

as much as one rupee and in terms of Canadian dollars I cannot exactly say.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: With reference to item (2), may I know whether countries of the totalitarian bloc are also members of this organisation?

Shri Raj Bahadur: Many of them are.

Shri K. C. Sodhia: With reference to item (4), is the number of Indians employed there in proportion to the subscription that we make?

Mr. Speaker: I think he said that no Indians are employed.

Shri Raj Bahadur: 3 Indians are employed in the I.C.A.O., but no Indian is employed in the World Meteorological Organisation. The rule set down by the External Affairs Ministry is that the number should not deviate more than 25 per cent. from the percentage of total contribution made by us to the particular organisation. Our representation on the staff is of course much below that.

MECHANISATION OF RAILWAY ACCOUNTS

*2253. **Pandit Lingaraj Misra:** (a) Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether the Railway Administration contemplate introducing mechanisation of Railway Accounts?

(b) If so, when this will be introduced, in which Zone and to what extent?

(c) What is the extent of economy expected to be effected annually by this proposal?

(d) Will the mechanisation lead to unemployment and if so, to what extent?

(e) What is the amount of expenditure to be incurred in the purchase of necessary machines from abroad?

The Deputy Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Alagesan): (a), and (b). Mechanisation of the Provident Fund Accounts of staff only is being tried as an experimental measure on the Eastern Railway.

(c) It is too early to say anything about the result of the experiment but it is hoped to save Rs. 86,000 annually, so far as this unit of work is concerned.

(d) No retrenchment of staff will occur during the experiment or after it.

(e) No immediate capital expenditure will be incurred. The machines are being hired at Rs. 78,880 per annum and their cost, if taken over on the experiment being a success, would be Rs. 3,69,225.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: Is it a fact that Government will have to pay a perpetual hire or they will purchase the machines?

Shri Alagesan: The hire will be paid for the experiment period. If the experiment proves a success, we will purchase the machinery at the price that I just now quoted.

Shri K. P. Tripathi: What will be the capital cost and recurring cost if it is installed?

Shri Alagesan: As I have said, the machinery that is being tried as an experimental measure will cost Rs. 3,69,225. I have not got figures of the recurring cost.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know in how many countries of the world mechanisation of accounting has been worked successfully and from where our Railway Ministry has got this idea?

Shri Alagesan: I do not have that world-wide information at present. But, it has been established that in these machines, technique has improved a lot in recent years and they are much more reliable and capable of giving quick results.

POSTAL LIFE INSURANCE

*2254. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the work of the Postal Life Insurance