

**Shri Alagesan :** I should not think there is not sufficient space in the luggage van. There should be.

**Sardar Iqbal Singh :** On these corridor trains.

SHYAMBAZAR BELIAGHATA TRAIN SERVICE

**\*1238. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 1085 on the 21st December, 1955 and state:

(a) whether Government have received a reply to the letter addressed to the West Bengal Government regarding the operation of a shuttle train between the Shyambazar-Beliaghata section of the *ex-Baraset*—Basirhat Light Railway;

(b) if so, what are its contents;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are hesitant to use the amended article 31 of the Constitution to expedite the opening of this shuttle;

(d) if not, whether it is proposed to issue an ordinance for this purpose as was done when the Baraset-Basirhat Light Railway was taken over and run by the West Bengal Government; and

(e) when this shuttle train will be opened?

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

(b) The West Bengal Government are also of the view that the appropriate course would be to convert the existing railway embankment from Bishnupur to Beliaghata into a metalled road.

(c) to (e). Do not arise. in view of what is stated in the answer to Part (b) above.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** May I know if the idea of having the metal road has been finalised and if so, by what time the construction of the road will be undertaken?

**Shri Alagesan :** Yes, Sir. I think the West Bengal Government has almost decided to have the road on that alignment.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty :** May I know if it is a fact that the only point which has yet to be decided and which is holding up the work is the fact that the Central Government is hesitating to give the West Bengal Government the amount of money that will be required?

**Shri Alagesan :** This road is entirely the State responsibility. Even so, we are thinking of giving aid to a certain extent to meet the wishes of the West Bengal Government in the matter. We may give them 50 per cent aid.

TOURISM

**\*1241. Shri Amjad Ali :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state the steps taken to popularise and encourage tourist traffic to Assam?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) :** (a) Places of tourist interest in Assam are mentioned in the 'Handbook of India', 'Tourist Information Booklet', 'Panorama of India,' 'India Folder' and 'With Gun and Rod in India.' These are all publications. Places in Assam are also mentioned in the pamphlet 'Hill Stations of East India and Folder on Game Sanctuaries', which are under production. A guide and a folder with insert, exclusively on Assam, have already been brought out and maps of Shillong and of Assam State are under production. A film on Kaziranga Game Sanctuary in Assam is also being produced. Certain proposals calculated to promote tourist traffic to Assam are also being considered for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan.

**Shri Amjad Ali :** May I know what is the contribution of the Ministry of Transport to these steps taken?

**Shri Alagesan :** As far as the publication of literature goes, which was mentioned exhaustively in the answer, it is purely done by the Central Government. The film is also produced

from Central funds. Regarding the proposals to be included in the Five Year Plan, they are divided into various categories of works. Some may be entirely borne by the Centre, there may be others where the expenditure may have to be shared between the State Government and the Centre, and there are other works the responsibility for which will have to be entirely borne by the State.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** May I know if any reduction in the fares of railways and roadways is contemplated in order to attract visitors to Assam?

**Shri Alagesan:** The usual hill station concession fare is there. To a certain extent that will help in attracting tourists to Assam.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** From the road wing.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** Is it a fact that there have been some comments in the British Press that adequate facilities were not made available to the foreign tourists in India and therefore India could not take full advantage of foreign tourism in 1955? If so, may I know whether any special measures are being taken to provide additional facilities to the tourists?

**Shri Alagesan:** This question is constantly before the Government. We would like to increase accommodation facilities, hotel accommodation etc., as much as possible, but availability of funds comes in the way, and we cannot proceed as fast as we would like to.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** May I know whether apart from Shillong to which a certain amount of transport facilities exist, transport facilities have been arranged for any other places in Assam, that is, beauty spots that are likely to attract tourists?

**Shri Alagesan:** One of the major attractions in Assam is the Kaziranga Game Sanctuary, which is the only abode of the rhinoceros in the country. Good transport facilities exist to go there, and there is also a good

rest-house. Recently, the accommodation in the rest-house has been expanded also.

#### VANASPATI

**\*1243. Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total installed capacity of Messrs. Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Company Ltd. for the manufacture of vanaspati and how does it compare with the total installed capacity in India; and

(b) the actual production of vanaspati by the above concern in 1953-54, 1954-55 and its percentage to the total production in India?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The total installed capacity for the manufacture of Vanaspati of the four factories owned by Messrs. Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Co. Ltd., is 76,000 tons per annum. It forms 18.4% of the total installed capacity in India.

(b) The actual production of vanaspati by the said concerns in 1953-54 and 1954-55 was 53,226 tons and 59,896 tons respectively. In both the years, it formed 26.5% of the total production in the country.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** May I know who the owners of the Hindustan Vanaspati Manufacturing Co. Ltd. are, and whether they are Indians or foreigners?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I am not sure, but I believe they are Messrs. Lever Bros.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** May I know whether in view of the fact that this monopolistic company namely Messrs. Lever Bros., have such a huge share of production of vanaspati in India, any complaints have been received from the smaller firms?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** They have set up a certain number of companies, and of course, they are manufacturing