

PETITIONS

DUTY ON VEGETABLE NON-ESSENTIAL
OILS

Shri D. R. Chavan (Karad): I beg to present two petitions signed by a petitioner each regarding the withdrawal of exemption from levy of duty on vegetable non-essential oils.

FINANCE BILL

Shri D. R. Chavan: I beg to present a petition signed by a petitioner regarding the Finance Bill, 1959.

12.02 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

INDO-PAK INTERIM AGREEMENT ON
CANAL WATERS

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Irrigation and Power to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“The reported interim agreement between India and Pakistan about the use of the Indus river and its main tributaries for irrigation purposes.”

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim): As the House is aware, the Inter-Dominion Agreement of 4th May, 1948, between India and Pakistan provided for the progressive diminution of supplies to Pakistan canals from the eastern rivers in order to give time to Pakistan to tap alternative sources. In pursuance of the agreement Pakistan started the construction of a few link canals to transfer supplies from the western rivers to canals fed by the eastern rivers.

In February, 1954, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development put forward a proposal according to which the entire flow of the western rivers (Indus, Jhelum and

Chenab) except for the insignificant volume of Jhelum flow presently used in Kashmir, has been allocated to Pakistan and that of the eastern rivers (Ravi, Beas and Sutlej) to India, save that for a specified transition period India would continue to supply the historic withdrawal from these rivers in Pakistan. The proposal also envisaged that during the transition period Pakistan would construct certain other link canals for replacing the supplies received from the eastern rivers.

Three link canals viz., Bamberwala-Ravi-Bedian-Dipalpur Link, Merala-Ravi Link and Balloki-Suleimanke Link, the construction of which was started in Pakistan after the Inter-Dominion Agreement of May, 1948, have since been completed. The withdrawal of waters by India is related to the capacity of these link canals to replace supplies hitherto received from the eastern rivers. For various reasons Pakistan has not been running these canals to full capacity. If so run, the link canals are capable of replacing nearly half of the supplies which the canals in Pakistan have been getting from our rivers. India cannot wait indefinitely and will gradually withdraw more and more supplies as and when more replacement works are built by Pakistan.

In the course of the talks under the aegis of the World Bank which commenced in 1952, the Governments of India and Pakistan entered into *ad hoc* transitional arrangements for the supply of water on three occasions: for Kharif 1955, Rabi 1955-56 and for the period from April 1, 1956 to March 31, 1957. Copies of these agreements have already been placed in the Parliament Library. Although the Pakistan Government did not enter into an agreement for the period after April 1, 1957, we continued to give supplies to Pakistan in accordance with the agreement of the 4th May, 1948 and the principles of the Bank proposal. Discussions have just concluded in Washington on proposals

[Hafiz Mohammad Ibrahim]

for ad hoc transitional arrangements for the period from 1st April, 1959 to 31st March, 1960. The draft agreement now under consideration follows broadly the lines of the agreement for Kharif 1956 except that we stand to get a somewhat larger proportion of the waters hitherto supplied by us to Pakistan. The indications are that the agreement will be signed in Washington shortly. A copy of the agreement, after it is signed, will be placed in the Parliament Library.

12.06 hrs.

**CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO
STARRED QUESTION NO. 722**

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): In reply to one of the supplementary questions put by Shri Vajpayee arising out of my reply to the Starred Question No. 722, answered in the Lok Sabha on the 27th February, 1959, I said, "During 1957-58, Rs. 75,500 and Rs. 76,220 were paid to the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Madras." Actually during 1957-58 the grants of Rs. 75,500 and Rs. 76,220 were paid to the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh respectively

12.07 hrs.

**DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
—contd.**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume discussion on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Labour and Employment. Out of 6 hours allotted for these Demands, 5 hours and 19 minutes now remain.

The list of select cut motions relating to these Demands has already been circulated to Members on the 4th April, 1959. I shall treat these cut motions as moved subject to their being admissible.

Now, it is nearing 12 10 We must conclude this by 5.30, I think.

**Closure of Cotton Textile Mills in the
country**

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Closure of Maheshwari Devi Jute
Mills Ltd., Kanpur**

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to provide any relief to the
Mill Workers of Sayaji Jubilee
Cotton Mills at Sidhpur, Bombay
State**

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to reopen Cotton Mills which
have been closed in Bombay State**

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to employ all mill labourers
of Sayaji Jubilee Mills, Sidhpur in
other cotton Mills**

Shri M. B. Thakore: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Failure to check the increasing un-
employment**

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Labour and Employment' be reduced by Rs. 100."