

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, no, Diwan Chaman Lall.

SHRI NIREN GHOSH: The hon. Minister just now stated that by 1964 the indigenous content would be 90 per cent. May I ask by what time will the indigenous content reach 100 per cent, and what steps are the Government taking to achieve that?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAN: There are certain specialised items which it may not be worth while manufacturing in this country because of the small quantities required. Therefore, for some time more certain of the components will be imported and so it will be some time before we reach the 100 per cent, stage.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: May I ask the hon. Minister again whether it is fact that the small car project had offered to produce 100 per cent, indigenous materials for their cars within two years?

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: That is a different question. That project has been deferred and when it is taken up this matter may be considered.

DEMANDS FOR PROVIDING ADDITIONAL RELIEF TO PENSIONERS IN THE COUNTRY

*153. SHRI S. PATEL: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government receive frequent demands for providing additional relief to the pensioners in the country in view of the increased cost of living; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARAGATHAM CHANHRA-SEKHAR): (a) and (b) Yes. Their demands include increased rate of pension, grant of dearness allowance on the same terms as men in active service, education facilities for their children, medical facilities for members of their families, utilisation of their services by Government and res-

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tation of commuted portion of pension.

श्री विमलकुमार मन्नालालजी चौरङ्गिया :

क्या मन्त्री महोदया यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगी कि यह जो पेन्शनर्स की अक्सर डिमाण्ड आती रही है, महंगाई बढ़ने की आवाज आती है, तो ऐसी स्थिति में जो कन्ज्यूमर इण्डेक्स नम्बर है या कॉस्ट के आधार पर जो इण्डेक्स है उसी के आधार पर उनके पेन्शन को कोरिरेक्ट कर दिया जाये तो उसमें क्या आपत्ति हो सकती है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर : यह तो खैर पेन्शनर्स की भी मांग नहीं है, माननीय सदस्य उनकी मांग से भी आगे बढ़ गए हैं। लेकिन यह ठीक है कि उन्होंने कहा है कि महंगाई है और इसके खयाल से उनके पेन्शन को बढ़ाने पर विचार किया जाये। मैं माननीय सदस्य को यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि पेन्शनर्स ने बड़ी उदारता से काम लिया है और जैसे ही यह भारत और चीन की लड़ाई शुरू हुई तो पेन्शनर्स ने आकर मुझ से कहा और रिप्रेजेंटेशन दिया कि इस समय मैं नहीं चाहते कि उनकी तनख्वाह को बढ़ाया जाय जिससे कि गवर्नमेंट का खर्चा बढ़े।

SHRI DAHYABHAI V. PATEL: May I ask whether it is a fact that disabled parents of pensioners are debarred from getting medical facilities that are allowed to the children of the pensioners and, if so, will the question of revising such orders and giving medical facilities to parents also be considered by Government?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: The children of pensioners also do not get any medical facilities. This is also one of their demands and we are considering that.

SHRI M. RUTHNASWAMY: Sir, is the Home Minister aware that none of the concessions granted to pensioners referred to by the Lady Minister are available in the States and whether the Home Ministry will make enquiries and suggest to the State Governments that they should follow the

good example of the Central Home Ministry?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: We have already requested the State Governments to consider the desirability of extending the educational concessions which are admissible to children of Government servants; that is, the facilities which are available to Government employees should be available to pensioners also. I have already written to the State Governments.

SHRI A. D. MANI: Has there been any proposal made to Government that a committee should be appointed to go into the entire matter, as has been done in the United Kingdom where a committee has reported on the relief which should be given to pensioners?

SHRI LAL BAHADUR: We may have no objection to that but it will have to be done at the appropriate time, number one. Number two, there are some specific facilities which they want immediately. It will be better to consider them just now and then go into the general problem.

GRANTS FOR PLAYS TO THEATRE GROUPS

*154. SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: Will the Minister of SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any changes have been effected in the scheme relating to giving grants to theatre groups for production of plays; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS (SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir; but the amount of grant may be reduced as a measure of economy.

SHRI PANNALAL SARAOGI: Sir, in view of our experience with the Sangeet Natak Akademi what procedure is being adopted to see that grants are well utilised?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: This has nothing to do with the Sangeet Natak Academy. Grants are given to theatre groups on the recommendations of State Governments and till now the experience has been satisfactory.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: In view of the emergency, may I know whether Government have curtailed the grants to the theatre groups under the scheme which was in force previously?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: I have just now stated that the scheme has not been dropped but the amount of the grant may be reduced. We have written to the theatre groups and many of them have agreed to a lower grant.

SHRI R. S. KHANDEKAR: May I know whether it is a fact that one of the conditions for giving these grants is that they should stage at least 100 plays a year? Is it possible for any theatre group now-a-days to stage 100 plays and get this grant?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: As a result of representations from many State Governments, we have reduced* the number to fifty plays a year.

श्री बिमलकुमार मल्लालाखी चौरड़िया :
क्या श्रीमान यह बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि इन थियेटर ग्रुप्स को, जिनको ग्रान्ट दी जाती है, उन्हें शासन की तरफ से इस तरह की कोई सूचना दी गई है कि चीन के आक्रमण से उत्पन्न बदली हुई परिस्थितियों में वे इस तरह के नाटकों का निर्माण करें और प्रदर्शन करें जो देशभक्ति और साहस की भावनाओं को जाग्रत करें ?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: That is quite correct. After the Chinese aggression we wrote to the theatre groups that it would be desirable to have, in view of the changed circumstances, plays which have a national appeal without being too specific about any particular incident, and the.