

(c) how these figures compare with the figures of deposits and the interest for the three previous years?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR): (a), (b) and (c). A statement giving the information by financial years 1951-52 and 1952-53 is placed on the Table of the Council. [See Appendix VI, Annexure No. 58.]

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether steps have been taken to attract deposits just as the Finance Ministry is doing in regard to the small savings?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: The post offices function as an agency of the Ministry of Finance.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Is it open to the depositors to give cheques in some of these savings bank accounts?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We are considering to introduce it as an experimental measure in Bombay. For other places, we shall have to wait for the results of the experiment.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: How long will it take?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: I cannot say exactly.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Has the Small Savings Scheme affected the deposits in the Savings Bank?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Naturally. I can give the figures year by year. They are on the increase. For example, the total in 1951-52 was Rs. 117.76 lakhs and in 1952-53 it is Rs. 120.50 lakhs.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: May I ask the hon. Minister whether these post offices charge anything for maintaining all this account on behalf of the Finance Ministry?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: We charge ten annas per transaction.

DR. SHRIMATI SEETA PARMANAND: Is the Postal Department thinking of introducing the cheque system in post offices?

Mr. CHAIRMAN: That was answered in connection with a previous question.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: Did I understand him to reply to the question of my friend Shri Kishen Chand to say that they charge ten annas to the depositors or the Finance Ministry? His question was about the Finance Ministry.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR: Not the depositors. It is ten annas per savings bank transaction.

B.C.G. VACCINATION

*162. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) the approximate date by which the programme of B.C.G. vaccination will be completed all over the country; and

(b) the extent to which the staff entrusted with this work is trained and equipped?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HEALTH (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) The first round of the B.C.G. vaccination is expected to be completed within the next 5 to 7 years.

(b) The staff working in the B.C.G. vaccination programme is fully trained. The staff consists of doctors and technicians who are trained by the international personnel assigned by the old Health Organisation to assist the Government of India in the campaign. The training is given just before the State Government concerned launches the B.C.G. programme on a mass scale.

The B.C.G. teams are fully equipped. The equipment for the campaign

is being supplied by the U.N.I.C.E.F. Tuberculin and vaccine are supplied by the Government operated B.C.G. Vaccine Laboratory at Guindy.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know in how many States this scheme is going on now?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: In nearly 20 States the mass campaign is going on.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: How many States are left uncovered by this scheme?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: In Andhra, Madras, Bombay, Jammu and Kashmir, Vindhya Pradesh and Kutch the mass scheme has not been introduced yet. There are three more States—Bilaspur, Coorg and Andamans where it is not introduced at all.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know if this scheme will be extended to all the States, by next year?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: That is for the State Governments. We hope that mass campaign is to be introduced by 1954 in the remaining 6 States.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: May I know whether, if laymen are willing to be trained in B.C.G., they will be eligible for admission to these institutions?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Yes, provided they have the requisite qualifications, they will be trained at the training centres.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: What are the requisite qualifications?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: They should be doctors and should have other technical qualifications.

SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Is it not a fact that under this scheme, even laymen can be trained if they have

some minimum educational qualifications?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: I am not sure.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know whether any record is being kept of the persons so far vaccinated with B.C.G.?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: Yes.

DR. P. C. MITRA: May I know whether Government has received any information as to how many of the B.C.G. vaccinated persons have fallen victim to T.B.?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR: No.

COMPENSATORY ALLOWANCE FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

*163. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether compensatory allowance is paid to all the railway employees without any discrimination;

(b) whether any representation was received from the staff of the Engineering Department of the North Eastern Railway employed at Badshahi Nagar railway station regarding non-payment of compensatory allowance to them; and

(c) if the answer to part (b) above be in the affirmative, what action has been taken by the Railway Administration thereon?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Compensatory allowance has since been granted to them.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: Has it been given retrospectively?