

Shri Bhakt Darshan: Yes, Sir.

History of Freedom Movement

732. **Shri Bhakt Darshan (on behalf of Shri Krishnacharya Joshi):**

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in collecting data and compiling the History of Freedom Movement in India; and

(b) the number of States which have co-operated with the Board of Editors in this connection?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) The Board of Editors who have been assigned the work of compilation of the History have collected a large volume of material and are still collecting more material.

The Board have also prepared a draft collated account of the first phase of the Freedom Movement and have in hand the preparation of a collated account of the second phase.

(b) 25.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : इस विवरण से मालूम पड़ता है कि कुल २५ राज्यों में से कम से कम दो या तीन ने अभी तक कोई सहयोग नहीं दिया है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ वह कौन से राज्य हैं जिन्होंने सहयोग नहीं दिया है।

Dr. M. M. Das: I have got a list of the States which have set up the provincial organisations. I will have to go through it.

Mr. Speaker: He may just mention the names of those States which have not given co-operation.

Dr. M. M. Das: If I have to go through the list, it will take time, because it is a list of 25 States who have set up the organisations.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या यह सत्य नहीं है कि इस सम्बन्ध में पिछले कई वर्षों से प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है, और क्या यह आशा की जा सकती है कि भ्रगले वर्ष तक जब कि सन् १९५७ में हमारे स्वाधीनता संग्राम के १०० वर्ष पूरे होने वाले होंगे, यह पूरा कर दिया जायेगा ?

Dr. M. M. Das: So far, we have appointed one of the scholars to write a history of the so-called Sepoy Mutiny of 1857. I think that volume will be completed within about a year.

Shri S. L. Saksena: Has this Committee asked the various State Governments to keep safe the records of the political cases connected with the 1942 movement for a proper study and proper writing of this history ?

Dr. M. M. Das: They are kept very carefully by the State Governments, and the organisations are examining those records.

Shri S. L. Saksena: I mean the records of court cases. I am told that they have been destroyed.

Dr. M. M. Das: In the courts ?

Shri S. L. Saksena: Yes.

Dr. M. M. Das: I require notice.

Shri Achuthan: May we just have an idea of the time within which this history will be completed, and may I also know in what all languages it is being written ?

Dr. M. M. Das: It will be at first written in English.

Short Notice Question and Answer

Devaluation of Pakistan Rupee

S. N. Q. 4. Shri Ramachandra Reddi: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the effects of Devaluation of Pakistan Rupee on Indian export trade and economy; and

(b) the losses to the Indian Exchoquer envisaged by the abolition of Export Duty on Indian Jute Manufactures ?

The Minister of Finance (Shri C. D. Deshmukh): (a) The possible effects of devaluation of Pakistan Rupee on Indian export trade and economy would be :—

- (i) any commodities for which both India and Pakistan are competitors in overseas export markets, e.g., jute and cotton, competition from Pakistan will become more intense;
- (ii) commodities which are imported by India from Pakistan will become cheaper to Indian importers and consumers; and
- (iii) commodities which Pakistan imports from India will become more expensive to the importer and consumer in Pakistan.

These effects could in part or in whole be offset by an increase in Pakistan domestic prices or any other measures, such as, price control or an increase in Pakistan's export duties which tend to raise the export price of Pakistan goods.

(b) The budget had taken credit for an amount of Rs. 710 lakhs; on this basis, the proportionate loss for the balance of the year would be about Rs. 450 lakhs. It is however, not possible to calculate how much would have been realised as against the budget estimate in view of the possible effect of devaluation mentioned in reply to part (a) above.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know what are the principal goods that are imported from Pakistan to India, and the probable value of the same?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Our main imports from Pakistan are raw jute, raw cotton and hides and skins. The figures have varied from year to year. They were of the order of Rs. 109.3 crores in 1948-49 and declined to Rs. 44 crores in 1949-50-51 and revived again to Rs. 87 crores in 1951-52, then fell again to Rs. 19.4 crores in 1954-55.

Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy: May I know whether there is any proposal to conclude a trade agreement between Pakistan and India after the devaluation of the Pakistan currency?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: Trade agreement is not handled in my Ministry; it is handled by the Commerce and Industry Minister. I would not know.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: May I know if it is a fact that Government removed the jute duty on the anticipation that jute prices in Pakistan would sag? As devaluation has not brought down the jute price in Pakistan, do the Government consider that their action in removing the duty was rather hasty?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I would not say that it was hasty, because we could have no conception of what Pakistan would choose to do, and therefore, it was necessary for us to take a decision on the data available to us and on reasonable expectations.

Shri G. D. Somani: Have the Government considered the effect that the devaluation of the Pakistan currency will have on the export of textiles from this country, in view of the fact that Pakistani cotton will be available at cheaper prices to those countries competing in export markets with India?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: We have not considered it specifically, but all these matters are under constant review, and if

we find that as a result of developments there are difficulties in selling our exports, then we shall have to consider what steps to take.

Shri Heda: May I know whether, taking into consideration the overall calculation of our export and import trade with Pakistan as well as our export trade in the common commodities where there is competition and also the unofficial market rate between the Indian and Pakistani rupees, by the devaluation of the Pakistani rupee we are to gain something or lose.

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: It is asking the question which I have answered in another form. Generally, I think trade will probably improve between the two countries because the black market will be discouraged now by the adjustments that have taken place in the value of the Pakistani rupee, and that certainly is an advantage to both countries.

Shri Ramachandra Reddi: May I know how much raw cotton has been imported into India within the last three years?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I am sorry I have not got figures here in regard to raw cotton.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether, in view of the fact that the Finance Minister's 'reasonable' expectations have proved unreasonable, the export duty is going to be restored?

Shri C. D. Deshmukh: I do not think it is right to say that they have proved unreasonable. It may be that on a short view they appeared to be unnecessary, but it seems desirable to await developments before taking any further action.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Central Excise Department

*708. **Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any rules have been framed for the promotion of the employees working in the Central Excise Department; and

(b) if so, the basis on which these rules have been framed?

The Minister of Revenue and Defence Expenditure (Shri A. C. Guha):
(a) Yes Sir.