

DR. P. C. MITRA: Is it a fact that the Bihar Assembly has passed a resolution to the effect that the bridge to connect South Bihar with North Bihar be constructed at Patna instead of at Mokameh, and that resolution has been forwarded to the Government of India for consideration?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: All that was taken into consideration by the Ganga Bridge Committee presided over by Shri M. Visvesvaraya who recommended this Mokameh site.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: Are Government aware that the sentiment in Bihar is, better have a bridge at Mokameh than have no bridge at all?

(No reply.)

SHRI K. B. LALL: May I know if Government received representations from the Government of Bihar as well as the public regarding having the bridge at Patna rather than at Mokameh?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: Because there was a difference of opinion, the matter was referred to the Visvesvaraya Committee for expert opinion, and they decided that a bridge at Mokameh site was preferable to a bridge at Patna site.

SHRI K. B. LALL: May I know if it is a fact that during the investigations there was controversy and there was difference of opinion among the experts themselves?

(No reply.)

SHRI B. RATH: What is the distance between Mokameh and Patna?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I have no idea.

KHWAJA INAIT ULLAH: About 100 miles.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA: When is the bridge likely to be ready?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: During the Railway Budget discussion the hon. Member must have noticed that provision has been made for starting the work.

SHRI K. B. LALL: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that a Patna Bridge Day was observed throughout the State?

(No reply.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, answer is in itself an answer.

LOSS OF PRIVATE PROPERTY DUE TO RECENT DISTURBANCES AT SOME STATIONS OF THE SOUTHERN RAILWAY

*171. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the estimated loss to the private property which was in transit and was lying at various railway stations of the Southern Railway during recent disturbances there;

(b) whether Government have paid any compensation to the owners of the said property; if so, how much; and

(c) how many deaths occurred and how many persons were injured as a result of firing resorted to by the police during the disturbances at each of the stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as received.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: What measures were taken by the Government of Madras in protecting what was obviously the Union property?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: The information is being collected.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY: Sir, my question is: What were the measures taken by the Government of Madras.....

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: It is more a question to be put in the Madras State Assembly. They did their best, Sir.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: May I know, Sir, whether the Government has made any judicial enquiry in respect of these firings etc.?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: If any judicial enquiry were to be made, it should have been done by the Madras Government. This question should therefore be addressed to the Madras Government.

SAFDARJANG HOSPITAL

*172. SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state whether the Government of India propose to take over the management of the Safdarjang Hospital in New Delhi and, if so, why?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR): Yes, in connection with the establishment of an All-India Medical Institute.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: May I know, Sir, whether it had been decided to build the All-India Medical Institute in the compound of the Irwin Hospital?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Sir, a site of 200 acres has been allotted to us in the neighbourhood of Safdarjang area. There is no question of building the All-India Medical Institute in the compound of the Irwin Hospital.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Is it a fact that the foundation stone was laid by the New Zealand Minister within the premises of the Irwin Hospital?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: It is true that the foundation stone was laid in the neighbourhood of the Irwin Hospital because the original scheme was that the All-India Medical Institute should be established with the Irwin Hospital as its nucleus, but since then we have decided to move the All-India Medical Institute to the Safdarjang area.

2-3 C.S.D.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Buildings are not always built on the sites where the foundation stones are laid.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Before the foundation stone was laid, may I know whether the Government had consulted the State Government?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Sir, when the scheme was originally drafted, no State Government was in existence.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: What are the varied objects of the State Government in keeping the institute there? Is the Government satisfied with the objections raised by the State Government?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Obviously.

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Sir, the main objection was in regard to the hospital, that it should not be taken over by the Government of India.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: Will it—the change of site—result in increased cost and expenditure?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: Yes, Sir. There will be an increase in the expenditure.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: To what extent?

RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR: To the extent of one crore and a quarter.

INCENTIVE TO CULTIVATORS FOR CROP PRODUCTION

*173. SHRI S. MAHANTY: Will the Minister for FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state what incentives have been given by Government to the cultivators engaged in the production of the following crops in the year 1952-53 for increasing their production:

(i) cotton; (ii) jute; (iii) sugarcane; and (iv) food crops like rice and wheat?