

delay otherwise there was no reason for keeping them in suspense.

SHRI T. BODRA: May I know if the Minister means that they were not paid D. A. for two years?

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was taken over in 1954, and now it is 1956. When were the allowances granted?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Formal orders have been issued last month.

SHRI T. BODRA: What were the reasons for making such a delay in making the payment?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: I said we had to go through certain formalities before we granted these.

DR. P. C. MITRA: How many menial staff are working in that hospital and what are their emoluments?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: I would require notice for that.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: May I know whether this D. A. was granted retrospectively from the date the Government took over the hospital?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: It has been granted with effect from 1st April 1955.

SHRI H. P. SAKSENA: Is the use of the expression 'menial staff' still permissible?

(No reply.)

#### UNDER-PAYMENTS TO COOLIES BY A RAILWAY CONTRACTOR

\*389. SHRI T. BODRA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to my Unstarred Question No. 454 on the 29th September 1955, and state:

(a) whether the examination of the complaints received against the rail-

way contractor of Chakradharpur for underpaying his coolies has been completed; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Not yet.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI T. BODRA: May I know if this contractor is still allowed to be a railway contractor on this line?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I think he is continuing as a contractor.

SHRI T. BODRA: May I know whether vigorous investigations were not made regarding complaints against this contractor?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That enquiry is continuing. I understand that the Labour Inspector at.....

SHRI T. BODRA: Yes, the Labour Inspector at Dhanbad made these enquiries. What was his report?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Pardon?

MR. CHAIRMAN: He says: The Labour Inspector at Dhanbad made these investigations? What are the results of those investigations?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, we are awaiting it.

SHRI T. BODRA: How long will it take to complete these investigations against this contractor?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Sir, I am not in a position to say that.

SHRI V. G. GOPAL: May I know, Sir, whether there is any programme for remodelling the Tatanagar Railway Station?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is a different question.