

(c) Wrong connections in automatic areas are generally due to either faulty dials, switches or the number not being dialled properly by the subscribers. In Manual Exchanges, the wrong connections may be due to the number being misunderstood by the operator, or a genuine error on the part of the operator, normally due to heavy rush of work.

Steps taken to minimise wrong connections are intensive routine testing of the equipment and dials, educating the subscribers in correct use of dials, reducing load on the operative staff, by expansion and gradually automatising the manual equipment as at Calcutta. Patna is proposed to be converted to Automatic working by 1957.

JANTA EXPRESS

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

(a) whether Government propose to run the Janta Express between Delhi and Madras daily; and

(b) if so, from what date?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) and (b). Not at present.

DEVELOPMENT OF RAILWAY SYSTEM

***668. Shri Madhao Reddi:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to increase by 50 per cent the existing capacity of the entire railway system in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) During the Second Five Year Plan period line capacity will be augmented generally by 50 per cent over and above that anticipated to be available in 1955-56.

(b) Measures to achieve this end cover doublings of the line, provision

of crossing stations and loop lines, watering facilities, improved signalling arrangements, provision of repair capacity in workshops and sick lines, and augmentation of holdings of rolling stock. Sanction to some of the works under each of these categories has already been accorded and other works are in the planning stage and awaiting finalisation.

DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

***669. Shri B. D. Shastri:** Will the Minister of Transport be pleased to state:

(a) the total earnings of the Delhi Transport Service during the current financial year (upto 31st December, 1954);

(b) the total expenditure during the same period; and

(c) how these figures compare with those of the corresponding period for the years 1952-53 and 1953-54?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) to (c). A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix IV, Annexure No. 18].

CONTROL OF LEPROSY

***670. Shri S. K. Razmi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the committee appointed to recommend steps for the control of leprosy has submitted any report;

(b) if so, what are its main recommendations; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government to implement the recommendations?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) An interim report has been received. The final report is expected before the end of May, 1955.

(b) and (c). Do not arise, as the final report has not yet been received.