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MINUTE BOOK

SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND ORGANIZATION, MUMBAI

MINUTES OF

1ST BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

TO

22ND BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

BoT Meeting

List of Minutes from 1st to 22nd Board of Trustees Meeting

Sr. No.	BoT Meeting	Date and Time of Meeting
1	1st BoT Meeting	26th October, 1966 at 3.00 p.m.
2	2nd BoT Meeting	12th January, 1967 at 11.00 p.m.
3	3rd BoT Meeting	30th March, 1967 at 3.00 p.m.
4	4th BoT Meeting	28th July, 1967 at 3.00 p.m.
5	5th BoT Meeting	1st September, 1967 at 11.00 a.m.
6	6th BoT Meeting	4th January, 1968 at 11.00 a.m.
7	7th BoT Meeting	8th April, 1968 at 10.30 a.m.
8	8th BoT Meeting	23rd September, 1968 at 11.00 a.m.
9	9th BoT Meeting	6th January, 1969 at 3.30 p.m.
10	10th BoT Meeting	26th June, 1969 at 10.30 a.m.
11	11th BoT Meeting	13th October, 1969 at 11.00 a.m.
12	12th BoT Meeting	7th January, 1970 at 10.30 a.m.
13	13th BoT Meeting	13th May, 1970 at 3.00 p.m.
14	14th BoT Meeting	3rd September, 1970 at 3.00 p.m.
15	15th BoT Meeting	29th December, 1970 at 11.00 a.m.
16	16th BoT Meeting	15th April, 1971 at 11.00 a.m.
17	17th BoT Meeting	10th September, 1971 at 10.00 a.m.
18	18th BoT Meeting	11th January, 1972 at 11.30 a.m.
19	19th BoT Meeting and Amendment of the Minutes of 17th and 18th BoT Meeting.	12th April, 1972 at 3.00 p.m.
20	20th BoT Meeting	13th June, 1972 at 11.00 a.m.
21	21st BoT Meeting	13th September, 1972 at 3.00 p.m.
22	22nd BoT Meeting	24th January, 1973 at 11.30 a.m.

MINUTES OF DIE

FROM:- 1ST TO 22ND

SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND

Minutes of the **First** Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 26th October, 1966, at 3.00 P.M. in the office of the Additional Director General of Shipping, 'Commerce House', Ballard Estate, Bombay-1.

The following were present:

1. Shri Govind H. Seth - Chairman.
2. Shri T. V. Prabhu.
3. Shri P.N. Anand.
4. Shri J.W. Anson.
5. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas.
6. Shri I.B. Syed.
7. Shri K.K. Khadilkar.
8. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan - Secretary.

Shri Govind H. Seth, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, took the Chair.

Leave of absence was granted to Sarvashri D.S. Nim and N. Latif.

The Chairman, welcoming the members of the Board of Trustees, expressed the hope that with the co-operation of the Trustees, the Board will be able to discharge the onerous responsibilities entrusted to them. A copy of the Chairman's Welcome Address, is annexed. The members of the Board reciprocated the sentiments expressed by the Chairman and assured him of their whole-hearted co-operation and support to the Organisation.

The sudden and premature demise of Shri K.V. Rao, member of the Board of Trustees was condoled by observing silence by standing for 2 minutes and by passing the following Resolution:

"The Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, Bombay has learnt with profound regret of the sudden demise on 20th September 1966

of Shri K.V. Rao, member of the Board of Trustees. The Chairman and the members of the Board of Trustees offer their heart-felt sympathy to the members of the family of late Shri K.V. Rao, in their bereavement."

Item No. 1 : Constitution of the Board of Trustees:

The Government's Notification No. S.O. 2878 dated 20.9.1966 regarding constitution of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund was noted.

Item No. 2 : Appointment of Commissioner :

The appointment of the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner was noted.

The Board discussed the question of conveyance allowance for the Commissioner and came to the unanimous conclusion that it was in the interests of the work of the Provident Fund Organisation that the Commissioner should possess a Motor Car and to that end, he should be paid a conveyance allowance of Rs. 150/- P.M. from the date of his appointment subject to a review after six months.

Item No. 3: Progress Report of the Commissioner for the quarter - 1st July 1966 to 30th September 1966:

The Progress report for the period from 1st July 1966 to 30th September, 1966, submitted by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, was considered and recorded.

Item No. 4: Setting up of the Office of the Board of Trustees:

The Government's decision to establish the office of the Board of Trustees in Bombay was noted. It was recommended that the Government be requested to issue necessary Notification, as required under Section 5 (2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966 read with paragraph 9 of the Seamen's Provident Scheme, 1966.

Item No. 5: Fixation of Administrative charges:

The Secretary's note on the subject of fixation of

Administrative charges was considered and it was unanimously agreed that the Government be requested to fix the administrative charges at the rate of 2 1/4 % (two and a quarter per cent) of the contributions made by the employers and the seamen, with effect from 1st July, 1964.

Item No. 6: Taking over of Provident Fund contributions:

The Board considered the report of the Secretary and passed the following Resolutions unanimously.

"Resolved that in terms of Section 8 (2) and (3) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, read with para 35 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, the Commissioner for the Seamen's Provident Fund be authorised to receive from the employers all the contributions made to the Seamen's Provident Fund by the employers and the seamen with effect from 1-7-1964 including the interest income earned thereon, together with the administrative charges of such percentage of the total of employers' and the Seamen's contribution, as may be fixed by Government."

It was further resolved that "a Committee consisting of the following members of the Board of Trustees be authorised to examine and report to the Board the manner in which the moneys belonging to the Fund could be invested."

1. Shri P.N. Anand.
2. Shri T.V. Prabhu.
3. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas.
4. Shri K.K. Khadilkar.
5. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan - Secretary.

Item No. 7: Equipping the office:

The Secretary's report in respect of equipping the office of the Board of Trustees was considered and it was unanimously

agreed that a Committee consisting of the following members of the Board of Trustees should scrutinise the various quotations received and authorise the purchase of necessary equipment.

1. Shri P.N. Anand.
2. Shri J.W. Anson.
3. Shri K.K. Khadilkar.
4. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan – Secretary.

Item No. 8: Appointment of staff for the Organisation:

The question of appointment of staff of the Board was considered and it was unanimously agreed that a Committee consisting of the following members of the Board of Trustees may examine the various applications received and interview candidates for selecting suitable persons for filling up the posts either from amongst the existing applicants and/or by calling fresh applications, if considered necessary.

1. Shri P.N. Anand.
2. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas.
3. Shri K.K. Khadilkar, and
4. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan – Secretary.

Item No. 9: Budget proposals for the year 1966-67:

The Budget proposals were considered and adopted subject to re-allocation of funds in the light of certain quotations received subsequently, provided the total amounts of Rs. 1,53,300.00 and Rs. 1,10,288.00 are not exceeded.

It was further decided that the details of Budget proposals should be finalised in consultation with Shri T.V. Prabhu, before submission to Government for approval.

Item No. 10: Financial powers to the Commissioner:

The Board desired to know the powers of the Director of Light Houses and Light Ships and that of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner of the Employees Provident Scheme, 1952, Bombay. The proposed schedule of the administrative and financial powers

of the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner, should be re-cast in the light of the powers conferred upon the officers mentioned above and re-submitted to the Board at its next meeting.

Item No. 11: Resolution passed by circulation of papers:

The Board confirmed the following Resolutions of the Board passed by circulation.

Circulation of Resolutions dated 1.10.1966:

"Resolved that the Commissioner for the Seamen's Provident Fund be authorised to receive the loan of Rs. 1 lakh sanctioned by Government of India in their letter No. 5-MT (8)/66, dated 23-9-1966 to the Board of Trustees, from the Accountant General, Bombay and sign an acknowledgement of the receipt of the loan."

"Resolved further that in terms of Section 4(3) of the Seamen's Provident Act, 1966, a Current Account be opened in the name of 'Seamen's Provident Fund' in the State Bank of India and that all cheques on the Banking accounts be signed and all bills, notes and other negotiable instruments be drawn, accepted and made on behalf of the Seamen's Provident Fund by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund and that cheques, bills, notes and other negotiable instruments payable to the Seamen's Provident Fund may be endorsed for the Fund by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, for the time being."

"Resolved further that the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund be authorised to hire the premises at 'Baldota Bhavan', 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 1, subject to the conditions specified in the Leave and Licence Agreement and execute the agreement for and on behalf of the Board, as required under Para 67(2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966."

"Resolved further that the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident

Fund be authorised to operate the Current Account of the Seamen's Provident Fund for incurring expenditure on the following items with the sanction of the Chairman:

i) Hiring accommodation on VI Floor of 'Baldota Bhavan', 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay-1, on the terms and conditions specified in the enclosed Leave and Licence Agreement;

ii) Pay and allowances to the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund and staff of the Organisation as sanctioned by Government;

iii) Purchase of essential office furniture and equipment of the office;

iv) Other contingent expenses incidental to the running of the office of the Commissioner."

The Board has unanimously agreed that the pay and allowances of the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, should be paid from the Fund with effect from the date he assumed charge of this office viz. 9th July, 1966.

Item No.12: Appointment of Secretary to the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund:

The appointment of the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner, as Secretary to the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, vide Government's Notification No. S-MT(2)166, dated 6-10-1966, was noted and recorded.

The meeting terminated at 8.00 P.M. with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T.V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the SECOND meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 12th January, 1967, at 11.00 A.M. in the 'Conference Room' of the Directorate General of Shipping, Commerce House, Ballard Estate, Bombay-1.

The following were present:-

1. Shri Govind H. Seth - Chairman.
2. Shri T.V. Prabhu
3. Shri P.N. Anand
4. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas
5. Capt. A.B. McSweeney
6. Shri I.B. Syed
7. Shri K.K. Khadilkar
8. Shri Subrata Dutta
9. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan - Secretary.

Shri Govind H. Seth, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, took the chair.

Leave of absence was granted to Shri D.S. Nim and Mr. J.W. Anson.

The Chairman welcomed the new members of the Board of Trustees, Capt. A.B. McSweeney and Shri Subrata Dutta.

Item No. 1: Confirmation of the minutes of the first meeting:

The minutes of the first meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 26th October, 1966, were confirmed.

Item No. 2: Action taken on the decisions of the Board at its first meeting:

Action taken by the Commissioner on sub-items 1, 2, 4(b), 5 and 8 was noted. With regard to the other items, the following decisions were taken:-

3. Fixation of Administrative charge: Government Notification No. 5-MT(14)166 dated 9th January, 1967, fixing the Administrative charge

at the rate of 2.25% (Two and a quarter percent) of the total contributions made both by the employers and the seamen with effect from 1st July, 1964, was read out to the members of the Board. (A copy of the Notification is attached as Annexure I).

4(a). Taking over of Provident Fund contributions: The Chairman reported that since the Government orders regarding Administrative charge had been received, the Commissioner would be calling for the contributions from the employers.

6. Appointment of staff for the Organisation: While noting the report submitted by the Secretary, the Chairman desired that the remaining posts should be filled in early.

7. Budget proposals for the year 1966-67: The Government's sanction to the budget proposals for 1966-67 was read out to the members of the Board. (A copy of Government's letter No. 2-MT(62)/66, dated 3rd January, 1967, is attached as Annexure II).

Item No. 3: Appointment of Shri Subrata Dutta as member of the Board of Trustees:

The Government Notification dated 16th November, 1966, regarding appointment of Shri Subrata Dutta as a member of Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund in place of late Shri K.V. Rao was noted.

Item No. 4: Budget proposals for the year 1967-68:

The budget proposals for the year 1967-68 were considered and approved.

Item No. 5: Investment of moneys:

The Board considered the proposals for investment of the moneys belonging to the Seamen's Provident Fund and opening a separate current account in the State Bank of India, Bombay, for depositing administrative charge and passed the following resolutions unanimously:—

(i) "Resolved that in terms of para 44(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, the Seamen's Provident

Fund Commissioner be authorised to deposit all the contributions, including the interest income thereon, received from the employers, except such sums as are required for immediate payment to seamen, in short term 'fixed deposits' of 91 days in the State Bank of India, Bombay."

(ii) "Resolved further that in terms of paragraph 41 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, an additional 'Current Account' be opened in the State Bank of India, Bombay, designated as 'Seamen's Provident Fund - Administration Account' and that all cheques on this account be signed and all bills, notes and other negotiable instruments be drawn, accepted and made on behalf of the Seamen's Provident Fund by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund and that cheques, bills, notes and other negotiable instruments payable to the Seamen's Provident Fund on account of administrative expenses may be endorsed to the 'Seamen's Provident Fund - Administration Account' by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund."

Item No. 6: Administrative and Financial Powers of the Commissioner:

Proposals for delegation of Administrative and Financial powers to the Commissioner were considered and it was resolved that the powers specified in the list attached as Annexure III should be delegated to the Commissioner and that the Government should be approached to accord necessary approval.

Item No. 7: Grant of Honoraria to the staff of Government Shipping Office, Bombay:

It was resolved that the following staff of the Government Shipping Office should be paid honoraria specified below for having carried out the work relating to the Seamen's Provident Fund in addition to their own duties:—

1. Shri M. G. Chaubal ... ... Rs. 100/- p.m. from 9.7.66 to 14.11.66
2. Shri J. R. Punjabi ... ... Rs. 100/- p.m. — do —
3. Shri S. G. Mhatre ... ... Rs. 75/- p.m. — do —
4. Shri M. G. Mahadeshwar ... Rs. 75/- p.m. — do —
5. One Daftary ... ... Rs. 30/- p.m. — do —
6. One Peon ... ... Rs. 20/- p.m. — do —

Total : Rs. 400/- p.m.

Item No. 8: Interest on Government loan of rupees one lakh:

The Ministry of Transport & Aviation letter No. 5-MT (8)/65, dated the 14th November, 1966, copy attached as Annexure IV, regarding the revised rate of interest of 4½% on the loan of Rs. 1,00,000/- was noted.

Item No. 9: Tour Report of the Commissioner:

The report of the Commissioner was recorded.

Item No. 10: Office hours of the S.P. Fund Organisation:

It was unanimously decided that the working hours of the Office of the Seamen's Provident Fund will be, as under:-

Monday to Friday --- 10.00 a.m. to 5.30 p.m.
Saturday ... 10.00 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

Item No. 11: Holidays to be observed during the year 1967:

It was decided that the local Bank Holidays should be observed as Holidays of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation. List of the holidays approved is attached as Annexure V.

The meeting terminated at 1.00 P.M. with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Addenda to the minutes of the meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held at Bombay on 12.1.1967

Item No. 12: Setting up of the Regional Office of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation at Calcutta:

Shri Subrata Dutta's suggestion viz. setting up of a Regional Office of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation at Calcutta was considered and it was agreed that the Commissioner should make suitable arrangements for catering to the needs of seamen at Calcutta and also examine the necessity for opening a Regional Office at that port and report to the Board.

Item No. 13: Publication of a Booklet about Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme:

The Chairman's suggestion, viz. that a simply worded explanatory leaflet in various regional languages of seamen explaining the Scheme should be prepared for the use of seamen, was adopted.

Item No. 14: Payment of interest income to seamen, who have retired before setting up of the Organisation:

Shri Subrata Dutta's suggestion regarding the payment of the total contributions together with the interest income thereon to the seamen who have retired before the Organisation came into existence was considered and it was agreed that the rate of interest to be allowed on the balances of the seamen should be determined only after all the contributions and the interest earned thereon by the Companies are received and an assessment made regarding the interest that can be allowed. Necessary proposals in this regard should be put up to the Board in due course and submitted to Government for approval.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

SECRETARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Third Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on 30th March 1967 at 3.00 P.M. in the office of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, "Baldota Bhavan" 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 1.

The following were Present:-

1. Shri Govind H. Seth - Chairman.
2. Shri T.V. Prabhu.
3. Shri P.N. Anand.
4. Shri G.W. Anson.
5. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas.
6. Shri K.K. Khadilkar.
7. Shri Subrata Dutta
8. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan. - Secretary.

Leave of absence was granted to Shri S.S. Nim and Capt. A. McSweeney.

The Chairman welcomed the Trustees to the new office of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation and expressed appreciation of the quick and efficient manner in which the office had been set up. He expressed the hope that the Trustees would join him in wishing the organisation all success in the task entrusted to it and thanked the various Committee members, who had helped in equipping and manning the office. The Trustees joined the Chairman in expressing appreciation of the prompt and efficient manner in which the organisation had settled down to work and in conveying good wishes for the proper and efficient functioning of the organisation.

Item No 1. Confirmation of the minutes of the second meeting of the Board of Trustees held on the 12th January 1967.

Shri T.V. Prabhu and Capt. A. McSweeney had suggested in their letters addressed to the Chairman that item No 12 of the Addenda to the minutes of the second meeting of the Board of Trustees should be amended so as to state that the proposal for setting up of a Regional office at Calcutta had been rejected by the Board. The Chairman explained at the meeting that it would be more appropriate if the Board took a formal decision on this question in the light of the report of the Commissioner on his tour to Calcutta, which was to be considered subsequently as item 10 of the Agenda. The Trustees agreed to the suggestion and the minutes were confirmed without any change.

Item No 2- Steps taken for carrying out the decisions of the Board of Trustees at the previous meetings.

Action taken by the Commissioner on items numbered serially from 1 to 14 was noted.

Item No. 3. Investment of moneys belonging to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

a) The Board considered the recommendations made by the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund and unanimously approved the following recommendations:-

i) Section 4 (3) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966 and Para 44 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966, would permit depositing of the balances in the Seamen's Provident Fund in "Fixed Deposits" in the State Bank of India, Bombay.

ii) The amount available for investment out of the accumulations in the Provident Fund, should be invested in the following manner:-

a) Long term Fixed deposits, maturing on/or after 60 months, in the State Bank of India, Bombay 60%

b) Central and State Government long term loans and bonds 40%

iii) The amounts set apart for payment during the course of the year could be deposited in short term "Fixed Deposits" in the State Bank of India, Bombay.

iv) The work relating to the investment in Government Securities would be entrusted to the Reserve Bank of India and the fees charged by them for this purpose, should be paid from the Fund.

b) It was decided that the above recommendations should be forwarded to Government for issue of necessary directions.

c) The Board thanked the members of the Investment Committee for the work done by them.

Item No 4. Rounding off of contributions consisting of a part of a rupee to the nearest rupee.

The proposals submitted by the Secretary regarding regularisation of contributions, incorrectly rounded off, were considered by the Board and the following decisions were taken:-

i) The contributions which have been rounded off by the employers to the nearest 25 paise and not to the nearest rupee, as provided in the scheme, should be accepted and accounted for at the rates actually made by the Employers and the employees.

ii) The amounts should be rounded off by the organisation while crediting interest to the various accounts, in due course.

iii) As the rounding off has not been made in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Scheme, Government should be approached for issue of necessary directions under para 68(1) of the seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, for regularising the contributions received so far.

Item No 5 Motar Car Allowance for the Commissioner.

The Board reviewed the question of grant of motor car allowance to the Commissioner beyond the end of February 1967, as desired in the Ministry of Transport & Aviation letter NO.5-MT(17)/66 dated the 11th January 1967. It was the unanimous view of the Trustees that the maintenance of a motor car by the Commissioner was essential in the interest of the smooth and efficient functioning of the organisation. It was also appreciated by the Trustees that the provision of a staff car for the organisation would be a very costly proposition. That the maintenance of a motor car in Bombay involves an average expenditure of about Rs. 300/- per month, which was based on the personal experience of some of the Trustees, was unanimously accepted as the basis for determining the quantum of motor car allowance that should be granted to the Commissioner. The Board unanimously agreed to recommend the continued grant of a motor car allowance of Rs. 150/- p.m. to the Commissioner with effect from 1st March 1967, on a long term basis, provided a motor car was maintained by the Commissioner.

Item No 6:- T.A. claim of Shri Subrata Dutta for the first meeting attended by him.

The item was withdrawn by Shri Subrata Dutta.

Item No 7:- Sanction of post of a 'cleaner' and a watchman for the office of the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board sanctioned the creation of a post of 'cleaner' in the scale of pay of Rs. 70-1-85 with allowances, as admissible under Central Government Rules and orders, for the organisation. As regards the watchman, the Board felt that since the building has already a darwan, who is looking after the building in a general way and as the building might have been insured against fire, etc, the Commissioner should examine whether a comprehensive insurance of the valuable articles in the office and adequate safety measures like locking the doors with double lock etc, would be adequate to ensure the safety of the office or a watchman was absolutely essential and report to the Board.

Item No 8:- Special pay to the Cashier for handling Cash.

The Commissioner was asked to examine the question of payment of special pay to the Cashier in the light of the arrangements made in similar organisations and report to the Board in its next meeting.

Item No 9:- Appointment of Accounts officer.

The appointment of Shri G. Venkatakrishnan as Accounts officer of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation, was noted.

Item No 10:- Report of the Commissioner on his visit to the Port of Calcutta.

The Board considered the Commissioner's tour

report dated 7th March 1967 and decided that it was premature to consider the question of setting up a Regional office at Calcutta at this stage. The Board agreed that there was need for some liaison arrangement and desired that the Chairman should consider whether the Principal Seamen's Welfare officer, Calcutta, who was primarily appointed for the welfare of Seamen, could render all the necessary help and guidance to the Seamen in connection with the Seamen's Provident Fund. The Chairman agreed to look into this matter.

Item No 11:- Air Travel for non official members.

The Board observed that there were only two non-official Trustees who attended the meetings in Bombay from outside. The Board understood that Capt McSweeney had already been granted general permission by Government to travel by air, whenever he attends meetings of various Boards and Committees, set up by the Government, since he habitually travelled by air, even on his personal affairs. So far as Shri Subrata Dutta was concerned the Board felt that since he had to travel a very long distance and train journey took a considerable time and since owing to pre-occupations with his duties, it might not be possible for Shri Subrata Dutta to attend meetings if he had to travel by train, both the non official members attending the meetings of the Board should be allowed to travel by air and Government should be approached for general sanction.

Item No 12:- Report regarding steps taken by the Commissioner in recovering the remaining Provident Fund moneys.

The Chairman complimented the Commissioner on the prompt and speedy recovery of the Seamen's Provident Fund moneys from the employers and desired that the Commissioner should report to him and the Trustees of the Board, within a week the further steps taken for recovering the remaining Provident Fund dues from the employers who had not remitted the contributions till then.

The meeting terminated at 5.00 PM with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

V. Rajagopalan.
SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Fourth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on 28th July 1967 at 3.00 PM. in the office of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, Baldota Bhavan, 117 Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 1.

The following were present:-

1. Shri Govind H. Seth. ... Chairman.
2. " J.V. Prabhu. ... Member.
3. " P.N. Anand. ... "
4. " Rasiklal Harjeevandas ... "
5. " K.K. Khadilkar ... "
6. " A.B. McSweeney ... "
7. " Leo Barnes. ... "
8. " J.V. Rajagopalan ... Secretary.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. J.W. Anson.

The Chairman welcomed the new member of the Board of Trustees, Shri Leo Barnes.

Item No 1. Confirmation of the minutes of the Third Meeting:

The minutes of the Third Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 30th March 1967, were confirmed.

Item No 2. Appointment of Shri Leo Barnes as member of the Board of Trustees.

The Government Notification No S-MT(2)166, dated 4th May 1967, regarding appointment of Shri Leo Barnes as a member of the Board of Trustees, of the Seamen's Provident Fund, in place of Shri I.B. Syed, having resigned, was noted.

Item No 3. Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

Action taken by the Commissioner on items at serial numbers from 1 to 5, 8 to 10, 12 and 13, was noted. With regard to the remaining items, the following decisions were taken

Item No 3. S.No 6. Investment of moneys belonging to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

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in the matter, as otherwise the Fund moneys will be losing a considerable amount of Interest income.

Item No 3(7) Rounding off of contributions consisting of a part of a Rupee to the nearest rupee.

The Board noted the view expressed by the Government in their letter No 5-MT(7)67, dated 17th July 1967, that both the Shipowners and the Seamen had submitted themselves to the Agreement entered into between them and did not wish to reopen the Question and therefore the Seamen's Provident Fund Act 1966, need not be amended and the position might be allowed to remain undisturbed The Board agreed to the Commissioner writting to the Government, as in the draft reply placed on the table for consideration of the Trustees.

Item No 3(11) Report of the Commissioner on his visit to Calcutta:

The Board considered Shri Subrata Dutta's letter, dated 14th July 1967 and noted with regret that it would not be possible for him to attend Board meetings, as he has been directed by the Committee of the Union to keep away from the meetings of the Board of Trustees till such time the Board finally determined the Question of setting up of an office in Calcutta. The Board felt that since on the basis of the Commissioner's tour report dated 7-3-1967, it had already decided that it was premature to consider the Question of setting up of a Regional office at Calcutta at this stage and necessary liaison arrangements had been made by the Chairman as suggested by the Board, Shri Subratta Dutta should have attended the meeting and placed before the Board for consideration any difficulties experienced by the seamen of Calcutta, since the Board is the Correct forum for this purpose, However the Board agreed that the Chairman should be requested to discuss the matter with S/Shri Subratta Dutta and Bikas Majumdar, General Secretary of the National Union of Seamen of India, Calcutta, during his ensuing

visit to Calcutta and if necessary the Commissioner should go to Calcutta thereafter and make the arrangements required. The Chairman agreed to do so.

Item No 4. Notes circulated to the Trustees.

1. Circumstances under which the accumulations in the Fund are Payable to a member.

The Board authorised the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner to Permit withdrawal in cases of Seamen Covered by Para 59(2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, without reference to the Board and Passed the following Resolution:-

"Resolved that in exercise of the Powers conferred on the Board under Paragraph 59(2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, the Board hereby authorises, the Commissioner, appointed under the scheme, to Permit a member to withdraw his accumulations under the circumstances specified in Para 59(2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966."

2. Appointment of Shri T.V. Rajagopalan as the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner.

The terms and Conditions of appointment of Shri T.V. Rajagopalan, Shipping Master Bombay on "Foreign Service", to the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, as Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner contained in Government letter No 5-MT(7)/64 dated May 1967, were noted.

3. Interest income on arrear contributions of the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board considered the proposals submitted by the Commissioner in this behalf and decided as follows:-

(i) The Employers should submit a certificate from their Auditors that the interest Paid by them was the interest actually earned on the contributions during the Period 1st July 1964 to the date of Payment, as such a certificate will be required by the Auditors of the Provident

Fund.

ii) The Employers who had not deposited the contributions in the Savings Account and therefore have not remitted any interest should be asked to pay interest at the average rate worked out on the basis of the interest paid by the other Employers.

Item No 4(4) Authorisation to the Accounts officer to operate the Seamen's Provident Fund Accounts.

The Board considered the views expressed by Shri Rasiklal and Capt A.B. McSweeney about the limit to be imposed on the amounts to be drawn by the Accounts officer and agreed that a Committee consisting of Sarvashri T.V. Prabhu, P.N. Anand and T.V. Rajagopalan should in consultation with the State Bank of India, Bombay, examine the feasibility of imposing a restriction on the amounts to be drawn by the Accounts officer in the absence of the Commissioner on leave etc. and report to the Board at its next meeting and in the meantime, as the Commissioner wished to avail his leave shortly, the Board agreed to the proposal that the Accounts officer be authorised to operate the Seamen's Provident Fund Accounts for the time being and passed the following resolution.

