

Shri Alagesan: No. On the other hand, we have started providing reading lights in the first class compartments.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: This scheme is being implemented on the branch lines. Could we know the percentage of the branch lines in our country to the total mileage, so that we can have some idea of the progress of the scheme?

Shri Alagesan: I have already stated in the answer that even the details regarding the withdrawal of these coaches from branch lines are not yet finalised.

Shri Boovaraghassamy: Will there be any increase in the accommodation and other facilities available for the third class passengers as a result of this scheme?

Shri Alagesan: The main difficulty with regard to third class travel is overcrowding. Wherever we withdraw second class coaches, if traffic warrants it, we will have additional third class coaches.

RAJKUMARI SPORTS COACHING SCHEME

*2228. **Shri Kamath:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1430 on the Raj Kumari Sports Coaching Scheme on the 24th April, 1956 and state:

(a) whether the grants so far made to the Scheme have been expended only on salaries and allowances of Coaches;

(b) the amount spent so far on items other than salaries and allowances of Coaches, the details in regard to each separate item being given;

(c) the amount spent so far on the salaries and allowances of Coaches; and

(d) the amount spent so far on purchases other than those for which the grants were specifically sanctioned?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) No.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XIII, annexure No. 33].

(c) Rs. 4,00,785.

(d) Nil.

Shri Kamath: Arising out of the answer to part (b) of the question, what was the genesis of the scheme and in what circumstances and for what purposes was it conceived?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Obviously the scheme was conceived in order to give the youth of the country a certain amount of specialised coaching, so that they can take their place not only in national tournaments, but also in international games.

Shri Kamath: From the statement laid on the Table today and also from another statement laid some days ago last week, it appears that up to date about Rs. 10 lakhs have been sanctioned for the scheme and about Rs. 6 lakhs or so have been expended up to the 31st March, 1956. The Minister said that the amount spent on the salaries and allowances of coaches only was nearly Rs. 5 lakhs, if I heard her aright. It was Rs. 4,75,000 or so. May I know how many coaches are employed and do they go about in Europe and America roving all over the world or only in India, because so much money is spent on the salaries and allowances of the coaches?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: Over a period of five years, some coaches have come from abroad and their internal travelling and lodging expenses as also their salaries are paid by the Committee. There is no question of our coaches wandering all over the world. The majority of coaches permanently employed are Indian coaches from various States who coach in various centres according to the convenience and arrangements arrived at between the different sports federations.

Shri Kamath: The statement laid on the Table last time shows that the expenditure is not audited at all. Now there seems to be a new arrangement to control the expenditure. That is, a coaching committee has been formed for accounting the expenditure, and this innovation of the Health Ministry.....

Mr. Speaker: I have noticed that the hon. Member always starts with prefixes and preambles. The hon. Member will kindly read Rule 60. It is not for the purpose of eliciting information that he is asking questions; he is more taking an opportunity for the purpose of criticising the Government. I have no objection to it, but for that other methods must be adopted. If he persists in doing this, I am sorry he ought not to persist; that is all that I would say. As regards the right to admit questions, I am reserving it to myself. Rule 60 (2) says:

“The right to ask a question is governed by the following conditions :—

(ii) it shall not contain arguments, inferences, ironical expressions, imputations, epithets or defamatory statements.....”

I do not know if the prefixes or the preambles that he uses do not come under one or the other of these. Let him only ask for information. It is not the first time that I have noticed it; I have been noticing it repeatedly. I want to tell him that his questions must conform to the conditions laid down under Rule 60. Otherwise, it will be an abuse.

Shri Kamath: May I know whether, apart from this coaching committee which seems to audit the expenditure, there is any other audit arrangement to control the expenditure and if so, how is it done?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: The accounts are audited by the Finance Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri K. K. Basu: I will ask only one question. May I now whether any scholarships or honoraria are paid to the trainees and whether any age limit is fixed for the trainees to get training under the scheme?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: No actual age limit has been fixed, but we do help the trainees. For example, when a young boy wanted to be coached in tennis, we gave him shoes and a racket which he cannot afford to buy himself.

We also give nourishment, milk etc. Certainly, the trainees are helped whenever they cannot afford to pay for themselves. We concentrate on school children and university students.

Shri R. P. Garg: May I know if in this coaching scheme there is any provision for the development of Indian games? If not, why not?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur: This is a very small scheme and naturally it has taken within its purview the games that are promoted by the existing sports federations.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDIAN CANCER RESEARCH CENTRE,
BOMBAY

***2197. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who were provided post graduate teaching and research in cancer at the Indian Cancer Research Centre, Bombay, during 1955; and

(b) the amount spent on this Institution during 1955?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) 30.

(b) Rs. 2,31,532.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS

***2199. Shri Velayudhan:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the posts for telephone operators were advertised by each region in the years 1954 and 1955; and

(b) whether there was any selection or tests held for the applicants to make the selections?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a) Yes, except by the Postmaster-General, Calcutta, who did not have sufficient number of vacancies in 1955 and by the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, Shillong in 1954 who already had approved candidates of the previous year.