

Shri Wodeyar : May I know whether foreign experts have made any proposals to keep these slaughter houses in a separate locality with clean surroundings?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh : I have not got any advice from any foreigners. The appointment of this committee was suggested by our own Directorate of Marketing and Inspection in their report which was submitted to us on 15th January, 1956.

VILLAGE APPROACH ROADS

*963. **Shri R. K. Gupta :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the grants so far made and utilized by various States in the construction of approach roads to villages ; and

(b) the conditions, if any, that have been attached for the sanction of such grants?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 59.]

श्री आर० के० गुप्त : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस साल के लिए कितनी कितनी रकम किन किन राज्यों को दी गई है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खान : इस साल में तो कोई खास रकम इस काम के लिये तय नहीं की गई है । अक्टूबर सन् १९५३ में ६० लाख रुपया तीन साल के लिए इयरमार्क किया गया था और वह चलता रहा ।

श्री भक्त बर्षान : क्या यह सत्य है कि यह जो ६० लाख रुपये इस काम के लिये दिये गये थे, उसमें से बहुत कम रकम अब तक राज्य सरकारें खर्च कर पाई हैं और क्या इसके बारे में कोई विशेष प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है ताकि वे इस रकम का और अधिक उपयोग कर सकें ?

श्री शाहनवाज खान : यह बात सही नहीं है । बहुत हद तक यह रकम खर्च हो चुकी है । पार्ट ए० स्टेट्स ने इसका बहुत अच्छा इस्तेमाल किया है । पार्ट बी० और पार्ट सी० स्टेट्स की तरफ से अलबत्ता इस दिशा में थोड़ी कमी रही है ।

Shri Natarajan : All the village approach roads constructed under the First Five Year Plan are mere earth-work roads. Has Government allotted any funds to convert them into metalled roads and for constructing culverts also?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : The village roads are entirely the responsibility of the State Governments and this sum which the Ministry of Transport has allotted, is merely a gesture to encourage the States to pay more attention to this important work.

Shri T. N. Singh : May I know whether the State Government, especially Part A States, demands for more and more money in regard to the approach roads have been fully met, and if not, what proportion has not been met?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan : The sums that were set aside in the case of Part A States, as I said, have been mostly utilised. The sums that were allotted to each State is a limiting factor, and we have not yet allotted any sums over and above them.

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

*965. **Shri N. B. Chowdhury :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) the total strength of staff in the D. T. S. workshop at present ;

(b) whether it is a fact that the workshop and depots of the Delhi Transport Service are under-staffed ; and

(c) steps being taken to remedy the situation?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) 712.

(b) The workshop staff has now become inadequate owing to the increase in the fleet.

(c) Proposals for providing the workshop with the full complement of staff are now under consideration by the Authority. As an interim measure, some additional staff has already been sanctioned.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury : May I know whether in the D. T. S. establishment there is any provision for leave reservists, and if so, to what extent?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan : There is provision, but I cannot tell him just off-hand.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury : May I know whether there are any special difficulties that the Ministry is facing in recruiting adequate staff for this establishment?

The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri) : There is no special difficulty in recruiting the staff who will work as reservists or relief staff.

Shri Velayudhan : May I know whether the D. T. S. was running on a profit in the year 1955, and if so, what was the profit? If there was any loss, what was the reason for the loss?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : It is not directly related to the question. There was a small profit. I cannot give the amount just now.

MOTOR VEHICLE TAX

*968. **Shri Radha Raman :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state whether Government have considered the proposal to fix a limit on Motor Vehicle taxes as recommended by the Motor Vehicle Taxation Enquiry Committee?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : The proposal to fix a ceiling for taxes on motor vehicles in all States has been under the consideration of Government for a long time. The proposal was last discussed at the meeting of the Transport Advisory Council in February, 1956, when representatives of the States desired to be given more time for consideration of this suggestion.

Shri Radha Raman : May I know whether the Government have invited the opinions of the various States with

regard to these recommendations and if any response has been received from them either in favour or against them.

Shri Alagesan : As I said in my answer, this question has been discussed many a time at the meetings of the Transport Advisory Council. Naturally the States are anxious that no ceiling should be put on their taxation powers. This question was also commented upon by the Taxation Enquiry Commission and they made certain proposals. All those were before the last meeting of the Transport Advisory Council held in February. A suggestion was thrown out that the ceiling to be observed by the other States should be limited to 75 per cent. of the Madras tax. For this they wanted time to consider.

Shri Radha Raman : Which other recommendations of the Motor Vehicle Taxation Enquiry Committee have the Government thought over and accepted?

Shri Alagesan : That is too wide a question.

Shri B. D. Pande : Has Government thought over the question that the taxation of motor vehicles is very great and differs from State to State? Since the Cantonment Boards, Municipal Committees etc., have realised any amount of tax without reference to the Central Government, will Government standardise those rates all over the country?

Shri Alagesan : Yes, Sir. There are various authorities which levy the taxes on motor vehicles like octrois etc., but the power vests in them as per the Constitution. We can only try to reason with them and that we do in the Transport Advisory Council meetings and even otherwise.

Shri Radha Raman : May I know whether the Taxation Enquiry Commission has considered this kind of limiting of tax on vehicles?

Shri Alagesan : Yes, they considered and they also opined that this should be discussed at the Transport Advisory Council. Their opinion was