

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

(Part I—Questions and Answers)

OFFICIAL REPORT

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HOUSE OF THE PEOPLE

Wednesday, 21st May, 1952.

The House met at a Quarter to Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INDIA-PAKISTAN FINANCIAL ISSUES

*62. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the outstanding financial issues which were discussed in the recent Karachi talks between the officials of India and Pakistan?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): The recent talks between the officials of India and Pakistan were only informal and preparatory to the resumption of the discussions on outstanding financial issues between the two Governments which were adjourned last year. As regards the issues themselves, I would refer the hon. Member to the reply given in Parliament on the 26th May 1951 to starred question No. 4541 and to the statement I made in Parliament on the 30th May 1951 on the discussions which I then had with the Finance Minister of Pakistan.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the issues which were raised this time in this Conference and further whether they differed at all from the issues which had been raised in the previous Conference about which the hon. Minister has stated that he had given the reply in May 1951?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They were the same issues; not that they were all dealt with comprehensively.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the parties to that talk arriv-
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ed at any decision in regard to any issue?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: They were not authorised to arrive at any decisions because the talks were preparatory to conversations at the Ministerial level which were intended to take place at a later date.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether the question of Pakistan's debt to India was discussed there?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: That was one of the issues which was discussed in a preparatory way.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the issues which were raised by Pakistan in that Conference?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister said that the talks were confidential. Is he in a position to disclose what issues were discussed.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: The issues have been stated. The nature of the talks cannot be disclosed at this moment.

Shri P. T. Chacko: May I know whether any agreement was reached regarding the payment of Pakistan's debt to India?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is covered by the previous reply. He said that the parties had no authority to come to any decision.

HINDUSTAN AIRCRAFT LTD.

*63. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state whether the Hindustan Aircraft Limited has begun to receive a steady load of work from the Air Force and Civil Aviation for the manufacture of Aircraft?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari): I will answer this question on behalf of the Minister of Defence.

The question presumably refers to the manufacture of the basic trainer aircraft HT-2. It is expected that the test flights of this aircraft will be completed shortly and production will commence immediately thereafter. Orders have been placed for a sufficient number of this aircraft by the Air Force to enable production to be planned in a satisfactory manner. No civilian orders have yet been placed.

Shri Hukam Singh: Perhaps my language was not clear. What I meant to ask is this. Is there enough work in respect of aircraft and civil aviation which could keep the factory busy all through the year, or is there any spare time that has to be spent in making coaches or engaging in other subsidiary activities?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question was not clear.

Mr. Speaker: Anyway, he has explained what he wants to know.

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: All that I can say is that the Hindustan Aircraft Factory has enough work. Apart from assembling, renovating and servicing aircraft belonging to the Air Force and civil aviation companies and others, it is also taking up other types of work like body building for motor buses and building coaches for the Railway Board.

Shri Hukam Singh: May I know what fraction or percentage of the working hours is spent in the manufacture of aircraft or renovation of civil aviation aircraft and what percentage has to be utilised in other subsidiary works?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question of manufacture of aircraft, as I said, is restricted to trainer aircraft HT-2. In regard to the percentages of hours of work, if the hon. Member would not put down a question and if it is deemed expedient to answer it, it will be answered.

Shri B. Shiva Rao: Is it a fact that a number of important key posts like the Assistant General Manager, Commercial and Sales Manager, Plant Engineer, Manufacturing Superintendent etc. have not been filled for years, affecting the efficiency of the top administration of this Factory?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I do not see how the question arises. If the hon. Member would put down a question, we will attempt to answer it.

Shri B. Das: May I enquire whether this particular State industry will be

placed under the Production Minister or whether it will still continue under the Defence Minister?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: The question may be addressed to the proper quarters. The Proper person to allocate the work between the different Ministers happens to be the Leader of the House and the Prime Minister.

Shri T. N. Singh: On a point of order. Is it permissible for an hon. Minister, once you have allowed the supplementary question, to say that if a separate question is put or if it is put in this form or that form, he will answer it.

Mr. Speaker: I think that when this paraphrased means that he wants notice of the question and he is not prepared to answer it just now. He is going a little further and clarifying to the hon. Member that, if he is really anxious to have information he may better table another question.

Shri Gurupadaswamy: How many aircrafts have been assembled so far in that factory?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: Notice, Sir.

Shri Velayudhan: May I know whether any complaints regarding the American experts who are working in this Factory have come to the notice of the Government, especially in regard to the manufacture of jet aeroplanes, to the effect that the Indian engineers are discouraged by these experts?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is more or less a matter of inference.

Shri Velayudhan: It is information, Sir.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Is it a fact that the Government of Mysore have requested that the capital invested by them may be paid back, because it is not paying to them?

Shri T. T. Krishnamachari: I am afraid it does not arise.

ARID ZONE RESEARCH STATION

*64. **Shri Hukam Singh:** Will the Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for the establishment of an Arid Zone Research Station in Rajasthan was put up before the advisory committee of Arid Zone Research Council of the UNESCO; and