

whether it is due to floods or other causes but, generally it remains out of order. Will the Government consider whether those people are entitled to some rebate for this purpose?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In Assam we find that the elements are very often in fury on account of which our cost of maintenance is large and the number of breakdowns is high and it is really very difficult to keep the service intact always.

Passenger Amenities

*1364. **Shri J. R. Mehta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that there is heavy inflow of dust in the Railway compartments of the trains running between Delhi and Jodhpur particularly on that part of the track which lies in the Bikaner Division;

(b) if so whether Government propose to provide some sort of ballasting on this track; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to make the railway compartments dust-proof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Railway Administration's policy to provide stone ballast on lengths where dust nuisance is severe is being implemented on a programme basis.

(c) No, Sir.

Shri J. R. Mehta: May I know whether the hon. Minister has considered the question of providing rubber lining to the window frames in the trains as an effective and cheap method of meeting this menace?

Shri Alagesan: The dust nuisance is really a thing which has to be avoided but this question was gone into and it was found that unless we make *pucca* air-conditioned arrangements it is not possible to prevent this menace altogether by any other method short of air-conditioning.

Shri J. R. Mehta: May I know whether the hon. Minister has considered how far the trails carried by the outgoing trains from Rajasthan are responsible for the spread of the desert?

Shri Alagesan: I do not think that the desert comes out of the train, but the dust comes out of the desert.

Rural Health Schemes in Hyderabad

*1365. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the amount asked for by the Hyderabad Government for implementing their Health and water supply schemes in

rural areas under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Schemes during 1955-56;

(b) whether a similar Grant was made during 1954-55;

(c) if so the details of the schemes implemented by the State Government?

The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar): (a) Rs. 11.75 lakhs for Water Supply and Sanitation Schemes.

(b) Yes. Rs. 13.0 lakhs.

(c) The requisite information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Shri H. G. Vaishnav: May I know on what basis these grants are given?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: According to the scheme that is submitted by the State Government, grants are given by the Centre.

Shri H. G. Vaishnav: May I know whether the grants given in the previous years have been spent by the State Government?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Only after receiving the progress reports from the State Government on the payment of the money from the Central Government, we issue the next instalment.

Shri H. G. Vaishnav: May I know whether the State Government submitted any concrete schemes when they requested for grants for the current year?

Shrimati Chandrasekhar: Only on receiving concrete schemes of the State Government, we sanction the amount.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this sum granted by the Centre may be spent separately for water supply purposes and also for drainage and sewage?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): The water supply schemes are linked up with drainage and sewage.

Exchange of Rolling Stock between India and Pakistan

*1367. **Shri Gadlingana Gowd:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan has implemented the agreement arrived at between India and Pakistan in November, 1953 regarding the exchange of certain items of Railway rolling stock; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : (a) and (b). The question of implementing the agreement reached in November 1953 does not arise, as this agreement was superseded by the subsequent agreement reached in December 1954.

Shri Gadlingana Gowd : May I know the number of rolling stock which is in our possession and should have been exchanged ?

Shri Alagesan : I do not have details of these. But they were allotted to India and Pakistan and they were to be exchanged even in November 1953 as per that agreement, but the agreement did not take effect. There were some difficulties and the assets could not be exchanged. There was a further agreement, as I said, in December 1954 when it was recognised that there was no use in exchanging the assets and they were allowed to remain where they were stationed.

Shri U. M. Trivedi : May I know if the balance was always in favour of Pakistan ?

Shri Alagesan : It is rather difficult for me to answer this question, but we have to recognise facts.

Calcutta Suburban Train Service

*1368. **Shri H. N. Mukherjee :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the progress made so far regarding the construction of a circular railway in Calcutta ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : The Circular Railway forms a future stage of the scheme of Calcutta Suburban Electrification. No decision has been taken regarding its construction.

Shri H. N. Mukherjee : Does Government realise that the delay in electrification as well as in regard to the circular railway which was announced several times in fairly authoritative pronouncements is causing a great deal of difficulty as far as the development of the suburbs is concerned ?

Shri Alagesan : If I may say so, we have got a giant scheme of electrification for the Calcutta area. The first instalment has been taken in hand already and it is progressing well—that relates to the electrification of Howrah-Burdwan main line and also Tarkeshwar Branch. Besides, the circular railway is put down for electrification, but it is very much down below and I do not know whether it will be possible to take it up in the near future.

Shri H. N. Mukherjee : Can the hon. Minister give us any idea as to whether

electrification will actually take place by the middle of 1957 ?

Shri Alagesan : There were certain indications given on the floor of the House during the budget discussion, but I do not remember the date now; perhaps it is by the end of 1957. This should not be taken as an assurance as I only say this subject to correction.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury : May I know whether this electrification scheme will be extended to Kharagpur ?

Shri Alagesan : That also is there. It is very much down below in the list.

Ticketless Travelling

*1369. **Shri Sanganna :** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state :

- (a) whether the new system of checking ticketless travelling recommended by the Indian Railway Delegation which recently visited the European countries has been introduced in the Eastern and the South Eastern Railway Zones ; and
- (b) if so, how the system is working ?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan) : () The system is being tried out as an experiment on the Calcutta-Delhi Janata Express on the Eastern Railway.

(b) Results so far obtained in this experiment are inconclusive.

Shri Sanganna : May I know what sort of system is introduced in these two railway zones for checking ticketless travel and how it is working ?

Shri Alagesan : This was one of the recommendations made by the Railway Officers Team which visited the U.S.S.R. and they proposed that in addition to the existing arrangements, one T.T.E. should be posted for every two coaches for long distance trains. That is the experiment that is referred to.

Shri Sanganna : May I know the number of cases of ticketless travel that have been detected during last year in these two zones and the amount of railway earnings involved ?

Shri Alagesan : I have got figures from March to June 1955. The number of cases detected is 1702 and the average earnings per month come to more than Rs. 6,000.

Shri V. Muniswamy : May I know whether this system involves any additional expenditure to Government ?

Shri Alagesan : We have to post additional T.T.Es. and that involves certain expenditure.