

Tuesday, 29th August, 1933

THE
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

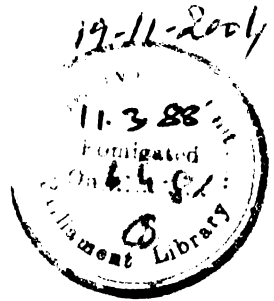
VOLUME II, 1933

(29th August to 16th December, 1933)

SIXTH SESSION

OF THE

THIRD COUNCIL OF STATE
1933



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THE
COUNCIL OF STATE DEBATES

(OFFICIAL REPORT OF THE SIXTH SESSION OF THE THIRD COUNCIL
OF STATE.)

VOLUME II—1933.

COUNCIL OF STATE.

Tuesday, 29th August, 1933.

The Council met in the Council Chamber at Viceregal Lodge at Eleven of the Clock, being the first day of the Sixth Session of the Third Council of State, pursuant to section 63D (2) of the Government of India Act. The Honourable the President (the Honourable Sir Maneckji Dadabhoy, K.C.I.E., Kt., Barrister-at-Law) was in the Chair.

MEMBERS SWORN :

His Excellency General Sir Robert Cassels, G.C.B., C.S.I., D.S.O. (Commander-in-Chief).

The Honourable Mr. Maurice William Brayshay (Chief Commissioner of Railways).

The Honourable Mr. John Stephen Henderson (Bengal Chamber of Commerce).

The Honourable Mr. Pratap Chandra Dutt (Madras : Nominated Official).

The Honourable Mr. John Rutherford Dain, C.I.E. (Bihar and Orissa : Nominated Official).

The Honourable Mr. Thomas Cooke Samuel Jayaratnam (Government of India : Nominated Official).

The Honourable Mr. Bertram James Glancy, C.S.I., C.I.E. (Political Secretary).

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

WORLD ECONOMIC CONFERENCE.

1. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR **LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA** : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) If they have received an invitation to participate in the World Economic and Monetary Conference ?

(b) Whether they propose to send a delegation to London ? and

(c) Whether they propose to consult the Provincial Governments and commercial bodies with a view to send a representative delegation ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : (a) Yes.

(b) The Honourable Member is referred to the Press communiqués, dated the 9th and the 16th June, 1933, issued by the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy, copies of which are in the Library.

(c) The Conference has already been held and adjourned. The Provincial Governments and commercial bodies were not consulted with regard to the composition of the Indian Delegation.

PENSIONS AND LEAVE ALLOWANCES PAID IN ENGLAND AND IN INDIA.

2. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) The amount of pensions ? and

(b) Leave allowances that they paid in England and India either in 1930-31 or in 1931-32 to retired officials on behalf of the various provinces as well as the Government of India separately ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : I would refer the Honourable Member to Accounts Nos. 72B and 72C of the Finance and Revenue Accounts for 1930-31 and 1931-32 where figures of pensions paid in England and in India on behalf of the various provinces as well as the Government of India are shown separately, and also to paragraph 4 of the explanatory notes under XXXIII and 45.—Superannuation Allowances and Pensions. Information regarding leave allowances is not similarly tabulated and the tabulation would involve labour and expense which the Government of India consider would not be commensurate with the value of the result.

SURVEY OF THE WHEAT POSITION IN INDIA.

3. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : (a) Is it a fact that Government deputed some high official to conduct a survey of the wheat position in India some time ago ?

(b) What were the findings of that official ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to publish his report ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a), (b) and (c). No official was deputed by Government to conduct a survey of the wheat position in India. If, however, the Honourable Member is referring to the enquiry conducted in 1931 jointly by two officers, belonging to the Agricultural and Railway Departments, respectively, regarding the transport and other intermediate charges paid on Indian agricultural produce between the cultivator and the overseas markets, I may state for his information that it was calculated that in the case of wheat grown in the Punjab, railway freight to Karachi, port and municipal charges and sea freight to Liverpool amounted to Rs. 1-1-5 per maund. Government have decided not to publish the report.

DEBT OBLIGATIONS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA IN INDIA AND IN ENGLAND.

4. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: (a) What are the debt obligations of the Government of India (i) in India and (ii) in England, which mature, year after year, between now and the year 1950?

(b) What rates of interest do they bear?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: The Honourable Member is referred to the monthly statement of the Rupee Debt of the Government of India published by the Controller of the Currency and the return of East India Loans raised in England published by the Secretary of State.

ADVANCES TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS AND RATES OF INTEREST CHARGED

5. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: Will Government be pleased to state what advances were given and at what rates of interest to the various Provincial Governments, year after year, from 1921, to the establishment of the Provincial Loan Fund?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: The amounts advanced to the Provincial Governments from 1921-22 to the end of 1924-25 are given in the Finance and Revenue Accounts, copies of which are available in the Library of the House. The rates of interest are as follows:

1921-22.— $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. reduced to $4\frac{3}{4}$ per cent. from 1st April, 1927.

1922-23.— $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. reduced to $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. from 1st April, 1929 in the case of Bombay and from 1st April, 1932 in the case of other provinces.

1923-24.—6 per cent.

1924-25.— $5\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW SUGAR FACTORIES IN INDIA.

6. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) How many new sugar factories were established in India and in what parts of the country (i) in 1931-32 and (ii) in 1932-33?

(b) How many new ones are proposed to be established in the year 1933-34?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN:

(a) (i) Nil

(ii) United Provinces 20

Bihar and Orissa 7

(b) According to present information 54 new sugar factories are expected to work in 1933-34 distributed approximately as follows:

United Provinces 21

Bihar and Orissa 16

Punjab 7

Bombay 6

Other areas 4

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES HELD BY PROVINCIAL ACCOUNTANTS GENERAL.

7. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : Will Government be pleased to state the total amount of Government securities held as tax free by the Accountants General in various provinces on the 31st March, 1932 or 1933 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : Provincial Accountants General do not ordinarily hold Government securities, tax free or otherwise, as such securities are transferred to the name of the Controller of the Currency or the Deputy Controllers of the Currency, for safe custody. Except in the case of certain securities originally deposited with Accountants General in their capacity as Treasurers of Charitable Endowments, it is very difficult to ascertain which of the securities held in the Currency Department on behalf of Accountants General are tax free, and the collection of such information would involve an amount of labour which the Government of India consider would not be commensurate with the value of the result.

IMPERIAL BANK OF INDIA.

8. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) What branches of the Imperial Bank of India are still working at a loss ?

(b) What total profits the Bank has made, year after year, since its establishment ?

(c) What dividends it has declared ?

(d) How much money has been paid to it by Government for debt management ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) Government have no information.

(b) and (c). The Honourable Member is referred to the published half-yearly statements of the affairs of the Imperial Bank of India.

(d) A statement containing the information is laid on the table.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : With reference to (a), may I know if the accounts are not submitted to the Government of India by which the Government may know which branches are working at a loss ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : The accounts of the Imperial Bank as a whole are submitted, but Government do not get accounts tabulated for each branch.

Statement showing the amount paid to the Imperial Bank of India as commission for the management of the Debt of the Government of India for the twelve years from 1921 to 1932.

(Figures in thousands of rupees.)

Year.								Amount paid.
1921	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.25
1922		..	..	..	..	..	..	5.57
1923	..			..	..		..	6.05
1924		..	..	..	..		..	6.33
1925	..	..		..	..	..	..	6.43
1926		..	..	..	..	..	..	6.82
1927	..	..	..	..	..	..		6.64
1928	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.79
1929				..	..	..		7.31
1930		..	..	..		..	..	7.31
1931		..		..	..	..	..	7.45
1932		..	..	..	..	..	..	7.70

DEBT PARTICULARS OF MAJOR PORT TRUSTS.

9. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : What were the total outstanding debts, both in rupee and sterling, of the Major Port Trusts on the 31st March, 1931 or 1932 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : A statement showing the outstanding debts of the Major Port Trusts, both rupee and sterling, on the 31st March, 1932, is laid on the table. The figures given in the statement do not take into account the amounts accumulated in the Sinking Funds maintained by the Port Trustees or Commissioners for the repayment of their loans.

Statement showing the outstanding debts of the Major Port Trusts on the 31st March, 1932.

	Bombay.	Karachi.	Aden.	Madras.	Calcutta.	Chittagong.	Rangoon.
Rupee loans, including loans taken from Governments, Banks, etc. ..	Rs. 17,94,76,466	Rs. 2,91,89,000	Rs. 10,00,000	Rs. 1,21,03,161	Rs. 17,94,05,421	Rs. 24,25,961	Rs. 5,07,65,026
Sterling loans ..	£2,600,000	£999,000	..	£330,000	£5,358,200	..	£500,000

POPE COMMITTEE REPORT.

10. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: (a) Will Government be pleased to lay copies of the Pope Committee Report on the table of the Members?

(b) What recommendations have been accepted by Government and what, if any, steps have been taken to give them practical shape?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY: (a) Copies of the report submitted by Mr. Pope have been placed in the Library.

(b) I lay on the table a Memorandum giving all the available information regarding the progress of the action taken on the recommendations.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: Will the Government be pleased to supply these copies to all the Members of the Council for their use?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY: I will consider that; I am not quite certain whether they have been printed in sufficient numbers.

Memorandum on the enquiry conducted by Mr. F. A. Pope.

December, 1932—February, 1933.

To ascertain whether further economies were possible on Indian Railways the Government of India obtained, by the kindness of the London Midland and Scottish Railway, the services of Mr. Pope, General Executive Assistant to the President of that Railway. Mr. Pope had been closely in touch with the various processes of rationalization put into practice in recent years on the London Midland and Scottish Railway.

In view of the shortness of Mr. Pope's visit it was decided that he should concentrate his attention on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway and inaugurate a detailed analysis of every important activity of railway operation—"job analysis"—on that line. It was arranged to associate with him certain officers of other Railways who could learn his methods and after his departure from the country return to their lines to initiate the process on those lines. The following are the officers selected for the purpose:

Mr. J. A. Bell, Divisional Superintendent, East Indian Railway.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. F. Carson, R.E., Divisional Superintendent, North Western Railway.

Mr. R. C. Case, Deputy Transportation Superintendent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

Mr. G. S. G. Higginson, District Transportation Officer, Bengal Nagpur Railway.

Mr. G. A. R. Trimming, Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, East Indian Railway.

3. Mr. Pope and these officers worked on the Great Indian Peninsula Railway during the months of January and part of February, 1933, and on 25th February presented a report to the Railway Board (copies of which are in the Library of the Legislature). In his covering letter, which is printed at pages vii and viii of the report, Mr. Pope pointed out that already a large number of economies had been effected on Indian Railways and there were no big individual economies left except the better use of locomotive power, and possible further amalgamation of railways, both of which are referred to in the report. He, however, urged that considerable savings would be found possible if a detailed analysis of every operation conducted on a railway (job analysis) were undertaken and for this purpose constant organised research and investigation was necessary.

4. In accordance with this recommendation, which is further elaborated on page iv of the report under the " Summary of conclusions and recommendations ", the officers associated with Mr. Pope have returned to their Railways and are now carrying on the investigations recommended by him. Further, officers from the Burma and the Assam Bengal Railways have been since associated with the officers engaged on " job analysis " on the East Indian and the Eastern Bengal Railways in order to learn the method and to inaugurate it on the Burma and the Assam Bengal Railways. The position at present, therefore, is that " job analysis " is now being undertaken on all the State-managed Railways and on the Bengal Nagpur and Assam Bengal Railways. Its introduction on other Company-managed Railways is under consideration.

5. The officers engaged on " job analysis " commenced their operations in March and April last and were instructed to furnish a report on the results of their investigations in six months ; so, at the moment, no reports of their investigations are to hand. It must, however, be borne in mind that " job analysis ", as the expression itself implies, consists of a closely detailed examination of a large number of small processes and items and although it may be reasonably hoped that the ultimate results in the aggregate will conclusively repay the expenditure involved, it must be a matter of time before the effect of these results is felt. On the London Midland and Scottish Railway the process has been going on for some years and is still far from complete.

6. In addition to the specific recommendation that job analysis should be initiated on all Railways, there are other recommendations in the report which may be summarized as follows :

- (a) the better use of locomotives ;
- (b) the better use of railway land ;
- (c) the more careful listing of surplus track, equipment, and accommodation ;
- (d) additional research and experiments ;
- (e) improved workshop practice, especially in regard to standardization of pattern design, the use of scrap, and the compilation of " cost " data ;
- (f) possibility of reducing hot axles.

All these items are now under active investigation.

7. Finally, it was suggested in the report that economies might be gained by amalgamating Railways and this matter is under the consideration of the Railway Board.

TRANSFER OF THE ADMINISTRATION OF ADEN TO THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT.

11. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : (a) Is it a fact that Government is considering the transfer of the administration of Aden to the British Government ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to make a detailed statement on this question and give full opportunity for its consideration to the House before arriving at any decision ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. B. J. GLANCY : (a) Yes.

(b) The Honourable Member has no doubt seen the communiqué which was issued by the Government of India on the 21st June, 1933, and which gave detailed information on the subject; a copy of which I lay on the table.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table copies of representations received in India and in Aden for the transfer of Aden before the commencement of the debate on the motion by the Leader of the House on the 31st August ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. B. J. GLANCY : I will see whether they can be printed, Sir.

Government of India Press communiqué, dated the 21st June, 1933.

His Majesty's Government have recently received representations from different communities among the inhabitants of Aden as well as from certain quarters in India expressing their various views in regard to transfer of the administration of Aden from the control of the Government of India to His Majesty's Government. The matter is one which is now receiving the consideration of His Majesty's Government and of the Government of India in connection with impending constitutional changes. Full opportunity will be given for discussion in the Indian Legislative Chambers at their next session and for all interests concerned to state their views. Meanwhile, His Majesty's Government think that it would be convenient that the considerations which suggest the desirability of a transfer of the administration and the conditions that would be entailed by such a transfer should be made known, so that the problem can be discussed with full knowledge of the facts. The reasons which suggest that Aden should not remain linked with India under the new constitution are that it is an area geographically remote from India; that it would not naturally fit into the new federation; that it is already to some extent under Imperial control and that it is inseparable in practice from the Aden Protectorate, which has already passed wholly out of Indian control. If it should be decided that the administration of Aden should be separated from that of India, His Majesty's Government contemplate that the following conditions would be established:

- (1) India would be relieved of the annual contribution of approximately £150,000 sterling or rupees twenty lakhs at present payable towards the military and political administration.
- (2) The right of appeal in judicial cases to the Bombay High Court would be maintained.
- (3) His Majesty's Government would maintain the existing policy of making Aden a free port unless some radical change in the present economic situation should take place. From their own point of view abandonment of this policy would clearly, in existing economic conditions, be financially unsound since the prosperity of Aden depends largely upon its transit trade.
- (4) His Majesty's Government would do their utmost to maintain the present standard of administration and would not impose any additional taxation unless such a course became in their opinion absolutely necessary.
- (5) A proportion of Indian Service Administrative personnel would be retained in the Aden Service for some years after the transfer took place.
- (6) No racial legislation or segregation would be permitted by His Majesty's Government.

CIVIL AND MILITARY EXPENDITURE OF ADEN.

12. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: Will Government be pleased to state as follows:

(a) Total cost of the administration of Aden—

(i) Military expenditure;

(ii) Civil expenditure?

(b) Total income from the administration of Aden stating amounts derived from chief heads separately?

THE HONOURABLE MR. B. J. GLANCY: (a) (i) Contribution for political and military expenditure:

	£
1930-31	150,000
1931-32	136,499
1932-33 (to March 1933—Preliminary) ..	119,959

(a) (ii) Civil expenditure (excluding interest charges and figures relating to expenditure booked in the Secretary of State and the High Commissioner's accounts regarding which information is not available at present. The latter, however, would be a comparatively trivial charge):

	Rs.
1930-31	12,45,500
1931-32	11,39,000
1932-33 (Revised estimates)	11,01,700
1933-34 (Budget)	11,36,300

(b) Total income (excluding Interest receipts):

	Rs.
1930-31	10,27,588
1931-32	12,04,100
1932-33 (Revised estimates)	13,64,000
1933-34 (Budget)	12,22,000

I lay on the table a statement showing the details of the revenue of the Administration of Aden for the years 1930-31 to 1933-34.

Statement of revenue of the Administration for the years 1930-31 to 1933-34.

(a) Civil Revenue (excluding Interest Receipts).

	1930-31, Actuals.	1931-32, Actuals.	1932-33, Revised Estimate.	1933-34, Budget.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
II-Taxes on Income	3,20,500	3,58,700	5,33,000	3,95,000
III-Salt	74,200	1,00,300	1,04,000	1,01,000
VI-Excise	1,92,200	1,88,700	1,98,000	1,98,000
VII-Stampes	90,600	88,800	93,000	94,000
IX-Registration	4,100	3,300	5,000	5,000
XVII-Administration of Justice	9,800	12,800	10,000	9,000
XVIII-Jails	2,900	1,600	3,000	2,000
		*	†	†
XIX-Police	68,100	1,08,600	1,70,000	1,70,000
XX-Ports and Pilotage	13,200	18,300	18,000	14,000
XX-(i) Lighthouses and Light-ships	1,43,700	1,27,800	1,36,000	1,46,000
XXI-Education	2,200	2,700	3,000	3,000
XXII-Medical	14,000	9,800	15,000	15,000
XXIII-Public Health	33,000	14,100	1,000	1,000
XXIV-Agriculture	2,000	2,100	2,000	3,000
XXVI-Miscellaneous Department	2,900	4,400	2,000	2,000
XXVII-Currency	400	300	..	..
XXX-Civil Works	6,900	9,900	6,000	6,000
XXXIII-Receipt in aid of Superannuation	10,200	11,600	12,000	12,000
XXXIV-Stationery and Printing	700	1,700	1,000	1,000
XXXV-Miscellaneous	35,900	64,600	49,000	51,000
Add.—Recoveries from His Majesty's Government .. .. .	..	†	..	..
		74,000	..	..
Total	10,27,600	12,04,100	13,64,000	12,22,000
Total Provincial	4,29,700	5,27,100	Wholly Central.	Wholly Central.
Total Central	5,97,900	6,77,000	..	..

* Includes recoveries from H. M. G. for the year 1930-31 for armed police force.

† Includes contributions of £ 8,000 per annum from H. M. G. for armed police.

‡ Mainly in connection with armed police force for 1931-32.

(b) Military revenue—Nil.

HUNGER-STRIKE OF PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

13. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR: With reference to the Government of India's communiqué regarding the hunger-strike of the terrorist prisoners in the Andamans Jails, will Government be pleased to state :

- (a) Number of terrorist prisoners confined in the Andamans Jails ?
- (b) Names and addresses of the 39 prisoners who have started hunger-strike ?
- (c) Alleged grievances of the terrorist prisoners which forced them to start hunger-strike ?
- (d) Whether any attempt was made by the jail authorities of the Andamans Jails to redress their grievances ? If not, why not ?
- (e) Why Mahabir Singh, a prisoner of the Lahore Conspiracy Case was given forcible feeding while other terrorist hunger-strike prisoners were not forcibly fed ?
- (f) Whether the prisoner, who is said to have died of pneumonia, was given adequate medical treatment when he developed the malady ? If so, for how many days was he under medical treatment ?
- (g) Whether Government propose to hold an independent enquiry regarding the aforesaid tragedy, in the public interest, by any Government official unconnected with the Andamans Jails ? If not, why not ?
- (h) Did Government inform the relatives of the deceased prisoners when they (prisoners) started the hunger-strike and communicate to them the cause of the death of the two prisoners ? If not, why not ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) 112.

(b) Government do not propose to publish names.

