

(c) What are the other researches lately done in that Institute?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) The influenza centre at the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, was established by the Government of India in 1950 on the request of the World Health Organisation for international collaboration in the field of influenza.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 2.]

(c) Researches are also in progress on the following subjects: Rabies, drugs acting against snake venoms, incidence of Q fever in India, Cholera, Comparative study of serological methods for the diagnosis of syphilis, tropical eosinophilia and intestinal fusospirochaetosis.

**Shri Radha Raman:** May I know, Sir, what time is proposed to be taken to give effect to the proposal of a pilot plant for vaccine production?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** That is under consideration and we cannot give a definite date now.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know, Sir, whether the W.H.O. has made any contribution for the establishment of this plant at the Institute?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** They have supplied us valuable equipment worth about 4,500 U.S. dollars.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know, Sir, whether in the Pasteur Institute any research has been directed specifically towards finding out whether influenza leads to infections of the type of pneumonia?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I have no information to answer that question. If the hon. Member puts a separate question, it can be answered.

**Shri Muniswamy:** May I know whether there are any foreign experts working in this Institute?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** Not that I know of.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** In view of the fact that the influenza virus, detected on research in this Institute, is of the same strain as that in the U.K., may I know whether Government have taken steps to manufacture anti-influenza virus vaccines and serum?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** Researches in that line are being carried on now.

सेठ अबल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्राली महोदय बताने की कृपा करेंगी कि कालेरा में अब तक क्या कामयाबी प्राप्त हुई ?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** Investigations are carried on on the nutritional requirements of vibrio cholerae and its capacity to produce certain enzymes.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether during the researches in this Institute any strains of influenza virus other than those already known, A and B, have been found?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** In the beginning there was only one strain isolated, but from 1950-52 onwards there were 11 strains that were identified.

#### PAYMENT OF OVERTIME FOR EXTRA WORK

\*1191. **Shri Frank Anthony:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that staff on the Southern Railway, such as Power Controllers, A.L.Fs and A.F.O. Reserves, are being required to work 12 hours a day in spite of the prescribed 8 hours?

(b) Is it a fact that they are not paid any overtime for this extra work?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) The Power Controllers, Assistant Loco Foremen and Assistant Foremen Reserves being classified as supervisory staff do not have any prescribed hours of duty under the Hours of Employment Regulations. On the Southern Railway some of these staff work to a routine of 12 hours duty followed immediately by 24 hours rest.

(b) Yes, Sir.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** Is Government considering to give some kind of relief or more reasonable hours of duty to the supervisory staff?

**Shri Alagesan:** As I said, this practice obtains in the Southern Railway and at present they are having a spell of 12 hours work, immediately followed by 24 hours rest. In a week it comes to 4 days off. No complaints have so far been received, but if it is the desire of the staff that it should be changed to 8 hours duty, it can be considered.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether it is in the knowledge of the Ministry of Railways that due to the following of this rule, in the case of firemen and engine drivers, when they finish their duty on the way as soon as their time is up, it takes some time for the others to report for duty and so the train is late and Government has to undergo some additional expenditure on this account?

**Shri Alagesan:** I don't think any such thing has come to our knowledge.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the hon. Minister enquire into what happened between Kharagpur and Nagpur?

**Shri Alagesan:** Yes, Sir.

**Shri P. C. Bose:** May I know, Sir, what amount of rest is given after 12 hours work?

**Shri Alagesan:** Immediately after the 12 hours' work, they are given 24 hours off.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** About a month ago an engine was attached to an express train and the train was 2 hours late at Lucknow. May I know whether in such cases also overtime is paid?

**Shri Alagesan:** These staff, as I said, have been classified as supervisory staff and, as such, they are not entitled to overtime. However, I can't say anything about that particular instance because I have no knowledge of it.

**Shri Feroze Gandhi:** Your Minister has some knowledge of it, it seems.

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** The question of overtime does not arise in such cases.

#### W. G. ENGINES

**\*1192. Shri Frank Anthony:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the W.G. engines, built at Chittaranjan Workshops, had to be withdrawn from the Southern Railway temporarily;

(b) whether this withdrawal of W.G. engines was due to cylinder cracks or some other defect;

(c) what these defects were due to; and

(d) the number of engines withdrawn from service?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan):** (a) Some had to be withdrawn.

(b) Due to cracked cylinders.

(c) The defect was due to weakness in the design of these cylinders, which has since been remedied.

(d) Ten.

**Shri Frank Anthony:** What was the loss to Government as a result of these defective cylinders made by Chittaranjan Workshops?

**Shri Alagesan:** I can't give off-hand the loss, but I may tell the House that the question of compensation in so far as imported cylinders are concerned is under correspondence.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** May I know, Sir, what is the value of these cylinders which were cracked?

**Shri Nambiar:** Scrap value.

**Shri Alagesan:** The cylinders have been rectified and they have been put back in service and the engines are now working.