Grants-in-aid amounting to Rs. 21,90,000/- were sanctioned to the erstwhile Government of Bombay towards the Health Ministry's share of expenditure on the establishment and maintenance of Primary Health Centres opened in N.E.S. Blocks during the 2nd Five Year Plan period upto 31st March, 1958, and with effect from the 1st April, 1958 the grants-in-aid representing the share of the Ministry of Health are being released direct by the Accountant General, Maharashtra, Bombay. The Central assistance for these Primary Health Centres to provided by the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation is being drawn from the Block Budgets through the Quarterly Expenditure Statements.

Upto the end of February, 1961 the UNICEF have released 91 sets of Primary Health Centre equipment, 236 sets of sub-centre equipment, 92 sets of drugs and diet supplements and 91 vehicles for the Primary Health Centres opened in Maharashtra during the 2nd Five Year Plan period.

Leprosy Control in Manipur and Tripura

2522. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the number of leprosy control units which have been opened in Manipur and Tripura during the Second Five Year Plan period so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): Three subsidiary leprosy centres have been established in Manipur during the Second Five Year Plan period. A leprosy unit was set up in Tripura during the same period. Two itinerant teams are also functioning mostly in the interior tribal areas of Tripura to attend on leprosy cases.

Medical Education and Training in Maharashtra

2523. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any lumpsum grant has been made to Maharashtra Government during 1960-61 for Centrally

sponsored schemes under the head "Medical Education and Training"; and

(b) if so, the amount thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Yes. A lumpsum grant of Rs. 16:97 lakhs has been made to Maharashtra Government during 1960-61 provisionally on this account.

Villipuram Junction

2524. Shri Dharmalingam: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government are aware that passengers to board trains for Katpadi at Villupuram Junction, S.R. are put to lot of inconvenience due to the fact that there is no light and covering top on the platform; and
- (b) if so, the steps taken in the matter?

The Deputy Ministr of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Adequate lighting is provided at Villupuram station and no inconvenience is caused to the passengers on this account. There is however no cover on platforms 1 and 2. The provision of shelter has not so far been approved by the Passenger Amenity Committee due to paucity of funds and higher priority being given to basic amenities at all stations.

Salary Bills for Branch Post Offices in Orissa

2525. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that staff in the Branch Post Offices in Orissa circle is not getting its monthly pay for months together due to delay in sanction by the circle office;
- (b) if so, the number of such cases in various postal divisions in that circle;
 - (c) the causes for delay; and
- (d) the action being taken for proper and prompt payment?