

also a Director of the Press Trust of India?

SHRI G. RAJAGOPALAN: Yes, Sir.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: May I know his name and also whether he expressed any opinion at the time that this Report was taken into consideration?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Sir, I do not know whether it is worth while discussing here the conduct of individual Members who belonged to the Press Trust of India and who were also members of the Press Commission as to what they expressed or said.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Another question.

SHRIMATI VIOLET ALVA: May I know whether Government's attention has been drawn to the Resolutions passed by the P.T.I. Employees at a meeting held at Poona on the 20th September which was presided over by Mr. Patwardhan, a Member of the Press Commission, demanding the withdrawal of the Resolutions passed by the P.T.I., and to the speech made on the same day by Mr. T. N. Singh, another member of the Press Commission, here in Delhi?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: Sir, I have seen the Resolutions in the press. As far as the question of withdrawing the Resolutions is concerned, it is the P.T.I. Board which can withdraw and not myself.

SHRI KANHAIYALAL D. VAIDYA: Is it not a fact that the Resolutions passed by the P.T.I., are contrary to each other?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a matter of opinion.

SHRI B. K. MUKERJEE: Is the Government aware that the P.T.I. employees contemplate taking direct action as they resent very much the Resolution of the Board of Directors?

DR. B. V. KESKAR: It may be but it is a matter between the employees and the Press Trust of India.

CONSTRUCTION OF GANDHI MEMORIAL

*569. DR. RAGHUBIR SINH: Will the Minister for WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any final decision about the model on which the Gandhi Memorial will be built; and

(b) if so, when the construction of the memorial will start?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KHISHNA-MACHARI) :

(a) No, Sir.

(b) As soon as the design is-selected.

PRICES OF IMPORTED AND INDIGENOUS RAYON YARN

*570. SHRI B. M. SHAH: Will the Minister for COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any difference in the prices of imported and indigenous rayon yarns in the 120 and 150 deniers; "and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER FOR COMMERCE' AND INDUSTRY (SHRI T. T. KRISHNA-MACHARI) :

(a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

	Imported	Indigenous
	Per lb	Per lb
(a) 120 deniers.	Rs. 4-0-0 4-4-0	Rs. 4-0-0 to 4-3-0
1 jo deniers.	Rs. 4-0-0 io 4-3-0	Rs. 3-10-0* to 3-14-6

(b) The higher price of indigenous yarn in 120 deniers as compared to < 150 deniers may be attributed to the higher cost of manufacture because of its fineness. It is observed that the prices of imported yarn for all the deniers *i.e.* both 120 and 150 are

practically kept on the same level. It is considered that this is done with a view to offer these imported deniers, that are also manufactured in India and are popular with the industry, at competitive prices.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: Is the Government aware that the rayon manufacturing industry has made huge profits, Rs. 93 lakhs in 1953?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I would like the hon. Member to repeat the question.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: Is the Government aware that the rayon manufacturing industry has made huge profits of Rs. 93 lakhs in the year 1953?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: May be so, Sir.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: The rayon weaving industry, on the other hand, has suffered losses for the same year. Is the Government aware of this fact?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: I am not aware, Sir.

SHRI RAJENDRA PRATAP SINHA: Does the Government know that the ex-factory price of indigenous rayon yarn of 120 and 150 deniers is higher by 50 to 60 per cent, than imported yarn in the same deniers? If so, what steps do Government propose to take to bring down the prices of indigenous rayon yarn?

SHRI T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI: Sir, I submit that my hon. friend's articulation is not very clear and is a little too fast for my hearing.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question hour is over.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

12 NOON.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Prime Minister of Ceylon has been invited to New Delhi for talks in connection with the question of Indian nationals in Ceylon; and if so, when these talks are proposed to be held; and

(b) whether it is proposed to enter into any new agreement with the Government of Ceylon on the question of Indian nationals there?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU) : (a) and (b). A message was received from the Prime Minister of Ceylon through the High Commissioner of Ceylon in which he suggested his coming to Delhi for some talks. Thereupon the Prime Minister of Ceylon was informed that he would be welcome here with his colleagues and that he and his colleagues would be the Government of India's guests.

The Prime Minister of Ceylon and party are expected to reach Delhi on October 8th.

There is no present proposal for any new agreement.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: In connection with the question of Indian nationals in Ceylon with which the Delhi-Ceylon Pact is concerned, may I know, Sir, if the Government of India is aware of the provoking reports from Ceylon regarding the allegedly unsatisfactory attitude of our High Commissioner about the implementation of this Pact? Is the Government aware of this?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: All kinds of reports are made in the press and elsewhere. We have seen some criticism, as the hon. Member mentions; we have also seen reports in praise of the work done by our High Commissioner.

SHRI B. C. GHOSE: The question was: "What is the Government's report about the working of the Pact that was effected and whether Government is satisfied about the way that Pact has worked so far.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: No, Sir, we have not been satisfied.

