

## UNIFORMS FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

91. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the cost of cloth and sewing charges for the uniforms supplied to Railway Staff of the North Eastern Railway during 1952-53 and 1953-54;

(b) the names of the selected and other contractors who had given tenders with the rates at which they had offered to prepare and supply garments to the employees;

(c) whether it is a fact that employees have to pay additional charges before the uniforms supplied by Railways are made fit for their use; and

(d) whether they prefer to take cloth instead of ready-made uniforms?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

## NAINITAL EXPRESS TRAIN

92. **Shri G. L. Chandhary:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Nainital Express train running between Lucknow and Kathgodam is going to be cancelled from the 15th November, 1954; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Yes.

(b) Normally from 15th November to 14th March, when traffic from and to the Hills diminishes considerably, the Nainital Express trains run between Lucknow and Bareilly only but they have two through Lucknow-Kathgodam bogie coaches which are hauled on the Bareilly-Kathgodam section by the Kumaon Express trains. For this winter, however, it has been found necessary to cancel the Nainital Express trains, so that the locomotives thus released will be available

for additional trains required to be run for the movement of high priority traffic for the construction of Dibrugarh Protection Revetment and rehabilitation works in the flood affected areas. There will still be two passenger trains each way between Lucknow and Bareilly and two through Lucknow-Kathgodam bogie coaches will run by trains Nos. 450/211 and 212/449.

## DRUG RESEARCH LABORATORIES

93. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Drug Research laboratories in the country and the names of the States where they are located; and

(b) the results obtained from their researches so far?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) and (b). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

## ENDEMIC GOITRE

94. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the areas most affected by endemic goitre in the country; and

(b) the steps that Government propose to take to combat this disease?

**The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur):** (a) Goitre occurs endemically all along the Northern frontiers of India. The Southern slopes of the Himalayas covering an area of over 1,500 miles are hyper-endemic areas of goitre. Starting from Gilgit and Chitral in Kashmir the goitre belt passes from the Kangra valley in the Punjab through the Himalayan tract of Tehri Grahwal, Almora and Nainital and the sub-Himalayan tract of Baharaich, Gonda, Basti and Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh to the Champaran and Purnea districts of Bihar and Dinsajpur and Rangpur districts in North Bengal, and the Naga and Lushai hills in Assam. The belt extends further to the North to include