

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

Dated.....18.11.52

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 11th June, 1952

The House met at a Quarter Past  
Eight of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

HISTORY OF WORLD WAR II

\*699. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 2182 asked on 14th March, 1951 and state:

(a) whether the work of preparing a popular History of World War II by the combined Inter-Services Historical Section has progressed any further; and

(b) how many volumes are proposed to be published and how many have been published so far?

**The Minister of Defence (Shri Gopaldaswami):** (a) and (b). About 90 per cent. of the writing work has been completed. (28 narratives out of a total of 30 have been written; in addition 6 medical volumes out of 7 have been written). Two volumes have been sent to the press and others are at different stages of examination. It is hoped to finish the major portion of the work in about a year's time.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether there is a Committee to check and scrutinise what is written by these historians, or is it entirely left to certain individual historians to write the history?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** There is a Committee presided over by the Defence Secretary assisted by a few historians.

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**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Last time, on the 14th March a question was asked in this House on this subject and we were told that some Englishman had written the first volume and he was busy in writing the second. It was alleged that he had some anti-Indian bias. I want to know whether he has written any other work.

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I do not think so. I do not believe that he has anything to do with the writing just now.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** We were told last time that he was writing a novel as well. This was said on the floor of the House, and we were also assured that Government would see to it that he did not write anything derogatory to India. May I enquire whether that check has been exercised?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** So far as the writing is concerned, what the Committee is supposed to see is that the work conforms to truth. The Committee will certainly see to it that, if anything which is prejudicial to the interests of India and which is not consistent with truth is written, it is cut out.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** May I know whether these narratives contain descriptions of those theatres also where the I.N.A. fought against the British?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I am afraid I have not looked into these volumes myself.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Last time also, when this question was put, we were told that the hon. Minister required notice. I want to know whether up till now the Government have made any investigation to find out whether those theatres where the I.N.A. fought against the British have been included in these narratives.

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** It was another Minister who wanted notice last time; perhaps, the hon. Member will give me notice this time.

**Shri Punnoose:** May I know the names of those historians who are on this Committee?

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** I can give the name of the Director. He is Dr. Bishweshwar Prasad.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** In view of the fact that the Indian Army during the second World War was a part and parcel of the British Army, may I know whether the materials for this history have been sought from the British Defence Department and if so, whether any difficulty has been encountered by the Indian Government in getting those materials.

**Shri Gopaldaswami:** The persons engaged in the writing of this history are in constant touch with the authorities both in Great Britain and the Colonies of the British Commonwealth so as to ensure that there is no conflict between what is written here and what is written elsewhere. The verification of facts is made as satisfactorily as possible before things are put down in the book.

#### ATTORNEY GENERAL AND SOLICITOR GENERAL

\*700. **Sardar Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference in emoluments, and duties of the Attorney General and the Solicitor General of India; and

(b) what are the terms of appointment of the newly created post of the Solicitor General of India?

**The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas):** (a) Yes, Sir. The Attorney General is paid a retainer of Rs. 4,000 per month, while the Solicitor General is paid a retainer of Rs. 3,500 per month. Apart from certain constitutional and statutory functions which vest solely in the Attorney General, the other duties of these two law officers of the Government are practically the same.

(b) A copy of the rules regulating the remuneration and duties of the Solicitor General is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix IV, annexure No. 8]

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** Does the Solicitor-General work under the guidance and superintendence of the Attorney-General, or does he act independently by himself?

**Shri Biswas:** He works independently. Occasionally, when necessary, the two officers consult each other.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** How is the work distributed then? Is the Attorney-General there to hand over the work that he likes the Solicitor-General to do, or does the latter get it from the former?

**Shri Biswas:** The Solicitor-General was appointed *inter alia* for affording some relief to the Attorney-General who was overburdened with work, and I am not quite sure whether the Solicitor-General takes only those cases which are assigned to him by the Attorney-General. They exercise independent functions.

**Sardar Hukam Singh:** There are certain duties enjoined upon the Attorney-General by the Constitution or other statutes. In view of that, I want to know whether the Solicitor-General is authorised to act on his behalf in discharging those duties, or is it proposed in future so to authorise him?

**Shri Biswas:** The duties of the two law officers are expressed in identical terms. The Attorney-General is no doubt appointed under Article 36 of the Constitution and therefore exercises statutory functions. The same functions have been assigned to the Solicitor-General under executive order.

#### UNIFIED BAR

\*701. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state:

(a) whether the report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the desirability and feasibility of a completely Unified Bar for the whole of India has been received by Government; and

(b) if not, how long more it will take the Committee to submit the report?

**The Minister of Law and Minority Affairs (Shri Biswas):** (a) No.

(b) The Committee is expected to submit its report by January 1, 1953.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know the time by which the Committee was asked to report?

**Shri Biswas:** It was due to submit its report by the 30th June, but it asked for extension of time.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know when did the Committee begin its work?

**Shri Biswas:** The Committee was appointed in December 1951, and they started work shortly thereafter. They