

I shall, of course, check up the signature of the person.

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Was it from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes, my friend knows . . .

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU: Did he give any reason for his objection?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No objection. He was stating a fact.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I took up this question upon myself because the Members of Parliament are particular. The fact of the matter was, earlier we had proceeded on the basis of near-unanimity, on larger numbers of people subscribing. We thought of various methods. There was no unanimity but in the meantime we found that there were hard cases being charged heavily for treatment that was given to them and we went into it and we said "Let us not depend on the number of people joining it. Even if a token 25 join it, let us begin it as a pilot programme." That is the present history. Let us not go into the past.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Sir, I had forwarded to the Minister the minutes of the Joint Committee on Salaries and Accounts. He acknowledged that he had received it and that there was some difficulty, I don't know what it was and the scheme has not been put through.

MR. CHAIRMAN: When you send a representation and when the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs sends another representation, he has to take that into account and not yours.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Do I understand that the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs made representation contrary to the decisions of the Salaries and Accounts Committee?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I shall share all the information outside the House.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: No, Sir. This matter, for some reason or other, has been delayed abnormally in spite of the fact that there has been a unanimous demand in this regard. I don't know where the matter is hanging.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I don't know why my hon. friend is not prepared to accept a statement made that we received an official communication . . .

(Interruptions.)

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: What has happened to the suggestion that was solemnly given to me by the hon. Health Minister when I fell ill in the House itself that a few beds in the Willingdon Nursing Home or the Willingdon Hospital will be earmarked for the use of the Members of Parliament when they accidentally fall ill, and that was due to the fact as I could understand it, that I was confronted with a very heavy bill from that hospital?

MR. CHAIRMAN: This is quite another question.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Still I will say that in fairness to my hon. friend, it was a heavy bill that was presented to my hon. friend who had the illness. That bill made us reconsider it and we felt "Here was hardship", and I must say that I am grateful—not for the fact that he fell ill but the instance came to us—and we have reconsidered the matter and therefore my hon. friend, whom I would again advise not to speak too much in the interests of his health, has been the reason for this latest decision.

HEALTH MINISTER'S DISCRETIONARY GRANT

*73. SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the institutions which were given help from the Health Minister's Discretionary Grant in the year 1957-58; and

(b) the amount spent under this head during the same year?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix XXI, Annexure, No. 10.]

(b) Rs. 5,00,000.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know whether it is a fact that financial help is sometimes given for tiding over financial difficulties?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think we always give money for tiding over financial difficulties.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: May I know whether any monetary help was given from this Discretionary Grant to the Cancer Institute at Madras?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I think we have been very generous with regard to that institution.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Very generous aid is being given, he says.

SHRI M. P. BHARGAVA: May I know on what consideration help to individuals is being given? Is it on certificates from the Medical Officer in charge or on some other consideration?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Normally, from these Discretionary Grants help is given not so much to individuals except once in a way but normally, as a matter of routine, to institutions. In the case of individuals, there is, as I earlier stated, what we call a Welfare Grant and to the extent to which it is possible, we give relief to very needy cases, say if a very poor man is there who is not able to look after himself, we give him Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 or Rs. 300.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: What was the quantum of generosity shown to this Institute at Madras?

MR. CHAIRMAN: She is going back to her first question.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I should not like to answer it because there might be trouble from other institutions. We did take into consideration the fact of the sincerity that was being put behind their efforts by the Madras Cancer institution. We thought that it was a good effort and if I might say it with the permission of the House, we did it a little more than normally we might have done because we thought it was a good effort.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Is it not a fact that this Cancer Institute at Madras deserves particular attention from the point of view that women volunteer workers, long before anybody thought of starting this scheme, had collected money, had carried on anti-cancer propaganda and built this institute which is a model institute?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, therefore the extra generosity.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: These were all the considerations that we carefully weighed in our mind.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA: May I know if any grants are made from this to the family planning centres all over India?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: There is ample provision from other funds for that purpose.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Was this generosity shown to the Madras Institute at the expense of other hospitals?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes, it will be extended where there is effort.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He did not ask for extension. He was asking, was it at the expense of the other hospitals?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: No, it was not at the expense of other hospitals.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Minister has to be protected against himself.

SHRI D. P. KARMAKAR: Yes, Sir.

CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVER-BRIDGE OR A SUB-WAY AT THE TENALI TOWN RAILWAY LEVEL CROSSING ON THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY.

*74. SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of representations have been sent to Government for the construction of an over-bridge or a sub-way at the Tenali town railway level crossing on the Bezwada-Bitragunta section of the Southern Railway;

(b) if so, how the matter stands now; and

(c) whether any estimates have been prepared about the total cost of the construction of the over-bridge?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

(c) No, Sir.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know whether the Minister has any idea for how many hours the gate will be closed at this level crossing?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I have no idea. I require notice for that.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: May I know whether there has been no representation in general as far as the coastal area of Andhra is concerned?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I don't know about that but the Andhra Government have included this in the list of over-bridges to be constructed.

SHRIMATI YASHODA REDDY: What are the Central Government's decisions about it?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: They have asked for a joint inspection

with the Railway District Engineer and that is being considered.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: Are there not requests from other States for over-bridges due to congestion of traffic that holds up the passage of motor cars and other essential traffic from one area to another, not for one hour but even for two hours when trains are coming from this side and that side?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: So far as railway crossings are concerned, there are ever so many requests.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: Has the Railway Department made any enquiries in this regard on their own to find out whether an over-bridge at a place like this was necessary or not?

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: No. Sometimes we make our own enquiries and people also make representations to us and we consider them too.

SHRI V. K. DHAGE: The question is with regard to this particular matter. I don't want to know what the Railways do generally. I want to know whether the Railway Department has had any enquiry made as to whether an over-bridge at this particular place is necessary or not.

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: I require notice.

SHRIMATI T. NALLAMUTHU RAMAMURTI: When these requests are made, they just show the urgency for such bridges. Are not such requests to be attended to? I don't understand the hon. Minister's answer—that "there are ever so many requests."

SHRI S. V. RAMASWAMY: We do examine every request. We arrange priorities but I submit we suffer under the limitation of finance and resources.

SHRI V. C. KESAVA RAO: May I know whether it is not a fact that the Tenali Municipality has written to the Railway Ministry that they will bear a portion of the expenditure and