

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We do not know, Sir, for the simple reason that in all these areas, which might be called British colonies, this is always a vague thing. Some people register themselves as Indian nationals, and we know definitely they are so. Others do not. The fact of non-registration does not mean necessarily that they are not Indian nationals. Of course, in a case like a colony becoming an independent territory, this vagueness cannot last very long. Then something has to be done; they have to register within a stated time thus way or that way.

Shri Kastlwal: May I know whether our Commissioner in Malaya has been asked to register Indian nationals?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: There is no question of asking, they have books for registration.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know whether the Indians who were killed there were ordinary peaceful citizens or partisans of a political party?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: They belonged to both the groups—ordinary civil citizens as well as participants in terrorist activities.

Shri C. D. Pande: Were they partisans of any party?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: Both groups.

Mr. Speaker: Political and non-political.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Government of India has received any representation from the relations of these persons, whether Indian nationals or Malayan nationals of Indian origin, about compensation or about high-handedness in this matter?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: We are dealing in this question with a period of nine years since 1948. There have been many representations, action taken, many times action taken naturally in Malaya itself, action taken in London and sometimes appeals to

the Privy Council. We have been interested in all these matters throughout these years.

Price Page Schedule

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*894. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state the steps Government have taken so far with regard to the introduction of price-page schedule for newspapers?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): As required under Section 3(4) of the Newspaper (Price and Page) Act, 1956, the views of associations of publishers etc have been ascertained on the various points concerning the proposed schedule. A meeting of such representatives was again held on the 4th and 5th of August when various alternative schedules were discussed. Government have noted the opinions expressed by the various interests and is at present engaged in finalising the schedule.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if there is a very big disparity between the views represented at the conference and, if so, what measures the Government is taking to bridge that disparity?

Dr. Keskar: I am afraid the disparity mentioned by the hon Member is a little confusing, because as far as the question of price of newspapers is concerned it is obvious that there are two or three very distinct and different points of view depending upon the size of the paper and its economic position in the newspaper world, and it might not be possible to reconcile all these two or three different view points completely, of course, they can be narrowed down to some extent.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस समय जो प्रयत्न इस सम्बन्ध में

बचाने हैं, उनके अनुसार देर से देर कब तक इस सम्बन्ध में निर्णय कर लिया जायेगा ?

डा० केशकर : मैं समझता हूँ कि झगले दो तीन हफ्तों में यह निश्चय किया जायेगा और वह शायद भी हो जायेगा ।

Shri Khadilkar: In view of the piecemeal implementation of the Press Commission's recommendations, may I know whether the Government is considering to give effect to the other recommendations regarding the news agency rates as well as the Government advertisements, and if so when?

Dr. Keskar: This question of the recommendations of the Press Commission has been dealt with extensively many times. I am afraid the hon. Member was not here when all this was discussed, but if he wants I can give him the last statement that we made on this subject which is quite extensive.

Government Presses

*895. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state

(a) whether any governmental committee was appointed to go into the cost of production in Government presses,

(b) if so, what was their finding as regards rates as between Government and private presses, and

(c) whether cost accounting system has been introduced in the printing and stationery departments?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) An expert committee on printing was set up by the Government in 1950, which *inter alia* examined the cost of production in Government Presses

(b) The Committee came to the conclusion that printing at private

presses generally costs the Government 30 per cent more than at Government presses.

(c) A Cost Accounting system is in existence in the Government Presses.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The hon. Minister said that in private presses the cost is more. May I know whether the different departments who are not regularly supplied with printed materials have been asked whether they are ready to have private presses for their use?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am not quite sure if I have understood the question. So far as the capacity in Government presses is concerned, it is not adequate to the governmental requirements, and we have been continually increasing the capacity of Government presses. For instance, in 1950 we could handle 5.62 lakh manuscript pages, in 1952 it was 6.10 lakh manuscript pages and in 1956 it was 9.62 lakhs.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that the Posts and Telegraphs Department cannot supply forms to rural and sub-offices and, if so, whether the Government would allow the Posts and Telegraphs Department to have recourse to private presses?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: In fact we do take recourse to the private presses considerably. As I have already indicated in my answer just now, our press equipment is not quite adequate for Governmental requirements.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know whether the Government can give us any idea of the working cost per page in the private press and the working cost per page in the Government Press and the difference between them?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: It is a very detailed question, but it all depends upon the nature of the printing involved. But, as I have indicated, generally speaking, it costs 30 per cent more in the private presses.