

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : It is on that basis that we have proceeded.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : But will the information be placed before the House ? Will it be placed on the Table of the House ? That is the question. The hon. Minister does not understand any question that is put.

MR. CHAIRMAN : No, no.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : I may not be as quick in understanding as the hon. Member, but yet I am doing my best to understand the questions and answer them.

PROF. G. RANGA : In view of the fact that this House has, right up till now—the interim Parliament and also during the recent Budget Session—been in favour of the abolition of the first class, may I suggest that this question may be taken up for separate discussion, instead of going on in this manner ?

SHRI H. N. KUNZRU : It was decided that this system should be put an end to, because of the dissatisfaction created in this House ; Prof. Ranga should note that.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA : I understand that the abolition of the first class was taken on hand to produce a classless society. Even in the first session of this Council Mr. Kher suggested that. But I would like to know why the Railways have been selected for producing a classless society and not any other branch of life.

(No answer.)

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question, Mr. Reddy.

ASIAN MARITIME CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

*198. SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Will the Minister for LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether an Asian Maritime Conference of the International Labour

Organisation is to be held shortly, if so, when and where ; and

(b) whether Government propose to send a delegation to that conference ; if so what will be the size and composition of the delegation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR LABOUR (Shri ABID ALI : (a) so far no intimation has been received by the Government of India about the date and place of the Asian Maritime Conference of the I. L. O.

(b) Does not arise.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Sir, on a point of information. Here it is put down as the Minister for Transport, but the reply has been given by the Deputy Minister for Labour.

MR. CHAIRMAN : It has been corrected here as "Minister for Labour".

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Is there any report published in newspapers or in the I. L. O. Journal that the meeting will be held in Singapore in May 1953 ?

SHRI ABID ALI : According to our information, the conference is to be held between February and May 1953 ; venue and the date have not yet been settled.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : May I know whether the department of which the hon. Minister is in charge will be responsible for the selection of the delegation, or any other Ministry ?

SHRI ABID ALI : This Ministry, Sir.

RAILWAY LINE BETWEEN OLD SILIGURI STATION AND SILIGURI JUNCTION

*199. SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that (i) the strip of the narrow gauge railway line between the old Siliguri Station and

Siliguri Junction is not much used nowadays; and (ii) the existence of this strip of the railway line is causing much inconvenience to the public as the road through which it runs cannot be widened or improved; and

(b) whether it is a fact that the rail-cum-road bridge over the Mahananda River near Siliguri is also a source of great inconvenience to the public?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN): (a) Though the narrow gauge line between old Siliguri Station and Siliguri Junction constitutes some limitation to the widening and improvement of road and does not carry any passenger traffic these days, its retention is considered necessary by the West Bengal Government as well as the Railway Administration, as it continues to serve as an efficient and cheap means of transport for foodgrains from the State Government godowns from Siliguri Town to different areas of the deficit district of Darjeeling.

(b) As very few trains run over this rail-road bridge, it can hardly be said to inconvenience the public.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Is the Minister aware that there is another line, a metre gauge one running from Siliguri Junction to and through Siliguri Town?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I am not aware, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: Will the Minister please note?

DR. RADHA KUMUD MOOKERJI: This is a live railway line and I don't know how it could have escaped the attention of the Minister.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I may not know the various railway lines running in the country, Sir.

SHRI S. N. MAZUMDAR: May I know, Sir, under whose administration this road-cum-rail bridge is? Who is responsible for this bridge?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I am afraid, I shall have to ask for notice.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it under the Railways or under some other Department?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN: I am afraid I shall have to ask for notice.

INTERNATIONAL CANCER RESEARCH COMMISSION

*200. SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA: Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether the International Cancer Research Commission is going to hold its conference in India;

(b) If so, when and where, and which countries will participate in it;

(c) what will be the agenda for the Conference; and

(d) whether any report on the research carried on in India will be placed before the Conference; if so, whether a statement on the nature of such research will be laid on the Table of the Council?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HEALTH (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The Conference will be held in Bombay from December 30, 1952 to January 3, 1953. A statement is laid on the Table of the House showing the agenda and the list of the countries expected to participate in the Conference.

(d) Yes. The report is in course of preparation and is not yet ready.

STATEMENT

The following will be the agenda for the Conference:

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1. Preliminary meeting of the International Cancer Research Commission.

2. Report of the Commission by the Secretary, Professor E. Lima-Basto.

3. Report on the creation of Regional and International Centres of Documentation, and Cancer Index and an adequate review of cancer literature by Dr. I. F. Denoix.