

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि दिल्ली की बढ़ती हुई आबादी के लिये यह बेट्स पर्याप्त हैं ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (राजकुमारी अमृतकौर) : जी नहीं, काफी तो नहीं हैं, लेकिन इस के लिये कोशिश हो रही है। बेट्स पहले से बहुत बढ़ भी गये हैं और अभी जो तजवीज है उस में २,६८५ पलंग और बढ़ने हैं।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना में कितने पलंग और बढ़ जाएंगे ;

राजकुमारी अमृतकौर : अभी मैंने कहा है २,६८५।

Shri Tek Chand ; May I know the ratio per hospital bed *vis-a-vis* the population of Delhi ?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur : I have given the number of beds that there are and it is for the hon. Member to work out the ratio.

Shri Barrow : May I know the number of nurses for these beds, and if the hon. Minister considers the proportion and the number sufficient ?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur : The proportion of nurses to the patients in hospitals is not sufficient. We are trying our best to increase that also. It is all a question of the requisite amount of finance being available.

Shri B. S. Murthy : May I know whether it is a fact that in Delhi hospitals, the people concerned have to register their names even six months earlier to get accommodation in maternity wards, and if so, what urgent steps are being taken to relieve this difficulty ?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur : It is perfectly true that because of the insufficiency of beds, the most serious cases are admitted at once and some others have to wait. I have already said that we have increased the number of beds greatly, and we have in our plans provided to increase them still further.

Lala Achint Ram : May I know the number of patients who are in the waiting list this year, at least for the Irwin Hospital ?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur : I am sorry that as the Centre has not only just taken over the Irwin Hospital, I have not got those figures with me.

Lala Achint Ram : Will she be able to get those figures ?

Rajkumari Amrit Kaur : I shall try to get those figures, and as soon as I am able to get them the hon. Member will be given those figures.

#### District Advisory Committee for Community Development

\*353. Shri K. C. Sodhia : Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 27 on the 16th July, 1956, and state :

(a) whether Central Government contemplate any changes in the constitution and functions of the District Advisory Committees already working with district administration in connection with the machinery of community development ; and

(b) if so, in what directions and when the fresh instructions covering these changes are likely to be issued ?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. J. K. Dey) : (a) and (b). The primary object of the District Advisory Committees is to coordinate the work of the various official and non-official agencies concerned with development. In regard to the implementation of the Community Development Programme, in particular the following suggestions have been made to the State Governments : —

- (1) M. L. As. and M. Ps. may sit on the District Development Committees.
- (2) A representative of the State Department of Health and Local Self-Government at the district level may be appointed on these Committees.

Further changes will be suggested as and when necessary in the light of the experience gained of the working of the programme.

Shri Raghubir Sahai : May I know....

Mr. Speaker : Order, order. May I suggest to the Government to see that before any persons are inducted into the Ministry or are asked to speak or answer questions on behalf of the Ministry, they are first introduced to the Speaker. I must know them. Now I was not aware if the hon. Member was competent to speak in this House on behalf of the Government. That is the difficulty I feel. Therefore, let it be a convention hereafter that whenever a Minister is appointed or any other person is allowed on behalf of the Government to answer questions on the floor of the House, he is first introduced to the House, or to the Speaker at least. When

the hon. Member got up to answer, I was wondering whether he was competent to answer, because I did not know him. Even now I do not know whether he is a Secretary, or a Deputy Minister or a Minister.

**Shri K. K. Bora :** Ministers are being appointed in geometric progression now.

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri) :** Perhaps you have seen him ; he is Shri S. K. Dey, Minister of Community Development.

**Mr. Speaker :** I have seen him, not in this capacity.

**Shri A. K. Gopalan :** We also must know.

**Mr. Speaker :** I am happy to receive him, but anyhow the House must know and I must know. In this case I did not know what capacity he was here.

**Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri :** I shall ask the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to do so.

**Mr. Speaker :** Whenever a Minister answers questions or is inducted into this House for the first time he may introduce him formally.

**Shri Raghbir Sahai :** May I know from the Minister of Community Development whether it is under the contemplation of the Government to appoint non-official Chairman to these advisory bodies ?

**Shri S. K. Dey :** This question as to whether there should be a non-official as the chairman of the advisory committee has been considered on quite a number of occasions. For the time being we have come to the decision that until the intensive period of the community development programme is over the advisory committees would have official chairman and it is only in the post-intensive phase that we shall try to introduce non-official chairman.

**Shri Raghbir Sahai :** May I just invite his attention to the very weighty observations made by Mr. C. C. Taylor, Ford Foundation consultant whose report was distributed a few days back in which he has written that most of the officials connected with these advisory bodies do not like non-official co-operation and whether he has considered these remarks ?

