

committees of the Railway employees and they are run from out of funds that they are able to collect, out of subscriptions etc.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: May I know how far they are connected with the Railway Department as such? Has the Railway Department anything to do with these institutions or are they independent of the Railway Department?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The employees are not direct employees of the Railways. They are employees of the Institute. That was my answer. The Railways of course, do provide the capital expenditure for building, for electric connections etc. but the maintenance is being done by the Railway Institute from their funds.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Are not the Railways seeing how far the employees of the Institutes are paid and if they are paid properly or not?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: They are paid according to local conditions. That will depend upon the financial position of the various Institutes. It is for them to employ these people on the conditions that are most suitable but anyhow we have advised these various Institutes that they should depend more on voluntary services and they should also see that their employees are paid adequately as far as possible.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: From the statement I have got there are 73 institutes and 300 employees but there is no uniformity whatsoever. The pay scale differs from Rs. 5 per month to Rs. 100. May I know if the Minimum Wages Act is not applied to these Services or to these servants?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: As I just now said, we are not responsible for that. The financial position of these institutes vary and according to that only they can employ and spend money.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Are not these institutes controlled by the Railways and regulated by the Railways and are not they situated within the limits of the Railways and are not only Railway servants attached to these?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes, all these Institutes are situated on railway land. The lands are given by the Railways. The buildings are also provided from out of railway funds and other things are also being done for them. But the running expenses are being contributed by the employees themselves. This is limited in many cases and that is the reason why scales of pay differ and they are not uniform.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Is it not a fact that these institutes are running on a private club basis?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That is what he has said.

ELIMINATION OF PLAGUE

*109. SHRI H. C. DASAPPA (ON BEHALF OF SHRI M. VALIULLA): Will

the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state the names of the States in which—

(a) plague has been completely eliminated; and

(b) plague is not wholly eliminated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HEALTH (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

STATEMENT

1. Assam . . .	} Plague is not a public health problem in these States.
2. Orissa . . .	
3. Ajmer . . .	
4. Delhi . . .	

1. Vindhya Pradesh . . .	} Completely eradicated since 1953.
2. West Bengal . . .	
3. Hyderabad . . .	

1. Punjab	} Completely eradicated since 1955.
2. Bhopal	
3. Coorg	
4. Himachal Pradesh	
5. Manipur	
6. Tripura	
7. PEPSU	
8. Saurashtra	
9. Travancore-Cochin	
10. Madhya Bharat	
11. Rajasthan	
12. Kutch	
1. Madras	} Almost eradicated.
2. Bombay	
1. Uttar Pradesh	} Gradually declining.
2. Madhya Pradesh	
3. Bihar	
4. Mysore	
5. Andhra	

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: I find from the Statement, Sir, that in Madras and Bombay the disease is almost eradicated, and in Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Mysore and Andhra it is gradually declining. May I know by what percentage it has declined or to what extent it is still there?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Sir, we have records of deaths from plague in the various States and it is found that their number in Uttar Pradesh was 12,959 in the year 1951, in 1952 the number is 3,107 and it has come down to 27 in 1955. So also in Madras, it is 51 in 1951 and it is "nil" in 1955. That is the record we have got. So from this we can say it is reduced to "nil" per cent, in Madras and there is a decline in the Uttar Pradesh and other States.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know, Sir, whether it is the plague inoculation that has mainly contributed to this end or the general sanitary measures undertaken?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: It is due not only to plague inoculations but also to other plague control measures taken up by the State Governments, such as the insufflation of rat burrows with D.D.T., destruction of

rats with cyanogas and preventive inoculation and other measures.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Is it not a fact that where there is intensive anti-malaria work going on, there is very little plague?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are concerned here with plague now.

DR. P. C. MITRA: Does the hon. Minister know that plague is not a disease? There are mystery diseases like jaundice and several other diseases. But plague.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are concerned only with plague. Let us not go to all the rest of them.

DR. P. C. MITRA: No, but plague, ordinary plague is not a disease, a deadly disease or pestilence which is contagious.....

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Doctors differ. Let us go to the next question.

DR. P. C. MITRA: No, no. I want to know how they say it is a disease. Plague is not a disease. Bubonic plague is plague. Only bubonic plague can be said to be contracted, because it has a habitat.

DR. R. P. DUBE: Does he say bubonic plague is no plague?

*

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Plague is a disease, we know how it is caused and that is why we have been able to eradicate it also.

TRAINING OF FISHERMEN AT SATPATI

*110. SHRI H. C. DASAPPA (ON BEHALF OF SHRI M. VALIULLA): Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons undergoing training at present at the training centre established at Satpati, Bombay for the training of fishermen; and