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LOK SABHA DEBATES

I

LOK SABHA

Friday, July 1, 1977/Asadha 10, 1894
(Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Voluntary Ceiling on Prices of Raw Cotton

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286. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:

SHRI KALYAN JAIN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the East Indian Cotton Association has decided to impose with immediate effect a voluntary ceiling on prices of raw cotton in the current season;

(b) if so, to what extent the decision will reduce the cotton prices in the country; and

(c) the other measures being considered by the Central Government to get the cotton prices reduced so that the poor people can buy cheaper cloth?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):
(a) to (c). A statement is laid on the table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c). Yes, Sir. In response to the general appeal, the East India

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Cotton Association has decided to impose a voluntary ceiling on prices of raw cotton in the current season with effect from 4th June, 1977.

The prices of cotton have already fallen by Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per candy.

A number of measures have been taken by the Government to contain cotton prices, which include:—

1. The import of cotton from abroad;

2. Cotton textile mills have been permitted to import man made fibres on O.G.L. basis up to 31st October, 1977;

3. It has been made mandatory on cotton textile industry to use at least 10 per cent non-cotton fibres of their total consumption from 1st January, 1977.

4. Stock restrictions have been placed on mills and traders in order that available cotton could be available equitably to all mills.

As a mid-term measure, the recommendations of the Special Committee constituted to maximise the production of cotton during the forthcoming kharif and rabi seasons is being implemented through the State Governments.

5. As a long-term measure, efforts are being made by Government to increase the production of cotton within the country.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: I would like to know from the hon. Minister what factors were responsible which made the cotton price rise so high and ultimately it resulted in the increase of price of even the controlled cloth and what action Government desires to contemplate to give the cloth at a cheaper rate?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, as I have said earlier, the production of cotton which is usually of the order of 70 to 71 lakh bales in the country, unfortunately came down to nearly 58 lakhs of bales last year. Besides, the prices of cotton in the international markets were comparatively high. Whatever cotton we have imported, it is being given at a subsidised rate in order to make this cloth available at reasonable prices. So the prices going up in the international markets and the shortage of production in the country were responsible for the increase in price and to meet this, we have taken up a plan of importing nearly 14 lakhs of bales of cotton much of which has already come into the country and also some other man-made fibres. We have made these mills use 10 per cent of man made fibres along with the cotton yarns. These are the several steps taken.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: It so happened during the last two years or so that in the beginning of the season, at the time of the arrivals of cotton in the market, the price of the cotton varieties had remained low and at that time the Cotton Corporation did not come into the field and purchase the cotton according to the needs of the grower. But thereafter the prices went high and ultimately it resulted in the increase of the cloth prices. So may I know from the hon. Minister what measures Government desire to contemplate or are being contemplated so that such a situation does not arise in the next season and the growers and the consumers may not suffer?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, it is not only in the case of cotton, but in regard to all agricultural products it is the same state of affairs. I do appreciate the concern of the hon. Member. We have already instructed the Cotton Corporation of India to go into the market on whatever support price has been declared by the Government. If the prices are ruling below the support prices, they should

make purchases to maintain that level. This is beside the consultation with the State Governments. If we can also encourage our cooperatives or the producers to have more produce of the cotton, it will also go a long way and I would certainly try my level best in that direction.

श्री कल्याण जीन : अध्यक्ष महोदय मंत्री जी ने अपने वक्तव्य में रुई के मूल्यों, के निर्यतण के लिए जो उपाय बताए हैं, उन में एक उपाय यह बताया है कि रुई का आयात करेंगे। मंत्री जी को यह मालूम है कि रुई का निर्यात बंगला देश को किया जा रहा है। तो मैं मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि एक ओर तो आयात की बात की जाती है और दूसरी ओर बंगला देश को निर्यात किया जा रहा है? दूसरे मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या मंत्री जी बैंकों की ब्याज दरों को घटाने पर भी विचार करेंगे जो बहुत ज्यादा हैं? अगर बैंकों की ब्याज दर बढ़ा दी जाती है तो इससे कपड़ा मिलों को रा मेटेरियल खरीदने में क्या आसानी नहीं हो जाएगी?

श्री मोहन धारिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैंने इस बात को कहा है कि कपास का हम आयात कर रहे हैं। मैं यह मानने वाला हूं कि जो चीज हमारे मुल्क में पैदा हो रही है उसका हमें आयात नहीं करना चाहिए। चूंकि कपास का उत्पादन कम हो गया है इसलिए इसके सिवाय हमारे पास दूसरा कोई रास्ता नहीं है। बंगलादेश के बारे में जो सवाल पूछा है, इसका सम्बन्ध इस प्रश्न से नहीं है। मैं बंगलादेश को कोई निर्यात होता है या नहीं इसको देखूंगा।

श्री कल्याण जीन : अध्यक्ष महोदय मूल्यों को कम करने के लिए या निर्यात करने के लिए एक तरह दो रुई के आयात का उपाय बताया है और दूसरी ओर निर्यात किया जाता है। क्या यह कंट्राडिक्टरी नहीं है?

श्री मोहन धारिया : इसमें कंटास्ट नहीं है। हमारे प्रयास बगल में पड़ोसी मुक्त हैं। अगर उनकी जरूरत है तो हम ज्यादा आयात करेंगे और उनको देंगे। उनको भी देना हमारी दृष्टि है।

श्री कल्याण जैन : मैंने बैंक की ब्याज दर के बारे में भी प्रश्न किया था, उसका उत्तर नहीं आया है।

श्री मोहन धारिया : यह ठीक है कि बैंक की ब्याज दर ज्यादा नहीं होनी चाहिए। लेकिन यह सवाल फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर साहब के अधीन आता है। मैं उनको कह दूंगा कि वे इस पर ध्यान दें।

SHRI S. R. DAMANI: On account of the measures taken by this and the previous governments, the situation regarding the supply of cotton has come under control; otherwise, it would have been worse. You have said that you are going to make effort to increase the production of cotton. What action do you propose to obtain increased production of cotton.—long term and short term? Side by side with this, are you thinking of creating a buffer stock of cotton through purchase from our neighbouring countries, when the prices are suitable?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Regarding increase in the production of cotton, there are several measures that can be taken. One is this: use of cotton seeds of high-yielding variety and the other bringing more areas of cotton under cultivation. Then we can make fertilizers and other inputs available to the farmer at the appropriate time. These are the various measures being taken by the Ministry of Agriculture. About the imports to be made at the time when prices are at a low level, it is a good suggestion for action.

श्री किरंजी प्रसाद : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि हमारा उत्पादन लक्ष्य 71 लाख गॉन कट-कट सेविल उत्पादन हुआ है 58 लाख

गॉन का, इसके क्या कारण हैं? उत्पादन के बढ़ने के प्रमुख रूप से क्या कारण रहे हैं इसकी जानकारी मैं चाहता हूँ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : हमारे मुक्त में काटन का उत्पादन ज्यादा करके ऐसे एरियाज में होता है जहां परमानेंट इरिगेशन की सुविधा नहीं है। इसके कारण हमें मानसून पर निर्भर करना पड़ता है। यही इसका प्रमुख कारण है।

SHRI B. RACHAIAH: There was a short-fall in the output of cotton in the previous year by about 14 lakh bales. Already there is a fall in price by Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per candy. And the farmers who take the trouble of growing cotton are put to loss. Will Government consider the cost of production, while fixing the price of cotton to the farmers?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: This is all done by the Agricultural Prices Commission. Naturally, it comes to the Government also before a final decision is taken. We shall certainly take into consideration to what extent we can help the producers so that they would not be the sufferers.

SHRI SONU SINGH PATIL: Is the hon. Minister aware that one of the recommendations of the Buffer Stock Operations in Cotton Committee is that when there are distress sales the Cotton Corporation should purchase up to 10 per cent of the cotton at the average price?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I would require notice.

DR. SAROJINI MAHISHI: What are the proper incentives being given for growing cotton, specially long staple cotton, like varalakshmi? Between the period of opening the Letter of Credit and the actual import, if the

farmers in India are given more incentives, they can themselves grow more long staple cotton and avoid imports. What incentives are being given to the farmers to make use of the research facilities that are available in the country?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: This question comes under the Agriculture Ministry. We have to make the inputs available to the farmer like good high-yielding variety seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, credit facilities and a reasonable price for his produce. As I have indicated earlier, the Agriculture Ministry has taken in its hands all these programmes, and I am sure these will be implemented.

श्री कृष्ण चन्द कश्यप : इस समय देश में कपड़ा मिलों में कितनी रुई की आवश्यकता है और कितनी हम बाहर से मंगाते हैं। आपने बताया है कि हम खेती का क्षेत्र बढ़ाने वाले हैं और पैदावार बढ़ाने के लिए हम बीज, खाद आदि देते हैं। पिछले तीन साल में कितनी भूमि में आपने कपास की खेती करवाई है और इसके प्रतिबन्ध आंकड़े क्या हैं ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : जैसा मैंने बताया है पिछले साल 71-72 लाख बैलज लगी थी और 58 लाख बैलज यहाँ पैदा हुई। इसीलिए कपास की कमी पड़ी। अधिक कपास पैदा करने के लिए कौन से उपाय करेंगे यह मैंने बता दिया है। पिछले तीन साल के आंकड़े जो आपने माने हैं इसके लिए नोटिस की आवश्यकता होगी। मैं यह सुझाव भी आपको दूँ कि यह नोटिस एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्टर को जाएगा तो अच्छा होगा।

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: The hon. Minister has stated that they are supplying to the farmers pesticides, insecticides and other things. Are they being supplied at reduced rates?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: This effort is being made. As the hon. Members may be aware, Government has brought down recently the prices of fertilizers and insecticides. I know that even then they are beyond the capacity of the poor farmers.

श्री शिव नारायण : नई सरकार के आने के बाद काटन के दाम कम हो गए हैं। क्या कपड़े के दाम भी कम करवाने की आप कृपा करेंगे ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : कपड़ा लोगों को मिले इसीलिए स्टैंडर्ड क्लाय चाहते हैं कि उसका उत्पादन बढ़े और उसको हम कम दाम में दिलवाते हैं। इसी के बारे में मैंने पिछले सप्ताह बताया था कि जो तय किया है उसने दाम का कपड़ा पैदा करके उसका बटवारा अच्छी तरह से कैसे हो इस पर हमें ध्यान देना है।

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: It is well known that the cotton market is one of the most speculative markets in the country and, as a result of this, the consumer and the grower had been the greatest sufferers. What measures are being taken in order to see that the market is regulated and adequate protection is given to the growers, so that they get a remunerative price and are not forced to sell at distress prices, because this is one of the reasons why the production is going down because the grower is not being given adequate protection from the speculative market?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: To protect the interests of the farmers, a support price is announced by the Government and to see that the support price is available to the farmers, we ask the Cotton Corporation to enter the market when there is a low trend in price. Secondly, it is the endeavour of the Government to encourage purchase co-operatives of the farmers, and, as the Minister of Co-operation, I request the hon. Members to take more interest

in building up goes, healthy co-operative purchasing societies of farmers. We would very much like to co-operate with the Members.

Misuse of Import Licences by Edible Oil Importers

*291. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the steps recently announced by Government to check the misuse of import licences by edible oil importers have yielded any desired results;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) what further steps are proposed in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c). A large number of licences against which no imports or firm import commitments were made within three months to the date of issue have been invalidated, and now licences are being issued only on the basis of firm import commitments made by an applicant. There is no possibility of misuse of the licences now being issued. Further steps will be taken in the light of experience, and on the basis of the findings of the enquiries which have been ordered into cases of suspected misutilisation. In the meantime State Trading Corporation has been asked to gear up its mechanism to effect more imports of edible oil.

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: The hon. Minister is under the impression that no further misuse will take place as a result of the measures that he has taken. The edible oil business is a big business domain. Not only the licencees, but the vanaspati manufacturers, the groundnut kulaks and so many

other big business people are involved in this, and they have devised various methods to hoodwink the Government. May I know whether the private sector will be entirely dispensed with in the import of edible oil and whether the import will be handed over to STC?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I have already indicated in my reply that we are gearing up the STC for more imports. And, as I said at the time of the discussion of the Demands of my Ministry, nearly 90 per cent of the imports of edible oil is through the STC. It is true that we have allowed certain private persons to import oil, but then we have taken care to see that there is a firm commitment from the applicant's end. And that it should be imported within three months. If it has happened, naturally we have to take some other action. But here when the country is facing acute shortage, the problem is to bring the oil from whatever source it is possible. The only thing is that we should not allow those who import oil to take undue advantage of these scarcity conditions, and about this the Government is quite conscious.

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Even the oil imported by STC had gone to the vanaspati industry when the industry had sufficiently stock and the vanaspati manufacturers had misused this oil in the sense that they produced vanaspati but hoarded it and created artificial shortage and thereby made huge profits from this artificial shortage. Whether Government are taking any steps to see that transfer of oil from the STC will not take place in future.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The production and the requirement of the country per year is of the order of 6 lakh tonnes. Now when there is a shortage of raw material and we do not provide that much raw material to the vanaspati manufacturers, the whole production will tumble down. Therefore, 75 per cent of the raw material is provided to the vanaspati industry by the STC or by the Government. In spite of the fact that there

is acute shortage of oil we have taken care to see that production of vanaspati does not suffer and it remains of that order during the year.

Regarding prices, because of our mutual discussions, the vanaspati manufacturers agreed to bring down the prices from Rs. 168 to Rs. 158 for a tin of 16.5 kg. Not only that, they have assured that if any dealer does not behave properly, his dealership will be cancelled. I would, therefore, very much like the hon. Members to bring to my notice if there is any complaint in this regard in their constituencies and necessary action will be taken.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : देश को कितने एडिबल प्रायल, खाने के तेल की आवश्यकता है और कितना विदेशों से मंगाते हैं, मैं इसकी जानकारी के साथ यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि देश को इस मामले में स्वावलम्बी बनाने की क्या योजना सरकार ने बनाई है ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : देश में 35 लाख टन एडिबल प्रायल, खाने का तेल लगता है जिसमें से 32 लाख टन तेल हम पैदा कर सकते हैं। लेकिन गये साल में यह पचाइस 26 लाख टन हुई, जिसकी वजह से काफी कमी आई है। इसीलिए हमें इम्पोर्ट करना पड़ा। लेकिन हम बराबर इसकी इम्पोर्ट पर निर्भर नहीं रहना चाहते, इसलिए इसी खरीद सीजन में कुछ ऐसे प्रोग्राम हाथ में लिए हैं जिससे कि हमारे प्रायल सीड्स का उत्पादन बढ़ सके। एक तो ज्यादा क्षेत्र हम प्रायल सीड्स के उत्पादन के लिए ले रहे हैं, दूसरे जो कमांड एरियाज इरिगेशन के नीचे हैं, वहाँ ज्यादा क्षेत्र लेने की कोशिश कर रहे हैं और तीसरे हाई ईल्ड ब्राइडीज का प्रोग्राम हाथ में लिया है, जिससे ज्यादा तेल होता है।

श्री बीमबी भाई बाजोर : खाद्य तेल की कमी भी है और जनता सरकार के घाने के बाद तेल का दाम दुगुना हो गया है। एक तरफ सरकार इसका आयात कर रही है और दूसरी तरफ मूंगफली का दाना बाहर क्यों भेजा जा रहा है ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : यह जो एच० पी० एस० दाना भजने का काम किया, यह हमारी गवर्नमेंट ने नहीं बल्कि कांग्रेस ने किया है। हमारे घाने के बाद हमने इसे रोक दिया है। इसके अलावा यह जो तेल की कमी है, यह हमारी वजह से नहीं है यह भी पिछली सरकार की वजह से है जिसने इसमें ज्यादा प्रोडक्शन नहीं किया।

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: May I know how many licences have been issued recently and to whom?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Up to the end of May, 1977, 6,183 licences were issued and the amount involved was of the order of Rs. 686 crores. However, the licences that were issued earlier before my taking charge were of the order of Rs. 547 crores. After we have taken the charge, we have taken care to see that only those who have expressed their firm commitments that they shall be importing oil within three months have been given licences. That was not done in the past.