**Shri S. K. Dey :** It is natural to expect in a country such as ours within nine years of our independence that there would not be a complete understanding achieved between the officials and the non-officials. It is only through the co-operative working of the two agencies that there would be

greater understanding and a mutual desire to meet the view points of each other. We are very closely concerned with this question and are trying to explore every step to bring about closer association.

**Shri Mohiuddin :** In view of the remarks of the Ford Foundation consultant referred to above has it been considered by the Minister to lay down certain rules that for certain items of expenditure the opinion of the advisory committee must be taken before hand and that the Government would not consider such questions unless the opinion of the advisory committee is available.

**Shri S. K. Dey :** As a general rule the recommendations which are nearly unanimous on behalf of the non-official members in advisory committees are accepted by the Chairman. Where there is a difference the matter is usually referred to the State Government for final decision.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia :** The hon. Minister just now has said that MLAs, MPs and health officers are to be put in the advisory committees. What is the new thing that the Government is going to do ?

**Shri S. K. Dey :** There are two aspects of this question. One is the district advisory committee and the other is block advisory committee. So far as the community development programme is concerned in the block advisory committee, we have introduced an element of representatives of panchayats, which is more or less an innovation. So far as the district advisory committee is concerned, I believe, steps are being taken by the State Governments as well as the Centre to have more active participation of the members of the State legislatures as also of Parliament in the working of these advisory committees.

**Shri Heda :** Even in the committees where the non-official has been elected as the chairman, the rights and powers of the chairman as well as those of the members are so inadequate that they are not able to participate in the implementation of the programme. What further modification does the Government contemplate to make in the rules so that the people's representatives may have an active hand in the implementation of the programme ?

**Shri S. K. Dey :** It is very difficult to confer rights through official instructions. We believe that the rights will have been earned through active working of these committees in which the officials and non-officials have co-operated together.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :** The hon. Minister said that the practice of keeping the District Magistrate or the other district officers as chairmen of the development

committees would continue during the period of intensive development. May I know whether he is aware that these District Magistrates throughout the country are not in a position to eradicate corruption in their own offices? If so, what is the special consideration because of which he wants this practice to continue?

**Shri S. K. Dey :** Corruption is a trait which is indivisible. I do not believe that the District Magistrates alone can eradicate corruption in this country. It is not corruption, which as a consideration prompted us to maintain the District Magistrates as Chairmen of these committees. It includes many other considerations—corruption the least.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :** May I know the other considerations which have introduced corruption in any department and in the community development offices also?

**Shri S. K. Dey :** The question is not quite clear.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh :** I can cite examples of corruption in the community development projects.

**Mr. Speaker :** We are not getting into those details.

**Shri S. K. Dey :** The community development programme is being implemented in India in areas which are part of India. As I have indicated earlier, corruption as a trait is something indivisible. It is not quite possible to have islands of honesty on land.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi :** Is it a fact that the Government is contemplating to appoint a committee to go into the question of community development projects administration and if so how is it going to be composed and when is it going to start work?

**Shri S. K. Dey :** There is a plan to go into the working of the community development programme in all respects according to the recommendations made by the National Development Council.

#### Misuse of Alarm Chains on Railways

+1

\*355. { **Shri Kajrolkar :**  
**Shri Bhagwat Jha Aasad :**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether the number of cases of unauthorised pulling of chains in railway compartments have shown an increase on certain railways :

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to prevent such misuse

(c) whether it is a fact that on certain railways the chain-pulling mechanism has been removed to prevent its misuse ; and

(d) if so, what alternative arrangements have been provided for passengers to stop the train in case of danger ?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport ( Shri Shahnawaz Khan ) :** (a) The number has shown an increase on the Central, Northern, South-Eastern and Western Railways, and a substantial decrease on the Eastern, North-Eastern, and Southern Railways.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No. 44].

(c) Yes.

(d) There is no alternative arrangement in the compartments. But the vacuum brake remains operative on the train engine in the Guards' brake-van and in compartments set apart for ladies, and guards and engine crew have instructions to be specially vigilant and to stop the trains, when so required.

**Shri Kajrolkar :** Have there been any instances where the passengers have not co-operated in detecting the offenders? If so, how many and where?

**Shri Shahnawaz Khan :** It is very difficult to give such figures but I should like to say, generally, that in a number of cases the passengers have shown reluctance to co-operate with the railway authorities in apprehending the culprits.

#### Railway Employees

\*357. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that 346 railwaymen on duty at Howrah station have been penalised on account of alleged abstention from duty for several hours on October 6, 1956;

(b) whether Government is not aware that the said "abstention" was due to the lack of any provision for protection of the said railwaymen from certain unruly members of the public ; and

(c) whether Government is also not aware that the said railwaymen resumed duty as soon as the protection was provided ?