"RESOLVED that in terms of Paragraph 45(2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, all cheques on the Banking Account of the Seamen's Provident Fund Account and Seamen's Provident Fund Administration Account in the State Bank of India Bombay be signed and Bills Notes and other negotiable instruments, be drawn, accepted and made on behalf of the Seamen's Provident Fund and that cheques Bills, notes and other negotiable instruments, payable to the Seamen's Provident Fund, may be endorsed for the Fund by the Accounts officer, Seamen's Provident Fund, or the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, for the time being."

Item No 5. Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund Contributions.

The Board considered the report on receipt and accounting of the Seamen's Provident Fund contributions and approved the following proposals.

1) To determine the amount due and recover the same as arrears of land revenue under section Nos. 9 and 10 respectively of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, from the Employers referred to in para 1(ii) of the report and to take such other penal action provided under the Act and the Scheme as the Commissioner may consider necessary.

2) Investment of Rs. 1,50,000 and Rs. 70,000 respectively, in the "Fixed Deposits" of 91 days duration, in the State Bank of India, Bombay, from out of the "Seamen's Provident Fund Administrative Account" referred to in Para I (vi) (b) of the report.

3) Payment of overtime of Rs. 1,271-30 and Rs. 166-25 P. respectively, to the Staff of Director, Seamen's Employment office, Calcutta and the Staff of the Shipping office, Bombay, referred to in Para II (i) of the report.

4) Procedure for maintenance of Individual Accounts of the members, referred to in para II (vi) of the report.

Item No. 6. Purchase of Office Accommodation.

The Board considered the proposal for the purchase of office accommodation and agreed with the Goverment that it would be economical to purchase a built in accomodation on ownership basis and requested the Chairman to consult the Goverment with a view to find out the necessary finance for the purchase. The chairman agreed to do so.

Item No 7. Administration Account.

The Board noted the report of the Commissioner on the Administration Account and approved the expenditure incurred during 1966-67 on various items of contingencies required for running the office.

Item No 8 Opening of Current Account in the State Bank of India, Calcutta.

The Board approved the proposal to open a current account in the State Bank of India Calcutta and keep a balance of Rs. 20,000.00 to facilitate payment by issuing cheques drawn on the Calcutta Branch of the Bank and passed the following resolution:-

"RESOLVED that in terms of paragraph 44(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966, a "current Account" be opened in the State Bank of India Calcutta, designated as "Seamen's Provident Fund Account" and that all cheques on this Account be signed and all bills, notes and other negotiable instruments be drawn accepted and made on behalf of the Seamen's Provident Fund by the Commissioner Seamen's Provident Fund for the time being"

Item No 9. Payment of Provident Fund money to Seamen.

The Board considered the report on Payment of Provident Fund money to Seamen and approved the action taken in regard to the payment of Provident Fund money to the Seamen who have retired from the Seafaring profession. The Board decided that the question of payment of "interest" to the "members" should be considered after the receipt of Interest due from all the Employers.

Item No 10 Delegation of Authority to the Commissioner to forfeit Employer's share of Contributions.

The Board considered the proposal for delegation of authority to the Commissioner to forfeit the employer's share of contributions and authorised the Commissioner to forfeit the Employer's

share upto the maximum prescribed, as required under para 61(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, without reference to the Board and report such forfeitures to the Board at its next meeting.

The Board passed the following resolution:-

"RESOLVED that in excercise of the powers conferred on the Board under Paragraph 61(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966, the Commissioner appointed under the scheme is hereby authorised by the Board to forfeit the employer's contribution upto a maximum of the employer's contribution in respect of the current period of service alone in the course of which the offence leading to cancellation of registration was committed and to report to the Board at its next meeting all such forfeitures"

Item No 11. Service Regulations of the Staff of the Fund.

The Board decided that the draft Service Regulations of the Staff of the Fund should be re-submitted at the next meeting with the amendments/suggestions made by Shri J.V. Prabhu and other Trustees.

Item No 12. Special pay to the Cashier for handling Cash

The question of Payment of special pay to the cashier for handling cash has been deferred for the time being.

Item No 13. Security arrangements for the office.

The Board approved the taking of the comprehensive insurance policy for all the valuables in the office at a cost of Rs. 300/- per annum.

Item No 14. Appointment of a Leave Reserve for the organisation.

The Board sanctioned the creation of a Junior Assistant in the scale of pay of Rs. 150-5-175-6-205-EB-7-240 in the organisation as Leave Reserve.

Item No 15. Annual Report.

The Board approved the draft Annual Report for the year 1966-67 on the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

Item No 16. Audit of Seamen's Provident Fund Account.

The Board noted the appointment of Auditors, Conveyed in the Government letter No 5-MT(2)/67 dated 9th June 1967.

Item No 17. Amendment relating to the Central Government representatives on the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board noted the amendments notified in the Goverment Notification No 5-MT(2)/66, dated 17th July 1967, to be published in the Gazette of India, Part II - Section 3, sub-Section (ii).

Item No. 18

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Calcutta, on Friday, the 1st September, 1967 at 11.00 A.M.

The meeting terminated with a Vote of thanks to the Chair.

T.V. Rajagopalan.
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on the 1st September 1967 at 11.00 AM in the Board Room of the Seamen's Employment office, "Marine House" Hastings, Calcutta - 22.

The following were Present:-

1. Shri Govind H. Sethi ... Chairman.
2. Shri K.V. Sankaran. ... Member.
3. Shri T.V. Prabhu. ... do.
4. Shri P.N. Anand. ... do
5. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas ... do
6. Capt. A.B. McSweeney ... do
7. Shri K.K. Khadilkar ... do.
8. Shri Subrata Dutta ... do
9. Shri Leo Barnes. ... do
10. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan ... Secretary.

Shri Bikas Mazumder, General Secretary, National Union of Seamen of India, Calcutta, attended by special invitation during the discussion on item No 2, Sr. No 7.

Leave of absence was granted to Mr. J.W. Anson.

Item No 2, Sr. No 7.

The Chairman took up item No 2, Sr. No 7 and requested Shri Bikas Mazumder to give the benefit of his views to the Board about the arrangement made at Calcutta to meet the needs of seamen in so far as the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme is concerned. Shri Bikas Mazumder stated that he could only speak on behalf of the National Union of Seamen of India, Calcutta. According to him, the existing liaison arrangement at Calcutta has not had the desired effect, as the seamen did not get the application forms for withdrawal of Provident Fund dues promptly nor any assistance for filling in their forms and the applications were delayed

in despatch to Bombay and there was also delay in Payment of their dues. In his view, a sense of Participation in the Scheme, which was considered very necessary, had not so far been generated among the 15,000 seamen of Calcutta. He felt that if a representative of the Commissioner could be appointed exclusively at Calcutta, it would not only meet the needs of the local seamen adequately but also create a feeling of active participation in the Scheme among the seamen members of Calcutta. Shri Majumder felt that since the scheme had just been put to operation, difficulties of seamen had not perhaps assumed the proportions which might call for an out-fit in Calcutta but he was convinced that as time rolls on and activities are expanded, this would become a necessity. He requested the trustees to bear this in mind. Shri Subrata Dutta endorsed these feelings. The Board Carefully considered the proposal from various aspects and came to the conclusion that there had been only certain procedural difficulties, which could be removed by streamlining the arrangements. The Board therefore requested the Chairman to look into the matter and do the needful. The Chairman agreed to do so. The Board also assured the representative from Calcutta that arrangements would be made to meet the genuine needs of Calcutta Seamen. Intervening in the discussions, Shri Majumder urged the Board not to assess the needs in this respect on the basis of the number of applications received and not to be solely guided by the number of seamen who call at the office.

At this stage, Shri Bikas Majumder withdrew from the meeting.

Item No 1. Confirmation of the minutes of the Fourth meeting.

The minutes of the fourth meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 28th July 1967, were confirmed.

Item No 2. Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

Sr. No 1. Appointment of staff for the organisation.

The Committee's approval of the appointment of Shri Alex A. Carvalho, Peon in the Organisation, contained in the note dated 8th August 1967, placed on the table, was noted.

Sr. No 2. Administrative and financial powers of the Commissioner.

Action taken so far was noted.

Sr. No 3. Publication of a booklet about Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

The Board, while noting the action taken so far, desired that the translation and printing of the booklet be expedited. It was decided that the Booklet should be of the size of the discharge Book issued to Seamen.

Sr. No 4. Investment of moneys belonging to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Chairman informed the members that he had informal discussions in the Ministry regarding the approval of the Board of Trustees Resolution, relating to the investment of Provident Fund moneys in the State Bank long term 'Fixed Deposits' and Government securities. He gathered from these discussions that the general policy followed by other such organisations like the Employees provident Funds Scheme and the Coal Mines Provident Fund Scheme, etc, was to invest 80% in Government of India securities and the balance of 20% in National Savings Certificate or the State Government

Securities. The recommendations of the Board of Trustees Seamen's Provident Fund, on the other hand, was that 60% should be invested in long term 'Fixed Deposits' maturing after 6 months and the balance of 40% in the Central and State Government long term loans and bonds. He further clarified that the deposits mentioned in sec. 4(3) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966 and in para 44(1) of the Seamens Provident Fund Scheme 1966, are only the preliminary steps required to be taken by the Commissioner pending investments in Government securities, as directed by Government. Certain members representing shipowners and Seafarers voiced their strong opposition to the investment of the Seamen's Provident Fund moneys in Government Securities to the extent of 80% as the interest earned would be much less as compared to the interest of 7% that would be earned by investments recommended by the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund. The Seafarer's representatives strongly urged that there was sufficient justification for the investment of moneys belonging to the seamen as proposed by the Board of Trustees, as in the case of seamen, every extra rupee earned is of great significance. In the case of shore workers, covered by the aforesaid Provident Fund schemes, not only employment is guaranteed all the year round, the workers have full opportunities for rendering continuous service for 30 years or more. In the case of seamen, their employment is of casual nature lasting for about 9 months followed by a gap of 6 months or so between each spell of employment, thus making it difficult for them to have more than 15 to 20 years of total effective service in their seafaring career. In view of these considerations the representatives of the Shipowners and Seafarers

unanimously pleaded that the matter may be taken up again with Government for a reconsideration.

The Board also expressed anxiety over the delay in receipt of Govt orders in the matter, as a considerable loss of interest was being incurred by the Seamen's Provident Fund, as the moneys are, at the moment lying in short term "Fixed Deposits" fetching only 4½% interest per annum for want of Government instructions.

Sr. No 5. Rounding off of contributions consisting of a part of a rupee to the nearest rupee.

Government's letter No. 5-M.T.(T)/67, dated 19th August, 1967 (Copy placed on the Table) communicating their approval to the Board's proposal was noted.

Sr. No 6: Sanction of Post of a "Watchman" for the office of the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board noted the action taken so far.

Sr. No 8. Interest income on arrear contributions to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The action taken by the Commissioner was noted.

Sr. No. 9. Authorisation to the Accounts officer to operate the Seamen's Provident Fund Accounts.

Minuted separately under item No 8.

Sr. No 10 Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund Contributions.

Statement dated 22.8.1967 (Placed on the Table) showing the action taken to recover the arrears of contributions etc., was noted.

Sr. No 11. Purchase of office Accommodation.

The Chairman had stated that he had discussed the matter with the Government who had desired to know how the Employees Provident Funds organisation had met the cost of office accommodation and how the Seamen's

Provident Fund organisation would repay the amount, if the Government of India granted a loan for the purpose. The Board asked the Commissioner to furnish the necessary information.

Sr. No 12. Service Regulations of the Staff of the Fund.

Minuted separately under item No 10.

Item No 3. Appointment of Medical officers under Para 59(1)(b) of the Scheme.

The proposal made by Shri Leo Barnes was considered and it was decided that the Directorate General of Shipping should be requested to examine why the Medical officer, Seamen's Medical Examination organisation, who is the prescribed medical Authority under the Merchant shipping Act 1958, and also the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966, cannot issue the certificate of Permanent physical unfitness in the cases referred to.

Item No 4. Forfeiture of Employer's share by members under Para 59(3) of the Scheme.

The Board considered the proposal and felt that there has been some omission while framing the paragraph 59(3) of the Scheme, as they generally remembered that certain relaxation in the manner of computation of service was decided upon by the Tripartite Committee of the National Welfare Board for the Seafarers in the case of Seamen who retired soon after the scheme came into force. The Commissioner should therefore, examine this Question again and report to the Board with necessary draft amendment to the Scheme.

Item No 5. Starting of Group Insurance Scheme for Seamen with premium to be remitted from the Provident Fund Contributions.

The Board considered the proposal of Shri Leo Barnes and decided that the detailed Scheme called for from

the Life Insurance Corporation of India should be put up to the Board, on receipt, for consideration.

Item No 6: Final payment of P.F. moneys to members whose registrations are cancelled for reasons other than those specified in para 59 of the Scheme.

The Board considered the subject and decided that the Commissioner should make a list of all cases of seamen claiming Provident Fund dues, which are not covered by para 59 of the Scheme and report to the Board with a draft amendment to the paragraph. The Board further decided that the age of superannuation for the purpose of withdrawal of Provident Fund by seamen should be fixed up in consultation with the Directorate General of Shipping.

Item No 7. Payment of Provident Fund dues to the Nominees/Legal heirs of deceased Seamen.

The procedure followed for payment of Provident Fund dues to the Nominees/Legal heirs of deceased seamen by the Commissioner was approved.

Item No 8. Authorisation to the Accounts officer to operate the Seamen's Provident Fund Accounts.

The Board considered the recommendations made by the Committee and passed the following resolution.

"Resolved that the Board should authorise the Commissioner to delegate his power to operate upon the Seamen's Provident Fund Accounts, to the Accounts officer, whenever he is away on tour or leave and to advise the State Bank of India, Bombay, where the accounts are maintained, accordingly. However, he should ensure that while the Accounts officer exercises the power of investments and/or transfer of Provident Fund moneys in the same way as he himself does. he withdraws moneys from the Provident Fund Accounts for the purpose authorised by the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and

the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, upto Rs.10,000/- only in each case, when drawing upon the Seamen's Provident Fund Account and upto Rs.5,000/- only, in each case, when drawing upon the Seamen's Provident Fund Administration Account."

Item No 9: Air travel by non-official members of the Board of Trustees.

The Board considered air travel by non official members of the Board of Trustees and decided that the Government should be requested to grant general permission to travel by air to non official members attending meetings of the Board of Trustees at places other than Bombay, as in the case of Capt A.B. McSweeney and Shri Subrata Dutta, as the Trustees concerned normally travel by air on official duties.

Item No. 10. Service Regulations of Staff of the Organisation.

The Board considered the draft Service conditions of the Staff of the organisation and approved the same subject to the following amendments.

a) That travelling allowance and air travel should be regulated in accordance with the orders issued by the Government of India, from time to time; and
b) The age of retirement should be 58 as in Government service and not 60.

The Board also decided that the officers and staff of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation should be supplied two cups of Tea/Coffee every day free of charge with effect from 1st September 1967.

Item No 11. Creation of temporary posts of clerks.

The Board sanctioned the creation of 4 temporary posts of clerks, on Fixed salary of Rs. 200/- P.M. each, for a period of four months for dealing

with the arrears of work in the organisation.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T.V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Amendment suggested by Shri T.V. Prabhu.

Shri T.V. Prabhu stated that the minutes of the 5th meeting were in order except for the following.

"In regard to item No 5, namely Starting of Group Insurance Scheme for Seamen, according to my recollection, Shri Dutta had said that he was not in favour of the Scheme as in his opinion it was not profitable to the Seamen. This observation of Shri Dutta may be incorporated in the minutes".

CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T.V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on the 4th January 1968, at 11.00 A.M. in the office of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, Baldota Bhavan, 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 1.

The following were present:-

1. Shri Govind H. Sett ... Chairman.
2. " T.V. Prabhu, Asst. Financial Adviser, Min: of Finance. Member.
3. " M. Anand, Dy Director General of Shipping. "
4. " Rasiklal Harjeevandas "
5. Capt. A.B. McSweeney. "
6. Mr. J.W. Anson. "
7. Shri K. K. Khadilkar "
8. " Subrata Dutta "
9. " Leo Barnes "
10. " T.V. Rajagopalan Secretary.

Present by special invitation.

Shri B.B. Lal, Under Secretary to the Government of India, Ministry of Transport and Shipping, New Delhi.

The Chairman wished the members a Happy and Prosperous New year and the members reciprocated the sentiments expressed by the Chairman.

Item No: 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Fifth Meeting.

The Board Considered the opinion expressed by Capt. A.B. McSweeney that the modifications to the last para of Sr. No 4 on page 3, in the Draft Minutes suggested, should not be made, as the Board did not express anxiety over the delay in respect of Government orders in the matter and decided to retain the para, as in the original draft.

Dr.

The Board also considered the suggestion of Shri T.V. Prabhu that in regard to item No 5, viz starting of Gratuity Insurance Scheme, Shri Subrata Dutta had stated that he was not in favour of the Scheme as in his opinion it was not profitable to seamen and that the observation of Shri Dutta should be incorporated and decided to modify the minutes accordingly.

The minutes were confirmed with the above modification.

Item No 2. Action taken on the decision of the Board.

Action taken on items at Serial Nos: 1, 4, 6 and 9 to 14 was noted. With regard to the other items the following decisions were taken.

Item No 2. Sr. No 2. Publication of Booklet "Seamen's Provident Fund."

Printed Copies of Booklet were placed on the table and the Board noted the expenditure of about Rs. 3,200/- already incurred on printing the Booklet in the following languages:-

Sr. No	Langnage	No. of Copies.	Cost in Rupees.
1.	English	3,000	600.00
2.	Hindi	2,000	525.00
3.	Marathi	3,000	600.00
4.	Gujrati	3,000	600.00
5.	Konkani	5,000	875.00
	Total.	16,000	3,200.00

The Commissioner informed the Board that the expenditure on printing the Booklet in Tamil, Malayalam and Bengali would be put up on receipts of details.

The Board also decided that 3,000 Copies of the Booklet should be printed in Urdu language.

Item No 2. Sr. No 3. Investment of moneys belonging to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board considered the Government's direction (copy of Government's letter No 5-MT(3)/67, dated 27th December, 1967,

Dr.

placed on the table) that 80% of the amount should be invested in Government of India Securities and the balance of 20% might be invested either in small savings certificates of the Government of India or State Government Securities. The representatives of the Employers and Seamen expressed their disappointment at the Government's decision and desired that the Government should be requested to re-consider their decision having regard to the seafaring employment which was previously brought to the notice of Government. The seafaring employment was of irregular and intermittent nature and there was a good deal of justification for the investment of the Funds in such deposits as would earn the maximum return for the seamen after their retirement from their profession. In the case of shore workers covered by the Employees Provident Funds Scheme, not only employment was guaranteed throughout the year, the workers had full opportunities for entering continuous service for 30 years or more and most of them earned sizeable amounts as provident fund accumulation. In the case of Seamen, the employment was of casual nature lasting for about 9 months and in each case, it was followed by a long spell of unemployment ranging from 6 to 12 months, thus making it impossible for them to have more than 15 to 20 years of effective service in their career, as would earn them Provident Fund benefit. The representatives of the Shipowners and Seamen reiterated that investment of Funds in Five Year Fixed Deposits with the State Bank of India was fully safe and secure, as the said Bank was a Government Bank and that it was permissible under Sec. 4(3) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act read with para 44(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, which in any case provides for alternative selection for deposits in the State Bank of India. They also felt that since the contributions to the Seamen's Provident Fund were entirely made by the Seamen and the Shipowners, their views in the matter of investment of moneys

in India in the best interests of Seamen, should receive favourable consideration at the hands of the Government.

(ii) The representatives of the Government on the Board explained that the Government's direction was in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Scheme and that their decision in this regard was taken on the basis of their uniform policy adopted in respect of other similar Provident Funds and urged that the direction of the Government should be accepted.

(iii) However, in view of the strong views expressed by the representatives of the Shipowners and the Seafarers, the Board decided that the matter should be referred to Government for reconsideration and in the meantime, the Fund should continue to be invested in Fixed Deposits of 91 days duration, as hitherto.

Item No 2. Sr. No 5: Report of the Commissioner on his visit to the port of Calcutta.

The Board considered the note on the item and decided that the Liaison work should be entrusted to the Director, Seamen's Employment office, Calcutta. The Board left it to the Chairman to decide the amount of honorarium to be paid for this work.

Item No 2 Sr. No 7- Purchase of Office Accomodation.

The Board considered the latest position in respect of the offers received (statement showing particulars of offers etc., placed on the table) and decided that the Committee appointed by the Board in its first meeting held on the 26th October, 1966, for equipping the office should examine the offers and report to the Board.

Item No 2. Sr. No 8. Service Regulations of the Staff of the Fund.

The Board considered the Note on the item and decided that the draft Service Regulations of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation should be revised on the lines suggested by the Government.

Rs.

Item No 3. Refixation of Administrative Charge.

The Board considered the proposal for revision of the rate of Administrative Charge and decided that it should be fixed at 3% of the total contributions payable by the Employers and Employees with effect from 1st April 1968.

Item No 4- Budget proposals for the Year 1968-69.

The Board considered and approved the Budget proposals for the year 1968-69, subject to the following modifications:-

i) The provisional made for the additional post of a Senior Assistant referred to in para II 6 (a)(i)(c) of the Memo explaining the Budget proposals (P.26) should be deleted;

ii) The amount of Rs. 5,000/- proposed for Audit fee (Fund Accounts) at item No 6, of Recurring expenditure under the head "Other Charges" (P.32) should be reduced to Rs. 2,500/-;

iii) The amount of Rs. 200/- proposed for books and publications at item No 7 of the Recurring Expenditure under "Other Charges" (P.32) should be increased to Rs. 500/-; and

iv) The provision made under the head DA should be increased by Rs 2148/- to cover the additional DA sanctioned from 1st November, 1967.

Item No 5. Audit Report for the year 1966-67.

The Board considered the Audit Report and the Comments of the Commissioner thereon and decided that the Commissioner should take further necessary action in the matter.

Item No 6- Contributions of Seamen engaged on ships without C.D.C.s.

The Board considered the proposal and decided that the Commissioner should not accept contributions of Provident Fund on account of seamen, who are not in possession of C.D.C.s. and engaged on ships and the contribution of such seamen already received should be returned to the Employers concerned for

refund to their respective seamen under advice to the Provident Fund Commissioner.

Item No. 7. Forms of Account of the Fund.

The Board considered the proposed Forms of Accounts of the Fund and the Accounting procedure and decided that they be sent to Government for approval after consulting the Accountant General, Maharashtra, Bombay.

Item No 8. Interest from Employers on arrear contributions.

The Board considered the note on the subject and decided that.

i) Banker's Certificate in lieu of Auditors' Certificates submitted by the Employers be accepted.

ii) The Employers, who were unable to submit either the Auditors' Certificate or the Bankers' Certificate in lieu thereof, should be asked to pay interest at the average rate of 4.8% contributed by the other Employers, wherever the amounts paid were less than 4.8%;

iii) The Employers who have not paid any interest should be asked to expedite payment.

Item No 9. Payment of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the proposals and decided that.-

a) the following Medical officers should be treated as prescribed Medical officers under para 59(1)(b) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966, and certificate given by any of them might be accepted:-

i) Civil Surgeon and/or R.M.O.s of Civil Hospitals; and

ii) Medical officers of the Employers.

The Board approved the action taken by the Commissioner in making payments to the seamen who had obtained certificates of unfitness from Medical officers other than the Medical officer, Seamen's Medical Examination organisation treating the cases as Voluntary retirement and decided that all such cases should be treated as covered by medical certificate of the prescribed Medical

Officer and the moneys forfeited should be paid to them.

b) The Board approved the action of the Commissioner in making payments of members own contribution to the five seamen, whose registrations had been cancelled for disciplinary reasons and who had not been included in the list of seamen eligible for withdrawal of Provident Fund moneys under para 59 of the Scheme. It was decided that the Employers' contribution should be paid only after the amendment to para 59 of the Scheme providing specifically for withdrawal in such cases was made.

c) The Board considered the question of payment to Pakistani seamen with reference to the Notification issued by the Government of India that all moneys due to Pakistani Nationals should be paid to the Custodian of Enemy property and decided that in view of the fact that the Tripartite Committee had already decided that no difficulties should be placed in the way of Pakistani Seamen repatriating their Provident Fund moneys, the matter should be taken up with Government for making necessary arrangements for payment.

Item No 10. Reservation of posts for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes on the lines of reservations in Central Services.

The Board considered the suggestion made by Government that posts for Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes should be reserved in the Seamen's Provident Fund organization on the lines of reservations in Central Services. Shri K.K. Khadilkar objected in principle that no such reservation should be made for any section of the Indian Community and that all appointments should be made on merit and efficiency. If members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes were otherwise qualified on merit and efficiency, they should also be considered for appointment. The other Trustees, however agreed to accept Government's suggestion.

Item No. 11 - Failure to pay contribution for the period

from 1.7.1964 to the date of passing of the Act and the Scheme.

The Board considered the cases of the Employers who had failed to pay contributions from 1.7.1964 to the date of passing of the Act and the Scheme, on the ground that they were not aware of the provisions of the Act and the Scheme and that since some of the seamen had left their services, it would not be possible for them to make any recoveries and pay the contributions retrospectively and felt that the question of retrospective application and recovery of contributions from these Employers might be examined in consultation with the Ministry of Law.

Item No 12 - Groups Insurance Scheme for Seamen.

The Board considered the proposals for Groups Insurance Scheme received from the Life Insurance Corporation of India and decided that a Committee consisting of the following be appointed to examine the proposals and report to the Board.

1. Shri P. N. Anand ... Convenor.
2. Shri J. V. Prabhu ... Member.
3. Shri J. W. Anson ... "
4. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas ... "
5. Shri Leo Barnes ... "
6. Shri Subrata Dutta ... "
7. one member to be co-opted from owners'/Agents' Committee (Crews), Bombay.
8. Shri T. V. Rajagopalan ... Secretary.

Item No 13. Disposal of 10 benches from the Esso Standard Eastern Inc., Bombay.

The Board considered the proposal and decided that the benches rendered surplus to the requirements of the organisation should be sold to the Indian Sailors Home Society at nominal price.

Item No 14 - Renewal of Leave and Licence Agreement of the office Premises.

The Board considered the proposal for renewal of Leave and Licence Agreement of the office premises and decided that in view of the proposal for acquisition of accomodation on ownership basis was under consideration, the Leave and Licence Agreement should be renewed either for a period of two years with a clause for termination of the Agreement at any time during the period of the Agreement at the option of the Licensee after giving notice of 3 months, or the renewal should be for one year under the terms and conditions of the present Agreement with an option to extend for a further period of one year. The Board also decided that a fresh Agreement should be executed by the Commissioner.

Item No 15. Advance increments to Jr. Assistants in the office

The Board considered the question of granting advance increments to the Juniour Assistants who had resigned their service under Goverument and joined the organisation and had, as a result, lost the pensionary benefits that would have accrued to them, had they continued their service under Government and decided as under:-

i) Junior Assistants who had rendered service of 10 years or more in any Goverument office prior to their appointment in the organisation should be allowed 2 advance increments with effect from 4.1.1968.

ii) Junior Assistants who had put in less than 10 years service in any Goverument office prior to their appointment in the organisation should be allowed one advance increment with effect from 4.1.1968; and

iii) The above increments were without prejudice to the grant of normal increments in the grade.

Item No 16: Amendments to certain provisions of the Scheme.

