

Shri Tek Chand : Does Government propose taking any steps to ensure the availability of pure indigenous drugs and medicines?

Shrimati Chandrasekhār : We are taking steps.

Shri V. P. Nayar : May I ask whether Government have any comprehensive schemes for advancing further studies in ayurveda and other indigenous systems of medicine using the apparatus and instruments which are available to allopathy such as X-Ray and the electro-cardiograph?

Shrimati Chandrasekhār : We are doing all that is necessary about this particular aspect in the Jamnagar Institute that has been established by the Central Government.

Wagons

***80c. Shri S. C. Samanta :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that since April, 1954 orders have been placed on three Calcutta firms for the supply of goods wagons ;

(b) if so, the names of the firms and the number of wagons for which orders have been placed with each firm ;

(c) the number of metre-gauge and broad gauge wagons among them respectively ; and

(d) when they are expected to be supplied ?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Orders for the supply of goods wagons have been placed on 6 and not on 3 Calcutta firms.

(b) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix V annexure No. 42.]

Shri S. C. Samanta : May I know whether all the workshops that were manufacturing the wagons before the integration of the Indian State Railways are at present manufacturing the same ?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : I cannot say very definitely but the number of workshops that were manufacturing wagons before the integration has since increased very considerably.

Shri S. C. Samanta : I wanted to know whether those workshops that were manufacturing wagons before integration have been re-modelled and wagons are being manufactured there itself instead of placing orders on different firms at different places ?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : This is a question of a very general nature. If the hon. Member would specifically quote any workshop, I shall give him the exact information.

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : Evidently, the hon. Member wants to know whether we have cut down orders on certain firms which were making wagons before. Instead of cutting down orders, we have increased the orders. The capacity which was only about 7,000 wagons has now been increased to 15,000 wagons and more firms have come into the field for the manufacture of wagons. We have been placing experimental orders on some of the firms and they have already carried out those orders.

Shri S. C. Samanta : May I know the number of petrol tank wagons amongst the number that has been mentioned by the Minister ?

Shri Alagesan : They are not included in this list.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao : In the statement, it is said that Texmaco has been given only an order for 3,000 wagons and odd whereas the others, that is, the British-owned firms, have been given huge orders, for example, Braithwaites, Hudson, Jesscop, etc. Could I know the reasons for giving such a low number to Texmaco ?

Shri Alagesan : I do not know whether my hon. friend is correct in presuming that the other firms are British-owned. Our information is that they are now managed by Indians with Indian capital. These firms were old firms. They were already in the field, manufacturing wagons, and so their capacity is more. We are trying to develop the capacity in other firms also.

Development Board for Delhi

***80i. Shri Radha Raman :** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to starred question No. 1089 on the 17th March, 1955 and state :

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision for the setting up of a Development Board in Delhi ; and

(b) if so, what will be the aims, functions and authority of the Board ?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhār) : (a) The question of constituting a single statutory Planning and Development Authority for Delhi is still under the consideration of the Government of India ;

(b) Does not arise.