श्री सतीश अग्रवाल : क्या यह सही है कि कांग्रेस गवर्नमेंट ने 540 करोड़ रुपये के इम्पोर्ट लाइसेंस जारी किए थे; यदि हाँ, तो क्या उन पर माल आयात किया गया था या नहीं? क्या सरकार को यह भी सूचना मिली है कि उन में से कई लोगों ने देश से बाहर जो तेल खरीदा, उसको देश से बाहर ही जलक में बेच दिया ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: As I said at the time of the debate on the demands of my Ministry, it is true that there

are certain allegations which are being investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation that the oil was purchased outside and it was sold outside because the prices had gone up in the international market. When it was all done there were scarcity conditions in the country and they did great harm and damage to the country.

Steps to curb Smuggling in collaboration with Neighbouring Countries

*292. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether India is approaching neighbouring countries for taking measures to curb smuggling; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. There has always been mutual co-operation between India and its neighbouring countries with regard to measures taken to curb smuggling.

(b) These measures are taken under the provisions of bilateral treaty or by periodical meetings between the officers of the Customs and Police Departments with their counterparts in these countries.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: From such a plain answer we cannot make out anything. Our main problem is how to check smuggling and that can be done with the help of our neighbouring countries. I want to know specifically what is the nature of talks with the neighbouring countries, whether the Government has benefited by these talks and whether smuggling is being curbed as a result of these talks or not. On the one hand, you say that you are going to check smuggling and you are holding talks with neighbouring countries and, on the other hand,

you are releasing your own smugglers in your own country. Recently, it has come in bold letters in the press that smuggling has been rampant after the release of smugglers in the country and that smuggling has been increasing like anything. On the one hand, you want to check smuggling and, on the other hand, you are releasing smugglers in your own country. What is your policy in this regard?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: First of all, the hon. Member asked, "On the one hand, you are releasing smugglers and, on the other hand, you are talking about curbing smuggling." The smugglers were released before this Government came in power.

Without taking any precaution whatsoever as to what activities they would indulge in thereafter, they have done it. But that is not particularly relevant. The hon. Member has said that I have not given a clear reply. Your question was whether India is approaching neighbouring countries for taking measures to curb smuggling. I said, 'yes.' There has always been mutual co-operation between India and its neighbouring countries. Now you would like to know what was the nature of discussion that took place. This is a very strange question, but I would still tell him about it. Recently, for instance, we had a discussion with Sri Lanka. Recently, our officers had a meeting with their officers in Ceylon, in Colombo and there the points that they discussed were: review of the progress on the decisions taken at the last conference held in Madras in 1973, the present trend in smuggling between India and Sri Lanka, discussion and exchange of views pertaining to smuggling goods between the two countries and discussion on further areas of co-operation for prevention of smuggling between the two countries. So, this is the kind of discussion that took place. When we had conference with our neighbours. Now, for instance, between India and Nepal, there are treaties. Between India and Nepal, according to one of the provisions,

certain arrangement exists and in addition to that, there are also discussions. Besides all this, if there is any other suggestion which the hon. Member has to make, I shall certainly consider it.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: I would like to know whether the Government is aware of the smuggling that is taking place on the western and the eastern sectors on land routes? Then there are reports, that smuggling is going on the border areas between India and Bangladesh.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I have not understood your question. Well, our neighbouring countries are: Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Burma also. So far as Burma is concerned, there is very little trade between India and Burma and therefore not much of smuggling takes place. Similarly, in the case of Bangladesh, there is very close understanding as to what steps should be taken to prevent smuggling and relatively little seems to take place. So far as India and Pakistan are concerned in fact, not much of smuggling takes place at all. The very little smuggling that takes place is along the west coast and by sea. This is the area where the smuggling takes place. So far as even Sri Lanka is concerned, between Sri Lanka and Tamil Nadu cost very little smuggling takes place. But as I had said just now, very very stringent measures are taken and we are aware and are trying to see that this smuggling is kept under check, very little smuggling, comparatively speaking, takes place by land route. The bulk of it takes place by sea.

श्री कूल चंद वर्मा: मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूँ कि क्या उन्हें इस बात की जानकारी है कि कुछ दिनों पहले बम्बई के अन्दर श्री जय प्रकाश नारायण के समक्ष सचिव 150 तस्करोँ ने आत्म-समर्पण किया था? मैं यह भी जानना चाहूँ कि क्या इन 150 तस्करोँ के आत्म-समर्पण के बाद भी बहुत बड़ी तबाह में तस्करोँ हैं जो

आत्म-समर्पण करना चाहते हैं, क्या सरकार के पास ऐसी सूचना है, यदि ऐसी सूचना नहीं है तो सरकार इन तस्करोँ के खिलाफ, तस्करी रोकने हेतु कौन कौन से सब्बत कदम उठाने जा रही हैं जिस से देश के अन्दर तस्करी रुक सके और तस्करोँ यापार के द्वारा जो विदेश का माल आता है और हमारे यहाँ से बाहर जाता है इस पर रोक लगाई जा सके?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: The hundred or so smugglers were supposed to have taken a pledge before Shri Jayaprakash Narayan. There is nothing that I can add to the matter. As regards the question as to what steps we are taking to persuade others similarly to take pledges, I can only say that we are taking no steps because this is something that is done voluntarily; those who went before Shri Jayaprakash Narayan did so on their own; they were not persuaded by anybody.

As regards the question as to what steps we are taking to see that these smugglers do not resume their activities, there is nothing that we can do except to keep a watch on such of them as appear to be active in this business, and for the rest, prevention of smuggling is done by keeping a watch, as I said since it is mainly by sea, by certain preventive measures which we take in respect of coastal vessels—through intelligence about the countries from which these vessels are supposed to take off; in this manner we do have sufficient information and quite a considerable cargo is seized from time to time.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: When there are acute shortages in certain countries and surpluses in the neighbouring countries, is it not quite natural for the country experiencing shortages to wink their eyes to smuggling in of the much-needed goods? So, instead of cooperation, it is really non-cooperation that you get.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: Does the hon. Member want me to give a reply to that?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I would like to know whether there is any particular difficulty in forming a joint machinery for cooperation in this matter with the neighbouring countries; such machinery could meet at regular intervals.

Secondly, I would like to know whether the hon. Minister has any information that the persons released by the previous Government have fled to the neighbouring countries and they are openly carrying on their nefarious activities from there.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: So far as the first part of the hon. Member's question is concerned, I have said a little while ago that we have close co-operation with our neighbouring countries....

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: I am asking for a joint body.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: That depends on the desire of the other countries. It is, in effect, a joint body in as much as regularly our officers meet there and decide upon the steps to be taken to prevent smuggling as between these countries. Such machinery does exist as between the land-frontier countries, that is to say, with Nepal, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka; and even with Pakistan there have been talks, but there is not that close cooperation; with Burma there is so little trade that it has not been found necessary to have any machinery.

So far as the second part of the question is concerned, it is true that some may have fled to other countries, but, as I said, we keep track of them through our intelligence and the preventive machinery which we have, so that we do know about some of them who have gone into certain other countries like the Middle East, Sheikdoms and so on and we have

some information as to what they are doing. There is nothing more that we can do on this.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA: If they are openly carrying out their activities from the neighbouring countries, could not some effective measures be taken?

MR. SPEAKER: Dr. Subramaniam Swamy.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: Sir, I would like you to take a slightly liberal view of my question, but it has relevance to this. I would like to point out to the Minister that he has missed out one country when he mentioned the names, namely, Maldives. I would like to say that the Minister must have, no doubt, seen reports in the press and certain important magazines about currency smuggling alleged to have been done by a Congress Member of Parliament, Shri Yashpal Kapoor, who is supposed to have taken large amounts of Indian currency to Maldives and Sri Lanka. Is the Finance Ministry investigating this report with a view to taking steps to see that this kind of currency smuggling is not indulged in in future and also to verify the veracity of the report?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I must thank the hon. Member for pointing out that I have missed one country, the neighbouring Maldives.

So far as the second question is concerned, I will certainly take steps to see that currency smuggling is prevented as far as possible. The measures remain the same, whether it is a commodity or currency.

DR. SUBRAMANIAM SWAMY: I had asked if you have seen the report.

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I must say that I myself have not seen this particular report, but now that the hon. Member has drawn my attention to it, I shall have a check and pursue the matter further.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY: I am surprised that the hon. Minister is so blissfully unaware and ignorant of the extent of smuggling that takes place along the land routes. For his information I may mention that every year, during the jute season, thousands of bales of jute are smuggled into West Bengal through the Bangladesh border, thus depressing the jute prices. This year there is a possibility, in view of the jute shortage occurring in our country, of such jute smuggling taking place again.

Secondly, through our border with Nepal which has a direct connection with China, consumer durables from China and also Red Books of Mao are smuggled in large numbers. May I know what steps the hon. Minister is taking in order to prevent jute smuggling from Bangladesh in the coming months and also to prevent the smuggling of Red Books through Nepal?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I am glad the Hon. Member thinks that he has much more knowledge about smuggling and whatever takes place than I have, and I congratulate him on it. But I would also like to tell him that we have figures, for instance, of seizures that take place along these borders. What I had told him was that, relatively speaking, far more smuggling takes place by sea so far as smuggling operations in this country are concerned and, along the land frontiers, it is less. For instance, up to April 1977, something like Rs. 12 lakhs worth of goods from Bangladesh had been seized. We go on the basis that we do manage to seize a certain proportion of whatever is attempted to be smuggled in, and that gives one an idea. So, land smuggling is certainly there but it is still of a relatively small proportion.

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH: I come from a town which is a paradise for smuggling, namely Jamnagar district for smuggling, namely Jamnagar ...

MR. SPEAKER: That is why I called you!

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH: Is the Government aware that there is collusion in regard to smuggling operations with Government officials, particularly of Customs, Excise and other such departments? (Interruption). There are some particular pockets along the coast where one has to pay a 'pagdi' to high officials. Will the Government look into this matter?

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I am grateful to the hon. Member for the information that he has given. We are aware that smuggling takes place along that coast.

As regards the other activities like connivance, collusion etc., I will certainly go into it.

Impact of Freezing of Prices on Price Index

*293. **SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the major Industrial Houses have decided to freeze the prices of their manufactured goods voluntarily; and

(b) if so, what impact has it made on the general price level?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The decision on price freeze by some leading industrialists in Bombay was announced on 31 May, 1977. A similar announcement by industrialists in Calcutta was made on 3 June, 1977.

(b) While the wholesale price index for manufactured products (1970-71=100) remained more or less steady during the week ending 28 May, 1977 and week ending 11 June, 1977, the index rose by 0.4 per cent during the week ending 18 June, 1977 as compared with the index for the preceding week.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I would like to ask the hon. Minister, whether he has held any meeting with the representatives of the industrial houses and if so, which are the major industrial houses and whether they have sent any communication to the Government as to their intention for freezing the prices and at what level they intended to freeze these prices and for what length of time.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Prior to the presentation of the budget by the hon. Finance Minister, it is true that I had a meeting, but the meeting was not only the representatives of the industrialists, but it was the first meeting at which the leaders of the various trade unions and other experts were also invited. In that meeting, I made it very clear that what is needed in the country is not price freeze, but bringing down the prices. To freeze the prices at the present level is freezing the agony of the people at the present level.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: The Minister has used a very high-sounding phrase and he has very good intentions. It is one thing to make an appeal, but I would like to know, what are the positive steps that the Government propose to take, what were the proposals made by the trade unions representatives of the political parties and others?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The Government has certainly identified the areas where the prices have gone up, particularly those areas which affect most the poor section of our society. The areas are like edible oils, including mustard oil, coconut oil and other oils, vanaspathi, tea, as also cloth whose price has gone up due to shortage of cotton. Now, what could possibly be done in all these fields was the problem. In the case of cloth, we can have better imports of cotton at one end and produce more cotton at the other. Similar was the case in respect of oil-seeds. Regarding tea, we imposed an export duty of Rs. 5 per kilo. At the same time, we made the planters to bring

more tea for auction to the tune of 80 per cent. Such immediate measures were taken. Then the mid-term measures, as I said, are how we can have more production of cotton, oil seeds, pulses and also jute and such other articles which are needed in the country. And, as I already explained, we have also taken up a study as to how we can create a massive distribution system which will incorporate all these articles that are needed by the common man and right from the production to distribution what sort of system should it be. This is how we are trying our level best to first contain the prices and then bring them down and make essential articles available at reasonable prices.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: He has not answered that part of my question as to the proposals that were put forward by the Trade Unions and other representatives because he said that he met them.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: There were several proposals. There was also an earlier question to-day. But the proposals included (1) creating a massive distribution system and (2) having better production. Then my Congress friends who were present also insisted on nationalisation of textile mills, cotton mills and so many other industries. ...

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Sugar also.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: There are several other proposals.

श्री हुकम देव नारायण यादव : सवाल यह है कि रोकने या मूल्य स्थिर करने का नहीं है सवाल दाम बाँधने का है। सरकार के पास दाम तय करने की कोई नीति है या नहीं? उद्योगपति जो पैसा करते हैं सरकार राजी है या नहीं और सरकार कानून बनाना चाहती है या नहीं कि उसकी कीमत बाज़ार से बाज़ार में डेढ़ गुना से ज्यादा किसी भी हालत में नहीं होना चाहिए? ऐसा करने से सभी कीमतें स्थिर भाप रख सकेंगे

और महुंगाई आप रोक सकते हैं। इस नीति को सरकार उद्योगपतियों से मनवाने के लिए तैयार है या नहीं ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is a very serious matter and I do concede with my friend that unless and until reasonable prices are fixed for production inputs and also the margin of profits properly fixed, it will not be possible to have these articles made available at reasonable prices. Therefore when I mentioned 'massive distribution system', it includes all these suggestions and I would very much like to examine all these proposals.

