

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I think it is difficult to ascribe any specific reason for the decline. It may be attributed to the general decline in economic and commercial activity.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Do I take it that the general economic condition has so deteriorated according to the hon. Minister that goods traffic by air has fallen by about one-seventh or nearly 15 per cent.?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I am not making any dogmatic assertion about it. I only say that it is difficult to assess at the present juncture.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Is not the decline so serious that it is necessary for the Department concerned or the Minister concerned to analyse the causes of this serious decline and find out as to how traffic can be maintained?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: The Corporation is doing that by periodically reviewing the traffic figures and the various steps which it has been taking in the past in regard to the promotion of traffic.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Does the hon. Minister realise that it is a serious matter in view of the fact that the figures reveal a serious decline both in passenger and freight traffic after the airlines were taken over by the Government?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Sir, it is entirely a matter of opinion. I do not call it serious in view of the fact that the ultimate figures have turned out to be higher than the figures which were based on mere estimates for 1953, and the decrease during this period is only 17,242 for passengers (in number) and 7,033,983 for freight (in lbs.).

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: I do not understand the figures for 1953.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: The figures for 1953 as given in the Report of

the Ministry of Communications for 1953-54 were not the actuals; they were only estimates. The actuals are given in the next column. The previous margin of 30,488 for the number of passengers has now been reduced to 17,242. The actuals for 1953 for number of passengers was 4,03,992 as compared with 4,34,480 for 1952. The margin is not so much as to be really called serious.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: Is it not a fact that foreign airlines passing through India are taking a portion of the local traffic?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: He has answered that already.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We have got a monopoly of the scheduled air transport in the country. Foreign airlines do not come into the picture.

PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTS OF PART C STATES

*574. **SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO:** Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state whether the Annual Public Health Reports of the Part C States of Bilaspur, Manipur, Kutch and Tripura, have been published; and, if so, the year to which the latest report of each such State relates?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): The latest Annual Public Health Reports of Bilaspur and Tripura relate to the year 1953. The Governments of Kutch and Manipur have not so far published such reports.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, in view of the fact that the expenditure on health in these States is increasing year by year, the reason for these two States not submitting their health reports?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I can only regret that they have not done so. But that is not due to my not having reminded them.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know whether the ultimate responsibility for publishing these reports belongs to the Health Ministry of the Union Government or to the individual States concerned?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: It is the duty of the State Governments to publish their reports and send them to the Centre. The Centre then collects all the information from all over India and publishes a Central report.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the hon. Minister be good enough to place a copy of the already published reports on the Table of the House for the inspection of hon. Members?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I will have no objection to placing the health reports of the States I have received, viz., Bilaspur and Tripura on the Table of the House.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: May I know whether all the Part A and Part B States have submitted their reports?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We are only concerned with Part C States here and even there, a few of them.

SHRI H. C. DASAPPA: It is a matter for comparison.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I am very sorry to have to say that a great number of the Part A and Part B States are also defaulters.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY: May I know whether they have been receiving reports from Coorg which is also a Part C State and why it is not mentioned here?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Because Shri Bhanj Deo is not interested in Coorg.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I speak from memory, but I believe Coorg is very good in these matters.

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA: What about Bhopal and Ajmer?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: I have not got that information.

RAILWAY BOARD

*575. **SHRI H. C. MATHUR:** Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of the Railway Board who are employed on a tenure basis; and

(b) how many officers of the Railway Board are from the *ex-State* Railways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Four.

(b) One.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know whether there are only 4 officers who are on tenure basis and what are those posts?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Those who are employed on a tenure basis are only four.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What are those four places?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Memberships of the Railway Board.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know if the Directors of the Railway Board and the Deputy Directors are not on a tenure basis?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: They are not on a tenure basis but the question of converting these posts into tenure posts is now under consideration.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Since how long has this question been under consideration?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: And when will it be over?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I shall not be able to give an answer to that.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: How long has it been under consideration? I don't want to know when it will be done. I know it will never be done.