The Board considered the difficulties brought to notice by the Commissioner, Seamen's provident Fund and the

representatives of the Seafarers in making payments to seamen and the loss to which the Seamen had been put by the forfeiture clause under para 59 of the Scheme and decided that the following amendments to the provisions of the Scheme should be proposed for approval of Goverument:-

The following will be introduced as an explanatory note under para 59 (3)=

"In computing the period of membership under sub-para 3 of para 59 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, in respect of a member, his total service as a member of the crew of a ship under the Merchant Shipping Act 1958, before or after the Scheme came to force, shall be included."

The following will be introduced as clause (d) under para 59 (2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966:

"(d) his registration with the Seamen's Employment Office is cancelled for any offence specified in para 61 of the Scheme or for any other reason and the Seaman as a result is no longer eligible to serve as a member of the Crew of a Ship, under the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958."

Item No 17:. Continuance of the posts in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation beyond February 1967.

i) The posts sanctioned by Goverument in their letter No 5-MTG)/64, dated 2nd July 1966, should be continued for a period of 2 years with effect from 1.3.1967, by which time the Commissioner should submit proposals to the Board for sanction of the posts on a permanent basis;

ii) The four temporary posts of Clerks sanctioned for four months for completing arrears of accounts should be continued for a further period of two months.

Item No 18. Receipt and accounting of Provident Fund Contributions.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner

and noted the actions taken by him.

Item No. 19 - Delay in receipts of Provident Fund moneys from Employers.

The Board viewed with concern the report of the Commissioner regarding the non-payment of contributions to the Seamen's Provident Fund by the Employers within 15 days as envisaged in para 35 of the Scheme. However taking into consideration the fact that the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation under the Scheme had recently started functioning the Board desired that the Commissioner should issue a circular letter to all the Employers expressing the concern of the Board for the delay in the remittances and requesting them to strictly comply with the provisions of the Scheme.

Item No 20. Account officers appointment - Continuance of.

The Board considered the proposal for continued appointment of the Accounts Officer on the same deputation terms for a further period. The Board felt that since the organisation had just taken up the work of maintenance of individual accounts of the members and since the accounting procedure and forms were being prescribed, the continuance of Shri G. Venkatakrishnan who had been associated with the Scheme since its inception, was essential till such time the work was placed on a sound footing. Moreover, the Insurance work and the work relating to Gratuity for General Roster seamen were likely to be taken up soon. In view of all these, it was decided that Shri G. Venkatakrishnan's appointment as Accounts officer should be continued on the same terms for a period of 3 years, as in the case of the Commissioner.

Item No. 21. Hours of work of the office.

The Board approved the following revised office hours for the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation :-

Monday to Friday ... 10.00 AM to 5.00 PM. (with half an hour for lunch from 1.00 to 1.30 pm).

Saturday ... 10.00 AM to 1.30 PM.

Item No 22 - Telegraphic address of the office.

The telegraphic address "SEAMENFUND" of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation was noted.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Bombay on Monday, the 8th April 1968, at 11.00 AM.

The Meeting terminated at 2.00 pm with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T.V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Seventh Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on the 8th April, 1968 at 10.30 a.m. in the office of the Board of Trustees, 117 Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 1.

The following were present:-

1. Shri Govind H. Seth .. Chairman.
2. Shri K. V. Sankaran .. Member.
3. Shri J. V. Prabhu. .. "
4. Shri P. N. Anand. .. "
5. Shri J. W. Anson. .. "
6. Shri Ranchhodlal Harjeevandas .. "
7. Shri K. K. Khadilkar .. "
8. Shri Subrata Dutta .. "
9. Shri Leo Barnes .. "
10. Shri T. V. Rajagopalan. .. "

Leave of absence was granted to Capt. A.B. McSweeney.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Sixth Meeting.

The Minutes of the Sixth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on the 4th January 1968, were confirmed.

Item No. 2. Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

Action taken on items at Sr. Nos. 2, 6 to 12, 14 to 16 and 18 to 20, was noted. With regard to the other items at Sr. Nos. 1, 3 to 5, 13 and 17, the following decisions were taken.

Item No. 2. Sr. No. 1. Publication of a booklet about the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

The Board approved the additional expenditure of Rs. 530/- incurred on printing the booklets placed on the table at the last Board Meeting held on the 4th January, 1968. The Board also approved the expenditure

of Rs. 2,680/- as detailed below, incurred on printing the remaining booklets:-

Language	No. of Copies	Cost in Rupees.
Bengali	10,000	1,100-00
Urdu	3,000	700-00
Malayalam.	3,000	880-00
Tamil	1,000	
Total.	17,000	2,680-00

Item No. 2. Sr. No. 3. Report of the Commissioner on his visit to the port of Calcutta.

The Board noted the report dated 25-3-1968 of the Commissioner and the Office order No. 35 of 1968 dated 30.3.1968 (placed on the table) and decided that the question of payment of honorarium to the Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Calcutta, should be considered after a period of three to four months, by which time the Board would have a precise idea about the additional work load involved in this regard.

ii) The Board considered the report (placed on the table) of the Principal Seamen's Welfare Officer, Calcutta, on the liaison work done by him for about ten months and expressed their deep appreciation of the service rendered by him during the period and granted a sum of Rs. 300/- as honorarium for it.

Item No. 2. Sr. No. 4. Interest income on arrear Contributions to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board while noting the latest position with regard to the recovery of interest on arrear contributions and receipt of Auditors'/Bankers' certificate for the interest earned, complimented the Commissioner for the manner in which he expeditiously recovered the interest income and obtained the Auditors'/Bankers' certificate

Item.

from the Employers.

Item No 2. Sr. No 5. Purchase of office Accommodation.

The Board noted the Commissioner's report made at the meeting that the Committee meeting could not be held before the 8th April, 1968, as expected and that it was proposed to be held on the 17th April 1968.

Item No 2. Sr. No 13. Forms of Account of the Fund.

The Board considered the present position in respect of forms of the Accounts of the Fund and decided that the Accountant General, Maharashtra, should be requested to expedite his reply, so that Government's approval to the forms could be obtained at a very early date.

Item No 2. Sr. No 17. Renewal of Leave and Licence Agreement of the office premises.

The Board noted the report made by the Commissioner at the meeting that the Leave and Licence Agreement had since been executed on the 30th March, 1968.

Item No. 3. Fixation of rate of interest for Credit to Members' Accounts, for the year 1967-68.

The Board considered the question of fixation of rate of interest for credit to Members' Accounts for the year 1967-68 and decided that a Committee consisting of the following members be appointed to examine the rate of interest to be paid and report to the Board.

1. Shri K. N. Sankaran. .. Convenor.
2. Shri J. N. Prabhu .. Member.
3. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas " "
4. Shri K. K. Khadilkar " "
5. Shri T. V. Rajagopalan .. Secretary.

Item No. 4. Amendment suggested by Owners'/Agents' Committee (Crews) to para 35 of the

Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, relating to periodicity of payment of contributions.

The Board considered the owners'/Agents' Committee (Crews) suggestion to amend para 35 of the Seamen's Provident Fund scheme, 1966, relating to periodicity of payment of Provident Fund contributions and was of the view that no useful purpose would be served by amending para 35 of the scheme without amending at the same time the subsequent para 36, of the scheme, whereby the Employers are required to submit the provident Fund statements to the Shipping Masters at the time of payment of wages to seamen. If, however, para 36 were to be amended to provide for a longer period than at present for submission of Provident Fund statements to the Shipping Masters and the subsequent remittance of contributions to the Fund, the Board apprehended that there might not be sufficient safeguard against possible non-payment of contributions to the Fund. The Board therefore regretted their inability to accept the suggestion to amend para 35 of the scheme.

Item No 5. Investment of Fund moneys.

The Board noted the action that was being taken by the Commissioner in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India Bombay, in investing the available Fund moneys in the following manner:-

(a) 50% in 5½% Central Government loans) and
(b) 20% in State Government loans, yielding not less than 5½% interest.

(ii) The Board considered the investment of the remaining 30% of the available Fund moneys and decided that in view of the changed circumstances now prevailing viz. that the State Bank of India, Bombay, allows Fixed Deposit

of longer duration of 60 months fetching an interest income of 6½%, which is more than the yield from any of the Central Government loans or even from any of the State Government loans, the remaining 30% of the available Fund moneys should, with the permission of the Government, be invested in Fixed Deposit for a period of 60 months fetching an interest income of 6½%.

(iii) The revised pattern of investments of the available Fund moneys made/proposed should be brought to the notice of the Government with the request to issue early orders in partial modification of their earlier direction issued in this regard.

(iv) In the meantime, in view of the audit objection already raised against the meagre return from investment in Fixed Deposits of 91 days duration fetching an interest income of 4½% only (now 4%), the remaining 30% of the investible amount of the Fund moneys should be invested in Fixed Deposits of 12 months duration fetching an interest income of 5½%.

(v) The Board considered the further request from the Government of Maharashtra for investment of a portion of the Fund accumulations in the small savings certificates and felt that even with the increased rate of interest on these securities the yield is not more favourable than the yield that would accrue in investing the Fund moneys in Government loans.

(vi) Sarvashri Sankaran and Prabhu did not associate themselves with (ii) and (iv) above.

Item No 6. Transfer of accounts of some members to the Employees Provident Funds.

The Board considered the applications of the following seamen for transfer of their balance in their respective accounts to the Employee's Provident

Funds scheme, 1952 and permitted the transfer of the accounts to the Fund, soon after their accounts are finalised :-

1. Shri Gabriel M. Noronha - cpc No. 69179.
2. Shri K.K. Sreekumaran - Cpc No. A51764.
3. Shri O.M. Mehta - Not available.

The Board also considered the application of the Seaman Shri N.B. Tandel Cpc No A56148 which was not included in the list of such seamen but reported to the Board at the meeting and permitted the transfer as in the case of the other three seamen mentioned above.

(ii) The Board felt that provision should be made in the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme for transfer of accounts from the Employees Provident Funds scheme to the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme. The Commissioner should examine the position in this regard and report to the Board at its next meeting.

Item No 7. Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules of the Staff of the Organisation.

The Board considered the draft Service Regulations and the draft Recruitment Rules of the staff of the organisation and decided that a Committee consisting of the following should examine the Service Regulations and the recruitment Rules and report to the Board for consideration of the same at its next meeting.

1. Shri K.V. Sankaran .. Convenor.
2. Shri T.V. Prabhu .. Member.
3. Shri Kasiklal Harjeevandas "
4. Shri K.K. Khasitkar "
5. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan Secretary.

Item No 8. Receipt and Accounting of Provident

Fund Contributions.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the Reciept and Disposal of the Provident Fund Contributions and decided that-

i) they saw no reason, why a departure should be made in the case of M/s. Western Star Mines, Bombay, in so far as payment of Contributions to the Fund for the period mentioned, was concerned. The Commissioner should take action in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Scheme;

ii) The explanations offered by M/s. R. Sen & Co, Ltd. Calcutta and M/s. Hindustan Shipping Co. Ltd. Calcutta, for the delayed remittances were not convincing and therefore the original decision in respect of levy of penalty, taken in the Board meeting held on 4th January 1968, remained unaltered;

iii) The Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner should adopt the same procedure followed in the Employees Provident Funds organisation regarding the levy of damages on defaulting employers under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966;

iv) the proposal to invest the balance in the Administrative Charge Account in Fixed Deposit of 12 months was approved;

v) the proposal to the continuance of the 4 temporary posts of clerks for a further period of two months was approved.

Item No 9. Permission to the Commissioner to undertake work connected with the Benevolent Fund for Seamen.

The Board considered the decision of the Managing Committee of the Indian Seamen's Benevolent Fund Society, in electing Shri T. V. Rajagopalan, Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner as secretary of the Committee and accorded their approval to the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner being the Secretary of the Indian Seamen's Benevolent Fund Society.

Item No 10. Arrangements for medical attendance and treatment of the Staff of the organisation.

The Board considered the proposal and decided that the Commissioner should obtain further information in respect of the arrangements made for medical attendance and treatment of the staff of other similar organizations, such as Shipping Corporation of India, Mazagaon Docks, etc and report to the Board at its next meeting.

Item No. 11. Letter received from the owners'/Agents' Committee (Crews), regarding Administrative expenses.

The Board considered the correspondence between the owners'/Agents' Committee (Crews) and the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation and agreed with the position explained in respect of levy of Administrative charges at the rate of 3% of the total contribution with effect from 1st April 1968. The Board agreed to keep in view the request made by the owners'/Agents Committee (Crews) that expenditure on administration should be kept at the minimum.

Item No 12. Statement showing budgetry reappropriation of Funds made by the Commissioner.

The Board noted the budgetry re-appropriation

of the Fund, sanctioned in the Budget for the year 1967-68, made under para 49, of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

Item No 13. Withdrawal of Provident Fund money by Shri Dawood Jackeer Seaman I, Regn No BD 31401.

The Board considered the proposal and decided that the Seaman Shri Dawood Jackeer Seaman I, BD 31401 should furnish a certificate of unfitness from a Registered Medical Practitioner of his place duly countersigned by a Civil Surgeon.

Item No 14 Exemption from the operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

The Board considered the proposal and decided that the Scheme of the Employers should be examined with a view to see, if it was not favourable to the Seamen than the benefits provided by or under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966 and report to the Board at its meeting.

Item No. 15. Leave application of Commissioner.

The Board noted the application for leave of the Commissioner.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Calcutta in July 1968 on a convenient date to be fixed by the chairman.

The meeting then terminated at 2.00 pm

with a vote of thanks to the chair.

Bombay
Dated: 22nd April 1968

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T.V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

The following may please be added to item No.10 of the Minutes of the Seventh Meeting, dated 22nd April 1968.

"The Board considered the claim of Rs. 112.00 of Shri P.V. Aher, Junior Assistant, Seamen's Provident Fund, and approved the same as a special case and it should not be treated as a precedent."

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T.V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 23rd September, 1968, at 11 a.m. in the office of the Board of Trustees, 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 1.

The following were present:-

1. Shri K.C. Madappa ... Chairman.
2. " P.N. Anand. ... Member.
3. " T.V. Prabhu ... "
4. " J.W. Anson. ... "
5. " Rasiklal Harjeevandas ... "
6. " K.K. Khadilkar ... "
7. " Subrata Dutta ... "
8. " Leo Barnes ... "
9. " T.V. Rajagopalan Secretary.

2. Shri K.C. Madappa, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, presided over the meeting. The Chairman welcomed the members of the Board of Trustees and expressed his happiness at being associated with the organisation and looked forward to having the co-operation of the Trustees in discharging the onerous responsibilities entrusted to the Board. The members of the Board reciprocated the sentiments expressed by the Chairman and assured him of their support.

3. The Board placed on record its deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Shri Govind H. Seth, the first Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund by passing the following resolution.

"The Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund wish to record its deep appreciation of the great interest evinced and the valuable services rendered by Shri Govind H. Seth, First Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fund and wish him all success in future."

4. Leave of absence was granted to Capt McSweeney and Shri

K.V. Sankaran. The Board then took up for discussion the items on the List of Business.

Item No 1. Confirmation of the minutes of the Seventh Meeting.

The Board approved the Minutes of the Seventh Meeting held on the 8th April, 1968, with the following addition to Item No.10 "Arrangements for Medical Attendance and Treatment of the Staff of the Organisation", of the Minutes dated 22nd April 1968:-

"The Board considered the claim of Rs.112.00 p of Shri P.V. Aher, Junior Assistant, Seamen's Provident Fund, for treatment of his wife at the Bombay Hospital and approved reimbursement as a special case. It was also decided that this should not be treated as precedent."

Item No 2. Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

Action taken by the Commissioner on all items, except the items at Sr. Nos. 3 and 9, was noted and approved by the Board.

As regards item No 2. Sr. No 3. "Purchase of office accommodation" the Commissioner explained to the Board that the offers received so far in respect of office accommodation on ownership basis were not attractive. He also explained the difficulties experienced by the organisation in the present accommodation on account of inadequacy of space as well as leakage from the roof during monsoon. The Board agreed that suitable alternative accommodation may be acquired on lease for a short period, pending acquisition of accommodation on ownership basis.

As regards item No 2 - Sr. No 9. "Failure to pay contributions for the period from 17.1964 to the date of passing of the Act and the Scheme", the Commissioner reported to the Board that the D.S. Shipping has since communicated the advice of the Law Ministry viz. that the Commissioner was fully empowered under the law (section 8 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966) to recover from the Shipping Companies concerned their own contributions as well as those of the seamen with effect from 1.7.1964. The Board decided that action for recovery of the contributions should be taken in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Scheme.

Item No 3- Fixation of rate of interest for Credit to Member's Accounts for the Year 1967-68.

The Board Considered the recommendations of the Committee embodied in the Minutes of the Committee meeting held on Friday, the 20th September 1968, at 2.30 pm. and approved the following recommendations made by the Committee:-

"The Committee after examining all aspects, recommended that interest for the year 1967-68 may be allowed at the rate of 6% on the balances in the members account as on 1-4-1967. The interest will be Credited to their account on 31-3-1968. In recommending this higher rate of interest, the Committee took into consideration the length of the period involved. The Committee however felt that it would not be possible to maintain such higher rate of interest in futures, in view of the nature of investment of the Fund."

Item No 4 Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules for the Staff of the Organisation.

The Board noted Commissioner's report that the Committee for examining the Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules for the Staff of the Organisation could not meet so far and desired that the Committee should meet at a very early date and submit its report to the Board at its next meeting.

Item No 5. Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund Amounts.

The Board noted the report on Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund amounts. The Board was concerned over the inordinate delay in payment of Provident Fund Dues to several seamen who served on the ships of M/S. Surrendra Overseas Ltd, Calcutta, on account of non-receipt of non-receipt of Provident Fund Statements and directed that the Company should be informed that if they did not submit their Provident Fund returns within a period

to be specified by the Commissioner, the Commissioner would make payments to the Seamen on the strength of the Statements received from the Shipping Master at their risk and act accordingly.

The Board also approved the action taken by the Investment Committee in investing a sum of Rs. 3,88,300.00 in the loan floated by the Government of Maharashtra on 2nd September, 1968.

Item No 6. Payment of Provident Fund dues to Pakistani Seamen.

The Board considered the instructions issued by the Government of India in their letter No 12/55/65-EPT dated 27.8.1966, directing that all the Provident Fund moneys payable to Pakistani Seamen should be paid to the Custodian of Enemy Property and decided that the orders issued by the Government of India should be implemented as soon as the accounts are completed.

Item No 7. Honorarium to the Liaison officer at Calcutta.

The Board approves the Chairman's orders fixing honoraria to the Liaison officer and his Staff with effect from 1st February, 1968, as under:-

Director, S.E.O., Calcutta	...	Rs. 75.00 pm.
Superintendent -do-	...	Rs. 25.00 pm.
Stenographer -do-	...	Rs. 20.00 pm.

On a motion made by Shri Subrata Dutta, Trustee, the Board sanctioned honorarium at the rate of Rs. 10/- per mensem to the peon connected with the Liaison work from the same date.

Item No. 8. Inclusion of Persons other than Trustees in Committees appointed by the Board.

The Board considered the difficulties pointed out by the Commissioner in convening meetings of the various Committees appointed by the Board in the absence of one or

more members of the Committee and decided that the Chairman may nominate any other person representing the particular interest on the Committee whenever a Trustee or any other person originally appointed by the Board is not available.

Item No. 9. Draft Annual Report.

The Board considered and approved the Draft Annual Report for the year 1967-68.

Item No. 10. Amendments to certain provisions of the Act and Scheme.

The Board considered the proposal to amend paras 23, 62(1) and 62(3) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, and approved the following amendments:-

Insert 23(A) under para 23 of the Scheme.

"Where an employee employed in an establishment to which this scheme does not apply leaves his employment and obtains re-employment in the Seafaring profession to which this scheme applies, the amount of accumulations to the credit of such employee in the Provident Fund of the establishment left by him may, if the employee so desires and the rules in relation to such Provident Fund permit, be transferred to the credit of his account in the Seamen's Provident Fund."

Para 62(1) of the Scheme:

"The figure of Rs. 500/- appearing between the words "if the amount to the credit of the Fund does not exceed Rs...." and "if satisfied after enquiry about the title of the claimant, pay such amount to the claimant" may be amended as Rs. 5,000/-.

Para 62(3) of the scheme:

The amount of Rs. 1,000/- appearing between the words

"the payment shall be made to such person as the Commissioner, where the amount does not exceed Rs.....-" and " or the Chairman of the Board if the amount exceeds" may be amended as Rs. 5,000/-.

The figure of Rs. 1,000/- and Rs. 2,000/- appearing between the words "or the Chairman of the Board if the amount exceeds Rs..... but does not exceed Rs....." and "considers to be the proper person representing the minor or lunatic and the receipt of such person for the amount paid shall be a sufficient discharge thereof" may be amended as Rs. 5,000/- and Rs. 10,000/-.

Item No 11(i) - Continuation of staff on deputation.

The Board considered the proposal for the continuance of the staff of the Organisation who have come over on deputation and approved the continuance of the following staff members for a further period of two years on the existing terms and conditions:-

1. Shri M.S. Chaubal, Superintendent.
2. Shri J.R. Punjabi, Senior Assistant.
3. Shri V.S. Gangurde, -do- -do-
4. Shri M.N.K. Menon, Stenographer.
5. Shri L.N. Dabhoya, Cashier.

Item No. 11. (ii) - Write-off of irrecoverable Fund money.

The board approved the write off of Rs. 4.50 P. the money order Commission on the amount remitted by Seaman Shri Mohammad Hossain, in repayment of the amount of Rs. 235.50 paid to him in excess and decided that the Commissioner should communicate to the seaman the appreciation of the Board for prompt repayment of the amount of Rs. 235.50 p. to the Fund.

Item No 11(iii) - Counting of service of seamen for the purpose of forfeiture of Provident Fund money.

The Commissioner reported to the Board that in some cases the CDCs held by the Seamen do not show details of voyages, such as date of engagement, date of discharge etc

in the case of voyages before the years 1954 but give only the summary of voyages performed by them. He also reported that he had decided, in consultation with the Shipping Master, that in all such cases the period of each such voyage should be taken as six months for the purpose of computing the total periods of service performed by the member under Para 59(3) of the scheme. The Board approved the action taken.

Item No. 12- Proposal of the owners/Agents' Committee (Crews) to amend para 3(3) of the Scheme:

The Board considered the proposal made by the Owners/Agents Committee (Crews), Bombay and Calcutta Liner's Conference (Crews), Calcutta, to amend para 3(3) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, so as to provide for the attendance of a substitute at meetings of the Board when the member nominated to represent the interest concerned is not available. The Board decided that the Government may be approached for the appointment of the Chairman of the Owners/Agents Committee (Crews)/ Calcutta Liners Conference (Crews) as a Trustee by designation as in the case of the Chairman and the Government representatives. The Board also decided that in case there were any legal difficulties in following such a procedure, the question of appointing two alternate representatives by name from each of the organisations may be considered, so that one could attend when the other is not available.

Item No 13. Proposal of Shri Subrata Dutta to amend para 59(3) of the Scheme.

The Board considered the additional item proposed by Shri Subrata Dutta, to amend para 59(3) of the Scheme, so as to allow payment of the Employer's Contribution in full

even in cases of withdrawals under paras 59(2)(b) and (c) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme. Shri Subrata Dutta pointed out that the nature of employment of seamen in general in this country is of casual nature and in view of the fact that they have to remain unemployed for a considerable part of the year, they should be allowed to seek other employment of a more permanent nature and should not be penalised by forfeiture of a portion of the Employer's Contribution if they leave Seafaring profession and secure alternative employment anywhere. He also pointed out that since each voyage is independent and is covered by a seperate contract, the employee has fulfilled his contract once he completes a particular voyage and should not be penalised for failure to turn up and enter into another contract at a subsequent date. The Employer's representatives, viz. the representatives of the owners/Agents Crews (Committee) and Indian National Shipowners Association, Bombay, opposed the amendment and pointed out that in all Contributory Provident Funds such a provision was introduced to ensure continuity of service, as otherwise it would cut at the very root of the principle of retirement benefit such as Provident Fund. The other members of the Board pointed out that in view of the fact that provisions of para 59(3) were amended only recently so as to liberalise the counting of periods of service of all voyages performed either before or after the introduction of the scheme and since the moneys forfeited were not retained by the Employers but remained in the Fund for purposes beneficial to such of the Seamen and families of the seamen who continued in the industry, the amendment proposed need not be made.

Item No 14. Telephone at the residence of the Accounts Officer.

The Board considered and approved the proposal

for the installation of a telephone at the residence of the Accounts Officer.

The meeting then terminated at 1.30 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair. The Board decided that the next meeting should take place at Calcutta on Tuesday, the 10th December, 1968, at 11.30 A.M.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T. V. Rajagopalan.
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Ninth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on the 6th January 1969 at 3.30 P.M. in the Board room of the Seamen's Employment office, "Marine House", Hastings, Calcutta 22.

The following were present:-

1. Shri K.C. Madappa .. Chairman.
2. " K.V. Sankaran .. Member.
3. Capt. A.B. McSweeney .. "
4. Shri K.K. Khadilkar .. "
5. " Subrata Dutta .. "
6. " Leo Barnes .. "
7. " T.V. Rajagopalan .. "

Leave of absence was granted to Sarvashri T.V. Prabhu, Rasiklal Harjeevandas and Jos. Anson.

The letter dated the 18th October 1968, received from Shri Govind H. Seth, first Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, expressing his thanks for the Board's appreciation of the work done by him in connection with the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation, was read and recorded.

Item No 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Eighth Meeting.

The Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 23rd September 1968, were confirmed.

Item No 2. Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

Action taken on all the items except the items listed at Sr. Nos. 1 and 4, was noted.

Sr. No 1 Interest income on arrear contributions to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Commissioner reported that Messrs Shaw Wallace

& Co, Ltd, Bombay had paid Rs.21- as interest on contributions amounting to Rs.3021- held by them in the Bank for a short period of- about one month- from 14-12-1966 to 12-1-1967. It was decided that- as the amount had been paid and was also small the Company need not be required to submit the Auditors/Bankers certificate.

The Commissioner also reported that Messrs. East India Tankers & Shippers pvt. Ltd, Bombay had paid more than 4.8% as interest on the contributions held by them. The Board decided that the Company need not be required to submit the Auditors/Bankers certificate.

Sr. No 4. Fixation of- rate of interest for Credit to member's Accounts for the year 1967-68.

A Copy of- Government of- India's letter No.5-MT (12)/68 dated 29th November 1968, Communicating their approval to the fixation of- rate of- interest- at 6% was placed on the table for information.

Item No. 3. Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules for the Staff of the Organisation.

The Commissioner reported that- the Committee appointed by the Board of Trustees to examine the Service Regulations and Recruitment- Rules of the Staff of the Organisation met on 4th January 1969 at Calcutta and that- the minutes of the meeting could not be placed on the table, at this meeting for want of- time. The Board decided that the Minutes of the Committee Meeting should be circulated to trustees soon.

Item No 4. Budget proposals for the year 1969-70

The Board considered and approved the Budget

proposals for the year 1969-70. The Board further approved of the provision for the additional grant of Rs.6,000 to meet additional expenditure to be incurred on account of the merger of the portion of the dearness allowance with the pay of the Employees in accordance with the orders issued by the Government of India.

The Board desired that the form adopted for presenting the Budget proposals should be modified so as to furnish additional details and that a pro-forma should be submitted to the Board at its next meeting.

Item No 5. Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund Contributions.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund Contributions and viewed with concern the non-receipt of contributions from defaulting employers. The Board desired that the Commissioner should periodically submit a detailed report showing the names of- employers, the amount of arrears and the current contributions etc. due and the steps taken to recover the same.

