

Shri Sarangadhar Das: The hon. Minister says that Messrs. Swiss Car and Elevator Manufacturing Corporation Ltd. are consulting engineers and that they do not manufacture. But the name itself implies that they manufacture cars and elevators. Will the hon. Minister enquire about it whether they are manufacturers and are acting as consulting engineers here?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: They do not manufacture plant and machine: u coaches?

Shri Sarangadhar Das: Cars or coaches?

Dr. Jaisoorya: If I remember aright, with regard to this Perambur workshop you had a contract with another Swiss firm. What happened to them?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: It is the same firm, Schlieren.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Now it is called something else, is it?

Shri Shah Nawaz Khan: It is the same firm.

Dr. Jaisoorya: Masquerading in another name?

Mail Transhipment

*1949. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mail transhipment work at Sakrigalighat and Maniharighat under R. M. S. 'H' Division is to be transferred to private contractors;

(b) how many Class IV leave reserve staff will be affected by this change; and

(c) whether any employees will be thrown out of service for an uncertain period and how many will have their declaration of permanency put off?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) No. The matter is still under consideration.

(b) 9 class IV employees.

(c) None is likely to be thrown out of employment for any uncertain period.

3 temporary class IV officials will have their declaration of permanency put off.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The hon. Minister said in answer to part (a) that the matter has not been finalised. May I know whether the Government thinks it a safe procedure to allow the transhipment work of mails to be handed over to contractors rather than to those people who are anxious to continue in government service and who therefore give better service?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The hon. Member has mixed up several questions. In the first place, in the Postal Department we are carrying on both the systems. Somewhere we do the work departmentally, and somewhere with contractors. Here the question of discharging or dispensing with the services of any of the employees does not arise; because, even if the work is entrusted to the contractor, all the employees will be fitted in the Department itself and none will be discharged?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Fifteen per cent of the approved candidates against leave reserve are kept in that station and they have worked continuously for one, two or three years. May I know whether these people, who are approved candidates but who are not yet quasi-permanent, having worked only for two or three years, will also be considered as staff whose jobs will be kept on?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Well, I think they will be also retained—I am speaking off-hand. I should say that none should be discharged.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know when this matter, whether to give it over to contractors or not, will be finalised?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: The matter is still under consideration. I cannot give any firm date as to when the matter will be finalised.

Primary Agricultural Credit Societies

*1951. **Shri Gadilingana Gowd:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Primary Agricultural Credit Societies newly opened or reorganised by amalgamating other societies under Rural Credit Survey Report in Kurnool District of Andhra State; and

(b) the number of those which are functioning?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Twenty-three.

(b) Twenty-two.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd: May I know if it is a fact that the Gudikal Centre of Kurnool District, for which Government had allotted Rs. 10,000, is now deferred on account of political reasons?

Shri Abid Ali: About Gudikal, my information is that the co-operative society there is not functioning because

the two neighbouring societies are not agreeable to their merger due to certain financial conditions of Gudikal.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd : Is it a fact that these two societies have already agreed to merge themselves in this society and the accounts of these societies have already been amalgamated in this society ?

Shri Abid Ali : The position is already explained.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd : May I know if the Central Government has got any power to see that their schemes are effectively implemented without any of these party politics ?

Shri Abid Ali : I don't think the inference of the hon. Member has any justification. But so far as the powers are concerned, I may say that under the rules, as they at present exist, the Andhra State cannot compel any society to amalgamate.

Shri Gadilingana Gowd : Then, how are the Central Government going to implement their schemes in the States if the Government have no powers to implement them ? Are the Government aware that most of the schemes are not properly implemented on account of these reasons ?

Shri Abid Ali : We implement the schemes by persuasion. So far as the powers are concerned, as I have already mentioned, the scheme is working satisfactorily, because out of the 23, 22 are working there.

Shri T. S. A. Chettiar : What about the co-operative farms ?

Shri Abid Ali : This question pertains to the rural credit societies.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether the Government of Andhra was acting on the report of the Registrar of Co-operative Societies who has no politics ?

Cocoanut Trees

*1954. **Shri I. Eacharan :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state :

(a) whether the cocoanut trees are affected by leaf and root diseases to a large extent in Travancore-Cochin State and the Malabar District ;

(b) if so, to what extent ; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to check and control the diseases ?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) : (a) Yes, in so far as the State of Travancore-Cochin is concerned. Cocoanut trees in the Malabar District of Madras State are not known to be affected by these diseases.

(b) About 75 lakhs of cocoanut trees in 22 out of 36 Talukas of Travancore-Cochin are estimated to be affected.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix XII, annexure No. 24].

Shri I. Eacharan : May I know the approximate number of cocoanut trees affected by this disease ?

Shri Abid Ali : I have mentioned the number.

Shri Achuthan : May I know what is the estimated loss by this disease which has affected 75 lakhs of cocoanut trees in Travancore-Cochin State and what is the contribution that is being given by the Central Government to the State Government for the spraying of the lotion ?

Shri Abid Ali : Formerly, we were charging two annas for spraying. Now we are charging one anna each. As for the loss it should be enormous.

Shri A. M. Thomas : May I enquire whether it is a fact that from a recent survey conducted it has been found out that if the disease spreads at this rate, perhaps the entire cocoanut plantations of Travancore-Cochin would be destroyed and, if so, what urgent steps does the Government intend to take ?

Shri Abid Ali : Substantial work is being done and it is hoped that the disease would be reduced.

Shri A. M. Thomas : From the statement I find that the necessity of this spraying has been accepted in principle. What stands in the way of the Central Government taking up the matter immediately ?

Shri Abid Ali : The work is continuing.

Shri A. M. Thomas : No.

Shri Achuthan : No.

Train Service from Karachi to Calcutta

*1957 { **Sardar Akarpuri :**
Sardar Iqbal Singh :

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan have proposed to the Government of India to open a railway passenger service from Karachi to Calcutta through Indian Territory ;

(b) if so, whether any reply has been given regarding that proposal ; and