SHRI V. G. GOPAL: Is there any truth in the news circulated that the Government of India propose recalling their High Commissioner from Ceylon?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: There is no question of recalling and I take it that the hon. Member is suggesting that word in the sense of taking some unusual step. In the normal course changes are often made from one place to another.

SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO: May I know, Sir, in view of the fact that both India and Ceylon are friendly Commonwealth countries if the Government of India feel that it was proper for the Ceylon Government to cast aspersions publicly on our High Commissioner?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: "Well, first of all, I do not think it has anything to do with Commonwealth countries. Our relations with Ceylon or with other neighbouring countries are far closer. They are not based on being Commonwealth countries but because they are old and friendly and neighbouring countries, whether they are Commonwealth countries or not. Burma is a country which is not a Commonwealth country in that sense of the word but our relations are much closer than with many Commonwealth countries. Now the hon. Member asked me about certain remarks made on a particular occasion by the Prime Minister of Ceylon. Well, I do not wish to discuss those remarks except that I regretted them.

DR. D. H. VARIAVA: May I know, Sir, whether India can be called a Commonwealth country?

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Order, order.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: What particular circumstances have necessitated this meeting? Is it our dissatisfaction about the implementation of the Pact or certain other developments which* have prompted the Prime Minister of Ceylon to ask for this meeting, Sir?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: The reason for this meeting is the wish of the Prime Minister to come here and discuss some matters. It is entirely at his initiative that this meeting is taking place and we shall discuss, anything he wants to discuss with us.

SHRI H. C. MATHUR: He is most welcome in this country and we all welcome him to this country. All that I wanted to know was whether the Government of India is aware of certain developments which have taken place which in particular are responsible for this and whether any points have already been made out which are to be discussed?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: Government are aware and I presume most hon. Members are aware of the developments that have taken place and there is no secret about them—There are certain different interpretations about the Agreement we arrived at. There have been criticisms of various actions of the Ceylon Government on our part and by the Ceylon Government of our actions. In the main it is a question of a large number of people of Indian descent there who for the moment are rather high and dry, that is, from the point of view of nationality; that is, according to us they are not our nationals and the Ceylon Government says that any person whom they do not accept as their national must inevitably be our national. We do not accept that proposition, and therefore these persons are for the moment Stateless although they are remaining in Ceylon of course.

SHRI B. GUPTA: Is the Prime Minister aware that immediately after

the terms of the Agreement had been published, they were opposed by the Democratic Opposition in Ceylon, both inside Parliament and outside?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not think the Ceylon Democratic Congress 'opposed' them—I do not think it would be a correct word, but they did express their apprehension as to how the Agreement might be interpreted and worked.

SHRI B. GUPTA: Is the hon. Prime Minister aware that the Leader of the Communist Party in the Ceylon Parliament pointed out that these terms of the Agreement would operate precisely against the interests of the citizens of Indian origin working there in Ceylon?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I do not know who the Leader of the Communist Party in the Ceylon Parliament is and I cannot answer.

SHRI B. GUPTA: The hon. Prime Minister should know that Peter Kuenmann is the Leader of the Opposition in the Ceylon Parliament.

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I apologise for my ignorance but the fact is that I do not know.

SHRI S. MAHANTY: Is it a fact that the Ceylonese Prime Minister has expressed his intention to carry this dispute to U.N.O. if no satisfactory settlement is arrived at?

SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU: I suggest that hon. Members need not take everything that appears in newspapers as necessarily correct.

MR. DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I think that will do.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

APPOINTMENT OF AN OFFICER DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE TO THE PRIME MINISTER

*538. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the recommendation made by the Estimates Committee in their Ninth report for 1953-54 for the appointment of an officer directly responsible to the Prime Minister to attend to complaints from the public as well as Government Departments in regard to delays in the disposal of letters or references in the various Government Departments; and

(b) if so, what decision, has been taken on the recommendation?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): (a) and (b). The Committee have themselves observed that delay may occur "owing to the fault of an individual or owing to a defect in the procedure". The primary objective should, therefore, be to identify and remove these causes. This is precisely the object of the efficiency drive being conducted by the O. & M. Division through O. & M. cells set up simultaneously in every Ministry and Department. Psychologically also this internal approach is likely to prove far more acceptable and effective.

The Committee's proposal will, therefore, be held over pending assessment of the full results of the efficiency drive.

APPOINTMENT OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS IN A MINISTRY

*539. SHRI GOVINDA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to paragraphs 44 and 45 of the Ninth Report of the Estimates Committee for 1953-54 regarding the appointment of three principal officers in a Ministry, by the Prime Minister and state whether Government have taken any decision in the matter; and, if so, what?

THE PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS AND DEFENCE (SHRI JAWAHARLAL NEHRU): Appointments of officers of