

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM. | How is it justified to wait for other recommendations to be fulfilled?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: We think on the whole it is wise to do so.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: There is a very large number of small oil-pressing mills all over the country in the rural areas. Is it the intention of Government to close them to give an opportunity to ghanis?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: That is the difficulty with which we are confronted; we are trying to do it consistently with the recommendations of this wise Committee.

SHRI N. R. MALKANI: We were told some time back here that we are paying more attention to the pressing of cotton seeds. Is it the intention of Government to transfer this capacity increasingly to ghanis from oil mills for pressing cotton seeds?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: I don't think anybody has contemplated the crushing of cotton seeds in ghanis.

SHRI DEOKINANDAN NARAYAN: Sir, there is one recommendation, that the spheres for the mill oil industry and for the ghanis should be fixed. May I know whether Government have arrived at a decision on this recommendation? Have they accepted it?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: No, Sir.

SHRI B. K. P. SINHA: May I know, Sir, why Government have decided to retain and maintain these outmoded forms of production?

DR. P. S. DESHMUKH: That is supposed to be the national requirement.

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Sir, with reference to the next question, question No. 499, I would respectfully point out that it is wrong to use the expression "lepers" in connection with these unfortunate people. I wish to suggest, Sir, that this word be expunged from the proceedings.

LEPERS IN DELHI

*499. SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a number of lepers are found roaming in the streets of Delhi and New Delhi; if so, the action taken by Government in this regard;

(b) the number of inmates in the Shahdara Camp for lepers and the number of those who have deserted the camp since it was set up; and

(c) the arrangements made by Government for their treatment and upkeep?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH (SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR): (a) Yes, a leper colony has been established in Tahir-pur beyond Shahdara for segregation of lepers.

(b) One hundred and thirty. 47 have deserted since the starting of the camp in January 1957.

(c) Pending appointment of a whole-time Medical Officer for the colony, the Medical Officer-in-charge of Shahdara Hospital is looking after the Camp; and pending construction of buildings, tents have been provided for accommodation of the inmates.

Sir, I appreciate the observations made by the hon. Member from Madhya Pradesh . . .

DR. W. S. BARLINGAY: Bombay and not Madhya Pradesh.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Yes, Bombay. In fact, I do not think we normally refer to them as lepers, but only as leprosy patients or something like that. In any case, if there is any kind of a reflection, we shall delete the expression. It is a very good suggestion.

SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Sir, I agree with the hon. Member who raised the objection.

May I know whether the Government are aware of the press report published in the *Statesman* of the 14th July, 1957, under the caption "An afternoon in a leper camp" and if so, what is being done to remedy those defects?

(No reply.)

MR. CHAIRMAN: He has not caught it.

SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Is it a fact that no medical facilities have been made available to these patients for the last six months?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, my information is that there is arrangement for medical treatment of these patients. Not only that, it is proposed to provide for various kinds of work like spinning, weaving, shoe-making, farming, etc. These arrangements are under contemplation and I do hope that in the near future they will be in fruition.

SHRI H. V. TRIPATHI: Is it true that there was no food for four days in the first week of July and whether this is the normal feature in that place?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Pardon? They stayed there for only four days?

AN HON. MEMBER: No, they had no food for four days.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: As for food, Sir, I should presume, unless it is contradicted by other information, that everyone there is fed very properly every day.

DR. W. S. BARLING AY: Is it not a fact that most of the people who roam about in the streets of Delhi are burnt-up cases and not really infectious cases?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I have not investigated whether they are burnt or unburnt. But I want all the patients to go into that camp.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: May I know, Sir, if the Health Ministry ever made a recommendation to the Railway Ministry to prevent such types of men from begging at the railway platforms?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: Sir, I should like to have notice of that, to find out if there was any recommendation to the Railway Ministry, unless my senior colleague here is able to help me.

SHRI JAGJIVAN RAM: Sir, it does not require any recommendation from the Health Ministry, for such rules do exist that they should not be permitted. But as you know, Sir, in spite of these rules, human considerations come in among the passengers themselves and leprosy patients are found on the railway platforms and stations and in trains also.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is it a fact when the leprosy patients live there in spite of many difficulties, they are being neglected very much and sometimes they do not even get municipal benefits?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The benefits that they are receiving are benefits of treatment, benefits of food and the like. I do not know what my hon. friend means by municipal benefits.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: The roads are not cleaned and even scavenging services are not available.

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: The difficulty is, it was only recently, in 1956, that the Delhi Administration took over this camp at Mehrauli from the National Christian Council and the Y.W.C.A. and there are no permanent arrangements yet. Tents are there and they are thinking of *kutchas* buildings. Therefore, they are more or less provisional arrangements. But I should like to find out the position, now that the hon. Member has invited my notice to it, whether there is any lack of municipal arrangements inside the colony, and if there are any

defects we shall advise them to take care of them immediately, because that is the first thing they should do.

SHRIMATI SAVITRY DEVI NIGAM: Is the hon. Minister aware whether there is any proper arrangement for drainage and drinking water in that camp?

SHRI D. P. KARMARKAR: I am visiting that camp this Saturday and if there is anything in particular, I shall inform the hon. Member.

HEADQUARTERS FOR I.A.C.

*500. SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will the Minister of TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have re-considered the decision of the Indian Airlines Corporation to build its office in Delhi at an estimated cost of Rs. 25,00,000; and

(b) if so, what is the decision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR): (a) and (b). The matter is under examination.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: May I know if the I.A.C. has already given the contract for building its office in Delhi?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: If the matter is under examination how can they give the contract?

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Pardon?

MR. CHAIRMAN: If the matter is still under examination how can they give the contract? That is his answer.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: That is why I ask, whether they have given the contract in spite of the fact that the matter is still under the consideration of the Government.

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: Sir, it will require the sanction of Government. I may, for the information of the House, say that at one stage, on 12th November, 1956, sanction had been given. But after the report of the Estimates Committee was received, the whole matter is under examination and therefore, no contract given.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Having regard to the financial difficulties of the Second Five Year Plan, would Government switch off this consideration and abandon the plan to build this office?

MR. CHAIRMAN: As suggestion for action.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: What are the other places that Government have in view for this headquarters building?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The Estimates Committee have mentioned that two other places should be considered and they are Calcutta and Bombay. So all this is under the consideration of Government.

SHRI PERATH NARAYANAN NAIR: Will not Nagpur be a more centrally located place?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The Estimates Committee did not mention that as a suitable place.

SUPPLY OF AMMONIUM SULPHATE AND UREA

*501. SHRI B. P. BASAPPA SHETTY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is dearth of ammonium sulphate and urea in the country; and

(b) whether it is a fact that there is restriction on the supply of these fertilisers from Sindri factory to particular areas only?