

## PUBLIC DEBT

**337. Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of public debt which India owes at present to different countries; and

(b) the amount of the debt country-wise?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** (a) and (b), India's total external public debt as on the 31st March 1952 stood at Rs. 99.85 crores roughly comprised of—

(i) Rs. 77 crores drawn against the loan of Rs. 90 crores by the Government of the United States of America for the purchase of wheat;

(ii) Rs. 21.5 crores from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the Railway, Agriculture and the Damodar Valley Projects; and

(iii) Rs. 1.35 crores as the outstanding balance of the Sterling Debt.

## FOREIGN EXPERTS

**338. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreign experts employed by Government and the nature of work in which they are engaged;

(b) the emoluments of these experts, including allowances, housing, tax-free concessions etc.;

(c) other privileges, if any, such as diplomatic or quasi-diplomatic immunities granted to them; and

(d) the number and emoluments of foreign experts proposed to be employed by the end of the financial year 1952-53?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh):** (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 16.]

(b) The Government of India have no information as the experts are obtained under various international technical assistance schemes and their emoluments etc., are paid by donor Governments, agencies etc.

(c) The following, in a general manner, are the more important immunities and privileges which are granted to the foreign experts obtained under the various schemes so far as India is concerned:

(i) Exemption from double taxation on their salaries;

(ii) Exemption from payment of customs and import duties on personal household and professional effects and supplies on their first arrival;

(d) The number required in 1952-53 is still under consideration.