Item No:6. Inclusion of- Deck Barbers in the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966.

The Board considered the proposals made by the National union of Seafarers of India, Bombay and desired that- the Commissioner should examine the reasons for the exclusion of- deck barbers from the purview of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme and report to the Board at the next meeting.

Item No: 7. Provident- Fund Account Numbers Supply to Employers.

The Board approved the Commissioner's proposal

that C.D.C. numbers may be treated as provident Fund Account Nos. and that no separate Provident Fund Account No. need be given.

Item No 8. Reimbursement of medical expenses incurred by Shri J.F. Daulas.

The Board considered the claim of Rs. 1,262.00 of Shri J. F. Daulas, Junior Assistant, Seamen's Provident Fund being the expenditure incurred on his operation, medical attendance and treatment at the private hospital - Dr Hiralal's Hospital - and approved reimbursement thereof - as a special case subject to the Commissioner satisfying himself regarding the expenditure incurred.

The meeting then terminated at 5.30 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

T.V. Rajagopalan

SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Tenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on the 26th June, 1969 at 10.30 A.M. in the office of the Board of Trustees, 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay-1.

The following were present :-

1.	Shri K.C. Madappa	...	Chairman
2.	" T.V. Prabhu	...	member
3.	" Y.S. Kasbekar	...	"
4.	" J.K. Bhattacharya	...	"
5.	Capt. A.B. McSweeney	...	"
6.	Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas	...	"
7.	" N. Latif	...	"
8.	" Subrata Dutta	...	"
9.	" Leo Barnes	...	"
10.	" T.V. Rajagopalan	...	Secretary

Letter dated 12th June, 1969 from Mr. J.W. Anson, member Board of Trustees, tendering his resignation from the Board on his retirement and letter dated 12th June, 1969 from the Owners/Agents' Committee (Crews), intimating the nomination of Shri N. Latif, the Chairman designate of that Committee, as their representative on the Board of Trustees, were read and recorded.

Letter dated 29th May, 1969 from the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, Shipping and Transport intimating the nomination of Shri J.K. Bhattacharya vice Shri K.V. Sankaran was also read and recorded.

The Board placed on record its appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. J.W. Anson and Shri K.V. Sankaran members of the Board of Trustees and desired that a formal communication might issue to these gentlemen.

The Chairman, welcoming the new members - Sarvashri Bhattacharya and Latif, expressed the hope that they would be of assistance

15/7/69.

to the Board in the discharge of its responsibilities.

The Board noted with regret that Shri K. K. Khadilkar was ill and desired that the Board's concern might be communicated to Shri K Khadilkar alongwith their good wishes for a speedy and complete recovery.

The Board then took up the items on the list of business for discussion.

Item No. 1. – Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ninth Meeting.

The minutes of the 9th meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on the 6th January, 1969, as modified were confirmed.

Item No. 2. – Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

The action taken on the various items listed in the statement circulated was noted.

Item No. 3. – Proposals circulated to the Trustees for opinion.

Proposals on the undermentioned subjects, which had been earlier circulated to the Trustees, were approved.

i) Fixation of rate of interest for credit to members' account for the year 1968-69;

ii) Continuance of temporary staff for annual work relating to Provident Fund accounts;

iii) Acquisition of accommodation in "Manek Mahal" on lease.

The Board also approved the continuance of three of the six temporary clerks sanctioned for the annual work under item No. (ii) above, for a further period of two months, as sanctioned by Chairman.

Item No. 4. – Investment of the Fund.

The Board considered the report of the Investment Committee. The representatives of the employers and seamen expressed their strong disappointment that Government had not accepted their modified recommendation that 50% of the fund money to be invested in Central Government Securities, 20% in State

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Government Securities and the balance of 30% in Fixed Deposits, as against their earlier recommendation recommending investment of 60% of the fund money in Fixed Deposits and the balance of 40% in Central and State Government Securities. They maintained that the provisions of Section 4 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and Para 44 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme provide an alternative to invest the fund money in Fixed Deposits and such investments are analogous to investments of Companies Provident Funds in 'Fixed Deposits' under the provisions of Section 418 of the Companies Act, 1956.

2. The representative of the Government present explained that the Government's direction was in accordance with the provisions of the Act and the Scheme and that this decision was taken on the basis of a uniform policy adopted in respect of other similar Provident Funds.

3. In view of the strong views expressed by the representatives of the employers and the seamen, the Board decided that a Committee consisting of the following trustees should discuss the investment of fund moneys in Fixed Deposits with the ministry concerned in the Government of India at an early date:–

Shri Y. S. Kasbekar ... Member
" Ratiklal Harjeevandas ... "
" K. K. Khadilkar ... "
" T. V. Rajagopalan ... Secretary.

The Board further decided that accumulated amounts which had not been invested so far, should be invested as follows:–

i) 65% in the Central Government Securities;
ii) 35% in the State Government Securities and other Securities guaranteed by the Central or the State Government.

As regards existing investments, part of which are in fixed deposits with the State Bank of India, Bombay, it was decided

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to continue them until a final decision was taken by the Government after the discussion referred to above or the maturity of the deposits.

Item No. 5. — Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules for the Staff of the Organisation.

The Board considered the minutes of the meeting of the Committee appointed to examine the Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules of the Staff of the Organisation, held on Saturday, the 4th January, 1969, at Calcutta and approved the same.

Item No. 6. — Delays in remittance of Provident Fund contributions.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the delays in remittance of Provident Fund contributions by the employers and also the letter No. 0/AC(C)/101-144 dated 13th June, 1969, of the Owners'/Agents' Committee (Crews), Bombay regarding delay in remittance of Provident Fund contributions (placed on the table). The representatives of seamen were of the view that the difficulties enumerated by the employers were not acceptable as to the best of their knowledge most of the employers were able to remit Provident Fund contributions within the prescribed period of 15 days. They did not therefore, see sufficient cause why contributions already made by seafarers should be held by employers for a period longer than 15 days. They, however, agreed that the existing time limit of 15 days may be extended by a small grace period. In view, however, of the views expressed by representatives of seamen and in view of the difficulties experienced by employers in the initial stage of the scheme, the Board decided that a grace period of 15 days should be allowed over and above the 15 days period prescribed under the Scheme. The Board also decided that this ad hoc arrangement should be tried for a period of 6 months. The Board also decided that if employers failed to deposit the contributions within the grace period of 15 days

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they would forfeit the concession of the grace period and be liable to damages for periods beyond the 15 days period stipulated in para 35 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966. The Board also decided that damages need not be levied upto 1st July, 1969, in the case of such employers, though they have delayed, had been remitting contributions regularly. Damages should, however, be levied in the case of employers, who had not been remitting contributions regularly.

Item No. 7. — Appointment of Legal Adviser.

The Board considered the proposal to appoint legal adviser for the organisation and approved the appointment of Shri M.G. Vyavaharkar, Advocate, on the following terms and conditions :-

He shall be paid Rs. 30/- for drafting, typing and filing the complaints for each sanction for prosecution and Rs. 60/- for effective hearing for each sanction.

He shall also render service in respect of the following items for which no extra fees shall be charged.

1. Giving opinion on legal matters.
2. Attending office, when required.
3. Preparing documents, books, notices, etc.
4. Attending Officers of Solicitors along with officials of the Organisation.
5. Briefing lawyers appearing for the organisation in Civil Courts.

Item No. 8. — Sanction for the posts in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

The Board considered the proposals for sanction of posts in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation and decided, as under :-

i) The existing posts of Organisation be continued on temporary basis for one more year and the question of sanctioning the posts on permanent basis be deferred until after the expiry of the period

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of one year, as the Organisation is still in the formative stage.

ii) 4 posts of temporary clerks of fixed pay of Rs. 200/- p.m. for a period of 4 months in a year for the annual work were sanctioned.

iii) Three posts of temporary clerks on a fixed pay of Rs. 200/- p.m. were sanctioned until such time the arrears are cleared or for a period of 12 months, whichever is less.

Item No. 9. — Proforma for presenting the Budget proposals.

The Board considered the proposal for adopting the forms for presenting the Budget proposals and decided that as the present form contains all the information required under Para 49 (1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, the modification in the present form of Budget is not necessary.

Item No. 10. — Proposal for Family Pension Scheme.

The Board considered Shri Leo Barne's suggestion to introduce family pension scheme on the lines proposed by the Employees' Provident Funds Organisation and decided that the question of introducing the family pension scheme for seamen may be considered when full details of the scheme prepared by the Employees' Provident Funds Organisation become available.

Item No. 11. — Fixation of Rate of Interest for the year 1969-70.

The Board considered the proposal to fix the rate of interest for credit to the members' account for the year 1969-70 and decided that the rate of interest be fixed at 5%, as was done for the previous year 1968-69.

Item No. 12. — Audit of the Seamen's Provident Fund Account by the A.G., Maharashtra, Bombay.

The Board considered the Audit report of the Accountant General, Maharashtra, Bombay, and the comments on the various points and decided that a suitable reply on the lines indicated therein be sent to the Accountant General, Maharashtra, Bombay, and the

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Government of India on all the points except the point mentioned in para 7 of the Audit Report. The reply to the point raised in para 7 should be modified in the light of the decision taken by the Board on item No. 4 "Investment of the Fund" of the list of business.

Item No. 13. — Inclusion of Deck Barbers in the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

The Board considered the suggestion of the National Union of Seafarers of India, Bombay, to include Deck Barbers in the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme and decided that as the issue is not of such proportions at present as to justify amending legislation this case may be brought for consideration at a later date.

Item No. 14. — Exemption from the operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

The Board considered the report made by the Commissioner at the meeting that this item was being withdrawn, as the necessary information on the subject was not readily available and decided that it should be brought for consideration at the next meeting.

Item No. 15. — Receipt and disposal of Provident Fund contributions.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund contributions and noted the action taken by him.

Item No. 16. — Budget (Re-appropriation) 1968-69.

The Board noted the budgetary re-appropriation of the Fund sanctioned in the Budget for the year 1968-69, made under para 49 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

Item No. 17. — Amendment to para 23 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

The Board considered the proposal to amend Section 19 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act on the lines of Section 17A of the Employees' Provident Funds Act, 1952, so as to provide for transfer of Provident Fund account in case where any person, who is a member of another Provident Fund joins the seafaring profession and becomes

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member of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme and decided that as there was no such request made so far, the issue may be deferred for a period of one year.

Item No. 18. — Suggestion of the A.G. Maharashtra for adoption of certain forms by the Employers.

The Board considered the proposal of the Accountant General, Maharashtra, Bombay, for adoption of forms No. 12, 3 and 6 adopted by the Employees' Provident Funds Organisation by the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation and authorised the Commissioner to discuss the matter with the Accountant General, Maharashtra, Bombay, in the light of the comments made by employers and report to the Board at the next meeting.

Item No. 19. — Payment of Provident Fund dues.

The Board considered the suggestion made by Shri Subrata Dutta, member, Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, that the Commissioner should, in the event of any employer not remitting the Provident Fund contributions in time, arrange to pay the contributions from the Fund, to the seamen, on the strength of the statements received from the shipping masters and realise the amounts from the employers concerned thereafter and decided that in view of the reported hardships experienced by the seamen concerned, a Committee consisting of the following should go into this question and examine the feasibility of making payment from any other head, such as 'Forfeiture Accounts', etc., pending realisation of the dues from the employers, and report to the Board at its next meeting.

1. Shri Y.S. Kasbekar ... Convenor
2. " N. Latif ... member
3. " Leo Barnes ... "
4. " Subrata Dutta ... "
5. " T.V. Rajagopalan ... Secretary.

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Item No. 20. — Voluntary retirement of members after attaining the age of 50 years.

The Board considered the proposal of Shri Leo Barnes, member, Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, that seamen between the ages of 50 and 60 years be allowed to retire voluntarily with full service benefits i.e. gratuity for service rendered and full employers' contributions of Provident Fund as recommended by the Expert Committee on the Unemployment of Indian Seamen and decided that the question may be deferred until such time the report of the Committee is considered by the National Welfare Board.

Item No. 21. — Purchase of Office accommodation.

The Board considered the proposal for purchase of Office accommodation on the third floor of KRUPANIDHI near Grey Gate, Ballard Pier, Bombay, and decided that the Committee already appointed by the Board in its first meeting held on 26th October, 1966, for equipping the Office, be authorised to examine and finalise the deal, if the accommodation is found suitable.

Item No. 22. — Honorarium to the Liaison Staff at Calcutta.

The Board considered the question of increased honoraria to be granted to the Superintendent and the Stenographer of the Seamen's Employment Office, Calcutta, for attending to the liaison work of this Organisation and approved the increased amounts of honoraria to the Superintendent and Stenographer of Rs. 40/- and 35/- per month respectively.

Item No. 23. — Levy of damages for default in payment of Provident Fund contributions of catering staff employed on board ships.

The Board considered the proposal of levy of damages on the catering contractors of M/s. Shipping Corporation of India, Bombay, and M/s. Jaindia Steam Navigation Co., Bombay, and decided that in view of the prolonged correspondence between the employers and the

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Organisation as to the applicability of the provisions of the Act and the Scheme to the catering crew, and the consequent delay in the remittance of Provident Fund contributions, the damages proposed may not be levied on the catering contractors.

Item No. 24. — Third Regional Conference for Asia and Oceania in Quezon City, Phillipines.

The Board considered the invitation of the International Social Security Association, inviting this Organisation to be represented as an 'Observer' at the Third Regional Conference for Asia and Oceania in Quezon City, Phillipines, from 30th June to 6th July, 1969, and decided that owing to shortage of time and resources it would not be possible to depute a representative of the Organisation for the meeting. The Board, however, had no objection to any of the members of the Organisation, attending such conferences, in future, provided the Fund is not required to meet the expenses in connection with such international meetings.

Item No. 25. — Petition filed by M/S. Ashok Line, Cochin, in the High Court of Kerala.

The Board considered the petition filed by M/S. Ashok Line, Cochin, and noted the action being taken in this connection.

Item No. 26. — Grant of 46 days' commuted leave to the Commissioner.

The Board noted that the Commissioner had been sanctioned commuted leave for 46 days with effect from 2nd July, 1969.

Item No. 27. — Banking of the receipts on account of Provident Fund contributions and Administrative charges.

The Board noted that receipts by way of cheques and drafts received in this Organisation from Employers could not be banked from 11th June, 1969 onwards, on account of the

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Item no 11

by the staff of the State Bank of India at Bombay.

No. 28. — Members' Account.

The Board considered the motion brought by Subrata Dutta that there is growing concern among the seamen Calcutta over the delay in supply of members' annual accounts that the Commissioner should inform the seamen at Calcutta the annual accounts are under preparation and would be d shortly. Representatives of seamen at Bombay, were, however, in favour of sending such intimation to seamen at this stage, l might create more problems for the organisation in the event e annual accounts not reaching them within the stipulated period. however, felt that the Commissioner, should try and expedite the y of members' annual accounts.

The Board decided that the Commissioner should give able publicity by the issue of leaflets if necessary claiming that the annual accounts are under preparation and d be sent to seamen in due course.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Bombay on Thursday, the 4th September, 1969, at 10.30 A.M. in the Office of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund.

The meeting then terminated at 1.30 p.m. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Bombay,
Dated 13th OCT., 1969.

13/10/69

SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

13/10/69

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on 13th October, 1969, at 11.00 AM in the office of the Board of Trustees, at 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay 20.

The following were present.

1. Shri K.C. Madappa .. Chairman
2. Shri T.V. Prabhu. .. Member
3. Shri Y.S. Kasbekar. .. "
4. Shri J.K. Bhattacharya .. "
5. Capt. A.B. McSweeny. .. "
6. Shri Leo Barnes. .. "
7. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan .. Secretary.

Leave of absence was granted to S/Shri N. Latif, Rasiklal Harjeevandas, K.K. Khadilkar and Subrata Dutta.

The Board then took up the items on the list of business for discussion.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Tenth Meeting.

The amendment to item No. 4 of the Minutes suggested by S/Shri J.K. Bhattacharya and T.V. Prabhu, viz. that the fixed deposits should be withdrawn as and when they mature and should be invested in accordance with the instructions of Government in Government Securities, was discussed and it was decided that the Minutes as drawn should stand and that the fixed deposits should be renewed as and when they fell due till such time the final orders of Government on the representation made by the non official Trustees are issued. It was also decided that Legal opinion from M/s. Mulla and Mulla should be obtained

at a very early date, so that a final decision in the matter could be taken.

The amendment to item No. 6. suggested by Capt. A.B. McSweeny and Shri N. Latif, viz that the portion showing that the Board decided that if any employer remits the money after 30 days, damages will be leviable with reference to the period of 15 days prescribed under the Scheme was also discussed. Capt. McSweeny pointed out that there was no need for any directive from the Board as the Commissioner has been empowered to levy of damages. It was however explained that it was not the intention to issue any directive but only to make the position clear to the employers. It was decided that the minutes may stand as drafted.

Item No. 2. Action taken on the decions of the Board.

Action taken on the various decisions of the Board in its previous meetings was noted.

Item No. 3. Annual Report for the year 1968-69.

The Board approved the draft Annual Report for the year 1968-69. on the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund scheme.

Item No 4. Receipt and Accounting of the Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys and noted the action taken.

Item No 5. Special Allowance to the Cashier:

The Board considered the Question of grant of special pay to the Cashier for handling Cash of the Organisation and decided that a special pay of Rs. 15/- p.m. be paid to the Cashier.

Item No. 6. Levy of damages for default

in pay of Provident Fund Contribution.

The Board considered the representation made by m/s. Hind Shipping Agency, Bombay against the levy of damages and decided that the damages levied should be recovered.

Item No.7. Exemption from the operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966

The request received from m/s. South India Shipping Corp. Ltd., for the exemption of their two permanent employees viz. S/Shri C.M. Madhavan Nambiar and Stanes Fernando - Motormen (Petty officers), from the operation of the provisions of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act was considered and it was decided that the exemption may be granted, under section 20, of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, as the seamen are enjoying benefits in the nature of Provident Fund, Pension and other benefits, which are on the whole not less favourable than the benefits provided to them under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act.

Item No.8. Acquisition of office Accommodation for Seamen's Provident Fund organisation

The Board considered the representations made by the Accommodation Committee and approved the purchase of office accommodation admeasuring 3232 sq.ft. on the 3rd floor of Krupanidhi, Wittet Road, Bombay-1, at a cost not exceeding 6 Lakhs, inclusive of brokerage, incidental expenses etc. The Board also decided that the additional amount, if any, required over and above the balance available in the Administrative Account, for the purchase of the accommodation could be transferred from the Fund Account to the Administrative Charge Account. The amount so transferred

P.T.O.

should be returned to the Fund Account with interest at 6½% per annum in due course.

Item No.9. Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules for the Staff of the Organisation.

The Board considered the amendments suggested by the Government and accepted them.

Item No.10.

The Board considered the proposal brought by Shri Leo Barnes at the meeting that seamen appointed as officers should be allowed to withdraw their provident fund accumulations without forfeiting any portion of the employer's share. It was decided that a detailed proposal may be submitted to the Board for consideration at the next meeting.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Bombay on the 7th January 1970.

The meeting then terminated at 12-30 P.M. with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Bombay, dated 18th October 1969.

V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Twelth meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 7th January, 1970, at 10-30 A.M. in the office of the Bord of Trustees, at 117, Maharshi Karve Road, Bombay-20.

The following were present.

1. Shri R. Doraiswamy .. Chairman.
2. Shri T. V. Prabhu .. Member.
3. Shri Y. S. Kasbekar .. "
4. Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas .. "
5. Capt. A. B. Mc Sweeney .. "
6. Shri N. Latif .. "
7. Shri K. K. Khadilkar .. "
8. Shri Subrata Dutta .. "
9. Shri Leo Barnes .. "
10. Shri T. V. Rajagopalan .. Secretary.

Shri R. Doraiswamy, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, presided over the meeting.

2. Before commencement of business, the Board observed two minutes silence by standing as mark of respect to Mr. M. A. Master, Whose death had occurred the previous day and passed the following resolution:-

"The Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident fund, Bombay, learnt with profound regret of the sad demise on 6th January, 1970, of Shri M. A. Master, The Chairman and the Members of the Board of Trustees offer their heart-felt sympathy to the members of the family of late Shri M. A. Master, in their bereavement."

3. The Members of the Board welcomed the new Chairman of the Board of Trustees. The Chairman thanked the members of the Board and express his happiness in being associated with the organisation.

4. The Board placed on record its deep appreciation of the valuable service rendered by Shri K. C. Madappa, the outgoing Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, Who had been associated with the organisation during its formative period, by passing the following resolution:-

"The Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund wish to record its deep appreciation of the great interest evinced and the valuable service rendered by Shri K. C. Madappa Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fund and wish him all success in future."

5. Leave of absence was granted to Shri J. K. Bhattacharya.

The Board then took up the items on the list of business for disscussion.

Item No 1 - Confirmation of the Minutes of the Eleventh Meeting

Shri Bhattacharya's suggestion that item No 1 of the minutes should be amended to indicate that the Chairman had stated that M/s. Mulla and Mulla's opinion should be obtained at a very early date and in any case the matter should be settled before the end of December at the latest was considered by the Board. The consensus of opinion of the members was that no definite date was fixed for finalising the matter, as no such definite date could be fixed for obtaining legal opinion. The Board, however, desired that arrangements should be made to obtain the legal opinion as early as possible and the position should be suitably explained to Shri Bhattacharya. The minutes were then confirmed.

Item No. 2. - Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

Action taken on all items was noted.

As regards the item at Sr. No. 9 - "Acquisition of office accommodation for seamen's Provident Fund", the Board felt that arrangements should be made to finalise the transaction at a very early date.

Item No.3.- Receipt and Accounting of the Provident Fund Moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys and noted the action taken.

Item No.4.- Budget proposals for the year 1970-71

The Board considered the Budget proposals for the year 1970-71 and approved the estimated Budget at Rs. 2,77,400/- for the year 1970-71 and the supplementary estimate of Rs.6,12,000/- for the year 1969-70 for purchase of office accommodation.

Item No 5.- Appointment of Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board noted that the tenure of Shri T.V. Rajagopalan Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner, is due to expire on 28th. February, 1970, and recommended that in view of the fact that the organisation is still in its formative period and view of his close association with the organisation since the inception of the Scheme, it is essential to continue Shri Rajagopalan's services at least till such time he is due to superannuate.

Item No.6 - Payment of Provident Fund moneys to Seamen who retired any time during the year in which they superannuate

The Board considered the proposal of Shri Leo Barnes that seamen who have completed 59 years of age and return from the voyage in the latter half or end of the year of their superannuation should, on request, be allowed to retire at any time during the last year of their service should be paid their Provident Fund dues without any forfeiture. The Board approved the proposal, in principal, and decided that the Provident Fund Commissioner should work out a procedure in consultation

with the Directorate General of Shipping to implement the proposal.

Item No. 7 - Disposal of Provident Fund moneys of persons who enter sea-service from other professions and of seamen ~~no~~ who are appointed as officers.

Shri Leo Barnes had suggested that the Provident Fund accumulations of seamen who had been recruited from other trades and professions to which the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme and other approved Provident Fund Schemes applied Should be transfered to the Seamen's Provident Fund. This proposal was agreed to by the Board and it was decided that the transfer of such accumulations should be facilitated by amending the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, if necessary.

Shri Leo Barnes had also suggested that in the case of merchant navy seamen who become officers in the merchant navy the accumulations in their Provident Fund should be transferred to the concerned shipping company's Provident Fund. The Board agreed to the proposal and decided that Section 19 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, Should be suitably amended to provide for such transfers.

Item No. 8 - Exemption from the operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

The Board considered the requests made by the following retired seamen of M/s. MacKinnon Mackenzie & Co. for exemption under section 20 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966 and decided that the exemption from the operation of the provisions of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme may be granted under Section 20 of the Act, as the seamen will enjoy pensionery benefits which are on the whole not less favourable then the benefits provided to them under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act:-

1. Shri B.K. Gupta.
2. Shri C. Noronha.
3. Shri L. Viegas.

Item No. 9 - Introduction of Provident Fund for the Staff of the Organisation.

The Board considered the proposal for the introduction of a Provident Fund Scheme for the staff of the organisation and approved the introduction of a Provident Fund Scheme to the staff of the Organisation in accordance with the rules applicable to the General Provident Fund Scheme of the Central Government Servants.

Item No. 10 - Transfer of Provident Fund accumulations of Shri C.R. Maitty, Fitter, CDC No. 37896, to M/s. Shipping Corporation of India, Bombay

The Board agreed to the withdrawl of this item, as the Commissioner was not able to obtain in time the relevant material for discussion and decided that the item may be brought for consideration at the next meeting.

Item No. 11 - Payment of Provident Fund dues.

The Board considered the recommendations of the Committee appointed by the Board to examine the question of making payment to retired seamen in cases where moneys have not been realised from the Employers and approved the following recommendations of the Committee:-

(i) The Forfeiture Fund may be utilised for payment to seamen the quantum of their own contributions towards Provident Fund recovered by the Employer, When the Employer has failed to credit the amount to the Fund;

(ii) The question of payment of Employer's contributions in such cases should be considered when the accumulations in the Forfeiture Account are of sufficient magnitude to permit such payments.

Item No 12 - Levy of damages for default in payment of Provident Fund contributions.

The Board considered the representation made by

M/s. Pent-Ocean Steamships Private Ltd., Bombay, against the levy of damages and decided that damages leavied should be recovered.

Item No. 13 - Investment of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the note, dated 28th October, 69, circulated to the Members of the Investment Committee and approved the action taken to implement the instructions in respect of investment of Provident Fund moneys in securities contained in Government of India, Ministry of Shipping & Transport Notification No. S-MT(3)/67, dated 23, October, 1969.

Item No. 14 - Transfer of Provident Fund accumulations.

The Board approved the transfer of Provident Fund accumulations of Shri Animesh Chandra Roy, CDC No. 12586, to the Fort Gloster Industries Limited, Mill Workers' Provident Fund which is a Provident Fund covered by the Employees' Provident Funds Scheme, 1952.

Item No. 15 - Recovery of Provident Fund dues.

The Board considered the Commissioner's proposal to prosecute M/s. Eastern Steamships Private Ltd, Calcutta, for default in payment of Provident Fund dues and approved the same.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting of the Board at Madras on 13th May, 1970, at 3-00 P.M.

The meeting then terminated with vote of thanks to the Chair.

Bombay:
10th January, 1970

P.P. Rajagopalan
Secretary,
Board of Trustees,
Seamen's Provident Fund,
Bombay.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on Wednesday, the 13th May, 1970, at 3.00 pm. at Madras.

The following were present :-

1. Shri R. Doraiswamy .. Chairman.
2. " P.N. Anand .. Member.
3. Capt. A.B. McSweeney " "
4. Capt. J.P. Mason Price " "
5. Shri Leo Barnes. .. "
6. Shri T.V. Rajagopalan .. Secretary.

Shri Y.S. Kasbekar, Sr. Deputy Director General of Shipping, was also present.

Leave of absence was granted to S/Shri J.K. Bhattacharya, T.V. Prabhu, Sobrala Dutta, Rasiklal Harjeevandas and K.K. Khadilkar.

Item No.1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the 12th Meeting.

The Minutes of the 12th meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on the 7th January 1970, were confirmed.

Item No.2. Action taken on the decisions of the Board.

Commissioner's report regarding action taken on the various decions of the Board in its previous meetings was noted.

Item No.3. Fixation of Rate of interest for the year 1970-71.