(c) and (d). I would refer the Honourable Member to the communiqués relating to the hunger-strike which Government issued from time to time, copies of which I lay on the table. Since the termination of the strike the Government of India have been in communication with the Chief Commissioner, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, with a view to considering whether there were any matters in regard to which it might be reasonable to amend the rules. As a result, the Chief Commissioner, with the approval of the Government of India, has now introduced certain changes in the treatment of the prisoners. In the case of the B class prisoners the principal changes are that they will be given more newspapers and allowed more frequent interviews. The C class prisoners will, if literate, be allowed lights in their cells, will be supplied with newspapers and will also be allowed more frequent interviews.

(e) A number of other prisoners besides Mahabir Singh were fed artificially.

(f) Two prisoners died of pneumonia. Both got all possible medical care. One was ill for seven and the other for 11 days.

(g) Government do not consider any such enquiry to be necessary.

(h) The relatives were not informed when the prisoners started hunger-strike but were informed of their death. Arrangements were subsequently made that the Chief Commissioner should give information to relatives if any convict's condition was such as to give rise to anxiety.

Communiqué, dated Simla, the 28th May, 1933.

The Government of India have received information from the Chief Commissioner of the Andamans that on the 12th May, 1929, prisoners convicted of crimes connected with the terrorist movement went on hunger-strike in the Cellular Jail as a protest against certain alleged grievances not being redressed. They have since been joined by several others. One of these prisoners Mahabir Singh, who was convicted and sentenced to transportation for life in the Lahore Conspiracy Case, died on the 17th May. He started his hunger-strike on the 12th May. Up to the 16th his condition was satisfactory though he was weak. The Senior Medical Officer saw him on the morning of the 17th and considered that his general condition was then such that artificial feeding was necessary. Accordingly at 11 A.M. milk and sugar were given by nasal feeding. The patient resisted very violently both while the tube was being inserted and while the milk was being administered. At 1 P.M. he was showing evident signs of shock. The Senior Medical Officer saw him twice during the afternoon and evening and prescribed treatment. In spite of this he gradually sank, and death occurred soon after midnight. A post mortem examination was held and no signs were found of either external or internal injuries as a result of the operation of feeding. The patient's resistance in his weakened state caused a severe shock to his system and led to his collapse and death. The Chief Commissioner is fully satisfied that all due precautions were taken from the moment that forcible feeding was decided upon.

The Government of India also regret to announce that another prisoner named Man-krishna Nama Das, convicted of dacoity in Bengal died of pneumonia on May 26th. He started a hunger-strike on May 16th and on the 17th food was administered through his mouth without resistance. On the 19th he was admitted to hospital with lobar pneumonia. Throughout his illness he took whatever was prescribed for him and gave no trouble whatever. His death was due to natural causes and was in no way accelerated by his abstinence from food for one day.

There are at present 39 prisoners on hunger-strike. With one or two exceptions their condition is reported to be quite satisfactory.

Press Communiqué, dated Simla, the 31st May, 1933.

The Government of India regret to announce that another prisoner named Mohit Mohan Maitra convicted in connection with the terrorist movement in Bengal and transferred to the Cellular Jail, Andamans, died of double lobar pneumonia on the 28th May. He started hunger-strike on May 12, and on the 19th developed pneumonia, from which he died 9 days later, his vitality being impaired by the hunger-strike.

Communiqué, dated Simla, the 7th June, 1933.

The latest report received from the Chief Commissioner in regard to the hunger-strike which was the subject of communiqués issued on May 28 and 31 shows that there are now no cases of pneumonia and that the condition of the strikers is generally satisfactory.

The strike started among C class convicts who demanded concessions which would, if granted, have had the effect of placing these convicts approximately in the same position as those in class B. These concessions included the supply of lights in cells until 10 P.M. and of a diet which the free inhabitants of the Islands cannot obtain. Some B class convicts joined the strike mainly out of sympathy with the demands of the C class men and partly in support of demands of their own which included the supply of foreign newspapers and permission to receive money for personal expenditure.

The Government of India, with the permission of the Government of the Punjab, have asked Lieutenant-Colonel Barker, O.B.E., I.M.S., Inspector General of Prisons, Punjab, who has special experience of hunger-strikes, to proceed to the Andamans for consultation with the Chief Commissioner in regard to the medical arrangements. Lieutenant-Colonel Barker will sail from Madras on June 11.

Communiqué, dated Simla, the 13th June, 1933.

The following members of the Legislative Assembly, Messrs. Azhar Ali, Amar Nath Dutt, B. V. Jadhav, S. C. Jog, B. N. Misra, S. C. Mitra, Gaya Prasad Singh and K. B. Thampan met the Honourable Sir Harry Haig, Home Member, this morning and discussed with him the situation arising out of the hunger-strike of certain prisoners in the Andamans. Mr. Jadhav, in opening the discussion, referred to the apprehensions which had been caused by the information given in the Government Communiqués and expressed regret that Government had not thought fit to publish the names of the prisoners on hunger-strike which would have had the effect of relieving the anxiety of the relatives of those prisoners who are not on strike and of giving the relatives of the others an opportunity of persuading them to give up the strike. He also suggested that the deaths which had occurred might have been due to the vitality of the prisoners having been lowered by the climate of the Andamans and to defective and inadequate medical arrangements. In conclusion he stated that the Cellular Jail had been closed and the transfer to it of these prisoners had aroused suspicion in regard to the motive of Government which would best be allayed by the publication of periodic statements and the holding of an impartial enquiry.

Messrs. Mitra, Jog, Thampan and Gaya Prasad Singh also took part in the discussion. Mr. Mitra stated that he had been advised by doctors that pneumonia might result from food being given unskilfully, and, as an argument against the transfer of prisoners to a distant place like Port Blair he urged that the isolation of prison life affects the mentality of prisoners and that if relatives and public men could have had an opportunity of using their influence with the prisoners they could have persuaded them to give up the strike. Mr. Jog asked whether it would not be possible for Government to allow relatives to see the prisoners and also whether Government could not end the strike immediately by conceding their claims. He also suggested that an enquiry should be held so that the Government might benefit by the experience of the present strike and be in a position to avoid similar trouble in future. Mr. Thampan asked for a sympathetic attitude towards the prisoners and for an attempt to be made to meet their grievances. He also suggested that the names of the men on hunger-strike should be published periodically. Mr. Gaya Prasad Singh proposed that the Chief Commissioner should be asked to answer letters from persons asking whether their relatives were or were not on strike.

Sir Harry Haig after an expression of his appreciation of the feelings that had prompted the deputation to come to see him began his reply by a reference to the type of men who had resorted to hunger-strike. All are men who had been convicted of crime of violence or intended violence in connection with the terrorist movement either in Bengal or elsewhere. They were sent to the Andamans because it had been found impossible to deal with them satisfactorily in jails in their own provinces, particularly in Bengal. Local Governments had made very strong representations to the Government of India to the effect that so long as these men were kept in provincial jails there was an ever present danger of their communicating with their fellow conspirators outside and that such communications could not always be effectively stopped. There was also the danger of escape. In some cases prisoners actually had escaped and their safe custody was a constant anxiety to the local Governments. Lastly experience had shown that the attitude of the prisoners towards jail discipline and their attempts to defy the jail authorities were having a serious effect on the discipline of other prisoners. Mahabir Singh, one of the men who died, by his defiance of the authorities in the Central Jail in Bellary in September last, had instigated a riot of a serious nature which might have had very dangerous results. These were the reasons which had led the Government of India to transfer these terrorist prisoners to the Andamans. The hunger-strike had been begun as a protest against certain alleged grievances but in the opinion of the local authorities, with which the Home Member agreed, the

grievances were put forward as a means of attempting to force their will on the jail authorities and to break the discipline of the jail. Concession to the prisoners' demands would no doubt, as Mr. Jog had suggested, end the strike. But it was not difficult to realise what would happen in future, if these men thought that by going on hunger-strike they would obtain their way. In the last year Government had had on several occasions to oppose attempts by prisoners to force the jail authorities to grant demands by the threat or practice of hunger-strike. If prisoners resort to hunger-strike they cannot reasonably expect consideration to be given to any alleged grievances.

In regard to medical arrangements Sir Harry Haig after referring to the strain imposed on the local medical authorities by the hunger-strike of about 50 prisoners stated that in his opinion these authorities had coped with the difficulties of the situation very well indeed. Since, however, there seemed no prospect of the hunger-strike coming to an end quickly Government thought that it would be wise to send one of the most experienced officers in India in dealing with hunger-strikes, Lieutenant-Colonel Barker, to the Andamans to see whether he could make any suggestions for improvement. Lieutenant-Colonel Barker sailed from Madras on Sunday. There had been a few cases of influenza among the prisoners on hunger-strike but the latest reports showed that there were now only two cases and both were doing well while the general condition of the other hunger-strikers was good.

Dealing with the suggestion that the prisoners who died must have been in weak health when they started the hunger-strike, Sir Harry Haig stated that, owing to a complaint about the quality of the food, the Chief Commissioner had had all the prisoners weighed towards the end of April and had found that their weights compared favourably with their weights on the dates of admission and that there was no substance in the suggestion that the diet was inadequate. Of the three prisoners who died the weights of two at the end of April were greater than their weights on admission and the weight of the third had decreased by less than 5 per cent. The death of Mahabir Singh was no doubt due to his being on hunger-strike and resulted from the effects of his violent resistance to artificial feeding on his weakened constitution. Of the two men who died of pneumonia the first died from purely natural causes which had nothing to do with the hunger-strike. The man did not resist feeding. Medical opinion was, that he must have been already infected with the pneumonia microbe and actually in the incubation state of the disease when he went on hunger-strike. The other man who died from pneumonia did resist feeding but there was reason to suppose that he too was in the incubation stage of the disease when he went on hunger-strike and that the disease was unconnected with the artificial feeding. The Director General, Indian Medical Service, had examined the case-sheets of both these prisoners and was satisfied that the medical authorities had done everything possible to save their lives.

In regard to the question of communication with relatives, Sir Harry Haig stated that the Government of India considered it was undesirable to publish the names of the hunger-strikers because it helped to advertise the strike and possibly to confirm the prisoners in their attitude, while the object of Government was to bring the strike to an end as soon as possible. He appealed to the members of the deputation, whose desire it was that the prisoners should not continue their hunger-strike, to refrain from saying anything which would lead the prisoner to suppose that by continuing the hunger-strike they would secure their aims. The Government of India fully appreciated the anxiety of relatives and were prepared to do what they could to allay this. At present there is no need for anxiety in regard to any of the prisoners as the latest report is that the condition of all is good. Government will, however, be prepared to consider the possibility of sending information to the relatives of any prisoner whose condition in the future may give rise for anxiety. In concluding Sir Harry Haig pointed out that Mr. Jadhav was wrong in thinking that the Cellular Jail had ever been closed. It was, in fact, kept open in accordance with the recommendation of the Jails Committee.

Communiqué, dated Simla, the 17th June, 1933.

In the course of the discussion on the 13th June between the Home Member and certain Members of the Legislative Assembly regarding the hunger-strike in the Andamans, it was suggested that in the event of the condition of any prisoner who is on hunger-strike giving

cause for anxiety, steps should be taken at once to inform the relatives by telegram. It has accordingly been arranged that in such an event, the Chief Commissioner will take the necessary steps to have the prisoners' relatives informed by telegram. At the present moment there is no case which is giving cause for anxiety.

It is announced that influenza cases referred to in the last communiqué are continuing to do well. Lieutenant-Colonel Barker has arrived in the Andamans.

Communiqué, dated Simla, the 19th June, 1933.

In the course of the discussion between the Home Member and certain Members of the Legislative Assembly on June 13th the question was raised whether communications from relatives and others to prisoners on hunger-strike in the Andamans urging them to give up the strike would be delivered. It has been ascertained from the Chief Commissioner that communication sent with this object not only from relatives but from other persons which are expressed in plain and unequivocal language will be delivered.

Communiqué, dated Simla, the 20th June, 1933.

A message issued by the Free Press from Bombay on June 17th states that the condition of eight prisoners who are on hunger-strike in the Andamans is extremely serious. This statement is incorrect. In a communiqué, dated the 17th June, the Government of India stated that at that time there was no case which was giving cause for anxiety. On the 18th June a telegram was received from the Chief Commissioner reporting that one prisoner was suffering from post influenza congestion of lungs, and that his condition caused slight anxiety though he was not at present dangerously ill. The Chief Commissioner communicated this information to his relatives in accordance with the procedure recently announced. In a telegram, dated the 19th June, the Chief Commissioner has reported that the condition of this prisoner is slowly improving. There is no other prisoner whose condition gives cause at present for anxiety.

Communiqué, dated Simla, the 27th June, 1933.

The Government of India have received news from the Chief Commissioner, Andaman and Nicobar Islands, that the hunger-strike was abandoned by all prisoners on June 26th.

TRANSFER OF TERRORIST PRISONERS TO THE ANDAMANS.

14. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR: Do Government propose to stop henceforward sending political prisoners to the Andamans Jails? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: Government see no reason to change their policy in regard to the transfer of prisoners connected with terrorist crime to the Andamans.

COMPETITION BY JAPANESE SHIPPING COMPANIES IN THE INDIAN COASTAL TRADE.

15. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR: (a) Are Government aware of the fact that the Japanese shipping companies operating in Indian waters have cut down their rates and are using other methods of competition inflicting heavy losses on the Indian shipping companies?

(b) Do Government propose to take any measures to protect the Indian shipping companies from the competition of the Japanese companies? If so, the nature of the measures?

(c) Have Government taken into consideration the recommendations of the Indian Mercantile Marine Committee? If so, do Government propose to introduce legislation on the lines suggested by the Mercantile Marine Committee? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : (a) The Government of India have received representations from shipping interests in India regarding Japanese competition in the Indian coastal trade.

(b) The question is receiving the consideration of the Government of India.

(c) The Honourable Member presumably refers to the recommendation for the reservation of the coastal trade to Indian-owned ships. The attitude of the Government of India to that proposal was explained in Sir George Rainy's speeches in the Legislative Assembly when Mr. S. N. Haji's Bill on the subject was before that House. I would refer the Honourable Member to the record of those proceedings.

16.*

FREIGHT ON COAL DESPATCHED FROM COLLIERIES IN THE CENTRAL PROVINCES.

17. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) If the Railway Board have received a representation from the Secretary, Ahmedabad Millowners' Association, requesting the Board not to raise the freight on coal despatched from the collieries in the Central Provinces to the different centres of India in pursuance of a representation made on the subject by the Bengal colliery-owners ?

(b) Is it a fact that if the freight is raised on coal despatched from the collieries in the Central Provinces it will cause unfair discrimination and will be unjust and unfair to the Central Provinces colliery-owners, railways and labour forces working in these collieries and will also be detrimental and penalizing to the various industries established in the different centres of India ?

(c) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, what step do Government propose to take on the representation made by the Secretary, Ahmedabad Millowners' Association ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The question of whether any alterations are called for in the freight rates on coal despatched from collieries in the Central Provinces is still under examination and no decision has yet been reached.

BOYCOTT OF INDIAN COTTON BY THE JAPANESE COTTON SPINNERS' FEDERATION.

18. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the report appearing in the press that as a measure of retaliation against the import duties on cotton piece-goods imposed by the Government of India, the Japanese Cotton Spinners' Federation have decided to boycott Indian cotton ?

(b) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what measures they propose to take to help the cotton-growers of

* Question not put by the Honourable Mr. Vinayak Vithal Kalikar.

India if the threat of the Japanese Cotton Spinners' Federation is carried out?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not yet possible to estimate the extent, if any, to which the Indian cotton trade has been affected. The situation, however, is being watched.

SILVER.

19. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : (1) Will Government be pleased to state if Britain has paid its War debt from India's silver reserve?

(2) If so, was any responsible authority in India consulted about this matter before the decision was taken?

(3) Will India get the full or even partial benefit of the rate offered by the United States?

(4) At what price did Britain acquire silver from India?

(5) Was it acquired at the market rate or below the market rate?

(6) Has Britain made any profit out of the transaction and, if so, how much?

(7) How have the proceeds of the sale of the silver been invested?

(8) Has Britain paid the price in gold or has India only got securities in lieu of its silver?

(9) Was the opinion of the Standing Finance Committee taken on the transaction?

(10) Will Government be pleased to bring this matter before the two Legislatures to ascertain the opinion of the public?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (1) His Majesty's Government made a small token payment on account of the War debt in this way to the Government of the United States.

(2) Yes.

(3) and (4). 20 million ounces of silver were sold to His Majesty's Government on the basis of 20-7/16d. per standard ounce, delivery in London. As the silver was shipped to the United States of America without going through London, the charges for transport will be subject to a deduction equivalent to the amount which would have been paid by the Government of India if the silver had been shipped to London.

(5) Appreciably above the market rate at the time.

(6) This is a matter of opinion.

(7) and (8). In sterling securities.

(9) and (10). No.

INCONVENIENCE CAUSED TO PASSENGERS DUE TO MISCONNECTION BETWEEN 47-UP PASSENGER AND 71-UP EXPRESS TRAINS AT KIUL JUNCTION.

20. THE HONOURABLE RAJA RAGHUNANDAN PRASAD SINGH : Are Government aware that owing to lack of connection between 47-Up Sahibganj-Gaya Passenger and 71-Up Punjab Express, great inconvenience and discomfort is felt by passengers by the former train who happen to be travelling to Patna or further up ? Do they propose to remove this grievance of the travellers concerned by so changing the timing of the 47-Up Passenger as to enable them to avail themselves of the 71-Up Punjab Express at Kiul Junction ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The inconvenience caused to passengers due to misconnection between 47-Up and 71-Up trains at Kiul is realised. This cannot, however, be avoided as the earlier running of 47-Up by about two and a half hours which would be necessary to form the connection referred to would result in :

- (i) a departure from Bhagalpur at about 15-00 hours instead of 17-25 hours which would be too early for the local traffic from Bhagalpur, particularly for passengers returning from courts ;
- (ii) a departure from Kiul at about 18-50 hours instead of 21-40 hours and a consequent misconnection with 12-Down Express at that station. This connection is important also for traffic from North Bihar to Gaya *via* Mokameh Ghat where the latter train has a very suitable connection with the Bengal and North-Western Railway steamer.

STOPPAGE OF 42-DOWN EXPRESS TRAIN AT KAJRA AND ABHAIPUR.

21. THE HONOURABLE RAJA RAGHUNANDAN PRASAD SINGH : Do Government propose to arrange for the stoppage for a few minutes of 42-Down Mokameh Junction-Howrah Express *via* Sahibganj Loop at Kajra and Abhaipur in view of the importance of these places as centres of trade (in grains and in slates) and agricultural operations ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : No ; the Railway Administration report that the traffic offering at Abhaipur and Kajra does not warrant the stoppage of express trains at these stations.

COMPETITION BETWEEN MOTOR AND RAILWAY TRAFFIC.

22. THE HONOURABLE RAJA RAGHUNANDAN PRASAD SINGH : Is it a fact that due to the competition between motor and railway traffic and transports, the Railways are sustaining losses ? If so, what do Government propose to do to meet the situation ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative.

As regards the second, I cannot enumerate here all the methods adopted by Railways to regain the lost traffic. Some of the most important are : reduction of fares between competitive points, issue of cheap return tickets, introduction of more convenient services, and so on.

My Honourable friend is no doubt aware that the Government of India are considering in consultation with Provincial Governments the measures that might be taken to co-ordinate the activities of Railways and road vehicles.

FORTNIGHTLY RETURN TICKETS ON THE EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

23. THE HONOURABLE RAJA RAGHUNANDAN PRASAD SINGH : Do Government propose to issue fortnightly return tickets for all classes of passengers by the East Indian Railway at reduced rates ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : Ordinary return tickets are already issued generally to 1st, 2nd and Inter class passengers and week-end return tickets to 3rd class passengers. On certain sections 3rd class ordinary return tickets are also issued to meet bus competition. It is not proposed to issue fortnightly return tickets generally on the East Indian Railway.

NUMBER OF DEATHS AMONG PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS IN MAY, 1933.

