

**Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether the accident took place in the night or in day time?

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not have the information.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether the cause of the accident will be enquired into by the Railway Inspectorate.

**Shri Alagesan:** I do not have any information on that point also. If hon. Members want more information, they can put down a question.

**Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha:** May I suggest to Government, (Some Hon. Members: No, no.) because the accident is reported to have taken place near Patna Junction at day time, whether the Government will institute a detailed enquiry into the matter? It was an accident at day time. I am not suggesting anything else.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members coming from that area, who are particularly interested may look into the report and if they want further details, the hon. Minister will be able to supply further information if he has got it. Now, the questions posted for the day are over.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** There are other questions, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I know. I will take up the Questions which have not been put. No. 1167. Mr. B. K. Das.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** I have been authorised. Sir. No. 1167.

#### INDIGENOUS MEDICINE RESEARCH LABORATORY

\*1167. **Shri S. C. Samanta** (On behalf of Shri B. K. Das): Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indigenous Medicine Research Laboratory has started work;

(b) if so, what items of work will be taken up for the present; and

(c) what expenses have so far been made?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) The Central Institute of Research in Indigenous Systems of Medicine at Jamnagar has not yet started functioning. A Governing Body who will have administrative control of the Institute has been set up. A Scientific Advisory Council which will assist the technical staff of the Institute in formulating the research programme has been constituted. The Government of Saurash-

tra have promised to provide the buildings for the Institute at Jamnagar at an early date.

(b) It is for the Governing Body and the Scientific Advisory Council to chalk out the programme of work.

(c) A non-recurring grant of Rs. 1,00,000 during 1951-52 and a grant of Rs. 15,000 during 1952-53 have so far been given to the Governing Body of the Institute.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether fresh herbs will be available in the locality?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I have no information.

**Shri Dhulekar:** May I know whether in this laboratory Ayurvedic research scholars are employed or only allopathic doctors are employed?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I think Ayurvedic doctors will be given preference.

**Shri Baghavala:** May I know whether any research in Unani system has been carried out in this Institute?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** The Institute has not yet started functioning. The programme has not yet been formulated. I cannot give any further information.

**Shri Dhulekar:** What is the amount of money that has been spent on Ayurvedic research, apparatus, equipment and library?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** So far, as I have said in my reply to the question, a non-recurring grant of Rs. 1,00,000 during 1951-52 has been made. That has not yet been spent. A grant of Rs. 15,000 during 1952-53 has been made; not for equipment or any other appliances, but this amount was spent for the personnel that was engaged and the governing body members in travelling.

**Shri Dhulekar:** May I know whether any report has been published about the research done, so far?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** The Institute has not yet started to work. The question does not arise.

**Shri T. K. Chandhuri:** May I know how many qualified pharmacognosts and pharmaceutical chemists are associated with this laboratory, apart from indigenous Ayurvedic experts?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** Besides Ayurvedic experts, the Advisory Council consists of four doctors, three of

whom are Ayurvedic specialists and one is an allopathic doctor.

**Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Apart from Doctors or Ayurvedic experts, I want to know specifically the number of pharmacognosts and pharmaceutical chemists.

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I have no information as to that.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Question hour is over.

**Some Hon. Members:** No no; we started at 10 o'clock today.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sorry; anyhow, this question is over. Mr. Balmiki, not in his seat. Mr. K. P. Tripathi.

#### IMPORT OF ORANGES AND POTATOES OF KHASI HILLS

\*1172. **Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to intensification of boycott of import of oranges and potatoes of Khasi Hills by Pakistan, the growers in the border region are in distress;

(b) if so, what relief measures Government propose to take in the matter; and

(c) what long term plan, if any, Government have drawn up for such contingencies in this area?

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** (a) The producers of oranges and potatoes are experiencing difficulties in marketing their produce owing to dislocation of established markets consequent on partition.

(b) and (c). A team of experts on refrigeration was sent to Assam recently to explore means of profitable disposal of oranges and potatoes grown in the Khasi Hills. Certain immediate and long term measures have been suggested in their report which are under consideration of Government.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** What are the immediate steps taken by the Government to relieve the difficulties?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No steps have so far been taken; but they will be taken as soon as possible.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Are Government aware of the conditions in which the people are living almost on roots for the time being?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It has been reported that there is much distress.

**Shri Sarmah:** What are the immediate measures recommended by this expert team?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The main recommendations made in the report are as follows:

(i) Establishment of a grading and juice extraction Centre and intensification of air lift of the first grade fruits to Calcutta; (ii) Establishment of a cold storage warehouse and fruit and vegetable processing factory at Gauhati; this schemes is estimated to cost 14 lakhs of rupees; (iii) the provision of increased transport facilities by road, rail and river and reduction in the freight charges for perishables.

**Shri Sarmah:** What measures are taken in respect of the recommendation for immediate steps, namely, air lift and transport facilities?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** As I said in my reply, the matter is under consideration of Government.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** May we understand that no steps have been taken till now in spite of the fact that last year there was air lift and no air lift has taken place this year?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The whole situation has arisen only recently. So far as this year is concerned, there has not been sufficient time to implement those recommendations. They will be implemented as early as possible.

**Shri Sarmah:** In view of the fact that oranges are perishable commodities and the season is very short in the border of Khasi Hills, how long will Government take in consideration and coming to a decision?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** Last year and year before last, we were asked by the Assam Government to arrange for air lift and it was done. This year, such a request was not received. When the Prime Minister came back from Assam, he spoke to me and he also sent a committee. He said something must be done to give relief to the orange growers and potato growers. Immediately, we sent an officer. We are immediately undertaking a refrigeration plant and other things so that losses may not occur again.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Is it a fact that Pakistan has recently stopped all trade between India and Pakistan in the Khasi border, and if so whether still limestone is being allowed to pass into Pakistan for the preparation of