

Shri A. K. Gopalan: May I know the approximate time by which the Committee will submit its report?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think it will yet take about six to eight months for the report to be presented.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether one of the members on the Committee, Mr. M. N. Gaur, is a telegraph operator and is recognised as a representative of the trade unions, and if so, whether he is still continuing on that Committee?

Shri Raj Bahadur: He is still on the Committee.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the specific items which this particular Committee is considering, and whether revision of pay scales of telegraphists is also one of the items for consideration?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The broad terms of reference of the Committee have been publicised earlier, but I may refer to them here again. The Committee as to study the present method of operation, particularly in regard to picking, transmission, circulation and delivery of messages with a view to achieve an effective improvement in service. Then, the Committee has got to go into matters of staff and establishment also, which might include standards for operational staff and avenues and methods of promotion etc.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know when this Committee started functioning? If I remember aright, it was in December, 1956 that the Minister announced about the constitution of this committee.

Shri Raj Bahadur: The announcement in regard to the intention that the Committee should be established was made as far back as December, 1956, but the Committee itself was constituted or established, I think, as late as August or September, 1957; and the Secretariat started functioning a little before, that is, from 5th June, 1957.

श्री भक्त वरुण : श्रीमान, क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि इस कमेटी के

कार्य में देरी होने का एक कारण यह भी है कि इसके चेअरमैन को पार्टटाइम यानी उनको हेडक्वार्टर में भी ड्यूटी देने के लिए माना पड़ता है तो क्या इस पर विचार किया है कि एक फुलटाइम चेअरमैन रक्खा जाय जो कि इस काम को निबटाये ?

श्री राज बहादुर : इसमें जो डी० डी० डी० है, वह इसके चेअरमैन है लेकिन उनके ही नीचे एक ऊंचे रैंक के अफसर भी कें वी० पाई हैं जो कि बाइस चेअरमैन हैं और जो कि अचिकांस काम को देखते हैं।

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether this committee will deal with the jurisdiction of telegraph circles?

Shri Raj Bahadur: It will make recommendations in regard to such matters as it thinks necessary in the interests of effective improvement of the service.

Indo-Pak. Canal Waters Dispute

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- Shri Jagdish Awasthi:
 Shri A. K. Gopalan:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
 Shri V. C. Shukla:
 Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
 Shri Mohan Swarup:
 Shri D. C. Sharma:
 Shri Jaganatha Rao:
 Shri Supakar:
 Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
 Shri Raghunath Singh:
 *55. Shri S. C. Samanta:
 Pandit D. N. Tiwary:
 Shri Assar:
 Shri Vajpayee:
 Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:
 Shri S. V. Ramaswami:
 Shri Shobha Ram:
 Shrimati Mafta Ahmed:
 Shri Binal Ghose:
 Shri Hem Barua:
 Shri Ram Krishan:
 Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
 Shri N. E. Manisamy:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the *ad-hoc* agreement between India and Pakistan for canal

waters came to an end on the 31st December, 1957;

(b) whether any fresh agreement on an ad-hoc or permanent basis has been entered into after that date;

(c) the result of the recent efforts made by Mr. W. A. B. Iliff, Vice-President of the World Bank towards the settlement of the Indo-Pak canal water dispute;

(d) whether it is a fact that the Minister of Industries of Pakistan has stated in Pakistan Assembly on the 30th December, 1957 that Pakistan would agree to arbitration on the canal waters dispute;

(e) whether Government have received any communication from Pakistan Government to that effect; and

(f) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (S. K. Patil): (a) and (b): The last agreement between the Governments of India and Pakistan for *ad hoc* transitional arrangements expired on the 31st March, 1957.

No further agreement has been reached between the two Governments for any period subsequent to the 31st March, 1957.

The arrangements for co-operative work between India, Pakistan and the Bank, which had formally been extended upto 31st December, 1957, have also expired. It is understood, however, that the Bank would informally continue to lend its good offices towards finding a solution acceptable to both sides.

(c) During his recent visit to India and Pakistan, Mr. Iliff discussed with the two Governments possibilities of various approaches towards a settlement of the canal water dispute. These discussions have not yet led to any concrete result.

(d) Government have seen press reports of a statement in which the Pakistan Minister of Industries and Commerce is reported to have said that Pakistan is willing to submit disputed questions to arbitration.

(e) and (f). The Government of India have not received any communication on the subject directly from the Government of Pakistan. The Bank Proposal of February, 1954, clearly states that where two sovereign authorities are concerned, problems relating to the development of water resources must be solved by negotiation and agreement rather than by decision. However, in case the Government of Pakistan agree to a settlement on the basis of the Bank Proposal of February, 1954, the Government of India have already indicated their willingness to establish, if necessary, an appropriate procedure for arbitrating disputes concerning the allocation of costs in accordance with the Bank Proposal.

श्री जगदीश श्रवस्थी : क्या मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि वन्ड बैंक के वाइस-प्रेसीडेंट के बीच में पड़ जाने के फलस्वरूप अगर कोई समझौता नही होता है तब भारत सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में विवाद को समाप्त करने के लिये क्या सोच रही है ?

