

accommodation used to be charged from the employees of the ex-State Railways before integration ; and

(b) the rate at which the rent for such accommodation is being charged from them at present?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House in due course.

INSPECTION OF NORTHERN RAILWAY BY
GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR OF RAILWAYS

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

(a) when the Government Inspector of Railways last inspected each of the different sections of the Northern Railway; and

(b) whether the Inspector has made any suggestions for improving the efficiency particularly with a view to avoid and avert accidents?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) The Government Inspector of Railways inspected the different Divisions of the Northern Railway as follows:—

Ferozepur—3rd to 6th March 1952.

Moradabad—13th to 15th October 1952.

Bikaner and Jodhpur—8th to 12th December 1952.

Delhi—29th to 31st January 1953.

Allahabad and Lucknow—19th to 24th February 1953.

(b) No specific suggestions were made by the Government Inspector of Railways for measures to be taken to avoid accidents.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: How is it that annual Government inspections are not being made regularly?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It was with the consent of the Ministry of Communications that from July 1953 these routine annual inspections were stopped except for the Company-managed Railways. Now, the Ministry of Communications feels that they should discharge their statutory responsibilities with regard to the Government Railways also and the matter is under the consideration of the Railway Board.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it a fact that these inspections have got to be carried out from year to year under statutory provisions?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: That was what I said.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Under what authority or provision have these inspections been stopped?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It was with the concurrence of the Ministry of Communications that they were stopped. It was thought that as far as the Government-owned Railways go, it was not necessary. But now the matter is again under consideration.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Sir, it is the statutory provision that is being defaulted as a matter of fact. What are the reasons for that, and may I know whether this request originated from the Railway Ministry and whether the Railway Ministry resented these annual inspections?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: When I said that it was stopped with the concurrence of the Ministry of Communications, it goes without saying that the proposal originated from here. And it is the concern of the Communications Ministry.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: It is quite true that it is the concern of the Communications Ministry. My point is that the Railway Ministry resents these inspections. What are the reasons for their resenting these annual inspections?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I cannot usefully add to the information I have already given.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What he says is, there was a time when the Railway Ministry thought that these inspections should stop and they should be only for the Company-managed Railways. Today it is realised that it should apply to all Railways.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Routine inspections were stopped only from August 1953 and now we are considering their revival.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: The question was, why was it stopped? Why should the hon. the Railway Minister make that kind of recommendation to the Communications Ministry?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: As I have already said, it was thought that it was not necessary.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it not a fact that only for economic reasons they want the inspections to be stopped?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I take the information from the hon. Member.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask my hon. friend if he is prepared to lay on the Table of the House the communication issued by the Railway Board or the Railway Ministry to the Communications Ministry in regard to this matter?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I am perfectly willing to do that.

RESEARCH UTILISATION FUND

†441. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to create a research utilisation fund to help in the giving of trial to results of research; and

†Postponed from the 21st April 1954.

(b) if so, what progress has been made in that direction?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, Sir, whether the results of the researches in the 84 schemes of research that we are already having and in the fifty new schemes that we have recently sanctioned, have been utilised at all?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Yes, *Sir, it* has been decided to set up shortly a Research Development Corporation under the aegis of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research to enable the researches of these schemes to be exploited for commercial purposes.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know how many of these researches have been commercially exploited by now?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: Sir, this question refers to the creation of a research utilisation fund, and the Estimates Committee in their report recommended this. The main reason why we have not started this is that the main source of income is the levy of a cess, and to the levying of the cess the State Governments are opposed because it is a State subject.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether the Ministry has disposed of the Estimates Committee's recommendation?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: We have almost agreed with that recommendation.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know, then, if we are establishing a research fund?

SHRI M. V. KRISHNAPPA: As I have stated, it is a question of finance. The Estimates Committee recom-