

Congressional Sub-Committee that Kashmir was 'annexed' by India; and

(b) whether the Government of India have lodged a protest against that statement?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Yes. Government have seen the text of a statement on Kashmir made by the Secretary of State, Mr. John Foster Dulles, on Tuesday, January 29, 1957, before hearing of the sub-committee of the Committee on Appropriations of the House of Representatives. A transcript of the Statement which was released to the Press on April 7, 1957 states:

"Question: Is there a likelihood that the Kashmir situation can be resolved in a satisfactory manner, or do you think what India has done in effect closes the door in that particular situation?"

Secretary Dulles: No, I do not think that it closes the door. As I estimate it, nothing irrevocable has happened yet with regard to the annexation of Kashmir".

(b) Yes. The Government of India are grieved and distressed by this statement which is not in conformity with the facts and coming as it is from the Secretary of State of the United States with whom we have close and friendly relations.

No reply has been received so far.

Employees Provident Fund

*277. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state whether the proposal to enhance the rate of contribution to the Employees Provident Fund from 6½ to 8½ per cent. has since been finalised?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): The proposal has been put to the Employers' Associations for their views.

Export of Monkeys

*278. { Shri P. K. Deo;
Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha;
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the number of monkeys exported to the United States of America and other foreign countries during the year 1956-57 as compared to the year 1955-56;

(b) the total amount earned by India country-wise as a result of their exports during these years; and

(c) whether Government contemplate to ban the export of monkeys?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 24.]

(c) Government have no proposal at present to ban the export of monkeys.

Indians in Burma

*279. { Shri S. C. Samanta;
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large and long established Indian companies, firms and individuals in Burma who import goods into that country are not qualified for registration under the Burma Companies Act; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to remedy it and with what results?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) Yes. Under the Registration (Importers and Exporters) Order, 1954 of the Government of Burma, which came into force on the 1st October 1954, no foreign firm can be registered unless it is registered under the Burma Companies Act and it had