

[Shri Morarji Desai]

that was the only obligation that these people had on them. Then, if any money credited after this, was earned after 1947, that had to be repatriated to India immediately. That was the rule, and that is the rule which obtains even today.

The Prime Minister received his money from his publishers, the royalty moneys; the publishers credited that money which accrued to him from time to time in that account, and the money which was credited after 1947 was being repatriated here.

Then this question arose about the pre-zero account which was there. I think about £ 3,000 or some such thing was in the pre-zero account. I found that the money that was spent by the Prime Minister during nine or ten years of that period amounted to something like £ 2,000 and odd. I am saying all this from memory.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : चालीस हजार रुपये ।

Shri Morarji Desai: This is all not correct.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : प्राज के दाम में चालीस हजार रुपये ।

Shri Morarji Desai: The money that was spent there from this account was less than the pre-zero account that he had with him. The only question that arose at that time which I raised was that as the publisher was crediting the money to his account from time to time, somebody might say that the publisher was keeping the money for some time and then doing it, which would not be a correct thing; it would, therefore, be better that the money, as it accrued from those who had to pay the royalty, was credited immediately in the account by themselves, and not through the publisher, and that was done at that time. There was no question of my talking to the Chancellor of England on this matter. I have never had any

talk. I do not know whoever had this brainwave or figment of imagination which was conveyed to Dr. Ram Manohar Lohia. This is entirely a lie. I had nothing to talk to the Chancellor about this, and there was no question of doing away with any account from any bank. The Prime Minister himself after a year or so closed his account and finished the matter.

डा० राम मनोहर लोहिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, प्राप इस मामले को विशेषाधिकार समिति को भेजिये । यह विशेषाधिकार समिति में जाने लायक सवाल बन गया है । दोनों में से कोई न कोई जरूर असत्य बोल रहा है ।

श्री मन्त्रु लिखये : दो मंत्रियों के बयानों में टकराव है, परस्पर-विरोध है । एक साहब कहते हैं, "बैंक एकाउंट नहीं है" और दूसरे कहते हैं, "बैंक एकाउंट है" ।

12.54 hrs.

ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES (AMENDMENT) BILL*

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Dinesh Singh): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and to continue for a further period the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 1964.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill further to amend the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and to continue for a further period the Essential Commodities (Amendment) Act, 1964."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Dinesh Singh: I introduce the Bill.