

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : We have not set any definite target, because we want them to compete with one another and reach figures which may not be usual.

Shri S. N. Das : May I know whether any information is available as to the States where the largest number of plants have survived and States where the lowest number have survived ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : I am afraid have not analysed the figures in that way but it was an M. P. sitting opposite who claimed that in some places he did not see even a single survival.

Shri Bogawat : May I know whether it is a fact that the number of survivals is very meagre as compared to the plantations, and therefore much more attention should be given to this ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : We try to give the matter our best attention, and according to our forest experts the survivals are not very unsatisfactory.

Shri Kamath : Was it at the instance of the Minister that in some States this year a Wild Life Day was observed in the wake of *Va. a Mahotsava*, or was it done *suo motu* by such States as love in wild life ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : It was our desire that people's attention should be drawn to protection of wild life.

Shri Punnoose : May I know whether the figures given by the Minister are simply copied from the statements furnished by the State Governments, or whether the Central Government have made a check to see whether these have really survived ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : We have to depend upon the States; we have no machinery to check up.

Shri Ramchandra Reddi : May I know whether Government has estimated the average cost of maintaining these trees by local boards and municipalities ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : So far as our information goes, the actual cost of plantation is negligible.

Some Hon. Members rose.—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : We have had enough discussion about *Va. a Mahotsava*.

Census of Passenger Traffic

*56. **Shri Punnoose :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to conduct a census of passenger traffic on the Indian Railways ;

(b) if so, when the census is expected to be taken up;

(c) when the results will be available; and

(d) which are the lines selected for the purpose ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) to (d). A census of the number of passengers travelling by each train is taken periodically as a matter of normal routine by Railway Administrations the frequency ranging from once in three months to once in six months. These census ordinarily cover all trains. Further special census are ordered if additional information for any specific purpose is required and no such census is now contemplated.

Shri Punnoose : May I know if a special census is also taken about overcrowding in particular trains like the Cochin Express, the Mangalore Express and the Trivandrum Express ?

Shri Alagesan : Yes, we have recently asked the Railway Administrations to take such a census to study the extent of overcrowding.

Shri Heda : In view of the fact that many times we find that particular trains are overcrowded, and when we complain about it to the Minister or the Railway Board their general reply is that the overcrowding is not to such an extent, may I know what is the machinery at present on which they check up whether there is overcrowding or not ?

Shri Alagesan : My recollection is as far as representations of hon. Members go we try to meet them. In fact, it was done so in the case of Hyderabad itself; we were able to add an additional Hyderabad-Delhi bogie.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो यात्री गणना की जायेगी उससे क्या लाभ होंगे और जो लाभ होंगे उनको कार्यान्वित करने के लिए रेलवे क्या कार्यवाही करने की सोचती है ?

रेलवे तथा परिवहन मंत्री (श्री एल० बी० शास्त्री) : शायद माननीय सदस्य ने वह जवाब सुना नहीं जो डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने दिया, कि यह जो सेंसस होती है यह तो हमारा रूटीन काम है जिसको हम महीने में, तीन महीने में, ६ महीने में करते हैं, और उसके मुताबिक जैसा नतीजा निकलता

है या तो नई गाड़ियां बढ़ाते हैं या ट्रैन्स को एक्सटेंड करते हैं या नई बोगीज बगैरह लगाते हैं ।

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know what steps are being taken to lessen the overcrowding in accepted cases like the Grand Trunk Express and the Madras trains?

Mr. Deputy Speaker : This refers only to census. What happens after the census is a different matter.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi : May I suggest Sir that question No. 73 may also be combined with question No. 58?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker : Yes, questions 58 and 73 may be answered together.

Leprosy Control

*58. **Dr. Rama Rao :** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether a team of Leprosy Control Unit from Belgium has arrived in Madras;

(b) if so, the names of the members of the Unit; and

(c) the nature of the work they are expected to carry on in India ?

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

(b) Dr. Franz Hemerijks, Dr. (Miss) C. Veclut, Miss S. Liegeois, and Mrs. H. Eenberg.

(c) The Unit will be engaged in the control of leprosy in the Polambakkam areas of Chingleput District, Madras.

Leprosy

*73. **Shri Bishwa Nath Roy :** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether Government propose to undertake a leprosy survey for the purpose of controlling the disease in the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) : There is no proposal at present to undertake any survey since the information available with the Subsidiary Centres established under the Leprosy Control Scheme will indicate the incidence of the disease in the areas concerned. Measures for its control are well known and the States are aware of the necessity of implementing them as far as they can do so.

Dr. Rama Rao : May I know the financial commitments of the Government of India in this regard ?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : There is no financial commitment for the Government of India.

Dr. Rama Rao : May I know, when any special effort to control leprosy is welcome, why the Government of India in one of its centres in Andhra has appointed doctors and other staff more than five or six months ago and not supplied them with medicines and other requirements, with the result that the staff and the doctors are idle?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : This particular thing had not been brought to the notice of the Ministry earlier; I will have it looked into.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar : May I know, if no special techniques are used in the leprosy control by this team, why are foreigners imported for techniques which are already known to us?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : It is not a question of import of any foreigners; it is a gesture of goodwill in return for some help that we rendered to them in 1953 during the devastating floods of 1953 in that country.

Shri Biswa Nath Roy : May I know whether the Government propose to give help to Hind Kashta Niwarak Sangha which had already undertaken the work in some parts of the country?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar : The Government have been giving help to the Hind Kashta Niwarak Sangha.

Mechanisation of Fishing Craft

*59. **Shri Nanadas :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) the number and value of semi-diesel engines so far procured for mechanisation of fishing craft; and

(b) the countries from which they have been procured ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : (a) Forty-nine costing Rs. 5,00,000 approximately.

(b) Sweden.

Shri Nanadas : May I know whether these engines have been tried in any of the States and if so, the names of the States and with what results ?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : If the hon. Member wants the number we have supplied, I can give it: Bombay 20, Saurashtra 20, Travancore-Cochin 5 and Orissa 4. Some people are satisfied with the engines and some are still trying them.