

break-up of the figures as to how much out of this was spent in collaboration with the India-Stanvac Co, for drilling in West Bengal, how much was spent by the Central Government and how much by the Stanvac Co?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya.** I am sorry, I mentioned a figure of Rs 12 crores. That is exclusive of the amount spent by the Assam Oil Co, and if we take that also into account during the last 3 or 6 years, the amount spent would be roughly Rs 16 to Rs 17 crores. Out of this sum, about Rs 6 crores have been spent by the Ind-Stanvac project in Bengal in which we are 25 per cent shareholders and about Rs 4 to Rs 6 crores in oil exploration in Assam by the Assam Oil Co, completely, but now we are 33-1/3 per cent partners with them and, therefore, adjustments are being made. So far as the Oil and Natural Gas Commission is concerned, it has spent Rs 5 to Rs 6 crores so far in establishment, training, organisation and in exploration etc.

**Shri Ram Krishan Gupta.** May I know whether the drilling of any well has been stopped so far?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** When drilling is completed, it is always stopped.

**Shri P. C. Borooah.** May I know whether the Assam Oil Co, has got any injunction against the Government of India in regard to oil exploration in Assam?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya.** Well, recently, the Assam Oil Co challenged the right of the Oil and Natural Gas Commission by a writ of *mandamus* in the Assam High Court. I suppose the case is still going on. I am not aware of the position just now.

**Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** My question was not answered, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member may take some other opportunity.

#### Pension Cases

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**Shri Harihar Chandra Mathur:**  
\*683. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**  
**Shri L. Achaw Singh:**  
**Shri Jhulan Sinha:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 767 on the 2nd March, 1959 and state

(a) whether the scheme for expeditious disposal of pension cases has been finalised;

(b) what are the main features of the new procedure evolved;

(c) what is the present position regarding arrears, and

(d) when are these arrears likely to be cleared?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha):** (a) As explained in the answer to Starred Question No 767, the scheme was in two parts, viz procedural and alteration of certain basic rules relating to pensions. The procedural part has been finalised. The alteration of rules will be considered after the report of the Pay Commission has been received.

(b) A statement showing the main features is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No 127].

(c) As on 1st February, 1959 there were in all 1,973 pension cases of Central Government employees which were pending for over one year after retirement of the employees concerned.

(d) It is not possible to give any definite estimate of the time which it would take to finalise the pension cases in arrears. Efforts are, however, being made to get these cases expedited.

**Shri Harihar Chandra Mathur:** Will the hon. Minister explain how the Pay Commission is concerned with the expeditious disposal of the cases. My question was regarding the expeditious disposal of the old cases. What is the

reference that has been given to the Central Pay Commission? May I also know whether that recommendation from the Central Commission will form part of its report or whether a separate reference has been made and a separate answer will be given?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** All these matters are there and we will know what we are going to do about them only after the Pay Commission examines these things. As the hon. Member knows, a high-power committee has been appointed to go into the details and it has submitted its recommendations which involves basic changes in the old set-up. Therefore, all this has been referred to the Pay Commission.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question was whether their recommendations would also relate to the expeditious disposal of these cases.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Certainly, Sir, because it will involve basic changes in the pattern

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** What concrete steps have been taken to expedite the disposal of the arrear cases? Would the hon Minister give uncertain figures which would indicate that there has been any substantial improvement?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** The figures that are given in my original answer give the arrears still pending. The arrear cases have been reduced in all these few months. So far as the procedural alterations are concerned, a statement has been laid on the Table of the House. This would indicate that certain actions have been taken and that the matter is engaging the attention at the highest level.

**Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** How many of these pending cases are more than three years old?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** I have stated in answer to (c) that there were 1973 cases pending for more than one year.

**Shri Damani:** Just now the hon. Minister has said that action has been

taken to expedite the cases. Can I know how many cases had been disposed of in the last three months and also in the previous three months?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** I am not in a position to give the monthly figures.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** If the hon. lady Deputy Minister would have a look at the statement laid on the Table of the House, she will find that it does not relate to the disposal of the arrears but it relates to the procedure for the disposal of the cases in future. My question is what specific steps have been taken to clear the arrears—it is not for the future cases or procedure—and what is the result of these specific steps taken?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** All these questions are part of the whole total proposal and cannot be divided into parts.

**Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:** My specific question was this. How many cases were pending for more than three years? But the hon Minister's reply related to cases pending for more than one year. More than one year may even mean thirteen months. I want to know specifically cases which are three years' or more old.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** That information is not with me at present but if the hon. lady Member wants it I shall certainly supply it.

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** May I request the hon Minister to have a look at the statement laid on the Table?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** I have looked at the statement and then only I have laid it on the Table of the House. (Interruptions.)

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. This would not be permitted here during the Question Hour.

**Shri Panigrahi:** May I know the number of cases which have been disposed of?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** For any particular period?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** It is being done from year to year.

**कथा कालक्षेपम् की कला**

\*६८१. **श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** क्या वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत के कथा कालक्षेपम् की प्राचीन कला लुप्त होती जा रही है; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इस विषय में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

**वैज्ञानिक अनुसंधान और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री हुमायून् कबिर) (क)** यह पता लगा है कि इसके पहिले की अपील अब कम हो रही है ।

(ख) सगीत नाटक प्रकादमी का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाया जा रहा है कि वह इस कला के संरक्षण के लिये जरूरी कार्यवाही करे ।

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** इस बात को देखते हुए कि यह कला भारतवर्ष की प्रत्यन्त प्राचीन कला है और इस कला का धीरे धीरे लोप हो रहा है, क्या सरकार द्वारा इस कला के जानने वाले कलाकारों को कोई सहायता प्रदान करने का प्रयास होगा ?

**श्री हुमायून् कबिर** हमारी जो स्कीम है, जिसके अनुसार पुराने कलाकारों को सहायता मिलती है, उसमें यह भी शामिल है । लेकिन यह जो कम हो रही है इसका कारण यह है कि इसमें इंटिरेस्ट कम होता जा रहा है और यह नहीं कहा जा सकता कि सहायता या संरक्षण न मिलने की वजह से कम हो रही है ।

**श्री स्वामी :** मैं पूछना चाहता हू कि जिस कला में या जिस चीज में लोगों की विसवस्ती नहीं रही है और लोग उसको नहीं चाहते हैं तो क्या गवर्नमेंट की संज्ञा यह है कि उस पर गवर्नमेंट, रुपया खर्च करके साबित्वी तौर पर उसे लोगों से पसन्द करवाने ?

**श्री हुमायून् कबिर :** मैंने पसन्द करवाने की बात नहीं कही है । मैंने यह कहा है कि उसका संरक्षण होना चाहिये, उसका प्रिजर्वेशन होना चाहिये, टेपरिकाटिंग होना चाहिये ताकि प्रादमी उसको भूल न जाये ताकि याद रहे कि एक ऐसा घाट भी हिन्दुस्तान में था ।

**Dr. M. S. Aney:** I want to understand the meaning of the word in this question. Is it

“कथा कालक्षेपम्” or “कथा कलाक्षेपम्”

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** It is

“कथा कालक्षेपम्”

**Income-Tax from Foreign Shipping Concerns**

{ **Shri Sadhan Gupta:**  
\*686. { **Shri Muhammed Elias:**  
          { **Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:**

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many foreign shipping concerns have failed to make deductions of income-tax payable by their floating staff in our country under sections 7(1) and 18 of the Indian Income-tax Act;

(b) the arrears of income-tax payable by such floating staff;

(c) the steps, if any, taken by Government to realise such arrears; and

(d) how many foreign shipping concerns have agreed to pay off such arrears and the amount of arrears which is expected to be realised?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha):** (a) Foreign shipping concerns whose ships merely touch the Indian Ports are not being called upon to make deductions of income-tax from the salaries of their foreign-based floating staff. This is in consonance with international practice. Recently, however, the question has been raised whether this practice is covered by the law as it stands and the matter is under examination