***24. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :** Will Government be pleased to state the number of deaths among the prisoners, both political and ordinary, in the Andamans Cellular Jails during the month of May last ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : There were four deaths in the Andamans Cellular Jail in the month of May, 1933.

REASONS OF HUNGER-STRIKE OF TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

25. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) Reasons why the political prisoners in the Andamans resorted to hunger-strike ?

(b) Did Government do anything to persuade them to end the hunger-strike ? If so, what measures did they adopt ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) I would refer the Honourable Member to the communiqués of June 7th and 13th, 1933.

(b) I have no doubt that the jail staff did everything that they could to persuade the hunger-strikers to desist. I may mention that, as stated in the communiqué issued on the 19th June, the Chief Commissioner permitted the delivery to prisoners on hunger-strike of letters and telegrams from relatives and others urging them to give up the strike.

COMPLAINTS FROM TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS BEFORE GOING ON HUNGER-STRIKE.

26. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Did Government receive any complaints from the political and ordinary prisoners in the Andamans before they went on hunger-strike ? If so, what steps did Government take to prevent them from so doing ? If Government have not done anything to redress the grievances of the prisoners, will Government be pleased to state why they have not done so ?

* Questions Nos. 24 to 35 were not asked as the Honourable Member was absent.

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The Government of India did not receive any complaints from the prisoners before they went on hunger-strike. In regard to the measures taken since the conclusion of the strike, I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply which I have given to parts (c) and (d) of the Honourable Mr. Vinayak Vithal Kalikar's question No. 13.

DEATHS OF TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

27. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) What was the principal cause of the deaths of Mr. Mahabir Singh of the Lahore Conspiracy Case, Man Krishna Nama Das of Mymensingh district and of Mr. Mohit Mohan Maitra of Pabna district, Bengal, all prisoners in the Andamans ?

(b) Was rectum feeding attempted in the case of all these three dead prisoners ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the date or dates on which these above mentioned dead prisoners began their hunger-strike ?

(d) What was the condition of their health, day by day, during the period of their fast ?

(e) Did the doctor in charge who attended them keep any chart about the health condition of these three prisoners ? If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table the copies of the medical charts or the bed tickets of those three prisoners ?

The HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a), (c) and (d). Detailed information is given in the communiqués which were issued from time to time and of which copies have been laid on the table.

(b) In no case.

(e) Case-charts were maintained but Government do not propose to publish them.

HUNGER-STRIKE OF TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS IN JUNE, 1933.

28. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Was there any hunger-strike among the political prisoners in the Andamans in the month of June last ? If so, will Government be pleased to state as to why the prisoners hunger struck ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state the names of all the prisoners who went on hunger-strike in June last ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) The cause of the hunger-strike, which began in May last and continued into June, is stated in the communiqué issued on June 7th, 1933, of which a copy has been laid on the table.

(b) Government do not propose to publish the names of the prisoners.

DELIVERY OF MONEY ORDERS TO TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

29. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Is it a fact that a money order sent by Mrs. Uttama Sundari Roy of Calcutta to her son Kali Pada Roy, a political prisoner in the Andamans has not been given to the said prisoner by the authorities at Port Blair ? If so, why has this

been done and at whose instance ? How many money orders to the political prisoners have so been refused to them by the authorities, and to whom were they addressed ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The answer to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. The jail rules do not permit prisoners in the Andamans to keep money in their possession, and any money sent to prisoners was no doubt withheld for that reason.

SUPPLY OF NEWSPAPERS TO TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

30. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Are any English, Bengali, Hindi and Urdu newspapers allowed to the political prisoners in the Andamans ? If so, how many and what are their names ? If the answer to the first part of the question is in the negative, will Government be pleased to state why newspapers are not allowed to the political prisoners ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The weekly editions of the *Times of India*, the *Statesman*, the *Sanjibani* and the *Bangabasi* are supplied to the prisoners.

HEALTH OF PRISONER BIDHU BHUSAN SEN AND INTERVIEW WITH HIS BROTHER.

31. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the present condition of health of the political prisoner Mr. Bidhu Bhusan Sen at the Andamans Cellular Jail ? Has his brother been allowed to go to the Andamans and visit him there ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The prisoner has now completely recovered. His brother was allowed to interview him on July 19th.

HUNGER-STRIKE OF CERTAIN PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

32. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Did Dr. Narayan Chandra Roy, ex-Councillor, Calcutta Corporation, Dr. Bhupal Bose, M.B., Mr. Sunirmal Sen, B.Sc., Mr. Abani Ranjan Ghose, Mr. Romesh Chandra Chatterjee and Mr. Barindra Kumar Ghose, prisoners in the Andamans, resort to hunger-strike ? If so, on what grounds ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply which I have given to part (b) of his question No. 28.

NUMBER OF TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

33. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : How many political prisoners are there in the Andamans Cellular Jails and when were they sent to Port Blair and in how many batches ? Will Government be pleased to state their number, province by province ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : There are 112 terrorist prisoners in the Andamans Cellular Jail, who were sent in batches of varying sizes at different periods between August, 1932 and June, 1933. Government do not propose to publish the names of the prisoners. Most of them belong to Bengal.

SWAMI JNANANANDA'S PAMPHLET ON HUNGER-STRIKE AND DEATH OF TERRORIST PRISONERS IN THE ANDAMANS.

34. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Has the attention of Government been drawn to the pamphlet entitled "Hunger-strike and death of the political prisoners in the Andamans" by Swami Jnanananda and printed and published by Mr. Benoy Kumar Das Gupta from 37, Serpentine Lane, Calcutta? If so, what reply have Government given to the statements of the said Swamiji?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : Government have seen the pamphlet. Their position has been made clear in the communiqués published at different dates.

REPATRIATION OF TERRORIST PRISONERS FROM THE ANDAMANS.

35. The HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Is it a fact that the Indian public demand the repatriation of the political prisoners to their native land? If so, what have Government done with regard to that demand?

(b) Are Government aware that the Indian public demand an enquiry into the present state of affairs in the Andamans Cellular Jail and the condition of the political prisoners there?

(c) Are Government considering the desirability of holding an enquiry into the incidents that led to the hunger-strike of the prisoners in the Andamans? If not, why not?

(d) Are Government aware that public meetings were held almost in every part of India protesting against the re-opening of the Andamans Cellular Jail and the Penal Settlement there?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a), (b), (c) and (d). Government are aware that public meetings have been held at which demands of this nature were put forward. They do not consider that any action is required.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE INDIAN JAILS COMMITTEE AND DEPORTATION OF TERRORIST PRISONERS TO THE ANDAMANS.

***36. The HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :** Will Government be pleased to state how far they have given effect to the recommendations and suggestion of the Indian Jails Committee (1919), known as the Cardew Committee, in respect of sending prisoners to the Andamans? Is it a fact that Government are sending political prisoners to the Andamans against the recommendations of the said Committee? Can Government assign any reason for this action?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The Home Department Resolution No. F. 20/26-Jails, dated February 27th, 1926, explains the extent to which the Government of India have given effect to the recommendations of the Jails Committee in regard to the sending of prisoners to the Andamans.

Government do not agree that the transfer of the terrorist prisoners to the Andamans is at variance with the proposals of the Jails Committee.

*Questions Nos. 36 and 37 were asked by the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Mathura Prasad Mehrotra.

HEALTH OF KHAN ABDUL GHAFFAR KHAN, A STATE PRISONER CONFINED IN THE HAZARIBAGH JAIL, BIHAR AND ORISSA.

37. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state the present condition of health of Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan, known as "Frontier Gandhi"?

(b) Is it a fact that he is losing his weight in the jail?

(c) Is any money being paid to the family of the "Frontier Gandhi" as maintenance allowance? If so, what is that amount?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan is in good health.

(b) No.

(c) No allowance is considered necessary.

IMPORT OF JAPANESE RICE INTO INDIA.

***38. The HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :**

(a) Is it a fact that negotiations are going on between Japan and some foreign and other merchants in India on the importation of Japanese rice into Indian and Burma markets?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to make a statement on the matter?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (a) and (b). No definite information is available, but reports have reached Government that endeavours are being made by certain persons to negotiate the sale of Japanese rice in India.

IMPORT OF JAPANESE RICE INTO INDIA.

39. The HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the statement of the President of the Burma Indian Chamber of Commerce that appeared in the *Ananda Bazar Patrika*, a vernacular daily of Calcutta of June 28th, 1933 (dak edition) with regard to the apprehended import of Japanese rice to India and Burma?

(b) If so, what steps have Government taken or propose to take to prevent the import of rice to India and Burma from Japan?

(c) Are Government aware that Japan has stopped import of Indian and Burma rice?

(d) If so, are Government contemplating any executive action against the proposed import of Japanese rice to India and Burma?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :

(a) Government have not seen this statement, but have received a communication direct from the Burma Indian Chamber of Commerce.

(b) and (d). The matter is under consideration.

(c) In 1928 an Ordinance was issued by the Japanese Government prohibiting the import of rice into Japan except under licence.

*Questions Nos. 38 to 55 were not asked as the Honourable Member was absent.

DEPORTATION OF CERTAIN LAHORE CONSPIRACY CASE PRISONERS TO THE ANDAMANS FROM MADRAS.

40. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Is it a fact that Jayadeva Kapur, Siva Rama and Vijoy Sinha sentenced to transportation for life in connexion with the Lahore Conspiracy Case who are at present in Madras Jail are going to be sent to Port Blair ? Or have they been already sent to Port Blair ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The prisoners were transferred to the Andamans on the 11th June, 1933.

WHEREABOUTS AND HEALTH OF STATE PRISONER SURENDRA MOHAN GHOSH.

41. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Will Government be pleased to state where State prisoner Mr. Surendra Mohan Ghosh of Mymensingh district is at present ?

(b) What is the present condition of his health ?

(c) Is it a fact that he is suspected to be suffering from tuberculosis ?

(d) If so, will Government be pleased to state whether they have made proper arrangements for his treatment in any good tuberculosis hospital in India ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the latest health bulletin of Mr. Surendra Mohan Ghosh ?

(f) Have Government received any application from any of Mr. Ghosh's relatives praying for interview with him at the jail ?

(g) If so, has the prayer been granted by them ?

(h) Is any maintenance allowance paid to the family of Mr. Ghosh ?

(i) If not, why not ?

(j) If so, what is the amount ?

(k) Are Government aware that Mr. Ghosh has got his life insured with the Bengal Insurance and Real Property Co., Ltd., Calcutta, and that he has not been able to pay his two premia ?

(l) What provision have Government made for payment of the premia of Mr. Ghosh ?

(m) Are Government aware that his policy may lapse if the premia are not paid in time and it will then be very difficult for him to reinstate it in the present condition of his life which may not be accepted after medical examination by any insurance office ?

(n) If so, what steps have Government taken or are going to take to see that Mr. Ghose's life insurance policy may not lapse ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) The State prisoner Surendra Mohan Ghosh is detained in the Rajahmundry Jail, Madras, at present.

(b), (c) and (e). The State prisoner has had several attacks of dysentery since 1926, with periods of improvement, but recently there has been some

deterioration in his health with occasional slight fever. He was therefore examined on the 5th July by a board of two doctors at the General Hospital, Madras. The board are of opinion that he is suffering from chronic dysentery. They did not find him to be suffering from tuberculosis.

(d) Does not arise.

(f) No.

(g) Does not arise.

(h) to (j). Yes. Rs. 30 a month.

(k) and (l). Yes. Government have paid the premia up to date.

(m) and (n). Do not arise.

ALLEGED ILL-TREATMENT OF MR. ANEY IN THE MIDNAPORE CENTRAL JAIL.

42. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the statement of Mr. M. S. Aney, Acting President, Indian National Congress, published under the captions "Mr. Aney's Rejoinder to Sir Harry Haig", "Full of Mis-statements and Distortion", in *Advance* of Calcutta of June 10th (dak edition) regarding the treatment meted out to Mr. Aney at the Midnapore Jail after his arrest while he was going to attend the Congress session in Calcutta ?

(b) Have Government made any reply to this statement of Mr. Aney ?

(c) If so, what is it ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to state if any steps have been taken by the authorities to see that such treatment is not accorded to the political prisoners, especially to those of the type of Mr. Aney who is an ex-M. L. A. ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : (a) I have seen the press report.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The Honourable Member presumably refers to the method of search. The search was carried out by a warder who was bound to comply with the Jail Rules that such searches should be carefully and thoroughly done. Mr. Aney himself admits that on his protest the Deputy Jailor relaxed the ordinary procedure. This part of the question does not, therefore, arise.

WORLD ECONOMIC CONFERENCE.

43. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (i) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the Indian Delegates to the World Economic Conference in London ?

(ii) What was the position of Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas in relation to the Conference and why did he withdraw from it ?

(iii) Is the Government of India bearing the expenses of the delegates to the Conference ? If so, what is the total cost of India's Delegation to that Conference ?

(iv) Will Government be pleased to state why an Indian could not be chosen as the head of India's Delegation to the said Conference ?

(v) What were the aims and objects of the Conference and how far they have been fulfilled ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : (i) The Honourable Member is referred to the Press communiqués, dated the 9th and the 16th June, 1933, issued by the Private Secretary to His Excellency the Viceroy, copies of which are in the Library.

(ii) Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas was appointed as a member of the Advisory Committee which was formed to assist the Indian Delegation at the Conference. The Government of India have no official information as to his reasons for withdrawal.

(iii) The reply to the first part of the question is in the affirmative. As to the second part, the expenditure has mainly been incurred in England and I am not at present in possession of the information required.

(iv) The personnel of the Delegation was chosen after full consideration of the necessities of the situation.

(v) The World Economic and Monetary Conference was convened, according to the Draft Agenda of the Conference, to decide upon the measures to solve the economic and financial difficulties which are responsible for, and may prolong, the present world crisis. As the Honourable Member is no doubt aware, the Conference has for the present been adjourned and it is not possible at this stage to say how far these objects have been fulfilled.

CHAMBER OF PRINCES.

44. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state if any money is being paid to the Princes' Chamber from the revenue of the Government of India ? If so, what is the amount and why is it being paid ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. B. J. GLANCY : The average annual amount debitable to Indian revenues which is expended on the Chamber of Princes is Rs. 10,200 per annum. The reason for the expenditure is chiefly to provide for the maintenance of the building (Rs. 8,100) and also for certain minor items such as the printing of proceedings, postage, etc.

NUMBER OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE PRISONERS IN JAIL.

45. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of civil disobedience prisoners in jails, both men and women, in India, province by province, up till the temporary suspension of the civil disobedience movement ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : I lay a statement on the table giving the figures in my possession, namely, up to the 30th April and 31st May.

Statement showing the number of persons undergoing imprisonment in connection with the civil disobedience movement.

Province.	Number of convicted persons undergoing imprisonment at the end of April, 1933.			Number of convicted persons undergoing imprisonment at the end of May, 1933.		
	Men.	Women.	Total.	Men.	Women.	Total.
Madras ..	747	50	797	557	40	597
Bombay ..	2,717	215	2,932	2,250	195	2,445
Bengal ..	1,171	69	1,240	931	62	993
U. P. ..	1,966	122	2,088	1,715	94	1,809
Punjab ..	182	8	190	138	5	143
B. and O. ..	1,598	55	1,653	1,166	42	1,208
C. P. ..	110	1	111	58		58
Assam ..	137	13	150	120	11	131
N.-W. F. P. ..	1,661		1,661	1,657	..	1,657
Delhi ..	36	7	43	29	6	35
Coorg ..	62	2	64	53	2	55
Ajmer-Merwara.	19	2	21	13	..	13
Total ..	10,406	544	10,950	8,687	457	9,144

COLLISION BETWEEN A BUS AND TRAIN AT LEVEL CROSSING NO. 31, BHADOHI STATION, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

46. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state the number of persons killed and seriously wounded on account of the train-bus collision at a level crossing near Benares on the East Indian Railway ?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state whether the level crossing is situated on the main line or on a branch line of the East Indian Railway ?

(c) Was the level crossing protected by any signal ? If so, were the gates of the crossings interlocked with the signal protecting the gates ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) As a result of the unfortunate accident when a motor bus collided with the Up Lahore Mail near Bhadohi station (East Indian Railway) on the 6th June, 1933, Government regret to state that 15 out of 36 passengers in the bus were killed on the spot and 16 were injured. The injured were treated in Bhadohi Hospital, where two died subsequently.

(b) Level crossing No. 31, where the collision occurred, is on the main line about 400 feet outside the up outer signal of Bhadohi station.

(c) No, it is not required by the safety regulations laid down.

NUMBER OF LEVEL CROSSING ACCIDENTS ON RAILWAYS.

47. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the number of level crossing disasters that took place on the Indian Railways, both State-managed and Company-managed, since 1931 to June, 1933 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The total number of level crossing accidents reported to the Railway Board by various Railways from January, 1931 to June, 1933 is 48.

NUMBER OF LEVEL CROSSINGS ON THE KALKA-SIMLA AND DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAYS.

48. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the number of level crossings situated on the Kalka-Simla and Darjeeling-Himalayan Railways ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : With your permission, Sir, I propose to reply to questions Nos. 48 and 52 together.

There are four level crossings on the Kalka-Simla Railway. As regards level crossings on the Darjeeling-Himalayan, East Indian and Eastern Bengal Railways, the information is not readily available and Government consider that the labour and expense involved in collecting it is incommensurate with the results that are likely to be obtained.

MOTOR TRAFFIC ON THE CART ROADS BETWEEN KALKA AND SIMLA AND BETWEEN SILIGURI AND DARJEELING.

49. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Are Government aware that bus services are running along the railway track between Kalka and Simla and Darjeeling-Siliguri on the Darjeeling-Himalayan Railway ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : Government are aware that road motor services ply on the cart roads between Kalka and Simla and between Siliguri and Darjeeling. The cart road between Kalka and Simla follows a different alignment from that of the railway lines, but the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway runs for most of its length over the cart road from Siliguri to Darjeeling.

LEVEL CROSSING ACCIDENTS ON THE KALKA-SIMLA RAILWAY.

50. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state whether any disaster took place at any level crossing on the Kalka-Simla Railway ? If so, with how many casualties and on what date ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : No disaster occurred at any level crossing on the Kalka-Simla Railway from January, 1931, to date. On 21st January, 1932 and 7th April, 1932 there were two minor accidents when a road motor in each case collided with a gate. There were no casualties.

SAFETY OF LEVEL CROSSINGS BEFORE LINES ARE DECLARED SAFE FOR PASSENGER TRAFFIC.

51. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Is it a fact that no lines are allowed to be opened for passenger service unless they are inspected and declared safe by the Government Inspector ? If so, do the Inspectors make any remark on their Inspection Report regarding the safety of the level crossings before they declare any lines safe for the passenger traffic ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The answer to both parts of the question is in the affirmative.

NUMBER OF MAIN LINE LEVEL CROSSINGS BETWEEN HOWRAH AND DELHI, EAST INDIAN RAILWAY, AND BETWEEN SEALDAH AND GOALUNDO AND SEALDAH AND SILIGURI ON THE EASTERN BENGAL RAILWAY.

52. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the number of level crossings on the main line of East Indian Railway between Howrah and Delhi and those on the Eastern Bengal Railway between Sealdah and Goalundo and Sealdah and Siliguri ? How many of them are protected by signals and how many of them are not ? Are the signals interlocked with the level crossing gates ?

(See reply to question No. 48.)

CONGRESS PROPERTY SEIZED UNDER THE ORDINANCES.

53. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the number, province by province, of the Congress houses, ashrams, hospitals, libraries, buildings, "khadi bhandars," etc., in India searched, banned and confiscated by Government since the Working Committee of the Congress was declared unlawful or since 1930 to May, 1933 ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : I lay a statement on the table giving the information in my possession.

Statement showing buildings and other immoveable property seized under Ordinance IX of 1930, Ordinance IV of 1932 and the Special Powers Ordinance (Ordinance X of 1932).

