

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The period January to September, 1955, saw the completion of the Bunder and near completion the Oil Berth. A statement indicating the progress made on the various items is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [ See Appendix I, annexure No. 54].

(b) Rs. 598 lakhs up to the end of September 1955, of which Rs. 144 lakhs represents the expenditure incurred in the period January to September, 1955.

**Shri Jethalal Joshi:** Is it a fact that the construction work is far behind the target and if so, when are we likely to reach the target?

**Shri Alagesan:** The statement that I placed on the Table of the House gives the present state at which each and every work stands. As I said, the main thing, namely the Bunder, has been completed and the oil Berth has been almost completed. The other works are in progress. The target date has been fixed as 1-4-1957 by which all these works that are to be done by the contractors will be completed.

**Shri Jethalal Joshi:** May I know how many berths and jetties are ready?

**Shri Alagesan:** That work is also now going on.

**Mr. Speaker:** How many are ready?

**Shri Alagesan:** This is what the statement says: "Good progress made with pile driving and ....."

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. He does not want that.

**Shri Alagesan:** That is the information I have. I do not have any other information.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then he need not read the statement. If he has the number he may give it.

**Shri R. S. Diwan:** Do Government contemplate to connect the Western Railway by means of broad gauge?

**Shri Alagesan:** There is no question of a broad gauge line. We have already constructed a metre gauge line.

#### Cheque System in Post Offices

\*215. **Shri B. D. Shastri:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in which the cheque system for operating Post Office Savings Bank account has been introduced; and

(b) how this system is working?

**The Deputy Minister of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

**श्री बी० डी० शास्त्री:** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि चैक सिस्टम जारी होने वाला है या नहीं, और अगर होने वाला है तो कब से शुरू होगा?

**श्री राज बहादुर:** जी, इसको इम्प्लिमेंटेशन बम्बई जी० पी० प्रॉ० की चालू किया जाने की बात है। लेकिन उसके पहले कई जरूरी कदम उठाने होंगे। मिजुमला उनके नेगोसियेशन डीप्टमेंट एक्ट के सेक्शन ३ का अमेंडमेंट हुआ था और इसके अलावा और भी स्टाफ की ट्रेनिंग वगैरह की बातें थीं। वह फायनेन्स मिनिस्ट्री के जेर मोर है। जब वह पूरा हो जायगा तब उसे चालू कर दिया जायगा।

**श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी:** मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब यह पाम हो जायगा तब भी परीक्षण किया जायगा या सारे देश के डाकखानों में इसको चालू कर दिया जायगा?

**श्री राज बहादुर:** इसके बारे में एक एक्ट तो पिछले अधिवेशन में पास कर दिया था और वह इसलि पास किया गया था कि जो और बैंकों का हिफायत (protection) जरूरी है वह पोस्ट ऑफिस सेविंग्स बैंक को भी मिल जाय। इसको इम्प्लिमेंटेशन इसलिए चालू किया जायगा क्योंकि इसमें स्टाफ की ट्रेनिंग की बहुत काफी जरूरत है, और जो लोग इससे फायदा उठावें उनको भी इसका भारी होने की जरूरत है।

#### Minimum Wages Act, 1948

\*216 **Shri I. Escharan:** Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state the names of the States which have not yet fixed minimum wages for employment in Agriculture under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) :** Madras, Madhya Bharat, Saurashtra, Travancore-Cochin and Bhopal.

**Shri I. Eacharan :** May I know what are the reasons for the delay and has the Central Government taken any steps to get it done earlier?

**Shri Abid Ali :** There is no particular delay in this respect. There are certain difficulties because the area is vast and the number of persons concerned is about 3,40,00,000. Some State Governments have felt certain difficulties and they have not been able to implement this particular requirement of the Act.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi :** May I ask whether the working of the Minimum Wages Act in the industrial sector has been reviewed and the review published so far?

**Shri Abid Ali :** It has been reviewed both at the State level and Central level and a report about the working of this Act was also published in the last report of the Labour Ministry.

**Shri I. Eacharan :** What are the various factors will be taken into account when minimum wages are fixed for agricultural labourers?

**Shri Abid Ali :** That is mentioned in the Act itself.

### Tuberculosis

\*217. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state :

(a) Whether any sample survey has been conducted to ascertain the incidence of T.B. in India ; and

(b) If so, which of the areas have been selected for this purpose?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur) :** (a) Yes; Sample Surveys have been conducted from time to time during the last 15 years at different places. A systematic all-India T. B. survey has been started this year by the Indian Council of Medical Research in six Zones.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [ See Appendix I, annexure No. 55].

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** The statement says that during the last 15 to 20 years surveys have been conducted. May I know what conclusions have been arrived at as a result of the sample survey conducted in the last 15 to 20 years as stated in the statement?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur :** The surveys that took place in the early years since 1938 to 1952, as has been mentioned in the statement, were merely superficial surveys. There is no doubt that T.B. is today a menace in India and we are hoping to get very much better results from the survey that we have undertaken this year.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** May I know whether the surveys that have been undertaken in the last 15 to 20 years have shown that in the recent past the incidence of T.B. has gone up compared to the previous years ?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur :** Yes, the incidence of T. B. has gone up.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad :** May I know whether there are any statistics, as a result of the surveys, with the Government to say as to what percentage of the population is effected by this disease and what is the number of beds that is available for such patients in the country?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur :** I cannot give those figures at the moment but in 1949 we did carry out a survey in a small town of about 16,000 persons and the result of this survey showed morbidity in 1.6 percent and in 0.7 percent it was possible to demonstrate tubercle bacilli.

**Shri Bansilal :** May I know whether any survey has taken place in the State of Rajasthan and, if so, where?

**Rajkumari Amrit Kaur :** No survey has been done in Rajasthan.

### Amritsar Central Workshop

\*220. **Sardar Iqbal Singh :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has been finally decided to take Amritsar Central Workshop from the Punjab Government;

(b) the estimated recurring and non-recurring expenditure to be incurred on this workshop; and

(c) whether any compensation will be paid to the Punjab Government?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport ( Shri Alagesan ) :**

(a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The estimates for recurring and non-recurring expenditure to be incurred on this workshop have not been yet framed and the details in regard to the transfer are still under negotiation.