

(c) The Government have considered the recommendations and agreed to the proposal regarding extension of the period of repayment of loans from 10 to 15 years. Necessary amendment to the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948 has been provided for in the amending Bill which is proposed to be introduced in the current session of Parliament. The other suggestion in regard to the reduction in the rate of interest charged on loans has not been found acceptable.

Shri Gidwani: In view of the slump in the market, does the Government not think it necessary to reduce the rate of interest, as it would be beyond the capacity of the loanees to pay?

Shri M. C. Shah: It is not possible because the idea is that the administration should be self-supporting.

Shri Gidwani: Will it be possible for the loanees to pay this high rate of interest, particularly in view of the present slump in the market?

Shri M. C. Shah: The rate is not high. The rate charged is six per cent. and a rebate of one per cent. is given if instalments are paid in due time.

Sardar Hukam Singh: Could I know the number of cases where the loanees were not given the full amount of the loans sanctioned for them, but reductions were made on account of sums that were due by them on account of house rent and other charges?

Shri M. C. Shah: I require notice for that.

STADIA

*380. **Shri K. K. Basu:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether the Central Government have made any contribution towards the cost of construction of stadia at Bombay, Delhi and Madras?

(b) What is the amount given to the respective Organisations?

(c) Are there any specific terms for such contributions and if so, what are they?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Shri K. K. Basu: Has the Government any intention of contributing anything to the establishment of stadia at different centres with a view to encourage sports?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No, Sir.

RULES OF HOSPITALITY

*381. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state whether there are any rules of hospitality applicable in the case of Ministers of Central Government on tour?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): No.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if it would be considered desirable by the Government that Ministers on tour should stay with people as their hosts who have business connections with the Government of India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. It is a question of opinion and argument. Some people may object to it. Some may not object to it.

Shri K. K. Basu: We ought to know the intention of the Government.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Is it permissible for Ministers of the Government, in the course of their continuation as Ministers of the Government, to accept the hospitality, in their official tours, of people who are likely to exercise influence on the business connections of the Government of India?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri N. M. Lingam: Is it customary for Ministers to send their tour programmes to local M.Ps. while on tour?

Shri Datar: They are sent to local Governments, and sometimes to local M.Ps. also.

Shri C. E. Narasimhan: Why sometimes, why not at all times?

Mr. Speaker: It is a suggestion for action.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the suggestion made by Mr. Gorwala in the report which he has submitted to the Planning Commission regarding this.

The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May I say a word? It is obviously difficult to make hard and fast rules about such matters, but seeing the way in which the question has been put by the hon. Member, I may say that Ministers should not do anything to give rise to the impres-

sion that any party dealing with the Government can take advantage of them.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I add that I asked this question because all Members of Parliament were circulated a certain notification from a certain Department which I shall not name, which mentioned specifically that a Minister of Government was staying with a very important business magnate of Calcutta, and his address was care of a particular business magnate.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

POSTAL TRANSACTIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

*362. **Shri A. N. Vidyalaankar:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether any agreement has been reached with Pakistan with regard to the Postal Transactions, Provident Fund Accounts, Savings Bank, and Pension Accounts?

(b) If not, what action do Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). In regard to Savings Bank and Postal certificates the agreement was that transfers of accounts from one country to the other would be permitted upto the 31st March 1949 in the case of Savings Bank and the 30th June 1949 in the case of Postal Certificates. Persons who did not apply for transfer by these dates have to claim payment from the country concerned in the normal course.

As regards Provident Fund Accounts and Pensions, there is an agreement under which payments are made on a provisional basis to displaced Government servants, both Central and Provincial and also to servants of States and local bodies who retired before partition and migrated before the 31st March 1951, subject to subsequent recovery from the Government or local body liable for such pensions and provident funds. Final payments are to be made after verification through the Central Claims Organisation of the two Governments. This agreement does not, however, cover ex-employees of the divided Provinces which have their own separate arrangements.

SECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

*368. **Shri Bhehhikotiah:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased

to state whether the Secondary Education Commission has circulated a questionnaire?

(b) If so, what is the purpose of the questionnaire?

(c) To whom has it been sent?

(d) Will a copy of the questionnaire be placed on the Table of the House?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) Yes.

(b) The purpose is to elicit comments of educationists and others interested in education all over the country on the various problems to be investigated by the Commission.

(c) The questionnaire has been widely circulated to State Governments, Universities, educational institutions whose names were suggested by the States, editors of important educational journals, teachers and educational associations, Members of Parliament and prominent educationists.

(d) A copy of the questionnaire is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. P-76/52]

SECONDARY EDUCATION IN ANDAMANS

*369. **Shri Raghavaiah:** (a) Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state whether representations have been received from the Andaman Islands regarding improving the Secondary Education there?

(b) Is it a fact that knowledge of Hindustani, which is the mother tongue of the majority of the people there, is made a condition for the employment of teachers?

The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): (a) No, but the Andaman Indian Association submitted a memorandum to the Home Secretary of the Government of India when he visited the Islands early in 1951.

(b) No, but in employing teachers preference is always given to those who know Hindustani.

CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL WORKERS

*382. **Shri Balakrishnan:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a conference of international social workers is going to be held in India in the near future;