Province.	Number of buildings seized under		Remarks.
	Ordinance IX of 1930.	Ordinances IV and X of 1932.	
Madras ..	Nil	27	
Bombay ..	50	138	
Bengal ..	47	275	
United Provinces ..	Nil	193	
Punjab ..	Nil	3	
Bihar and Orissa ..	1	95	
Central Provinces ..	Nil	7	Including 1 garden.
Assam ..	Nil	20	
North-West Frontier Province ..	Nil	1	
Delhi ..	Nil	4	
Coorg ..	Nil	2	
Ajmer-Merwara ..	Nil	5	
Total ..	98	770	

BOYCOTT OF INDIAN COTTON BY JAPAN.

54. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :
 (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the statement of Mr. Senda, a prominent Japanese business man in Calcutta, that appeared in the *Statesman* of June 24th, 1933, under the captions "A Japanese View", "Cotton Boycott not an Empty Threat" with regard to the boycott of Indian cotton by Japan ?

(b) What steps do Government propose to take to prevent the threatened boycott ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The situation is being watched carefully.

BOYCOTT OF INDIAN COTTON BY JAPAN.

55. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(a) Is it a fact that Japan has already begun boycotting Indian cotton ?

(b) Is England a buyer of Indian cotton ? If so, what is her Indian cotton consumption per year ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the amount of cotton exported to Japan annually from India ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Honourable Member is referred to the Indian Seaborne Trade Returns, copies of which are in the Library.

DISMISSAL OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY, MADRAS AND SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY UNION, FROM RAILWAY EMPLOY.

56. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : (1) Is it a fact that the Agent, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway, has dispensed with the services of a railway employee who refused to comply with the Agent's order that no servant of a railway should accept the office of the General Secretary of the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Union ?

(2) Is it a fact that as a protest against the Agent's action the workmen of the Perambur Railway Workshops have refused to do any work ?

(3) If the answers to parts (1) and (2) above be in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state on what grounds was such an order issued by the Agent ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (1) Yes.

(2) Government understand that on the 11th July, 1933, the men entered the workshop but that the majority of them refused to do any work.

(3) It is understood that the Agent issued the order in question owing to certain allegations against the administration published by the Union over the signature of the General Secretary.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON LABOUR.

57. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : (a) Has the attention of Government been drawn to the following passage in the report of the Labour Commission :

“ We believe that a more generous policy in respect of organisation would be to the advantage of all concerned in railway works and we commend that matter to the careful consideration of Administration and Union. These bodies should also arrive at an understanding concerning the extent of facilities to be given to Union officers and members in promoting organisation ” ?

(b) What steps have the Agent and other authorities of the Railway concerned taken to give effect to the Commission's recommendations in respect of facilities to be given to the Union officers and members in promoting organisation ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state if it has accepted the above recommendation of the Commission or not ?

(d) If the answer of the above question is in the negative will Government be pleased to state reasons for giving preference to an outsider holding such important office of the Union when capable men are available as members ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The recommendation of the Royal Commission on Labour referred to by the Honourable Member is at present under the consideration of the Government of India. The last part of the question is not understood.

PERSONNEL OF THE POPE ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

58. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state the personnel of the Pope Enquiry Committee on Retrenchment on the Indian Railways ?

(b) What was the remuneration per diem or mensem of Mr. Pope and what were the allowances of his associates on the Committee ?

(c) What was the total cost of the Pope Enquiry Committee ?

(d) Did the Committee take evidence from all the Indian Railway Chiefs and the Members of the Railway Board including the Commissioner and the Financial Commissioner for Railways in India ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) The following officers were associated with Mr. Pope in his investigation :

Mr. J. A. Bell, Divisional Superintendent, East Indian Railway.

Mr. R. C. Case, Deputy Transportation Superintendent, Great Indian Peninsula Railway.

Lieutenant-Colonel C. F. Carson, R.E., Divisional Superintendent, North Western Railway.

Mr. G. S. G. Higginson, District Transportation Officer, Bengal Nagpur Railway.

Mr. G. A. R. Trimming, Deputy Chief Mechanical Engineer, East Indian Railway.

(b) Mr. Pope was paid a salary of £2,000 per annum together with an allowance of Rs. 1,000 per mensem while in India and travelling expenses at Rs. 10 per day.

Mr. Pope's associates drew the pay they were in receipt of in their regular posts *plus* Rs. 10 per day travelling allowance.

(c) Exclusive of the cost of printing and contingent expenses the cost of the enquiry was roughly Rs. 35,000.

(d) No, Mr. Pope had informal discussions with the Railway Board and the Agents of the principal Railways.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE POPE ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

59. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(a) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table the gist of the findings of the Pope Enquiry Committee ?

(b) In how many Railways have the Pope Committee recommended retrenchment ?

(c) Will Government be pleased to state the names of those Railways in which recommendation has been made for retrenchment by the said Committee ?

(d) What parts of the recommendation of the Pope Committee have been given effect to ? Has there been any retrenchment in any Railway, either Company-managed or State-managed, on the recommendation of the Pope Enquiry Committee ?

(e) Will Government be pleased to state the number of hands retrenched in different Railways on the recommendation of the Pope Enquiry Committee according to their nationalities ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The Memorandum* I have just laid on the table gives the information desired. No retrenchments of staff have yet been made as a result of it.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

60. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(a) Will Government be pleased to state how many railway disasters in which the engines were telescoped and the trains derailed occurred in India during 1932 and up to the month of June, 1933, and the number of casualties in those disasters ?

(b) Have Government been able to ascertain the causes of those disasters ?

(c) Have Government been able to know if those were the doings of the mischief-makers or the disasters were mere accidents ?

(d) Have there been any suits for damages against the Railways either by the passengers themselves who sustained injuries in the disasters or by the relatives of the deceased passengers since 1930 up to July, 1933 ? If so, how many ? And how have those suits been disposed of ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a), (b) and (c). I assume the Honourable Member refers only to serious accidents involving loss of life or serious injury to person.

I place on the table a tabulated statement of such accidents, showing in each case the causes where known and the casualties.

(d) Government have no definite information as most of such cases are within the powers of the local Railway Administrations to settle.

* See pages 7-8 of these debates.

List of the more serious railway accidents which occurred in India from January, 1932 to June, 1933.

No.	Date on which the accident occurred.	Place of the accident.	Whether engine telecoped.	Whether train derailed.	Number of casualties.	Cause.
1	24th January, 1932.	Titabar Branch Jorhat Provincial Railway.	No	4-Down mixed train derailed.	Two persons got seriously injured.	Excessive speed.
2	25th January, 1932.	Between Neora and Sedisopur, East Indian Railway.	No	Engine and 8 bogie vehicles of 31-Up Howrah-Benares Cantonment Express derailed.	Driver and one passenger injured.	Permanent way tampered with and rails partially displaced.
3	27th January, 1932.	Between Futwah and Palma City, East Indian Railway.	No	Engine and 6 leading bogies derailed (31-Up Howrah-Benares Express).	Nil	Ditto.
4	9th February, 1932.	Level crossing between Kot Kapura and Faridkot.	No	Engine with a brake van struck a motor lorry carrying 21 passengers.	Two killed and 14 seriously injured.	Negligence of gateman.
5	15th February, 1932.	Between Makrana and Naranpura, Jodhpur Railway.	No	Parting of 111-Up Goods and subsequent collision of parted portion with 101-Up Shuttle goods between Naranpura and Kuchaman Road.	Relief Guard killed and Head Guard seriously injured.	Broken coupling.
6	25th February, 1932.	Between Dhapdhapi and Barupur, Eastern Bengal Railway.	Engine of 137-Up Passenger train collided with a motor lorry.	No	Four killed	Negligence of driver.

No.	Date on which the accident occurred.	Place of the accident.	Whether engine telescoped.	Whether train derailed.	Number of casualties.	Cause.
7	27th February, 1932.	Between Nalikul and Haripal, East Indian Railway.	No	149-Up Passenger train derailed.	One passenger and driver injured.	Not ascertained.
8	10th March, 1932	Between Sitlai and Khetur Road, Eastern Bengal Railway.	Engine of 309-Up Mixed ran into a cart.	No ..	One cartman and one bullock killed.	Misadventure.
9	5th April, 1932	Between Dalowali and Ransinghpura, North Western Railway.	Engine of train No. 292-Down ran over a country cart.	No ..	Driver of cart and two bullocks killed.	Rashness of cart driver.
10	17th April, 1932	Between Monirampur and Begumpur, East Indian Railway.	A down light engine running into a motor car.	No ..	Four killed and two injured.	Negligence of gateman and driver.
11	24th April, 1932	Between Padali and Ghoti, Great Indian Peninsula Railway.	No. 568-Up Goods train collided with a bullock cart.	No ..	Two bullocks killed; one man killed and one seriously injured.	Not ascertained.
12	7th May, 1932	Between Minakshipuram and Kollangod, South Indian Railway.	Yes ..	Engine, brake van and six ballast trucks of a ballast train telescoped and capsized.	One fireman and one coolie killed; 12 coolies injured.	Ditto.
13	7th May, 1932	Unmanned level crossing within Dhanbad Station limits.	Dhanbad Shuttle ran into a buffalo cart.	No ..	Cart driver and buffalo killed.	Negligence of cart driver.
14	13th May, 1932	Between Dodjala and Devanahalli, Mysore Railways.	No ..	Six leading 4-wheeled wagons and bogie III (VII) of 32-Down Mixed train capsized and the next bogie derailed.	Four passengers killed and nine injured.	Failure of the running gear.

No.	Date on which the accident occurred.	Place of the accident.	Whether engine telescoped.	Whether train derailed.	Number of casualties.	Cause.
15	27th May, 1932	Level crossing gate No. 132 near Katwa, East Indian Railway.	149-Up van goods ran into a cart.	No	Cartman and bullock killed.	Negligence on the part of cartman.
16	15th June, 1932	Between Baruipur and Dhapdhapai, Eastern Bengal Railway.	596-Goods collided with a motor lorry.	No	Four injured of whom one died.	Negligence of lorry driver.
17	27th June, 1932	Between Sreepur siding and Baraboni.	Yes	Front engine and 11 wagons of the Topoi Baraboni Pilot derailed.	Driver fatally injured; seven railway servants slightly injured.	Incorrect setting of points and excessive speed.
18	10th July, 1932	Pahartali Yard, Assam Bengal Railway.	11-Up mixed ran into a motor car.	No	One nurse killed	Not ascertained.
19	22nd July, 1932	Level crossing between Nowshera Thana and Pir Pasi, North Western Railway.	Engine of No. 4-Down Frontier Mail struck a motor lorry.	No	Three persons in the lorry killed, six injured (two subsequently died).	Negligence of the driver of the lorry.
20	1st November, 1932.	Near Lakheri, Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway.	No	Down Tuscania boat special collided with the trolley of S. P. W. I., Kapren.	S. P. W. I. fatally injured.	Negligence of S. P. W. I., Station Master.
21	4th November, 1932.	Between Badarganj and Kholahati, Eastern Bengal Railway.	Engine of 4-Down Assam Mail ran into a bullock cart.	No	Cartman killed and another occupant died.	Cartman and cartman jointly responsible.
22	11th December, 1932.	Near Htein-in, Burma Railways.	No	No. 346-Down Goods parted and leading 18 wagons derailed and capsized.	One cattle attendant killed, two injured and four bulls killed.	Breakage of the tender drawbar.

24	28th December, 1932.	Level crossing at mile 3/11 on Bareilly Aligarh Branch. At Titabar, Assam Bengal Railway.	69-Up Passenger ran into a bullock cart. Engine of No. 30-Down Assam Mail running into a bullock cart.	No.	..	One cartman and one bullock killed.	Negligence of gatekeeper and, driver of train.
25	8th January, 1933.	Between Lalguddi and Bikshandarkoil, South Indian Railway.	184-Passenger ran into a bullock cart.	No	..	One killed and two seriously injured.	Negligence of cartman.
26	10th January, 1933.	Level crossing outside Sitapur Hat Station, Howrah-Amta Light Railway.	No. 51-Up mixed train ran into a bullock cart.	No.	..	One man killed, two seriously injured, and one bullock killed. Driver of cart and one bullock killed.	Negligence of cartman.
27	31st January, 1933.	Between Tapri and Nagal stations, North Western Railway.	An up Goods-train running into a bullock cart.	No	..	Two persons injured and a bullock killed.	Not ascertained.
28	1st April, 1933	Between Venkatnagar and Jaithari, Bengal Nagpur Railway.	No. 69-Down Passenger train running into a bullock cart.	No	..	One cartman and two bullocks killed.	Negligence of cartman.
29	8th April, 1933	Between Jharkha Ladhana and Jaranwala.	No. 454-Down Passenger ran into a motor lorry.	No	..	Two killed and 13 injured.	Not ascertained.
30	17th April, 1933	Mile 351/18 (Grand Chord).	A Down Goods ran into a bullock cart.	No	..	Grievous hurt to cartman.	Ditto.
31	27th April, 1933	Between Doravari Chattram and Nayudupeta, Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway.	Engine of 9-Down ran over a cart.	No	..	Driver of cart and both bulls killed.	Ditto.
32	1st May, 1933..	Between Dumra and Burhee stations, East Indian Railway.	No	No. 2-Down derailed.	Mail	Five killed and 13 injured.	Track tampered with.
33	2nd May, 1933	Comoh Station, East Indian Railway.	Engine of 8-Down Delhi Express collided with train.	No.	..	17 persons injured	Sudden attack of fainting of driver.
34	3rd June, 1933	Dinaipur, Eastern Bengal Railway.	Collision between an Up stone train and 740-Down Goods train.	No	..	First fireman killed, second fireman grievously injured.	Not ascertained.
34	10th June, 1933						

ROAD-RAIL CONFERENCE.

61. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE :

(1) Will Government be pleased to state briefly the upshot of the Rail-Road Conference that was recently held at Simla ?

(2) How many Ministers from the different provinces attended the Conference and who bore the expenses of the Ministers travelling to and from Simla ?

(3) Was there any interest of the bus service owned by Indians or Europeans in India represented in the Conference ? If not, why not ?

(4) Was any invitation extended to any bus service company that runs their bus along the road off the railway lines ? If not, why not ? If so, how many bus service companies responded to the invitations and attended the Conference ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY : (1) Eight Resolutions were adopted at the Road-Rail Conference as a basis for proposals to be made to Local Governments ; these resolutions will be found at pages 153-154 of the printed proceedings of the Conference which are available in the Library of the Central Legislature.

(2) Four Ministers, *viz.*, from Bengal, the United Provinces, the Punjab and the Central Provinces attended the Conference. Their expenses were borne by the Local Governments concerned.

(3) and (4). No bus service was invited to send representatives. Government did not overlook the importance of these interests, but did not find it possible to arrange for the direct representation of the owners and operators of motor transport and, in particular, of rural buses, as they did not appear to be as yet sufficiently organised, while such organisations as existed appeared to be upon a provincial or even more local basis. It is, I think, clear that there would have been great difficulty in selecting one or other of these as fully representative for the purpose of a conference of this nature. I would, however, point out that it was and is open to such services to represent their views to Local Governments and that any representations they make will be given the fullest consideration.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE POPE ENQUIRY COMMITTEE AND RECRUITMENT
FOR THE SUPERIOR SERVICES ON THE RAILWAYS.

62. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state if the Pope Enquiry Committee have made any recommendation for future recruitment of hands in the superior services on the Railways in India ? If so, on what lines ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : Mr. Pope has made no recommendations on this subject.

HEALTH AND TREATMENT OF LATE STATE PRISONER J. M. SEN-GUPTA WHILE
AT RANCHI.

63. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state the conditions under which Mr. J. M. Sen

Questions Nos. 58 to 68 were not asked as the Honourable Member was absent.

Gupta was interned at Ranchi? What was the monthly allowance given to Mr. Sen-Gupta for the maintenance of his family? Is it a fact that Mr. Sen-Gupta was suffering from blood pressure? If so, was he being treated there by any eminent physician at Government expense? If not, why not?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: Mr. J. M. Sen-Gupta, who died on the 23rd July, was allowed all possible freedom at Ranchi subject to ensuring that he did not take part in political activities. He was suffering from high blood pressure. Prior to his detention at Ranchi, he had been under treatment at the Medical College Hospital, Calcutta, for about eight months and had been examined and treated by several doctors, including his own physicians, Sir Nilratan Sircar and Dr. S. C. Sen-Gupta. At Ranchi he was placed under the care of the Civil Surgeon, Ranchi.

While detained as a State prisoner his family was given an allowance of Rs. 1,000 a month. In addition while at Ranchi the rent of the house occupied by Mr. J. M. Sen-Gupta was paid for by Government.

SEPARATION OF BURMA FROM INDIA.

64. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE: Is it a fact that His Majesty's Government have decided to separate Burma from India? If so, when and on what terms? Will Burma be a Crown Colony?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN: The Honourable Member's attention is invited to the Secretary of State's Memorandum to the Joint Select Committee recently published with the "Scheme of Constitutional Reform in Burma if separated from India," a copy of which has been supplied to all Members of the House. No decision to separate Burma has been taken by His Majesty's Government. The Joint Select Committee is now seized of the question, which will be taken up when the Committee reassembles after the recess.

SILVER.

65. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE: (1) Is it a fact that Britain has made payments to America with silver acquired from India? If so, why?

(2) Are Government aware that this has seriously perturbed the minds of Indians?

(3) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table or state in detail the precise character of the transaction about this payment?

(4) Will Government be pleased to state who negotiated the deal on behalf of India? Was the Government of India ever consulted on this matter and at what stage?

(5) Is it a fact that Britain acquired silver from India at about 32.5 cents per fine ounce when the market price in India was 36.5 cents per fine ounce and that Britain sold it to America at 50 cents?

(6) What is the amount of debt cleared by Britain to America by acquiring silver from India? Is it a fact that Britain has been able to make a profit of more than one crore of rupees in this transaction at the cost of India?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (1), (3), (4), (5) and (6). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the reply given to question No. 19 asked by the Honourable Rai Bahadur Mathura Prasad Mehrotra.

(2) This is a matter of opinion.

NAMES OF FIRMS THAT SUPPLY ARTICLES TO THE INDIAN STORES DEPARTMENT.

66. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : (a) Will Government be pleased to state the names of the firms that supply various kinds of articles for the use of Government to the Indian Stores Department ?

(b) How many of the firms are Indian and how many British ?

(c) Are there any non-British firms other than Indian from which purchases are being made by Government ? If so, why so ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY : (a) and (b). Full particulars of firms registered for important plant and machinery and iron and steel work are published periodically. A copy of the latest issue has been placed in the Library of the House.

As regards firms registered for other classes of stores, all the information which can be conveniently furnished is included in the annual Administration Reports of the Indian Stores Department. The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to Chapter VII of the Report for the year 1932-33 which has been recently published. Copies of the Report are available in the Library of the House.

(c) Yes. There is no restriction under the Stores Purchase Rules in the matter of purchasing stores from non-British firms, the policy of Government being to accept the lowest satisfactory tender irrespective of the nationality of the tendering firm, subject to the preference which is permitted under the preamble to the rules.

VIEWS OF MINISTERS ON THE STATEMENT OF SIR SAMUEL HOARE BEFORE THE JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE.

67. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state if they have ascertained the views of the Ministers of different provinces on the statement of Sir Samuel Hoare, Secretary of State for India, before the Joint Parliamentary Committee on Indian Constitutional Reforms ? If so, will Government be pleased to lay on the table the opinions of the provincial Ministers on the matter ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : The reply to the first part of the Honourable Member's question is in the negative. The second part does not arise.

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE DACCA PEOPLES' ASSOCIATION RELATING TO DEPORTATION OF PRISONERS CONNECTED WITH TERRORIST CRIME TO THE ANDAMANS.

68. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Has the attention of Government been drawn to the news item published under

the captions "Send them back to India", "Dacca Association on Andamans" in *Advance* of July 4th, 1933 (dak edition), regarding the report of an extraordinary meeting of the Dacca Peoples' Association which unanimously passed two resolutions strongly protesting against the re-opening of the Andamans as a place for confining the political prisoners and requesting Government to hold an open enquiry into the circumstances that led to the recent hunger-strike and also requesting Government to send the political prisoners back to India? If so, what action do Government intend to take on the resolutions of the above Association?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: In reply to the first part of the question I would say that Government have seen a report of the meeting and in reply to the second part I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply which I have given to his question No. 35.

IMPORT OF JAPANESE RICE INTO INDIA.

69. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR: Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether negotiations are going on between the Government of India and the Japanese Government for the import of large quantities of Japanese rice into India?

(b) Is it a fact that Japan has already placed an embargo on Indian rice in the interest of the Japanese cultivators?

(c) Is it a fact that Java has also prohibited the imports of Indian rice in the interest of the Java cultivators?

(d) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, what steps do Government propose to take to safeguard the interests of the rice-growers in India?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN:
(a) No.

(b) I would refer the Honourable Member to the reply given by me to part (c) of the Honourable Mr. Jagadish Chandra Banerjee's question No. 39.

(c) An Ordinance issued by the Governor General of Netherlands-India on the 20th July, 1933, prohibits the importation of rice into the customs area of Netherlands-India except under special licence.

(d) Does not arise.

DACCA-ARICHA RAILWAY.

*70. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE:
(a) Will Government be pleased to state:

(i) The present position with regard to the Dacca-Aricha Railway project?

(ii) The reasons for the suspension of works already undertaken?

(iii) Whether it is a fact that the construction of the railway, though finally sanctioned by the Indian Legislative Assembly and the Secretary of

*Questions Nos. 70 to 72 were not asked as the Honourable Member was absent.

State for India, is being delayed as a result of the agitation carried on by the I. G. N. & Railway Co., Ltd., and R. S. N. Co., Ltd. ?

(iv) Whether any report has been submitted by the Committee appointed under the orders of the Government of Bengal contained in their Local Self-Government Department Resolution No. 2127-P.H., dated the 25th July, 1929, as amended by Notification No. 2956-P.H., dated the 2nd November, 1929, to consider what measures will be necessary to safeguard the health and sanitation of the route of the proposed railway from Dacca to Aricha ?

(b) If the answer to (iv) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the said report ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) (i) and (ii). The present position is the same as stated by the Honourable Mr. J. C. B. Drake in reply to a similar question put by the Honourable Member on the 26th September, 1932.

(iii) No.

(iv) It is understood that the report of the Committee referred to has been submitted to the Government of Bengal, who are still considering it. Government have not been furnished by the Local Government with a copy of the report. I shall try to obtain a copy when it is published and place it in the Library of the House.

DACCA-ARICHA RAILWAY.

71. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the Joint Steamer Companies have raised strong objections with regard to the headways of bridges and width of channels between piers which, if complied with, are calculated to so increase the cost of the Dacca-Aricha Railway scheme as to make it difficult for the Railway Administration to give effect to it ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : It is understood that the demands of the Joint Steamer Companies with regard to the spans and headways of bridges, as well as the Railway Administrations counter proposals, were considered by the Committee appointed for the purpose, who accepted the latter. The Railway Administration had, however, found it necessary, chiefly as a result of observation of the abnormal flood of 1931, to propose a considerable increase in the original waterways and headways provided for in the abstract project estimate, which must increase the cost of the line, but whether it will so increase it as to make it no longer a paying proposition cannot be determined until detailed estimates have been prepared for which we shall have to wait till the Local Government have arrived at a decision on the Committee's recommendations.

DACCA-ARICHA RAILWAY.

72. THE HONOURABLE MR. JAGADISH CHANDRA BANERJEE : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) (i) Whether the construction of the Dacca-Aricha Railway has been postponed on the ground of financial stringency ; or (ii) on the ground of public health and sanitation ?

(b) If the delay is due to the examination of the public health question will Government be pleased to state when a final decision is likely to be arrived at by Government ?

(c) Is it a fact that the question of public health and sanitation was thoroughly examined by the Government of Bengal under Lord Ronaldshay, and discussed in the report submitted by the Railway Extension Committee appointed in 1917 ?

(d) Will Government be pleased to lay on the table a copy of the report of the said Committee ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) (i) and (ii). Financial stringency is, of course, one of the reasons for the scheme being delayed, but as I have explained in my reply to question No. 70 the Government of Bengal are still considering the report of the Committee appointed by them to report on questions connected with public health, sanitation, waterways and headways under bridges.

(b) It is understood that the Local Government hope to arrive shortly at a decision on the Committee's report, after which the question of constructing the railway will be examined by Government in all its bearings.

(c) The Committee in question was constituted in 1920 and submitted its report in 1921. Questions of public health and sanitation arising from it were considered by the Governments of Lord Ronaldshay and Lord Lytton.

(d) A copy of the Committee's report has been placed in the Library.

REPRESENTATION OF ASSAM ON THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE.

73. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : (1) (a) How many delegates have been sent to England to consult with the Joint Select Committee ? (b) Are all provinces represented ? (c) If not, which of them are unrepresented ? (d) What is the reason for leaving any province unrepresented ? (e) What is the number of delegates province by province ?

(2) (a) Who selected the delegates ? (b) Had the Viceroy or the Government of India any hand in the selection ? (c) Did he or they recommend or suggest any names ? (d) Did he or they suggest or recommend any name from the unrepresented provinces ?

(3) Did the Governor or the Government of Assam make any representation to the Viceroy or the Government of India to secure representation of Assam ?

(4) Is the Government of India aware that the Assam Legislative Council unanimously adopted a resolution asking for two representatives from Assam ?

(5) Is the Government of India aware that the entire press in Assam strongly urged the representation of Assam ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : (1), (2) and (3). Invitations to representatives from British India and the Indian States to confer with the Joint Select Committee were issued by the Committee on its own responsibility. I place on the table a copy of a communiqué,

dated the 20th April, giving the names of those who were invited. From among them Mr. Kelkar declined the invitation on medical grounds.

(4) Yes.

(5) I am prepared to accept the Honourable Member's statement.

Communiqué, dated the 20th April, 1933.

The Joint Select Committee has decided to call into consultation the following representatives from Indian States and British India :

Indian States—

Sir Akbar Hydari,
Sir V. T. Krishnamachari,
Sir Manubhai Mehta,

Nawab Sir Liaquat Hayat Khan,
Sir Mirza Mohammed Ismail.
Sir Prabashanker Pattani, and

Mr. Y. A. Thombare.

British India—

His Highness the Aga Khan,
Sir C. P. Ramaaswami Ayar,
Dr. B. R. R. Ambedkar,
Sir Hubert Carr,
Mr. A. H. Ghuznavi,
Sir Henry Gidney,
Sir Hari Sing Gour,
Mr. Rangaswami Ayengar,
Mr. M. R. Jayakar,
Mr. N. M. Joshi,

Mr. N. C. Kelkar,
Sir A. P. Patro,
Sir Abdur Rahim,
Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru,
The Honourable Sir Phiroze Sethna,
Dr. Shafaat Ahmad Khan,
Begum Shah Nawaz,
Sardar Buta Singh,
Sir N. N. Sarkar,
Sir Purshotamdas Thakurdas, and

Chaudri Zafrullah Khan.

SELECTION OF WITNESSES FROM ASSAM FOR THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE.

74. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :
What is the number of witnesses selected to give evidence before the Joint Select Committee ? Who selected them ?

(a) Did the Viceroy or the Government of India send or suggest or recommend names of any witnesses ?

(b) If so, from what provinces and how many from each of them ?

(c) Have any witnesses been sent from any Association in Assam ?

(d) Have any witnesses been sent by the Government of Assam ?

(e) Who will pay the expenses of the delegates and the witnesses ?

(f) Is the Government of India aware that there was strong public demand from Assam for representation before the Joint Select Committee ?

(g) Did the Government of India do anything to meet the demand ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :
The selection of witnesses to give evidence before the Joint Select Committee was made by the Committee on its own responsibility from among applications received by the Committee in reply to the invitation issued on the 13th April. No witness has been sent to give evidence before the Committee either by the Government of India or by any Provincial Government. I place on the table a copy of a communiqué, dated the 1st June, giving a list of the associations and persons invited by the Joint Select Committee to give evidence. The expenses of the delegates to confer with the Committee will be shared between His Majesty's Government and Indian revenues on the same basis as for delegates who attended the Round Table Conferences. The expenses of witnesses will

be borne entirely by the British Treasury on the scale approved and within the limits of the numbers prescribed for each Association by the Joint Select Committee.

Communiqué, dated the 1st June, 1933.

List of associations and persons invited by the Joint Select Committee on Indian Constitutional Reform to attend and give evidence before them. This list is provisional and may still be added to :

1. Chamber of Princes,
2. Kashmir,
3. Kochin,
4. Group of Southern Mahratta States,
5. Hindu Mahasabha,
6. All-India Varnashram Swarajya Sangha,
7. Central Hindu Committee of Legislature,
8. South Indian Liberal Federation,
9. All-India Muslim Conference,
10. { All-India Landholders Association,
British Indian Association, Calcutta.
Madras Landholders Association,
Agra Zamindars Association,
Bihar Landholders Association,
Bengal Landholders Association,
Talukdars of Oudh,
Bombay Sardars and Inamdars.
11. Sind Separation Conference,
12. Sind Hindu Sabha,
13. European Association,
14. Associated Chambers of Commerce,
{ Merchants Chamber of Commerce,
Cawnpore,
15. { U. P. Chamber of Commerce,
Bengal Mahajan Sabha.
16. { Indian Trades Union Federation,
Bengal Trade Union Federation,
17. All-India Women's Conference, National Council of Women and Women's Indian Association,
18. Mahila Samiti (Ladies' Association), Bengal.
19. { Central I. C. S. Association,
I. C. S. Retired Association,
20. All-India Association of European Government Servants,
21. Indian Police Association,
22. Indian Officers Association (Calcutta),
23. Indian Empire Society,
24. British Committee for Indian Women's Franchise,
25. Shipowners Parliamentary Committee,
26. Manchester Chamber of Commerce,
27. British Insurance Association,
28. Colonel Wedgwood,
29. Miss Rathbone,
30. { Wing Commander James, M.P.,
Dr. Hutton,
31. Pandit Nanak Chand,
32. Mr. Sachidananda Sinha.
33. Field Marshal Sir Claud Jacob,
34. Sir Francis Griffith,
35. Sir M. O'Dwyer,
36. Mr. Douglas Dewar,
37. Sir Louis Stuart,
38. The Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association (Sir H. Gidney delegate).

REPRESENTATION OF ASSAM AT THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE.

75. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : Has any arrangement been made for the representation of Assam before the Joint Select Committee ? If so, in what way ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : The Honourable Member is referred to the replies just given by me to his questions Nos. 73 and 74.

FACILITIES AVAILABLE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION IN ASSAM.

76. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : (a) Is there any University in Assam ?

(b) Is there any Medical, Engineering, Agricultural or Veterinary College in Assam ?

(c) Is there any provision for post-graduate studies in Assam ?

(d) Is there any High Court or Chief Court in Assam ?

(e) Is it a fact that for facilities for higher education Assam has mainly to rely on outside help ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :
(a), (b) and (c). No.

(d) No. Assam is under the jurisdiction of the Calcutta High Court, except in respect of the Hill Districts and Frontier Tracts of that province.

(e) Assam has to depend, to some extent, for higher education on institutions outside the province.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE BACKWARD AREAS IN ASSAM.

77. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :
Is it a fact that there are large backward areas in Assam and that they cannot pay for their upkeep ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :
There are backward areas in Assam and their expenditure exceeds the revenue.

SEISMIC DISTURBANCES IN ASSAM.

78. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :
(a) Is it a fact that Assam is peculiarly liable to seismic disturbances ? Is it a fact that the district of Goalpara has since July, 1930, had nearly 600 shocks and is continuing to have one almost every other day ?

(b) Has the Government of India investigated into the cause of this ? If not, has the Government of India any intention of doing so ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY : (a) Yes. The total number of shocks reported to the Department of Geological Survey of India since July, 1930, is about 400. Reports of shocks are still being received at irregular intervals.

(b) Yes. The causes of these disturbances have been investigated by the Department of Geological Survey of India and the discussions have been published in the Memoirs of that Department issued from time to time. A more detailed report of the 1930 earthquake and of the subsequent minor shocks will be published by that Department in the near future. Further light on this question may possibly be thrown by the geological survey which is being carried out at present in Assam.

DEFICIT PROVINCES IN THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

79. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :
(a) Is Assam a deficit province ?

(b) Is it anticipated that the new provinces of Sind and Orissa will be deficit provinces ?

(c) Is it Government's intention to make arrangements for making up the deficit of existing provinces before creating new ones with deficits ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :
(a) Yes.

(b) As stated in paragraph 59 of the Introduction to the White Paper it is anticipated that the new provinces of Sind and Orissa, if created, will not be able to start as entirely self-supporting units.

(c) I have nothing to add to the expression in the same paragraph of the intentions of His Majesty's Government regarding financial assistance in the new constitution to deficit provinces.

DATE OF INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION IN PARLIAMENT ON THE SUBJECT OF
THE NEXT CONSTITUTION.

80. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :
Is Government in a position to state when the necessary legislation regarding the next constitution is likely to be introduced in Parliament and when it is likely to be passed ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN :
Government are not in a position to make a statement in reply to this question, which relates to a matter which is entirely in the hands of His Majesty's Government and of Parliament.

APPROXIMATE TIME WHEN THE WORK OF THE JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE WILL
CONCLUDE.

81. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :
Is Government in a position to give an approximate idea as to when the labours of the Joint Select Committee are likely to be finished ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : No.
ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY.

82. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :
(1) Is the Assam Bengal Railway ranked among the First Class Railways of India ?

(2) What subsidies and privileges does this Railway get from the Governments of India and Assam ?

(3) How many officers are there in the superior establishments and of these how many are natives of Assam ?

(4) Are the posts therein filled in by any competitive examinations similar to those of India Government examinations held annually for filling in vacancies in the superior grade State Railway Services ?

(5) Will Government be pleased to state the total number of employees of all ranks in the Assam Bengal Railway and the number of natives of Assam out of the same ?

(6) Will Government please state how many Indian employees are there in the Assam Bengal Railway, holding offices bearing a monthly salary of Rs. 100 and upwards and of these how many belong to the province of Assam ?

(7) Will Government also state the number of natives of Assam in Loco. workshops at Pahartali, holding offices bearing a pay of Rs. 100 and upwards, and the percentage of such Assam employees ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (1) Yes.

(2) The Government of India have provided land free of cost and guaranteed interest at 3 per cent. on share capital. Under the contract the Company is not entitled to any subsidies and privileges from the Assam Government.

(3) The number of gazetted officers on the 1st April, 1932, was 71. Government have no information as regards the second part of the question.

(4) The Agent, Assam Bengal Railway, reports that necessary recruitment to superior services in England is made by the Home Board. The recruitment necessary in India is made either by promotion of subordinates or by selection of suitable candidates from the numerous applications received or by selection of relatives of railway employees who may be found suitable. Vacancies are not filled by competitive examination as in the case of State-managed Railways.

(5) The total number of employees on the Assam Bengal Railway on 31st March, 1932, was 16,158. Government have no information as regards the second part of the question.

(6) The number of Indian subordinates on scales of pay rising to Rs. 250 and over was 76 on 1st April, 1932. Government have no information regarding subordinates drawing a monthly salary of Rs. 100 and over nor have they any information regarding the latter part of the question.

(7) Government have no information.

STUDENT ENGINEERS.

83. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :

(a) Are Government aware that every year a student engineer is sent by the Assam Government to undergo practical training in the Loco. Workshops at Pahartali after having completed the theoretical course of mechanical and electrical engineering in the Bengal Engineering College, Sibpur ?

(b) Are Government aware that some of these student engineers passed the Associateship Examination in mechanical engineering from the Bengal Engineering College, which is recognised by the Government of India as a qualifying examination for appearance at the competitive examination held annually under the auspices of the Government of India to fill in vacancies in the superior grade services of the State Railways ? Is it a fact that the Associateship Diploma is also recognised by the Institution of Engineers (India) and considered by the said body as being equivalent to a graduate degree in mechanical engineering of Indian and Foreign Universities ?

(c) Are Government aware that these student engineers receive no facilities for work in Drawing and Design Office, or any administrative training ?

(d) Will Government also state whether these student engineers used to receive any remuneration during their period of training in the Assam Bengal Railway, and whether this is the practice now and, if not, why ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) The Assam Bengal Railway have agreed to give practical training to student engineers on the condition that no expense is incurred by the Railway and that the number of student engineers under training does not exceed two at any one time.

(b) The Agent, Assam Bengal Railway, reports that out of the six student engineers who have received or are still receiving practical training, four

have passed the examination in mechanical engineering from the Bengal Engineering College. Candidates possessing these qualifications are eligible for appearing at the competitive examination for Superior State Railway service in accordance with the regulations for recruitment when vacancies are advertised. Government have no information regarding the latter part of the question.

(c) Yes. Work in the Drawing and Design Office or the administrative office does not form part of their practical training.

(d) Government understand that some remuneration was allowed in such cases till recently owing to a misunderstanding but one of the conditions for their practical training is that the Railway is not put to any expense on their account and consequently no remuneration is now granted to them.

EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENT ENGINEERS AFTER THEIR PERIOD OF TRAINING.

84. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :

(a) Will Government please state if any student engineer sent by the Government of Assam for training in the Loco. Workshops at Pahartali has received any employment after completing the period of training and, if so, at what starting pay and in what capacity ?

(b) Are Government aware that such student engineers are offered a salary less than those possessing the B. E. degree from the Bengal Engineering College ? What steps does Government propose to take to remove such inequitous treatment ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY : (a) and (b). The employment of student engineers in provincial services, and the fixation of pay for them rests with the Local Government and the Government of India have no information on the subject.

EMPLOYMENT OF STUDENT ENGINEERS AFTER THEIR PERIOD OF TRAINING.

85. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT :

(a) Will Government state whether student engineers are offered a chance in other Railways, viz., East Indian Railway, Bengal Nagpur Railway, Eastern Bengal Railway, Great Indian Peninsula Railway and North Western Railway and, if so, on what pay and in what capacity ?

(b) Are Government aware that the Assam Government student engineer in the Assam Bengal Railway, after having served apprenticeship, is offered the post of a workman on daily basis and has to work like ordinary workman ? Is this also the practice in other Railways ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) Student engineers are generally taken on the understanding that there is no obligation on the part of the Railway to provide employment for them ; and in the recent past at any rate, I do not think any State-managed Railway has been able to offer them any employment.

(b) No ; but the student engineer is obviously not bound to accept the employment that is offered to him. Government have no information as to whether such a practice obtains elsewhere.

PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT ACCORDED TO EUROPEANS, ETC., WITH LESSER ACADEMICAL QUALIFICATIONS THAN STUDENT ENGINEERS.

86. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : Are Government aware that European, Anglo-Indian and Indian Christians with lesser academical qualifications and experience are taken into the permanent staff of the Loco. Department of the Assam Bengal Railway and no such prospect is offered to the Assam scholars sent up by the Local Government.

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The Agent reports that staff are selected for their technical experience and not academical qualifications.

NUMBER OF APPOINTMENTS MADE IN THE LOCO. DEPARTMENT OF THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY AND COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION THEREIN.

87. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : Will Government be pleased to state how many new appointments were made or vacancies filled in during the last seven years in posts, carrying a salary of Rs. 100 and upwards, in the Loco. Department of the Assam Bengal Railway and of these how many are Europeans, Anglo-Indians, Indians and natives of Assam. Were student engineers from Assam offered any chance or were their cases considered when these vacancies were filled in or new appointments made and, if not, why ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : A statement showing the information asked for is laid on the table. The Agent, Assam Bengal Railway, reports that as most of the appointments made are specialised ones, no student engineer after two years' experience would be suitable for the posts.