डा० बलदेव प्रकाश : मेजर इंडस्ट्रियल हाउसिंग की तरफ से बालेंटरी प्राइस सब्जी करने की जी बात कही गई है वह क्या सरकार की योजना में धूल झोकने के लिए नहीं कही गई है ? क्या सरकार इस के बारे में कोई सख्त कार्रवाई करना चाहती है या नहीं ? उन लोगों ने माल सप्लाई करना ही नन्द कर दिया है, मेजर इंडस्ट्रियल हाउसिंग माल ही सप्लाई नहीं कर रहे हैं। पंजाब के छन्दर नायलोन फाइबर सिलक इंडस्ट्री के लिए धागा बिल्कुल नहीं आ रहा है, वे बे ही नहीं रहे हैं। वे कहते हैं कि कोई फायदा नहीं है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार कोई सख्त कदम उठाने का इरादा रखती है उनके विरुद्ध या नहीं ?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: As I said earlier, there are certain elements who would like to exploit the country when we were passing through scarcity conditions and were in a very critical situation. So far as the prices are concerned, this is the legacy of the past which we are supposed to face and while doing it, we have to see how we can increase our production and how it can be at a competitive price and how it can be made available. All these factors will have to be taken into consideration. Regarding one factor which was just raised, i.e. regarding artificial yarn required

by the small-scale industries in the Punjab, the hon Member is well aware that at my instance a meeting was held and it has been agreed by the yarn manufacturers, not that they will make the supply at the prices already voluntarily agreed to but that even the backlog that they have not supplied will be supplied and if it is not done by them, certainly proper measures will be taken.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose.

MR. SPEAKER: Next Question—Qn. 294.

SHRI R. K. AMIN: Question No. 294.

MR. SPEAKER: At least this information we must get.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: At least you should go upto my question No. 297.

MR. SPEAKER: I am trying to see what I can do.

Restructuring of Indian Airlines and Air India

*294. PROF. R. K. AMIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning to restructure the management of Indian Airlines and Air India to ensure closer coordination in their working; and

(b) if so, when will it be given effect to?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (जी बुक्सोलम कर्निक): (क) और (ख): इस प्रश्न की, दोनों कार्पोरेशनों की कार्य-कुशलता को और बढ़ाने तथा दोनों के बीच और अधिक बलिष्ठ समन्वय को सुनिश्चित करने की दृष्टि से, जांच की जा रही है।

PROF. R. K. AMIN: It is very good that the Government is very serious about co-ordination between the two. Is the Government aware of the fact that the advantages of pooling the resources—of personnel and others—are so many and because of that there may be a tendency for centralisation? There are also advantages of decentralisation to cater the needs of the tourists. May I know the guidelines which are being followed for co-ordination and bringing a new structure? May I know the advantages or good points which the Government will retain and the disadvantages or bad points they will shun?

श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी इस के गुण दोष पर विचार करने के लिये कमेटी का गठन किया गया है जिस में मंत्रालय के सचिव अध्यक्ष हैं और दोनों कोरपोरेशन के मैनेजिंग डायरेक्टर, अध्यक्ष, और जोइंट सैक्रेटरीज मिनिस्ट्री के उस के सदस्य हैं। कमेटी जाच कर रही है पूरी पोलिसी पर और उस की रिपोर्ट आने के बाद ही निश्चिन्त रूप से मैं कुछ कह सकूंगा। लेकिन माननीय सदस्य ने जो तमाम मुद्दे उठाये हैं उस की ध्यान में रखते हुए कमेटी की रिपोर्ट पर विचार किया जायगा और उस की रिपोर्ट आने पर सदन की जानकारी दी जायगी।

PROF. R. K. AMIN: The services and facilities provided by the Indian Air Lines while going from and to the major metropolitan centres are superior to those provided while going from and to other centres. Will the hon. Minister consider removing this sort of discrimination?

श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक : इस पर भ्रामन विचार करेगा।

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: May I know whether one of the proposals before the Committee is to eventually merge Air India and the Indian Air Lines? Is it a fact that at the

present moment Indian Air Lines and Air India are not co-operating on certain trunk routes, with the result that both of them are losing revenue?

श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दोनों कोरपोरेशन का मर्जर करने का कोई प्रश्न नहीं है। लेकिन दोनों बोर्डों के लिये फिलहाल एक वेयरमैन बनाने की कोशिश है।

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Are the Indian Air Lines and Air India not co-operating with regard to the bookings on major routes—Delhi—Bombay, Delhi—Calcutta, etc. with the result that both of them are losing revenue?

श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक : इस पर कमेटी विचार करेगी।

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: It is not a question of looking into for future. It is a matter which is happening now. Indian Air Lines and Air India are not co-operating with each other. Respective bookings are not being made by them. Is it a fact or not?

श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक : इस को मैं देख लूंगा और धारबासन देता हूँ कि इस में निश्चित रूप से सुधार होगा।

श्री चण्डीसेखर सिंह : जो समिति मंत्री जी ने बनायी है उस के सामने क्या क्या मुद्दे हैं जिन पर वह विचार करेगी, और वह समिति विचार कर के कब तक उसे कार्य रूप में परिणत करेगी? इस की भी कोई सीमा निश्चित है या अनिश्चितता के गर्भ में है।

श्री पुष्पोत्तम कौशिक : जहाँ तक कमेटी के डम्स बाऊ रैफरेंस का सवाल है मैं बता दूँ:
(1) To identify the areas of greater co-ordination between Air India and Indian Airlines keeping

in mind the over-all national interest and recommend specific measures.

श्री जगज्जोहर सिंह : मुझे अंग्रेजी भाती ही नहीं। मुझे हिन्दी में बताइये।

SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK: (2) to examine problems relating to development of tourism and movement of cargo by air and recommend measures; and

(3) to examine any other aspect of air transport and make recommendations.

उसके बाद कुछ कमेटी की बैठकें हुई हैं।

श्री जगज्जोहर सिंह : उस कमेटी में कोई यात्री नहीं रहा है।

RE SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

PROF. R. K. AMIN: Sir, I have a point of order. I went to the Notice Office for the answer which the Minister is giving. They said they will not give it before 12 O'clock. It is Question Hour. It is laid on the Table of the House. I don't know what is his answer.

MR. SPEAKER: It is laid on the Table.

PROF. R. K. AMIN: The answer is not given to me.

MR. SPEAKER: It can be laid on the Table of the House. What is the trouble? Is it not available?

SHRI R. K. AMIN: Not available to me before 12 O'clock.

MR. SPEAKER: They will look into it. We will look into it anyway.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: May I assist you? The Statements laid on the Table are to be made available to the Members. Will you kindly ask them that hereafter it should be circulated among members?

MR. SPEAKER: It should be circulated. That is what I say, not today alone...

SHRI PARASANNBHAI MEHTA: I enquired about it. It was not available in the Notice Office.

MR. SPEAKER: Some members have got it.

PROF. R. K. AMIN: At 11 O'clock I went to the Table Office and the Notice Office. Both of them said that the answers will not be given for the Short Notice Question. That is why I am asking about it.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: I have got it in my hands.

MR. SPEAKER: Some Members say they have got it. Some others did not get it. That will be looked into. It is not a question of discussion at all. Some Members have got it; they have shown it. Therefore, there is something wrong. Some Members did not go and take it earlier or something else has happened.

Let us go to the question and let us not begin discussing this aspect of it.

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद दास : जिसका प्रश्न हो उसका जवाब टेबल पर रखा जावे तो उस जवाब की एक कापी उस मेम्बर के खाने में यहां हाउस में डाल दी जाया करे।

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Licences for the Import of Edible Oil

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S.N.Q. 9. **PROF. R. K. AMIN:**

SHRI PRASANNABHAI MEHTA:

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether only a few big licences for the import of edible oil were given by the previous Government and the present Government allowed them to continue although some of

them only imported a small amount of oil;

(b) whether they charge a very high rate of profit on turnover of imported oil and still they continue to do so;

(c) whether despite the knowledge of the public and Government some big importers of oil make more than 10 per cent profit on their turnover and also still intend to take the advantage of price changes in the international market; and

(d) the steps the Government have taken to ensure adequate import of edible oil and prevent the importers from making exorbitant profit?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

In January, 1977, Government decided to allow the import of edible oils and oilseeds under the free licensing to private parties for direct human consumption. Under this policy, any person could apply for licence for stock and sale and licences were granted for the value applied for with a validity period of 12 months. Accordingly licences worth Rs. 526 crores were given to 3675 parties till March, 1977. While this policy was in operation, it was noticed that though large value licensing has taken place, actual imports were much less. Reports of several malpractices indulged in by licensees were also received.

2. In order to ensure that unutilised licences did not remain floating in the market and also that there is fairly close correspondence between the licensing and actual imports, the Government changed the licensing policies as follows:—

(i) All licences against which no imports or firm import com-

mitments have been made during the period of three months from the date of issue were invalidated; and

(ii) further licensing was linked with firm import commitments made by applicant. According to this procedure an applicant had first to enter into a firm contract with the supplier abroad and produce that evidence before the licensing authority who would issue a licence in terms of the import commitment and the delivery schedule stated in the contract.

3. At the same time action was initiated against parties suspected of malpractices. Cases of 13 parties have been referred to the Central Bureau of Investigation for detailed enquiries. This includes six cases which have also been referred to the Director of Enforcement, Ministry of Finance, for enquiries into violations of foreign exchange regulation act. Report of these enquiries is awaited. Further action will be taken in the light of the findings.

4. Departmental action under the import trade-control regulations has been initiated against 2143 parties. These include the above mentioned 13 parties and others who did not co-operate with the import trade control authorities in making the necessary enquiries.

5. According to the information available with Government, so far about Rs. 50 crores worth of edible oil and oilseeds have been imported against the licences issued and supplies for about another Rs. 70 crores are expected to be received by the end of September, 1977. Thus, it is estimated that by the end of September, 1977 about Rs. 120 crores worth of oil and oilseeds will have been imported by private trade for direct consumption. In terms of quantity this would mean around 2,00,000 tonnes.

6. Government has received reports that some importers have made large profits from the sale of imported oils. Government is taking steps in consultation with the State Governments to ensure that the price level for the consumers is kept low. Steps have been taken to make available to the public refined oil from the stocks of imported oils available with the STC and the IOPEA at important consuming centres at about Rs. 8.50 per kg. Steps have also been taken to increase the role of the STC in the import of edible oils for direct consumption. It is expected that these steps would not only increase the availability of imported oil, but would also help in keeping the prices of the oil in check.

PROF. R. K. AMIN: Mr. Speaker, Sir, from the answer it seems that 3,675 parties were given licences worth Rs. 528 crores. Why such a large number was allowed? I have every reason to believe that there were a few importers who were given very very big licences and only a small licences were distributed among a large number of importers. There must be some reason behind it.

Has the hon. Minister found out from the enquiry the special reason why only some parties were given the benefit of having big licences and that too in the month of January? This month is very important in view of the fact that the Lok Sabha was dissolved on the 18th of that month. There was an air of election. So, has it got something to do with the collection of funds for the elections? This is what we would like to know.

My second point is that I find from the answer that Government has received reports that some importers have made huge profits. In the answer he has not indicated what has been done in order to mop up that profit which they have accumulated. I have information with me—whether I am right or wrong, the Minister may correct me—that some parties contracted the oil and went abroad by taking away the surplus and cancelling the

orders. That surplus oil was sold at Rs. 100 to 150 per ton. Some of them have gone abroad in order to remove the evidence. I want to know from the Minister whether he has got this sort of information with him that some of the contracts were annihilated by taking away the surplus to sell at Rs. 100 to 150 per ton. Some of the importers with their associates have gone abroad in order to remove whatever evidence is available to the other parties who have sold the oil.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, I have said that where we suspected some malpractices in the matter, the same has been referred to the CBI. Under the circumstances, until and unless I get certain concrete evidence it will not be fair on my part to say anything. Of course inferences could be drawn. Why licences were given just before the elections? What was the motive? Why STC's services were not utilised? All these questions could be put and necessary inferences could follow but without evidence it would not be fair on my part to say anything.

Regarding surpluses and all that, as I have already said, it has come to our notice that the purchases were made but as the prices had gone up the goods were sold in the international market without bringing the oil in the country. All these matters have been referred to CBI. Here again without ascertaining the facts, it would not be possible for me to say anything further.

I do not know whether some parties have gone abroad to see that the evidence does not remain but I am told whatever money comes into the country from foreign countries necessarily it is through the banks. But if some profits are earned outside and also deposited outside then it is difficult to establish from here. But whatever enquiries could be made we have asked the authorities concerned to go into all the details and I am sure they will try their best.

PROF. R. K. AMIN: It seems Government have also given licences to importers for small amount of oil. Some of them have already imported oil. I am told that the steamers were held up in the port under the pretext of cloud effect to be examined and, as such, they were not allowed to bring their oil on the shore.

Secondly, in order to bring blame on these small importers certain parties do not provide railway wagon to them. I am also told that the STC has reserved all the railway wagons in Bombay as a result of which the wagons are not available to the small importers.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Mr. Speaker, Sir, as the House is aware whatever edible commodity is imported in the country it has to be cleared by the Health Ministry. We have taken care to see that whatever comes in the country the analysis of the same takes place immediately. In respect of railway wagons as far as my information goes, there is no difficulty. If there is any such difficulty, the hon. Member may bring it to my notice and I will look into it.

SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA: I would like to ask whether it is a fact that the Indian Institute of Public Administration has been asked by the government to undertake a quick study in all aspects relating to the edible oil scandal? If so, whether the investigation are over? If not, when are these investigations likely to be completed? The very purpose of allowing duty-free-import licences on such a large scale for the edible oil has been defeated by these traders. It has created further complication and further scarcity. So, keeping this in view, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether Government propose to solve edible oil policy right from the beginning of the season or whether any proposal to establish edible oil Corporation is under consideration of the Government? If the answer is "Yes", then I would like to know the salient features of the

scheme? If the answer is 'No', what measures Government proposes to take so that the growers can get remunerative price for their produce and the consumers can get edible oil at a fair price throughout the year?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is true that we have asked the Indian Institute of Public Administration, Delhi, to have a quick study into all these matters and they have assured to finalise the report and submit it to us within 3 months. It is awaited. It is true that as the oil according to the licences issued was not imported, as the oil could not be imported, it had created certain scarce conditions. But immediately we have geared up the machinery of STC and now we have planned for the whole of the next year in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Planning. The whole policy for the next year is now being considered and we shall certainly have that policy so that we can know what import should be made and we should not be depending on such persons who any time could move around profits and would not bother about the country. That care is taken. In regard to the question "are we looking into this whole problem of oil, oil-seeds, edible oils as required by the country?" I would like to say 'Yes'. It is being considered as to how we can take care of the problem and if possible, we shall see that a Corporation for edible oils and oil-seeds is created or such other agency is created so that it plans for the current year and also for the future.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR: The hon. Minister has to take two steps immediately. Firstly, he should see that edible oil is made available at fair price shops to the consumers. Secondly, he has to take a long-term view of the situation so that in future such a thing does not happen. Thirdly, in the month of April, the hon. Minister, announced that the edible oil will be made available to the consumers at fair price shops of those towns whose

population is 4 lakhs and above. I would like to know whether such arrangements have been made. If not, what progress has been made in this direction? Will the hon. Minister kindly elaborate on this point?

