

(४) प्रायुर्वेदिक दवा पद्धति में अनुसंधान करने के लिये और प्रायुर्वेद को कुछ शिक्षा संस्थानों के स्तरों में सुधार के लिये कुल ४३३,६१० रुपये की ग्रांट दी गयी है।

Burma Debt

*1778. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given a supplementary to Starred Question No. 931 on the 20th August, 1955 and state:

(a) whether any amount out of Rs. 42 crores payable as price of rice imported from Burma was set off against the debt due from the Government of Burma to the Government of India; and

(b) if not, how the amount was paid?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A.P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir Rs. 10 83 crores were set off against the debt due from Burma.

(b) The balance amount is payable in cash.

Improvement of Hospitals

*1779. **Shri mati Ila Palchoudhury:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants given by the Central Government during 1955-56 so far for improving conditions of hospitals and for providing better facilities to patients in the various States; and

(b) the nature of improvements effected?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Rs. 38,26,427.

(b) The information is not available with the Government of India. The grants were given mainly for the following purposes:—

- (1) Purchase of new equipment.
- (2) Appointment of additional staff.
- (3) Provision of more beds.
- (4) Establishment of Special Diet Kitchens for catering to the needs of patients for whom diet therapy is the treatment.
- (5) Employment of occupational therapy workers in hospitals.
- (6) Reservation of beds for indigent Displaced T.B. patients.

Vending Contracts

*1780. **Shri B.S. Murthy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Vending Contractors who were served with notices terminating their contracts at Pathankot Railway Station during 1954-55;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the system of vending to be introduced in Pathankot hereafter?

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

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The matter is under consideration.

Passenger Amenities

*1781. **Shri Janardhan Reddy:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 8 lakhs has been budgeted during the current financial year to provide more amenities to passengers in the Secunderabad Division; and

(b) if so, the details of the amenities to be provided there?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, Sir. The amount budgeted was Rs. 8.12 lakhs which has been revised to Rs. 6.17 lakhs during the August Review.

(b) The amenities that are being provided broadly consist of new waiting halls or improvements to existing waiting halls, raising, widening and/or paving of platforms, cover over platforms, refreshment rooms and food stalls, improved type of lavatories, water supply arrangements to circulating areas etc. on about 30 stations.

Station Remodelling

*1782. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for re-modelling railway stations on the branch line from Hoshiarpur to Jullundur Cantonment;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when the construction is likely to be taken up?