we make the best purchase. There is also difference in quality.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Have the Government any profit-making motive in this transaction?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** No, there is no profit-making motive in the transaction.

**Shri Syamnandan Sahaya:** Do these figures include raw sugar imported?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Raw sugar is imported on private account and not on Government account.

#### BANGALORE RAILWAY STATION

\*69. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that waiting-room accommodation at the Bangalore Station is not adequate to cope with the needs of the passengers;

(b) if so, whether any proposal to construct more waiting-rooms there is under the consideration of Government; and

(c) if so, when it will be done?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Apparently the hon. Member is refer-