

present in different Government hospitals; and

(d) whether any concrete preventive measures are being taken by Government to check these diseases?

The Minister of Health (Dr. Sushila Nayar): (a) No, Sir. Venereal Disease in Himachal Pradesh is actually on the decrease. Sero-positivity having come down from 37 per cent. in 1952 to 15 per cent. in 1961. As regards Leprosy, mass survey is being conducted in the whole of Himachal Pradesh and it is not possible at this stage to say whether Leprosy is on the increase.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) Yes. Intensive Venereal Disease Control Programme was launched in Himachal Pradesh in 1949. It is being further expanded to all the Primary Health Centres. Under the National Leprosy Control Programme, 4 Leprosy Subsidiary Units have been opened.

Himachal Pradesh Advisory Committee for Transport

3580. Shri Mohammad Elias: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recommendations of the Himachal Pradesh Advisory Committee for Transport 1954 have not so far been implemented in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 76].

Administrative Set up of Transport in Himachal Pradesh

3272. Shri Mohammad Elias: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendation of Transport Develop-

ment Council in regard to administrative set up of transport of Union Territory has not been implemented in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Minister of Shipping in the Ministry of Transport and Communications

(Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The reference is presumably to the recommendation of the Road Transport Reorganisation Committee (popularly known as the Masani Committee) which had recommended that roads and road transport should be dealt with by the same officer in the Secretariat of the Union Territory and that the Secretary of the State Transport Authority should be the Head of the Department and perform functions of the Transport Commissioner suggested for the States. The above recommendation, which was endorsed by the Transport Development Council in March, 1960, has not been accepted by the Himachal Pradesh Administration, who feel that complete co-ordination between the Roads Wing and the Road Transport Wing is effected through the Lt.-Governor and it is not necessary to disturb that arrangement. Further, as road transport has been completely nationalised in Himachal Pradesh, the workload did not justify the appointment of a whole-time Secretary, State Transport Authority. However, in view of the subsequent proposal to consolidate all taxes on motor vehicles into a single levy and to entrust its collection to a single agency, namely, the Transport Department, of Himachal Pradesh Administration, the question of appointing a whole-time Secretary in the office of the State Transport Authority, Himachal Pradesh, is now under the consideration of the Administration.

Scheme for Permanent Improvement of Scarcity Areas

{ Shri A. V. Raghavan:

3581. { Shri Pottakkatt:

{ Shri Warrior:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States to which

subsidies were granted under the programme for permanent improvement of scarcity areas in 1961-62;

(b) whether there were any special reasons to exclude Kerala and West Bengal; and

(c) whether it is not a fact that Kerala and West Bengal are very backward in the matter of irrigation facilities as compared to the subsidised States?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Irrigation and Power (Shri O. V. Alagesan): (a) Subsidies were sanctioned to the following States participating in the Programme of Permanent Improvements for Scarcity Areas during the year 1961-62:

1. Andhra Pradesh.
2. Assam.
3. Gujarat.
4. Madhya Pradesh.
5. Madras.
6. Maharashtra.
7. Mysore.
8. Rajasthan.
9. West Bengal.
10. Bihar.

(b) and (c). Subsidies are given from the year 1958-59 only to those States which participated in the Programme of Permanent Improvements for Scarcity Areas to cover interest charges payable by them for the first five years on the loans sanctioned by the Government of India. While West Bengal participated in the Programme and was granted subsidy, Kerala State was not a participant. The Programme of Permanent Improvement for Scarcity Areas has not been continued in the Third Plan.

Aid to Panchayats

3582. Shri Reddiar: Will the Minister of **Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations from a number of Panchayats that the Panchayats and

the local public are not able to pay under the scheme of matching grants expected of them for forming village roads and providing drinking water supply because of lack of financial resources; and

(b) if so, whether Government would consider the means of helping such Panchayats?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Panchayat Union Councils

3583. Shri Reddiar: Will the Minister of **Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations that the finances provided for the Panchayat Union Councils are not sufficient to carry out the obligations imposed on them; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to augment their finances?

The Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Community Development, Panchayati Raj and Co-operation (Shri Shyam Dhar Misra): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Delhi-Nagpur Night Plane Service

3584. Shri N. Sreekantan Nair: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the night plane service from Delhi to Nagpur on the 10th May, had to return to Delhi without landing at Nagpur;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same;

(c) the number of foreign tourists, if any, in that trip; and

(d) what alternate arrangements were made to transport the passengers?