

(d) if so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 83].

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Prefixing 'Dr.' by Medical Practitioners

546. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any and every medical practitioner, irrespective of his qualifications, is entitled to prefix the title Doctor or its short form 'Dr.' to his name;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that throughout the country the practice of prefixing the title 'Dr.' by medical practitioners in general, including unqualified persons, has taken root and is harming the nation; and

(c) if so, steps being taken to stop the practice?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). There is no legal ban on the prefixing of the title 'Dr.' to their names by practitioners of any system of medicine in India. The question of regulation of the practice of medicine in all States was considered by the Central Council of Health with a view to preventing unqualified persons from engaging in the practice of any system of medicine. A draft (model) Bill was prepared for that purpose by the Union Ministry of Health and circulated to State Governments for adoption. Further action rests with the State Governments.

Over-bridge at Kozhikode

547. { **Shri Warrior:**
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 488 on the 26th February, 1960 and state:

(a) the steps since taken regarding the proposal to construct a road over-

bridge at Kozhikode Railway Station; and

(b) when the work is likely to begin?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Approval of the State Government as well as of the Calicut Municipality to the plans for the proposed road over-bridge have been received only in June, 1960. An estimate for the work to be done within the Railway land has been prepared and sent to the concerned road authorities for their acceptance.

(b) The work will be taken in hand as soon as acceptance to the estimate is received from the Road Authorities.

P.R.O.'s. Office, Churchgate, Bombay

548. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various parties to whom various sites and show cases have been assigned in 1959 in Bombay by the Public Relation Officer's Office, Churchgate, Bombay;

(b) the period for which the contracts have been signed by these firms;

(c) the method of assigning various sites etc. to various parties; and

(d) whether tenders are called for before taking any decision?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 84].

(c) All demands for sites for display of posters, enamel plates/painted boards are fully met, without any difficulty. Sites for hoardings, neon signs and show cases are let out in order of priority of demands received direct or through canvassers and advertising agencies—provided the letting out of these sites will not in any way hamper normal railway working.