MR. SPEAKER: Elaboration of a point can be done only during the debate. This is Short Notice Question. Only questions are answered. But you want to know the whole policy matter. It is not proper to ask him to elaborate on policy matter.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The House is now aware that the refined oil is being made available in important centres at Rs. 850 per Kg. for the consumers, not for the traders.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: Nowhere it is available.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is being made available in important centres. Even in Bengal, in Calcutta, it is being made available (Interruptions).

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYA: It is nowhere available.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I would like to assure the House today that in all cities having a population of more than five lakhs and all State capitals, this oil will be made available and it is being made. But the difficulty is that it is not yet being appreciated because of the various tastes—mustered oil, coconut oil and groundnut oil—they have got different tastes and the consumer would like to have that sort of tastes. But even then out of the oil that is imported, we have reserved a certain capacity for refining and this will be done in consultation and cooperation with State Governments.

MR. SPEAKER: The second part is a policy matter and I do not think I can allow it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: As I see from the information available upto end of March 1977, the total value of import licences was Rs. 528 crores. But I would like to ask the hon. Minister, who usually takes recourse to straight methods of replying to questions, why is it that he did not take this House into confidence to say that upto May 1977 the total value of import licences was Rs. 688 crores excluding of course the licence of Rs. 300 crores given to STC. Now tell us how many of them were given import licences upto March and upto May, where the total value exceeded Rs. 1 crore. Then, Sir, on 14th June 1977 the hon. Minister gave the information in Rajya Sabha that regarding actual imports information was not available. Twenty days have passed. Have you been able to get the actual information? If so, would you place it here? If not, what is the reason. The imports really effected were to the tune of Rs. 45 crores only. Sir, that means the total misappropriation amounts to about Rs. 641 crores. You have told in Rajya Sabha on 14-6-77 that cases of 13 parties have been referred to CBI and 6 parties to Enforcement. We want full particulars. What progress have they made? It cannot be pending for months.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Of course, I can request the Central Bureau of Investigation to expedite the matter.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: What progress has been made in 20 days?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I cannot say because it is for the Central Bureau of Investigation or for the enforcement branch of the Finance Ministry. But I can say one thing that we have told them to expedite the matter in view of this concern of the country and of the House. Sir, regarding the whole list, as per my information, the number of those who have taken licence for more than Rs. 1 crore is nearly 130. Again those who have secured licences for about

Rs. 10 crores—that number is somewhere in between 13 and 15. But so far as the other information is concerned, if the hon. Member gives notice, as I have done last time, I will give the information.

श्री तेज प्रताप सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जो लाइसेंस इशू किये गये थे और जो शर्त एग्रीमेंट में रखी गई थी, उन में से कुछ शर्तों का जिन व्यापारियों ने उल्लंघन किया है, उन के खिलाफ क्या कोई कार्यवाही मंत्री जी ने या सरकार ने की है ?

श्री मोहन धारिया : अध्यक्ष महोदय, यह मैंने पहले ही बता दिया है कि जिन के खिलाफ कोई ऐसे आरोप है, उन के बारे में हम ने सेन्ट्रल ब्योरों आफ इन्वेस्टीगेशन से जांच के लिए कहा है और यह जांच जारी है ।

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Minister's policy suffers from two defects. The Minister says that oil will be imported in three months i.e. by the end of September and the Minister also knows that in the month of October, we are going to get new crop. New crop on one side and imported oil on another side. What will happen to the oil-seed producers? Secondly, Sir, he said that more area will be brought under oil seeds plantation. I want to know whether he is not disturbing the present balance. If one crop is grown in more area, the other crops will suffer. Instead of that, whether the Minister is going to take some steps to produce more yield per acre so that he may not bring more area under plough for oil-seeds.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : I think I have answered that question. I explained what was the assessment of the present crop, what was our requirement and I said that all those factors would be taken into consideration when

we took a decision in regard to imports. I very much accept that part of the hon. Member's suggestion that cultivators and producers should be given a fair price and if prices go somewhat below the remunerative price, we should go in for direct purchase through cooperatives or state governments or through our own agencies. So far as the profit part is concerned, it is not the poor producer who earns it, it is the middlemen who earn immense profits. How we can take care of the middlemen, is the real problem.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY : What about the crop area?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : I referred to it when I said that we had some idea of how more area should be brought under cultivation and how the high yielding varieties containing more oil could be introduced—that also could be considered.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : An allegation was made that some of the importers had gone to other countries to destroy evidence against them. The important question that arises is whether after the enquiries were ordered and they got under way, the ministry took some steps to impound the passports of those offending importers, if they did not do so what was the reason?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : Once we hand over those charges or allegations to the Bureau, it is for them to take action.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : It is for the ministry.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA : Certainly I shall have a dialogue with them, I can understand the implications of your question and I shall take it up with the concerned people.

श्री अन्नासेकर सिंह : मंत्री महोदय क्या बतायेंगे कि लाइसेंस देने में कोई शर्त निर्धारित की गई थी ? यह सबान भी उठता है कि

साइसेस देने में उन शर्तों का उल्लेख किया गया था या नहीं अगर उन शर्तों का उल्लेख किया गया था तो फिर इस केस को सी०बी०आई० को देने की क्या प्रा श्यकता थी? यह सबाल तो फिर सीधा-सादा बन जाता है।

श्री मोहन भारिया : कोई कंडीशन नहीं रखी गयी थी। लाईसेंसधारी 12 महीने के अन्दर जब चाहे इम्पोर्ट कर सकता है। सी०बी०आई० को वही केसिज भेजे गये हैं जिन्होंने बाहर ही माल बेच दिया और मुनाफा कमा लिया।

श्री बन्नसेसर सिंह : क्या कोई कंडीशन नहीं लगायी गयी थी?

श्री मोहन भारिया : दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात यही है कि इन पर कोई शर्त नहीं लगायी गयी।

SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE: The hon. Minister stated that imported oil was being supplied at some selected centres and he gave their category—cities having a population of five lakhs or more. I want to know what he has done in respect of other cities having a population of less than that number as also consumers living in the rural areas? I want to know whether he intends to leave them to the mercy of unscrupulous traders?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: The logic is very simple. It is those big centres which consume oil which comes from the rural areas, it is not available all over the country. If we make supplies to the big consuming centres it will have its own impact on the rural areas, thus it also takes care of rural areas and middle sized cities which the hon. Member has in mind.

SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE: We are not having oil in rural areas.

In the whole country it is not available, there is scarcity.

SHRI PURNA SINHA: Is it a fact that certain quantities of high priced edible rapeseed oil out of the imported stock was sent to Assam early this month and it had been found to be adulterated and unfit for human consumption and hence officially withdrawn from distribution? If so what action had been taken?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I am not aware of any complaint like that.

MR. SPEAKER: You may look into it.

SHRI TARUN GOGOI: According to the reply of the hon. Minister, adequate arrangements have been made for big cities and that would have its impact in the rural areas and small towns. Is the hon. Minister aware that it has not created any impact either in rural areas or in small towns and still there is scarcity of this oil in the country?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, I am well aware of the deficiency. Unless and until the whole stocks are there, it is not possible for me to bring this scheme into operation. It is after building the stock of more than 28000 tons of rapeseed oil alone that I can introduce this. Now at one end we have planned for more and more imports and at the same time we are extending these areas of importing supplies.

SHRI D. B. PATIL: The hon. Minister has said something about elimination of middlemen. I would like to know from him whether the Government has any scheme before it and if so, the salient features of it.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Sir, as I have said earlier, I would very much like to appeal to hon. Members that we can have cooperative societies of the farmers and if we can have better cooperative societies from where goods go to the consumer directly without these middlemen, it is one of the effective measures. And as Minister of Cooperation, I have already assured the House that from my side you won't find any cooperation lacking.

SHRI SONU SINGH PATIL: In view of the serious question of shortage of oilseeds and oil, will the hon. Minister think of the monopoly purchase of oilseeds and have an integrated policy? Secondly, is he aware that in his anxiety to produce more groundnuts and oilseeds, the prices of seeds are already double of those prevailing last year and this has acted as a deterrent. Is he aware of that? What are the ways and means he is devising for meeting the situation?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: Regarding the monopoly purchases it is a suggestion for consideration. Regarding the prices of oilseeds which have gone up, the hon. Member has mentioned this to me. Immediately I have taken up the matter with the Minister of Agriculture

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: May I know, Sir, when the investigation report of the CBI is expected?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: We have told them that we are anxious to have the report as early as possible and they have also told us that they will try their level best.

SHRI R. K. MHALGI: There should be some time-limit.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is not possible because foreign countries are involved and the investigations have to be made even in foreign countries. Had it been a matter to be investigated in this country it would have been possible. But as they have to investigate in foreign countries also it may take time.

SHRI VINODHAI B. SHETH: I know that the Minister has become very angry with the importers who acted against the wishes of this government and who defrauded the people by not importing oil and diverting it to the foreign countries with a view to earn huge profits. I do agree, Sir. But in regard to this behaviour of the trading community, has the Minister thought of export of the non-edible oil,

that is castor oil and thereby banning stopping all the oil mills of castor and creating some unemployment?

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: It is a different matter. So far as the non-edible oils are concerned there is no need of mixing up the two issues—what is the requirement of the country for non-edible oil for industrial purposes and whatever is imported from outside. I mean, a different view has to be taken so far as that is concerned. My anger cannot come in the way of the interests of the country. My anger is in the interests of the country to see that where they have gone against the interests of the country, they are taken care of properly.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Dilution of Foreign Equity Holdings in Tea Companies

*284. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA:** Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had asked the sterling tea companies operating in the country to submit a comprehensive scheme on dilution of their foreign equity holdings by 31st March, 1977;

(b) if so, whether this direction has been complied with; and

(c) if not, what further action has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Under Section 29 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, the Reserve Bank of India has issued directives to all the Sterling Tea Companies requiring them to transfer, within a period of two years from the date of receipt of approval, their business in India to Indian Companies with non-resident interest in

their equity capital not exceeding 74 per cent. The time limit for this purpose expires towards the end of this year in most cases and in the first half of next year in other cases.

(b) and (c) The Bank's directives are statutory in nature and the companies are submitting their proposals in this regard.

Demand for Nationalisation of Closed Jute Mills

*285. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take over the management of some of the closed jute mills in Calcutta;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether the trade unions in this field have demanded full nationalisation of these mills instead of taking over only their management; and

(d) if so, the Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Management of two closed jute mills, namely, Khardah Co. Ltd and Union Jute Mills has been taken over by the Government on 16th May, 1977.

(c) and (d). No proposal to nationalise these mills is under consideration at present.

Performance of National Textile Corporation

*287. SHRI S. G. MURUGAIYAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the performance of the National Textile Corporation has been found to be unsatisfactory; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the measures proposed to be taken to improve the performance?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Taking into account the problems inherited by the National Textile Corporation, namely, obsolescence of machinery, surplus labour etc., the Government does not consider the performance of the National Textile Corporation on the whole as unsatisfactory. Important steps taken by the Corporation to improve the working of the mills are as follows:—

- (i) modernisation/renovation of the machinery;
- (ii) rationalisation of surplus labour;
- (iii) bulk procurement of raw material on centralised basis;
- (iv) diversification in the pattern of production; and
- (v) changes in the marketing strategy.

Price Freeze

*288. SHRI P. THIAGARAJAN: SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reported understanding among the industrialists to agree to a voluntary price freeze of commodities has been implemented;

(b) the probable value of the commodities involved as a proportion of the total value outside the price freeze;

(c) whether Government have taken up the question of securing the price freeze at a much lower level; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) 'There was an announcement in the Press that a number of industrialists located at Bombay and Calcutta decided voluntarily not to increase the prices of the products produced by them till December 31, 1977, except in the case of loss-making units. The statement added that efforts would be made by them to absorb any increases in input costs as far as possible unless such cost increases became very high.

(b) Considering the range and diversity of the products that may be covered by the price-freeze, it may not be possible to arrive at an estimate of their value and its proportion to the total value of goods produced and sold.

(c) and (d) At a meeting with representatives of industry and trade, political parties and trade unions held on June 7, 1977, leading business houses were told that the endeavour should be to lower the existing prices instead of freezing them at the existing level.

झालावाड़ में अफीम शोधनशाला

* 289. श्री चतुर्भुज : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या सरकार का विचार अफीम की काश में अग्रणी किन्तु आर्थिक दृष्टि से पिछड़े हुए झालावाड़ जिले में कोई अफीम शोधनशाला स्थापित करने का है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एन० पटेल) : फिलहाल न तो झालावाड़ में और न ही किसी अन्य स्थान पर अफीम संसाधन संयंत्र स्थापित करने का कोई प्रस्ताव है। परन्तु मध्य प्रदेश तथा राजस्थान के पोस्ट उगाने वाले क्षेत्रों में अफीम के बीरा लगाये गये छोटे से ऐल्कलाइड निकालने के लिये एक संयंत्र स्थापित करने के प्रस्ताव

पर विचार किया जा रहा है। संयंत्र के स्थान-निर्धारण के बारे में अभी अन्तिम निर्णय नहीं किया गया है।

Demands of Pilots of Indian Airlines and Air Corporation Employees Union

* 290. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the pilots of Indian Airlines and Air Corporation Employees Union have threatened to go on strike if their demands are not met soon;

(b) if so, what are their demands;

(c) how many of their demands have been accepted by Government; and

(d) the reasons for their strike?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) While the pilots of Indian Airlines have not threatened to go on strike, a notice dated 3rd June, 1977 was received by Indian Airlines from the Air Corporations Employees' Union proposing to call a strike with effect from 20th June, 1977. As a result, the Regional Labour Commissioner, Kanpur was to initiate conciliation proceedings with both the parties on 18th June, 1977. However, the Air Corporations Employees' Union in the meantime expressed a desire to resume bilateral discussions with the management and these discussions are now in progress, the conciliation proceedings having been kept in abeyance.

(b) The demands of the Air Corporations Employees' Union relate to review of alleged cases of victimisation, greater promotional avenues to employees, shift pattern, transfer policy, staff strength and other general conditions of service.

(c) The demands are being discussed between the Air Corporation Employees' Union and Indian Airlines. The next meeting is to be held in the first week of July, 1977. Information about demands accepted by the Indian Airlines will be known only after discussions have been concluded.

(d) Does not arise as there is no strike.

Financial Collections by Texprocil Organisation

*295 SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Texprocil, which is a private organisation, is being allowed to enjoy, unlike other Export Promotion Councils, extraordinary powers to impose and collect taxes in the form of quota fees and penalties as reported in the Financial Express, Bombay, dated May 12, 1977;

(b) if so, whether these powers have any legislative backing;

(c) whether any Parliamentary Committee has taken any objection to any such financial collections by Texprocil; and

(d) whether it is also a fact that this organisation has been refusing to submit itself to Government audit, though some money from Market Development Fund indirectly reaches it via Indian Cotton Mills Federation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Texprocil (Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council), Bombay, does not collect any taxes. However, it collects from exporters of cotton textiles certain charges for rendering services to them and for allotment of export quotas for countries to which export of cotton textile is subject to quota.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No money from marketing development fund goes to the Texprocil directly or through Indian Cotton Mills Federation and the question of Texprocil refusing to submit to Government audit does not arise.

राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों से ऋणों की मंजूरी की संशोधित नीति

296. श्री हरगोबिन्द वर्मा : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे -

(क) क्या राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक ऋण देने की अपनी नीति में संशोधन कर रहे हैं, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो संशोधित नीति की स्फुरेखा क्या है और इसे कब तक कार्यान्वयन में दिया जाएगा ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) और (ख). सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों की उधार देने की नीति सरकार और भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा समय समय पर निर्धारित प्राथमिकताओं के अनुसार लागू की जाती है। इसके परिणामस्वरूप सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंक अधिकाधिक आवश्यकता पर आधारित रुख अपना रहे हैं जो प्रतिभूति-परक उस रुख से बिल्कुल भिन्न है, जो उधार देने की उनकी पिछली नीति का मुख्य अंग था।

हाल ही में, उन्हें जारी किया गया बुनियादी मार्गदर्शक सिद्धांतों में से कुछ कीड़े दिये जा रहे हैं:—

(1) बैंकों की शाखा विस्तार के अपने कार्यक्रम में संशोधन करने की संसद्ध

दी गई है ताकि जून, 1978 तक बिना बैंक वाले सामुदायिक विकास खण्डों में से प्रत्येक में बाणिज्यिक बैंकों की कम से कम एक शाखा अवश्य स्थापित हो जाये।

- (2) बैंकों को धावेस दिये गये हैं कि कार्य-निष्पादन बजट की अपनी व्यवस्था का और पारिभार्जन करें ताकि उस बजट का अधिक मार्गक और प्रयोजन परक होना सुनिश्चित किया जा सके।

- (3) सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों को सलाह दी गई है कि मार्च, 1978 के अंत तक देश में सभी जिलों के लिए ऋण योजनाएं बनाएं ताकि जिले की सभी वित्त प्रदान करने वाली संस्थाएं मिलकर जिलों के, जो मान्यता प्राप्त प्रशासनिक एकक हैं, आर्थिक विकास में सहायता कर सकें।

- (4) समाज के कमजोर वर्गों को अधिक मात्रा में ऋण दिये जाने की दृष्टि से बैंकों को यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए धावेस दिये गये हैं कि मार्च 1979 तक उनके समग्र अधिमों का कम से कम 33% प्रतिशत भाग प्राथमिकता प्राप्त क्षेत्रों को दिया जाने लगे।

- (5) सरकार ने बैंकों को सुधारात्मक उपाय करने की सलाह दी है ताकि सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों की प्रामोण और धर्मगहरी शाखाओं का ऋण और जमा का अनु-वृद्धि, मार्च, 1979 तक, कम से कम 60 प्रतिशत हो जाये।

- (6) समाज के कमजोर वर्गों की धर्मग्रा अधिक मात्रा में ऋण प्रदान करना सुनिश्चित करने के लिए हाल ही में, संस्कृत ने विधेदी ध्याज दर योजना के क्षेत्र और ध्याज को संशोधित कर दिया है। इस धीजन के अधीन प्राप्त

व्यक्तियों को 4 प्रतिशत की ध्याज दर से ऋण प्रदान किया जाता है।

- (7) सरकारी क्षेत्र के बैंकों को सलाह दी गई है कि ऋण मंजूर करने की प्रक्रिया को सरल बनाएं और अपनी ग्राहक सेवा में सुधार करने का उपाय करें।

- (8) ऋण के धावेदन पत्रों का शीघ्र-निपटान सुनिश्चित करने के लिए बैंकों को अनुदेश जारी किये गये हैं कि 10,000 - तक की ऋण सीमा के छोड़े ऋण के धावेदन-पत्रों को, उनकी प्राप्ति की तारीख से 3-4 मप्ताह की धवधि में और उससे अधिक सीमा के धावेदन-पत्र 3 महीने की धवधि में निपटा दिय जाने चाहिएं।

Exemption from Excise Duty to New Industrial Units

*207. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Indian Merchants Chamber had requested for grant of complete exemption from payment of excise duty for a specified period to new industrial units; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Exemption from excise duty to the extent of 25 per cent of the duty otherwise payable is already available to new units producing specified goods, under the scheme of excise duty relief to encourage higher production, announced under notification No. 188/76-CE, dated 16th June, 1976. Further reliefs are under examination.

आयकर अधिनियम के कुछ उपबन्धों को समाप्त करने के लिये दिल्ली की बार एसोसिएशनों की मांग

*298. श्री कृष्ण कुमार घोषल : क्या विल तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को पता है कि राजधानी में विभिन्न बार एसोसिएशनों ने आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 की उस धारा को समाप्त करने की मांग की है जिसके अन्तर्गत आयकर बकीलों के लिये हिसाब की विशेष प्रणाली अपनाया अनिवार्य है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विल तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) जी, हाँ। बार एसोसिएशन (आय कर), नई दिल्ली के कार्यालय में 4 जून, 1977 को आयोजित विभिन्न बार एसोसिएशनों की एक बैठक में पारित संकल्प की एक प्रति बार एसोसिएशन (आय कर), नई दिल्ली द्वारा भेजी गई है जिसमें अन्य बातों के साथ साथ आयकर अधिनियम, 1961 की धारा 44 कक की उप-धारा (3) को समाप्त करने का सुझाव दिया गया है।

(ख) सरकार, संगत उपबन्ध को समाप्त करने के पक्ष में नहीं है।

Exports by Maruti Limited and its Allied Concerns

*299. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that Maruti Limited and its allied concerns i.e. Maruti Heavy Vehicles

and Maruti Technicals export petrol saver to USSR;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) the details of all exports by Maruti concern to foreign countries; and

(d) the outlines of the agreements made by Maruti concerns with the foreign concerns or with foreign Governments regarding export of goods?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Development of Hajo (Assam) as a Tourist Centre

*300. SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state whether Government have any proposal to develop Hajo in Assam as a tourist Centre?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): Due to constraint on resources and other priorities as well as restrictions on the entry of foreign tourists to Hajo (Assam), there is no proposal for the present to develop Hajo in Assam as a tourist centre.

Interest to Savings Bank Account Holders by State Bank of India

*301. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nationalised banks close their accounts twice in a year i.e. in June and December and pay interest on savings bank accounts with them on half yearly basis;

(b) whether the State Bank of India closes its accounts once in a year i.e. in October and pays interest to its customers on savings bank accounts on yearly basis; and

(c) whether Government propose to pay interest to savings bank account holders of the State Bank of India on half yearly basis?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). In terms of Section 19 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970, every nationalised bank is required to cause its books to be closed and balanced as on 31st December of each year.

Similarly, in terms of Section 39 of the State Bank of India Act, 1955 and Section 39 of the State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, State Bank of India and the seven subsidiaries of the State Bank of India res-

pectively, are required to cause their books to be closed and balanced as on 31st December, in each year.

It was decided in 1970 by the Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with Government, that in so far as the 14 Nationalised Banks are concerned, in addition to the above statutory requirement of closing the annual accounts on the 31st December of each year, for adoption by the Board of Directors, of the bank concerned, the banks should have an internal assessment of the working of the bank during the first half of each year by closing the books on the 30th June of the year.

As regards payment of interest on Savings Bank Accounts, while the 14 Nationalised Banks and the seven subsidiaries of the State Bank of India pay interest on Savings Bank Accounts on half-yearly basis, the State Bank of India pays interest on a yearly basis as indicated below:

Bank(s)	Period for which interest is calculated on Savings Bank Accounts	Month in which interest is credited to the Savings Bank Accounts
1. 14 Nationalised Banks and 7 Subsidiaries of SBI.	(i) 1st Dec. to 31st May	June
	(ii) 1st June to 30th Nov.	December
2. State Bank of India	1st Oct. to 30th Sept.	October

Reserve Bank of India has reported that it has taken up with the State Bank of India the question of its paying interest on Savings Bank Accounts on half-yearly basis as in the case of the other public sector banks.

Resignation of Shri P. C. Lal as Chairman of Indian Airlines

*302. **SHRI R. K. MHALGI:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ex. Air-Chief Marshal Shri P. C. Lal resigned the post of

Chairman of Indian Airlines on the 14th April, 1976 with retrospective effect from the 12th April, 1976;

(b) the reasons that led Mr. Lal to submit his resignation with retrospective effect; and

(c) whether Government have investigated into the matter and if so, with what result?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) On examination of relevant records it is found that Air Chief Marshal P. C. Lal, former Chief of Air Staff, was appointed Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Indian Airlines, with effect from 1st August, 1973 for a period of three years, but proceeded on leave with effect from 12th April, 1976 upto 30th June, 1976, and action was taken under Rule 13 of the Indian Airlines Corporation Employees' Service Regulations, with a view to enabling him to draw salary for a period of 30 days from the 1st of July, 1976.

Centralisation of Recruitment of Staff for Nationalised Banks

*303. SHRI S. D. SOMASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made in the centralisation of recruitment of staff of all categories for the nationalised banks;

(b) whether common yardsticks have been evolved for determining optimum strength of staff required in comparable units of the nationalised banks; and

(c) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) The Banking Service Commission was set up in February, 1977, under the Banking Service Commission Act, 1975, for the selection of personnel for appointment to services and posts in the cadres of junior officers and the clerical cadres in public sector banks. The Commission has not yet started recruitment of personnel for banks.

(b) and (c). While some banks have developed their own norms to relate their staff strength with the workload, no common yardsticks have been evolved for determining opti-

mum staff strength required in comparable units in public sector banks.

2-Year Farm Investment Programme

2327. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a million Indian farmers are expected to benefit from a two-year farm investment programme being launched by the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation supported by the International Development Association;

(b) the main features of the proposed plan;

(c) to what extent it is likely to be helpful for the country to achieve agricultural production; and

(d) by what time the benefits are to be derived from the proposed scheme?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) International Development Association has approved a credit of \$ 200 million for a 2 year programme of support to Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation for its investment programme for following purposes:

Purpose	Amount (\$ Million)
1. Minor Irrigation and on farming land development	175
2. Loans for diversified lending	24
3. Training	1
Total	200

The main features of the proposed plan are:

1. The investment programme will cover a wide spectrum of purposes.

2. At least 50 per cent of the lendings will be provided to small farmers defined under the project.

3. Priority will be accorded for programmes in the Eastern and North-Eastern regions of the country.

4. Training programme for senior and middle level personnel of land development banks and commercial banks and for the junior level staff of the land development banks.

5. Strengthening of the viability of the rural credit system, establishment of uniform standards for lending operations and insistence on adherence to financial and technical standards by lending banks.

(c) The programme would be of direct assistance to achieve an increase in agricultural production. The value of incremental output resulting from this programme is expected to be around Rs. 330 crores per annum at 1976 farm-gate prices.

(d) The project envisages the completion of some investments initiated during the first Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation Credit Project and other International Development Association Assisted Agricultural Credit Projects and initiation of some others which would be completed during the project period and may even extend beyond the period. Estimates of project impact on production should, therefore, be taken as broad indicators only. However, investments undertaken in minor irrigation and diversified sectors have small gestation periods.

Replanting Subsidy to Rubber Growers

2328. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the present rate of replanting subsidy being given to the rubber

growers and the total amount distributed in this regard during the year 1976-77;

(b) whether any decision has been taken to stop the replanting subsidy to the rubber growers; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Replanting subsidy is being paid by the Rubber Board to rubber growers depending on the size of estate/holding, at the following rates:—

Upto 2 hectares Rs. 7,500 per hectare
Above 2 and upto 20 hectares Rs. 5,000 per hectare.

Above 20 hectares Rs. 3,000 per hectare.

The total amount of subsidy paid to the growers by the Board during 1976-77 was Rs. 1,00,08,658.

(b) Government have not taken any such decision.

(c) Does not arise.

लिमिटेड कम्पनियों में सार्वजनिक जमा राशियाँ

2329. श्री मीठालाल पटेल : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या देश में लिमिटेड कम्पनियों में कुल कितनी सार्वजनिक जमा राशियाँ हैं और जमा करने वालों की संख्या क्या है; और

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार ऐसे उपाय करने का है जिसके अन्तर्गत जमा करने वालों की राशि सुरक्षित रहे और वे ज़रूरत पड़ने पर उसे निकाल सकें और कम्पनियों का भी काम सुचारु रूप से चलता रहे ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने सूचना दी है कि गैर-बैंकिंग कम्पनियों के पास रखी जमा राशियों के सर्वेक्षण पर आधारित ताजा उपलब्ध आंकड़ों के अनुसार, गैर-बैंकिंग नियमित क्षेत्र की कुल जमा राशियाँ और जमा खातों की संख्या मार्च, 1974 के अन्त में क्रमशः 1026.6 करोड़ रुपये और 27.85 लाख थी। रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा निर्धारित विवरणी में कम्पनियों के लिये यह जरूरी नहीं रखा गया है कि वे जमा खातों की संख्या के अतिरिक्त जमा-कर्ताओं की संख्या भी बतायें।

(ख) रिजर्व बैंक द्वारा वित्तीय और विविध गैर-बैंकिंग कम्पनियों के लिये जारी किये गये निदेश तथा कम्पनी कार्य विभाग द्वारा गैर-बैंकिंग गैर-वित्तीय कम्पनियों के लिये जारी किये गये नियम इन कम्पनियों द्वारा म्बीकार्य जमा राशियों की मात्रा को निश्चित सीमा तक नियंत्रित करते हैं और उनसे यह भी अपेक्षा करते हैं कि वे अपनी वित्तीय स्थिति और प्रबन्ध से सम्बन्धित निर्धारित व्योरो, जमाएं मांगने के लिये दिये गये विज्ञापनो और जमा के आवेदन पत्रों में दिखायें। जमा-कर्ताओं को सुरक्षा प्रदान करने के लिए ही ये उपाय किये गये हैं। सरकार ने गैर-बैंकिंग कम्पनियों से सम्बन्धित जेम्स राज अध्ययन दल की सिफारिशों को स्वीकार कर लिया है कि (i) गैर-बैंकिंग गैर-वित्तीय और गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कम्पनियों की कुछ अन्य श्रेणियों को अपनी जमा राशियों की मात्रा को धीरे-धीरे अपने स्वामित्व की कुल निधि के 50 प्रतिशत से घटाकर 25 प्रतिशत तक लागू चाहिए, (ii) गैर-वित्तीय कम्पनियों को एक वर्ष के दौरान परिपक्व होने वाली जमा देयताओं के कम से कम 10 प्रतिशत भाग को नकदी-जैसी-परिसम्पत्तियों (हस्ते रोकड़ छोड़कर) के रूप में बनाये रखना चाहिए, और (iii) गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय और गैर-वित्तीय कम्पनियों

को जमाएं मांगने से सम्बन्धित विज्ञापनों में कुछ और अधिक व्योरे देने चाहिए, जैसे (क) निश्चित सीमा विषयक प्रतिबंधों के अन्तर्गत जमाओं की राशि जो वे स्वीकार कर सकते हैं, (ख) उनके द्वारा किसी हाल ही की तिथि पर वास्तव में प्राप्त जमाओं की राशि (ग) अतिदेय जमाओं की राशि (ऐसी जमाओं को छोड़कर जिनका कोई दावेदार नहीं) और (घ) उनके द्वारा इस भाषा की घोषणा की यथोचित कम्पनी कार्य विभाग के नियमों अथवा रिजर्व बैंक के निदेशों, का पालन किया गया है, और यह कि नियमों अथवा निदेशों के अनुपालन से यह भ्रम नहीं है कि जमाओं की अदायगी के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार या रिजर्व बैंक प्रतिभूति देने है और यह कि उनके द्वारा स्वीकृत जमाएं कम्पनियों की असुरक्षित देयताएं हैं। जबकि इनमें से कुछ सिफारिशों को लागू कर दिया गया है, शेष कार्यान्वित होने की प्रक्रिया में है।

Changes in Pattern of Operations of Air India

2330. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to introduce major changes in Air India's pattern of operations; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). There is no proposal to introduce any major changes in Air India's pattern of operations for the present. However, when the two B-747 aircraft, which are on order, join the fleet in December 1977 and May 1978, Air India propose introducing additional flights to Europe and Gulf countries and also two B-747 services a week on the India-Japan route.

