

Shri Datar: As I pointed out, there is one irrigation scheme and the proposal is to construct a dam on the Mitakari scheme at a cost of Rs. 6.5 lakhs; it will irrigate about 600 acres.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any agricultural officer of high rank was sent to the Andamans and, if so, what were his remarks on these things?

Shri Datar: Some years ago this question was considered and an officer visited the Andamans. He found that as these islands were in the tropical zone, the soil and climatic conditions were generally suitable for sugarcane cultivation. But it was found that there would be no sufficient market for the sugarcane and, secondly, India itself, it was then considered, had sufficient sugar and therefore there was no necessity to set up any sugar factory there.

Leave Rules of Government Employees

***694. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1806 on the 15th September, 1955 and state:

(a) whether Government have since finalised their proposals regarding the removal of disparities in the leave rules of various classes of Government employees; and

(b) if so, the nature of decisions arrived at?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know what is delaying finality on this question as it has been with the Government for the last two or three years?

Shri M. C. Shah: The matter is being considered from all its aspects, whether the demands are justified, what will be the repercussions, what will be the financial liability etc. All these questions are being considered and the decision will be taken very soon.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: The hon. Minister has stated that financial liability will be there. May I know whether the financial liability has been assessed? If so, by how much it will be increased?

Shri M. C. Shah: That is all being considered and I cannot give the hon. Member the exact figure now.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know if it is under the contemplation of the Government to liberalise the leave rules in favour of class IV employees?

Shri M. C. Shah: Class IV employees will be treated liberally.

Nationalization of Insurance Companies

***695. Shri N. Rachiah:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 875 on the 18th August, 1955 and state:

(a) whether a decision about the nationalisation of insurance companies has been taken; and

(b) if so, when this scheme will be implemented?

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Shri M. C. Shah): (a) and (b). The question of Nationalization of insurance companies is still in the process of examination.

Shri N. Rachiah: May I know the total extent of investment in the insurance companies in this country?

Shri M. C. Shah: I cannot give him the exact figure, but so far as life insurance companies are concerned, it may come to between Rs. 175 and Rs. 190 crores, subject to correction.

Shri Bogawat: How long will it take to consider this very important problem of nationalisation and will the Government try to speed up this important problem?

Shri M. C. Shah: As the hon. Member himself admits that it is a very important problem, it requires naturally very careful consideration. Government is always alive to the necessity of speeding up such important questions.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know if the Government have considered the advisability of expanding postal insurance so that a part of the insurance might come over to the Government and it will be an interim measure for nationalisation?

Shri M. C. Shah: That is also being considered.

Shri N. Rachiah: May I know the number of companies working at profit?

Shri M. C. Shah: There is another question about that today, which is No. 706, which asks how many companies are working at a profit etc.

Mr. Speaker: That cannot be given priority now.

Shri M. C. Shah: I am ready to answer that question if you allow me.

Mr. Speaker: Are the two questions in a sense inter-linked? It is not a question of the hon. Minister being read

Shri M. C. Singh: They are not.

M. Speaker: Then we will go to the next question.

(Canadian Aid)

***696. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of aid proposed to be given to India by Canada during the next fiscal year; and

(b) how it will be distributed on the various projects?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No intimation has so far been received from the Canadian Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know the amount of aid given by the Canadian Government during the current year and the nature of that aid?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: In the current year the amount authorised is 13.5 million dollars and this has been specified for these—(1) 125,000 dollars for magnetometer survey (2) 160,000 dollars for the supply of Beaver aircraft and the rest of the amount for Kunda Hydro-electric Project.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the Government has been in correspondence with the Canadian Government about the projects for which it wants its assistance?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: These are the projects that I have named, for which the amount has been earmarked.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether Canada has promised to grant aid under the Colombo Plan for next year?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The Canadian Secretary of State, Mr. Pearson, announced in the Consultative Committee Meeting at Singapore that they intend to continue the aid, but every specific aid is authorised by Parliament every year. So it is too early to say about next year now.

Shri L. N. Mishra: May I know whether, besides this normal aid, any special aid has been given by Canada this year, and if so, for what purpose?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: There has been a special allocation of an amount of 7 million dollars for a reactor for the atomic research station in India, technically known as NRS reactor

Ajanta Paintings

***697. Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme of micro-filming of Ajanta Paintings has been completed; and

(b) the advice given by Dr. De Harport, UNESCO Expert in this regard?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Expert has recorded his technical findings to help others in conducting similar work in the caves and temples of India.

Shri Krishnacharya Joshi: May I know the terms of the agreement between India and UNESCO?

Dr. M. M. Das: The terms are that the UNESCO shall pay the fees of the expert; the expert's travel outside India, for the expert's official communications—postage, telegrams, cablegrams etc. The Government of India shall provide free boarding and lodging, medical attendance if any required, travel expenses in India, a specialist to help the expert to clean the paintings, an electrician to operate the lighting unit, an electric generator, necessary scaffolding and a few other materials which are required for this purpose.

Shri Krishnamacharya Joshi: May I know whether the copyright of these materials will be joint?

Dr. M. M. Das: Yes, it will be a joint copyright. The proprietors will be the Government of India and the UNESCO.

Shri N. B. Chowdhury: May I know whether, in view of the belief that certain chemicals used for the preservations of such paintings have adversely affected the paintings instead of helping to preserve them, the Government consider the desirability of examining the scientific aspect of this question?

Dr. M. M. Das: That is a different question.

राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक दल (नेशनल वॉलंटियर फोर्स)

***६९९. श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि “राष्ट्रीय स्वयंसेवक दल” का नाम लोक सहायक सेना” रखने का निश्चय किया गया है; और