

some pockets and foci in the problem areas.

(d) No. It is not necessary.

(e) This is primarily a matter for the State Governments. Their particular attention to this problem was drawn in May, 1959 and from the replies received so far, it is observed that most of the State Governments and Union Territories would be in a position to utilise the services of the staff rendered surplus when the National Malaria Eradication Programme is completed.

Bifurcation of R.M.S. Andhra

142. Shri Yallamanda Reddy: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for bifurcation of R.M.S. 'Y' Division in Andhra Circle (Posts and Telegraphs);

(b) if so, when; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the headquarters of the proposed new division is going to be located outside the State of Andhra Pradesh?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Bhagavati): (a) to (c). There was a proposal to bifurcate the RMS 'Y' Division in Andhra Circle, but it has been decided not to do so.

Fruits and Vegetables

143. Shri Yallamanda Reddy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to undertake marketing survey to assess the availability of fruits and vegetables grown in the country; and

(b) if so, when it will be completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Dr. Ram Subhag Singh): (a) Yes. A scheme to survey the acreage and

production of fresh fruits and vegetables suitable for canning and processing in the country has been undertaken by the Directorate of Marketing and Inspection with effect from 1st April, 1962.

(b) The scheme has been sanctioned upto 31st March, 1963, and the report is expected to be completed by this date.

Scales of Pay of Railway Assistant Surgeons

144. Shri Yashpal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that All India Railway Medical Association has urged to bring the grades of the Assistant Surgeons Gr. I on par with those of Central Health Services; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in this regard?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Representations were received from various sources viz. Railway Doctors, Indian Medical Association, All India Railway Assistant Surgeons Association, etc. urging that the scales of pay, prospects of promotion and status of Doctors should be improved so as to bring them on par with the staff of the Contributory Health Service Scheme. These representations were examined and the following decisions were taken:—

(1) The authorised scale of pay of Rs. 335-20-475-25-575-EB-25-650 allotted earlier provisionally to Assistant Surgeons should be treated as final.

(2) Private practice by Assistant Surgeons should be restricted to (i) families of the Railway employees drawing pay of Rs. 150 per month and over at their residence; (ii) passengers who take ill while on travel and (iii) outsiders who may be admitted as indoor patients