

deteriorate to such an extent that I the whole question could be commented upon in the newspapers without Government taking any notice of these deficiencies earlier?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: It is obviously never necessary to allow things to deteriorate as has happened there and sometimes some difficulties, unforeseen or avoidable, do crop up and whenever we find such things, we try to correct them.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know whether the Director of Health Services ever checked up as to how far the number of patients was on the increase as a result of the laws which have been promulgated by the Delhi administration that all patients having infectious diseases should be isolated?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I find that the number was 750 in the Infectious Disease Hospital but no attempt has been made to find out the exact amount of increase after the law compelling people suffering from infectious diseases to be removed there was enacted. No actual calculations have been made.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know the number of doctors and nurses employed in that hospital?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: That information does not come readily to my hand at the moment but I shall share the report of the officer with my friend at leisure unless my friend wants to give notice of 3 question.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE RATES AND COSTS COMMITTEE REGARDING IRRIGATION AND POWER PROJECTS

*139. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state

(a) which of the recommendations of the Rates and Costs Committee have been accepted by Government; and

(b) what steps are being taken to implement those recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI S. K. PATIL) : (a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The report of the Rates and Costs Committee was discussed at the fourth Irrigation and Power seminar, and, in accordance with the decision taken at the seminar, a team of officers is being constituted to examine the recommendations of the committee in the light of the discussions at the seminar. Final decisions on these recommendations will be taken by the Government of India on Part I and by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India on Part II of the report, as soon as the findings of the team of officers are available.

A few of the recommendations in Part I of the report, however, relate to matters which had already been considered by Government and action on which had been initiated as a result of the recommendations of other committees etc. The relevant recommendations and the action taken thereon are indicated in the attached statement.

Summary of recommendations

(i) That proper investigations should invariably be carried out before a project is taken up. This has not been the case with many of them.

(ii) That proper planning and estimating be done by competent engineers before a project is sanctioned.

(iv) That costing cells be introduced on all projects.

(xvi) That principal items of construction equipment be standardised and early steps be taken for their manufacture in the country.

(xvii) That a Central Clearing House be formed immediately for the prompt disposal of all surplus equipment and stores on projects.

Action taken

(i) and (ii). This has been brought to the notice of State Governments.

(iv) Cost accounting procedure has been in force on the D.V.C. and Hirakud Dam Projects. A cell was started in Bhakra towards the end of 1955. At Chambal, necessary staff has been sanctioned and further action is being taken. A beginning has been made at Nagarjunasagar and Rihand. The Kosi, and Koyna projects authorities have also been requested to set up cost accounting cells at the appropriate time. A cost control unit has been set up in the Central Water and Power Commission in order to coordinate the work done on the projects, watch the trend of costs on river valley projects, and give directions to the project units where necessary. The recommendations of the Rates and Costs Committee on 'cost accounting' will be implemented after final decisions are taken thereon.

(xvi) The principle of standardisation of important items of equipment in use on river valley projects has been accepted by the Government and the list of the 'categories' and 'makes' of equipment, which have been, in consultation with the Co-ordination Board of Ministers, selected for standardisation has been forwarded to all the State Governments for adoption for purposes of future procurement of machinery.

(xvii) In accordance with the decision taken at the 2nd meeting of the Co-ordination Board of Ministers held in October, 1955, a "drill" for the optimum utilization of surplus machinery has been finalised and circulated to all the State Governments and Project authorities for implementation.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: May I know when this report was submitted by the Committee?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: I think it was more than a year ago.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: By what time will this team be required to submit its report?

SHRI S. K. PATIL: It is difficult for me to say that but some of the recommendations which were important have been implemented even before the report of the team comes.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: I would like to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister the fact that in the statement it is written that a team of officers is being constituted to examine the recommendations of the Committee. I want to know whether the Minister is going to give any directions to this team to submit recommendations within some specific time or not. Already more than a year has elapsed.

SHRI S. K. PATIL: There have been several recommendations. Some of them are so good that we need, not wait till the recommendations of the team. Therefore we have already put them into action. As for others where detailed examination is necessary, we will await the report of the team.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: I was asking about the team referred to in the statement. It says that in accordance with the decision taken at the seminar, a team of officers is being constituted to examine the 'recommendations'. I want to know how much time is going to be allowed to them to submit the recommendations.

SHRI S. K. PATIL: I have no information and I will require notice.

BOMBAY SUBURBAN RAILWAY ACCIDENT

*140. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: