

be transferable from one High Court to another?

Pandit G. B. Pant: There is no such proposal before Government at present.

Shri E. S. Arumngam: May I know how many High Court Judges have been appointed so far from among Scheduled Castes?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I am not sure if many have been appointed or if any has been appointed—I hope it will be possible to do so,—as they have started practice only recently, and perhaps have been admitted into judicial service also only recently. But whenever such an opportunity offers itself, I should welcome it.

World Bank Loan for Railways

205. { **Shri Shree Narayan Das:**
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:
Shri Pattabhi Raman:
Shri Raghunath Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state.

(a) whether the World Bank has agreed to advance a loan to India this year for the construction of Railway projects, and

(b) if so, the amount of the loan?

The Deputy Minister of Finance

(**Shri B. R. Bhagat:**) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) \$90 million

Shri Shree Narayan Das: May I know the terms and conditions of this loan?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The terms, such as the rate of interest and others, are the usual ones. If the hon. Member wants details, I require notice.

Shri Pattabhi Raman: May I know whether the framework of the Second Plan of the Railways would be adhered to, that is to say, whether the priorities (a) to (f), namely the construction of new lines, coaches etc. will be adhered to, when this amount is forthcoming?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That is too large a question to be dealt with.

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise strictly out of this question, which relates to the loan from the World Bank.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: May I know the probable amount of the loan for the four years of the Second Five Year Plan of the railways?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That is more than I can say. I can only say about the loan that has been negotiated for and signed.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know whether this is the first instalment of a long-range loan, or whether it is the loan only for the time being?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: This is the first instalment, I hope we shall get more loans in the coming years.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know the rate of interest that we shall have to pay, and the period over which we shall have to repay the loan?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The rate of interest is 5.5/8 per cent. As for the period, I am unable to state it now. But the rate is going up, as the years go by.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: May I know the amount of loan that was actually asked for by the Government of India from the World Bank, and the amount that has actually been given by the World Bank? May I also know how much of this amount came from the contributions made by the members of the World Bank?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is very difficult to say what the amount actually asked for was.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Why is it difficult? Government must have asked for a certain amount.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The hon. Member should wait for the completion of the answer and not interrupt in the middle.

The procedure for loan negotiation is this. The World Bank first sends a team, and it has sent more than one

team to assess the estimated requirements and the foreign exchange content of the railway programme. Then, our team went there, and after an elaborate process of negotiations in the light of the funds available, this amount has been determined upon. So, it is not as if we make a demand that we require so much. That is never the question.

Shri Mohiuddin: Is it one of the conditions of the loan that the equipment for which the loan is taken must be purchased in the USA?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No. The equipment will be purchased from a number of countries.

Lubricating Oils

*206. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state

(a) the foreign exchange (in dollars and pounds separately) involved in India's annual import of lubricating oils for each of the last 3 years, and

(b) whether any attempt has been made to make India self sufficient in this commodity?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) These details are available from the publication entitled "Accounts relating to the foreign (Sea, Air and Land) Trade and Navigation of India". An extract of the relevant details given therein is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No 64]

(b) The matter is under constant examination.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I find from the statement that the annual import amounts to about Rs 9 crores. I also find from the Planning Commission's report that from the process of manufacture selected by the existing oil refineries, it seems that there is no chance of producing them in this country in those units. May I know how Government have viewed this situation?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: As I said, Government are constantly examining this question, and it is our desire that we should indigenously produce all types of lubricating oil in our own country. But the difficulty is that the various types of crude oil that are needed for specialised lubricating oils are not imported by the existing oil refineries. For that purpose, a minimum quantity which is economical for the purpose will be needed.

The practice just now is that the oil refineries are blending the components which are imported from outside, and then producing the lubricating oil. It does save some foreign exchange for us. But the intention of Government is to produce all types of lubricating oil indigenously in the country, and that is under our examination.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether at the time of the setting up of the oil refineries in India, this question was discussed at the instance of the Government representatives, or whether it had been left out to be pointed out by the Planning Commission?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I cannot say offhand if at that time this question was examined or not. But we are examining this question now. It has been found that the various types of crude oil that are needed for such specialised lubricating oils are not being imported, or the imported crude oil is not suitable for those types of lubricating oil. Therefore, we are examining this question, and we hope that soon, when our consumption of lubricating oil would expand, we shall be producing it indigenously.

Shri Jaipal Singh: The Minister stated that for the manufacture of lubricating oils, crude petroleum had to be imported. In view of the fact that lubricating oils are by-products after the upper distillations, how does the question of importing crude petroleum for the production of lubricating oils arise?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No. All types of lubricating oils cannot be produc-