

and historical and valuable monuments only a few have been integrated?

Mr. Speaker: I think it is a matter of argument.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: Only the fact I want to know.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: There is an Advisory Committee to the Archaeological Department in which some Members of Parliament are also taken. Is the policy of declaration of a monument as a national monument decided by that Committee?

Dr. M. M. Das: So far as my information goes, and I speak subject to correction this is decided by the Act. According to the Act there are certain criteria, as I have said, by which we judge whether a monument is nationally important or not.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: How many monuments were integrated in Mysore and how many in Gwalior?

Dr. M. M. Das: I beg to ask for notice for that.

OTTAWA CONFERENCE

*114. **Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the decisions that were arrived at the Colombo Plan Consultative Conference at Ottawa during October, 1954; and

(b) to what extent these decisions affect the Dollar holdings of India?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) The main purpose of the annual meeting of the Consultative Committee on Colombo Plan is to prepare a progress report of the development in the region with programmes for the future. No decisions as such are reached at the Consultative Committee meetings. The Report as adopted at the Session will be published by the end of the year on a date agreed to by all the member Governments.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: In view of the fact that the Colombo Plan Consultative Conference was sandwiched between a meeting of the Governors of the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Conference both of which meetings were attended by our Finance Minister, will it be possible for the Finance Minister to make a comprehensive statement covering the decisions arrived at these Conferences which relate to sterling convertibility and other questions relating to our sterling and dollar holdings?

Mr. Speaker: It is a question for the Finance Minister.

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): I understand the hon. Member to ask: because of this, will I make a statement on convertibility?

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: What I wanted to know was, will it be possible...

Mr. Speaker: I think it will be better if he gave special notice. If it is admissible I will admit it. He will make those statements, if admitted.

HINDI

*116. **Shri Keshavalengar:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint a commission for evaluating the progress of Hindi under Article 344 of the Constitution; and

(b) if so, what are the proposed terms of reference to the commission?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) and (b). The matter will be considered at the appropriate time.

As article 344 of our Constitution says that the President shall, by order, constitute a Commission, there is no choice left with the Government. The Government has to appoint the Commission.

And in relation to part (b) of the question, the terms of reference of this Commission have been described in detail in clause (2) of the same article of our Constitution.

श्री केशवचंगार : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि स्टेट गवर्नमेन्ट्स और सेन्टर के बीच के पत्र व्यवहार में कुछ प्रगति हुई है ?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes, Sir, there has been some improvement.

सेंट गॉबिन्यू दास : जहाँ तक इस कमिशन का सम्बन्ध है क्या इस बात का भी कोई विचार हो रहा है कि इस में ऐसे ही महानुभाव मुकरर किये जायें जिन पर कि हिन्दी संसार का विश्वास हो ?

شکشا و پروکوتک سلسلده، تتهما و تکيانک

گوشنا ملتوی (مولانا آزاد) : جب وقت آئے گا تو ان ساری باتوں پر دھیان دیا جائے گا۔

[The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad): All these things will be considered at the due time.]

SETTLEMENT OF OUTSTANDING CLAIMS (U.K.)

*118. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the recommendation made in the Ninth Report of the Public Accounts Committee that our High Commissioner in London should be asked to pursue the question of early settlement of outstanding claims against the U.K. Government which amounted to £3,788,100 at the end of March 1953; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha): (a) Yes.

(b) Out of the total amount of £3,788,100, a sum of £632,900 has since been cleared and a further clearance of £35,400 is expected shortly. The balance of £3,119,800 is made up of (1) claims amounting to £2,558,000 representing shipping

charges incurred on the despatch of stores on behalf of H.M.G. after 1st April 1947 and (2) other claims of a miscellaneous nature amounting to £561,800. The U.K. Government have not yet accepted the claims on account of shipping charges on the grounds that the information supplied in support of the claims was inadequate to satisfy themselves as to their liability for those charges and that they included items for which they were not *prima facie* liable. They, therefore desired to have further details before they could accept these claims. Special arrangements have been made to collect the requisite details and vouchers required by the U. K. Government and the work is expected to be completed shortly. As soon as the necessary data become available suitable instructions will be issued to our High Commissioner in London to take up the matter again with the U.K. Government at a suitably high level.

The clearance of the debits amounting to £561,800 in respect to items of a miscellaneous nature is being progressed by the High Commissioner in consultation with the Commonwealth Relations Office.

Shri Morarka: According to us, when did this amount become due and payable to us by the U.K. Government?

Shri A. C. Guha: This is the amount concerning the period 1947-48, and we sent our claims to the U.K. Government in 1949. Since then negotiations have been going on.

Shri Morarka: Since this amount became payable in 1947-48 and since it has not been paid till 1954, may I know whether any interest is payable by the U.K. Government from the date the amount became due till the date of its payment?

Shri A. C. Guha: I cannot give him any definite reply, but I do not think in such cases any interest can be charged. Anyhow, this will be a subject matter for discussion and final decision.