

cement? In view of the fact that they have stopped all trade, are the Government considering the stoppage of the passage of limestone to Pakistan until the trade reopens?

**Shri Kidwai:** That I don't know, but I know that Pakistan has restricted its imports recently from all countries. They have put an import duty of 36 per cent. on oranges, and therefore, the orange trade is completely stopped.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi rose.**

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is all argumentative.

**Shri S. C. Deb:** Is the hon. Minister aware of the condition of the orange growers in Lushai-Hills and do the Government propose to do something to afford relief to the growers there?

**Shri K. G. Deshmukh:** Have Government any idea of the quantity of the oranges that are grown in this area?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** The value of the produce in these districts is estimated to be in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2½ crores.

**Shrimati Khosla:** The hon. Minister said that no request was received by the Government. May I enquire whether the Prime Minister had not received a number of representations to this effect?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** This has already been replied to. The Prime Minister had seen the situation when he went there, and it was on his suggestion that all these steps have been taken.

#### WILLINGDON HOSPITAL, DELHI

\*1174. **Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** (a) Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether the Willingdon Hospital, Delhi, is to be taken over by the Central Government and if so, for what purposes?

(b) What are the financial commitments of Government on this account?

**The Deputy Minister of Health (Shrimati Chandrasekhar):** (a) Yes, such a proposal is under consideration in order to implement a scheme of expansion of the Hospital and Nursing Home which forms part of the Five Year Plan of the Central Government. It is also proposed to make use of the Hospital for the purpose of a Contributory Health Service Scheme for Central Government Servants which has been approved by the Government of India.

(b) The financial implications of the proposal are being examined.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** How many beds will be added to the Hospital after it has been taken over?

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

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** How many of these will be reserved for treatment of Class III and Class IV servants of the Government of India?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** It has not yet been decided.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** May we know whether the Municipality at all agreed to give it over to the Central Government?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** I think they have agreed to hand it over to the Central Government.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** When do you propose to take it over?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** Things are under consideration now.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** What are the special facilities to be added to this Hospital?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** Whatever is necessary.

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** The number of beds will be increased, and some other improved facilities will be offered.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is too premature. Taking over is the first thing. Adding to the facilities is the next step.

**Shrimati Benu Chakravarty:** I thought it was part of the plan.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** Is it the intention of the Government to make this a model hospital for the whole of India?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** These are all hypothetical matters.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** May I know why the Central Government want to ask the Delhi Government and the Delhi Municipal Corporation for their hospital instead of building their own new hospital?

**Shrimati Chandrasekhar:** In 1949, the Government of India considered that the capacity and the facilities of the Willingdon Hospital and the Nursing Home should be increased as there was a growing demand. They thought

the increased financial commitments involved in giving increased facilities and increasing the number of beds would be too much to be borne by the New Delhi Municipality. Therefore, the Central Government decided to take it over.

#### BIDI LABOUR

\*1176. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** (a) Will the Minister of Labour be pleased to refer to the reply given to my Starred Question No. 315 asked on the 30th May, 1952 regarding Bidi labour and state whether Government are in a position to place on the Table of the House the information promised therein?

(b) If the information has not so far been received from the State Governments concerned, how long is it likely to take?

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** (a) Yes. It is expected that the information will be placed on the Table of the House on the 16th December 1952.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri Namblar:** May I know whether there is a crisis in the Bidi industry in the South due to lack of tobacco as well as the leaves and due to want of wagons to carry these leaves to the South from Northern areas?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri K. S. Wajal):** For want of smokers!

**Shri Abid Ali:** That question does not arise out of this.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** How far has the tension between Pakistan and India resulted in this crisis? May we know if it has been estimated?

**Shri Abid Ali:** It is for the Commerce Ministry to answer.

**Shri B. S. Murthy:** May I know the steps being taken by the Government in order to implement the awards given by the Tribunals in the South in connection with the Bidi industry?

**Shri Abid Ali:** It is for the State Governments to take action, in such matters.

**Shri Namblar:** Is it given in the statement as to how far the Minimum Wages Act has been implemented in respect of the labour in the Bidi industry?

**Shri Abid Ali:** That will be given in the Statement. In May the question was asked and replies were given.

**Shri Namblar:** I want to know whether that has been implemented or not. We know up to May. We don't know what has happened after May.

**Shri Abid Ali:** A comprehensive statement is being placed on the Table of the House, and if hon. Members want further information, they may ask for it.

**Shri Punnoose:** If I remember aright, the answer then given was that the Minimum Wages Act was not fully implemented in the Bidi industry. Are we to understand that the same position is continuing?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Hon. Members will kindly look into the statement.

**The Minister of Labour (Shri V. V. Giri):** The statement will be placed tomorrow. Hon. Member may look into it and then put his questions.

#### BEGGARS IN TRAINS

\*1185. **Shri P. Sabha Rao:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether Government are aware that beggars in trains are on the increase and that travelling in Third and Inter Class is becoming a hardship on this account?

(b) What steps have Government adopted to prevent beggars going into the trains and what further steps they propose to adopt to prevent the beggar nuisance?

(c) Do Government propose to take steps to charge sheet the beggars under section 447 I.P.C. for trespass?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagarsan):** (a) Government have not received reports to the effect that beggars in trains are on the increase, though it is realised that they do sometimes cause inconvenience to passengers.

(b) All station staff, including the Watch and Ward and the Travelling Ticket Checking staff, have instructions and endeavour to prevent beggars from entering railway platforms and trains and eject them when found. Police assistance is also sought where necessary.

(c) No. The more appropriate law under which beggars can be prosecuted is Section 122 and rules made under Section 47 of the Indian Railways Act. It is, however, not always desirable to prosecute a beggar if he can be turned out from the railway premises. Prosecution involves securing custody of beggars necessitating an