

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It is very difficult to give the exact number.

SHRI G. RANGA: May I know whether Government have consulted any experts or other authorities which are also running similar buses in the U.P. and Madras and other places, whether the sickness incidence on their buses is a general one or a normal one, that is 50 out of 400? My hon. friend's estimate is that it is right to keep 20 in one place, 30 in another place and 50 on the sick list, and therefore as many as 25 per cent. of the total number of buses are not to be kept on the road.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The D.T.S. has 75 per cent. of its buses on the road. This compares favourably with similar road transport undertakings in other places.

SHRI G. RANGA : Are we to understand that they are satisfied with the present position and that they do not want to investigate whether there is anything wrong with this state of things?

(No reply)

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Is it not a fact that the Sub-Committee went into this matter and reported in detail about the working of the D.T.S. as well as this particular matter and how is it that the hon. Deputy Minister has not seen that report?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, I have seen that report. But, as I said, I want separate notice to answer questions on it.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: The hon. Deputy Minister had seen the report which contains the various mal-practices that are practised in the D.T.S. The report was published six months back. I would like to know what the Government is doing in implementing the recommendations of the report of the Sub-Committee. The report was published in June.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The report was published in June; he has seen it; but does not remember the details and he wants time. That is what he says.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Only one question, Sir. It has been already submitted that nearly Rs. 50 lakhs have been the losses incurred by the D.T.S. I would like to know what the Government has done to see that the matter is enquired into.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: It is a long report and many of the points that have been raised refer to the period before the present authority took over the undertaking. All the recommendations and suggestions made are being looked into by the Ministry.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Sir, the hon. Deputy Minister stated that 50 per cent. are in the workshop for major repairs. I would like to know whether these repairs are due to accidents or normal repairs?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He did not say 50 per cent. He said 50 buses.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: 50 buses.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Some of them may be due to accidents. But certain normal major repairs are required after a certain period.

RAILWAY BRIDGE ON GANDAK BETWEEN HAJIPUR AND SONEPUR ON NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY

*390. **SHRI R. P. N. SINHA:** Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when the present railway bridge on the Gandak between Hajipur and Sonapur on North-Eastern Railway was constructed;

(b) whether it is a fact that engineers have declared the bridge as having out-lived its life; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps are being taken by Government to ensure the safety of the trains going over that bridge?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) In 1887.

(b) No, but the bridge is not capable of taking modern main line standard locomotives at sanctioned maximum speed.

(c) Locomotives mentioned in (b) above are permitted over the bridge only at 5 miles per hour.

SHRI R. P. N. SINHA: Is it a fact that a couple of years back, during heavy floods, one of the pillars of this bridge had shown signs of giving way and that it had to be kept intact with tremendous efforts?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, I am not aware of that just at this moment. I shall look into it.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: The bridge was constructed, as has been stated by the hon. Deputy Minister, in 1887 and the engineers have declared it unsafe. In view of the fact that many bridges have collapsed during floods and also in view of the fact that railway embankments are flooded, why is it that the Government did not think it necessary to enquire into the condition of the bridges again?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: Sir, the condition of all the bridges is ascertained from time to time in accordance with the instructions that exist on the subject. On this particular bridge, owing to limitation of stress in the flooring systems of the girders, the speed of modern locomotives is restricted. And since it proved to be a bottleneck, it has been decided to construct another bridge about 250 feet above, up-stream of this bridge, which will have double line going over it.

SHARE OF SURPLUS WATER OF THE KRISHNA AND GODAVARI RIVERS FOR MADRAS STATE

*391. SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister for IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration by Government

to allow this State of Madras to have a share of the surplus water of the Krishna and Godavari rivers; and

(b) if so, whether any preliminary survey is proposed to be undertaken either by the Central Government or under the joint auspices of the Andhra and Madras Governments in this respect?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI J. S. L. HATHI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Is the hon. Deputy Minister aware of certain press reports of the Chief Ministers of Madras and Andhra Pradesh meeting together and discussing about this subject?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: Yes, Sir. I have seen the report in the Hindu of 28th November that this subject matter was being discussed and that the Engineers from that State would undertake a survey.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know what part the Central Government is going to play in implementing this proposal?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: We enquired of the Madras Government if they wanted any technical assistance. The reply received by us was that they would be sending us the details.

SHRI V. PRASAD RAO: May I know whether the Central Water and Power Commission was approached in this connection or not?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: It was not.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know what percentage of the Godavari waters are now put to use?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: I have not got the figure for Godavari here.

(Interruption.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: The answer is from this side—4 per cent.