

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Is it not a fact that a cess on coffee in the coffee producing areas in Mysore has been collected for the last 25 years with the express object of constructing a rail link through this area ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : By whom ?

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : By the Central Government.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Was it collected by the Central Government ?

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : Yes.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : We have not been collecting it.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY : Is it not Mysore that is collecting this railway cess ?

SHRI B. V. KAKKILAYA : Is it not a fact that the District Board of South Kanara has been collecting the cess ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Central Government, the Mysore Government, the South Kanara District Board—they have all been collecting cesses !

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : At any rate, the Central Government has not been collecting this cess.

SHRI M. VALIULLAH : At what exact stage is the consideration ? Have they collected any material, or what steps have they taken in this regard ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : It has not even been included in the Plan. It has to be considered by the Central Board of Transport. No survey has been done yet. All these steps have to be taken.

SHRI BASAPPA SHETTY : May I know whether there is a proposal for a rail link between Kadur and Mangalore and Chikkamangalore ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : That is another question.

SHRI C. G. K. REDDY : It is not a fact, Sir, that a survey was made more than 50 years ago to conclude a link between Mysore and Mangalore ? And if so, what are the things that have happened in between which have completely obliterated from the memory of the Railway Department the survey that was conducted ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : As far as this link is concerned, no such survey was conducted.

#### EMPLOYMENT OF LABOUR FOR RAILWAY WORK BETWEEN PACHORA AND CHALISGAON

\*206. SHRI D. NARAYAN : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the rails between Central Railway Stations of Pachora and Chalisgaon are being replaced and whether two to three thousand labourers have been brought for this work from the North ;

(b) whether the area in which this work is being done is famine-stricken this year ;

(c) whether there are local labourers skilled in the work of replacement of rails who are anxious to get work and if so, whether Government propose to consider the desirability of giving preference to these local labourers to labourers brought from outside ; and

(d) whether Government propose to employ unskilled labour on the Railways with a view to providing work to labourers in the famine-affected areas ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) Not only are the rails being replaced but the entire track between Pachora and Chalisgaon Stations on the Central Railway is being relayed. It is not, however, correct that two to three thousand labourers have been brought for this work from the North. Of the 850 men employed, 362 are locally recruited, while 488 have been

brought from other sections of the Railway.

(b) It is reported by the Bombay State Government that this is a famine-stricken area.

(c) As many local labourers as are skilled in this kind of work, and have applied for employment through the Employment Exchanges, have been taken on. In one instance 100 imported men have been replaced by such skilled local labour.

(d) The employment of labour on railways is related to the quantum of work to be performed and where previous experience or particular skill is demanded, only labour possessing the necessary qualifications is engaged. Relaying of track which is generally undertaken on open lines without stopping traffic, requires a large proportion of men with previous experience of this kind of work and it is neither economical nor safe to use unskilled labour.

SHRI D. NARAYAN : Are Railway contractors instructed by the Government to employ as many local workers as possible ?

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN : Yes, Sir. They have been asked to employ as many local workers as possible.

#### DEMobilISED MEDICAL PERSONNEL

\*207. SHRI M. VALIULLA : Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of the demobilised medical personnel from 1946 onward ; and

(b) the number of demobilised medical personnel resettled since 1948 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HEALTH (SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR) (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : From how many places has this information been received so far ?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR : The information is not yet available.

SHRI M. VALIULLA : Not even one State has sent this information ?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR : No, Sir.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA : In view of the scarcity of trained doctors, all these demobilised medical personnel can be used in the whole of India, particularly at a time when the Five Year Plan is being put into action.

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR : The hon. Member's suggestion will be taken into consideration.

SHRI B. GUPTA : Are the Government aware that some of the demobilised medical personnel have been forced to take Government jobs in foreign countries like Burma ?

SHRIMATI M. CHANDRASEKHAR : I have no information, Sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The next question is of Diwan Chaman Lall. He is not here. So the Questions are over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

##### PENSION RULES

†\*171. DIWAN CHAMAN LAL : Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the revised Pension Rules for the Central Government employees have been liberalised ; and

(b) if so, whether the liberalisation of the P. I. Fund and Gratuity Rules for the benefit of non-pensionable employees working on the Railways is also under the consideration of Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS AND TRANSPORT (SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN) : (a) Government have revised the Pension Rules. The main object of the new rules, however, was not to increase the overall pensionary benefits, but to

† Postponed from 9th December 1952.