Statement showing new appointments made and vacancies filled during the last seven years in posts carrying salaries of Rs. 100 per mensem and over.

Designation.	Euro- pean.	Anglo- Indian.	Indians.	Natives of Assam.
1926—				
Power house foreman	1	..	..	..
Train lighting foreman	1			
Foundry foreman	1		..	..
Blacksmith foreman	1	..	..
Assistant machine foreman	1	..	..
Locomotive drivers .. ..	..	7	..	..
Watch and ward inspector .. ..	..	..	1	..

Designation.	Euro- pean.	Anglo- Indian.	Indians.	Natives of Assam.
1927—				
Assistant electrical engineer .. ..	..	..	1	
Locomotive drivers	3	2		
Boiler shop foreman	1			
Carriage and wagon foreman	1	..	..
Assistant electrical foreman .. ..	..	1		
Night shedman foreman .. ..	..	1	..	
1928—				
Assistant locomotive superintendent ..	1	..	1	
Locomotive drivers	1	3		
Night shedman .. ..	..	1		
Tool-shop foreman	1	..		
Assistant locomotive foreman .. ..	..	1		
Boiler room chargeman .. ..	..	1		
1929—				
Power house foreman	1	..	..
Locomotive drivers .. ..	..	4		
1930—				
Foundry foreman	1		..	
Boiler inspector	1			
1931—				
Assistant locomotive superintendent ..	1	..	..
Assistant locomotive foreman .. ..	..	1	..	..
1932—				
Assistant locomotive superintendent ..	..	..	1	
Proby. assistant locomotive superintendent		..	1	
Locomotive foreman .. ..	..	1		
1933—				
Wagon ferry foreman .. ..	..	1	..	..
	17	24	5	Total Nil

46.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM TO THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY.

88. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : Will Government be pleased to state the total financial contribution received from the Local Government by the Assam Bengal Railway Company ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : Under the contract the Assam Bengal Railway Company is not entitled to any financial assistance from the Local Government.

CONTRIBUTION BY THE ASSAM BENGAL RAILWAY TOWARDS THE EDUCATION OF THE CHILDREN OF THEIR EMPLOYEES.

89. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : Will Government be pleased to state if the Assam Bengal Railway authorities bear any portion of the educational expenses of the children of their Indian and Goanese Christian employees—and if so in what proportion annually and whether any such privilege is enjoyed by the children of the employees of any other communities ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : The Agent, Assam Bengal Railway, reports as follows :

“During the year 1932-33 the total grant made from Revenue to parents, etc., in connection with the education of children of European and Anglo-Indian employees was Rs. 10,745, and the total expenditure from Revenue on Railway Schools maintained for Indians was Rs. 17,199”.

EMPLOYMENT ON RAILWAYS OF NATIVES OF THE PROVINCE TRAVERSED.

90. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR PROMODE CHANDRA DUTT : Is it the policy of Government that the Railways traversing a province should as far as practicable employ men of the province consistently with the requirements of efficiency ? Is the policy followed by the Assam Bengal Railway ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : As Railways generally traverse parts of several provinces the Government do not consider it practicable to lay down a hard and fast policy in the matter, but they consider it desirable that where a railway runs through a large tract of country, there should be a fair number of natives of that area in the railway services working in that tract of country as far as possible. It is believed that this practice is followed generally, on the Assam Bengal Railway.

SALE OF SILVER.

91. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha) : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) The exact date on which the recent transaction about the sale of Indian silver to the Government at Home was first completed in this country ?

(b) Whether the Indian Government was ever consulted in the matter either about the effects of such a sale or about the price at which it would be effected ?

(c) The total amount in fine ounces that has been sold in that deal?

(d) The total amount approximately that has been sold since our Government started sales of silver in 1927?

(e) The basis in respect of cents per fine ounce on which the purchase of silver was made from America under the Pitman Act?

(f) The basis per fine ounce on which the present purchase has been made by England from India?

(g) Whether the transaction resulted in a profit to India or to England?

(h) If so, the amount of such profit?

(i) The manner in which payment for the silver was made to India—whether in gold or securities?

(j) If securities—the price and market value of such securities?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: (a) to (c) and (f) to (j). Attention is invited to the reply which I have just given to question No. 19 asked by the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Mathura Prasad Mehrotra.

(d) I would refer the Honourable Member to the information given in the annual reports of the Controller of the Currency.

(e) 101½ cents. per fine ounce.

SILVER AGREEMENT.

92. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha): Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether this country will gain in any way by reason of the agreement regarding silver arrived at the World Economic Conference?

(b) Whether it will henceforth be possible to pay our debts with silver?

(c) What sort of check our Government will keep on the sale of silver in this country?

(d) Whether they will keep any control on the export of silver from this country in future?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: The agreement is subject to ratification by the Legislature, and Government will make a statement of its intention in the matter in due course.

RESERVE BANK OF INDIA.

93. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha): Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether they have sent any specific recommendations to the Home Government on the subject of the future constitution of the Reserve Bank in India?

(b) If so, the exact nature of such recommendations?

(c) The conclusions that have been arrived at by the majority of the Committee formed to deliberate upon the Reserve Bank Constitution in London recently?

(d) The exact analogy of the Reserve or State Bank like which our future Reserve Bank is proposed to be established?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: (a) and (b). Government do not propose to disclose the details of the recommendations made by them to the Secretary of State.

(c) and (d). The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the report of the Reserve Bank Committee, which was published on the 16th of August, 1933.

INAUGURATION OF THE NEW CONSTITUTION FOR INDIA.

94. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha): Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that the inauguration of the White Paper Reforms is yet an uncertainty in view of the steady decline and most gloomy outlook of our Government finances?

(b) Whether it is a fact that an enquiry is contemplated to be taken into our ways and means position shortly with a view to place our finances on a stable basis for the future?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR: With your permission, Sir, I shall answer parts (a) and (b) together. The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to paragraph 60 of the White Paper proposals.

DEFAMATORY REMARKS REGARDING THE PERSONNEL OF THE STANDING FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR RAILWAYS.

95. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha): Will Government be pleased to state whether their attention has been drawn to a paragraph at page 136 of the *Indian Railway Gazette* for July, 1933; which contains some defamatory observations regarding the members of the present Standing Finance Committee for Railways?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY: Government have seen the paragraph referred to.

MEASURES FOR INCREASING RAILWAY EARNINGS.

96. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha): Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether it is a fact that owing to gradual decline of their earnings State Railways Administrations have recently been devising ways and methods in order to make themselves more serviceable to their constituents than hitherto with a view to earn their custom?

(b) If so, the details of those ways and means ?

(c) Whether the Company systems are likely to fall into line with the State systems in adopting those ways and means ?

(d) Whether public opinion has been consulted in the matter of the adoption of those ways and means ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : (a) Yes.

(b) Examples are reduction of rates and fares, introduction of cheap return tickets, improvement of train services where necessary, and provision of better amenities to the travelling public.

(c) The object being improvement of net earnings, Company-managed Railways are not likely to lag behind.

(d) Such matters are ordinarily discussed with local Advisory Committees.

REDUCTION IN SALARIES OF THE KING'S COMMISSIONED INDIAN OFFICERS FROM THE INDIAN MILITARY ACADEMY, DEHRA DUN.

97. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR : Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) Whether Government intend to reduce the salary of the King's Commissioned Indian Officers from the Military Academy, Dehra Dun, from Rs. 380 per month to Rs. 300 ?

(b) If the answer to part (a) is in the affirmative, the reasons for the same ?

(c) The present rate of the salary drawn by the King's Commissioned Officers of the Royal Military College, Sandhurst ?

(d) Whether the King's Commissioned Officers from the Sandhurst College get any overseas allowance ? If so, how much ?

(e) Whether these officers get more overseas allowance than is drawn by the Indian Civil Service Officers ?

(f) Whether Government propose to reduce the pay of the King's Commissioned Officers from the Military College, Sandhurst, as a measure of retrenchment ? If so, how much ? If not, why ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : (a) and (b). The Honourable Member appears to be under a slight misapprehension. I would invite his attention to the *communiqué* dated the 8th July, 1932, in which it was stated that the initial pay of officers commissioned from the Indian Military Academy had been provisionally fixed at Rs. 300 per mensem. This is approximately the pay of a newly joined British officer serving in his own country, and no higher rate has ever been announced.

(c) and (d). The rates of pay of officers who enter the British Service and Indian Army from Sandhurst will be found on pages 60 and 64 respectively of Pay and Allowance Regulations, Part I-Special, a copy of which is in the Library. The Honourable Member will see that the emoluments of regimental officers of the Indian Army include an element which is known as the Indian

Army allowance. The pay of regimental officers of the British Service in India is also somewhat higher than the pay admissible in England and to that extent contains an undefined overseas element.

(e) No. The Indian Army allowance is lower than the overseas pay of officers of the Indian Civil Service of corresponding seniority.

(f) The answer to the first part of the question is in the negative. The rates of pay of these officers have been carefully fixed with reference to the laws of supply and demand so as to attract recruits of the standard required. The rates themselves are subject to alteration according to changes in the cost of living, and are at present subject to the emergency cut.

ECONOMIC ENQUIRY INTO THE COST OF PRODUCTION OF SUGARCANE.

98. **THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJADHIRAJA SIR KAMESHWAR SINGH OF DARBHANGA:** Will Government be pleased to state what progress has so far been made in respect to the economic enquiry into the cost of production of sugarcane since 1st April, 1932 ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN: A scheme for an economic enquiry into the cost of production of sugarcane, cotton and rotation crops was sanctioned by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research only in February, 1933. It is too early yet to report any progress. The enquiry will take about three and a half years.

TRIALS IN CONNECTION WITH A SMALL-POWER SUGARCANE CRUSHING MILL.

99. **THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJADHIRAJA SIR KAMESHWAR SINGH OF DARBHANGA:** (a) Has Government received any report from Local Governments regarding the trials in connection with devising a satisfactory small-power sugarcane crushing mill in the Punjab, United Provinces and Bihar and Orissa ?

(b) If so, will Government be pleased to lay a copy of these reports on the table and state what action is being taken on them ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN: (a) and (b). Final reports on these experiments have not yet been received as they are still in progress. Interim progress reports which are mainly technical are received annually by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and considered by its Sugar Committee. The Committee's comments or suggestions, if any, are communicated to the Local Governments concerned. The present position of these experiments, which are now nearing completion, will be reviewed in the next annual report of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, copies of which will be supplied to all Members of the House.

DIFFICULTIES EXPERIENCED BY SUGAR FACTORIES IN FINDING A MARKET FOR MOLASSES.

100. **THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJADHIRAJA SIR KAMESHWAR SINGH OF DARBHANGA:** Will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken on the representation of Messrs. Begg Sutherland & Co., Ltd., Cawnpore, regarding the increasing difficulties encountered by sugar factories,

etc., in India in finding an outlet for the production of molasses, etc.? Was the question considered by the Sugar Committee and, if so, with what results?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART: Government have not as yet come to a decision on the representation referred to. The Sugar Committee appointed by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research considered this question and the various suggestions made by it are at present receiving the consideration of the Council and of the Government of India.

BROWN SUGAR.

101. THE HONOURABLE MAHARAJADHIRAJA SIR KAMESHWAR SINGH OF DARBHANGA: Will Government be pleased to state whether the Sugar Committee of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research has been able to consider the question of the demand for brown sugar and, if so, with what results?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN: The Sugar Committee of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research decided in March last that the Sugar Technologist should make experiments with the object of improving the quality of brown sugar made by the open pan process, as it appears that the demand for such sugar is diminishing and white crystalline sugar is preferred. The necessary experiments will be conducted during the ensuing season.

SUPPLY OF PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATION REPORTS TO THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR COMPILING THE ANNUAL REPORT ON INDIA.

102. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha): Will Government be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Administration Reports of the different provinces are regularly supplied to the Director of Public Information for the purpose of compiling his publication *India*?

(b) Whether the outstanding events that happened in a particular province in a particular year are noted in his publication?

(c) Whether the Director has noted the abnormal increase of crimes against women, of dacoities and of growing unemployment amongst middle classes in the province of Bengal in his *India* of last year?

(d) If so, the reference to the page of his book?

(e) Whether the Director is required to account for unusual occurrences anywhere during a year?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, if necessary.

(c) and (d). Information about the abnormal increase of dacoities in the province of Bengal will be found on page 536 of "*India in 1930-31*". There is no specific reference to middle class unemployment in Bengal in the publication, but general references to middle class unemployment in India will be

found on pages 237 and 627. At the time of writing the report, there was no information available concerning an increase in crimes against women in Bengal.

(e) Yes, if of sufficient importance and interest.

BOMBING OF TRIBAL TERRITORY ON THE NORTH-WEST FRONTIER.

103. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (on behalf of the Honourable Kumar Nripendra Narayan Sinha): Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) Whether there was recently some bombing of a tribal territory on the North-West Frontier ?

(b) Whether the bombing from the air of inoffensive civil populations has been interdicted by the League of Nations ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : (a) Yes.

(b) No. I may add however that there has been no bombing of inoffensive civil populations on the Frontier.

THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Will the Government be pleased to say whether this bombing was done with due warning or without warning ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : Certainly with warning, full warning.

NAMES OF COMPANIES DEALING IN PETROL, ETC.

104. THE HONOURABLE MR. Y. RANGANAYAKALU NAIDU (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder): Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) The number, names and nationalities of all companies in India dealing in petrol, kerosene and mineral oil products.

(b) The selling prices of these oils by each of the companies in—

(i) India,

(ii) Great Britain and Ireland, and

(iii) if possible, other parts of the British Empire on an average ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : (a) I lay on the table a statement giving the information required as far as it is available.

(b) (i) I also lay on the table a statement showing the selling prices of certain proprietary brands of oil and petrol at various centres in India.

(ii) and (iii). The required information is not available.

I.

Statement showing names of Joint Stock Companies registered under Class VI—Mining and Quarrying—Petroleum.

Serial No.	Name.	Situation of the registered office or Principal place of business in India.	Country of Incorporation.
1	2	3	4
1	All India Petroleum Co., Ltd. ..	Apollo Street, Fort, Bombay ..	Registered in India.
2	Western India Oil Distributing Co., Ltd.	Amarchand Buildings, Ballard Estate, Bombay.	Do.
3	Eastern Drilling Syndicate, Ltd.	100, Clive Street, Calcutta ..	Do.
4	British Burmah Deep Drilling Co., Ltd.	100, Clive Street, Calcutta ..	Do.
5	Rangoon Oil Co., Ltd. ..	8, Strand Road, Rangoon ..	Do.
6	Nath Singh Oil Co., Ltd. ..	Yenangyaung, Burma ..	Do.
7	Indo-Burma Petroleum Co., Ltd.	622, Merchant St., Rangoon ..	Do.
8	United Turnyo Oil Co., Ltd. ..	Yenangyaung, Burma ..	Do.
9	Irrawaddy Petroleum Oil Syndicate, Ltd.	7, Edward Street, Rangoon ..	Do.
10	Moolla Oil Co., Ltd. ..	7, Edward Street, Rangoon ..	Do.
11	Myittha Co., Ltd. ..	Kalewa, Burma ..	Do.
12	Maung Khin Oil Co., Ltd. ..	Shwe Kyangon Quarter, Yenangyaung, Burma.	Do.
13	United Refineries (Burma), Ltd.	Thayetmyo, Burma ..	Do.
14	Twinyos and Twinzas Corporation, Ltd.	Yenangyaung, Burma ..	Do.
15	Sanhla Oil Co., Ltd. ..	Obo Quarter, Yenangyaung, Burma.	Do.
16	Thilawa Refineries (Burma), Ltd.	1, Theatre Road, Rangoon ..	Do.
17	The Lewis Petroleum Co., Ltd.	43, Sule Pagoda Road, Rangoon	Do.
18	The Yenan Mines, Ltd. ..	67—69, Lewis Street, Rangoon	Do.
19	The Dominion Oil Co., Ltd. ..	Goninathein Road, Yenangyaung, Burma.	Do.
20	Eastern Petroleum and Finance Co., Ltd.	11, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay	Registered in the United Kingdom.
21	Crupp Indian Trading Co., Ltd.	Stronach House, Ballard Estate, Fort, Bombay.	Registered in Germany.

Serial No.	Name.	Situation of the registered office or Principal place of business in India.	Country of Incorporation.
1	2	3	4
22	Texas Co. (India), Ltd. ..	Henry House, Arthur Road, Bombay.	Registered in U. S. A.
23	Shell Co. of Aden, Ltd. ..	Ballard Estate, Fort, Bombay..	Registered in the United Kingdom.
24	Budderpore Oil Co., Ltd. ..	14, Old Court House Street, Calcutta.	Do.
25	Socony Vacuum Corporation ..	102/1, Clive Street, Calcutta ..	Registered in U. S. A.
26	Anglo-Persian Oil Co., Ltd. ..	4, Bankshall Street, Calcutta ..	Registered in the United Kingdom.
27	Valvoline Oil Co. ..	B-5, Clive Buildings, Calcutta	Registered in U. S. A.
28	Standard Oil Co. of New York, Inc.	6, Church Lane, Calcutta.	
29	Vacuum Oil Co., Inc. ..	2, Clive Row, Calcutta ..	Registered in U. S. A.
30	The British Burma Petroleum Co., Ltd.	Rangoon ..	Registered in the United Kingdom.
31	The Burma Oil Co., Ltd. ..	Rangoon ..	Registered in the United Kingdom (Glasgow).
32	Indo-Burma Oilfields (1920), Ltd.	Thayetmo, Burma ..	Registered in the United Kingdom.
33	Globe Oilfields, Ltd. ..	Thayetmo, Burma ..	Do.
34	Assam Oil Co., Ltd. ..	P. O. Digboi, Lakhimpore, Assam.	Do.

II.

Statement showing names of Joint Stock Companies registered under class III—Trading and manufacturing but which are understood to be dealing in petrol, kerosene and allied mineral products.

35	Burmah Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Co. of India, Ltd.	Hongkong House, Council House St., Calcutta.	Registered in the United Kingdom.
36	Anglo-Indian Oil Co., Ltd. ..	Imperial Chambers, Wilson Road, Ballard Estate, Fort, Bombay.	Registered in India.
37	Petrol Supply Syndicate, Ltd. . .	Empire Buildings, Hornby Road, Fort, Bombay.	Do.
38	Anglo-Asiatic Oil Co., Ltd. ..	1-A.. Swallow Lane, Calcutta ..	Do.
39	Anglo-American Oil Products Co. (India) Ltd.	5, Dalhousie Square, 2nd Floor, Calcutta.	Do.

Serial No.	Name.	Situation of the registered office or Principal place of business in India.	Country of Incorporation.
1	2	3	4
40	Romagna Road Surface Co., Ltd.	30, Middle Road, Entally, Calcutta.	Registered in India.
41	Business, Ltd.	4, Theatre Road, Calcutta ..	Do.
42	Petrol Pumps Consolidated, Ltd.	3/1, Mangoe Lane, Calcutta ..	Do.
43	American Petroleum Co. (South Indian), Ltd.	Madura	Do.
44	Oriental Commerce, Ltd. ..	263, Upper Circular Road, Calcutta.	Do.
45	Great Eastern Importing Co., Ltd.	5, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta.	Do.
46	Wazir Singh Hakim Rai & Co., Ltd.	Montgomery, Punjab ..	Do.
47	Agencies India, Ltd. ..	Chandni Chowk, Delhi ..	Do.
48	Calcutta Drivers Motor Stores, Ltd.	31, Elgin Road, Calcutta ..	Do.
49	Jalpaiguri Oil Petroleum Co., Ltd.	Jalpaiguri, Bengal	Do.
50	Hindustan Petroleum Co., Ltd.	Madras	Do.
51	Burma Motor Accessories, Ltd.	42, Brooking Street, Rangoon ..	Do.
52	The Hyderabad Motor Oil Co., Ltd.	Hyderabad (Deccan) ..	Do.
53	Smith Stanistreet & Co., Ltd.	18, Convent Road, Entally, Calcutta.	Do.
54	Ramackers & Co., Ltd. ..	7, Old Court House St., Calcutta	Do.
55	Robert McLean & Co., Ltd. ..	Mercantile Building, Lalbazar Street, Calcutta.	Do.
56	Road Oils (India), Ltd. ..	20, 20/1, Tangra Road, Calcutta	Do.
57	Silvertown Lubricants (India), Ltd.	Chartered Bank Buildings, Calcutta.	Do.
58	Tide Water Oil Co. (India), Ltd.	8, Clive Row, Calcutta ..	Do.
59	Victor Oil Co., Ltd. ..	11, Clive Street, Calcutta ..	Do.
60	Greaves Cotton & Co., Ltd.	Forbes Street, Fort, Bombay ..	Do.
61	C. C. Wakefield & Co., Ltd. ..	7, Royal Exchange Place, Calcutta.	Registered in United Kingdom.
62	Attock Oil Co., Ltd.	Rawalpindi	Do.

