

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, 3rd September, 1957

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Kangla Menace in Delhi

*1407. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether any steps are being taken to fight the *kangla* menace in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what is their nature?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Under Section 248 of the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916, as extended to Delhi, persons who beg for alms or exhibit a deformity or disease or an offensive sore or wound with the object of exciting charity, are convicted with imprisonment or fine.

In pursuance of the above Act and rules made thereunder, such beggars are detained in the Poor House administered by the Delhi Association for the care of destitutes. The Executive Committee of the Association under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner, Delhi, evolves ways and means to solve the beggar problem in Delhi and for the reorganisation of the Poor House.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know how many are there in the Poor House at present and what is the amount being spent on it?

Shri Karmarkar: The number of inmates was 410 during 1954-55, 416 during 1955-56 and 303 during 1956-57. What is the latter half of the question?

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if any attempt has been made to take a census of the beggar population in Delhi, who come under the category of *Kanglas*?

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to have notice. I am speaking subject to correction, because I did not know exactly what *Kangla* meant. I thought that they were beggars going about, destitutes suffering from deformity or disease.

Mr. Speaker: They are people with no hands, no legs, etc.

Shri D. C. Sharma: The hon. Minister said that rules and regulations are being framed from time to time in order to cope up with this problem. May I know if any rules or any regulations have been added recently to fight this menace?

Shri Karmarkar: This matter, especially the nuisance of leper beggars in Connaught Place area was discussed in the Ministry. It was decided that more vehicles and more staff should be provided to the Delhi and New Delhi Municipal Committees and also the necessary police help for rounding up the beggars and try them by mobile magistrates.

Warehousing, Marketing and Processing of Foodgrains

*1408. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for the programmes relating to warehousing,