

(e) when the work is likely to be completed?

**The Minister of Works, Housing and Rehabilitation (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna):** (a) Phase II of the Project was taken up in January, 1960, Phase I having been carried out during the year 1959-60.

(b) The original estimated cost was Rs. 79.2 lakhs.

(c) The revised estimated cost has not yet been worked out.

(d) The progress of resectioning and regarding the Nullah is approximately 35 per cent. The work of construction of two railway bridges has been completed and the progress on four out of five road bridges is 40 per cent.

(e) The whole of the work is likely to be completed by the end of 1964

#### **Palai Central Bank in Liquidation**

**124. Shri Kappen:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred by way of advocates fee, Commission etc. in connection with the liquidation of the Palai Central Bank; and

(b) how long it will take to complete the liquidation?

**The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai):** (a) The total expenditure on account of law charges upto the end of 31st December 1962 amounted to Rs. 74,939. Liquidation expenses other than law charges (including the cost of the liquidator's establishment) amounted to Rs. 11,69,932 upto that date.

(b) It is not possible to indicate at this stage the further time which may be required to complete the liquidation proceedings, but every effort is being made to expedite payments to the depositors and the progress of liquidation in general.

#### **12 hours**

#### **CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

#### **VISIT OF JOINT UNITED STATES-COMMONWEALTH AIR MISSION TO INDIA**

**Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Ja'ore):** I call the attention of the Prime Minister to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The visit of a Joint United States-Commonwealth Air Mission to India to discuss the proposal of an ‘Air Umbrella’ over India.”.

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** Very briefly, the answer to this, or at least part of it, is that the United States--Commonwealth Air Mission came here at our invitation. But I should like to say something more about the background of it, and if you will permit me, I shall read out the statement.

Since the Chinese massive attack last October, the Government of India have been in close touch with various friendly governments in connection with the measures to be taken to build up an effective defence against the Chinese attack. Prompt and generous help has come from various friendly countries, more specially from the United States and the United Kingdom, and for this we are grateful.

Apart from the reorientation, reorganisation and strengthening of the Indian Army and the obtaining of suitable equipment, there was also the question of building up an effective air defence both to meet the emergency like the one created by the Chinese advance into NEFA in November last and to meet the long-term threat posed by China. Both these have to be kept in view; in either event the strengthening of the Indian Air Force has to be tackled immediately. In the event of sudden emergency arising, the Government will have to deal with it in the light of developments with support from