

December, 1955 emphasised that the draft chapter relating to the first phase did not get the approval of the Board.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Which Board? Was it the Board which was appointed to prepare the draft or any other Board?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: The very Board which had been appointed to collect the materials and, if possible, to prepare a draft.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Since there is conflict within the Board, may I know whether it is not a fact that from the very beginning, some kind of a conflict arose between the members of the Board with regard to the approach to certain materials concerning Indian history of the period concerned?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: My hon. friend is a student of both politics and of history and he knows that no two politicians agree and no two historians agree.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Not historians.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Historians too do not seem to agree. May I know, since the hon. Minister, being a man of literature, knew how history should be written, why the Government appointed such a Board, when he knew that they would never agree and nothing would come out of it and why afterwards a publication was issued by a historian, knowing full well that this might be subjected to some con-tradition by other equally eminent historians?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: To the first question, my answer is that unlike *my hon. friend* the Government is willing to learn by experience. To the second I may say, we tried an eminent historian and the results have been accepted by some and not accepted by others.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: Do I understand that the knowledge and the learning of the Government is

such that they produce such history which has given rise to controversy all over the country and not one or two, but many historians from different parts of the land are strongly criticising it in newspapers and so on, criticising that particular publication on the Indian Freedom Movement that they had brought out?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: As I have said before, I hold no brief for any particular historian and my hon. friend is entitled to his own conclusions. The fact that there is so much controversy indicates that the book has aroused interest.

SHRI AKHTAR HUSAIN: Was any effort made by Government to resolve conflicts in the manner in which conflicts are resolved in totalitarian countries?

SHRI HUMAYUN KABIR: No, Sir.

NON-CARRYING OF LIGHTS BY CYCLISTS' IN NEW DELHI

*136. DIWAN CHAMAN LALLJ Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that majority of cyclists in New Delhi do not carry any lights after lighting-up time;

(b) whether it is also a fact that even bullock-carts and slow-moving vehicles defy orders to carry such lights and thus seriously endanger fast-moving traffic; and

(c) if the answers to parts (a) and (b) above be in the affirmative, what steps Government propose to take to enforce orders in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA): (a) There is a good deal of infringement in this regard.

(b) Bullock-carts also sometimes do not observe the orders.

(c) The traffic police are maintaining their vigilance to enforce the

rules regarding the carrying of lights, and action is taken against those cyclists found going without lights after lighting up time.

DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Even though notice of this question was sent a considerable time ago, there does not seem to be any improvement. May I know as to what steps have been taken to improve the situation?

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: Constant steps are being taken and the traffic police is also maintaining vigilance. The number of cycles, tongas, bullock-carts, etc., is very big and the prosecutions have also been going up every year and there is slight improvement in that sense.

श्री देवकीनन्दन नारायण : क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि इतना ही नहीं कि ये साइकलिस्ट्स बिना लाइट के चलते हैं बल्कि एक साइकिल पर दो या दो से भी ज्यादा बिठाकर ले जाते हैं, तो इसके बारे में आपने आज तक क्या किया और क्या रोक लगायी है ?

श्री लाल बहादुर : इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि ऐसा होता है और हम सभी अपनी आंखों से यह देखते हैं लेकिन अगर खाल यह है कि सिर्फ पुलिस के जरिये इसे रोका जा सकता है तो वह संभव नहीं है क्योंकि ७५ फी सदी साइकिलों का ट्रैफिक रहता है। पीक अवर्स में जितनी गाड़ियां चलती हैं उन में पचहत्तर फी सदी साइकिलें होती हैं और नान पीक अवर्स में साठ फी सदी। तो अंदाजा आप करें कि कितना बड़ा ट्रैफिक साइकिलों का है। कुछ नागरिक भावना भी चाहिये और कुछ पुलिस की तरफ से कार्यवाही भी चाहिये।

DEFICIT IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE

"137. DIWAN CHAMAN LALL: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the deficit in foreign exchange is running at the rate of one crore rupees a day; and

' (b) if so, what steps Government have taken to improve the balance of payments position?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA) : (a) I presume the hon. Member is referring to the changes in the foreign balances of the Reserve Bank of India. If so, the reply is in the negative as the sterling balances which stood at Rs. 147'62 crores at the beginning of January 1961 have fallen now to Rs. 128-80 crores, thus indicating an average *weekly* fall of about Rs. 1.25 crores.

(b) I would refer the Member to the Budget Speech of 28th February, 1961 (para, 30-33) as well as the Economic Survey for 1960-61 (paras 49-52, 58 and 59) which indicate the various steps taken by the Government to improve India's balance of payments position.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: The trend is one of decline of the balance. May I know as to what steps have been taken apart from what is mentioned in the Budget Speech and after that with a view to at least maintaining it where it is at present, if not improving it further.

SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA: The rapid decline in the last month has been due to large Government payments during the closing month of the financial year and to payments on account of private imports which during 1961 have been larger than they were last year.

So far as steps are concerned, the Reserve Bank is keeping constant watch and the Government is also keeping constant watch and we take steps as the situation develops.

SHRI BHUPESH GUPTA: If the payments were smaller and the receipts were larger, there would not be deficit in the balance. It is obvious. May I know whether it is not a fact