

Andhra Pradesh during his recent visit to Delhi; and

(b) if so, the suggestions made and the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A number of new railway lines were suggested by various State Governments including the Government of Andhra Pradesh. However, since the allotment anticipated from the Planning Commission for new lines in the Third Plan is barely enough for projects on which commitments have already been made, no action can be taken on these suggestions at present.

Changing the name of Cocanada Station

2963. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the reason for not changing the name of Cocanada as Kakinada on Southern Railway even though the change of the name of the town has been effected by the State Government and others concerned since a long time?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): In changing the names of Railway stations, the Railway administrations are generally guided by the views of the State Government. A reference in this respect from Andhra Pradesh Government has been received recently and is under examination.

Registration and Training of Opticians in India

**2964. { Shri Mahagaonkar:
Shri Jadhav:**

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for registration and training of the opticians in India has been formulated;

(b) if so, by whom;

(c) since when;

(d) the annual amount spent thereon;

(e) the number and the names of the experts and associations or organisation of opticians consulted in the matter; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). The Government have already formulated a scheme for the training of opticians. This scheme was circulated to the State Governments in June, 1956.

The Government have not drawn up any scheme for the registration of opticians as this matter will arise only after an adequate number of opticians has been trained.

(d) On the training programme the following expenditure has been incurred:—

	U.P.	Andhra Pradesh	Madras	Kerala	Mysore
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1957-					
58	76,220	75,000	—	—	—
1958-					
59	11,835	4,155	8,080	15,760	13,095

During 1959-60, lump sum grants of Rs. 33.61 lakhs, Rs. 30.71 lakhs, Rs. 8.00 lakhs, Rs. 9.91 lakhs and Rs. 15.96 lakhs under the head "Centrally aided schemes" were sanctioned to the Governments of U.P., Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Kerala and Mysore, respectively. It is not known how much of these amounts was utilised for the scheme about the training of Opticians.

(e) and (f). The following Ophthalmologists' Associations were consulted in the matter before the scheme was finalised:—

(i) Ophthalmic Optical Society of India.

(ii) Dr. Mohan Lal, Chief Medical Officer, Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh.

(iii) Dr. R. E. S. Muthaiah, M.S., D.O.M.S. Professor of Ophthalmology, Madras Medical College, Madras.

- (iv) Dr. M. A. Nair, Professor of Ophthalmology, Stanley Medical College, Madras.
- (v) Dr. Victor C. Rambo, Professor of Ophthalmology, Christian Medical College, Vellore.
- (vi) Dr. H. D. Patel, Lecturer in Ophthalmology and Hon. Ophthalmic Surgeon, Topiwala National Medical College, Bombay.
- (vii) Dr. V. K. Chitnis, Professor of Ophthalmology, Grant Medical College, Bombay.
- (viii) Dr. Tulsidas, Professor of Ophthalmology and Otorhinology, Glancy Medical College, Amritsar.
- (ix) Shri M. B. Sundara Rao, Professor of Ophthalmology, Medical College, Mysore.
- (x) Dr. S. N. Mitter, Professor of Ophthalmology, Lucknow University, Lucknow.
- (xi) Dr. K. N. Tandon, Honorary Ophthalmic Surgeon, Irwin Hospital, New Delhi.
- (3) Sarojini Devi Hospital, Hyderabad.
- (4) Government Ophthalmic Hospital, Trivandrum.
- (5) Minto Ophthalmic Hospital, Bangalore.
- (b) 22 persons have already been trained and 90 persons are undergoing training.
- (c) The following syllabus has been prescribed:—
- (i) A thorough knowledge of Anatomical aspect of the eye.
- (ii) A detailed knowledge of the optical principles of the human eye and its physiological or normal functioning.
- (iii) The principles of retinoscopy and full knowledge of its practice.
- (iv) The making and fitting of spectacles.
- (v) Discomforts arising through glasses.
- (vi) The verification of glasses.
- (vii) Special type of glasses.
- (viii) The principles of Refraction.
- (ix) Optical Systems.
- (x) The optical defects of the eye viz. Physiological and Optical defects and Pathological defects viz. Emmetropia, Myopia, Hypermetropia, Astigmatism, Anisometropia, Aphakia, Presbyopia and Anisokonia.

Opticians' Institutions in India

2965. { Shri Mahagaonkar:
Shri Jadhav:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the opticians' institutions in India working at present;

(b) the number of the trainees;

(c) the course or syllabus, if any, for them; and

(d) the period for the course?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The following five institutions are providing facilities for the training of Opticians in India with financial assistance from the Central Government:—

- (1) Gandhi Eye Hospital, Aligarh.
(2) Eye Hospital, Sitapur.

Scheme for Opticians

2966. { Shri Mahagaonkar:
Shri Jadhav:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of India are considering to appoint a committee or a board, consisting of opticians and Government representatives of the Health Department to prepare a fresh scheme suitable for this profession on the basis of U.K., U.S.A., Ireland and Australia;