

will be payable on such deferred payments?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: That is a matter of detail. As I said, we can give an answer to that when we have the actual credit terms negotiated and we have had a review of that.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: May I know whether the Government is aware that certain foreign firms giving this long-term credit are charging 15 per cent, extra price and are charging 7J per cent, interest?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I take that information from the hon. Member.

SHRI P. S. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: May I know how many import licences for the import of capital goods have been withheld and if so for how long?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: I would request him to send that question to my colleague the Minister for Commerce and Industry.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The Minister said that a condition is levied on the importers that if they get long-term credit, then only they will be allowed to import. May I know under those conditions how many have asked for import permits?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: We have written to the State Governments as well as to others to collect those statistics and I would be able to lay them on the Table later.

SHRI MAHESWAR NAIK: What are the countries which have so far granted this deferred payment system?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: Some parties have been able to negotiate such deferred payment terms in the past but as for the actual deferred payment terms negotiated under this scheme, it is too early to give any answer.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The question was regarding purchases made in foreign countries. The hon. Minister

said that it is favourable in U.K. May I know, what is the reaction in Germany and other countries?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: The actual position is, we are having discussions, of course informal, with the business and financial interests in various countries including U. K., Germany and France on possible arrangements for long-term credits and these discussions have not yet been finalised and it will be too early to make any surmises about it.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: May I know whether it is a fact that due to these deferred payments, the cost of machinery is increasing by over 60 per cent, and that it is affecting adversely our foreign exchange position?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: It is a matter of opinion and I am not in a position either to contradict it or confirm it.

SHRI GOPIKRISHNA VIJAIVAR-GIYA: May I know, even if they are not finalised, can he tell us the trend in which they are going so that we may have some idea at least?

SHRI B. R. BHAGAT: As I said, our expectations are reasonably good.

PRE-UNIVERSITY COURSES IN UNIVERSITIES

*42. SHRI M. VALIULLA: Will the Minister for EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government or the University Grants Commission insist on pre-university courses in all universities with a view to reducing the degree course from four years to three years; and

(b) whether grants from the University Grants Commission depend on the acceptance by the universities of this proposal?

THE MINISTER or STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH (DR. K. I* SHRIMALI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. I

would however like to add that the Government of India had appointed an Estimates Committee to go into this question under the Chairmanship of Shri Deshmukh and the Committee has recommended that the share of the Central Government and the University Grants Commission should be paid only when a University has taken a decision to introduce the three-year degree course and also the State Government concerned is prepared to pay such university or college from its own resources or private resources are available to match the cost.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: I don't understand the answer properly. May I know, if the Committee was appointed under the Chairmanship of Shri Deshmukh; is it that they are going to enforce this system or not and if so, under what conditions?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The recommendations of the Committee are being examined but it is obvious under this scheme that the Central assistance will be available only to those State Governments and Universities which agree to introduce the three-year course.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: The Committee's report is not yet approved. Before that on what grounds can you say that they must introduce that course?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The hon. Member is aware that these grants are made for specific purposes and it is quite obvious that unless that purpose is fulfilled, the Government will not make those grants.

SHRI M. VALIULLA: May I know whether the three-year course means that the first year's course will be attached to the High School or it will be along with the University Course?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: I would refer him to the University Education Commission report.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND: May I know whether this three-year course is being introduced with the object of raising the standard of degree course or just to transfer one year to the school and thereby increase the cost of school education?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: The whole purpose is explained in the University Commission report.

SHRI M. B. JOSHI: May I know whether Government would make grants to private aided schools for adopting this pre-University course?

DR. K. L. SHRIMALI: These are not for High Schools but for colleges and universities.

AIR-STRIP AT CAR NICOBAR ISLAND

*43. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister for DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the air-strip on Car Nicobar Island taken over by the Indian Air Force is now completely manned by the Indian Air Force personnel; and

(b) if not, by what date it will be completely manned by the Indian Air Force personnel?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR DEFENCE (SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Am I to assume from this that there are no personnel at all and if they are not there, may I know from what date?

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: Which personnel?

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: R. A. F.

SARDAR S. S. MAJITHIA: No R. A. F.

DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: When were they finally removed?