III.

Statement showing names of additional private companies manufacturing and dealing in oil and Lubricant in India.

63. The Scientific Supplies (Bengal) Co., 35-38, College Street Market, Calcutta.
64. American Oil Co., 104, Chitpur Road, Calcutta.
65. Don Watson & Co., 8, Lyons Range, Calcutta.
66. International Oil Products, 25-C, Swallow Lane, Calcutta.
67. Pioneer Lubricating Oil and Belting Supply Co., 4, Bolai Dutt Street, Calcutta.
68. Seroggie Bros., 2, Clive Ghat Street, Calcutta.
69. Gati & Co., Opposite Railway Station, Ahmedabad.
70. Gordhandas Rupchand & Co., Acharutlal Building, Cross Lane, Station Road Railwaypura, Ahmedabad.
71. Motor and General Stores Supplying Co., Kothari Mansion, P. O. Box No. 492, Fort Bombay No. 1.
72. Doongarsidas Murlidhar & Sons, Buxi Bazar, Cuttack.
73. Lala Damodar Das, Khari Baoli, Delhi.

Price of kerosene oil.

Calcutta, 16th August, 1933—

American.

						Rs. A. P.
Snowflake, case 150°	..	..	..	..	..	9 1 0
Chesters, case 125°	..	..	..	..	..	8 11 6
Monkey, case 125°	..	..	..	..	..	8 2 6
Monkey, 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 10 6
Elephant, 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 8 6
Elephant (bulk) 8 imperial gallons				..	..	5 7 6

Burmah Shell.

Prices ex-Narcul-
danga Depot.

Pennant, case 150°			..	..	..	9 1 0
Shell, case 150° ..	..	..	..	..	..	9 1 0
Waterlily, case 150°	..	..	..	..	..	8 11 6
Firefly, case 125°	..	..	..	..	..	8 7 6
Lion, 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 11 0
Anchor, 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 11 0
Chukker, 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 9 0
Rising Sun, 2tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 9 0
Victoria, 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 1 0
Swan, 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	..	6 1 0

Bulk oil rates are quoted at Re. 1-1-0 lower, except for cased kerosene, Lion and Anchor.

Indo-Burma.

					Rs.	A.	P.
Globelight, case of 2 tins 150°	..	..	..	..	9	1	0
Windsor, case of 2 tins 150°	..	..	..	..	8	11	6
Goat case, of 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	6	11	0
Star and Crescent, case of 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	6	9	0
Cook and Key, case of 2 tins 125°	..	..	..	..	6	1	0

Bulk rates for last three brands being Re. 1-1-0 per unit of 8 gallons less.

Bombay, 19th August, 1933—

Burmah Shell.

Firefly-cases, per case	..	..	..	..	8	15	6
Anchor brand tins, per pair	..	..	..	..	8	11	6
Swastika brand tins, per pair	..	..	..	..	8	7	6
Rising Sun brand tins, per pair	..	..	..	..	6	11	6
Chukker brand tins, per pair	..	..	..	..	6	11	6
Rising Sun brand bulk, per 8 imperial gallons	..	..	..	..	6	9	6
Chukker brand bulk, per 8 imperial gallons	..	..	..	..	6	9	6
Swan brand tins, per pair	..	..	..	..	5	5	6
Swan brand bulk, per 8 imperial gallons	..	..	..	..	4	13	6
Victoria brand bulk, per 8 imperial gallons	..	..	..	..	6	1	6

Karachi, 15th August, 1933—

American.

Snowflake 150°, per case of 2 tins	..	..	..	..	8	15	0
Chesters do. do.	..	..	..	..	8	9	6
Monkey do. do.	..	..	..	..	8	1	6
Monkey tins, per 2 tins	..	..	..	..	6	9	6
Elephant do.	..	..	..	..	6	7	6
Elephant bulk, per 8 imperial gallons	..	..	..	..	4	6	0

Burmah-Shell.

Pennant 150°, per case of 2 tins	..	..	..	..	8	15	0
Waterlily do.	..	..	..	..	8	9	6
Firefly do.	..	..	..	..	8	5	6
Lion/Maltese cross 125° per 2 tins	..	..	..	..	6	9	6
Rising Sun/Horse/Chakkar do.	..	..	..	..	6	7	6
Do. bulk, per 8 gallons	..	..	..	..	4	6	0
Swan/Victoria packed, per 2 tins	..	..	..	..	5	15	6
Swan/Victoria bulk, per 8 gallons	..	..	..	..	3	14	0

Madras, 18th August, 1933—

American.

						Rs. a. p.
Snowflake case of 2 tins	..	..	..	..	..	8 15 0
Monkey do.	..	..	..	..	..	7 3 0
Monkey 2 tins only ..	..	..	..	..	..	6 9 0
Elephant do.	..	..	..	..	..	6 7 0
Elephant bulk of 8 gallons	..	..	..	..	..	5 5 0

Madras, 18th August, 1933—

Burmah-Shell.

Waterlily case of 2 tins	..	..	..	..	..	8 9 6
Lion and Anchor do.	..	..	..	..	..	7 3 0
Lion and Anchor 2 tins only	..	..	..	..	..	6 9 0
Shell case of 2 tins ..	..	..	..	..	..	8 15 0
Rising Sun and Chakkar, 2 tins only	..	..	..	..	..	6 7 0
Rising Sun and bulk of 8 gallons	..	..	..	..	..	5 6 0
Owl or Victoria, 2 tins only ..	..	..	..	..	..	6 1 0
Owl or Victoria, bulk of 8 gallons	..	..	..	..	..	4 15 0

Delhi City, 14th August, 1933—

American.

Snowflake, per tin ..	..	..	..	..	..	5 14 0
Chester do. ..	..	..	..	..	..	5 12 0
Church mark, do.	..	..	..	..	..	5 12 0

Burmah-Shell.

Victoria, per tin ..	..	..	..	..	..	3 9 0
Monkey mark, do.	..	..	..	..	..	4 2 0
Chakkar mark, do.	..	..	..	..	..	3 13 0

Russian.

Rising Sun, per tin	..	..	..	..	..	3 13 0
Elephant mark, do.	..	..	..	..	..	3 14 0

Price of petrol during the week ending 26th August, 1933.

					Rs. A. P.
1. Delhi ..	..	..	..	..	1 5 0 Per imperial gallon in 2 gallon cans.
2. Rangoon ..	..	..	..	..	1 3 6 Do.
3. Karachi ..	..	..	..	..	1 5 6 Do.
4. Bombay ..	..	..	..	..	1 0 0 Do.
5. Calcutta ..	..	..	..	..	1 5 6 In bulk, per gallon.
6. Madras ..	..	..	..	..	1 5 6 Do.

NOTE.—These prices refer to Burmah petrol except in the case of Delhi and Bombay where Russian petrol is sold at the same price.

FOREIGN COMPANIES DEALING IN PETROL, ETC., AND THE CONTROL EXERCISED BY THE GOVERNMENT OVER THEM.

105. **THE HONOURABLE MR. Y. RANGANAYAKALU NAIDU** (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder) : (1) What is the approximate number of registered foreign companies within India dealing in petrol, kerosene and mineral oil products? If these are registered in India where are they registered? What is the amount of working capital, reserve funds and other investments in each case and where and in what form do these exist?

(2) What is the cost of production and what customs duties are, in each case, charged by the Government of India and, if possible, other Governments within the British Empire?

(3) How many of the companies are doing their business within the jurisdiction of the Government of India?

(4) To what extent does Government exercise control over these companies in respect of—

(a) conditions,

(b) licences, and

(c) agreements, if any (as regards working periods, selling price of oils, quantity, quality and storage),

in all principal centres of India?

(5) What is the amount of capital invested by Indians and Europeans?

(6) The dividends declared by each of the companies during the past ten years and the paid up value in each of the companies?

(7) Are any of these companies amalgamated with each other? If so, to what extent?

(8) The amount of income-tax paid to the Government of India by each of the companies doing business in India for the past ten years?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART : So much of the information required by the Honourable Member as may be available is being collected and will be furnished to him in due course.

NUMBER OF SUPERIOR INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE POSTS AND LISTED POSTS IN THE PROVINCES.

106. **THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM** : What is the total number of superior posts reserved for the Indian Civil Service in each province? What is the number of listed posts in each province? and what is the reserve for service under the Government of India from each province?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The Honourable Member is referred to Table A of Schedule VII to the Superior Civil Services Rules, a copy of which will be found in the Library.

NUMBER OF INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS IN SERVICE AND ON LEAVE.

107. **THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM** : What was the total number of the Indian Civil Service Officers in service in India and how many were on leave on 1st July, 1933?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : The number of Indian Civil Service Officers in service on the 1st January, 1933, the latest date for which figures are usually available, was 1,173. I have no information regarding the number of officers on leave on the 1st July, 1933, which would have to be obtained from Local Governments. In 1931, the number of officers on leave in July was 223 and probably about the same number were on leave in the current year.

NUMBER OF INDIAN CIVIL SERVICE OFFICERS SERVING UNDER THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA AND PAY DRAWN BY THEM.

108. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : What is the number of officers of the Indian Civil Service serving under the Government of India showing separately the numbers of those in receipt of junior scale and senior scale pay ; and how many are holders of superior and inferior posts ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT : I lay on the table a statement giving the details for the 1st January, 1933, the latest date for which information is readily available.

STATEMENT.

Total number of Indian Civil Service Officers serving under the Government of India on 1st January, 1933	..	..	..	..	111
Number drawing pay on the junior scale	..	..	..	..	9
Number drawing pay on the senior scale	..	..	..	..	43
Number drawing rates of pay outside the time scale	..	..	..	..	59
Number holding superior posts	..	..	..	..	102
Number holding inferior posts	..	..	..	..	9

EMPLOYMENT OF INDIANS IN THE INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

109. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : Are appointments to the Indian Medical Department service open to Indians other than statutory Indians ? If not, why not ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : The Indian Medical Department consists of two branches. The first of these, which is known as the Assistant Surgeon Branch, is intended for duty with British troops of the Army in India, and is for that reason open only to Europeans and Anglo-Indians. The other branch is the Sub-Assistant Surgeon Branch, the members of which serve ordinarily with the Indian Army ; it is open to all British Indian subjects.

QUALIFICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE INDIAN MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

110. THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM : (a) What are the qualifications for the Indian Medical Department ? Are the degrees of Indian Universities recognised as qualifying for this service ?

(b) Is it a fact that selected candidates for this service are trained at Government expense, and are not required to pass any University examination ? Are not these appointments made by the Public Services Commission ?

(c) What was the average cost of full training for each student in 1931-32, and what is the scale of pay of this service, and to what units of the Army are they attached ?

(d) Is there any corresponding service to the Indian Medical Department in the Home Army and what are its name, scales of pay and conditions of service?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : I have caused to be placed in the Library of the House a copy of the Prospectus for the Assistant Surgeon Branch of the Indian Medical Department and I think that the Honourable Member will find in it all the information he desires regarding the preliminary educational qualifications, selection and training of candidates, as well as the conditions of service and sphere of employment of trained personnel. Candidates for the Assistant Surgeon Branch are ordinarily selected and trained at State expense, but there have been one or two cases in which candidates with medical qualifications obtained at their own expense have been appointed to the service. The average cost of training selected candidates is about Rs. 2,000 per annum.

There is no service in the British Army in the United Kingdom corresponding to the Indian Medical Department.

POSITION OF INDIANS IN EAST AFRICA.

111. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA : (1) Was the attention of Government drawn to the following resolution passed by the executive committee of the East African Indian Congress :

“ The executive committee in view of the serious situation that is likely to arise as a result of the demands of the white settlers for constitutional advance and financial control amounting to the virtual control of the country by them, call upon the country to prepare for a further political struggle, which is thus being imposed upon them against their own will or desire ” ?

(2) (a) Is it a fact that Government sent a cable to the Secretary of State to ascertain the facts mentioned in the above resolution in the middle of July ?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what reply has been received from the Secretary of State and what action it is proposed to take to put a stop to such control being given to the white settlers ?

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN : The attention of the Honourable Member is invited to the Press Note on the subject issued on the 11th August, 1933, copy of which is being laid on the table.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, HEALTH AND LANDS.

Sims, the 11th August, 1933.

Press Note.

In the third week of June, the Government of India received a representation from the East African Indian National Congress to the effect that there was a move on the part

of the European non-officials in Kenya to press His Majesty's Government for further control in the Colony's government. About the middle of July they made a further representation that the European settlers were demanding the creation of a statutory Finance Committee with European elected majority. On receipt of each representation the Government of India made urgent inquiries from the Secretary of State as to the exact position and requested that, if any change in policy regarding the constitution of the Colony were contemplated, both they and the Indian community in Kenya would be given adequate notice and opportunity to place the Indian point of view before His Majesty's Government. Information has now been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, who also received a representation from the East African Indian National Congress submitting that no justification existed for any such constitutional change as the creation of a statutory Finance Committee with European elected majority, that he has requested the Officer Administering the Government of Kenya to invite the attention of the East African Indian National Congress to the reply given to the Right Honourable Captain F. Guest, M.P., on the 21st of June in the House of Commons and to the official report of the debate on the Colonial Office Vote on the 14th of July in which Sir P. Cunliffe-Lister reiterated the intention of His Majesty's Government to stand by the findings of the Joint Select Committee of Parliament on East Africa. It will be remembered that, in paragraph 75 of their Report, the Joint Select Committee on Closer Union in East Africa stated that the control of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom must remain unimpaired and that, in paragraphs 96—98 of the same Report, the importance of an official majority in the Legislative Council of Kenya was emphasised.

112. *

ACTION TAKEN UNDER THE SAFEGUARDING OF INDUSTRIES ACT, 1933.

113. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: (a) Will Government be pleased to state what action has been taken on the Anti-Dumping Act?

(b) How many industries have applied for protection and what course is to be adopted to find out whether their demand is genuine and what protection should be afforded to them?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART: (a) No action has yet been taken under the Safeguarding of Industries Act, 1933, to which, I presume, the Honourable Member refers.

(b) Thirty-nine industries have applied for protection. An exhaustive questionnaire has been issued to each applicant the replies to which have been, or will be, carefully examined in the Commerce Department.

NEGOTIATIONS FOR AN INDO-JAPANESE TRADE AGREEMENT.

114. THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: (a) Is it a fact that a settlement is being contemplated with Japan in consequence of raising import duties on its goods? If so, what is the present position?

(b) Will Government be pleased to make a statement on the question?

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART: (a) As a consequence of the denunciation of the Indo-Japanese Trade Convention which will expire on 10th October next, the Government of Japan are sending a delegation to India to negotiate a fresh trade agreement.

(b) The Government have no further information on the subject.

*Question not put by the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Mathura Prasad Mehrotra.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

SUBSIDIES FROM INDIAN STATES.

115. THE HONOURABLE MR. Y. RANGANAYAKALU NAIDU (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder): Will Government be pleased to state :

(a) The total amount of annual subsidies received by Government from all the Indian States in India ?

(b) The first 20 States in the order of importance giving the annual subsidy payable by each of them ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. B. J. GLANCY : (a) The figure as given at page 239 of the Report of the Indian States Enquiry Committee (Financial) is Rs. 72,02,016.

(b) There is no fixed order of importance as regards " the first 20 States ". The information regarding individual States will be found in the publication " Memorandum on the Indian States ".

ANNUAL ARMY EXPENDITURE SINCE 1923.

116. THE HONOURABLE MR. Y. RANGANAYAKALU NAIDU (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder): What is the annual army expenditure for the last ten years ?

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF: I lay on the table a statement giving the information desired by the Honourable Member.

Statement giving the information asked for in question No. 116.

Year.	Amount in crores.	
		Rs.
1923-24	56.23
1924-25	55.63
1925-26	56.00
1926-27	55.97
1927-28	54.79
1928-29	55.10
1929-30	55.10
1930-31	54.30
1931-32	51.76
1932-33	46.74
		(Revised estimates).

Including amounts transferred or estimated to be transferred to the Defence Reserve Fund.

ANNUAL CUSTOMS REVENUE SINCE 1923.

117. THE HONOURABLE MR. Y. RANGANAYAKALU NAIDU (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder): (a) What is the annual customs revenue of the Government of India for the last ten years ?

(b) What proportion of it is attributable to the Indian States ?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. B. TAYLOR : (a) The figures will be found in the Finance and Revenue Accounts, copies of which are in the Library of the House.

(b) No accurate estimate is available. A rough estimate made by a Committee which sat in 1930 estimated the States' contribution as about one-eighth of the total Customs Revenue.

NUMBER OF UNEMPLOYED GRADUATES.

118. THE HONOURABLE MR. Y. RANGANAYAKALU NAIDU (on behalf of the Honourable Mr. V. C. Vellingiri Gounder): What is the number of unemployed graduates in each province in India and what steps do Government propose to take to relieve them?

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY: An attempt was made at the 1931 Census to obtain the figures of unemployed graduates, but this did not yield any satisfactory results, and reliable figures are therefore not available.

The relief of unemployment is a matter which is primarily the concern of Local Governments, and the Government of India have no special measures in contemplation.

RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK PROGRAMME FOR 1934-35.

119. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR (on behalf of the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Jagdish Prasad): (a) Is it a fact that the memorandum submitted to the Standing Finance Committee in May last by the Financial Commissioner for Railways concerning the rolling stock programme of various railway administrations for 1934-35 estimates the total expenditure at 201 lakhs, distributed as follows:

(i) Locomotives	..	..	..	Rs. 49 lakhs,
(ii) Boilers	..	..	..	Rs. 43 lakhs,
(iii) Carriages	..	..	..	Rs. 91 lakhs,
(iv) Wagons	..	..	..	Rs. 18 lakhs?

(b) Will Government be pleased to state to what extent the purchases of the above mentioned rolling stock will be made in India and to what extent abroad?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY: (a) The figures are correct, except that the estimated expenditure on boilers should be Rs. 46 lakhs and the total Rs. 204 lakhs.

(b) All purchases by State-managed Railways are now made in India under the rupee-tender system.

All the locomotives and boilers will be manufactured abroad, except a few which will be manufactured at Ajmer for which a provision of Rs. 8 lakhs has been included in the Budget. The expenditure on carriages and wagons will be almost entirely incurred in India.

ARREST OF MR. DEVIDAS GANDHI AT DELHI ON 6TH AUGUST, 1933.

120. THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR (on behalf of the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Jagdish Prasad): (a) Is it a fact that an order of the Chief Commissioner of Delhi under section 3 of the

Punjab Criminal Law Amendment Act, restraining Mr. Devidas Gandhi from entering the Delhi Province, was served on Mr. Devidas Gandhi on August 6th last when he alighted at the Delhi Railway Station?

