

1	2	3
		Rs.
Southern Railway	1,35,777	13,23,03,440
Central Railway	1,65,560	14,54,97,247
Railway Clearing Accounts Office	4,249	65,00,996
Ex-E.I. Railway	2,14,700	16,82,51,000
Ex-B.N. Railway	1,02,800	10,23,82,000
Ex-E.P. Railway	47,774	5,16,28,733
Ex-Bikaner State	3,070	26,74,122
Ex-Jodhpur	7,200	74,19,988
Ex-O.T. Railway	60,000	3,29,07,000
Ex-Assam Railway	45,217	2,70,89,327
GRAND TOTAL	8,92,933	78,76,42,216

#### IMPLEMENTATION OF RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE JOINT RAILWAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

103. SHRI S. GURUSWAMI : (a) Will the Minister for RAILWAYS be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the action taken on the various recommendations of the Joint Railway Advisory Committee;

(b) what is the number of the staff who were benefited as a result of those recommendations; and

(c) what is the additional cost incurred per annum on account of each of those recommendations?

THE MINISTER FOR RAILWAYS (SHRI LAL BAHADUR) : Information is being collected from the Railways and will be laid on the Table of the House.

#### INTERNATIONAL T.B. CONFERENCE

104. SHRIMATI SAVITRY NIGAM : Will the Minister for HEALTH be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to call an International T. B. Conference; and

(b) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER FOR HEALTH (RAJKUMARI AMRIT KAUR) : (a) No, because of financial stringency.

(b) Does not arise

#### TELEPHONE DEVELOPMENT FUND

105. SHRI P. C. BHANJ DEO : Will the Minister for COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state :

(a) the balance in the Telephone Development Fund on 31-3-1951, 31-3-1952 and 31-3-1953;

(b) whether there will be a net drawing of Rs. 20,00,000 (twenty lakhs) from this fund during the year 1952-53;

(c) whether it is proposed to transfer Rs. 55,00,000 (rupees fifty-five lakhs) from the Telephone Development Fund during 1952-53; and, if so, whether it includes any interest earned on the balance of the fund;

(d) whether after the completion of the Telephone Development programme there need not be any balance in the fund;

(e) the estimated cost of the Telephone Development programme on hand;

(f) in how many years the programme is likely to be completed; and

(g) whether the money in the Fund will be sufficient to complete the Telephone Development programme?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : (a) Balance on 31st March 1951—Rs. 144.36 lakhs.

Balance on 31st March 1952—Rs. 169.36 lakhs.

Balance on 31st March 1953—Rs. 149.35 lakhs.

N.B.—As the accounts for 1951-52 have not yet been finally closed, the balance furnished as on 31st March 1952 is based on the Revised Estimates for that year. The balance as on 31st March 1953 is based on the Budget Estimates for 1952-53.

(b) Yes.

(c) No. The amount proposed to be transferred from the Fund is Rs. 75 lakhs. The amount proposed to be

transferred to the Fund is, however, Rs. 55 lakhs. This does not include interest earned on the balance of the Fund which is credited to Revenue.

(d) There need not be any balance left.

(e) Rs. 40 crores.

(f) 5 years.

(g) No, as the total contribution from the Telephone Development Fund for execution of the programme is not likely to exceed Rs. 5 crores.

### THE INDIAN COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL—*continued*.

SHRI KISHEN CHAND (Hyderabad): Mr. Chairman, as I was pointing out yesterday, this is how section 91-B is going to be amended by this amending Bill. The provision in the section is :

"No director shall as a director vote on any contract or arrangement in which he is either directly or indirectly concerned or interested, nor shall his presence count for the purpose of forming a quorum at the time of any such voting, and if he does so the vote shall not be counted."

I must explain this provision in the Companies Act. By this clause, all those directors who are interested in any contract are debarred from taking any part in the voting and their presence is not counted towards quorum. Now, this holding company is going to start companies in India which will be public limited companies. It will nominate all the directors, except perhaps one or two directors who may be selected by the holders of cumulative preference shares. Even that point is not clear from the agreement that is being reached with the oil refinery companies. All the directors of the Indian companies will be nominated by the holding company, and if this amendment to the Companies Act is not passed, all those directors as representing the holding company cannot take part in any agreement. Normally the interests of Indian shareholders are safeguarded by their representative directors. But

in this case there is nobody to defend the interests of the Indian shareholders. If the hon. Minister had insisted that these Indian companies should at least have 51 per cent. or even 25 per cent. share-holding by Indians, there would have been some directors nominated by these shareholders, and when any agreement came up before them, they would have seen that the interests of Indians were safeguarded. But here, the entire board consists of the nominees of the holding company, and so in all agreements that are drawn up between the Indian company and the holding company, they will see to it that a good part of the profits are transferred to the holding company in their preliminary transactions.

Sir, it has been pointed out by several Members of this House that after all India is free and we have a republican form of government in our country and there are laws like the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, and so on. There is the Income-tax Bill. All these things will safeguard our interests. But in the form of agreements that are going to be drawn up between the holding and the Indian company there is no clause which will regulate the price of the imported articles and raw materials that are going to come in the manufacture of these things. As I pointed out to you, Sir, yesterday, the principal thing that goes to make a profit is to keep down the cost of production. In this case the principal raw material required is the crude oil which is going to be imported into our country. If the Finance Minister has safeguarded the interests of India by stipulating that the price of crude oil will be restricted to world price level of crude oil, even then I would submit, Sir, that if a clause is introduced into the Bill by way of this amendment, there will be no harm done. My first clause in the amendment that I have proposed reads : "..... nor charge high prices for raw materials....." My amendment is only to the effect that the Government of India will see that in the contract high prices are not charged for raw materials which in