

suffering from the stigma of untouchability? If so, why did not the previous Kerala Government recommend this community to be brought within the purview of the Untouchability Offences Act of 1955?

Shrimati Alva: How can we say about the past?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Naga Unit

*261. **Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation for the transfer of the Dimapur area from the newly constituted Naga Unit under Central Administration to the United North Cachar and Mikir Hills District which is predominantly inhabited by the Cacharis who have no cultural or social affinities with Nagas; and

(b) if so, what decision Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Dimapur area, which formed part of the Naga Hills District in the past, has now been included in the Naga Unit and it continues to be so.

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: May I know the percentages of Naga and non-Naga population in the Dimapur area?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): It is difficult to give the exact percentages, but the non-Naga population probably exceeds the Naga population in Dimapur area.

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether Government have realised the difficulties and hardships of these inhabitants of the Dimapur area under the present set-up, as they have no affinities with the Nagas?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Dimapur area was part of the Naga Hills district in

the past and it is still continuing to be so. There has been no change in its position vis-a-vis the Naga Hills district.

Shri Basumatari: Was this area under the Naga Hills district before 1947?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I cannot say exactly. I presume it was, but I am not sure.

Shri Basumatari: I know it.

Mr. Speaker: Then why does the hon. Member ask the question?

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the Dimapur area legitimately belongs to North Cachar and Mikir Hills district from the point of view of ethnology and history, and that feelings are considerably ruffled in this area over this transfer, have the Government had any discussion in recent times with the Naga leaders over this area?

Pandit G. B. Pant: We have not had any discussions with the Naga leaders about the various parts of the Naga Unit that has now been formed or about its reorganisation at any time so far.

Life Insurance Corporation

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*265 { **Shri Morarka:**
Shri Nathwani:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any brokerage was paid on any of the shares purchased by the Life Insurance Corporation since the 1st September, 1956; and

(b) if so, the amount thereof and the names of the parties to whom paid?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). It is understood that the prices at which shares and debentures of companies are purchased by the Corporation through brokers are inclusive of brokerage. It is not possible to indicate the amount of brokerage paid as

the brokers do not show brokerage separately.

Shri Morarka: May I know the total amount of shares purchased through the brokers and the total number of shares purchased directly by the Corporation?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: Since 1st September, 1956, upto 19th December 1957 the Corporation has invested a total amount of Rs. 51.80 crores. Almost all except the shares purchased from Haridas Mundhra and a few cases in which the Corporation underwrote new issues of shares and debentures, have been purchased through brokers.

Shri Morarka: May I know what is the rate of brokerage, if any, the Corporation paid on the underwriting of new shares?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: In that connection, there was a question sometime ago and I have collected information and I am laying it on the Table of the House.

Refinance Corporation

*266. **Shri Bimal Ghose:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether arrangements have been completed for the establishment of the Refinance Corporation;

(b) if so, when the Corporation will start functioning; and

(c) what will be its constitution and capital resources?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) to (c). The matter is still under consideration.

Shri Bimal Ghose: In view of the fact that the former Finance Minister has assured us quite a few months ago of the establishment of this Corporation, what difficulties are holding up its establishment now?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: The other party is the United States Government. Although we have finalised the details here, it has still to be finalised with

the United States Government; and once we get their consent, the Corporation would be floated.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Am I to understand that before the Finance Minister gave this assurance in this House, the details were not taken up and finalised with the United States Government?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: I could not hear the question.

Mr. Speaker: There is too much of undue noise in the House.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Before the former Finance Minister gave the assurance to this House, was not the matter taken up with the United States Government and certain agreements arrived at?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: I do not know the particular language of the assurance which the former Finance Minister gave. But, because the funds are of the PL 480, an authorisation has to be made by the United States Government. Their consent is also necessary. We have not been able to obtain that consent. There has been some delay in it. That is the reason why we have not been able to start this Corporation.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Am I to understand that the consent has now been obtained and that there will be no further delay in its establishment?

Mr. Speaker: Has the consent now been secured?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Finance (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): There has been some delay on some others' part. Hon. Members are entitled to ask whether there has been any delay on our part. But, we cannot guarantee what might occur on the other side.

Mr. Speaker: We will now go back to question No. 240.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): I am extremely sorry that I was a little late.