

the period and as to why there has been this delay.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: It has also been stated that Rs. 2.72 lakhs have been spent by the Defunct Services Division. May I know, Sir, what action Government is intending to take in order that that amount is also given to the N. D. M. C. to save it from financial difficulties?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Regarding that also the matter is to be settled between the C. P. W. D. and the Municipal Committee. I am quite sure that the amount will be paid.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: On page 2 of the statement it has been stated:

"These amounts relate to the period 1954-59."**

This is quite a big sum—Rupees twenty one lakhs. May I know, Sir, why this has not been paid to the N.D.M.C. even now?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I am afraid she has been wrong. It is Rs. 0.21 lakhs, which means Rs. 21,000.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: The zero is not very clear; the zero has not been typed clearly. Whatever the figure I want an answer to the question.

MR. CHAIRMAN: A clerical error.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: I want to know why the amount has not been given—I do not go into the figure at all.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Even if it is a small sum, why has it not been given?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: That is a very pertinent question. The reason is given there itself.

"Correspondence is still going on between the Committee and the Dte. G.H.S. and no final decision has been taken."

BUS SERVICE BETWEEN NEW DELHI AND LONDON

*324. { **SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:†**
SHRI B. N. BHARGAVA:

Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to connect New Delhi and London by bus service; and

(b) if so, what are its details and by when it is likely to materialise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a) and (b) Some private parties intend to operate such bus services but their proposals in this behalf are still in an exploratory stage.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, what sum this scheme will cost, and will other countries contribute to it?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We know that on an *ad hoc* basis a service was run between London and Bombay in 1957-58 and between Delhi and Bombay during 1958-59 and it passed through France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, Syria, Iraq, Iran, and Pakistan. But this is not the permanent route; it may change.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Is the Government aware that such a service is running already between London and Ceylon through India and two companies are running it?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I am not aware of any service between London and Ceylon. I know that Messrs. Garrow Fisher Tours (Kingston) Ltd. organised some service of this type in 1957, 1958 and in 1959, and there is another report appearing in some papers about another service coming this year.

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Jugal Kishore.

SHRI BIREN ROY: Have the Government drawn up any regulations for licensing such routes?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: There is an International Convention on the subject, and those countries which are parties to that Convention are allowed to issue the required certificates or permission. Apart from that certain automobile associations are authorised to issue documents known as the "Triptyque", which are a sort of guarantee to the Government concerned that in case the particular motor vehicle is not re-exported, the amount of the customs duty thereon will be paid by the particular association issuing that document. It is on such terms that the certificates are issued. Also an International Driving Permit is required. All these formalities in consonance with the International Convention are to be observed before a service is organised.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: How does it happen when there is the service running even today, this year—I have met the passengers who have come by that—that Government is not aware of its existence?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I have said that there had been a service between London and Bombay and London and Delhi but I did not know what the hon. lady Member said about Ceylon. About Ceylon I do not know; I am not a national of Ceylon.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: It is from London to Ceylon via Pakistan and India, that is the route. Even that the hon. Minister does not know.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I am not aware.

MOBILE POST OFFICES IN RAJASTHAN

*325. **SHRI JUGAL KISHORE:** Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to run mobile post offices on camels and horses in the desert and hilly areas of Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the proposal and when it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. P. SUBBARAYAN): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is to open such Mobile Post Offices by utilizing the services of the Panchayats. The views of the State Government have been called for, which are awaited.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, what will be the annual cost of such a mobile post office?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: Well, Sir, originally we thought of camels and horses, but it was found that it will lead to a great deal of difficulty. That is why, instead of a mobile post office, we want to use the panchayats which have come in recently in Rajasthan, for the purpose of delivery of letters, posting of letters, etc.

SHRI JUGAL KISHORE: May I know, Sir, whether such a mobile post office will also be established in such other States like Punjab?

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: Well, Sir, I do not know whether any such thing exists in other States except these mobile vans which you see moving about in Delhi, for instance in the South Avenue.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: I could not understand the reply of the hon. Minister in regard to the functions of the panchayats about delivery of letters, etc.

DR. P. SUBBARAYAN: They will act as the post office, Sir, and we will give them all facilities for acting as a post office.