

श्री ए० पी० जैन : वे पैदल आ सकते हैं, चिट्ठी लिख सकते हैं या किसी क ज़रिये खबर भेज सकते हैं ।

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know if it is true that the number of applications for admission to the hospitals is far in excess of the number of beds available, and if so, what arrangements Government are going to make to increase the number of beds?

Shri A. P. Jain: Sometimes it does happen that the number of pending applications is larger than the beds available. We are making every effort to increase the number of beds.

श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी : इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने कितनी वार्षिक रकम खर्च की है ?

श्री ए० पी० जैन : अभी जो मैं ने सब कुछ पढ़ कर सुनाया वही तो था ।

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: May I know if the incidence of T.B. in the refugee colonies is on the increase?

Shri A. P. Jain: I cannot say that; maybe.

OLD AGE PENSIONS TO WORKERS

*2191. **Shri M. R. Krishna:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to state whether any attempt has been made to grant old age pensions to workers in the factories and mills?

(b) If so, how many of them are in receipt of such pensions and what is the annual amount spent on this by the private factories and mills?

The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri): (a) and (b). The Government have not evolved an old age pension scheme. However, they have enacted the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, for instituting Contributory Provident Funds in factories. The Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, applies to all factories other than Government and local authorities employing 50 or more persons in textiles, iron and steel, cement, engineering, paper, and cigarette industries. The Central Government can extend these provisions to other industries employing less than 50 persons in the above industries. The employees' and employers' contribution will be 6½ per cent. of the basic wages and dearness allowance of the employees. The scheme is expected to be finalised and brought into force by 1st August 1952.

The Government have no information whether any private factories have introduced any old age pension scheme for their workers. Necessary information is being collected and will be placed when available on the Table of the House.

Shri M. R. Krishna: May I know whether there are still any States which have not so far implemented this Employees' Provident Funds Act?

Shri V. V. Giri: It is yet to be implemented from 1st August.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know what are the reasons for not extending Provident fund facilities to other industries which were not mentioned by the hon. Minister?

Shri V. V. Giri: Because they are not yet powerfully developed industries.

श्री गणपति राम : क्या सरकार यह सोच रही है कि एग्रेरियन लेबरर के लिए भी यह स्कीम चालू की जाय ?

Shri V. V. Giri: Not yet.

Shri Bansal: May I know if there is any proposal to convert this scheme into an old age *cum* insurance scheme?

Shri V. V. Giri: No.

QUARANTINE ESTABLISHMENT AT MANDAPAM

*2193. **Shri Shivananajappa:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state whether the Government of Ceylon are running a quarantine establishment on Indian soil, at Mandapam?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister (Shri Satish Chandra): Yes. The land for the Mandapam Camp was originally acquired under the Land Acquisition Act by the Government of Madras for, and at the cost of, the Government of Ceylon. The Camp was established on its present site in 1915. Later, the Ceylon Government constructed buildings thereon on modern lines. The Camp is accordingly owned and managed by the Government of Ceylon, and the arrangements are of long standing.

Shri Shivananajappa: Are Government aware that Indian nationals are detained in the Mandapam Camp under humiliating circumstances?

Shri Satish Chandra: There was some complaint to that effect a few years ago; but conditions have considerably improved since then as a result of Government of India's intervention.