

सरदार ए० एस० सहगल : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ऐसे कौन कौन से लोग हैं जो कि इसका रोजगार करते हैं और क्या वे यहां उपस्थित हैं ?

डा० पी० एस० बेगमूल : मुझे मालूम नहीं है ।

Many Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Should we spend so much time on monkeys?

THE CONVENTION RESOLUTION OF 1949

*1892. Shri K. C. Sodhia: (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Convention Resolution of 1949 is still in force?

(b) If so, how is its clause (4) being put into effect if the capital invested in Railways is not ascertained?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes, it is still in force.

(b) There is no difficulty in giving effect to clause 4 of the Convention Resolution of 1949 as the capital invested in Railways is a definitely ascertainable sum.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: How do we calculate the interest if we do not know the sum invested in its entirety?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): It is a definitely ascertainable sum and the interest is calculated at 4 per cent.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: We must know the capital before we can calculate the interest.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: With respect to such matters as these, the Resolution of the Convention is a matter of record. The details will kindly be studied by the hon. Member before he pursues this question.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: I have been studying it for the last one month, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: What is the question?

Shri K. C. Sodhia: My question is: unless there is the valuation of the capital locked up in the Railways, how is it possible to calculate the interest

and how is it possible to take that interest from the Railway earnings to the Central exchequer?

Shri Alagesan: I may inform the hon. Member that the capital is a definitely ascertainable sum, and on that sum 4 per cent. interest is calculated.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Are we not adding every year to that capital?

Shri Alagesan: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I find there is a confusion as regards the capital at charge and the total value of all the assets. It does not depend upon the value of the assets. Every budget gives the amount that has been lent or the capital at charge so far as the Railways are concerned. I do not think it is necessary.....

Shri K. C. Sodhia: We are investing every year a certain amount of capital. What is that capital up to date? That is what I want to know.

Shri Alagesan: I may inform the hon. Member that for the year 1952-53 the capital at charge for purposes of paying dividend was computed at Rs. 825.84 crores.

FREE MARKET OF FOODGRAINS

*1893. Shri K. C. Sodhia: (a) Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether Government propose to introduce free market in various foodgrains along with rationing in the rationed areas?

(b) If not, what are the chief difficulties in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) The introduction of free market in various foodgrains in different States along with Government distribution through fair price shops has been made during the last several months. Even in the statutorily rationed areas there is now a free market so far as coarse grains and wheat flour are concerned. Wherever the extension of the idea of free market along with Government distribution as a safeguard is desirable or feasible, the Centre will generally not oppose such a proposal from the State Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: Who will make the proposal in the case of Delhi?

Shri K. K. Basu: Members of Parliament.