Stable Taxation and Pricing Policy

2331. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether, welcoming the announcement of 'price freeze' by top industrial houses in the country, the Chambers of Commerce and Industries have urged the Central Government to frame a taxation policy which would stay in force for the next five years;

(b) whether Central and State Governments have been requested to come out with a policy of fixing prices of goods manufactured by the State owned industries; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) A suggestion was made by one of the Chambers of Commerce that, except in exceptional circumstances where changes in rates may become necessary at short notice, there should be a certain amount of stability in tax policies at least over a period of five years.

(b) A request was made to the Central Government recently that State-owned industries may freeze prices in line with the price freeze announced by some of the top industrial houses in the country.

(c) As regards the suggestion mentioned in (a) above, as tax policy is framed according to the basic aims of the Government and the prevailing economic situation, changes in taxes become necessary from time to time. As for the suggestion at (b) above, the matter is under consideration.

Goa Compensatory Allowance to Government Employees

2332. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goa Compensatory Allowance has been restored to Government employees in Goa; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The Goa Compensatory Allowance was granted in consideration of the difficult and unsettled conditions following liberation of Goa, Daman and Diu. This allowance was withdrawn in stages beginning with 1-4-1987, after restoration of normal conditions in the Union Territory.

बैंक ग्राफ बड़ोदा की पुर्वाया शाखा में भ्रष्टाचार

2333. श्री सुरेश्वर विक्रम : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या उन्हें उत्तर प्रदेश के ग्राहजहापुर में बैंक ग्राफ बड़ोदा की पुर्वाया शाखा में व्याप्त भ्रष्टाचार की जानकारी है, जिसके बारे में अनेक व्यक्तियों ने अधिकारियों से शिकायतें की हैं और यदि हाँ, तो उन पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : बैंक ग्राफ बड़ोदा ने सूचित किया है कि छोटे ऋणकर्ताओं की ऋण मंजूर करने में देरी, कर्मचारियों के असह्य व्यवहार और ऐसे ऋण मंजूर करने के लिए कर्मचारियों द्वारा रिश्वत मांगे जाने के बारे में, उत्तर प्रदेश की उसकी पुर्वाया शाखा के कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध कुछ शिकायतें उठे मिली हैं। बैंक से अनुरोध किया गया है कि इन शिकायतों की जांच

करे तथा बैंक में सुस्थापित सतर्कता प्रक्रिया के अनुसार सम्बद्ध कर्मचारियों के विरुद्ध यथोचित कार्यवाई करे।

Violation of Foreign Exchange Regulations by Shri Subramaniam Swamy ..

2334. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state;

(a) whether Shri Subramaniam Swamy had violated the provisions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act during 1975-76;

(b) if so, the action taken by Government against him; and

(c) whether Government would prosecute him?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). Shri Subramaniam Swamy was permitted by Reserve Bank of India to visit U.K. for three months in July, 1975. But Shri Swami had visited countries other than U.K. and had not returned to India at the end of the period prescribed by Reserve Bank of India. Hence the Directorate of Enforcement had issued a show cause notice for violation of the provisions of Section 32(9) of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1973. The case was departmentally adjudicated by which a penalty of Rs. 5000 was imposed on Shri Swamy.

The Directorate of Enforcement had also filed three prosecution complaints against Shri Subramaniam Swamy in the Court of the Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, New Delhi in October, 1976 for violation of Sections 32(9), 33(2) and 40 of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act.

In March, 1977 after the formation of the new Government these cases were reviewed in the changed cir-

cumstances. It was observed that Shri Swamy had to go to foreign countries for political reasons necessitated by the arbitrary detention of thousands of persons. The contraventions of Foreign Exchange Regulation Act were only incidental. In these circumstances it was decided that the three prosecution cases should be withdrawn in the public interest and accordingly these cases were withdrawn on 28th March, 1977.

Credit Policy

2335. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to bring about any change in the existing credit policy; and

(b) the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The revised credit policy for 1977-78 was announced by the Reserve Bank of India on May 27, 1977. The policy lays emphasis on monetary restraint and at the same time recognises the need for stimulating long term investment and augmentation of supplies of essential consumer goods. The important changes made in the credit policy are briefly described below:

- (1) The impounding of incremental 10 per cent of the deposits of commercial banks has been continued. The average cash reserve ratio of 6 per cent and the liquidity requirements (u/s 24 of the Banking Regulation Act) of 33 per cent have also been continued.
- (2) Banks' resort to the Reserve Bank of India for refinancing and rediscount has been

sought to be curtailed. For example, in the case of food procurement advances, the basic level interest eligible for refinancing has been raised from Rs. 1000 crores to Rs. 1600 crores, and the banks' facilities for rediscounting of bills from the Reserve Bank of India will be on discretionary basis in place of a specified quota.

- (3) Margins on advances against book debts and inventories which were stepped up by 10 per cent in January 1977 but relaxed subsequently, have been re-imposed. Margins in respect of oils and oilseeds have also been increased by 10 per cent
- (4) Selective credit controls in the case of imported oils and oilseeds and imported cotton have been relaxed with a view to improving their supply position.
- (5) As a measure of rationalising the cost structure of banks rates of interest on chequable savings deposits and term deposits for periods from 91 days and upto 5 years have been brought down.
- (6) Banks have been advised to reduce the interest rate on term loans for periods of not less than three years, from the present level of around 14 per cent to a level not exceeding 12.5 per cent.

विदेशी ऋण की बकाया रकम

2336. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय भारत को देश-वार वित्तकी राशि का ऋण चुकाना है; और
1058 L.S.—3.

(ख) क्या भारत ने मत दो वर्षों में किसी देश को ऋण दिया है और यदि हाँ, तो किस दर से ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) :- (क) एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

(ख) जी, हाँ। प्रत्येक ऋण के ध्याय की दर भिन्न-भिन्न होती है जो मुख्य से 5 प्रतिशत तक जाती है।

विवरण

भारत द्वारा चुकाए जाने वाले ऋणों का (देश-वार) विवरण (इसमें गैर-सरकारी अभिकरणों के और संभरणों के ऋण शामिल हैं)

(अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष की दिसम्बर 1971 से पहले की भू-सममूल्य वरों के बराबर करोड़ रुपये)

क्रम संख्या	देश, क्षेत्र	रकम
(1)	(2)	(3)
1.	आस्ट्रिया	17.60
2.	बेल्जियम	49.12
3.	कनाडा	340.77
4.	डेनमार्क	15.58
5.	फ्रेंस	225.57
6.	जर्मन संघीय गणराज्य	709.41
7.	इटली	82.23
8.	जापान	494.05
9.	नीदरलैंड	134.98
10.	नार्वे	1.50

(1)	(2)	(3)
11. स्वीडन . . .	79.92	
12. युनाइटेड किंगडम . . .	986.04	
13. संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका . . .	2594.65	
14. अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय पुनर्निर्माण और विकास बैंक . . .	343.97	
15. अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय विकास संघ . . .	2305.48	
16. स्विट्जरलैण्ड . . .	19.22	
17. कतार . . .	1.88	
18. फिनलैण्ड . . .	0.20	
19. स्पेन . . .	3.47	
20. बेकोस्लोवाकिया . . .	37.80	
21. पोलैण्ड . . .	12.30	
22. यूगोस्लाविया . . .	44.02	
23. सोवियत समाजवादी जनतन्त्र संघ . . .	377.83	
24. बुल्गारिया . . .	1.35	
25. जर्मनी जनवादी गणराज्य . . .	25.99	
26. हंगरी . . .	7.39	
27. रूमानिया . . .	28.55	
28. ईरान . . .	510.92	
29. ईराक . . .	130.87	
30. संयुक्त अरब अमीरात . . .	52.50	
31. अरब आर्थिक विकास के लिए कुवैत कोष . . .	13.62	
जोड़ . . .	9648.76	

Production, Distribution and Movement of Groundnut Oil

2337. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any definite policy regarding production, distribution and movement of Groundnut oil and other edible oils in the country;

(b) if so, the main features thereof and facts of its implementation;

(c) whether Government are aware that there is a shortage, frequently acute, of groundnut oil in Gujarat, even though the said oil is produced in Gujarat, resulting in exorbitant prices of that oil for the consumers in Gujarat; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take jointly with the Government of Gujarat and/or separately to ease the situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). The Government is taking steps to implement measures to increase the production of edible oil seeds. To facilitate availability of edible oils to the consumer at reasonable prices, the Government has taken the following measures:

(i) Import of requisite quantities of edible oils both for the vanaspati industry and for direct consumption.

(ii) Allocation of imported oils to the tune of 75 per cent of the oil requirements of the vanaspati industry.

(iii) Allotment to the States of imported rapeseed oil for distribution after refining at an end consumer price not exceeding Rs. 8.50 a Kg.

(iv) The Central Government have not imposed any restrictions on inter-State movements of edible oils. The State Governments have also been advised not to impose any restrictions, formal or informal, on inter-State movements of edible oils.

(c) and (d). As reported by the Gujarat Government, the supply position of groundnut oil in that State is not acute and the prices prevailing in the State are more or less on par with all-India prices.

Import of Canalised Drugs by a Bombay Firm

2338. SHRI RAMANAND TIWARY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of canalised drug items by a Bombay firm in late 1975 in violation of import policy has come to the notice of Government;

(b) whether some high officials of State Trading Corporation are involved in the deal; and

(c) if so, the number of officials involved and action taken against the firm and officials of the State Trading Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c). Import of canalised drug by M/s. Mulraj G. Dungersey & Co. Private Ltd., Bombay, in violation of terms and conditions of Letter of Authority issued in their favour in respect of an import licence issued in March, 1974 in the name of STC has recently come to the notice of Government. The entire matter is under investigation. Action is also being initiated against the firm under ITC Order 1955 and IMPEX Act 1947.

जिन तत्करों ने आत्म-समर्पण कर दिया उनके विषय में सुझाव

2339. श्री मनमोहन मर्वा, क्या विल तथा राजस्व और वॉकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण ने उन तत्करों के विषय में कुछ सुझाव दिये

हैं जिन्होंने आत्म-समर्पण कर दिया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

विल तथा राजस्व और वॉकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एन० पटेल) : (क) और (ख). जी, नहीं। तत्करों के सम्बन्ध में कार्यवाही करने के बारे में सरकार को श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण से कोई सुझाव प्राप्त नहीं हुए हैं। अनुमानतः, प्रश्न का सम्बन्ध उस कथन से है जो एक सौ से अधिक तत्करों ने 30 अप्रैल, 1977 को बंबई में श्री जयप्रकाश नारायण के सामने श्री बी और जिसमें उन्होंने कहा था कि वे तत्करी नहीं करेंगे, अन्य तत्करों को ऐसी गतिविधियाँ जारी रखने के लिए मना करेंगे तथा रोकेँगे और सरकार की सहायता करेंगे। इसलिए, इस मामले में सरकार की ओर से कोई कार्यवाही करना आवश्यक नहीं है।

Utilisation of Resources of Mulberry Trees in Delhi for Silk Raising

2340. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to utilise the resources of mulberry trees in and around Delhi city for the purpose of silk raising; and

(b) whether such a scheme would provide partial employment to a large number of unemployed persons?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). At the request of the Delhi Administration, the Central Silk Board had conducted a survey to assess the possibility of utilisation of mulberry trees for silk raising in the Union Territory of Delhi. After taking into considera-

tion the climatic conditions, anticipated yield and possible remuneration to the farmers, the Board came to the conclusion that the scheme would not be viable.

Closure of Duccaswari Cotton Mill

2341. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Duccaswari Cotton Mill Ltd (No 3) is under closure since 1969; and

(b) whether Government propose to take over the said mill and re-open it?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MONAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since the NTC is already shouldering an onerous responsibility of managing 105 cotton textile mills, the Central Government is not in favour of taking over more sick or closed mills for management by the NTC. However, if any financially and legally viable proposal is made by the State Government, the Central Government would like to assist to the extent possible.

मैचन बांध के डाक कर्मचारियों को निर्वाचन प्रतिष्ठित मिला

2342. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव : क्या बिस्व तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मैचन बांध (घनबाद) के लेखा परीक्षा और लेखा विभाग के केन्द्रीय कर्मचारियों को निर्वाचन प्रतिष्ठित मिला मिल रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो डाक कर्मचारियों को उक्त मिला न देने के क्या कारण हैं ?

बिस्व तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री, (श्री एम० एम० बोस) : (क) मैचन बांध पर लेखा परीक्षा और लेखा विभाग के निवासी लेखा परीक्षा कर्मचारियों को प्रतिष्ठित मिला मिल रहा है न कि निर्वाचन प्रतिष्ठित मिला । इस मिला को जारी रखने के सम्बन्ध में समीक्षा की जा रही है । डाक कर्मचारियों को यह मिला देने का प्रश्न केवल तभी पैदा होगा जब इस समीक्षा के परिणामों का पता लग जाएगा ।

Visits by Congress MPs and Leaders Abroad

2343 SHRI JOYTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) how many Congress MPs and Congress Leaders visited abroad between June 25, 1975 and March 20, 1977 at Government expense;

(b) total expenditure incurred in this connection; and

(c) purpose or purposes of such visits?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Members of Parliament are included in Government delegations with the approval of the Department of Parliamentary Affairs. A list of such Congress MPs who were deputed/had visited foreign countries during the period June 25, 1975 to March 20, 1977 with the approval of that Department is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library, See No. LT-584/77.]

So far as Congress Leaders are concerned, besides the definition of the term 'Leader' being very vague, no separate record is kept in respect of foreign travel by members of any political organisation.

(b) In view of the reply at (a) above, no precise information can be furnished.

(c) The information in regard to Congress MPs is furnished in the statement at Annexure I. In view of the reply at (a) above, no information in regard to Congress leaders can be furnished.

Issue of notices for Confiscation of Properties of Smugglers and Tax Evaders

2344. SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of notices issued for confiscation of properties of smugglers and tax-evaders during the last six months; and

(b) the number of absconders and present stage of proceedings in progress to bring them to book?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). There is no provision in the Income-tax Act for the confiscation of properties of tax evaders. The Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act 1974, contains provisions for attachment of properties of smugglers who have absconded.