The Board considered the proposal to fix the rate of interest for credit to members' account for the year 1970-71 and decided to recommend to Government that the rate of interest be fixed at 5%, as was done for the previous years 1968-69 and 1969-70.

Item No 4:- Receipt and accounting of Provident Fund moneys

13th Meeting

The report sub[illegible] Commissioner regarding the progress made in receipt and accounting of Provident Fund moneys was noted. The Board also sanctioned the continuance of 3 posts of temporary Clerks sanctioned on a fixed pay of Rs.200/pm for clearance of arrears for a further period of one year or till such time the arrears are cleared, whichever is earlier. The Board also sanctioned 4 posts of temporary clerks for annual work for a period of 8 months as against the period of 4 months already sanctioned in their 10th meeting.

Item No.5. Delays in Remittance of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board noted with concern the continued delays on the part of the employers in remitting the provident Fund contributions and decided as under :-

(i) The grace period of 15 days over and above the 15 days period prescribed in the scheme, allowed in the 10th meeting should be continued for a further period of six months;

(ii) The employers need not submit statements certified by the Shipping Master along with their cheques or drafts. It would be sufficient if an uncertified copy of the statement is furnished along with the cheques or drafts. The employers should, however, ensure that the copy submitted by them along with the cheques or drafts is identical with the copy submitted to the Shipping Master.

(iii) Show Cause notice should be issued to all the Employers who have delayed contributions and their explanations, when obtained may be placed before the Board for consideration.

Item No.6. Aquisition of office accommodation.

The Board approved the action taken by its Committee appointed for the purchase of office accommodation in acquiring accommodation on ownership basis, at

Krupanidhi, 9 Walchand Hirachand Marg, Bombay 1. The Board also approves the expenditure of Rs. 5,86,500/- incurred on purchase and payment of brokerage and Rs. 17,625/- incurred on equipping the office and on moving to the new accommodation.

Item No. 7. Budget (Re-appropriation) 1969-70

The Board noted the Budget by Re-appropriation of the funds sanctioned in the budget for the year 1969-70, made under para 49 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

Item No. 8: Audit of the Seamen's Provident Fund Accounts.

The Board considered the audit report and the comments of the Commissioner thereon and decided that the Commissioner should take further necessary action in the matter.

Item No. 9: Levy of damages for default in payment of Provident Fund Contributions - Representation from M/s. Peut Ocean Steamships private Ltd. Bombay.

The Board considered the telegram dated 12th May 1970 from Capt J.C. Anand, Managing Director of the Company, read out by the Commissioner and acceded to his request for appearing before the Trustees in their next meeting for putting forward his Company's views on the subject.

Item No. 10. Transfer of Provident Fund accumulations to the Employees Provident Funds organisation.

The Board approved the transfer of Provident Fund accumulations of the following members to the Employees Provident Funds Scheme, 1952.

Sr. No.	Name	CDC No
1.	Shri A. Thangavelu	54060

Sr. No.	Name.	CDC No.
2.	Shri P. Harikrishna.	A 52048.
3.	Shri M.V. Dumbre.	69817.
4.	Shri J.S. Dutta Roy.	19161.

Item. 11. Exemption to Shri C.R Maitty, CDC No 37896 from the operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

The requests received from M/s. Mogul line Ltd, Bombay and M/s. South India Shipping Corporation Madras, for exemption of their permanent employees from the operations of the provisions of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act were considered and it was decided that the exemption may be granted under section 20 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act to the under mentioned seamen, as they are enjoying benefits in the nature of Provident Fund, Pension and other benefits, which are ~~not~~ on the whole not less favourable than the benefits provided to them under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act.

M/s. Mogul line Ltd. Bombay.

Sr. No.	Name	CDC No.
1.	Shri G.J. Fernandes.	71970
2.	Shri J.C. D'Costa	78239
3.	Shri F.V. Fernandes.	A 40166
4.	Shri R.M.F. Fernandes.	71870
5.	Shri Ali Hussain Bhoy.	50239
6.	Shri Yusuf Hussain Bhoy.	60062.
7.	Shri Abbas. A. Kadar.	50401
8.	Shri V.S. Pereira.	76454.
9.	Shri. H.I. Borges.	75738.
10.	Shri S.V. Fernandes.	76227
11.	Shri. B. D'Costa	71979
12.	Shri Ali Suleman Shirgankar.	A 57911
13.	Shri Abdul Razak. A. Syed.	A 57911
14.	Shri V.D. Mungekar.	A 57929

15 Shri Abdul Rehman SK. Hussain. 64981
16. Shri A.J. Warkar. A 57850
17. Shri F.X. D'Cunha A 57849
18. Shri Ishaq Dawood. 54015
19. Shri SK. Mohd. Shahbuddin 51592
20. Shri Hussein Mya Chhoti Miya 63963
21. Shri J. D'Souza A 62906
22. Shri J.A. Dias A 60293
23. Shri Sylvester Leitao A 66051

M/s. South India Shipping Corporation Ltd. Madras.

1. Shri N.C. Rebeiro 81054
2. Shri T. Charles.

It was also decided that the Question of exemption of permanent employees of the Shipping Corporation of India, Bombay, may be brought in the next meeting after ascertaining full details of the benefits available to them under the scheme framed by the Shipping Corporation of India.

Item No. 12. Change in terms and conditions of appointment of the Advocate for the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

The Board considered the request of Shri Vyavaharkar Advocate and sanctioned a Conveyance allowance of Rs. 15/- per visit to Shri Vyavaharkar whenever he is required to pay a visit to the office. This would be in addition to the terms already approved.

Item No 13. Honorarium to the liaison staff at Calcutta

The Board considered the request made by the Liaison officer at Calcutta and decided that Government of India should be requested to permit the liaison staff at Calcutta to retain, as a special case, the full amount of honoraria received by them.

Item No 14. Representation of M/s. Paramount Tile & Construction Company regarding enhancement of brokerage for securing office accommodation at 'Krupanidhi'.

The Board considered the representation of Paramount Tile & Construction Company, Bombay, regarding enhancement of brokerage for securing the office accommodation at Krupanidhi and regretted their inability to accede to the request of the Company.

Item No. 15. Bank Commission on outstation cheques

The Board considered the proposal to fix the bank charges on outstation cheques received by the organisation and decided that the Commissioner should take up with the Companies concerned and request them to send the amount by bank draft.

Item No. 16. Grant-in-aid to Recreation Club of the Seamen's Provident Fund office.

The Board considered the proposal for grant-in-aid to the recreation club of the Seamen's Provident Fund and sanctioned a non-recurring grant of Rs. 500/- only for the purchase of articles proposed.

Item No. 17. Appointment of Director Seamen's Employment office, Calcutta, as Liaison officer at Calcutta.

The Board considered the appointment of the liaison officer at Calcutta and approved the appointment of Shri J.P. Mullick, Director, Seamen's Employment office, Calcutta, as Liaison officer at Calcutta for the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board decided to hold its next meeting at Bombay, on Thursday the 3rd September 1970, at 3.00 pm.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Bombay.
26th May 1970.

T. V. Rajagopalan.
SECRETARY.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on Thursday the 3rd September 1970, at 3.00 P.M. in the office of the Board of Trustees, at Krupa-nidhi, 3rd Floor, 9, Walchand Hirachand Road, Bombay-1.

The following were present.

1. Shri R. Doraiswamy. ... Chairman.
2. " P.N. Anand. ... Member.
3. " Rasiklal Harjeevandas ... "
4. " N. Lalji. "
5. " P.I.D. Barly "
6. " K.K. Khasilkar "
7. " Leo Barnes. "
8. " Subrata Dutta "
9. " T.V. Rajagopalan. Secretary.

Shri Y.S. Kasleekar, Senior Deputy Director General of Shipping, was also present.

Leave of absence was granted to S/Shri B. Roy and H.K. Narula.

Shri R. Doraiswamy, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, presided over the meeting.

Item No.1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Thirteenth Meeting.

The minutes of the Thirteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held at Madras on 13th May 1970, were confirmed.

Item No.2. Action taken to implement the decisions of the Board.

Commissioner's report regarding action taken on the various decisions of the Board in its previous

meetings was noted.

Item No.3. Papers circulated to Trustees for opinion.

The action taken on the proposal to invest 50% of the Provident Fund accumulations in 5 year post office Time Deposits to which approval of Trustees had been obtained by circulation of papers, was reported to the Board and the Board noted that the proposals had been implemented.

The Board also decided that the amounts held in the Fixed Deposits with the State Bank of India, should be invested in 5 year Post-office Time Deposits as and when the Fixed Deposits mature, subject to the right of Trustees to invest the Fund moneys in Fixed Deposits yielding better returns.

Item No.4. Draft Annual Report for the year 1969-70

The Board approved the draft Annual Report for the year 1969-70 on the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

Shri Rasiklal Harjeevandas, however, suggested that a reference should be made in the Annual Report to the effect that a reference has been made to the Solicitors Messrs Mulla and Mulla, for obtaining their legal opinion on the Question of investment of Fund moneys in Fixed Deposits. This was agreed.

Item No.5. Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys:

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys and noted the action taken.

Item No.6. Sanction for posts in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

The Board considered the proposal for sanction of posts in the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation and sanctioned the following posts on permanent basis:-

Sr.No.	Posts.	No. of Posts.	Scale of Pay.
1.	Commissioner.	1.	1100-50-1300-60-1600-100-1800.
2.	Accounts officer	1.	600-50-1100.
3.	Superintendent	1.	350-25-600.
4.	Senior Assistants	3.	210-10-290-15-320-EB-15-380.
5.	Junior Assistants.	10.	150-5-175-6-205 EB-7-240.
6.	Cashier.	1	150-5-175-6-205-EB-7-240.
7.	Stenographer.	1	210-10-290-15-320-EB-15-380
8.	Peons.	3	70-1-80-EB-1-85.
9.	Cleaner.	1	70-1-80-EB-1-85.
	Total	22.	
10.	Seasonal staff for annual work.	6.	Clerks for 6 months on a fixed pay of Rs.200/- pm.

The Board also considered the Commissioner's proposal for appointment of an Attendant on regular basis. The present sanctioned strength of three peons for the organisation, being inadequate to cope with the work, an Attendant on daily wage basis at Rs.4/- per working day, has been working in the Organisation for over a period of one year. The Board therefore sanctioned the appointment of a peon (Ledger Attendant) on regular basis in the time scale of pay of Rs.70-1-80-EB-1-85.

Item No.7. Continuance of the Staff on deputation.

The Board considered the proposal for continuance of the staff of the organisation who have come over on deputation and decided that their parent department should be approached for the continuance of the following staff members for a further period of one year on the existing terms and conditions:-

1. Shri M.S. Chanbal, Superintendent.
2. Shri J.R. Punjabi, Sr. Assistant.
3. Shri L.N. Dabhoya, Sr. Assistant.

Item No 8. Continuance of the Accounts officer on deputation

The Board considered the proposal for continued appointment of the Accounts officer for a further period. The Seamen's Provident Fund organisation had started with a large back-log of over three years and the accounting work has yet to be brought upto date. There are arrears, particularly in regard to reconciliation. Apart from this, Schemes like the General Roster Seamen's Gratuity Scheme, are to be taken up by the organisation and the Board felt that the continuance of Shri G. Venkatakrishnan, who has been associated with the Scheme since its inception, for a further period of atleast one year is essential and therefore decided that the Government and the Comptroller and Auditor General of India, should be approached for sanction for the continuance on the existing terms and conditions.

Item No 9. Draft Rules for introduction of General Provident Fund Scheme for the staff of the organisation.

The Board considered the Draft Rules for introduction of General Provident Fund Scheme for the staff of the organisation and approved the same

Item No. 10 Grant of special pay to peon for operating the Gestetner Duplicating Machine

The Board considered and approved the proposal for grant of special pay of Rs. 5/- per month to the peon for operating the Gestetner Duplicating Machine.

Item No. 11. Appeal made by M/s. Peut ocean Steamship Co. Ltd. against levy of damages.

The Board heard Capt J.C. Anand of Messrs Peut Ocean Steamship Co, Ltd. and decided that Company should write to the Commissioner giving all the facts of the case. The Commissioner shall offer his Comments on the points raised by the Company and forward the same to Shri Y.S. Kasbekar, Senior Deputy Director General of Shipping, who has, on the request of the Board, kindly agreed to examine the facts of the case and give his findings.

Item No 12. Exemption to the permanent floating staff of the Shipping Corporation of India, Ltd. from operation of Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

The Board considered the proposal for exemption to the permanent floating staff of the Shipping Corporation of India from operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme and in view of the fact that the Petty officers, who have become permanent members of the floating staff are covered by their Provident Fund Scheme, which is more advantageous than our scheme, granted exemption to the Petty officers of the Shipping Corporation, who have become permanent members of the floating staff and are covered by their Provident Fund Scheme, from operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

Item No. 13. Delays in remittance of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the Question of delays in remittance of Provident Fund moneys and decided to defer this item until the next meeting. It was also decided that the Commissioner should, in the meanwhile submit a detailed report about the delayed remittances of Provident Fund Contributions by employers, to enable

the Directorate General of shipping to take up the matter with the Shipowners, in their monthly meetings

Item No. 14, Revival of Registration of Seamen.

The Board Considered the difficulties relating to payment of Provident Fund Contributions and forfeitures in Case of Cancellation of registration of Seamen and subsequent revival thereof and decided that the matter be referred to Government and their approval obtained.

Item No. 15 Fixation of Rate of Interest for the year 1970-71.

The Board re-considered the proposal to fix the rate of interest for credit to member's account for the year 1970-71 and agreed with Government to fix the rate of interest at 5-25%.

Item No. 16. Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner.

The Board took note of the fact that Shri T.V. Rajagopalan, Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner was due to attain the age of superannuation on the 26th May 1971, and that Government had sanctioned his Continued appointment as Commissioner till that date.

The Seamen's Provident Fund started with a large backlog of over 3 years and the accounts and allied work will take another year or more to be brought upto date. Certain important matters pertaining to the administrative set up of the organisation, such as framing of the Recruitment Rules for the staff, General Provident Fund benefits for the staff, declaration of the organisation as a permanent body have yet to be settled. It was the Considered opinion of the Board that Shri Rajagopalan by virtue of his association with the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme from its inception and his vast and varied experience as a Shipping Master and a Director, Seamen's Employment office

would be of immense utility to the organisation during the formative period, which may last for another 2 or 3 years. He continues to enjoy sound health and is active and energetic.

The Seamen's Provident Fund organisation is considered a pivot around which certain other Schemes for the promotion of Social Security for Seamen are being developed, eg. General Gratuity Scheme, Indian Seamen's Benevolent Fund, Pension Scheme for Seamen, etc.

After careful Consideration of the matter from all aspects the Board came to the unanimous Conclusion that the Authorities Concerned should be approached with a strong recommendation to allow Shri Rajagopalan to Continue as Commissioner for a further period of atleast 2 years beyond the 26th May 1971.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting of the Board at Calcutta on Tuesday the 29th December 1970.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

Bombay
10th Sept. 1970.

T.V. Rajagopalan
Secretary,
Board of Trustees,
Seamen's Provident Fund,
Bombay.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

MINUTES of the Fifteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on Tuesday, the 29th December, 1970, at 11.00 A.M. in the Office of the Board of Trustees, at "Krupanidhi", 3rd floor, 9, Walchand Hirachand Marg, Bombay — 1.

The following were present:

1. Shri R. Doraiswamy ... Chairman
2. " P. N. Anand ... Member
3. " T. V. Prabhu " "
4. " Rasiklal Harjeevandas " "
5. Capt. A. B. McSweeney " "
6. Shri K. K. Khadilkar " "
7. " Leo Barnes " "
8. " T. V. Rajagopalan " Secretary.

Leave of absence was granted to S/Shri Harbans Singh, P. I. D. Barty and Subrata Dutta.

Item No. 1. — Confirmation of the minutes of the Fourteenth Meeting.

The minutes of the Fourteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held at Bombay on 3rd September, 1970, were confirmed.

Item No. 2. — Action taken to implement the decisions of the Board.

Commissioner's report regarding action taken on the decisions of the Board in its previous meetings, except decisions at item No. 2 (1), was noted.

Item No. 2 (1). — Investment of Fund moneys.

The letter from the State Bank of India, Bombay, requesting that Fund moneys should be invested in the

Fixed Deposits of the State Bank of India and offering to pay interest at the rate of 7% for deposits of 73 months, was placed before the Board. The Board decided that the matter may be considered by the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees in the first instance.

Item No. 3. — Receipt & Accounting of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the [illegible] and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys and noted the [illegible]ken.

Item 7

[illegible]der Hindusthan Shipping Co., Ltd., the Board decided that the complaint be lodged in a competent Calcutta Court.

The Board also decided that a suit should be filed in the High Court of Bombay, for recovery of Provident Fund dues from the sale proceeds of S.S. "BARUN".

Item No. 4. — Draft Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules for the staff of the Organisation.

The Board approved the amendments proposed by Government to the Draft Service Regulations and Recruitment Rules for the staff of the Organisation.

Item No. 5. — Budget proposals for the year 1971-72.

The Board approved the Budget estimate of Rs. 2,38,200.00 for the financial year 1971-72.

Item No. 6. — Honorarium to the Liaison staff at Calcutta.

The Board decided that the Government should be requested to reconsider their decision and except the Liaison staff at Calcutta from payment under S.R. 12, as they felt that the additional expenditure would mean a subsidy from the Fund to the Government.

Item No. 7. — Delays in remittances of Provident

(Item No. 7. - contd.) - Fund contributions.

The Board decided that the grace period of 15 days allowed as an interim measure, for payment of Provident Fund contributions, be withdrawn with effect from 1st April 1971 and the time limit prescribed in para 35 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme should be enforced, and Damages should be levied in all cases of delayed remittances after that date. It was also decided that damages need not be levied in the case of such of the employers, who have delayed remittances but have been paying regularly. Damages should, however, be levied in the case of such of the employers who habitually delay and are irregular in the payment of their dues.

Item No. 8. - Disposal of P.F. moneys of persons who enter sea service from other professions and of seamen who are appointed as officers.

The Board considered the transfer of Provident Fund contributions of the seamen who are promoted as officers in various shipping companies, to the Provident Fund, under the Scheme formulated for them by their employers and felt that as the members do not leave the seafaring profession but continue to remain in the profession, provisions of section 19 of the Act do not prohibit such transfer. They, therefore, decided that the Provident Fund accumulations of such members, who are promoted as officers in various shipping companies, may be transferred.

Additional Item. -

Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner.

The Board considered further the question of granting extension of service to Shri T. V. Rajagopalan, Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner, in the light of the reply received from the Government, through the Director General of Shipping, to the recommendation of the Board that Shri Rajagopalan may be allowed to continue as Commissioner for a period of atleast two years beyond the 28th May

1971. It was observed that although Shri Rajagopalan was appointed as Commissioner with effect from the 9th July, 1966, he continued to hold additional charge of the office of the Shipping Master, Bombay, and it was only about the end of May 1967 that the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation was established with its full complement of staffs. The back-log of over three years was in addition to the current day-to-day work and since the organisation was newly established and had its teething troubles, it was humanly not possible to clear all the back-log and become uptodate in about three years time in regard to the preparation of Index Cards, Ledgers, Statements of Accounts, postings, reconciliation in respect of 50,000 seamen dealt with by the Organisation. The stage is now set for the back-log to be cleared in the next year and a half. The administrative matters such as framing of Recruitment Rules, Provident Fund Scheme for staff, permanency of the Organisation, etc., are also expected to be completed by about the same time. The Board felt that the advice and services of the present Commissioner would also be needed badly in the matter of extension of social security measures for seamen like General Pooled Gratuity Scheme, Indian Seamen's Benevolent Fund, Pension Scheme for the families of seamen, etc. The Board reviewed their previous recommendation with reference to the criteria laid down by the Government in relation to such cases and came to the unanimous conclusion that the conditions prescribed were satisfied fully in the case of Shri Rajagopalan in that the officer possesses outstanding merit and the unique experience of several years both as the Director, Seamen's Employment Office and the Shipping Master. There is no other officer, who has this type of rich and varied experience. While another senior officer can be considered for the appointment, he will not have the advantage of possessing the same experience as acquired by Shri Rajagopalan. The Board, therefore, strongly felt that it was in the interests of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation to retain Shri

Rajagopalan in service for a further period of two years or atleast one year beyond the 26th May 1971. It was unanimously decided to approach Government again for a reconsideration of the matter and acceptance of the proposal to allow Shri Rajagopalan to continue as Commissioner for another two years or at least one year beyond the 26th May, 1971. The Trustees also urged the Chairman to use his good offices in the matter as Director General of Shipping.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Bombay on Thursday, the 15th April, 1971.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

Bombay:

15th April 1971.

T. V. Rajagopalan
Secretary,
Board of Trustees,
Seamen's Provident Fund,
Bombay.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Item No. 5. Budget proposals for the year 1971-72.

During the meeting, the representatives of the Shipowners suggested reduction in the Administrative Charge. The Chairman ruled that this matter be brought as a seperate item for discussion at the next meeting.

T. V. Rajagopalan
SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

MINUTES of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on Thursday, the 15th April, 1971, at 11.00 A.M. in the Office of the Board of Trustees, at "Krupanidhi", 2nd floor, 9, Walchand Hirachand Marg, Bombay-1.

The following were present:

1. Shri R. Doraiswamy ... Chairman
2. .. P. N. Anand ... Member
3. .. Ranikal Harjeevandas ... ..
4. Capt. A. B. McSweeney ... ..
5. Shri N. K. Sen ... ..
6. .. K. K. Khadilkar ... ..
7. .. Leo Barnes ... ..
8. .. Subrata Dutta ... ..
9. .. T. V. Rajagopalan ... Secretary.

Leave of absence was granted to Sarvashri T. V. Prabhu and G. C. Jetli.

Item No. 1 — Confirmation of the Minutes of the Fifteenth Meeting:

The amendment to Item No. 5 — "Budget proposals for the year 1971-72" suggested by Capt. McSweeney and Shri Ranikal Harjeevandas that the shipowners' representatives made a strong plea that the Administrative Levy at 3% of the employers' and employees' contributions should be reduced by at least ½% was discussed and it was decided that the following sub-para should be added to the Minutes of the Fifteenth Meeting, under this item :—

"During the meeting, the representatives of the Shipowners suggested reduction in the Administrative Charge. The Chairman ruled that this matter be brought as a separate item for discussion at the next meeting."

The amendment suggested by Capt. McSweeney that the first sentence of the record under Item No.7 – "Delays in remittances of Provident Fund contributions" should be split up in two sentences by inserting a full stop at the end of the word "enforced" in line 5, and a new sentence should commence with the words "Dangers should ..... after that date." was discussed and it was decided to modify the minutes accordingly.

The minutes were confirmed with the above modifications.

Item No. 2 – Action taken to implement the decision of the Board.

Commissioner's report regarding action taken on the decisions of the Board in its previous meetings, was noted.

Item No. 3 – Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the commissioner on the Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys and noted the action taken.

Item No. 4 – Amendments to Draft Rules for introduction of General Provident Fund, for the Staff of the Organisation.

The Board considered the following amendments to the draft Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation (Staff General Provident Fund) Regulations, suggested by Government and decided to accept the same.

"i) in draft Regulation 12(b), the word "higher" may be inserted before the word "education of the subscriber".

ii) apart from recoverable advances, provision may be made for non-recoverable 'withdrawals' from the Fund on the lines of the provisions in the General Provident Fund (Central Services Rules, 1960: and

iii) at the end of draft Regulations an additional

Regulation regarding interpretation may be inserted as under :–

"If any question arises relating to the interpretation of these regulations it shall be referred to the Central Government whose decision thereon shall be final."

Item No. 5 – Fixation of rate of interest for credit to members' Account for the year 1971-72.

The Board considered the proposal to fix the rate of interest for credit to members' Account for the year 1971-72 and decided to recommend to Government that the rate of interest be fixed at 5.5%.

Item No. 6 – Budget (Re-appropriation) 1970-71.

The Board noted the Budgetary Re-appropriation of the Funds sanctioned in the Budget for the year 1970-71, made under Para 49 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

Item No. 7 – Exemption from operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

The request received from M/s. Mogul Line Ltd., Bombay, for exemption of their Tally-cum-Immigration Clerks from the operation of the provisions of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act was considered and it was decided that the exemption may be granted under Section 2o of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act in their case, as they are enjoying benefits in the nature of Provident Fund which are on the whole not less favourable than the benefits provided to them under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966.

A similar request from M/s. Mackinnon, Mackenzie & Co., Bombay, was also considered and it was decided that Shri R.B. Almeida, Chief Steward, CDC No. 34915 may be exempted from the operation of the provision of the Seaman's Provident Fund Act under Section 2o of the Seaman's Provident Fund Act, 1966.

Item No. 8 — Audit Report for the year 1969-70.

The Board considered the Audit Report of the Accountant General, Maharashtra, Bombay, and approved the draft comments offered by the Commissioner on the various points.

Item No. 9 — Fixation of administrative charge.

The Board considered the proposal of the Owners/Agents' Committee (Crews), Bombay, for reduction in the rate of Administrative charge and decided that the matter should be reviewed at the time of presentation of the Budget for the year 1972-73.

Item No. 10 — Investment of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board had, in its last meeting, decided that the matter may be considered by the Investment Committee of the Board of Trustees in the first instance. Since the Investment Committee could not meet earlier than this meeting, this item was withdrawn.

Item No. 11 — Delays in remittance of Provident Fund contributions.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner and decided that the grace period of 15 days allowed as an interim measure for payment of Provident Fund contributions be withdrawn with effect from 15th June, 1971 instead of from 1st April, 1971.

Item No. 12 — Withdrawals from the Fund for payment towards Insurance Policies.

The Board considered the suggestion of Shri Leo Barnes, member, Board of Trustees, and decided that the Commissioner should take steps to amend paragraphs 53-58 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, on the lines of the amended paragraphs 62-67 of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, 1952, for the purpose of payment of insurance premiums by him, to the Life Insurance Corporation of India, on behalf of the seamen.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Bombay, on Thursday, the 5th August, 1971.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

September, 1971.

V. Rajagopalan.
Secretary,
Board of Trustees,
Seamen's Provident Fund,
Bombay.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

MINUTES of the SEVENTEENTH Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on Friday, the 10th September, 1971, at 10.00 A.M. in the Seafarers' Club, 1 Radio Road, Opposite Reserve Bank Building, Madras - 1.

The following were present :

1.	Shri R. Doraiswamy.	...	Chairman
2.	" P.N. Anand.	...	Member
3.	" T.V. Prabhu.	...	"
4.	" J.K. Bhattacharya.	...	"
5.	" N. Latif.	...	"
6.	" Rasiklal Harjeevandas	...	"
7.	" K.K. Khadilkar	...	"
8.	" Les Baines	...	"
9.	" T.V. Rajagopalan	...	Secretary

Shri R. Doraiswamy, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, presided.

Leave of absence was granted to S/Shri N.K. Sen and Bijoy Mukherjee.

Before commencement of business, the Chairman observed that Shri Rajagopalan, Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund and Secretary of the Board, was attending the meeting for the last time, as the next meeting of the Board might not be held before he laid down his office on the 25th November, 1971. The Chairman further observed that Shri Rajagopalan, as the first Provident Fund Commissioner had rendered valuable service in the setting up of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation and placing it on a sound footing. The Chairman and the Members of the Board of Trustees desired to place on record their high appreciation for the efficient manner, in which Shri Rajagopalan discharged his duties and shouldered the onerous responsibilities

in the formative years of the Organisation and they wished him all happiness in future.