(b) Is it a fact that thereupon Mr. Devidas Gandhi gave a definite assurance in writing that he had absolutely no intention of participating in the civil disobedience movement in Delhi or of taking part in politics but that he had gone there to settle down in private life?

(c) If so, why was the order of restraint not withdrawn on the above assurance and why was Mr. Devidas Gandhi incarcerated?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: (a) Yes.

(b) In a letter which he thereupon wrote and handed to the police inspector, and which was duly forwarded through proper channels to the Chief Commissioner the following day, Mr. Devidas Gandhi made the statement as quoted in the Honourable Member's question, though he explained that his intention of settling down in Delhi in private life was "for at least a few months". He also said "I have decided to take no active part in the civil disobedience movement for some months at least". He hoped that the Chief Commissioner would see his way to withdraw his order; but if he did not do so, Mr. Devidas Gandhi went on to say that it was his clear duty as he conceived it cheerfully to suffer the consequences pointed out in the text of the order, for not complying with it.

Before handing this letter to the police inspector he wrote a similar document which he gave to the representative of the *Hindustan Times* for publication.

(c) In view of the history of Mr. Devidas Gandhi's previous activities in Delhi, the Chief Commissioner was not satisfied by the qualified assurances of Mr. Devidas Gandhi that in fact his presence in Delhi would not act as an encouragement to the revival of the civil disobedience movement there.

THE HONOURABLE MR. VINAYAK VITHAL KALIKAR: Is it the policy of the Government to insult persons who had connections with the civil disobedience movement in the past but who have severed their connection with it.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Order, order. This question does not arise from the original question.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: Will the Government be pleased to state what further assurances were necessary?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: If Mr. Devidas Gandhi had complied with the Chief Commissioner's order and had left Delhi forthwith, that would no doubt have satisfied the Chief Commissioner that no action was necessary against him. He did not however do so and said he was prepared to bear the consequences of staying in Delhi.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: May I know if definite assurances that for a few months he was not going to take part in the civil disobedience movement are not considered sufficient by the Government?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: Each case must be considered on its merits. In this case the Chief Commissioner had to take into consideration, as I said in my reply to the question, Mr. Devidas's previous activities during the last two or three years.

THE HONOURABLE RAI BAHADUR LALA MATHURA PRASAD MEHROTRA: Is it not the practice of the Government to release those civil disobedience prisoners who even after going into jail declare that they are not going to take part in the civil disobedience movement?

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. G. HALLETT: As I said, each case is considered on its merits. In many cases one does accept a definite assurance given by a civil disobedience prisoner but one cannot generalise from particular instances.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: The remaining questions will be taken up at the next meeting under standing orders.

REMARKS BY THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT *RE* (1) ABSENCE OF MEMBERS DURING QUESTION TIME AND (2) PUBLICATION BY MEMBERS OF THEIR QUESTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS BEFORE THEY APPEAR ON THE LIST OF BUSINESS.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Before we proceed with the business of today's sitting, I wish to make one or two observations with regard to the right of interpellation. Today Honourable Members must have noticed that many questions could not be asked because the Honourable Members who had framed those questions were not present. I want to point out to Honourable Members that when they put dozens of questions they must be either in their places to ask those questions or delegate their authority to other Members and give notice of the same to the Secretary. I also wish to point out that the asking of these questions causes the various Departments of Government a considerable amount of time, labour and expenditure and Honourable Members must bear this fact in mind in framing their interpellations and see that they are present in the Council Hall to receive the official replies to their questions.

Another matter I also wish to refer to and it is with a considerable amount of disappointment and sorrow. I feel that a practice is steadily growing among Honourable Members immediately they send their questions to the Legislative Department to have them published in the newspapers. This is a very objectionable and reprehensible practice. Honourable Members are probably not aware that the publication of questions in newspapers (and I hold in my hand today several questions which were disallowed by the Chair and have been published in the newspapers) is a practice which would not be tolerated for one moment in the House of Commons. I wish to draw the attention of Honourable Members to the important fact that until and unless the questions are admitted by the Chair and published in the List of Business they are of a confidential character and it is a breach of privilege to give publicity to such questions or resolutions. I also wish to point out that unfortunately the Chair has no power in this connection to deal with such infractions of privilege or duty. In the House of Commons, both the House as well as the Speaker have the right to deal with such infractions and take notice of the conduct of Honourable Members and also deal with the offending editors and proprietors of newspapers. We

have no such convention or practice here. The practice in the House of Commons has grown up under a convention and I would like very much that convention to grow in this Council. I would therefore appeal to Honourable Members that they will see that both in respect of their questions and resolutions no publication in future takes place before these questions and resolutions appear on the List of Business and I would leave to their good sense and judgment to respect such well-established conventions which are observed in the House of Commons. I have no doubt that Honourable Members will endeavour their very best to see that this convention grows up in a salutary manner and I feel confident that there will be no occasion for me hereafter to refer to this matter as the Honourable Members themselves are as anxious as myself to maintain the dignity and the traditions of this House.

MESSAGE FROM HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : Honourable Members, I have got a message to convey to you from His Excellency the Governor General. It reads as follows :

PANEL OF CHAIRMEN.

"In pursuance of the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 63A of the Government of India Act, I, Freeman, Earl of Willingdon, hereby nominate the following Members of the Council of State to be on the Panel of Chairmen of the said Council of State :

*In the first place, the Honourable Nawab Malik Mohammad Hayat Khan Noon ;
in the second place, the Honourable Rai Bahadur Lala Ram Saran Das ;
in the third place, the Honourable Diwan Bahadur G. Narayanaswami Chetti ;
and lastly, the Honourable Ganapati Agraharam Annadurai Ayyar Natesan.*

SIMLA,

(Sd.) WILLINGDON,

The 28th August, 1933.

Viceroy and Governor General "

(The Message was received by the Council, standing.)

COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT : Under Standing Order 76 of the Council of State Standing Orders, I am required at the commencement of each Session to constitute a Committee on Petitions consisting of a chairman and four members. The following Honourable Members have at my request kindly consented to preside over and serve on the Committee. I accordingly have much pleasure in nominating as Chairman of the Committee the Honourable Mr. G. A. Natesan and as members, the Honourable Raja Charanjit Singh, the Honourable Khan Bahadur Syed Abdul Hafeez, the Honourable Sir David Devadoss and the Honourable Mr. Satyendra Chandra Ghosh Maulik.

GOVERNOR GENERAL'S ASSENT TO BILLS.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL : Sir, information has been received that His Excellency the Governor General has been pleased to grant his assent to the

[Secretary of the Council.]

following Bills, which were passed by the two Chambers of the Indian Legislature during the Delhi session, 1933, namely :

- The Indian Marine (Amendment) Act, 1933.
- The Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933.
- The Indian Forest (Amendment) Act, 1933.
- The Cotton Textile Industry Protection (Amendment) Act, 1933.
- The Wheat Import Duty (Extending) Act, 1933.
- The Salt Additional Import Duty (Extending) Act, 1933.
- The Indian Finance Act, 1933.
- The Indian Tariff (Ottawa Trade Agreement) Supplementary Amendment Act, 1933.
- The Provincial Criminal Law Supplementing Act, 1933.
- The Auxiliary Force (Amendment) Act, 1933.
- The Indian Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 1933.
- The Indian Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1933.
- The Safeguarding of Industries Act, 1933.
- The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Act, 1933.

STATEMENTS LAID ON THE TABLE.

- (1) KOLAGHAT RAILWAY BRIDGE, BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY, AND (2) ASSISTANT TRAIN EXAMINERS, BENGAL NAGPUR RAILWAY.

THE HONOURABLE MR. M. W. BRAYSHAY : Sir, I lay on the table the information promised in reply to questions Nos. 16 and 17 asked by the Honourable Mr. Jagadish Chandra Banerjee on the 16th February, 1933.

Kolaghat Railway Bridge, Bengal Nagpur Railway.

(a) The original bridge was built in 1900 with double line piers and the preliminary arrangements for doubling of the girders were commenced in January 1928. The work was completed early this year.

(b) The total cost of doubling the girders has been about Rs. 36,72,000.

(c) The work as a whole has been carried out by the Railway Company, who engaged separate contractors to carry out different parts of the work.

(d) It was not considered advisable to entrust entirely to any one contractor the responsibility of carrying out this difficult operation alongside the existing main line carrying traffic. The work was, therefore, carried out by the Railway Company with the assistance of a number of erecting contractors, of whom the principal were Dayal Lala and B. Makhanwallah.

(e) All the main false-work was supplied on tender by Messrs. Jessop and Co., Calcutta, or was available from previous constructions. The girders were supplied by the Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Company and Messrs. Head Wrighton and Company, from whom they were ordered after simultaneous public call for tenders in India and England.

(f) The rails were supplied by the Tata Iron and Steel Company, under the Railway Board's contract. Bolts and nuts were supplied as part of the fabricated material to which they belonged, whether girders, false-work or rails.

(g) Tenders were invited for all the main items, and there was nothing to prevent the Tata Iron and Steel Company from tendering. Presumably they did not do so because fabricated material was required.

Assistant Train Examiners, Bengal Nagpur Railway.

(1) The Agent, Bengal Nagpur Railway reports that under orders issued on the 15th July, 1930, the Indian scale of Assistant Train Examiners was abolished and replaced by one scale applicable to all Assistant Train Examiners irrespective of nationality, viz., 45—5—80 (efficiency bar)—5—140.

(2) Does not arise.

(3) *Eastern Bengal Railway.*—There are no Assistant Train Examiners on this railway.

East Indian Railway.—25—5—40.

North Western Railway.—There are no Assistant Train Examiners on this railway.

Great Indian Peninsula Railway.—28—5—38—4—42 at outstations, and 35—5—55 in the island of Bombay.

Burma Railways.—Assistant Train Examiners are designated Assistant Carriage and Wagon Examiners and their scales of pay are :—

45—5—60 Non-English speaking.

45—5—70 English speaking

All the posts are held by Indians.

(4) There are six class I Company-managed Railways who employ Assistant Train Examiners.

(5) The information available is given below but as stated in reply to this question on the 16th February, 1933, the pay and prospects of the Assistant Train Examiners on one railway cannot be compared with another, due to different systems of working and other causes :—

Railway.	Pay. Rs.	Prospects.
Bombay, Baroda and Central India.	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;">B.G.</div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div>150</div> <div>135.</div> <div>165—200</div> </div> </div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;">M.G.</div> <div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> <div>110—150</div> <div>70—100</div> <div>55—75</div> </div> </div>	
Eastern Bengal ..	..	There are no Assistant Train Examiners.
East Indian ..	25—5—40	<p>(a) Before obtaining the last increment as Assistant Train Examiner, viz., Rs. 40, they must possess a certificate of passing the Train Examiners course Division III or higher in the Asansol Training school.</p> <p>(b) Assistant Train Examiners on the maximum pay rise by gradual promotion to train examiners grade IV (Rs. 55—5—95) and to Train Examiners' Grade III (Rs. 100—10—150) on vacancies arising in such grades provided they possess certificates of passing the train examiners' course Division II or higher and Division I respectively in the Asansol training school.</p> <p>(c) They may be promoted to Train Examiners' grade II provided they have outstanding abilities in which case their merits are considered along with those of apprentices from the shops.</p>

Railway.	Pay. Rs.	Prospects.
		(d) Suitable men with the necessary qualifications are eligible for promotion to the higher subordinate supervising grades rising to Rs. 475.
South Indian .. ..	..	There are no Assistant Train Examiners.
North Western .. ..	..	There are no Assistant Train Examiners.
Assam Bengal	35—3—50	An Assistant Train Examiner may become eligible for promotion to junior train examiner rising to a maximum of Rs. 75 and a senior Train Examiner rising to a maximum of Rs. 90. From among the senior Train Examiners a selection is made for the post of Head Train Examiner when a vacancy occurs, the maximum pay of which is Rs. 150.
Great Indian Peninsula	28—5—38—4—42 (at outstations). 35—5—55 (in the island of Bom- bay).	Assistant Train Examiners with fair educational qualifications are given an examination in English and Arithmetic, and, if passed, are posted as Train Examiners at Train Examining Stations in grades of pay rising from Rs. 65 to Rs. 245 as vacancies occur.
Madras and Southern Mahratta.	100—10—130 .. 85—5—90—10— 100. 30—4—50—5—80.	Assistant Train Examiners are eligible for promotion to the grade of Train Examiners on the following scales of pay :— 255—10—285. 240—10—285. 215—10—235—5—240. 195—10—215. 170—10—190—5—195. 150—10—195. 150—10—170. 130—10—150.
Burma .. ..	..	Assistant Train Examiners are designated Assistant Carriage and Wagon Examiners. 45—5—60 non-English speaking. 45—5—70 English speaking.
		Assistant Carriage and Wagon Examiners may rise to Carriage and Wagon Examiners in the following grades :— 75—5—85 75—5—100 100—10—120 110—10—130 120—10—150 160—10—250—15—280—20—300. According to station.
		Specially suitable men can rise to Assistant Foreman Rs. 200—250 and Carriage and Wagon Examiners 140—10—160.
Bengal and North West- ern and Rohilkund and Kumaon.	28—60 60—100.	There is a Carriage Examiner grade of Rs. 100—270 for men possessing technical ability.

BILL PASSED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY LAID ON THE TABLE.

SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL: Sir, in pursuance of rule 25 of the Indian Legislative Rules, I lay on the table copies of the Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, which was passed by the Legislative Assembly at its meeting held on the 28th August, 1933.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONOURABLE SIR HORMUSJI MEHTA.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Honourable Members, it is my privilege to offer the congratulations of this House to one of our Honourable Colleagues, Sir Hormusji Maneckji Mehta, on the conferment of a Knighthood on him by His Majesty the King-Emperor. I am sorry that Sir Hormusji is not in his place here today as he is engaged on more important work as a Substitute Delegate at the League of Nations at Geneva. I am voicing the feelings of all here when I say that Sir Hormusji rendered very valuable service during the time he has been a Member of this House. He was always regular in his attendance and on financial questions was of great help and assistance to the Council and the Government. I shall, with your permission, convey to the Honourable Member the congratulations of this House on his well-deserved distinction. (Applause.)

MOTION FOR THE ELECTION OF TWO NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIES AND LABOUR.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. A. SHILLIDY (Industries and Labour Secretary): Sir, I move:

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, two non-official Members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects, other than 'Roads' and 'Broadcasting', dealt with in the Department of Industries and Labour."

The motion was adopted.

MOTION FOR THE ELECTION OF TWO NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS TO THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE.

THE HONOURABLE MR. T. A. STEWART (Commerce Secretary): Sir, I move:

"That this Council do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Honourable the President may direct, two non-official Members to serve on the Standing Committee to advise on subjects in the Department of Commerce."

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: As regards both these motions, nominations for the Standing Committee for subjects other than "Roads" and "Broadcasting" and for subjects in the Department of Commerce will be received up to 11 A.M. on Monday, the 4th September, 1933.

INDIAN ARBITRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. BARTLEY (Government of India : Nominated Official) : Sir, I move that leave be granted to introduce :

"A Bill further to amend the Indian Arbitration Act, 1899, for a certain purpose."

The purpose of this very small Bill, Sir, is explained clearly in the statement of objects and reasons which is annexed to the Bill. Briefly, it is to remove from section 19 of the Indian Arbitration Act the phrase "the Court" which has been found to give rise to a certain amount of doubt whether a Presidency Court of Small Causes is empowered under that section to take the necessary action to stay proceedings in a matter which falls within an agreement to arbitrate. This doubt has arisen owing to the definition of the phrase "the Court" at the commencement of the Act and the object of this Bill is to remove that doubt and to substitute for the expression "the Court" another expression which will make it clear that the Act does empower other Courts than the High Court and the District Court to stay proceedings in such matters. That, Sir, is the object of this Bill. I move.

The motion was adopted.

THE HONOURABLE MR. J. BARTLEY : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

CANTONMENTS (HOUSE-ACCOMMODATION AMENDMENT) BILL.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : Sir, I move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Cantonments (House-Accommodation) Act, 1923, for a certain purpose.

The motion was adopted.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF : Sir, I introduce the Bill.

DEATHS OF RAJA BIJOY SING DUDHORIA OF AZIMGUNGE, BENGAL, AND MR. C. H. F. PEREIRA.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN (Leader of the House) : Sir, I have to make mention of the death of Raja Bijoy Sing Dudhuria of Azimgunge, Bengal, a citizen of Calcutta, and a prominent leader of the Jain community. The late Raja was a Member of the Council of State from January, 1930 till the dissolution of that House and again from January, 1931 to the date of his resignation owing to ill-health towards the end of 1932.

We have a vivid recollection of our late colleague who was a most pleasant companion, a devoted friend and a conscientious man of public affairs, endowed with a pleasant, lovable temperament. He had remarkable social gifts ; and his peculiar oriental culture, a beautiful blend of religion and tolerance, orthodoxy and breadth of outlook, contributed to the making of a most striking

personality. His death at an early age has deprived Bengal of a sane and sober politician and prominent leader of the Jain community and this House of a most valuable member. He was Chairman of the Azimgunge Municipality for over 15 years, an Honorary Magistrate and member of the Murshidabad District Board for many years. The title of Raja was conferred on him as early as 1908.

The House deplores his loss, and would, I am sure, Sir, like you to convey its condolences to the family of the late Raja.

*THE HONOURABLE MR. HOSSAIN IMAM (Bihar and Orissa: Muhammadan): Sir, we, on this side of the House associate ourselves with every word which has fallen from the Leader of the House and we desire to convey our sense of loss to the members of the bereaved family.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Honourable Members, I wholeheartedly endorse every word the Leader of the House has said regarding the late Raja Bijoy Sing Dudhuria. Many Honourable Members came in contact with the late Raja and found him to be a very amiable, straightforward and honest man. His services in this Council were of an exceptional kind. He was always useful and his deportment was full of dignity, and in dealing with resolutions he gave his support and adhesion in a most straightforward and just manner. As it is the wish of Honourable Members, I will convey to his widow and children the sympathy and condolence of this Council.

Before I resume my seat I wish to refer to another tragic event which has caused a loss to the Legislative Department—I am referring to the death of the late Mr. C. H. F. Pereira, Assistant Secretary of this Council. He was not a Member of this Council but Honourable Members who have been in Council during the last few years will bear me out when I say that the deceased rendered valuable services not only to the Legislative Department but to the Honourable Members of this Council. He was always ready and willing to render all possible assistance to Honourable Members and to give them information on all points and he made himself so exceedingly popular that when he left India to study for the Bar in England he was greatly missed in the Council. He had just passed all his examinations and was about to return to this country to retire and settle down in practice when his tragic end came. He died very suddenly and we all regret his untimely death. I shall also with your permission convey to his bereaved widow the deepest sympathy and condolences of this Council.

STATEMENT OF BUSINESS.

THE HONOURABLE KHAN BAHADUR MIAN SIR FAZL-I-HUSAIN (Leader of the House): Sir, as Honourable Members are aware, Thursday, the 31st August has been allotted for the discussion of two Motions, one relating to the Government of India communiqué, dated the 20th June, 1933, regarding the future administration of Aden and the other to the Order in Council of His Majesty, dated the 17th December, 1931, imposing dues in respect of certain lighthouses and a buoy specified therein.

* Speech not corrected by the Honourable Member.

[Khan Bahadur Mian Sir Fazl-i-Husain.]

Monday and Wednesday next the 4th and 6th September are days allotted for non-official business, and I venture to suggest that it would probably be convenient for the Council to meet on Tuesday, the 5th September for the transaction of official business when the two Bills introduced today can be taken up. On this day we may also include in the List of Business the consideration and passing of any Bills which may be received from the other Chamber and laid on the table before the 4th September.

THE HONOURABLE THE PRESIDENT: Before I adjourn the Council I will remind the Council that His Excellency the Governor General will address the Members of both the Houses tomorrow at the Assembly Chamber.

The Council then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 30th August, 1933.