

**INDO-PAKISTAN AGREEMENT ON GENERAL PROVIDENT FUND BALANCES**

\*2322. **Shri Gidwani:** (a) Will the Minister of **Rehabilitation** be pleased to state whether an agreement was reached in 1950 regarding the refund of General Provident Fund Balances left by displaced Government servants in Pakistan?

(b) What is the total number of accounts and the amount of General Provident Fund Balances left in Pakistan by the Displaced Government Servants?

(c) What is the number and amount of claims received so far and verified from Pakistan Government?

(d) Is it a fact that both the Pakistan and Indian Governments had agreed in 1953 to complete the verification of all pending claims by June 1954?

**The Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) Yes.

(b) 5,019 claims involving a sum of Rs. 61.86 lakhs have so far been preferred by the displaced Government Servants in India.

(c) Out of 5,019 claims referred to Pakistan, 1,642 claims of the aggregate value of Rs. 18.45 lakhs have so far been returned duly verified.

(d) The representatives of the two Governments who met in October 1953, to consider ways and means to speed up verification work, felt that it should be possible to complete the work by the end of June, 1954.

**Shri Gidwani:** May I know whether liaison officers for verification and transfer of postal accounts have been appointed according to the recent agreement?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** Some officers have been appointed. I do not know whether any particular officer has been appointed for this type of work.

**Shri Gidwani:** May I know whether the present rate of progress of the verification of claims under the

General Provident Fund balances justifies the expectation that the remaining claims could be verified by June, 1954?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** I am very doubtful.

**Shri Gidwani:** What do the Government propose to do to expedite the same?

**Shri A. P. Jain:** We send the claims to Pakistan. We are pressing them, but if they do not verify them, we could not still press them to do it.

**INDIANS IN CEYLON**

\*2323. **Shri Raghuramaiah:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether any representation has been made to the Government of Ceylon in respect of the recent decision of the Ceylon Government to stop renewal of temporary residence permits and identity certificates to people of Indian origin; and

(b) if so, what reply has been received from the Ceylon Government?

**The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shri Anil K. Chanda):** (a) Yes, orally by the High Commission for India in Colombo.

(b) The High Commission was told that the renewal of temporary residence permits and issue of identity certificates had not been stopped, but were only temporarily suspended pending the recommendations of the Cabinet Sub-Committee of the Government of Ceylon, at present working out ways of implementation of the Indo-Ceylon Agreement.

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** May I know what conditions are imposed on persons, before the Government of India grants a visa under the new policy of granting visas?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** I would like to have notice of that question.

**Shri M. D. Ramasami:** May I know whether any special arrangements have been agreed to in regard to the residence of the business community which has been carrying on trade in Ceylon for long?

**Shri Anil K. Chanda:** There was no special agreement as regards the business community as such.

**Shri Punnoose:** Is there a growing feeling among the Indian Community in Ceylon that our negotiations with the Ceylon Government have not improved their situation? Can the Prime Minister enlighten us on that?

**The Prime Minister (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** There is some such feeling as evidenced by certain resolutions which the meeting of their Congress passed some few days back.

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** May I know whether our Prime Minister had an opportunity of discussing this matter with the Prime Minister of Ceylon and whether this aspect has been impressed on him and whether there is any possibility of Ceylon Government modifying their policy?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The High Commissioner is in touch with the Ceylon Government. I had some brief talks with him too generally on this position. The question is not so much of any exact new step having been taken but rather of something not having been done and our belief that some steps might be taken. The matter is under the examination of the Ceylon Government by a Committee they have appointed.

#### CLASSICAL MUSIC ARTISTES

\*2323-A. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Radio maintains a list of classical music artistes who can broadcast;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of artistes have been taken off the list and if so, why; and

(c) whether efforts are being made to get as many talented artistes as possible to broadcast on the All India Radio?

**The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar):** May I have your permission, Sir, to read the answer? It is slightly long.

**Mr. Speaker:** Let it be as short as possible.

**Dr. Keskar:** (a) A list is maintained, the main purpose of which is to help the various Stations in deciding the amount of fees to be paid to artistes. However, to have the name of an artiste on the list, which is a very large one, does not automatically entitle him to get programmes.

(b) By and large, most artistes of some talent in classical music are on the list of A.I.R. There are, however, one or two categories of artistes whose names might not be there.

The first is of those who were found below standard and were therefore not considered fit for broadcasting. There were persistent complaints from the listeners about artistes who were poor in quality or were half-baked. The work of screening these artistes was done by auditions and some artistes who were found below standard were put on the waiting list until they improved themselves.

The second category consists of some artistes who themselves resigned from the A.I.R. list as a protest. Last year, an agitation was started by some people in Bombay against auditioning artistes and at that time some artistes boycotted and resigned from A.I.R. and some amongst them refused to carry out contracts signed by them. They had perforce to be taken off the list at their own demand. After some time the representatives of these artistes saw me and after discussion they realised that what was being done was in their own interests and for encouraging deserving artistes. The agitation then was withdrawn and now there is complete co-operation between them and A.I.R. Such artistes as had resigned from the list were again put back in the list. They are now working in thorough co-ordination. It is, however, obvious that though they were again put back in the list programmes could not be offered to them at once as programme schedules are