The total number of absconders as per information available is 252. In respect of 208 of these absconders, proceedings for attachment of their properties under Section 7 of the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974, have been initiated. In 40 of the 208 cases, properties have already been ordered to be attached. The remaining proceedings are in progress. The Smugglers and Foreign Exchange Manipulators (Forfeiture of Property) Act, 1976, provides for forfeiture of illegally acquired pro-

perty of smugglers and of their relatives and associates. Proceedings for forfeiture of illegally acquired properties of smugglers and foreign exchange manipulators and of their relatives and associates have been initiated in 361 cases during the last six months ending 31-5-1977 under this Act. 27 of these proceedings pertain to smugglers who have absconded. In 12 of the 27 cases, orders for forfeiture have been passed. The proceedings in the remaining cases are in progress.

Dharia Committee Recommendations Regarding Improved Supply of Essential Commodities

2345. SHRI K. A. RAJAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to implement Dharia Committee's recommendations regarding the improved supply of essential commodities; and

(b) if so, the important recommendations of the said Committee and the steps taken for their speedy implementation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). The Committee on Essential Commodities and Articles of mass consumption had identified cereals, pulses, common clothing, sugar, gur and khandasari, edible oils and vanaspati, milk, eggs and fish, standard footwear, kerosene oil and domestic fuels, common drugs and medicines, bicycles, bicycle tyres and tubes, matches, dry cells and hurricane lanterns, soaps and detergents and text books and stationery as essential commodities. The Committee emphasised the need to take up a well planned massive production, procurement and distribution

programme all over the country in a phased manner for making available the essential commodities and articles at reasonable prices. The report is being updated in consultation with the concerned Ministries. The matter will then be considered by the Central Government and in a meeting of Chief Ministers and others concerned to be convened thereafter. On the basis of the broad consensus, further decisions will be taken.

अफीम के मूल्यों की वृद्धि की मांग

2346. डा० सखीनारायण पांडेय : क्या बिहार तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उर्ध्वरों के मूल्यों, सिंचाई की दरों, मजदूरी तथा अन्य कृषि उपकरणों के मूल्यों में वृद्धि हो जाने के कारण अफीम की उत्पादन लागत बढ़ गई है ;

(ख) क्या इन बातों के कारण किसानों ने अफीम के मूल्यों में वृद्धि की मांग की है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

बिहार तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) सरकार को प्राप्त हुई रिपोर्टों के अनुसार, खेतिहर मजदूर को दी जाने वाली मजदूरी में वृद्धि हो जाने के कारण अफीम के उत्पादन की लागत में कुछ वृद्धि हुई है। इन रिपोर्टों से यह भी पता चलता है कि खाद, खेती सम्बन्धी औजारों जैसी खेती में उपयोग की जाने वाली अन्य वस्तुओं की लागत और सिंचाई की दरें न्यूनाधिक रूप से स्थिर हो रही हैं।

(ख) जी, हां,। फसल वर्ष 1977-78 के लिए अफीम के प्रवेष्टांकृत ऊंचे मूल्य निर्धारित करने के लिए कुछ सम्पादन कार्य हुए हैं ?

(ग) वर्ष 1977-78 के लिए कार्तकारों को अफीम के दिये जाने वाले मूल्यों में वृद्धि किये जाने सम्बन्धी प्रश्न पर, सभी सम्बन्धित मुद्दों, जैसे अफीम की उत्पादन लागत में हुई वृद्धि तथा उन क्षेत्रों में उगाई जाने वाली अन्य तुलनीय फसलों से होने वाली धाय का जायजा लेने के बाद ही विचार किया जायगा।

Utilisation of Foreign Aid

2348. SHRI A. BALA PAJANOR : Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all foreign aid is channelised through the Ministry of Finance;

(b) the broad outline of the existing system for monitoring the flow of foreign aid and the prompt and effective utilisation thereof;

(c) whether Government have come across abnormal cases of delay in the flow of aid and the utilisation thereof;

(d) the steps taken to streamline the system; and

(e) the precise role of the administrative Ministries in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) All foreign aid passing through the Central Budget is channelised through the Ministry of Finance.

(b) to (d). The Budget estimates for each year indicate the estimated flow of aid in that year. The utilisation of aid is monitored by the Economic Aid Accounts Branch in the Department of Economic Affairs which prepares periodical reviews of utilisation of aid. The pace of utilisation is also watched by concerned Credit Divisions of the Department of Economic Affairs in consultation with the administrative Ministries.

State Governments and other concerned project implementation authorities. Generally, foreign aid which is not tied to any specific project is quick disbursing, while the utilisation of project-tied aid is dependent upon the pace of implementation of the concerned project and is relatively slow disbursing. Short-falls against estimated disbursements occur where the actual pace of implementation of a project is slower than anticipated, but remedial steps are taken in conjunction with the administrative Ministry to step up the progress of implementation in such cases. Broadly, the system of monitoring and review is functioning satisfactorily.

(e) The administrative Ministries play a crucial role in identifying projects and programmes for external assistance. Once foreign aid is committed by an external agency, it is the function of the administrative Ministry to ensure that the implementation of such foreign-aided projects and programmes proceeds according to schedule.

Reactivating of Capital Market

2349. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the sluggishness pervading the investment climate and the difficulties experienced by entrepreneurs to attract subscribers to the risk capital of new companies;

(b) what according to Government are the reasons; and

(c) what remedial measures Government propose to take in order to re-activate the capital market?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Government are aware of the sluggish climate pervading the capital market as evidenced by the fact that since 1970 the quantum of capital raised through fresh issues did not exceed

Rs. 100 crores in any year. One of the reasons for lack of interest in investment in equity capital is poor return on the investment in shares as compared to return from other forms of financial assets.

(c) Having regard to the above factors, several measures have recently been taken by Government, to encourage investment and to make equity capital more attractive. These include widening the scope of investment allowance to cover almost all industries, liberalization of the provisions of the capital gains tax and waiving the requirement of deduction of tax at source from dividends where the dividend paid does not exceed Rs. 250. Reduction in the rate of interest on term deposits upto five years is also intended to enhance the attractiveness of risk capital.

Grant of Gold Loans by Nationalised Banks

2350. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether all nationalised banks in the country are authorised to give gold loans; and

(b) if so, the reasons for some of the nationalised banks not giving the above loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) There is no restriction on nationalised banks granting advances against gold and silver ornaments.

(b) Some of the nationalised banks have not been liberal in the past in sanctioning advances against gold and silver ornaments in view of the general policy of credit restraint and because of lack of proper arrangements for handling this type of credit. However, with the elimination of the money-lender from the village scene, the Reserve Bank of India have advised the com-

mercial banks (including nationalised banks) in December 1976 to issue appropriate guidelines to their branches so that there is easy flow of credit to needy persons for consumption purposes.

Distribution of Cloth

2351. SHRI R. KOLANTHAIVELU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the method of distribution of cloth manufactured by mills managed by the National Textile Corporation;

(b) the comparative prices of equivalent varieties of cloth *vis-a-vis* cloth manufactured by other mills in private sector;

(c) whether Government are aware that such cloth is scarcely available in the rural areas; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to secure easy availability of the cloth for weaker sections in rural areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Cloth manufactured by the mills run by the National Textile Corporation is sold in the market through established channels of wholesale traders and upcountry agents. The cloth is also supplied to some Central Government and State Government Departments. The marketing Division of the NTC (Holding Company) has established a net work of directly managed retail outlets. A part of the production of NTC mills is also exported.

(b) In view of manifold varieties, such a comparison is not feasible.

(c) and (d). NTC has launched a special plan to meet the needs of the rural areas. Besides appointing authorised stockists in semi-urban areas, NTC has linked up its retail shops with Tribal Development Corporation in Orissa, Bihar Panchayat

Raj Finance Corporation Limited, Patna and Civil Supply Corporation of Punjab, Tamil Nadu etc. Efforts are being made to increase such avenues to make NTC cloth available at reasonable rates, to the people in the rural areas.

भागलपुरी रेशम का निर्यात

2352. डा० रामजी सिंह : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) प्रति वर्ष कितने मूल्य की भागलपुरी रेशम का निर्यात किया जाता है और क्या इसमें कोई कमी भी आई है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को पता है कि पिछले वर्षों में भागलपुर हेंड स्पन सिल्क मिल का कोई विकास नहीं हुआ है और यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं तथा इसके विकास के लिए सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ;

(ग) क्या कई निजी संस्थान रेशम के निर्यात और आयात का कार्य कर रहे हैं और उनमें से जे० एस० एक्सपोर्ट्स और हिन्दुस्तान सिल्क मिल कम्पनियां गैर-कानूनी ढंग से मजदूरों की छंटनी कर रही है; और

(घ) क्या रेशम उद्योग के विकास के लिए सरकार भागलपुर में रेशम के विकास से सम्बन्धित कोई विश्वविद्यालय खोलने के प्रश्न पर विचार कर रही है और यदि हां, तो इसे कब तक स्थापित कर दिया जायेगा ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) :

(क) भागलपुरी रेशम के निर्यात के पृथक् आंकड़े नहीं रखे जाते हैं। तथापि, दूसरे रेशम के वस्त्रों के जो अधिकांशतः भागलपुर

में तयार किये जाते हैं, निर्यात, जो 1974-75 में 1.97 करोड़ रु० के हुए थे, बढ़ कर 1975-76 में 2.39 करोड़ रु० के हुए और 1976-77 में 3.36 करोड़ रु० के हुए।

(ख) भागलपुर में कोई भी हैंड स्पन सिल्क मिल नहीं है किन्तु वहां एक स्पन सिल्क मिल है जो बिहार सरकार के एक उपक्रम बिहार राज्य औद्योगिक विकास निगम द्वारा स्थापित की गई है और उसके प्रबन्ध में है। ऐसा बताया जाता है कि 1975-76 के उत्पादन के मुकाबले में वर्ष 1976-77 में इस मिल का उत्पादन बढ़ा है।

(ग) ऐसी निजी पार्टियां हैं जो रेशम का निर्यात कर रही हैं। जे०जे० एक्सपोर्टर्स के प्रबन्धकों ने 53 कर्मचारियों की छंटनी कर दी है। छंटनी के प्रश्न पर प्रबन्धकों और यूनियन के बीच पारस्परिक समझौता था जिसके परिणामस्वरूप यूनियन ने छंटनी को स्वीकार कर लिया है। मै० हिन्दुस्तान सिल्क मिल द्वारा कर्मचारियों की छंटनी किये जाने के बारे में कोई जानकारी नहीं है।

(घ) रेशम के विकास के लिए भागलपुर में किसी विश्वविद्यालय को खोलने की कोई प्रस्थापना इस समय विचाराधीन नहीं है। तथापि, भागलपुर विश्वविद्यालय के अधीन राजकीय रेशम संस्थान, नाथनगर, भागलपुर में रेशम प्रौद्योगिकी का डिग्री कोर्स आरम्भ करने के प्रश्न पर बिहार सरकार विचार कर रही है।

माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन द्वारा किया जाने वाला व्यापार

2353. श्री रीतलाल प्रसाद वर्मा : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और

सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन आफ इंडिया लिमिटेड ने 1 जून, 1974 के बाद, जब से इसने कार्य करना शुरू किया है, अब तक कितने रुपयों का व्यापार किया है ;

(ख) माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन ने किन-किन अश्रक व्यापारियों से अश्रक खरीदा और क्या माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन ने बड़े निर्यातकर्ताओं को प्राथमिकता दे कर कमजोर श्रेणी के अश्रक व्यापारियों की उपेक्षा करके उन सभी को बेकार कर दिया है ; और

(ग) क्या इससे उन नीतियों की उपेक्षा नहीं हुई है जिन्हें लेकर माइका ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन गठित किया गया था और यदि हां, तो इस मामले में सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन घारिया) :

(क) मिटको द्वारा 1 जून, 1974 से 31 मई, 1977 तक किये गये व्यापार का मूल्य निम्नोक्त प्रकार है :

(करोड़ रु०)	
खरीद	बिक्री
10.33	13.29

(ख) मिटको सैकड़ों व्यापारियों से अश्रक खरीदता रहा है। वह अपनी खरीदारियों व्यापार के कमजोर वर्ग से ही करता है, ऐसा वह उसी हालत में नहीं करता जब कि उसे अपनी बिक्री सम्बन्धी वचनबद्धताओं को पूरा करने के लिए अपनी आवश्यकता वाली कुछ मर्दे कमजोर

बर्ग से उपलब्ध नहीं होती। उसकी 63 प्रतिशत से 79 प्रतिशत तक खरीदारियां कमजोर बर्ग से की गई हैं।

जिन व्यापारियों से खरीदारियां की गई हैं उनकी सूची संकलित की जा रही है और तैयार होते ही उसे सभा पटल पर रख दिया जाएगा।

(ग) जी नहीं।

मिटको ने कमजोर बर्ग को सीधे क्रमादेश देकर, उन्हें अधिक इकाई मूल्य दिला कर, छोटे सप्लायरों को समय पर भुगतान करना कर तथा धमक के नियतों का विविधीकरण करके उनकी सहायता करने के लिए कदम उठाये हैं।

दिल्ली स्थित कन्द्रीय सरकार के उपक्रमों के चेयरमैन के वेतनों पर क्या व्यव

2354. श्री नरेश सिंह चौहान : क्या बिस्व तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली स्थित केन्द्रीय सरकार के उपक्रमों के चेयरमैन को प्रति मास कितना घन वेतन के रूप में दिया जाता है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार इस घन को बचाने के लिए विभिन्न उपक्रमों में गैर-सरकारी व्यक्तियों को प्रबैतनिक चेयरमैन बनाने पर विचार करेगी, और

(ग) क्या सभी सरकारी उपक्रमों के चेयरमैन तथा डाइरेक्टरों का मासिक वेतन तथा उनके नाम बताने वाला विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जावेगा ?

बिस्व तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एन० पटेल) : (क) दिल्ली में स्थित केन्द्रीय सरकार के उद्यमों के मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारियों के निर्धारित वेतन-

मानों के सम्बन्ध में सूचना विवरण I में दी गई है। जो सभा पटल पर रखा गया है। [अन्वय में रखा गया। देखिए संख्या एल०-टी०-585/77.]

(ख) सम्भवतः सवस्य महानुभाव का आशय प्रसकालिक अध्यक्षों की नियुक्ति से है। जहां प्रसकालिक अध्यक्ष नियुक्त किया जाता है वहां भी एक पूर्णकालिक प्रबन्ध निदेशक रहता है जो मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी होता है। अतः प्रसकालिक अध्यक्षों की नियुक्ति वित्तव्ययिता के प्रयोजन से नहीं की जाती बल्कि उद्यमों की कुछ विशेष आवश्यकताएं पूरी करने के लिए की जाती हैं।

(ग) अपेक्षित सूचना विवरण II में दी गई है। जो सभा पटल पर रखा गया है। [अन्वय में रखा गया। देखिए संख्या एल०-टी०-585/77.]

Closure of Rajesh Textile Mill at Barsi (Maharashtra)

2355. SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rajesh Textile Mill at Barsi, Maharashtra is closed;

(b) if so, since when and the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to take over the Mill and pay the arrears of workers' wages?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c). Rajesh Textile Mills (and not 'Rajesh Textile Mills') at Barsi closed in January 1977 on account of financial difficulties. There is no proposal under consideration of the central Government for take over of the mill nor has any such proposal been so far made by the State Government.

