

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.

**Shri Morarka:** In view of the objections raised by the United Kingdom Government and some further proofs were required, may I know why it took the Government of India as long as seven years to submit those proofs for settlement of this amount which has been outstanding for a long time?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** I have stated that these claims relate to the period 1947-48 and we sent our claims to the United Kingdom Government in 1949 and since then negotiations have been going on. They have asked for certain further information, and I think the hon. Member will agree that during those days when the transfer of power was being effected, all the details might not have been available. But the Public Accounts Committee has suggested that this should be taken up at a high level, and the Government is also contemplating to take up this matter at a high level.

**Shri K. K. Basu:** How long did the United Kingdom Government take to file their objections after the submission of our claim?

**Shri A. C. Guha:** This repeats almost the same question. I can only say that we sent our claims in 1949 and in 1950-51 they might have sent their replies and in 1951-52 also there has been correspondence all through and this is still going on as a sort of continuous and current discussion. This is a complicated matter

**Shri K. K. Basu:** One question, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

#### LIMITED COMPANIES

\*120. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases in which Limited Companies have sought the permission of Government for issue of debentures, giving the amount for which permission has been sought so far during the current year;

(b) the number of cases in which permission has been granted;

(c) the total amount of debentures subscribed in these cases; and

(d) the range of interest rate which these debentures carry?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) During the period 1st January to 31st October, 1954, 25 applications for the issue of debentures of a total value of Rs. 17.46 crores were received.

(b) 17.

(c) Government have not yet received this information from all the companies concerned.

(d) 4½ per cent. to 7 per cent.; but in the majority of cases the rate of interest varied between 5 per cent. to 6 per cent.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether there is any machinery at the centre to collect figures as to the total amount of debentures issued by limited companies, both with the permission of the Government and without the permission of the Government, and if so, what is the amount of debentures issued during the period?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** In each year?

**Shri S. N. Das:** During this period.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** During this period I have already said applications were received and 17 applications were granted, and it comes to about more than Rs. 15 crores.

**The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh) rose—**

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know, Sir...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri C. D. Deshmukh:** I think the question was whether we have any machinery. In terms of condition No. 2 of the standard conditions attached to consent orders, the authority of the consent is valid for a period of 24 months from the date of issue. Reports of subscribed and paid-up capital against these consents are required to be submitted at the end of the first twelve months and at the