Shri Rajagopalan expressed his heart-felt thanks to the Chairman and the Members of the Board for all the kind consideration shown to him throughout his service in the organisation.

The Board then took up the items on the list of business for consideration.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Sixteenth Meeting.

The minutes of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 15th April, 1971, at Bombay, were confirmed.

Item No. 2. Action taken to implement the decisions of the Board.

Commissioner's report regarding action taken on the decisions of the Board in its previous meetings, was noted.

Item No. 3. Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund contributions and observed that some of the arrear amounts of contributions and damages levied had been outstanding for a very long time and decided that the Commissioner should review all such cases with a view to considering the question of writing off such of the amounts as 'bad debts', as are found to be irrecoverable and to report to the Board at its next meeting.

The Board also decided that the Commissioner should examine the possibility of investing the forfeiture amount in Unit Trust and other similar trusts yielding better return and report to the Board at its next meeting. The Commissioner should also, in consultation with the Seamen's Welfare Fund Society put up proposals for utilising the amount for specific welfare measures for seamen and their families as laid down in the Scheme.

Item No. 4. Draft Annual Report for the year 1970-71.

The Board approved the Draft Annual Report for the year 1970-71

on the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme.

Item No. 5. Investment of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Investment Committee and approved the recommendations made by them, as under:—

i) 55% of the investible funds be invested in 5 Year Time Deposits in Post Offices and the balance in Central Government Securities.

ii) The Government may be requested to accord their Ex-post-facto sanction to the undermentioned pattern of investment of the Fund moneys made during the period from 1.4.1969 to 9.7.1969, as desired by the Audit:
50% in 5½% Central Government loans.
20% in State Government loans yielding not less than 5½% interest; and
30% in Fixed Deposits for a period of 1 year.

iii) The offer made by the State Bank of India of
a) interest of 7% on Fixed Deposits for a period of 6 years and 1 month, as in the case of 5 year Time Deposits in post-office, and
b) withdrawal of accrued interest half yearly/yearly in case of deposits for a period of one year and over, if desired,
may be availed of, as and when need arises.

The Board also decided that an appeal should be made to the Government to allow the Board of Trustees greater freedom in respect of the pattern of investment of Fund moneys, subject to the security of the Fund. In this connection Government should be approached for the inclusion of 'Unit Trust' in the list of eligible investible securities.

Item No. 6. Permanent absorption in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation of the Staff on deputation.

The Board considered the question of permanent absorption of the members of staff on deputation and decided that Shri M.G. Chanbal, Superintendent, who has put in over 30 years of service under Central Government, may be allowed to superannuate and be absorbed in the organisation as Superintendent.

In the case of Sarvashri Punjabi and Dabhoya, who have put in over 28 years and 19 years of service respectively, under Central Government, the Director General of Shipping may be requested to permit their permanent absorption in public interest in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation and also to allow them pro-rata retirement benefits for the service rendered by them under the

Item 7

Item No. 7. Scale of levy of damages on defaulting Employers.

The Board considered the report on the existing procedure for levying damages on defaulters and approved the following simplified procedure.

Scale of damages.

S.No.	Period of delay	Rate of levy of damages.
1.	Delays upto 15 days.	2% of total contributions.
2.	Delays upto 30 days.	5% " "
3.	Delays over 30 days but less than 60 days -	10% " "
4.	Delays over 60 days but less than 90 days -	15% " "
5.	More than 90 days but less than 150 days -	20% " "
6.	Delays more than 150 days	25% " "
7.	Habitual defaulters.	Maximum of 25% of total contributions irrespective of the period of delay."

Item No. 8. Revival of Registration of Seamen.

The Board considered the amendment to para 59 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966 and decided that the amendment — Explanation under Sub-para (3) of para 59 of the Scheme, as

drafted by Government, may prove adequate, and further amendment for restoration of amount forfeited to the Provident Fund Account of the seaman concerned, in the event of restoration of his Registration, may not be necessary for the present, as there has been no such claim for restoration of forfeited amount so far, and the chances of such claims being preferred in future are very remote.

Item No. 9. Additional staff for the organisation.

The Board considered the proposal for augmenting the staff of the organisation and sanctioned the following additional posts on permanent basis.

S.No.	Post.	Scale of Pay.
1.	Senior Assistants (2)	Rs. 210-10-290-15-320-EB-15-380
2.	Junior Assistants (3)	Rs. 150-5-175-6-205-EB-7-240

Item No.10. Recovery of Seamen's Provident Fund contributions of Pakistani seamen prior to the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and Scheme coming into force.

The Board considered the question of recovery of contributions of Pakistani seamen prior to the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and the Scheme coming into force and directed the Commissioner to examine this question in consultation with the Ministry of Law Government of India, New Dechi and report to the Board, at its next meeting.

Item No. 11. Appointment of an Officer on Special Duty in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

The Board considered the request of the Director General of Shipping, Bombay, for appointment of an Officer on Special Duty in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation for a period of about three months to under-study Shri Rajagopalan and take over from him as Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund on the expiry of the period of his re-employment and agreed to meet the

additional expenditure that may be incurred on this account from the Fund.

The Trustees representing the Employers and the Employees felt that the Board should be consulted in the matter of appointment of the Commissioner. The Chairman assured them that Government will as always, have the best interests of the organisation in mind while making appointment of Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting at Calcutta.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

11th January, 1972.

SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

[Amendments to these minutes on pgs. 132-133 of the Minute Book]

MINUTES of the EIGHTEENTH Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on Tuesday, the 11th January, 1972, at 11.30 A.M. in the Board Room of the Seamen's Employment Office, Calcutta.

The following were present :—

1.	Shri R. Doraiswamy	....	Chairman
2.	" T.V. Prabhu	....	Member
3.	" D.N. Phyll	....	"
4.	" N. Latif	....	"
5.	" N.K. Sen	....	"
6.	Capt. A.K. Bansal	....	"
7.	Shri K.K. Khadilkar	....	"
8.	" Leo Barnes	....	"
9.	" Bijoy Mukherjee	....	"
10.	" S.M. Ochaney	....	Secretary.

Shri R. Doraiswamy, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, presided.

Leave of absence was granted to Shri U.S. Srivastav.

Before commencement of business, the Chairman welcomed the new members of the Board of Trustees and also wished every member a Happy and Prosperous New Year. The members reciprocated the sentiments expressed by the Chairman.

The Board then took up the items of the "List of Business" for consideration.

Item No. 1 : Confirmation of the Minutes of the Seventeenth meeting – Amendments suggested by Members.

The Board considered the amendments to the minutes submitted by the trustees representing shipowners and seafarers in their joint letter dated the 30th October, 1971.

The Board accepted the amendments as proposed subject to modification as under :—

Item No. 11. Appointment of an Officer on Special Duty in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation

Paragraph 2 of the minutes under this item should read as follows :-

"In this respect the trustees representing the Shipowners and Seafarers observed that before agreeing to such additional expenditure, they would like to be sure that selection of the Officer on Special Duty as future Commissioner was made in consultation with the Board in order to ensure the smooth running of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation. They further stated that the Commissioner being an employee of the Board should be essentially one of their choice and confidence since he would have to work with the Board. The Chairman assured them that Government will, as always, have the best interest of the organisation in mind while making the appointment of Commissioner of the Seamen's Provident Fund."

The Board then took up for consideration the amendment suggested by Shri J.K. Bhattacharya to "Item No. 7 – Scale of levy of damages on defaulting employers', regarding definition of habitual defaulters and that approval of the Board of Trustees being required and obtained by the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner before any employer was declared as habitual defaulter. The consensus of opinion of the members was that if a definition of habitual defaulter was laid down, it may cover only a particular type of defaulter, as such it was decided that each case be considered on its own merits. It was, therefore, decided that Minutes under Item No. 7 need not be modified.

Arising out of the omission of the reference to Government letter No. 5-MT(7)/70 dated 22.12.1970 in the amended minutes relating to Item No. 5, it was decided to remit the said letter back to the

Investment Committee for consideration.

Item No. 2. Re-constitution of the Board of Trustees — Appointment of Committees.

The Board noted the re-constitution of the Board of Trustees as notified in the Ministry of Shipping & Transport Notification No. 5-MT(9)/71 dated 11th November, 1971. The Board appointed an Investment Committee consisting of the following members to examine and report to the Board from time to time, the manner in which the Provident Fund moneys could be invested.

i) Shri D.N. Phull
ii) " T.V. Prabhu
iii) " K.K. Khadilkar
iv) Capt. A.K. Bansal, and
v) Shri S.M. Ochaney ..... Secretary.

Item No. 3. Appointment of Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund.

The terms and conditions of appointment of Shri S.M. Ochaney, Assistant Director General of Shipping, Bombay, on 'Foreign Service' to the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation as Commissioner contained in Government letter No. 5-MT(8)/71 dated 29th December, 1971 were placed before the Board for information.

Item No. 4. Action taken on the decisions of the Board of Trustees.

Action on serial Nos. 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10 and 11 was noted. Item No. 8 was deleted. With regard to the remaining items viz. serial Nos. 1, 3, 9 and 12, the following decisions were taken :-

Serial No. 1. Payment of Provident Fund moneys to seamen who retire any time during the year in which they superannuate.

The Board was informed of the recommendations made by the Seamen's Employment Board, Bombay and Calcutta. It was noted that the recommendations of the Seamen's Employment Board, Bombay, were in

accordance with the proposal approved by the Board in principle at the 12th meeting of the Board held on the 7th January, 1970. The recommendation of the Seamen's Employment Board, Calcutta, however, related to the seamen in the age-group of 50 to 60 years offering to retire voluntarily, to be treated as if they have retired on superannuation and paid full amount of Provident Fund money without any forfeiture, even though their total sea service may be less than 15 years. It was decided that the proposal already approved by the Board in respect of seamen who seek voluntary retirement after attaining the age of 59 years may be implemented. The proposal of the Seamen's Employment Board, Calcutta, that seamen in the age group of 50-59 years who offer to retire voluntarily may also be extended the same benefit was altogether a separate proposal and could be considered by the Board if and when any such proposal is received.

Serial No. 3. Levy of damages for default in payment of Provident Fund contributions — representation from M/s. Peal-Ocean Steamships Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

As this case is outstanding for more than a year, it was decided that Shri Y.S. Kasbekar, Senior Deputy Director General of Shipping may once again be requested to expedite his findings to enable the Board to consider it at its next meeting.

Shri Khadilkar also mentioned that in case Shri Kasbekar's report was not received before the next meeting, the Board itself should consider the representation of the Peal Ocean Steamships Pvt. Ltd. at that meeting and take a decision, with which the Board agreed.

Serial No. 9. Inclusion of Unit Trust in the list of eligible investible securities.

It was decided that a reference should be made to Government to include Unit Trust in the list of eligible investible securities and if so necessary to amend

the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme for enabling investment of its funds in Unit Trust.

Serial No. 12. Recovery of Seamen's Provident Fund contributions of Pakistani seamen prior to the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and Scheme coming into force.

Shri N.K. Sen stated that Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co., and other agents in Calcutta have received from the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner lists of seamen who were employed on their ships from 1-7-1964 to March, 1966, i.e. before the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and the Scheme 1966 were notified, claiming payment of Provident Fund contribution of both employer and employees together with Administrative charge. He stated that the lists related to seamen who came from area formerly known as East Pakistan, now known as Bangla Desh. The said seamen had not agreed to the deduction of the Provident Fund contribution from their wages, as the Provident Fund then was voluntary, although it was later on made mandatory with retrospective effect from 1st July 1964. Shri Sen, further stated that the Calcutta Liners' Conference (Crews) would submit a comprehensive note on the subject for consideration by the Board.

Item No. 5. Budget Proposals for the year 1972-73.

Item No. 6. Proposal of the Owners/Agents' Committee (Crews) Bombay, for reduction in the rate of Administrative charge.

The Board took Item No. 6, for consideration before considering item No. 5. The Shipowners' representatives on the Board stated that there was a balance of about Rs. 7,00,000/= in the Administrative charge account, which was quite substantial and that the rate of Administrative charge should be reduced from 3% to 2% of the total contributions. The representatives of the seafarers on the Board

invited their attention to the various items of anticipated expenditure listed by the Secretary in his note on the item. Considering the likely expenditure on these items, they felt that the balance of about Rs. 7,00,000/= was not a large amount. It was also pointed out by them that in case reduction was made in the existing charge, it may be difficult to increase the rate of charge subsequently.

The representatives of the Shipowners on the Board assured that in case of necessity at a future date, they will be ready to increase the rate of Administrative charge. As a compromise, the representatives of Seafarers suggested that the rate be fixed at 2½%. In the light of these discussions, it was unanimously agreed that the Government be requested to fix the Administrative charge at 2½% (Two and a half per cent) of the contributions made by the employers and the seamen with effect from 1st April 1972, subject to the rate being reviewed further at the time of submission of Budget Proposals for the next year.

The Board then considered Item No. 5 "Budget proposals for the year 1972-73." The provision on account of Travelling Allowance was reduced from Rs. 40,000/= to Rs. 30,000/=. The Board approved the proposals under the remaining sub-heads and also agreed that Budget Estimates may be suitably revised to give effect to their decision to redesignate six temporary posts of clerks as of Junior Assistants in prescribed scale of pay plus usual allowances.

Item No. 7. Receipt & Accounting of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the receipt and accounting of the Provident Fund money and noted the position. It was observed that some of the Agents of the Foreign Shipowners in India have been defaulting in payment of contribution or damages on the ground that the Owners were responsible for these payments and unless they got the contributions from the Owners, the Agents were not liable to pay. It was decided that legal opinion should be obtained as regards the

responsibility of the Agents for payment of contributions and damages to the Seamen's Provident Fund vis-a-vis the provisions of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and Scheme 1966 and the matter be placed before the Board at the next meeting.

Item No. 8. Appointment of Temporary Clerks for seasonal work-increase in consolidated pay.

The Board considered the note submitted by the Commissioner. It was pointed out by Shri D.N. Phull that it was not the practice in Government departments to recruit staff on payment of consolidated wages. The staff are employed on regular scales of pay and are granted allowances etc., as admissible under rules. In view of this position, the Board agreed that the six posts of Temporary clerks may be redesignated as Junior Assistants on a regular basis and paid usual pay and allowances as admissible to other Junior Assistants in the Organisation with effect from 1st January, 1972.

Item No. 9. Provision of residential accommodation for the Commissioner.

The Board considered the proposal for provision of residential accommodation to Shri S.M. Ochaney, Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund and noted that he was already in occupation of Govt. accommodation allotted to him from the general pool, for retention of which necessary recommendation had been made by the Director General of Shipping to Government. The Board desired that the Director General of Shipping should make all possible efforts to secure the continued allotment of the present accommodation to Shri S.M. Ochaney, as a special case without any additional financial burden on him. All the trustees, with the exception of one, felt that in case Government was not agreeable, the Board would have to consider the question of acquiring or hiring suitable residential accommodations for the Commissioner or making any other suitable arrangements. It was decided that in that event, a Committee

consisting of Sarvashri N. Latif and Leo Barker, should take a decision on the matter and place it before the Board at the next meeting for ratification.

Item No. 10. Continuance of the Accounts Officer on deputation beyond 3rd May, 1972.

The Board considered the proposal for continued appointment of Shri K.C. Koshy, Accounts Officer of the Dy. Accountant-General, Commerce Works & miscellaneous for a further period beyond 3rd May, 1972 to 27.11.1974, the date of his superannuation. Shri Koshy will be completing one year service in the Organisation on 3.5.1972. It was considered advisable that the organisation should have the services of the same officer at least for a minimum period of 3/4 years. It was accordingly decided that the Government should be approached for sanction for the continuance of the service of Shri K.C. Koshy as Accounts Officer upto the date of his superannuation on the existing terms and conditions.

Item No. 11. Request of Shri T.V. Rajagopalan, former Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, for payment of Travelling Allowance on retirement.

The Board agreed to the proposal for payment of travelling allowance to Shri T.V. Rajagopalan, former Commissioner, as admissible to Central Government Servants on retirement, under Ministry of Finance O.M. No. 5(110)-E-4/59 dated the 11th July, 1960.

Item No. 12. Air conditioning of Office premises.

All the trustees except those representing the shipowners expressed themselves in favour of air-conditioning of the office. However, after some discussion, an ad-hoc Committee consisting of Sarvashri N. Latif and Leo Barker was appointed to consider the proposal as early as possible.

Item No. 13. Amendments to paragraphs 4 and 61 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

The Board considered the proposed amendments to paragraphs 4 and

61(2) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966 and decided that the said paragraphs be amended as under :—

"4. Resignation :

(1) A trustee of the Board may resign his office by letter in writing addressed to the Chairman, who shall forward the resignation to the Central Government.

(2) The office of the Trustee, shall fall vacant from the date on which his resignation is accepted by the Central Government or on the expiry of 30 days from the date of receipt of intimation of resignation, whichever is earlier."

"61 (2) A forfeiture made under sub-paragraph (1) may be reviewed by the Board either of its own motion or at the request of the employer. Any appeal preferred by an aggrieved person against such forfeiture, shall however, be reviewed by the Board."

Item No. 14. Provision of loan facilities to members on the lines of paragraph 68 of the Employees' Provident Fund Scheme, with suitable modifications.

Item No. 15. Increase in the rate of Provident Fund contribution from 8% to 10%.

The Board appointed an ad-hoc Committee consisting of the following, to consider the proposals:—

i) Shri N. Latif
ii) " Leo Barnes
iii) " S. M. Ochaney ... Secretary.

Item No. 16. Increase in the working hours of the Organisation.

Item No. 17. List of Holidays for the year 1972.

The Board noted that the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation was working an additional half an hour owing to emergency.

The Board also noted the List of Holidays.

Item No. 18. Any other item with the permission of the Chairman.

Shri Bijoy Mukherjee, representative of the National Union of Seamen of India, Calcutta, on the Board of Trustees, stated that it would be helpful to the seamen of Calcutta if a small Unit of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation was set up in Calcutta. For this purpose he suggested that a small Committee may be appointed to look into this matter and submit its recommendation. The Board agreed to this proposal and appointed an ad-hoc Committee consisting of Sarvashri N. K. Sen and Bijoy Mukherjee.

It was also decided that Capt. P. S. Vanchiswar, Principal Officer, Mercantile Marine Department, Calcutta, also be included in this Committee.

The Board provisionally decided to hold the next meeting at New Delhi, on Monday, the 10th April, 1972.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the chair.

12th April, 1972.

Secretary.
Board of Trustees,
Seamen's Provident Fund,
Bombay.

12/4/72

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

[Amendments to these minutes on page 134 of the Minute Book]

Amendments to the Minutes of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 10-9-1971, suggested by Sarvashri Rasiklal Harjeevandas, N. Latif, K.K. Khadilkar and Leo Barnes and accepted by the Board at their Eighteenth Meeting held on 11-1-1972.

1. The name of Shri P.N. Anand shown as Member and present at the meeting, be deleted.

After the list of Members shown as present, add words :-

"Shri P.N. Anand, Dy. Director General of Shipping, was also present."

2. Item No. 5. "Investment of Provident Fund moneys."

The opening two lines in the minutes under this item should be amended to read as under :—

"The Board considered the report and approved the recommendations of the Investment Committee as under but with the omission from the Committee's report the wording "decision conveyed in their letter No. 5-MT(7)/70 dated 22-12-1970, and also their".

3. The last paragraph of the draft minutes under this Item No. 5 should be reworded to read :-

"The Trustees representing the Shipowners and Seafarers reiterated that it was their right to decide the pattern of investment of Fund moneys subject however to the security of the Fund. The Board decided to inform Government once again the firm view of the Trustees. It was also decided that Government should be approached for inclusion of "Unit Trust" in the list of investible securities."

4. Item No. 11. Appointment of an Officer on Special Duty in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation

The minutes in this respect should be amended to read as under :—

"The Board considered the request of the Director General

of Shipping for appointment of an Officer on Special Duty in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, for a period of about three months to under-study Shri Rajagopalan and take over from him as Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, on the expiry of the period of his re-employment and for the additional expenditure to be incurred from the Fund on this account.

"In this respect the Trustees representing the Shipowners and Seafarers observed that before agreeing to such additional expenditure, they would like to be sure that selection of the Officer on Special Duty as future Commissioner was made in consultation with the Board in order to ensure the smooth running of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation. They further stated that the Commissioner being an employee of the Board should be essentially one of their choice and confidence since he would have to work with the Board. The Chairman assured them that Government will, as always, have the best interest of the Organisation in mind while making the appointment of Commissioner of the Seamen's Provident Fund."

12th April, 1972.

Secretary,
Board of Trustees,
Seamen's Provident Fund,
Bombay.

12/4/72

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Amendments to the Minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held on 11-1-1972, suggested by Shri K. K. Khadilkar and accepted by the Board at their Nineteenth Meeting held on 12.4.1972.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting.

i) The last line in the opening paragraph of the Minutes, be amended to read as under :-

"The Board accepted all the amendments as proposed, except one, which was accepted subject to modification as under :- "

Item No. 9. Provision of residential accomodation for the Commissioner.

ii) In line 10 of the Minutes under this item, the word "one" be substituted by the word "Shri K. K. Khadilkar."

The last sentence under this item be amended to read as under :-

"It was decided that in that event, a Committee consisting of Sarvashri N. Lalif and Leo Barnes should take a decision in the matter and report to the Board at its next meeting."

12th April, 1972.

Secretary,
Board of Trustees,
Seamen's Provident Fund,
Bombay.

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMENS PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minuts of the Nineteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund held on Wednesday the 12th April 1972 at 3.00 P.M. in the Board Room of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation, Krupanidhi, Ballard Estate, Bombay 1.

The following were present :-

1.	Shri R. Doraiswamy	Chairman.
2.	" J.N. Bhattacharya	Member.
3.	" D.N. Phull	"
4	" A.S. Krishnamurthy	"
5	" N. Lalif	"
6	Capt A.K. Bansal	"
7.	" G.N. Kelkar	"
8.	Shri K.K. Khadilkar	"
9.	" Leo Barnes.	"
10.	" Bijoy Mukherjee	"
11.	" S.M. Pochanny.	Secretary.

Shri. R. Doraiswamy, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, presided.

Before Commencement of the business, the Chairman welcomed Shri A.S. Krishnamurthy, Assistant Financial Adviser, Ministry of Finance dealing with the Ministry of Shipping and Transport and Capt. G.N. Kelkar, Acting Chairman Calcutta Liners' Conference (Crews), who attended the Meeting for the first time. The Board then took up the items on the "List of Business" for consideration.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minuts of the Eighteenth Meeting

Shri K.K. Khadilkar suggested the following two verbal amendments :-

i) The last line in the opening paragraph under item No. 1 "Confirmation of the Minuts of the Seventeenth Meeting

at page 1 of the draft minuts be amended to read as under:-

"The Board accepted all the amendments as proposed except one under paragraph 2. Item No. 11 which was accepted subject to modification as under:-

The amendments to the Minuts of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees as accepted by the Board at its Eighteenth Meeting areas under and the Minuts of the Seventeenth Meeting of the Board shall be deemed to have been corrected accordingly.

The name of Shri P N Anand shown as member and present at the Meeting, be deleted.

After the list of Members shown as present, add words "Shri P.N. Anand, Dy Director General of Shipping, was also present."

Item No. 5. Investment of Provident Fund moneys.

The opening two lins in the minuts under this item should be amended to read as under:-

"The Board considered the report and approved the Recommendations of the Investment Committee as under but with the omission from the Committee's report the wording "decision conveyed in their letter No. 5.MT(M)/70 dated 22.12.70 and also their",

"The last paragraph of the minuts under item No. 5 should be re worded to read:-

"The Trustees representing the Shipowners and Seafarers reiterated that it was their right to decide the pattern of investment of Fund moneys subject however to the Security of the Fund. The Board decided to inform Government once again this firm view of the Trustees. It was also decided that Government should be approached for inclusion of "Unit Trust" in the list of investible Securities.

Item No. 11. Appointment of an officer on Special Duty in the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation.

The minuts under this item should be amended to read as under:-

"The Board considered the request of the Director General of Shipping for appointment of an officer on special duty in the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation, for a period of about three months to understudy Shri Rajagopalan and take over from him as Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, on the expiry of the period of his Re employment and for the additional expenditure to be incurred from the Fund on this account. In this respect the Trustees representing the Shipowners and Seafarers observed that before agreeing to such additional expenditure, they would like to be sure that selection of the officer on Special Duty as future Commissioner was made in consultation with the Board in order to ensure the smooth running of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation. They further stated that the Commissioner being an employee of the Board should be essentially one of their choice and confidence since he would have to work with the Board. The Chairman assured them that the Government will as always have the best intrests of the Organisation in mind while making the appointment of the Commissioner of the Seamen's Provident Fund.

ii) on Page 5 of the minuts, in line 8, under item No. 9 "Provision of residential accommodation for the Commissioner" the word "one" be substituted by the word "Shri K.K. Khasidkar". The last sentence under this item be amended to read as under:-

"It was decided that in that event, a Committee consisting of Sarvashri N. Lalji and Leo Barnes should take a decision on the matter and report to the Board at its next meeting.

The Board accepted the above mentioned amendments and subject to these amendments, the Minuts of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, were confirmed.

Item No. 2. Action taken on the decisions of the Board of Trustees.

The position indicated against each of the item was noted by the Board of Trustees. As regards item at Sr. No. (9) "Proposal of the owners/Agents' Committee (Crews), Bombay for reduction in the rate of administrative charge, Shri J.K Bhattacharya stated that the requisite orders had since been issued by the Ministry. He also assured that action on the items at Sr. Nos. 2, 4, 5, 7, 8 11 and 12 pending with the Ministry would be expedited.

As regards item at Sr. No 3. 'Levy of damages for default in payment of Provident Fund Contributions – Representation from M/s Peut ocean Steamship put Ltd, Bombay" the Secretary informed the Board that the report of shri Y.S. Kasbekar, Sr. Deputy Director General of Shipping, Bombay, had since been received and placed on the table. The Board decided to consider the said report at its next meeting.

As regards item at Sr. No. 13 "Setting up of a small unit of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, in Calcutta" the Board noted the views of Shri N.K. Sen that there was no case for a seperate independent unit for Calcutta on the grounds of hardships to seamen. Shri Bijoy Mukherjee, however, expressed the view that it would facilitate the seamen registred at Calcutta if a small unit of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation was set up at that port. The Chairman assured Shri Mukherjee that due consideration would be given to his views at the appropriate time.

The Chairman further assured Shri Mukherjee that as and when any specific problems arise, the Provident Fund Commissioner would be deputed to Calcutta to go into such problems.

Item No. 3. To Consider the recommendations of the ad-hoc Committee appointed at the Eighteenth Meeting on the following items

i) Provision of residential accommodation for the Commissioner.

Seconded

The Board noted the report of the ad hoc Committee. In this connection Shri K.K Khadilkar pointed out that under section 7(5) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, it was for the Central Govt. to determine the terms and conditions of service for the Commissioner and consequently the issue was outside the Board's purview. However by way of information Shri J.K Bhattacharya intimated that the Ministry had once again taken up with the Concerned Ministry, the question of allowing Shri S.M Pochaney to retain his present Govt. accommodation.

ii) Air Conditioning of office Premises.

