

की उन्नति के वास्ते आप क्या करना चाहते हैं ताकि लोग उस में रुपया इकट्ठा करायें ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : हमारे जो आंकड़े हैं उन से माननीय सदस्यों को पता चलेगा कि पिछले साल पोस्ट आफिस सेविंग्स बैंक में काफी वृद्धि हुई। इसलिये इस से हम यह नतीजा नहीं निकाल सकते हैं कि इंटरैस्ट रेट अगर बैंकों ने बढ़ा दिया है तो उस से पोस्ट आफिस की सेविंग्स में कोई कमी हो गई है।

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मेरा कहना यह है कि बैंक का जो रेट है उस को बढ़े हुए अभी एक ही महीना हुआ है और माननीय मंत्री एक बरस पहले का हवाला दे रहे हैं। एक वर्ष पहले पोस्ट आफिस का रेट २॥ परसेन्ट था और दूसरे बैंकों का २ परसेन्ट था। चूंकि पोस्टल सेविंग्स बैंक का रेट दूसरे बैंकों से ज्यादा था इसलिये लोग उस में रक्यता जमा करवाते थे। लेकिन चूंकि अब दूसरे बैंकों के रेट बढ़ा दिया है इस लिये लोग अब उन में रुपया नहीं रखेंगे वजाय पोस्टल सेविंग्स बैंक के ? इस के लिये आप क्या करेंगे ?

I am not asking about the past; I am asking for the future.

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : अभी हमारे पास आंकड़ों की कोई ऐसी बनियाद नहीं है जिस से हम उस नतीजे पर पहुंचें जो कि माननीय सदस्य कह रहे हैं। फिर यह जो बैंकों के रेट बढ़ाये गये हैं ब्रह्म सिर्फ पोस्ट आफिस सेविंग्स बैंक से ही ताल्लुक नहीं रखते हैं, बल्कि लोन पालिसीज, सिक्वोरिटीज और नैशनल सेविंग्स वगैरह के जो प्रोग्राम हैं, उन से उन का ताल्लुक है। इस लिये केवल इस के बारे में कोई ऐसी बात नहीं की जा सकती।

Accident in Himachal Pradesh

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- *1416. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri S. N. Ramaul:
Shri Assar:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a whole gang of about 25 P.W.D. labourers were buried alive under a rock while engaged in the construction of the Hindustan Tibet road at Kercham about 150 miles from Simla during the third week of March, 1961; and

(b) if so, full details of the incident?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : चाहे यह घटना ठीक न हो, लेकिन क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि इस तरह की घटनायें अक्सर होती रहती हैं ? आज ही के समाचारपत्र में यह छपा है कि एक ओवरसिअर दब गया है। इस तरह की जो घटनायें होती रहती हैं उन के लिये क्या किया गया है ?

Shri Datar: May I point out to the hon. Member that this piece of news, which was wrong, was published on March 22? Immediately, the State Government issued a contradiction which appeared in the Press on the 25th of March. The news is absolutely incorrect.

Shri Assar: Toady also some news has appeared about the workers, some employees, being buried alive when working on the road works. May I know whether any....

Mr. Speaker: Which one?

Shri Assar: Today there is a news item that 3 labourers were buried alive.

Mr. Speaker: So, they have reduced it from 25 to 3?

Shri Assar: Today there is a news item which has appeared....

Shri Datar: The hon. Member has asked a question referring to an incident in March. About that incident the news appeared on the 22nd March.

It was contradicted on the 25th March, 1961. Therefore, so far as that particular incident is concerned, may I point out that it is entirely unfounded?

Indian Participation in Oil Companies

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*1417. { Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Osman Ali Khan:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have of late been making efforts to persuade the three foreign oil Companies in India—the Burmah Shell, The Stanvac and Caltex—to invite Indian participation in their ordinary share capital; and

(b) if so, how far these efforts have been successful?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The question of Indian participation in the ordinary share capital does not arise in the case of the three Companies operating the three coastal refineries because, though they are incorporated in India, the Refinery Agreements provided that all the ordinary share capital would be contributed by the foreign Companies promoting them.

As regards the Burmah Shell, Stanvac and Caltex marketing companies, they are all private limited companies incorporated outside India and are entirely owned by their principals. Some of these companies are understood to be examining the question of incorporating their marketing organisations as Indian companies.

Shri P. C. Borooah: May I know whether this effort to persuade the three oil companies to invite Indian participation in their share capital is in pursuance of a general policy applicable to all companies or is it only applicable to these companies?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This involves the question of modifying the agree-

ments which were reached some time back between the Government of India and the Indian Refinery companies. They are not willing to modify their agreement. It is now for us to decide whether we can do anything alternatively in this connection.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether, far from trying to invite Indian participation, one of the companies, Caltex, has already given notice to some Indian employees to quit because in their present line of thinking they think it to be unnecessary to retain their services?

Mr. Speaker: That relates to employees and not share capital.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: When the company is administered by a set of people, it is for them to take a decision whether they want to employ a group of Indian people or not. We do not give an undertaking. (*Interruptions*).

Shri V. P. Nayar: Indians or not.

Mr. Speaker: Some time ago, when Shri Krishnamachari was here as the Commerce Minister, I believe, the question was put here, from time to time, why the various foreign companies operating here and taking our money should not take an increased number of Indian employees. He was giving statements from time to time; and he said that he was persuading and so many people have accepted and so on. What is the contradictory step that is going on now?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: The Estimates Committee have also made that observation.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: So far as this specific question with regard to the reduction of Indian employees is concerned, it does seem to be perfectly right for them to feel that they may not be justified—I am not justifying their action—in view of the pressure from the Government of India to reduce the prices of petroleum products and all that, that they can no longer retain the army of workers on