

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
(Part I—Questions and Answers)
OFFICIAL REPORT

1451

HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE
Monday, 21st December, 1953.

*The House met at Half Past One
of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

EVACUEE SAVINGS BANK ACCOUNTS

*1147. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the statement of the Pakistan Minister of Communications, reported to have been made in Pakistan Parliament on the 28th September, 1953 to the effect "that negotiations had taken place between India and Pakistan on the question of verification of Savings Bank Accounts and Savings Certificates Claims and that actual work of transfer would begin as soon as liaison officers had been appointed on both sides"; and

(b) if so, whether Government have appointed the officers for the purpose?

The Minister of Communications (Shri Jagjivan Ram): (a) and (b). Negotiations have taken place and the question of appointment of Liaison Officers is under the consideration of the Government.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any conference is fixed for this business just early in the future?
612 PSD.

1452

Shri Jagjivan Ram: I think these officers are going to be appointed shortly.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any assessment has been made so far of the value of the amount held by Indians and those held by Pakistanis?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Total claims registered, so far as the Indian side is concerned, number 1,45,265 and the amount is Rs. 7,22,05,232. Claims settled number 88,153 and the amount Rs. 4,21,32,135. Pending claims to be settled number 56,682, and the amount involved is Rs. 3,00,73,096. We have no knowledge of the number of claims and amounts registered by Pakistan nationals in that country.

Sardar Hukam Singh: May I know whether any interim relief is to be given to these people?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: As soon as the claims are verified and settled.

FISH

*1148. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to Para 9 of Chapter XXIII of the Planning Commission's Report and state:

(a) how much productivity of inland fisheries has been affected by the appearance of Water Hyacinth in impounded waters;

(b) whether the problem of weeding out the Water Hyacinth is common to the entire fresh water fisheries of India; and