

**Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Is it not possible for Government to find out directly from this Nagpur Orange Growers' Co-operative Association about the experiment conducted there particularly with regard to the possibilities of extracting pectin from oranges, orange waste and squeezed oranges so that we need not import pectin at considerable cost from abroad—a thing which is very necessary for the manufacture of jams, jellies, pharmaceuticals and so on?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The idea is well-known to us. The difficulty is the collection and making it economic because we have not got the various industrial establishments and so on. Certainly, we will pay more attention as a result of Dr. Stahl's report and the Press report. In fact, the CFRI, Mysore is already engaged in this.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** What is the total amount of pectin which is now imported into the country and what would be the total foreign exchange savings if we can manufacture this in our country?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I do not know; I will have to enquire from the Commerce and Industry Ministry.

#### Settlement of Claims of Retired Persons on Railways

\*580. **Raja Mahendra Pratap:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of claims of retired persons on Northern Railway (Lucknow Division) are pending for settlement for the last several years; and

(b) if so, what is the number of such cases and what steps Government propose to take to expedite disposal of such cases?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b). On Lucknow Division 9 Provident Fund cases and 56 Pension cases

are pending for over a year. In all the Pension cases anticipatory pension has been sanctioned. Final settlement of all the cases is engaging the attention of the Administration and these will be settled as early as possible.

**Raja Mahendra Pratap:** Can there be a plan to enquire to all complaints so that there will be no complaint at all?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** We have an organisation to look into all the complaints; and all the complaints made are dealt with very promptly. But, in the meantime, more complaint come.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Some anticipatory pension is being sanctioned. What is the percentage of this anticipatory pension to the total pension?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** I am not able to say very definitely; but it varies with various cases; but, generally, the proportion is about 90 per cent.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** What are the grounds for this delay of more than a year in the settlement of these pension cases?

**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan:** In some cases, certain records are not complete; in some cases there are some disputes about grades etc. All these have to be looked into and decision taken.

#### Theft of Iron Articles near Ambika Kalna Station, E. Railway

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\*582. { Shri Muhammed Elias:  
Shri Subiman Ghose:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a theft of iron articles used by Railway near Ambika Kalna Station, Eastern Railway, on or about the 28th January, 1961;

(b) if so, whether there was any encounter with the thieves;