

scholars return they will be employed by the respective Companies.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA

*507. **Shri A. M. Thomas:** (a) Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether the Imperial Bank of India has decided to close or has closed its branches in Pakistan?

(b) If so, what are the reasons for the decision?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) Out of the 25 offices which continued to function in Pakistan after the partition, 16 have been closed between July and September, 1952.

(b) On the establishment of the State Bank of Pakistan as Pakistan's central banking authority, the Imperial Bank's branches in Pakistan conducted Government business as the sole agents of the State Bank. This, however, was a temporary arrangement pending the establishment of the National Bank of Pakistan and between April and September 1952 this Bank took over the Government business. Partly in consequence of the loss of Government business and partly because it became apparent that, at many of the centres involved, the other business would be insufficient to permit of both the National Bank of Pakistan and the Imperial Bank of India continuing to operate on an economic basis, the Imperial Bank of India had to close the 16 offices referred to above.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, whether there is any proposal to abolish the remaining branches also?

Shri M. C. Shah: No, Sir.

Shri A. M. Thomas: May I know, Sir, what exactly has been the average early turn-over or the working capital of these branches taken together after partition?

Shri M. C. Shah: That information is not with us.

Shri A. C. Guha: May I know whether the Imperial Bank possessed any property in these territories and, if so, what happened to those properties?

Shri M. C. Shah: In 1951 we had information that their assets were to the extent of Rs. 21 crores and 93 lakhs. There were liabilities accordingly—time liabilities, demand liabilities, investments, etc.

Shri K. Subrahmanyam: Is there any Pakistan Bank operating in India?

Shri M. C. Shah: The Habib Bank of Bombay.

Mr. Speaker: His point is whether any bank registered in Pakistan is at present operating in India?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I think the Habib Bank was first registered in India. Later on they moved on to Pakistan but they continue to have branches in India.

Shri B. S. Murthy: What has happened to the properties of the Imperial Bank whose branches in Pakistan have been closed?

Shri M. C. Shah: There are still nine branches working there. There were certain time liabilities, demand liabilities, investments, etc. They have all been adjusted.

SUPREME COURT AND HIGH COURTS

*508. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of days the Supreme Court of India and the various High Courts worked during 1950 and 1951;

(b) whether all the High Courts and the Supreme Court of India enjoy similar long vacations; and

(c) if not, what is the period of long vacation prevalent in each of these Courts?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (See Appendix III, annexure No. 11).

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether the long vacations enjoyed by these courts are similar to those enjoyed by them before the 15th August 1947?

Shri Datar: They are the same.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, what is the purpose behind these long vacations?

Shri Datar: To recoup themselves.

Shri S. N. Das: May I know, Sir, whether in view of increased work and accumulated arrears, the question of reducing the long period of vacations has been considered by Government?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He is clearly making a suggestion for action.

to (c). A

Shri A. K. Basu: Is it a fact that during the long vacation, the Supreme Court does not sit at all in the city of Delhi?

The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju): You are referring to the Supreme Court alone?

I think there is one judge who is appointed to deal with urgent and important matters. Sometimes he sits here and sometimes he sits elsewhere. He has got jurisdiction over the whole of India.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know, Sir, whether there are arrears of work in the High Courts, in particular in the Travancore-Cochin High Court, and, if so, whether such arrears are due to the long vacations and the far too many holidays which the High Courts enjoy?

Dr. Katju: There are arrears in every Court. As to whether they are due to a large number of holidays and vacations is a matter of opinion.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know.....

Mr. Speaker: I do not think it will be proper to continue this line of attack through questions.

Shri K. K. Basu: It is very small...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members must have some experience of law and law courts before they ask such questions; and the work of the Judges in High Courts and the Supreme Court should not be looked upon so lightly as that.

Shri Nambiar: We do not.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I will go to the next question.

TIDE-PREDICTING MACHINE

*509. **Shri S. C. Samanta:** (a) Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state when and where the tide-predicting machine was first manufactured?

(b) Is it a fact that this machine can predict tides long in advance and if so, for how many years?

(c) How far can it help to gauge the stability of coastal lands?

The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) The first standard tide predicting machine was manufactured in England in 1879.

(b) This machine can predict tides any number of years in advance provided no substantial change in the regime of the port is introduced by natural or artificial causes such as dredging, bar formation, etc.

(c) It cannot help to gauge the stability of coastal lands.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether it is a fact that this oldest, complicated machine has twenty-four components in the form of discs and that some of the discs represent the sun and the moon?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Let us not go into it. It is too technical for this House.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know how many such machines there are in the world, and whether the Survey of India is importing a new sort of machine of modern type which will have forty-two discs?

مجلسٹر آف ایجوکیشن اینڈ نیچرل

ریسرچ، مولانا آزاد : نئی ماڈرن مشین پرانی مشین

کی جگہ لگا دی گئی ہے اور وہ سنہ

۱۹۵۱ ع سے کام کر رہی ہے۔

[The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): A new modern machine has replaced the old one and it is working since 1951.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that the Survey of India is making predictions for 1955, and, if so, may I know whether the results of these predictions will be published in the form of books and amongst whom these books will be distributed?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: These predictions have already been published. They are published year by year, and they are supplied to all those companies and other parties interested in them.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know when this first machine was brought to India, where it has been located, and what Department is using it?

مولانا آزاد : سنہ ۱۹۲۲ ع میں وہ کچھ اور کاتھیاوار کی طرف لگائی گئی تھی۔

[Maulana Azad: It was installed in the year 1922 on behalf of Kutch and Kathiawar.]

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it a fact that tidal records have been kept at Kidderpore since 1880 to investigate whether deltaic Bengal has been in a gradual state of subsidence? If so, what are the predictions thereof?