

**Mr. Speaker:** What was the price of tea before the levy of these two taxes? That is the question.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** 7 nP. is the carriage tax levied by Assam and 6 nP. is the entry tax levied by the West Bengal Government. So, we have to add to the price about two annas per lb.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** The hon. Minister just now remarked that it was only up to the State Government but the Central Government takes part of the octroi duty that is charged. So, it is not only up to the State Government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Is she giving information or is she asking a question?

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:** No, Sir. I am asking this question as the hon. Minister said that it was up to the State Government only.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member wants to know if octroi duty that is levied is not shared by the Central Government and if so how can the Central Government say that it is entirely for the State Government.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** I am not aware of any such thing.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या असम गवर्नमेंट और बंगाल गवर्नमेंट भी इस पर राजी हैं कि यह टैक्स हटा दिया जाए ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : बातचीत चल रही है। जैसा शुरू में मैंने बताया है कि जब बातचीत खत्म हो जाएगी तभी तो पता चलेगा कि पूरी तरह से राजी हैं या नहीं।

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether it is a fact that Assam tea is subjected to both the Assam road tax and the Bengal entry tax while the Bengal tea is subjected only to the Bengal-tax?

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** It is so because the Assam Government

levies a flat rate duty of 7 nP. per lb. on manufactured tea which is carried by motor vehicles, or trollies or anything. It is called the carriage tax. The West Bengal Government levies a tax on entry of Assam tea to Bengal. So, it is having both these taxes.

**Shri P. C. Borooah:** May I know whether the Government has any proposal to remove this discrepancy?

**Mr. Speaker:** She has already said so. The hon. Members must follow the question.

#### India Office Library

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\*74. { Shri A. M. Tariq:  
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:  
Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Sardar Iqbal Singh:  
Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:  
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:  
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:  
Shri Assar:  
Shri Kadiyan:  
Shri Anirudh Sinha:  
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:  
Shri P. C. Borooah:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:  
Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:  
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:  
Shri Raghunath Singh:  
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:  
Shri P. K. Deo:  
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:  
Dr. Samantsinhar:  
Shri Agadi:  
Shri Sugandhi:  
Shri Pangarkar:  
Shri Tangamani:  
Shri Achar:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that he had a meeting with Lord Home in London to discuss the outstanding question of India Office Library;

(b) whether any decision was taken regarding transfer of the Library;

(c) if so, the nature of such a decision; and

(d) if no decision was arrived at, what further steps Government propose to take to acquire the India Office Library?

**The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir):** (a) I had a meeting with Mr. Alport on a purely personal level.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) To continue to press our claims till a mutually acceptable decision is reached.

**Shri A. M. Tariq:** May I know if the hon. Minister is aware of the fact that during our Prime Minister's visit to London he had a meeting with Field Marshall Ayub Khan with regard to the partition of India Office Library and later on with Lord Home? May I know whether the hon. Minister has got some information about the discussions held between these two?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** On the 12th of May, there was a meeting between the Prime Minister and President Ayub Khan of Pakistan and the Commonwealth Secretary of the U.K. Government. They discussed generally the question of future ownership and the management of the Library. Some legal issues were also raised and it was agreed that the exact nature of the discussions would not, for the present, be disclosed.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether the views of Pakistan were ascertained in this matter and if so what are their views?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** I have already told the House that identical notes were presented by India and Pakistan in this matter and so there is no question of ascertaining the views of Pakistan.

श्री म० ल० द्विवेदी : इस पुस्तकालय को भारत को देने के सम्बन्ध में ब्रिटिश

सरकार का क्या ख्याल है और अब स्थिति क्या है ?

श्री हुमायून् कबीर : ब्रिटिश सरकार का जो ख्याल है उसके मुताबिक अगर हम चले तो वह कभी नहीं देगी ।

**Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:** May I know whether the Government of Pakistan has proposed the division of the books in the Library about which there is a difference of opinion?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The question is of establishing the ownership and we have presented a joint claim and we are going to pursue that claim. We do not propose to raise any other question at this stage.