The Board accepted the recommendations of the ad-hoc Committee about installation of one Air Conditioner in the Cabin of the Accounts officer and provision of 6 additional ceiling fans at appropriate places in the office premises.

iii) Provision of Loan facilities to Members on the lines of para 68 of the Employee's Provident Fund Scheme with suitable modifications

The Board supported the principle envisaged in the recommendations of the ad-hoc Committee regarding grant of advances to Seamen out of their own accumulated Contributions in the Provident Fund. It was decided that suitable amendments to the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and the Scheme 1966 may be drafted by the Secretary in Consultation with Shri D.N Phull and placed before the Board for Consideration at its next Meeting.

Shri Bijoy Mukherjee however, held the view that the advances granted to Seamen should be refundable and he said that the rule of refund should be as per the provisions of the Employee's Provident Funds Scheme.

Seconded

iv) Increase in the rate of Provident Fund Contribution from 8% to 10%.

The Board accepted the recommendations of the ad-hoc Committee that the Question of increase in the rate of Provident Fund contributions from 8% to 10% may be negotiated between the interests concerned before proposing amendment to the Seamen's Provident Fund Act.

Item No 4. To Consider the recommendations of the Investment Committee.

The Board adopted the report of the Investment Committee and decided that Govt. may be approached to permit the investment of 25% of the Fund moneys in the Central Govt Securities and the balance of 75% in the 5 year Time Deposits in Post offices, for the year 1972-73.

Item No 5 Receipt and accounting of Provident Fund moneys:

The Board considered the Report of the Commissioner on the receipt and accounting of the Provident Fund moneys and noted the position.

Shri K.K. Khadilkar pointed out that from the figures of the investment of Fund moneys, the ratio of investment of 45:55 in Central Govt Securities and in State Govt Securities, including Time Deposits in Post offices, as envisaged in the Govt. of India Ministry of Shipping and Transport Notification No 5-MT(7)/70 dated 28.6.71, is not maintained viz:—

i) in Central Government Securities .. Not less than 45%

ii) in State Govt Securities, the Securities guaranteed by the Central Govt, or the State Govts, in the tax free Small Savings Securities and in 1-year, 3-year and 5-year Time Deposits in post offices. .. Balance.

It was observed that out of the total investment as on 25.3.72 amounting to Rs.10,49,82,896-54 a sum of Rs. 5,13,11,087.39 was invested in the Central Govt Securities and the balance in the State Govt.

Securities and securities guaranteed by the State Government and in 5 year Time Deposits in Post Offices. Thus at present the Funds invested in Central Govt Securities were approximately 48.8%. He therefore suggested that all contributions on account of Provident Fund should in future be deposited in 5-year Time Deposits in Post Offices, so as to bring the ratio of investments in Central Govt. Securities and 5-year Time Deposits in post offices to 45:55. The majority of the members of the Board present at the meeting accepted this view. However the Trustees representing the Ministries of Finance and Shipping and Transport, did not agree with the majority view.

Shri N. Lalji observed that there was a large back-log of unposted items and the progress in posting of these items was rather slow. He therefore suggested that this work should be cleared as quickly as possible and if need be extra staff be employed for this purpose. The Board accepted the suggestion and agreed to the Creation of two temporary posts of Junior Assistants in the Scale of Pay of Rs. 150-5-175-8-205-EB-7-240, plus usual allowances, for a period of 6 months.

Item No. 6. Outstanding recoveries on account of P.F. Contributions, Administrative charges and damages.

The Board noted the report of the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund. Shri D N Phull informed the Board that apart from the fact that the Ministry of Law has been consulted about the liability of the Agents for payment of Provident Fund dues on account of contributions and damages vis-a-vis the Provisions of the Seamens Provident Fund Act and Scheme 1966, in the event of Foreign Shipowners going into liquidation, Section 17(3) of the Act was clear and specific in holding agents liable for any default in the payment of Contributions or damages. The Board accepted this position and decided that further action should be taken as provided in the Act.

With regard to the levy of damages on M.V. Surendra Overseas Ltd. Calcutta and the Eastern Steamships P. Ltd Calcutta, the Board authorised Shri D N Phull to conclude a settlement on

reasonable basis in these cases and report to the Board at its next meeting.

Item No 7. Fixation of rate of interest for credit to the Members Accounts for the year 1972-73.

The Board considered the proposal to fix the rate of interest for credit to the members Accounts for the year 1972-73 and decided to recommend to Government that the rate of interest be fixed at 6%.

Item No 8. Budget (Re-appropriation) 1971-72.

The Board noted the Budgetry Re-appropriation of the funds sanctioned in the Budget for the year 1971-72 made under para 49 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966.

Item No. 9. Audit report for the year 1970-71- Proposal of the Audit for checking and attestation of entries in Ledgers.

The Board considered the Audit Report of the Accountant General Central, Bombay and approved the draft Comments offered by the Commissioner on the various points.

In regard to the proposal of the Audit in their Test Note, relating to the postings of contributions and subscriptions and the annual closing of the Provident Fund Accounts, etc, the Board decided that the existing Practice of 10% checking of postings be continued, and the 100% checking was not necessary.

The proposal for the creation of a post of Superintendent in the organisation was considered by the Board and the Board did not find justification for the creation of such a post. The Board appointed a Committee consisting of the following to go through the present working procedure of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation, examine difficulties in keeping the position upto date and report to the Board at its next meeting.

Secretary 7.7

1. Shri D N Phull. 2. Shri N. Latif or his Representative
3. " Leo Bourne or Shri K.K. Khadilkar.

4. Shri Bijoy Mukherjee.
5 " Soy. Ochaney ... Secretary.

The Board authorised the Committee to obtain if considered necessary any expert advice in this respect.

Item No. 10. Proposal of the Calcutta Liners Conference (Crews) that Shipowners should not be asked to make payments in respect of Pakistani Seamen who did not consent to making contributions in 1964-65.

Shri N. Latif stated that Pakistani Seamen ceased securing employment through the Seamen's Employment office, Calcutta towards end of 1965 i.e much before the introduction/notification of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and the Scheme 1966. In view of the special circumstances of the case the Board decided to recommend to Government the proposal of the Calcutta Liners Conference (Crews) that Shipowners should not be asked to make payments in respect of Pakistani Seamen who did not consent to making contributions in 1964-65.

Item No. 11 Delays in remittance of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the explanation offered by various Shipping Companies in regard to the circumstances that led to the delay in payments of Provident Fund Contributions and administrative charges and appreciated that there were certain practical difficulties experienced by shipowners in certain cases to remit the Provident Fund Contributions within the stipulated period of 15 days. The Board therefore decided that the grace period of 15 days withdrawn from 1.6.71, be restored.

The scale of levy of damages on defaulting employers approved by the Board at its 171th Meeting held on 10.8.1971 was accordingly revised as under:-

Secretary

Scale of Levy of damages

Sr. No.	Period of delay beyond the grace period of 15 days	Rate of Levy of damages
1.	Delays upto 30 days	5% of total contributions
2.	Delays over 30 days but less than 60 days	10% — do —

3. Delays over 60 days but less than 90 days 15% of total Contributions
4. —do— 90 —do— —150 " 20% —do—
5. Delays over 150 days 25% —do—.
6. Habitual defaulters Maximum of 25% of total contributions irrespective of the period of delay.

The Board further advised the Commissioner to follow the above scale of damages to be levied in all cases of delay without any further reference to the Board.

The Board authorised the Commissioner to re-asses the damages leviable on delayed payments of Provident Fund Contributions and Administrative charges by various shipowners for the period from September 1971 to February 1972 in accordance with the above mentioned decision of the Board and make recoveries accordingly.

Item No. 12. Exemption from operation of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme 1966.

The Board considered the requests received from the Scindia Steam Navigation Company and the South India Shipping Corporation, Madras for exemption from the operation of the provisions of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and Scheme 1966 in terms of Section 20 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act 1966 in respects of their Chief Stewards and Petty officers respectively and decided that the exemption asked for may be granted as they are enjoying benefits in the nature of Provident Fund which are on the whole not less favourable than the benefits provided to them under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act 1966.

Item No 13 Appointment of Commissioner as Secretary of the Indian Seamen's Benevolent Fund Society.

Journals → The Board agreed to the Commissioner undertaking the work of the Secretary of the Indian Seamen's Benevolent Fund Society subject to the condition that this arrangement does not involve any additional cost to the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation on this account and that it does not interfere with his normal duties as Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner.

Item No. 14 Amendments to the Schedule of delegation of administrative and financial powers to the Commissioner.

As suggested by Shri K.K. Khadilkar, the Board decided to defer consideration of this item to its next meeting. In the meanwhile the Board approved the proposal for acquisition of the following items.

Items	Value per unit.	No. required	Total (approximate) Cost.
1. Ledgers	Rs. 30/- each binder	100	Rs. 3,000
⊗ 2. Typewriters	Rs. 2635/- each	2.	Rs. 5,270
3. Furniture for visitors room etc.	—	—	Rs. 2,000.

⊗ Includes one Pinpoint typewriter for Cheques.

Any other item with the permission of the Chairman.

Item No. 15 Demands of the Employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation.

The Secretary informed the Board of the demands made by the employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation in respect of:-

i) withdrawal of additional half an hour in working time.
ii) Ex-gratia payment at 8.1/3% of the total annual emoluments as admissible to the employees of the Bombay Dock Labour Board.

i) The Government of India have already withdrawn the additional half an hour in working time introduced as a result of emergency. The Board therefore agreed to reduce the extra half an hour in the working hours.

ii) As regards the demand for ex-gratia payment at 8.1/3% of the total annual emoluments to the employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation on the lines of the Bombay Dock Labour Board for its employees, it was decided that the matter be considered at the next meeting of the Board.

Journals → The Board decided provisionally to hold the next meeting at Bangalore on Tuesday the 13th June 1972.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

13th June 1972.

SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

13/6/72

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

13.6.72.

Minutes of the Twentieth Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on Tuesday, the 13th June, 1972, at 11.00 A.M. in Room No. 334 Conference Hall, III Floor, Mysore Govt. Secretariat, Vidhana Soudha, Bangalore.

The following were present:-

1. Shri. Y. S. Kasbekar .... Chairman.
2. " N. Latif .... Member
3. Capt. A.K. Bansal ... " .
4. Shri. K.K. Khadilkar ... "
5. " Leo Barnes ... "
6. " Bijoy Mukherjee ... "
7. " T.K. Bhattacharya .... "
8. " D.N. Phull ... "
9. " A.S. Krishnamurthy ... "
10. " S.M. Ochaney .... Secretary

Shri. Y.S. Kasbekar, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund presided over the meeting.

The Chairman welcomed the members of the Board of Trustees and stated that he had been associated with the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, sometime back as a Trustee and expressed his happiness on his being re-associated with the Seamen's Provident Fund organisation in his capacity as the Chairman. He looked forward to having the Co-operation of the Trustees in discharging the onerous responsibilities entrusted to the Board. The members of the Board reciprocated the sentiments expressed by

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the Chairman and assured him of their support.

The Board placed on record its deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Shri. R. Doraiswamy, the former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, who recently retired on superannuation by passing the following resolution:

"The Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund wish to record its deep appreciation of the great interest evinced and the valuable service rendered by Shri. R. Doraiswamy, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fund and wish him a happy retired life".

Leave of absence was granted to Shri Shri. N. K. Sen.

The Board then took up the items on the "List of Business" for discussion.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Nineteenth Meeting.

Shri K.K. Khadilkar suggested and the Board accepted the following two amendments:—

i) In para 3 of the Minutes under item No. 5. "Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys" the following sentences:—

"The Board was generally inclined to accept this view. However, the Trustees representing the Ministries of Finance and Shipping and Transport felt that it would be desirable to obtain clarification from the Government in this respect".

to be substituted by:

"The majority of the members of the Board present at the meeting accepted this view. However, the Trustees representing the Ministries of Finance and Shipping and Transport, did not agree with the majority view.".

ii) In para 3 of the Minutes under item No. 9 "Audit Report for the year 1970-71 - Proposal of the Audit for checking and attestation of entries in Ledgers." the words "desired further", appearing in second sentence, be substituted by the words "did not find".

Item No. 2. Procedure for preparation, circulation and confirmation of the Minutes of Board Meetings.

The Board considered the procedure suggested and decided that the Minutes of a Meeting of the Board, after having been provisionally approved by the Chairman, shall be circulated by the Secretary to all Members of the Board inviting comments, amendments, modifications, etc., if any, within 15 days from the date of circulation of the Minutes. The Secretary, on receipt of such amendments, shall circulate the amendments to the Members of the Board. The Minutes together with the amendments will be placed before the next meeting of the Board for final confirmation before being recorded in the Minute Book.

Item No. 3. Action taken on the decisions of the Board of Trustees.

The Board noted the position indicated against each of the items.

With regard to item at Serial No. 12

"Investment" of 25% of the Fund moneys in the Central Government Securities and the balance of 75% in the 5 year Time Deposits in post offices, for the year 1972-73' Shri. Bhattacharya stated that the Ministry of Shipping and Transport were awaiting copy of the confirmed Minutes of the Nineteenth Meeting before any action could be taken by them in the matter.

Item at Sr. No. 13 "Clarification in regard to percentages fixed by Government, of investments of Provident Fund moneys in Central Government securities and 5 year Time Deposits in post offices, etc.," was deleted in view of the amendment (i) to the Minutes, under Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Nineteenth Meeting."

Item No. 4: Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund Moneys

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner on the "Receipt and Accounting of the Provident Fund moneys" and noted the position.

It was observed that out of the total investments as on the 20th May, 1972, approximately 48.7% of the total investments were made in Central Government Securities and the balance of 51.3% in the State Government Securities and 5 year Time deposits in post offices. The Board therefore, subject to the reservation of the Trustees, representing Government, directed the Commissioner, Seamen's

Provident Fund that the decision of the Board taken at its last meeting viz. all Contributions on account of the Provident Fund, should, in future be so invested as to bring the ratio of total investments in Central Government Securities and 5 year Time Deposits in post offices including State Government securities to 45:55, be implemented.

Shri. K.K. Khadilkar suggested and the Board agreed that the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund shall in future, place before the Board, at each meeting, a Statement indicating the investment of Provident fund moneys made during the intervening period from the date of previous meeting and date of the current meeting and the rate of interest.

Shri. Latif observed that the progress with regard to clearance of the unposted items was rather slow. The Secretary stated that extra staff has been put on the job and every possible effort was being made to clear up the unposted items as quickly as possible.

Item No. 5. Outstanding recoveries on account of Provident Fund Contributions, Administrative Charge and damages.

The Board noted the present position with regard to recoveries of outstanding arrears on account of Provident Fund contributions, Administrative charges and damages and the following decisions were taken:-

M/s. Ashok Line, Ernakulam.:

It was decided that the Chief Secretary, Government of Kerala Trivandrum be requested to direct the Collector of Ernakulam to take quick action for recovery of outstanding amounts as "Arrears of Land Revenue".

The Hindustan Shipping Co. Ltd., Howrah.

The Secretary informed the Board that the Solicitor to the Central Government at Bombay had informed us that it would not be possible to realise the full amount and that the Court will not make an order for our claim, since our claim is not an admiralty claim. The Board however, did not accept this view and held the view that the Provident Fund is a deferred wage and amounts to maritime lien. As such, efforts be made to recover all the outstanding amounts on account of provident fund contributions, administrative charge and damages.

M/S. Killick Nixon and Co., Ltd., Bombay.

The Company may be reminded to expedite, the payment of Provident Fund dues, as requested by the Commissioner in his letter dated the 26th May 1972. If the remittances are not received within reasonable time, action may be initiated for recovery of these dues as "arrears of land revenue".

With regard to the remaining cases, the necessary further action may be taken by the Commissioner.

Item No. 6. Report of Shri. Y.S. Kasbekar, in regard to levy of damages for default in payment

of Provident Fund Contributions by M/S. Pent-Ocean Steamships Pvt. Ltd. Bombay

The Board considered the report of Shri. Y.S. Kasbekar and accepted his recommendation that damages already levied at 25% on the delayed payments of Rs. 46,697.00 for the period from April 1967 to March 1968, be reduced to 5% viz. Rs. 2,334.89. The Board also accepted the recommendation of Shri. Kasbekar, that the damages proposed to be levied at 25% amounting to Rs. 39,162,64, on the delayed payment of the total Contributions including administrative charges of Rs. 1,56,650.55 for the period from April 1968 to September 1969 be also reduced to 5% viz. Rs. 7,832.53P. The Company have already paid the damages amounting to Rs. 11,674.45 'under protest'. The Board decided that subject to approval of the Central Govt. to the above mentioned decisions of the Board, the total damages amounting to Rs. 10,167.42 payable by the Pent-Ocean Steamships Pvt. Ltd., in accordance with the present decision of the Board, be adjusted against the damages amounting to Rs. 11,674.45 already paid by the company and the balance of Rs. 1,507.03 be refunded to them.

The Board thanked Shri. Y.S. Kasbekar for his valuable assistance in conducting the inquiry and giving his findings.

Item No 7. Report of Shri. D.N. Phull in regard to settlement of Cases of levy of damages relating to M/s. Surrendra

Overseas Ltd., Calcutta and M/s. Eastern Steamship Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta.

The Board considered the report of Shri. D.N. Phull and agreed to the suggestion made by him that damages amounting to Rs. 41,247.89 levied against M/s. Surrendra Overseas Ltd. at the rate of 25% for delayed payments of contribution for the period from 1-4-1967 to 31-7-1967 and 1-9-1967 to 15-11-1968 be reduced to 10% i.e. approximately to Rs. 16,500/- subject to approval by the Government. It was further agreed that the Commissioner in Consultation with the Shipping Company concerned take further necessary action for the recovery of this amount and withdrawal of the cases from the High Court by the Company.

As regards settlement of damages levied on M/s. Eastern Steamship Pvt. Ltd., Calcutta, Shri. D.N. Phull stated that necessary action would be taken by him shortly and his report could be submitted to the Board at its next meeting.

Item No 8: Provision of residential accommodation for the Commissioner.

The Board noted that the Ministry of Works and Housing have finally declined to allow Shri S.M. Ochaney, Commissioner Seamen's Provident Fund to retain his present Government accommodation being on deputation to an Autonomous Body. It was noted that a Budget provision of Rs. 12,000/- had

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already been approved by the Board and sanctioned by the Government on this account for the year 1972-73. The Board therefore, decided to provide accommodation to the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner, suitable to his status and entitlement of the corresponding categories of Central Govt. Officers, on a rental not exceeding Rs. 1,000/- (Rupees one thousand only) P.M. The Board authorised the Commissioner to take further necessary action in the matter and inform the Trustees of the action taken.

Item No. 9. Amendments to the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966 to provide for loan facilities to members on the lines of Para 68 of the Employees Provident Fund Scheme, 1952.

The draft amendments were considered by the Board and it was decided that such facilities of non-refundable advances may be termed as "Non-refundable withdrawals" instead of "Advances". It was further decided that withdrawals from the Fund on account of unemployment and illness be restricted to once in two years from the date of payment of a withdrawal. Suitable modifications ~~were~~ ~~made~~ ~~in the~~ ~~paragraphs~~ ~~of~~ ~~Payment~~ ~~on a withdrawal~~ Suitable modifications were made to draft paragraphs 58-A "Withdrawals from Fund due to unemployment" and 68 B "Withdrawals from

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Fund for illness in certain cases."

It was further decided that "Withdrawals from Fund in abnormal Conditions" were not necessary and instead provision should be made for sanction of withdrawals for House repairs/ House Building. Such withdrawals be sanctioned to the members who have completed atleast ten years' membership of the Fund and withdrawals shall not exceed fifty per cent of a member's own total contributions with interest thereon at the time of application.

The Board desired that the necessary draft amendments to the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966 may be forwarded to Government after approval by the Chairman, for issue of necessary Government Notification.

With regard to proposal of Shri. Bijoy Mukherjee, that the advances, if any, shall be made refundable, the Chairman pointed out that there were certain practical difficulties particularly about recovery of such advances. Shri. Bijoy Mukherjee appreciated the position and agreed not to pursue the proposal for the time being.

Item No. 10. Report of the Committee appointed by the Board to examine the present working procedure of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

The Board noted the action taken by the Committee so far and awaited its report.

Item No. 11. Amendments to the Schedule of delegation of financial and administrative powers to the Commissioner.

The Board felt that the Administrative and Financial powers delegated to the Commissioner were adequate for the present. However the Board passed the following resolution in terms of Para 22 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966.

"RESOLVED that the Chairman, Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund be and is hereby empowered to sanction expenditure on contingencies, supplies and purchases of articles required for administrating the Fund subject to financial provision in the Budget, where such expenditure is beyond the limits upto which the Commissioner is authorised to sanction expenditure on any single item."

It was decided that necessary approval of the Central Government be obtained in the matter and all such sanctions of expenditure accorded by the Chairman be placed before the Board at its next meeting.

Item No 12: Submission by the employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, for grant of ex-gratia payment at 8.1/3% of the

Total annual emoluments as admissible to the employees of the Bombay Dock Labour Board.

The Board decided to defer consideration of this item for the time being. In the meantime, the Commissioner was advised to ascertain the position in this regard from the Employees' Provident Funds organisation.

The Board decided to hold the next meeting of the Board at Visakhapatnam on Wednesday, the 30th August, 1972, at 11.00 A.M.

The meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

13th September, 1972.

SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.
13/9/72

S.V. Bhave

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Minutes of the Twentyfirst Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund held on Wednesday, the 13th September, 1972, at 3 P.M. in the Committee Room of the Cochin Port Trust, Cochin.

The Following were present.

1. Shri S.V. Bhave. --- Chairman.
2. Shri N. Latif. --- Member.
3. Shri N.K. Sen. --- "
4. Shri K.K. Khadilkar. --- "
5. Shri Leo Barnes. --- "
6. Shri Bijoy Mukherjee. --- "
7. Shri J.K. Bhattacharya --- "
8. Shri D.M. Phull. --- "
9. Shri S.M. Ochaney. --- Secretary.

Shri S.V. Bhave, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, presided over the Meeting.

At the outset, the Chairman expressed his happiness on his being associated with the meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, immediately after his taking over charge as the Director General of Shipping on the afternoon of the 12th September, 1972. The Members of the Board welcomed the Chairman and reciprocated the sentiments expressed by him and hoped that the Board will have the benefit of his wise counsel.

The Board placed on record, its deep appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Shri Y.S. Kasbekar, former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, who relinquished the charge of the office of the Director General of Shipping, Consequent upon his transfer to the Government of Maharashtra, by passing the following resolution :—

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"The Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund wish to record its deep appreciation of the great interest evinced and the valuable service rendered by Shri Y.S. Kasbekar, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Fund and wish him all success in future".

Leave of absence was granted to Capt. A.K. Bansal and Shri Sen Gupta. The Board then took up the items on the "List of Business" for discussion.

Item No. 1. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twentieth Meeting.

Shri N. Latif observed that the Minutes as recorded and circulated were in order but the sentence at the end of paragraph 2 of Shri Y.S. Kasbekar's D.O. letter No. 253/3154/72 dated the 5th July 1972, clarifying the position with regard to the decision of the Board regarding residential accommodation for the Commissioner, viz. " This decision of the Board should stand and be applicable to all Government Officers on deputation as the Commissioner Seamen's Provident Fund", was beyond the decision arrived at the said Meeting of the Board. The Chairman suggested and the Board agreed that this matter could be discussed as a separate item. The Minutes of the Twentieth Meeting of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, held at Bangalore on Tuesday, the 13th June, 1972, were then confirmed.

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Item No. 2 : Action taken on the decisions of the Board of Trustees.

The Position indicated against each of the items at serial Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 14, 15, 16, and 17 was noted. With regard to the remaining items viz. serial Nos. 4, 9, 11, 12, and 13, the following decisions were taken.

Sr. No. 4. Inclusion of Unit Trust in the list of eligible investible securities.

Sr. No. 9. Investment of 25% of the Fund moneys in the Central Government securities and the balance of 75% in the 5 year Time Deposits in post offices, for the year 1972-73.

Sr. No. 12. Investment of Provident Fund moneys so as to bring the ratio of total investments in Central Government securities and 5 year Time Deposits in post offices including State Government securities to 45 : 55

Shri J. K. Bhattcharya handed over the Ministry's D.O. letter No. 5-MT(5)/72 dated the 12th September, 1972, communicating the Government's decision that the pattern of investment and reinvestment laid down in the Ministry's Notification No. 5-MT(5)/72 dated 9.6.1972 applies to fresh accretions to the Seamen's Provident Fund as also to the reinvestment of maturing securities etc. of the Fund. This pattern is operative from the 1st April, 1972 and does not have any retrospective operation. Accordingly, the existing investment pattern cannot be employed to disturb the investments and reinvestments made in the past in accordance with the instructions

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issued in this behalf by the Government from time to time, in the past.

Shri J. K. Bhattacharya further stated that the Government were endeavouring to prescribe uniform norms for investment of monies in the various recognised provident Funds, and in case any liberalisation was agreed to in respect of other funds, the extension of the same to the Seamen's Provident Fund also would be considered.

Attention of Shri Bhattcharya was invited to the Ministry of Labour and Employment Notification No. G-27035(4)/72-PF I/II dated the 19th July, 1972, according to which accumulations out of the Employees' Provident Funds contributions shall be invested from 1st October, 1972 to 31-3-1973 in the proportion of 25% in the State Government securities and State or Central Government guaranteed securities and the balance of 75% in the post office Time Deposits. Shri Bhattacharya agreed to move the Ministry and get the requisite orders issued for similar pattern of investment in respect of Seamen's Provident Fund.

In view of the Ministry's decision as contained in their letter dated the 12th September, 1972, referred to above, that the Board of Trustees ~~is~~ bound to follow the Government directives in the matter of investment of fund moneys and the ultimate decision about the pattern of investment of fund moneys rests with the Government, the Board decided that the Reserve Bank of India may be advised to invest all fresh accretions of the Seamen's Provident Fund as also the maturing securities in the proportion of 45% in Central Government securities and the balance

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in 5 year Time Deposits in post office Time Deposits.

The Board further decided that after the revised pattern of investment i.e. 25% in the State Government securities and State or Central Government guaranteed securities and 75% in the post office Time Deposits is notified by the Ministry in respect of the pattern of investment of Seamen's Provident Fund moneys, the investment Committee may, subject to financial prudence, examine whether any of the existing securities could be disposed of for reinvestment according to the revised pattern so as to obtain higher yield and submit their recommendations to the Board for consideration.

Sr. No. 11. Proposals of the Calcutta Liner's Conference (Crews) that shipowners should not be asked to make payments in respect of Pakistani seamen who did not consent to making contributions in 1964-65.

Shri D. N. Phull suggested and the Board agreed that the matter be taken up with the Ministery of Shipping and Tamsport, by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund.

Sr. No. 13. Reduction in damages already levied/proposed to be levied against M/s Pent-Ocean Steamships Pvt. Ltd., Bombay from 25% to 5%.

The Secretary informed the Board that M/s Pent-Ocean Steamships Co. (P) Ltd., had requested for reconsideration of the matter. The Board decided that as Shri Y. S. Kasbekar had already examined their representation in all aspects, the decision already taken by the Board should stand.

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Sr. No. 14. Submission by the employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, for grant of ex-gratia payment at 8. 1/3 % of the total annual emoluments as admissible to the employees of the Bombay Dock Labour Board.

The Secretary, informed the Board that a reference was made to the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Maharashtra State, Bombay and according to the reply received from him, the employees of the Provident Funds Organisation are not paid any bonus or Ex-gratia payment. In view of this position, the Board agreed that the submission from the staff need not be considered further.

Item No. 3. Receipt and Accounting of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner and noted the position.

Item No. 4. Outstanding recoveries on account of the Provident Fund Contributions, Administrative charges and damages.

The Board noted the position about the outstanding recoveries.

As regards Messrs. Hindusthan Shipping Co. Howrah, Shri D. N. Phull, was of the opinion that under the Admiralty Law, maritime lien could still be claimed on the ship ss. "BARUN." Attention of the Board was drawn to the advice already given by Shri V.B. Shastri Solicitor, Ministry of Law, Bombay in his letters dated 22-6-1971, 1.9.1971, and 21-3-1972, which envisaged the claim being enforced against the previous owners of the vessel only and not against the Property itself

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on the basis of action in rem. The High court of Judicature at Bombay had already passed the Consent order as a result of which the Commissioner had received a small amount of Rs. 3079.23 as share of our claim in our capacity as unsecured creditor. Shri Shastri had, in his above mentioned letters, stated that it will not be possible to realise any further amount and that the Court would not make an order since our claim was not an Admiralty claim. The Board however, decided to obtain an independent opinion of Solicitors conversant with Admiralty cases/claims.

As regards Messrs. Killick Nixon & Co., Bombay. the Secretary informed the Board that Messrs, Killick Nixon & Co. Ltd., have stated that the seamen employed on CYRUS II and XEREXES have not received their wages for the voyages performed on these ships. Hence no provident fund deductions could be effected from the wages. The Board therefore, decided to obtain legal advice as to when the provident fund contributions become due for payment by the employers to the Seamen's Provident Fund.

The Board was informed that Messrs. Lakshmi Lines, Cochin have since paid all the outstanding dues on account of Provident Fund contributions and administrative charge.

Item No. 5. Draft Annual Report for the year 1971-72.

The Board approved the Draft Annual Report on the working of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, during the previous financial year 1971-72.

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Item No. 6. Report of the Committee on the working prodecures of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

The Board considered the report of the Committee and the consensus of the Trustees was that it would be in the larger interests of the Organisation, the seafarers, etc., to have the accounting work of the organisation mechanised. This will also enable the organisation to bring the outstanding items of work uptodate. The Board noted that the Committee had taken the employees of the organisation into confidence before submitting their report.

The Board therefore decided to accept the recommendations of the Committee to entrust the accounting work of the organisation to the IBM for mechanisation. Shri N. Latif observed that it may be possible that there may be certain other concerns who may undertake mechanisation of the accounting work of the organisation at somewhat lower rates compared to the quotations of the IBM but in the interests of proper maintenance and accuracy of seafarers' accounts, it was advisable that the work be entrusted to a well reputed concern like the IBM. The Board agreed to this view.

The Board then took up for consideration each of the recommendations made by the Committee and the decisions arrived at by the Board on each of these recommendations are as follows :—

(1) The proposal of the IBM for undertaking the mechanisation of the accounting work of the organisation as per the details of costs involved, indicated in the Annexure was approved and it was

decided that the work of preparation of Annual Accounts for 1971-72 with interest calculation and posting of credits from 1st April, 1972 onwards, may be entrusted to them with effect from 1st October, 1972.

(2) The Board sanctioned the creation of two supervisory posts of Deputy Superintendents in the scale of pay of Rs. 300-20-500 with usual allowances as per the Central Government Rules, on permanent basis with effect from 1.10.1972. As a result of creation of these two supervisory posts, the Board agreed that the following shall be the permanent sanctioned strength of the Organisation.

S. No.	Posts.	No. of Posts.	Scale of Pay.
1.	Commissioner.	1	Rs. 1100-50-1300-60-1600-100-1800.
2.	Accounts Officer.	1	" 600-50-1100.
3.	Superintendent.	1	" 350-25-600.
4.	Dy. Superintendent.	2	" 300-20-500.
5.	Sr. Assistants.	5	" 210-10-290-15-320-EB-15-380
6.	Stenographer.	1	" 210-10-290-15-320-EB-15-380
7.	Junior Assistants.	17	" 150-5-175-6-205-EB-7-240
8.	Cashier.	1	" 150-5-175-6-205-EB-7-240
9.	Peons.	4	" 70-1-80-EB-1-85
10.	Cleaner.	1	" 70-1-80-EB-1-85
		34	

(3) The Board agreed that services of none of the existing staff members appointed against 34 permanent posts shall be dispensed with on account of mechanisation.

(4) The Board decided that the Director General of Shipping be requested to issue suitable instructions to the Shipping Masters to assist the Seamen's

Provident Fund Organisation in checking the particulars of seamen, whose Provident Fund contributions have been received by the organisation but could not be posted so far, owing to wrong CDC/Regn. numbers or incorrect name/s of seamen, with reference to the Articles of Agreement of the relevant voyages. The Shipping Masters be also requested that in order to minimise the number of unposted items, they should verify CDC/Regn. numbers and names of seamen, at the time of final settlement of wages of seamen and forward promptly the Provident Fund returns to the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner, duly certified as to the correctness of the particulars contained therein.

(5) The Director General of Shipping be also requested to issue suitable instructions to the Directors, Seamen's Employment offices, Bombay/Calcutta that before issuing an engagement order, the CDCs of seamen selected for employment should be verified from the offices of the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, Bombay/Liaison officer (Director, Seamen's Employment Office) at Calcutta, to ascertain whether the seamen concerned have filed their nominations and that their C.D.C.s are endorsed to that effect. In case, the seamen have already filed their nominations but their CDCs are not endorsed accordingly, their CDCs be rubber-stamped on page 27 of the CDC book, with the words "Nomination filed." Seamen, who have not filed their nominations may be asked to do so and necessary note to that effect may be made in their CDCs as stated above.

It was decided that the expenditure likely to be incurred in connection with the mechanisation

of the accounting work of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, may be met from the sanctioned Budget grant for the current year by re-appropriation, if necessary.

The Board also decided that instead of checking the ledger postings with the Provident Fund statements, received from the employers, at the time of final settlement of Provident Fund claims, all ledger entries from the introduction of the Scheme viz. from 1.7.64 till 31.3.1972, should be got checked 100% and attested. The Board authorised the Chairman to fix the initial pay of the two Senior Assistants on promotion as Deputy Superintendents at a suitable stage so as to give them some monetary benefit on promotion.

Item No. 7: Expenditure sanctions accorded by the Chairman.

The Board noted the expenditure sanctions accorded by the Chairman.

Item No. 8: Suggestion by Shri Leo Barnes that seamen voluntarily retiring after attaining the age of 55 years (as per the Director General of Shipping Order No. SEO/21, dated 21.6.1972) may also be paid Provident Fund dues, without any forfeiture.

The Board decided that seamen seeking voluntary retirement after attaining the age of 55 years in terms of the Director General of Shipping Order No. SEO/21, dated the 21st June, 1972, may be paid their Provident Fund contributions without

any forfeiture and the Director General of Shipping be requested to issue suitable instructions to the Directors, Seamen's Employment Offices, Bombay/Calcutta, to forward applications for final withdrawal of Provident Fund contributions, of such seamen with the endorsement as under. :—

" The registration of the abovenamed seaman was cancelled by this office vide order No. dated for the reason "Retirement on superannuation."

Item No. 9. Request from Messrs. Dempo Steam-Ships Ltd., for exemption under section 20(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, in respect of an Assistant Fitter.

The Board considered the request from Messrs. Dempo Steamship Pvt. Ltd., and decided that the exemption be granted to Shri C. Rozario, Assistant Fitter and his employers M/s Dempo Steamship Pvt. Ltd., from the operation of provisions of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and the Scheme 1966 in terms of section 20(1) of the said Act.

As regards the date from which the said exemption be granted, it was decided to treat the period of probation of six months from 11-9-1970 during which period no provident fund is admissible, as per the company's regulations, as part of the scheme of the employers' provident fund for the permanent staff, to which the seaman be assumed to have agreed and the exemption be granted with effect from 11th September, 1970 i.e. the date of his appointment in the company as

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Item No. 9

Assistant Fitter.

It was further decided that all shipowners be advised to make such applications for grant of exemption to permanent members of their floating staff covered by the company's Provident Fund promptly

Any other item with the permission of the Chairman.

No. 10. Residential accommodation for the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund.

The question whether the decision of the Board arding provision of residential accommodation to present Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner ld be a standing one and be made applicable to the future incumbents of the post appointed, deputation from Government services was considered. was decided that these facilities should be made ilable to future incumbents of the post also.

Item No. 11. General Roster Gratuity Scheme.

Mr. Latif proposed that since no progress had n made in determining details of voyages performed individual seamen registered on the General ter from 1-1-1954 to 31-5-1964, the services of B.M. might be utilised for the purpose. The B.M. had been consulted in the matter and they d submitted their estimate which involved one ne expenditure of Rs. 54,511/- for determining . Gratuity due to individual seamen and (b) individual ipowners' liability from 1-1-1954 to date. The bsequent annual expenditure for bringing the records up-to-date would be Rs. 3,143/-.

While Members fully supported the proposal to utilise the services of IBM for the purpose.

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the Chairman suggested that it would be advisable to ascertain from Government whether the expenses that will be incurred could be met from the Administrative Charges paid to the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation. Mr. Latif explained that since it was a vital matter requiring urgent consideration, if necessary, a portion of the Administrative expense payable by Shipowners could be earmarked for meeting the specific expense.

In this context, it was pointed out that the Board of Trustees would have to pass a suitable resolution empowering the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner to administer the General Roster Gratuity Fund.

The Board decided to hold the nesct meeting at Calcutta on Tuesday, the 19th December, 1972.

The meeting then terminated with a rote of thanks to the chair.

24th January 1973.

SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

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CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.

Annexure to Item No. 6(1) of the Agenda.

	With interest Calculation — with IBM Punching (Rs.)
One time Investment:	
i) Methods, part programming and file creation.	38,030-90
ii) Printing of statement of Account 1971-72 with Interest Calculation.	5,100.00
iii) Punching and verification at IBM of 1,27,000 cards.	56,505.00
iv) Rental on Punch/Verifier for 5 months (double shift)	—
v) One time charges and excise Duty for Punch/Verifier.	—
vi) Cost of manpower - Rs. 400 per operator per month.	—
vii) Cost of cards (a) Rs. 19.10 per 1000 cards.	2,425.70
viii) Cost of stationery of (a) Rs. 67.40 per 1000 sheets.	404.40
	1,02,466.00
Clearing Backlog	
i) Punching and verification of 31,700 cards.	14,899.00
ii) Rental on Punch/Verifier for 4 months.	—
iii) Cost of manpower for 4 months.	—
iv) Uptodate and printing of error list, additions, unposted accounts reports.	7,105.00
v) Cost of cards and stationery.	700.00
	22,704.00
Monthly Repeatitive	
i) Punching and verification of 3800 cards	1,786.00
ii) Monthly rental on Punch and Verifier.	—
iii) Cost of manpower.	—
iv) Update and printing of Error list, additions, unposted accounts and withdrawal.	1,723.50
v) Cost of stationery and cards.	100.00
	3,609.50
Annual Processing.	
Printing of Statement of Accounts	6,720.00
Two Part stationery - (a) Rs. 273.15 per 1000 sheets.	1,100.00
	7,820.00
Charges based on 47,000 seamen:	
Cost of initial Onetime charges per seaman	2.18
Repetitive annual cost per seaman per year	1.09

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Minutes of the Twentysecond Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Seamen's Provident Fund, held on Wednesday, the 24th January 1973 at 11.30 A.M. in the Board Room of the Seamen's Employment Office Marine House, Hastings, Calcutta-22.

The following were present :-

1. Shri S.V. Bhave. ..... Chairman.
2. " N. Latif. ..... Member.
3. " N.K. Sen. ..... "
4. Capt. A.K. Bansal. ..... "
5. Shri K.K. Khadilkar. ..... "
6. " Bijoy Mukherjee. ..... "
7. " D.C. Sengupta. ..... "
8. " D.N. Phull. ..... "
9. " S.M. Ochaney. ..... Secretary.

Shri S.V. Bhave, Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Seamen's Provident Fund, presided over the Meeting.

Leave of absence was granted to Sarvashri Leo Barnes and V.V. Subrahmanyam.

Before commencement of the business, the Chairman welcomed the Members of the Board of Trustees.

The Board then took up the items on the 'List of Business' for consideration.

Item No. 1 — Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twentyfirst Meeting.

The amendments suggested by Shri N. Latif were accepted and the Minutes were amended as under :

(a) Item No. 2 - Serial No. 14 : Submission by the employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation for grant of ex-gratia payment at 8.1/3% of the total annual emoluments as admissible to the employees of the Bombay Dock Labour Board.

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The following sentence may be added at the end after the word "Payment" :

"In view of this position, the Board agreed that the submission from the staff need not be considered further."

(b) Item No. 6. Report of the Committee on the working procedures of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

Sub-para (3) : For the existing sentence :-

"The Board agreed that services of none of the existing staff members shall be dispensed with on account of mechanisation".

Substitute the following sentence :-

The Board agreed that services of none of the existing staff members appointed against 34 ~~permt~~ annual posts shall be dispensed with on account of mechanisation."

(c) Sub-para (5) : The opening sentence be re-worded as under :-

"The Director General of Shipping be also requested to issue suitable instructions to the Directors, Seamen's Employment Offices, Bombay/Calcutta that before issuing an engagement order, the C.D.C.s of seamen selected for employment should be verified from the office of the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, Bombay/Liaison Officer (Director, Seamen's Employment Office) at Calcutta, to ascertain whether the seamen concerned have filed their nominations and that their C.D.C.s are endorsed to that effect."

(d) After Item No. 10 - "Residential accommodation for the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, the following shall be added as Item No. 11.

"Item No. 11. General Roster Gratuity Scheme" -

Mr. Latif proposed that since no progress had been made in determining details of voyages performed by individual seamen registered on the General Roster from 1.1.1954 to 31.5.1964, the

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services of I.B.M. might be utilised for the purpose. The I.B.M. had been consulted in the matter and they had submitted their estimate which involved one time expenditure of Rs. 54,511/- for determining (a) Gratuity due to individual seamen and (b) individual shipowner's liability from 1.1.1954 to date. The subsequent annual expenditure for bringing the records up-to-date would be Rs. 3,143/-.

While Members fully supported the proposal to utilise the services of IBM for the purpose, the Chairman suggested that it would be advisable to ascertain from Government whether the expenses that will be incurred could be met from the Administrative Charges paid to the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation. Mr. Latif explained that since it was a vital matter requiring urgent consideration, if necessary, a portion of the Administrative expense payable by Shipowners could be earmarked for meeting the specific expense.

In this context, it was pointed out that the Board of Trustees would have to pass a suitable resolution empowering the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner to administer the General Roster Gratuity Fund."

Item No. 2: Action taken on the decisions of the Board of Trustees.

The Board noted the position indicated against each of the items.

With regard to item at serial No. 10 'Revised pattern of investment i.e. 25% in the State Government Securities and 75% in the Time Deposits in Post Offices on the lines of pattern, prescribed in respect of Employees' Provident Funds from 1.10.1972, the Secretary informed the Board that the Ministry of Shipping and Transport had since issued the Notification No. 5:MT(5)/72, dated the 11th January, 1973, laying down the revised pattern of investment of provident fund monies with effect from 1st July 1972 upto 31.3.1973 and from 1.4.1973 onwards. Copies of the said Government Notification together with a covering Note explaining the implications of the revised pattern of investment of Fund monies, were placed on the table. It was decided that the Investment Committee, already appointed by the Board, may consider the matter. In the meanwhile, the Commissioner was authorised to act on the Notification and advise the Reserve Bank of India, Bombay, to invest all future receipts of Provident Fund contributions in the State Government Securities and the State or Central Government guaranteed securities as proviso to para 1 of the Ministry's Notification lays down that the over-all investment in these securities during the year 1972-73 shall be about 25% of the total investible funds during the year.

As regards item at Serial No. 13 "Proposal of the I.B.M. for undertaking the mechanisation of the accounting work of the Organisation" the Members expressed their concern over the delay in Government's sanction to the utilisation of the provision of Rs. 1,00,000/- which was originally intended for air-conditioning the office premises in the current year's Budget for meeting the expenditure on the initial cost of mechanisation of the accounting work of Organisation. The Board had approved the proposal of entrusting the accounting work of the Organisation to the I.B.M. with effect from 1-10-1972. Owing to delay in the Government's sanction, the arrears of work in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation were on the increase. Shri D.C. Sen Gupta stated that the Ministry of Finance had no objection to the proposed introduction of the computerisation but they desired that the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund, should discuss the proposed scheme of mechanisation with the Joint Director (computer) in the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General, New Delhi, so that the system proposed to be introduced in the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation is perfect in all respects and may not lead to any difficulty in future. The Chairman suggested and the Board agreed that Shri Sen Gupta may arrange for a joint meeting between the Ministry of Finance, Joint Director (computer) in the office of the Comptroller and Auditor General and the Seamen's Provident Fund Commissioner, Bombay, as quickly as possible.

Before discussing item No. 3 viz: 'Proposal of the Owners' Agents' Committee (Crews), Bombay, for further reduction in the

rate of Administrative charge from 2½% to 1½% of the total contributions; it was decided to consider Item No. 4. first.

Item No. 4 : Budget Proposals for the year 1973-74

Shri N. Latif observed that the proposed Budget Estimates of Rs. 1.95 crores on account of Receipts of Seamen's Provident Fund contributions during 1973-74 were rather under-estimated. The Secretary clarified that these have been estimated taking into consideration the actual receipts during the first eight months of the current year 1972-73. The Chairman suggested a review on the basis of actual receipts in the past. On going through the figures of actual annual receipts of Provident Fund contributions during each of the years from 1966-67 to 1971-72, it was observed that there was an increase in the Receipts from about 1.80 crores in 1969-70 to about Rs. 1.97 crores in 1971-72. It was therefore, estimated that receipts on account of Provident Fund contributions during 1973-74 would be approximately Rs. 2.15 crores. The Board accordingly revised the proposed Budget estimates 1973-74 under the head 'Receipts' from Rs. 1.95 crores to Rs. 2.15 crores.

As regards expenditure, the Board decided to observe as much economy as possible. Accordingly, the provisions suggested under certain sub-heads were reduced as follows :-

BUDGET ESTIMATES - 1973-74:

Sub-head	Proposed	Approved	Amount reduced.
4 Allowances.			
i) Travelling Allowance.	Rs. 30,000	Rs. 25,000	Rs. 5,000
6. Other Allowances.			
ii) Medical expenses.	Rs. 8,000	Rs. 7,000	Rs. 1,000
iv) Honoraria & Overtime	Rs. 8,000	Rs. 7,000	Rs. 1,000
8. Contingencies.			
Recurring.			
Telephone / Trunk call Charges.	Rs. 4,800	Rs. 4,000	Rs. 800
Registers / Cash Books.	Rs. 8,000	Rs. 5,000	Rs. 3,000
Audit Fees.	Rs. 1,500	Rs. 1,000	Rs. 500
Total Amount proposed as Budget Estimates - 1973-74.		Total :	Rs. 11,300
			Rs. 4,50,700
Less reductions as above			Rs. 11,300
Budget Estimates approved			Rs. 4,39,400
		Or say	Rs. 4,40,000

The Board approved a total provision of Rs. 4,40,000 for Budget Estimates 1973-74.

The Board further decided that in future while submitting the proposals for Budget Estimates, actual expenditure incurred during the preceding two years under various sub-heads including the details of contingent expenditure, be furnished for information of the Board.

The Secretary drew the attention of the Board that owing to delay in the Ministry's sanction to the proposal for entrusting the accounting work of the Organisation to the IBM with effect from 1st October, 1972, it may be necessary that the Organisation may have to pay additional amounts to the IBM for clearing further back-log from October 1972 onwards as the IBM's original proposal envisaged clearance of back-log upto September, 1972. The Board agreed that if necessary the position would be reviewed by the Board at the appropriate time and supplementary provision made to meet the extra expenditure on this account.

Item No. 3. - Proposal of the Owners / Agents Committee (Crews), Bombay, for further reduction in the rate of Administrative charge from 2½% to 1½% of the total contributions.

The receipts on account of Provident Fund contributions during 1973-74 have been estimated at Rs. 2.15 crores. At the present rate of Administrative charge at 2½%, the collections from the Administrative levy will be approximately Rs. 5.37 lakhs. The total expenditure of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation has been estimated at about Rs. 4.40 lakhs in 1973-74. In view of this position and also considering the present balance in the 'Administrative charge account' amounting to Rs. 10 lakhs and the interest earned on the investments in the 'Fixed Deposits', it was considered that there was a case for a further reduction in the rate of Administrative charge from 2½% to 2% of the total Provident Fund contributions.

On assurance by the representatives of Shipowners on the Board that in case of need at a future date, they would agree to increase the rate of administrative charge, the Board unanimously decided to recommend to Government to reduce the rate of Administrative charge from 2½% to 2% with effect from 1.4.1973

It was further agreed that the Administrative charge collected from the employers on the Provident Fund contributions shall not be utilised for the General Roster Seamen's Gratuity Fund or any purpose other than the administration of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act and Scheme, 1966.

Shri D.N. Phull stated that Central Government employees were entitled to the allotment of residential accommodation from Government pool. The Central Government had also framed rules for grant of advances to their employees for construction/purchase of a house/flat etc. The employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation although governed by the service regulations as applicable to the corresponding categories of Central Government employees, were however, not entitled to allotment of residential accommodation from General Pool. He, therefore, stated that the Board of Trustees as employers have to provide similar housing facilities for their employees either by providing residential accommodation or by grant of financial assistance as admissible to the Central Government employees. Shipowners' representatives explained that if and when requests from the staff for financial assistance for acquiring residential accommodation were received, the Board could consider the matter.

Shri K.K. Khadilkar, suggested that Service benefits, grant of various allowances etc. to the employees of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, should be the same as admissible to the employees of the Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Bombay, under the Ministry of Labour and Rehabilitation. The Board accepted this suggestion and advised the Commissioner to obtain details in this respect for consideration at the next meeting.

Item No. 5.: Receipt and accounting of Provident Fund moneys.

The Board considered the report of the Commissioner and noted the position.

Item No. 6.: Outstanding recoveries on account of Provident Fund contributions, Administrative charge and damages.

The Board noted the position about the outstanding recoveries.

As regards the outstanding Provident Fund dues from M/s Hindustan Shipping Co. Ltd., Howrah, Shri K.K. Khadilkar observed that action could be taken to recover the same from the new owners of ss 'Barun' re-named as 'DAMODAR ZUARI' under the Admiralty Law. He further stated that according to his information, there was some balance amount left out of the sale proceeds of ss 'BARUN'. The Chairman informed the Board that as per Board's decision at the last meeting, M/s. Mulla & Mulla & Craigie & Blunt & Caroe, Solicitors had already been requested to furnish legal opinion on all aspects of the matter. He also assured the Board that enquiries would be made to find out whether there was any balance available from the sale proceeds of ss 'BARUN' and if so what further steps be taken to recover outstanding dues.

With regard to the outstanding recoveries from M/s Killick Nixon Ltd., Bombay, it was decided that the issues involved may be discussed at the next Board meeting.

Item No. 7: Amendment of the Seamen's Provident Fund Scheme, 1966, to deal with cases of revival of registration of seamen after final payment of Provident Fund money on account of cancellation of Registration.

Shri N.K. Sen suggested and the Board agreed that the consideration of this item be deferred to next meeting to enable the members to examine the implications in more detail.

As regards the views expressed by the Ministry of Shipping &

Transport in respect of payment of employers' share of contribution to Provident Fund, to seamen whose registrations have been cancelled, but subsequently revived on appeal, it was acknowledged that once a seamen's registration was revived, to all intents and purposes, he should be deemed to be in continuous service.

Item No.8 : Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation (staff General Provident Fund) Regulations, 1972 - opening of a separate Bank Account with the State Bank of India.

The Board approved the proposal of opening a separate Savings Bank Account with State Bank of India, Bombay, in terms of Regulations 3, designated as "the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation, staff General Provident Fund" and authorised the Commissioner to transfer the Funds in Fixed Deposits with the State Bank of India as and when the balance in the Savings Bank Account is considered to be more than the normal requirements.

The Board also passed the following Resolutions unanimously :-

i) RESOLVED that in terms of Regulation 3 of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation (staff General Provident Fund) Regulations 1972, a Savings Bank Account in the State Bank of India, be opened in the name of 'The Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation Staff General Provident Fund' and that all cheques, on the Banking Accounts be signed and all bills, notes, and other negotiable instruments be drawn, accepted and made on behalf of the Staff General Provident Fund by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund and that Cheques, Bills, notes and other negotiable instruments, payable to the staff General Provident Fund may be endorsed for the Fund by the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund.

ii) RESOLVED further that the Board authorises the Commissioner, Seamen's Provident Fund to delegate his power to operate upon the "Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation Staff General

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Provident Fund" Account, to the Accounts Officer, Seamen's Provident Fund, whenever he is away on tour or leave and to advise the State Bank of India, Bombay, where the account is maintained accordingly.

Item No.9 : Amendments to the Seamen's Provident Fund (staff and Conditions of Service) Regulations 1972, consequent upon creation of the posts of Deputy Superintendent.

The amendments proposed to the Seamen's Provident Fund (staff and Conditions of Service) Regulations, 1972, consequent upon creation of the posts of Deputy Superintendents were approved by the Board.

Item No:10. : Purchase of a Hindi Typewriter and Training of staff in Hindi and Hindi Typewriting.

The Board approved the proposal for acquisition of a Hindi typewriter for the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation.

Item No.11 - Requests received from shipowners for exemptions under Section 20(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966.

The Board considered the requests from the employers for grant of exemptions in terms of section 20 (1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966 and agreed to grant undermentioned exemptions as the seamen in question were in enjoyment of benefits in the nature of Provident Fund/pension which were on the whole considered not less favourable than the benefits provided for or under the Seamen's Provident Fund Act. 1966.

i) Shri E.F. Pereira, Chief Steward of M/s Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co. Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

ii) Permanent petty officers of M/s South East Asia Shipping Co. Pvt. Ltd., Bombay.

iii) Permanent petty officers of M/s Talani Shipping Co. Bombay.

The Board considered the correspondence exchanged with the Owners/Agents' Committee (crews) and Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co. Pvt. Ltd, Bombay. In view of the proposal of Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co. Pvt.

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Ltd., that the chief Stewards appointed as Catering officers would be re-categorised as Pursers (Catering) retrospectively from the date of their promotion and as the definition of the word "Seaman" under Section 2(1) of the Seamen's Provident Fund Act, 1966, does not cover "Pursers" the Board agreed that such seamen cease to be members of the Seamen's Provident Fund, from the date of their promotion as Pursers. The Board further agreed that the past contributions of such seamen may remain in deposit with the Seamen's Provident Fund till the time of superannuation of the officers concerned.

Item No. 12: Scheme for Seamen's (General Roster) Gratuity Fund - Deputation of an Assistant to Director, Seamen's Employment Office, Bombay.

The Board noted the position.

Item No. 13: List of Holidays for the year 1973.

The Board noted the List of Holidays for the year 1973.

Item No. 14: Computerisation of the Accounts of the Seamen's Provident Fund Organisation - Submission by employees for grant of Special allowance.

It was decided to defer consideration of this item to the next meeting.

The Meeting then terminated with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

BOMBAY.
Dated 29th June 1973.

29/6/73

SECRETARY,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND;
BOMBAY.

S V Bhave

CHAIRMAN,
BOARD OF TRUSTEES,
SEAMEN'S PROVIDENT FUND,
BOMBAY.