

**FACILITIES FOR RAILWAY EMPLOYEES
SUFFERING FROM T. B.**

*13. **SHRI B. RATH:** Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether the Railway Board have withdrawn the facilities provided for the Railway employees suffering from Tuberculosis?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): No, the facilities which were available in Railway hospitals have not been withdrawn.

SHRI B. RATH: Have they been reduced?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Pardon?

MR. CHAIRMAN: They have not been withdrawn, but have they been curtailed?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: No, they have been increased, Sir.

SHRI B. RATH: What are the additional facilities granted at present?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We have increased the accommodation available in our railway hospitals. In addition to that, we propose to reserve not less than 250 beds for the exclusive use of railway employees in Government T. B. sanatoria and other sanatoria.

SHRI B. RATH: What is the total number of beds available at present for railway employees in the T. B. hospitals?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Regarding railway hospitals I can collect the information and give it to the hon. Member. I do not have it just now with me.

SHRI B. RATH: And yet you say it has been increased. What is the number? Let us know.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It has increased; but I cannot give the hon. Member the actual figure, that I can say later.

SHRI B. RATH: Is it under the contemplation of Government to open up new T. B. hospitals for railway employees and if so, where?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: We do not propose to build new sanatoria ourselves, but we propose to reserve beds in hospitals for railway employees.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Is it a fact that mattresses were reserved for T. B. patients in Vijayawada hospital in the same room in which there were other patients?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The reference is to T. B. patients?

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Yes.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I do not have any such information.

SHRI K. L. NARASIMHAM: Will the hon. Minister enquire into it?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Certainly.

SHRI T. V. KAMALASWAMY: Has T. B. increased among railway employees or decreased?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is not purely a question of railway employees for it is a general question and perhaps the Health Minister will be able to answer it.....

MR. CHAIRMAN: Yes, when a question is put to her on a later occasion.

**REIMBURSEMENT OF MEDICAL CHARGES OF
THE DEPENDENTS OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES**

*14. **SHRI B. RATH:** Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on the Eastern Railway, the medical charges incurred on account of the treatment of the dependents of railway employees in railway quarters are not reimbursed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): The answer is in the