

know, Sir, if it is a fact that during the last two or three years, the total number of the agricultural labour families has increased considerably?

SHRI ABID ALI: Of course, the population is increasing, and according to that, their number is also increasing.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Sir, I did not ask that question. I was asking whether the number of agricultural labour families had increased during that period.

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: The statistics all over India have not been collected.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, if the Government is aware of any trends in the direction of increase in the number of agricultural families in the country?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: I do not think there is any trend one way or the other.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, the basis on which the Government says that there is no trend one way or the other? Is it based on any survey or any report placed before the Government by any authority?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: It is based on general observations.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know if the Government is aware that the Indian Statistical Institute in Calcutta carried out certain surveys in villages, and the provisional reports were that the number had considerably increased?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: When such a report comes to our Ministry, we will examine it.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I know, Sir, whether the Government, before answering this question, tried to obtain these material facts from the particular institution which is subsidised by the Government?

SHRI KHANDUBHAI DESAI: W« will make every attempt.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: That will do.

#### PERSONNEL EMPLOYED IN THE LIGHTHOUSES

\*208. SHRI R. M. DESHMUKH (ON BEHALF OF DR. RAGHUBIR SINH) : Will the Minister for TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons employed in the various lighthouses manned by Indian personnel;

(b) the scales of pay admissible to the various categories of these employees;

(c) whether any special lighthouse allowance is also admissible to them in view of their special arduous duties of isolated nature; and

(d) if not, whether there are any proposals under Government's consideration to give them any additional allowance in the near future?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) to (c). Two statements giving the required information are placed on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix XIII, Annexure No. 51.]

(d) Does not arise in view of the reply to part (c).

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What are the places where lighthouses are located now?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: There are 120 lighthouses under the care of the Centre, Sir.

#### ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH CENTRES IN NATIONAL EXTENSION SERVICE BLOCKS

\*209. SHRI R. M. DESHMUKH (ON BEHALF OF DR. RAGHUBIR SINH) : Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to refer to paragraph 15 on pages 11-12 of the Report of the Ministry of Health for 1955-56, and state: