

Matter of Urgent

Public Importance

**MINUTES OF RULES COMMITTEE**

**Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi):** I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Minutes of the sitting of the Rules Committee held on the 31st August, 1957.

[Placed in Library. See No. S-247/57].

**MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA**

**Secretary:** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

‘In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I, am directed to return herewith the Finance (No. 2) Bill, 1957, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 28th August, 1957, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill.’

**PETITION re. INDIAN POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK RULES**

**Shri Rami Reddy (Cuddapah):** I beg to present a petition signed by a petitioner relating to amendment of Indian Post Office Savings Bank Rules.

**CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE****AMOUNTS PAYABLE BY INDIA TO PAKISTAN**

**Shri Balkrishna Wasnik (Bhandara-Reserved—Sch. Castes):** Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Finance to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:

“The statement made by the Finance Minister of Pakistan regarding amounts payable by India to Pakistan.”

**The Minister of Finance (Shri T. T. Krishnamachari):** Mr. Speaker, Sir,

with your permission, I propose to make a short statement on the outstanding financial issues between India and Pakistan in regard to which I answered a question on the floor of this House on the 8th of last month. Since then certain statements have been made in the Pakistan National Assembly which may convey a wrong impression.

The House will remember that in August last year, a statement was laid on the Table of the House listing the more important of the outstanding financial issues. These were last discussed in May 1951 between the Finance Ministers of the two countries. They have been the subject matter of a number of subsequent discussions at Secretariat level; but, for a variety of reasons into which I do not think it is now necessary to enter, it has not been possible to arrange a meeting at Ministerial level. In March, 1955 my predecessor invited the then-Pakistan Finance Minister for a discussion, but owing to his other pre-occupations, he was unable to come. About a fortnight back, I received a suggestion from the Pakistan Finance Minister that we should meet and discuss the outstanding issues. I have accepted his suggestion and I hope that the meeting will take place as soon as possible after I return from my impending visit to the United States and Europe.

The outstanding issues between the two countries fall into three broad categories. The first relates to the determination of partition debt. Our estimate of this debt, so far as it concerned the two Central Governments, is that it will be of the order of about Rs. 300 crores. If the debt arising out of the partition of the province is also taken into account, it may be higher. The figure I mentioned gives only the order of the sum involved. The partition debt at the Centre is repayable in 50 equated instalments, the first of which fell due on the 15th August, 1952. Six instalments are today overdue. In the Budget for 1952-53, we took credit for a payment of