

they include some non-commercial items also.

**Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Have other countries with whom we have got trade agreements also opened similar accounts in Indian banks?

**Shri B. R. Bhagat:** The trade from other countries are regulated by the rate of foreign exchange.

#### AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION

\*435. **Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 566 asked on the 2nd March, 1954 and state whether Government are now in a position to say when the Bill to amend the Constitution will be introduced and what will be the major issues that will be covered by these amendments?

**The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas):** No. The matter is still under consideration.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** In view of the fact that quite off and on references to the amendment of the Constitution are made in the country not only by small men but big persons like Ministers, may I know how long it will take Government to consider this question of amendment to the Constitution?

**Shri Biswas:** The task of amending the Constitution is almost as difficult as the task of framing the Constitution was. Government have taken action in the way of inviting suggestions from the State Ministers, from Ministers here and from other parties. Opinions have been received and they are under consideration. Government have appointed a special committee to deal with this matter, and a special officer as well. So, the utmost possible expedition will be exercised in respect of the amendments, but they cannot be rushed through. They will require very careful and anxious consideration and Government cannot promise any definite date by which the Constitution (Amendment) Bill will be placed before Parliament.

Some Hon. Members rose—

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question. I do not think any supplementaries arise.

#### EASTERN COMMAND HEADQUARTERS

\*437. **Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 218 asked on the 23rd November, 1953 and state whether the Headquarters of the Eastern Command have since been shifted from Ranchi?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** It has been decided to start the move of Headquarters Eastern Command from Ranchi to Lucknow in December, 1954, and complete it during 1955.

**Shri Jhulan Sinha:** May I know if the Government have taken into consideration the grave concern felt in Bihar over this shifting from Ranchi to Lucknow?

**Sardar Majithia:** It is appreciated, but nothing can be done because the Defence people did not have any buildings at Ranchi whereas we do have certain buildings in Lucknow, and therefore it was thought expedient to move these headquarters there.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Before taking such a major decision, may I know whether the Government had asked the Bihar Government and whether the Bihar Government refused to give land for building for the purpose?

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** It is not only that, I may say. It is not only on account of land trouble and buildings. In fact, it is on strategic grounds we want our Eastern Command Headquarters at a place from where every place of importance may be more easily accessible.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** What is the strategic....