

(d) the steps Government have taken for exploring the possibility of getting a number of new, or even secondhand, ships from abroad and how many ships and of what G.R.T. have been acquired to fill this existing gap ?

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

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 51.]

(c) It is not possible to estimate accurately the tonnage in D. W. T. that will be carried by the 25-30 ships during the course of a year ; but on a rough basis they may carry 6 to 7 lakhs tons of cargo.

(d) The Government have continued their scheme for grant of land assistance and for release of necessary foreign exchange to the Indian Shipping Companies for acquisition of ships. As a result 7 ships (including a tanker) totalling approximately 30,000 G.R.T. have been acquired both in the Private and Public Sectors so far and orders for construction of two coastal ships of 1700 G.R.T. each have been placed abroad.

Refrigerator Vans

*1384. **Shri Kajrolkar :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any scheme under consideration to attach refrigerator vans to trains on the Western, Central and Northern Railways between Bombay and Pathankot and Bombay and Amritsar for the transport of perishable articles over long distances; and

(b) if the reply to part (a) be in the affirmative, when the scheme will come into effect ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) :

(a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

राज-यक्ष्मा अस्पताल (चिकित्सालय)

*१३८५. श्री अमृत बहैन : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री ३ सितम्बर, १९५६ के तारकित प्रश्न संख्या १७२१ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध यह बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि मध्यम तथा निम्न वर्गों के व्यक्तियों को सस्ते इलाज की सुविधा प्रदान करने के बारे में राज-

यक्ष्मा अस्पताल (चिकित्सालय) स्थापित करने की जिस योजना को स्वीकृत किया जा चुका है, उसे कार्यान्वित करने की दिशा में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (राजकुमारी अमृत कौर) :

चालू वर्ष में ३५ और १९५७-५८ में लगभग ६० क्लिनिकों की स्थापना करने या उन्हें upgrade करने का निर्णय किया गया है। इन क्लिनिकों के लिये एक्स-रे व प्रयोग-शाला के दूसरे सामान प्राप्त करने का प्रबन्ध हो चुका है।

Timber Survey

*1386. **Shri Jhulan Sinha :** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the timber resources of the country from the existing forests have been thoroughly surveyed and the position ascertained regarding the entire wooden sleeper requirements of the Railways being met by the indigenous production ?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh) : A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 52.]

International Congress on Traffic

*1387. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra :** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that International Congress on Traffic was held in Stresa in the 1st week of October 1956 ; and

(b) if so, the subjects discussed at the Congress ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) The International Study Week on Traffic Engineering was held at Stresa in the first week of October, 1956.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of Lok Sabha.

[See Appendix, V, annexure No. 53].

Accident to Railway Steamer

*1388. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a Railway steamer carrying loaded goods