

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What was the use made of this by the Planning Commission, when they had a survey of about 21 cities before: whether in regard to the survey that is made now they will also have another plan to go into the report of that committee?

SHRI J. S. L. HATHI: The former survey, which is referred to by the hon. Member, was about the employment in different cities. Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay, like that. There were twenty or twenty one cities where sample surveys for employment or unemployment were being carried out. This is a different subject altogether.

NEW SURGICAL TECHNIQUE TO RESTORE HEARING FACULTY TO DEAF PEOPLE

***387. SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a new technique of ear operation for restoring hearing faculty to the deaf was successfully demonstrated recently at Calcutta by Dr. Samuel Rosen of New York; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take any action to popularise this technique in the country?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): (a) Yes.

(b) As Dr. Rosen has demonstrated his technique to a number of Otolologists during his stay in India, it is not considered necessary to launch any campaign to popularise the technique in this country.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know, Sir, if the Government is intending to start a training institution where Indian doctors may also get the training in this new technique?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: No, Sir.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: May I know if the Government is intending to send some doctors to New York to get this training?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I do not think that is necessary. Dr. Rosen came out on a private visit and was given a letter of introduction to me by a friend. I asked him to demonstrate his technique in three hospitals in Delhi. After that he demonstrated in some hospitals in Bombay, in Madras and some in Calcutta, and all our Ear, Nose and Throat Specialists were asked to attend and watch the technique. This technique has been accepted in the medical world, but Dr. Rosen himself does not claim success in every case, and there is no reason why our own otologists should not be able to practise it.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: May I know how many cases of operation have been conducted by Dr. Rosen and how many of them have been successful in India?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I cannot give the number of operations that he did either in Bombay or in Calcutta or even in Delhi. I am not sure of that. All I know is that many cases that came to him were told by him that they were inoperable, and in the cases that he did operate he told me himself "You will have to wait and see for some time as to whether the result is permanent or not". In many cases the result is not permanent, and then the fenestration operation is resorted to.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: Is the hon. Minister aware whether the nature of the operation is a simple one or a major one?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: It is a very delicate operation.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is the hon. Minister aware that out of six operations three have been very very successful in Delhi?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I know of three cases that did get back their hearing. As I said before, cent per cent. success depends on how long the result lasts.

SHRI JASPAT ROY KAPOOR: May I know when is the learned doctor coming to Delhi and what is his programme here?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Dr. Rosen came to India on a private visit, and he has been to Delhi. He is not coming here again. He has returned to his own country.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know whether the Government will take some steps to see that the doctor visits Delhi again so that the different Ministers and other Members of Parliament who require his help may get it?

(No reply)

CONSTRUCTION OF AN OVER/UNDER BRIDGE NEAR SHORANUR RAILWAY STATION ON SOUTHERN RAILWAY

*388. **SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR:** Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on their proposal for the construction of an over or an under bridge near Shoranur Railway station on the Southern Railway; and

(b) if not, what are the difficulties in giving effect to the proposal?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). The question of providing arrangements whereby the detention at the level crossing at the Mangalore end of Shoranur Junction Station yard could be minimised or avoided was gone into in detail in 1947 at the instance of the *ex*-Cochin Government. The proposal was however dropped, as it was found that the cost of providing an overbridge at this crossing would be prohibitive.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: May I know if the Government are aware that since that investigation the Madras Government have estimated the cost of the bridge to be Rs. 3 lakhs, and that the Panchayat Board of Shoranur has

agreed to pay half the cost? There was some correspondence in 1954.

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: I am not aware of the latest estimate that was worked out by the Madras Government. But I am aware that this project has been included in the plans that were submitted by the *ex*-Travancore-Cochin Government, and they had given it the fifth priority. It is hoped that this project will be taken up sometime in 1958 or 1959.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: In view of the Shoranur Railway Station road being the main arterial road and in view of the heavy traffic on that road, may I know if the Government will expedite construction of the bridge?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: If the matter is put up to the Government of India through the State Government, we will certainly look into that.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: Is it not an obligation on the part of the Railways to put up these overbridges or underbridges at all important railway crossings? There is a rule to that effect, I believe. May I know whether there is such an obligation on the part of the Railways?

SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN: The overbridges or underbridges are constructed wherever there is justification for them. The policy has been laid down whereby the expense of constructing such overbridges is shared between the State Governments and the Railways. Where the State Governments show their willingness to share the expense, the Railways are always very co-operative.

BUSES OF THE DELHI TRANSPORT SERVICE

*389. **SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK:** Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Delhi Transport Service buses plying at present in the cities of Delhi and New Delhi;