

existing number of Hindi typewriters in the Ministry of Finance is 86.

It is not possible to indicate precisely the requirements of Hindi type, writers during the next three years. The requisite number will be procured as and when needed.

Steps to Reover Loan From Pakistan

♦442. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:
SHRI VITHAL GADGIL;

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount which Pakistan owes to India under the financial agreements entered into with that country at the time of partition and what is the total amount of interest which accrued to India in respect of this amount up-to-date; and

(b) what steps Government have taken during the last six months to recover the amount?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Pakistan partition debt to India is of the order of Rs 300 crores; the precise amount has not so far been agreed upon despite efforts made on various occasions. Under the partition arrangements concluded in December 1947, this debt was repayable by Pakistan in Indian rupees in 50 annual equated instalments of principal and interest (at 2.7/8 per cent annum) commencing from the 15th August, 1952. In the absence of any payment by Pakistan towards repayment of principal or interest, the accumulated interest, even at the normal rate 2.7/8 per cent, now exceeds the amount of debt due from Pakistan.

(b) No fresh efforts have been made during the last six months towards settlement of this issue. Opening of a Branch in Delhi by the

American Express Bank

*443. SHRI SANAT KUMAR RAHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the American Express Bank has been permitted to open a branch in Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) The American Express International Banking Corporation has a branch in New Delhi since 1950. It has not applied for opening any other branch in New Delhi.

Take over of the Oriental Carpet Manufacturers (India) Pvt. Ltd. By Shri S. K. Birla

•444. SHRI S. KUMARAN:
SHRI KALYAN ROY:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Enforcement Directorate conducted a detailed investigation into the involvement of Shri S. K. Birla in a deal to take over the Oriental Carpet Manufacturers (India) Pvt. Ltd., from the Ralli International, London.

(b) whether searches were made in this connection at various places by the Enforcement Directorate;

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether a report was sent to the Director General of Revenue, Intelligence and Investigation on the 22nd May, 1973 by the enforcement officers;

(e) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(f) what action Government have taken against Shri S. K. Birla and the Ralli International for these shady and illegal financial manipulations?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b) Yes." Sir.