Shri S. K. Patil: That question also has been answered very often. The World Bank is only using its good offices, but the solution in the main rests with the two governments, namely the Pakistan Government and the Government of India. We have said that by 1962, when we shall be in a position to divert this water, we would divert it.

Shri Tyagi: In view of the fact that the agreements have expired and their terms also have expired, may I know whether the water is still flowing down the channels, and if so, whether the irrigation charges are made good?

Shri S. K. Patil: The water still flows in the channels in the same manner as if those agreements were continuing.

Shri Tyagi: Is regular payment being received from Pakistan for water?

Shri S. K. Patil: The payment for the undisputed items is being almost regularly received. So far as the disputed items are concerned, as I have said in this House before, because it is not to be received by us, it is to be deposited in an escrow account, but it is not being deposited for some time.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: As there is no *ad hoc* agreement this year, may I know under what provision canal water has been provided to Pakistan when they have not paid our dues?

Shri S. K. Patil: We have got that old agreement of 4th May, 1948. All these *ad hoc* arrangements were in pursuance of that. Therefore, under that agreement, water continues to be given.

Shri Hem Barua: Is the attention of Government drawn to the statement made by the Industries Minister of Pakistan that there can be no deadline for an overall settlement of this dispute as indicated by our Minister of Irrigation and Power, if India has to honour the principles formulated by the World Bank? If so, what steps do Government propose to take?

Shri S. K. Patil: Our attention is drawn to every statement that any responsible Minister of Pakistan makes on this subject. We call it a 'deadline'—it is not a very happy expression; but it only means that that is the time-limit we have given. The World Bank wanted five years. We have extended it by another two or three years. In reasonableness, India cannot go beyond that.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if there has been any direct negotiations between the Minister of Irrigation and Power in India and his opposite number in Pakistan with regard to a settlement of the dispute? If not, could not this approach be tried?

Shri S. K. Patil: It is a matter of guess as to what could have happened, but as it has happened, the World Bank has offered its good offices and we are convinced of the sincerity and genuineness of that offer.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: What roughly is the total amount due to India which has not been paid over the disputed items?

Shri S. K. Patil: I do not want to give any rough figure. I require notice.

Some hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Why should hon. Members think that the question hour is the hour where every question ought to be exhausted? Why should they not make use of the opportunities for half-hour, one hour, one and a half hour, two hour and two and a half hour discussions? They can always make an application on important matters. I will certainly allow such discussion. This will stand over for a half-hour discussion, whichever hon. Member gives notice. I have been on this question for about 10 minutes now.

Shri M. L. Dwivedi: There are several questioners over that question. They should have been allowed to ask supplementaries first and others later on.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members should understand me correctly. Hereafter, if such insistence is made, I will allow only one questioner's name to appear above a question. Other names will be barred (*Interruptions*). I am only making a suggestion. I am trying to give opportunities to every hon. Member whose name appears here and to other hon. Members. As a matter of fact, just now I received a letter from Dr. Ram Subhag Singh to the effect that so many other hon. Members get up and ask questions but the Members in whose names the question is put are left out. This is what happens occasionally. But every one who has tabled a question cannot have an opportunity, just refusing opportunity

to others. With respect to an important matter, if after two or three questions, there is still elucidation required, I shall allow a half hour discussion. Hon. Members are not using it properly. That is my difficulty.

Shri D. C. Sharma: There will be no quorum.

श्री स० सा० द्विवेदी : अभी पिछले दिनों अखबारों में यह समाचार निकला है कि ३१ दिसम्बर से नहरों से पाकिस्तान को पानी देना बन्द कर दिया जायेगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या अभी तक मिनिस्टर साहब ने इस बात की इतला प्राप्त नहीं की है, यह जो पानी बन्द नहीं किया गया है इसका क्या कारण है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : पानी बन्द नहीं करना था इस लिये बन्द नहीं किया गया। अखबारों में किया निकला है यह मुझे मालूम नहीं।

Air Transport Council

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Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:
Shri L. Achaw Singh:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Morarka:
Shri Nathwani:
Shri Vajpayee:
*56. { Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Punnoose:
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have accepted the recommendations of the Air Transport Council to increase the air fares and freight rates of Indian Airlines Corporation and also to

introduce two classes for internal air travel;

(b) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the general feeling against increase of fares for Assam, Manipur and Tripura on account of special transport difficulties of the area;

(c) what are the other recommendations made by the Council; and

(d) the Government's decision thereon?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) The Indian Airlines Corporation have submitted proposals for the revision of passenger fares on the basis of the recommendations contained in the majority report of the Air Transport Council, and these proposals are under consideration. The Corporation have not so far submitted proposals for the revision of freight rates and the introduction of two classes for internal air travel, which are being considered by them.

(b) The Government have seen certain comments to this effect in some newspapers of this region.

(c) A copy of the Air Transport Council's Report on the Indian Airlines Corporation's fares and freight rates, which contains a summary of its recommendations has already been laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha on 21-12-57.

(d) The Report of the Council is still under consideration.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Is it a fact that passenger earnings in 1956 and 1957 touched the maximum record? If so, what is the reason for increasing the rates?

Shri Humayun Kabir: It is true that the number of passengers has increased and, therefore, passenger earnings