

annas, may I know whether it has occurred to the Minister that the majority of the Third Class passengers are not in a position to afford Rs. 6 when they travel from Calcutta to Delhi as additional fare for these sleeping cars?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not think it can be fixed lower; if at all it has to be raised.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY: May I know, Sir, if sleeping cars are provided on trains between Poona and Bangalore?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We do not have sleeping cars there.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY: Is it under the consideration of the Government, at least to provide in the future?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The various Railway Administrations have sent up their proposals for providing this facility on various sections and trains and they are under our consideration.

PROF. G. RANGA: Is it provided on the Grand Trunk Express and also from Madras to Calcutta on the Janata Express?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Yes, it is provided on Janata Express.

PROF. G. RANGA: On the Grand Trunk Express and also on the train from Madras to Calcutta?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: There is between Delhi and Madras; not between Calcutta and Madras.

PROF. G. RANGA: When will that be provided?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: As I said, all these additional proposals are under consideration.

PANDIT S. S. N. TANKHA: Has the attention of the hon. Minister been drawn to the fact that the additional charge for sleeping accommodation when added to the ordinary Third

Class railway fare, comes to almost the Second Class fare?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: There is something wrong with his arithmetic.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: May I ask the hon. Minister for Railways whether he thinks that by increasing the fares of the sleeping cars, these facilities could be made available to Third Class passengers whom we are supposed to serve?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: These sleeping cars are being used.

\*381 and \*382. [The questioner (Shri N. C. Sekhar) was absent. For answer, vide cols. 2401-2402 infra.]

#### COMPENSATORY (CITY) ALLOWANCE FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES IN CUTTACK

\*383. SHRI S. MAHANTY: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Railway employees stationed at Cuttack are paid the Compensatory (City) Allowance; and if not, why not?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): No. A Compensatory (City) Allowance is granted only at stations with a population of 5 lakhs and over.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it according to the definition of the Railway that a city with only a population of five lakhs will be considered as such?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That was the decision taken. It pertains not only to the Railways, but to the other Central Government employees as well.

#### SUSPENSION OF WATER SUPPLY IN DELHI

\*384. SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that water supply in Delhi was suspended during

the last week of June 1955 for three days;

(b) if so, the reasons for the suspension;

(c) whether any similar suspension had occurred a month or so earlier; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to prevent a recurrence of such break-downs?

**THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR):** (a) Yes, partially. On 28th and 29th June 1955, water was supplied for two hours in the morning (7 to 9) and 2 hours in the evening (6 to 8). On 30th June 1955, the supply was made as above in the morning and was restored at 5 P.M.

(b) There was settlement in the foundations of the Junction Chamber near the Settling Tanks at Wazirabad.

(c) Yes, on 24th May 1955, the supply of filtered water was stopped for about 8 hours (9 A.M. to 5 P.M.)

(d) Only temporary works such as repairing the cracks etc. were undertaken and for permanent works specials were ordered.

**SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA:** May I know, Sir, if any notice as to this stoppage was given to the public; if so, when was that notice given?

**RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR:** The accident occurred late on the evening of the 27th June. Due action was taken immediately by the Joint Water and Sewage Board to inform the public and the Press Trust of India and they were contacted at midnight that night. The information was published in all the morning papers, both English and Indian and was also announced on the radio on the 28th June 1955.

#### QUALITY AND PRODUCTION OF WOOL

**\*385. SHRI M. GOVINDA REDDY:** Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a scheme for improving the quality and

production of wool in the country is being launched;

(b) if so, what are the outlines of the scheme; and

(c) what are the results expected from the scheme?

**THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE (DR. P. S. DESHMUKH):** (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

#### STATEMENT

Based upon the pilot and preliminary work carried out in different parts of the country, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has been running a co-ordinated scheme for the improvement of sheep and wool on regional basis in selected centres since 1952 and proposals for its expansion on an all-India basis have been included in the second Five Year Plan, which is under consideration at present.

*Co-ordinated scheme on regional basis.*—The aim is to improve sheep, in certain well-defined regions, for production of finer quality of fleece and higher yield of wool. This is being achieved by the establishment in each region of a sheep breeding research station with a fleece testing laboratory and sub-station attached thereto.

*All India scheme included in proposals for the second Five Year Plan (under consideration).*—The object of the scheme is to develop sheep industry by improving the quantity and quality of wool yielded. This is proposed to be done by (a) the establishment of farms, where they do not exist, for the production of progressively better rams, (b) multiplication of these superior rams in selected concentrated areas, (c) demonstration improved methods of breeding, feeding, disease control and management of sheep including shearing and grading of wool and (d) establishment of fleece-testing laboratories.