

Their living conditions are satisfactory, they are in good heart and the standard of their performance is recognised to be very high.

(d) Indian troops are carrying out the duties assigned by United Nations Command in pursuance of the Resolutions passed by the Security Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations and in accordance with the arrangements made between the Government of India and the Secretary-General, United Nations.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: In view of the satisfactory work done by our troops, may I know whether any demand for more troops has been made; if so, to what extent our Government has complied with that request?

Sardar Majithia: That question was answered yesterday in this very House.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know whether indications are available as to the time by which the troops will be repatriated to India in view of the satisfactory improvement in the Congo situation?

Sardar Majithia: That question was answered by me on 9th August, 1961.

Shri Hem Barua: Besides this committee saying that the living conditions of our troops in the Congo are good, may I know whether in the deployment of troops in the Congo the Security Council's resolutions are adequately adhered to or not. I want to know whether the Mission has discovered that or not.

Sardar Majithia: I answered that question on 9th August, but I do not mind repeating it again, that the agreement arrived at between our Government and the Secretary-General are adhered to.

Shri Hem Barua: The Security Council resolution does not say that the troops in the Congo would be utilised for disarming Tshombe's

troops or something like that. But recently they have been used for that purpose. That is why I am particular about this and that is why I want to know on this particular point.

Sardar Majithia: As I said, there is a certain agreement between us and the Secretary-General regarding how our troops are going to be used. That, as I said last time also and I repeated previously, is strictly being adhered to.

Repayment of Advance to TISCO and IISCO

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*1049. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1799 on the 1st May, 1961 and state:

(a) whether the terms of repayment of the advance made to TISCO and IISCO have since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The report of the Tariff Commission has not been received.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether any of the companies has made any repayment since 1st May, 1961?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not think so, because that will depend upon the report of the Tariff Commission.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In reply to a previous question the hon. Minister stated that the terms of payment will be settled as soon as a decision has been taken on the retention price to be allowed to TISCO and IISCO. I want to know when a final decision is going to be taken by the Tariff Commission in this regard?

Sardar Swaran Singh: As the time of the receipt of report from the Tariff Commission is uncertain, I could not really give any useful information. As soon as the report of the Tariff Commission is received we will try to expedite its examination and take action as soon as possible.

Shri Tyagi: What is the total amount of advances made to TISCO and IISCO respectively?

Sardar Swaran Singh: That information has been given earlier. To Tatas I think it was Rs. 10 crores and to Indian Iron and Steel it was Rs. 10 crores on one occasion and a little over Rs. 1 million on the other occasion.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether any repayment has been made out of the advances paid to TISCO and IISCO? The hon. Minister just now said that Rs. 10 crores to TISCO and Rs. 10.1 crores to IISCO have been given. I would like to know whether any repayments has ever been made at all.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Not yet.

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that fixation of retention price is linked up with the recommendations of the Tariff Commission, may I know whether in the meanwhile an interim fixation of retention price has been made?

Mr. Speaker: How does it arise out of this?

Shri Hem Barua: It arises.

Mr. Speaker: This is about terms of repayment.

Shri Hem Barua: On a previous occasion it was said that retention price has not been fixed as it depends on the recommendation of the Tariff Commission.

Mr. Speaker: That does not arise out of this question. The term of repayment has nothing to do with retention price.

Shri Hem Barua: These are interest-free loans, and there is an interpretation that the retention price will

be increased in order to enable them to pay these loans. Last time it came up like that.

Mr. Speaker: Let me put the question this way. Is repayment delayed on account of the non-fixation of retention price, and is it a fact that the retention price is going to be increased so as to enable the companies to repay the loans and thus put the burden upon the community? That is exactly what the hon. Member wants.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Sir, if I may recapitulate, this point has been raised here on occasions more than one. The Government's position on that issue has also been clarified, but as it has been raised again I would like to say again what I have said before as to what were the terms upon which these loans have been advanced. It may be recalled that this happened as far back as the year 1953 and the position is like this.....

Mr. Speaker: Are they still interest-free?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, Sir, interest at the rate of 5 per cent on the recommendation of the Tariff Commission is being charged from a certain date.

Mr. Speaker: From the beginning?

Sardar Swaran Singh: No, Sir, from a certain date later on. All these points will be clear if I were to re-state what is contained in the original agreement—you may like it, you may not like it, but that is the agreement.

Mr. Speaker: I have nothing to do with that.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Advances were made to steel companies in order to enable them partially to meet the cost of modernisation and expansion programme. The intention at the time of granting these advances was that the steel companies should not be asked to pay any interest during the period of construction. The provisions in the agreements were:

(a) the advances shall have no maturity date and shall bear no interest whatsoever prior to 30th June, 1958 or such later date as may be mutually agreed upon and (b) the Government of India shall decide, on the advice of the Tariff Commission, whether from the 1st of July, or such later date as aforesaid, the company should be charged any interest on the said advance and at what date the company should repay the advances. To the extent that the interest and repayment of the advances does not come out of the share capital to be raised by the two companies, the funds which were repayable were to come out of a special element in the price of steel. That is the position.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the period for which exemption from the payment of interest has been given?

Sardar Swaran Singh: This matter was referred to the Tariff Commission and they were asked to conduct enquiries and submit their report about repayment and interest by the companies, and the Commission recommended that interest on the special advances should be charged on the two companies from the 1st July, 1958 at 5 per cent per annum.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In reply to a previous question also it was stated that interest would be charged from the 1st July, 1958, as already stated by the hon. Minister. I want to know whether interest is being paid regularly by the companies from 1st July, 1958 or even the interest is due.

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is not being paid because the Tariff Commission has stated that the actual recovery of the amount may have, however, to be postponed until a decision is taken regarding the common retention price to all the main producers of iron and steel, both in the public and private sectors, after 31st March, 1960, and that reference is with the Tariff Commission. It is after the receipt of that report that a final decision can be taken.

Pay Commission's Recommendations

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*1050. { **Shri Nek Ram Negi:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 961 on the 20th March, 1961 and state:

(a) whether Government have implemented the recommendations of the Pay Commission which have been accepted by Government; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) and (b). A statement showing the recommendations of the Pay Commission which have been accepted by the Government but which have not yet been implemented and showing in each case the action taken on the respective recommendations is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix III, annexure No. 74].

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: In the statement the first recommendation is about permission to Government doctors for private practice. About this recommendation it is stated that it has been accepted in principle and will be implemented when the Central Health Service comes into operation. May I know the steps that are being taken by Government to set up this organisation so that this recommendation may be implemented soon?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: From the question itself it is obvious that the Health Ministry is taking all steps to see that the Central Health Service comes into operation as soon as possible.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: As a result of the recommendation of the Pay Commission and modification by Government, casual leave was reduced from 15 to 12 days and Saturday was made a full working day. I want to know whether Government have recently taken a decision to restore these concessions.