

**Shri C. D. Pande :** It is done by the U. P. Government.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh :** Yes, Sir. I have come to know of certain juices. There are also other State Governments who, on their own initiative, are manufacturing some of the juices which have become popular.

#### HAFFKINE INSTITUTE, BOMBAY

\*1893. **Shri B. S. Murthy :** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state :

(a) the total quantity of anti-snake venom serum prepared during 1955-56\* in Haffkine Institute, Bombay ;

(b) whether, part of it has been exported ; and

(c) whether the needs of the country are met by the quantity produced ?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar) :** (a) 2,84,600 millilitres.

(b) Yes.

(c) The total production of two main institutions viz., the Haffkine Institute, Bombay and the Central Research Institute, Kasauli, where anti-snake venom serum is produced is sufficient to meet the requirements of the country.

**Shri B. S. Murthy :** May I know whether it is a fact that this anti-snake venom serum is not working on cobras ? I mean cobra poisoning and cobra bites. I hope the Members will understand. What further researches are being made to improve its efficacy ?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar :** As far as my knowledge goes, I think it is working well with regard to every snake poison.

**Shri Keshavaiah :** May I know whether the production of this serum has been affected on account of non-availability of enough venomous snakes and, if so, what steps are being taken to remedy this position ?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar :** We are rearing enough snakes in this institute to prepare this anti-snake venom serum. I do not think there is any shortage. We have got enough and more and we are also selling to other countries.

**Shri N. B. Chowdhury :** May I know whether the Government has any scheme to make the serum available to the village people through the registered village doctors ?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar :** If the State Governments ask for it, it will be made available to the State Governments.

#### GOODS TRAFFIC IN ASSAM AND BENGAL

\*1895. **Shri Debendra Nath Sarma :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Railways in Assam and North Bengal have failed to meet the basic demands of goods and passengers' traffic as a result of which development of the area has been greatly hampered ; and

(b) if so, whether any definite proposal has been drawn up to improve matters so far as the Railways of that region are concerned ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) :** (a) The basic demands for goods traffic in Assam and North Bengal have been fairly met, in spite of the damage caused to the Assam Rail Link during the last rainy season.

As regards passenger traffic, the needs have been met to the extent practicable with the available coaches and locomotives.

(b) A Technical Committee of experts is being appointed to examine the possibility of ensuring the stability of the Assam Rail Link route during the rains. On receipt of their report further action will be taken to strengthen or realign the route. Additional rolling stock will also be provided consistent naturally with the availability of funds during the Second Five Year Plan Period.

**Shri Debendra Nath Sarma :** Is it a fact that the opinion of some American experts was sought for stabilising the Assam Link Line and if so, what was the opinion of the American experts ?

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) :** For that purpose, a technical committee is being appointed. Some American experts are going round the railways and they might go to Assam also.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao :** May I know when this technical experts committee was appointed and who are the members of this committee ?

**Shri Alagesan :** It seems my answer has not been closely followed by the hon. Member. I said that a technical committee of experts is being appointed.

#### RAILWAY CATERING

\*1896. **Shri Kamath :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the replies given to the supplementaries to Starred Question No. 1606 on the 20th April, 1956 and state :

(a) whether a statement showing the names of catering contractors who have since 26th January, 1950 sublet their contracts, together with the action taken against each offender will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha ; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) :** (a) and (b). The information is under collection and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha when received.

**Shri Kamath :** I hope it will be done very soon. How long will it take ? It should not take a very long time.

**Mr. Speaker :** He says : 'as soon as possible'.

**Shri Alagesan :** Not a day more than is absolutely necessary will be taken.

**Shri Kamath :** Will it be done during this session ?

**Mr. Speaker :** The House will continue for two more sessions.

#### MOB ATTACK ON TRAIN

\*1897. **Shri Kamath :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Kiul-Gaya passenger train was attacked by a mob on the 11th April, 1956 near Warsaliganj railway station in Bihar ;

(b) the details of the incident ; and

(c) the loss of life and property involved therein ?

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

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XI, annexure No. 10.]

**Shri Kamath :** The statement laid on the Table says, in the first sentence of paragraph 2 thereof, that an alarm was raised by certain passengers. Am I to understand that the alarm was raised by pulling the alarm chain, or was the vacuum brake disconnected in this train as has been done in some Bihar trains ?

**Shri Alagesan :** I do not have the particular information as to whether it was done by pulling the alarm chain or by merely shouting. The train was just then on the move, the Guard heard the alarm and stopped the train.

**Shri Kamath :** Was the particular train running with the vacuum brake disconnected ?

**Shri Alagesan :** I said that the train was on the move ; just then an alarm was raised and after that the train was stopped by the Guard.

**Shri Kamath :** My question was whether vacuum brake was disconnected.

**Mr. Speaker.** The hon. Minister's answer was not properly heard by the hon. Member. He has said already that it is not possible for him to say