**Shri N. E. Muniswamy:** May I know whether any suggestion has been put forth by the Government of India to take photostat copies of the documents?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** The matter has been under discussion but the first question to decide is that of legal ownership. The U.K. Government hold that according to their legal advice the library belongs to them. We are absolutely clear in our mind that it is the joint property of undivided India and therefore, of the successor Governments of India and Pakistan.

**Shri Tangamani:** We are glad that the Government of Pakistan have raised no objection to the transfer of these books and agree that they jointly belong to both the Governments. May I know whether certain documents of historical importance connected with Tippu Sultan and others would be made over to the Indian Union and transferred to the Indian Union?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** I do not know what the hon. Member is referring to. The library is now in the possession of the Government of the United Kingdom and you cannot divide something which does not belong to you at the present moment.

**Shri Tangamani:** I am asking whether the Government of India will at

least see to it that those documents which are of historical importance and connected with the Indian Union will be made over to the Indian Union? I referred to certain manuscript copies connected with the life of Tippu Sultan.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is a suggestion for action.

**Shri C. R. Patlabhi Raman:** Is any joint effort being made to get micro-filmed copies of important documents and records?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Scholars sometime secure such manuscripts for micro-filming but the Government of India—I think in this matter the Government of Pakistan is completely with us—do not propose to ask for any micro-filming because it will weaken our claims.

**श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस लाइब्रेरी को तैयार करने में शुरू शुरू में खर्चा भारत सरकार का खर्च हुआ था या ब्रिटिश सरकार का ?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Our claim rests on the basis that the land was purchased with Indian money, the building was also built with Indian money and till 1937 the entire expenses of the library were met from Indian revenues.

**Dr. M. S. Aney:** That is our claim. What is the basis of their claim? Do they say that the whole thing was built at their cost?

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** Our position has been and is that they have no claims. But they hold, and by some kind of a jugglery of law some of their legal advisers have advised them, that it belongs to them. I have told the Minister of State for Commonwealth Affairs that the very fact that they have not been able to find any answer for five years to our Note is conclusive proof that they have no legal arguments.

**श्री प्र० सु० तारिक :** मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि चूँकि यह मसला पिछले कई

सालों से इसी तरह पड़ा हुआ है, और इस के सिलसिले में हमारे मरहूम वजीर तालीम भी लन्दन गये और वजीर आज़म भी गये, फिर भी यह हल नहीं हुआ तो क्या हुकूमत हिन्दुस्तान इस मसले को वल्ड कोर्ट के सामने ले जाने को तैयार है ?

[मैंने ये जानना चाहा! हوں کہ چونکہ یہ مسئلہ پچھلے کئی سالوں سے اس طرح پڑا ہوا ہے - اور اس کے سلسلہ میں ہمارے مرحوم وزیر تعلیم بھی لندن گئے اور وزیر اعظم بھی گئے - پھر بھی یہ حل نہیں ہوا - تو کیا حکومت ہندوستان اس مسئلہ کو ورلڈ کورٹ کے سامنے لے جانے کو تیار ہے ]

**Shri Humayun Kabir:** There are certain conventions which govern the relations between Commonwealth countries (*Interruption*). But we are pursuing the matter, suggestions have been made and these discussions will continue. We shall, as I said, continue pressing our claims till there is an agreed settlement (*Interruption*).

#### Management in Public Sector Steel Plants

\*75. **Shri Chintamani Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is considering expert opinions regarding the improvement in the present management pattern of the public sector steel plants; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made so far in this respect?

**The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A French team and a British team of experts were invited to advise on the efficient management and organisation of production at the Rourkela and Durgapur Steel Works respectively and in particular to suggest the outlines of a system of periodical departmental returns and reports within the works for manage-