

T. B. HOSPITALS

981. Bishop Richardson: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the number of beds will be increased in the T. B. Hospitals and latest equipment provided under the next Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): Yes.

EXPRESS GOODS SERVICE

982. Shri Dabhi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to introduce the following additional Express Goods services in the near future :—

- (i) Bombay-Ahmedabad (daily);
- (ii) Ahmedabad-Delhi (on alternate days); and

(b) if so, when are these services likely to be introduced?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a)

(i) No, as sufficient traffic does not offer for running Express Trains daily to the stations in Ahmedabad area.

(ii) Yes. On Broad Gauge, from Ahmedabad to Delhi, it is proposed to run Express Goods Trains once in a week.

(b) Sufficient traffic is not offering at Ahmedabad to run Express Goods to Delhi on alternate days. Arrangements however, are being made for acceptance and loading of traffic from Ahmedabad on a nominated day to enable running of Express Goods once a week. If more traffic offers, arrangements will be made to run

two Express Goods Trains a week. Sufficient traffic does not offer at Ahmedabad for running an Express Goods Train from Ahmedabad to Delhi by Metre Gauge route also.

TELEPHONE OPERATORS

983. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone operators who were given training during 1955; and

(b) the object of this training?

The Minister in the Ministry of Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):

(a) 1568

(b) The object of training is to make all the operators fully conversant with departmental rules and operating procedure in Trunk and Local Telephone Exchanges.

CENTRAL LEPROSY RESEARCH INSTITUTE

984. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) what is the Research work undertaken in the Leprosy at the Central Leprosy Research Institute at Chingleput after it was taken over by the Central Government in January 1955; and

(b) amount spent on Research work in 1955?

The Minister of Health (Rajkumari Amrit Kaur): (a) Research on the effect of B. C. G. Vaccination as a preventive against leprosy, on the evaluation of anti-leprosy work and therapeutic research on the value of anti-leprosy drugs is being continued at the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute at Chingleput. New research work will be undertaken after the Institute has expanded.