Bringing of Agricultural land within purview of Wealth Tax Act

2356. SHRI DHARAMVIR VASISHT: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether agricultural land was expressly excluded from the operation of Wealth-tax Act of 1957, if so, the circumstances leading to its inclusion within the purview of the Act later on; and

(b) whether Government propose to review the Wealth Tax Act of 1957, if so, facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Prior to the amendment made in the Wealth-tax Act, 1957 by the Finance Act, 1969, the value of agricultural land owned by a person was not includible in computing his net wealth. The reasons for amending the relevant provisions were given by the then Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance in his Budget speech for 1969-70 in the following words:—

"Agricultural wealth has so far been exempt from wealth-tax. This has encouraged purchase of such land by the richer professional and business classes. While this has often acted as a spur to greater productivity in agriculture, there is no case in equity for taxing other productive wealth but exempting wealth in the form of agricultural land."

(b) No, Sir. Government is not considering any proposal to review the aforesaid provision.

Measures to Curb Inflation

2357. SHRI P. K. DEO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a note has been submitted to the Prime Minister by a

noted economist of India, Prof. C. N. Vakil urging the Central Government to declare a "war on inflation" and asking for "emergency discipline"; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the note and reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. Prime Minister has received a "Memorandum on a Policy for Inflation Reversal and Guaranteed Price Stability" from Professor C. N. Vakil.

(b) A summary of the Memorandum is enclosed. While the Government have taken and will continue to take measures to control inflation, the package of suggestions made by Professor Vakil are not favoured by Government.

Summary of Suggestions made by Shri C. N. Vakil in his Memorandum on 'A Policy for Inflation Reversal and Guaranteed Price Stability'

1. The Government must announce a target-norm of a reduction in the price level from the current figure of 182 in end March 1977, by about 10 per cent or by about 18 points, over the next two financial years.

2. Over the current year, 1977-78, the stock of money should be reduced by about 5 per cent in the light of the feasible growth-rate of output of about 3 per cent during the current year; this would enable prices to be brought down by about 4 to 5 per cent over the year. The contraction is to be achieved through (a) a reduction in net bank-credit to the Government sector by Rs. 750 crores (b) Limitation of credit expansion, over the fiscal year 1977-78, to Industrial-Commercial sector to about Rs. 1000 crores (c) Limiting monetised new exchange-reserves over 1977-78 to about Rs. 500 crores (d) an expansion in time-deposits by about Rs. 1500-1750 crores, and (e) an increase in net impounded deposits by about Rs. 250

crores. For 1978-79, the growth rate in money supply should be targetted at 2 to 3 per cent less than the expected feasible growth-rate in real output, as perceivable around end of 1977-78.

3. The fiscal-operations of the public Sector must make a sizeable contribution to the goal of a reduction in money supply by a budgetary surplus. We must achieve an *ex-ante* budgetary surplus on the combined operations of Central and State Government sector, by about Rs. 500 crores, or as reflected in the conventional figure of overall balance, by a surplus to Rs. 750 crores.

4. A 5 per cent across-the board-cut in all disbursement of Central and State Governments during 1977-78 amounting perhaps to about Rs. 22,000 crores, would yield a saving of Rs. 1,000 crores. A 10 per cent cut in non-essential items, including curtailment, or postponement pending reconsideration of the large outlays earmarked for the heavy industry sector, would yield an extra saving of about Rs. 250 crores.

5. A reduction in the subsidies currently amounting to about Rs. 1000 crores, with a 50 per cent cut in export subsidies.

6. Fresh tax efforts of about Rs. 500 crores by both Central and State Governments, no reduction in minimum income-tax exemption limits, no reduction in tax-rates on higher income. Henceforth, all reliefs should be conditional upon reinvestment of released amounts for saving in specific channels.

7. Net market-borrowings of the governments should be reduced by Rs. 250 crores.

8. The continuance of the CDS with some reductions in rates of compulsory collection for groups with annual emoluments below Rs. 3,000 and groups between Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 5,000; the temporary withholding of further repayments, the continuance of the CDS for income-tax payers; with, again,

temporary withholding of repayment, 25 per cent of the dividends to be funded during 1977-78 in the form of compulsory deposits.

9. A ceiling of about 6 per cent on the expansion of banks credit to the Industrial-commercial sector over the 1977-78 fiscal year; thus not more than Rs. 1,000 crores would be the incremental funds available to this sector during 1977-78.

10. Financing of additional stock-purchases by the Food Corporation through surcharges, on Central excise and a levy on sales-tax revenues of State Governments.

11. A 8-point interest-policy consisting of (1) abolition of ceiling on leading rates, on dividend rates and on interest on company deposits, (2) a hike in the Bank Rate by 2 percentage points, (3) upward movement of deposits rates and, (4) the rates on small savings, and also of (5) prime-lending rates by $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 percentage points (6) A drag-up of yields on government securities by 3 to 5 percentage points, to reach a level of between 9 to 10 per cent, (7) treasury bill to move up and to be made equal to the average of the call money rate of the last 3 months and (8) abolition of all interest subsidies; the drawbacks to be considered by a separate National-Interest-Subsidy Commission.

12. Following six Micro-guidelines in regard to Credit-Management: (i) Medium-term, revolving and long-term credit, and investment in Government securities be reduced to the proportion of time deposits to monetary resources; (ii) Short-term borrowing by industrial commercial sector should not exceed 30 per cent of the ratio of inventories to value-added; (iii) Discouragement, by penal rates, of revolving loans; (iv) Government borrowing not to be undertaken during busy season; (v) Term-lending financial institutions should be prohibited from access to the RBI; (vi) Non-banking financial institutions

should not enter the call market, and commercial banks should not enter into the market for treasury bills.

13. Firm-by-firm credit scrutiny by the RBI should be done with; the RBI to confine itself to overall policy matters in regard to credit.

14. Following measures to boost savings: (i) Additional tax-relief for household-savings in prescribed forms; (ii) Tax-relief to retained profits of business concerns; (iii) Floatation of 10 year tax-free, principal-and-interest-index-linked loans from the rural areas through gold-plated bond-medallions. The interest will be 12½ per cent. Rs. 300-500 crores can be mobilised per annum through this source; (iv) Complete tax relief to savings in the form of increments in provident funds and increments in special categories of deposits and in savings in the form of bond-medallions and in contractual-savings categories; (v) 50 per cent of the bonus of all categories of workers, above prescribed minimum amount to be lodged with respective companies, or enterprises, as a contribution to the special deposits of the concern. These deposits should be insured and both the amounts and the interest amount should be freed from tax liability; (vi) 50 per cent of the emoluments of employees drawing a salary of more than Rs. 3,000 be treated as deposits (also insured) for the enterprises in which they are saving.

15. Exchange-dealers converting exchange into rupees should lodge 50 per cent of exchange-remittances in blocked deposits, carrying a special interest rate, both amounts and the interest being index-linked and tax-free; a higher rate of conversion ratio for those portions of exchange which are held in the form of blocked amounts.

16. For guidelines on trade policy, continuation of export quotas, which are flexible, Continuation of import quotas, again flexible, Free imports of gold, No free floating rupee; managed floating as of now, with some discretion to fix official exchange-rates.

17. Embargo on export of food articles and other necessary 'wage-goods'.

18. Rs. 500 to Rs. 600 crores exchange reserves to be used for forward-purchases of oil and grains and for serving as a cushion for some borrowings in the international market and for investment in well-chosen international portfolios. The formation of an International Investment Corporation through consortium of financial institutions, to look after the investment portfolios, the rest of the reserves to be kept for normal purposes.

19. The use of 4-6 million tonnes of grains out of the existing stock for promoting employment through a Food-for-work scheme, the scheme being integrated with the new Plan to be recast since it involves need of about Rs. 1,200 crores of matching extra-savings.

20. Preparation work on a New Wage-goods model plan to begin from 1978-79, with drastic alterations in structure of plan priorities, about 45 per cent of the net investments to be allocated to Agricultural and related lines so as to ensure a minimum of 5 per cent to 6 per cent rate of growth in Agricultural out put.

Financial Assistance to Kerala Government for Revival of Sick Textile Mills

2358. SHRI G. M. BANATWALLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have approached the Central Government for financial assistance to revive the sick textile mills in the State; and

(b) the decision of the Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DEHRIA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. The

Government of Kerala have however made a request for Central Government's assistance in securing a loan from I.D.B.I. for reopening and rehabilitation of Trivandrum Spinning Mills, Balaramapuram, which is under the management of the State Government. The request has been recommended to I.D.B.I. for its consideration.

राज्य व्यापार निगम द्वारा भंडारा से लाख खरीदा जाना

2359. श्री लक्ष्मण राव मानकर : क्या बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राज्य व्यापार निगम द्वारा भंडारा जिले में लाख की खरीद का काम शुरू न किये जाने के कारण वहां के लाख उत्पादकों को 300 रुपये प्रति क्विंटल का भाव नहीं मिल पा रहा है ;

(ख) वहां लाख न खरीदे जाने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) क्या उनके मंत्रालय और राज्य व्यापार निगम ने विदेशी मुद्रा अर्जित करने के लिए लाख उत्पादन का कार्यक्रम बनाया है ?

बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन बरिया) : (क) तथा (ख) . चपड़ा बसूली कार्य मुख्यतया केवल पश्चिम बंगाल तथा बिहार तक सीमित था। महाराष्ट्र सरकार से हमें ऐसा कोई अनुरोध प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है कि ऐसे कार्यों में भंडारा जिले को शामिल करने की आवश्यकता है।

(ग) जितना लाख निर्यात किया जा सकता है प्रत्येक देश में बेचा जा सकता है, उससे कहीं अधिक उस का वर्तमान

उत्पादन है। अतः राज्य व्यापार निगम के पास लाख के उत्पादन का कोई कार्यक्रम नहीं है।

Sick and Closed Tea Gardens.

2360. SHRI K. B. CHHETRI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the sick and closed tea gardens whose managements have been taken over by Government;

(b) the total expenditure incurred till March, 1977 and profits made, if any, in each tea garden;

(c) total labour strength in each tea garden prior to taking over and after taking over; and

(d) total gratuity and provident fund due to workers, garden-wise, as on 31st March, 1977.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The names of tea gardens taken over so far are as under:—

- (i) Pashok Tea Estate, Darjeeling, West Bengal.
- (ii) Looksan Tea Estate, Jalpaiguri Distt., West Bengal.
- (iii) Vah-tuk-var Tea Estate, Darjeeling Distt., West Bengal.
- (iv) Kumai Tea Estate, Darjeeling Distt., West Bengal.

The first three gardens were taken over on 12-10-1976. Kumai Tea Estate was taken over on 18-6-1977 and therefore no information relating to part (b) and (d) is being given in respect of this particular Estate.

(b)

(In Rupees)

	Looksan	Pashok	Vah-Tuk-Var
Expenditure	14,85,736	10,59,069	7,91,637
Less Sale Proceeds realised	9,94,004	3,39,617	1,86,611
Shortfall in revenue	4,91,732	7,19,452	6,05,026

This gardens were previously not being managed properly. Both—the plantations and the factory had been neglected by the earlier management. Expenditure therefore had to be incurred on pruning, drainage, eradic-

ating jungle weeds and major overhaul and repairs to machinery. This has resulted in excess of expenditure over revenue.

Figures are provisional and subject to finalisation after audit.

(c)

	Looksan	Pashok	Vah-Tuk-Var	Kumai (18.6.77)
Labour strength as on take over date :	960	1114	903	919
As on 31-3-1977	960	1114	903	919

(After take-over)

(d)	Looksan	Pashok	Vah-Tuk-Var
Provident Fund	8,54,000	8,27,000	3,45,000
Gratuity	6,00,000	1,50,000	27,500

These relate to the period prior to take-over and are provisional as verification of claims is in progress. Provident Fund dues arising after take-over have been paid regularly.

(b) whether the State Chief Minister had been paid another sum of Rs. 5 crores specially for development works in Assam during the remaining period of the year ending 31st March, 1977;

Central Assistance to Assam

2361. SHRI PURNA SINHA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money drawn by the Government of Assam as Central Government's contribution assistance to build the temporary capital of Assam at Dispur till 31st March, 1977;

(c) if so, the particulars of projects and amounts spent by the State Government out of the special grant of Rs. 5 crores mentioned at (b) above; and

(d) whether Government propose to conduct a special audit of the accounts relating to the money drawn by the Government of Assam for construction of the temporary capital at Dispur and the said special grant?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) A sum of Rs. 3.5 crores has so far been released to the Government of Assam for building the capital at Dispur.

(b) An outlay of Rs. 11.30 crores had been approved for Assam for their Hill Areas Plan in 1976-77. The State Government was entitled to a Central assistance of Rs. 5 crores only towards the financing of this outlay. Releases of Central assistance to the various States are made on the basis of progress of expenditure during the year. Accordingly, Rs. 5 crores were released to the State Government of Assam as envisaged in the scheme of financing.

(c) The Annual Plan for 1976-77 for Hill Areas of Assam included composite project for prevention of jhum cultivation and other programmes for development of agriculture, irrigation, power, medium industries, village and small scale industries, roads and social services. Government of Assam had reported towards the end of the year that anticipated expenditure upto 31-3-77 was likely to be Rs. 11.30 crores, which entitled them to receive the Central Govt's assistance of Rs. 5 crores for their Hill Areas Plan. Figures of actual expenditure will be available only after some time.

(d) There is no proposal under Govt.'s consideration for conducting a special audit.

Import of Engines "Ford Extra" 3 Cylinders

2362. **SHRI SATISH AGARWAL:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the engines "Ford Extra" 3 cylinders fitted in the Maruti road rollers were imported without import licence; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take against the company?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN GHARIA): (a) No import licence has been issued to any Maruti concern for import of "Ford Extra" 3 cylinder engines. According to the information furnished by the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue and Banking) there has been no such case of import without import licence.

(b) Does not arise.

अयोध्या कपड़ा मिल की हानि

2363. **श्री राजवैनी राम :** क्या बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अयोध्या टेक्सटाइल मिल की प्रति माह कितना घाटा हो रहा है ;

(ख) क्या इस घाटे के लिए उसका प्रबन्ध बोर्ड जिम्मेदार है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार इस घाटे को रोकने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही कर रही है ?

बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन कारिया) :

(क) यह मिल प्रतिमाह 10 लाख २० से 10.50 लाख २० की दर से घाटे उठाती रही है।

(ख) यह घाटा निम्नोक्त कारणों की वजह से हुआ है :—

1. मशीनों का पुराना पड़ जाना;
2. रई की ऊँची लागत जो कि उत्पादन लागत की लगभग 50 प्रतिशत ठहरती है।
3. वस्त्र व्यापार में मंदी जिसके परिणामस्वरूप माल की बिक्री में कथ प्राप्त हुई।

4. धन की कमी लगता है ; और

5. व्यापक प्रसारों का अधिक भार ।

(ग) इस मिल के कार्यालयों में सुखर साने के लिए निम्नोक्त उपाय किए गए हैं :

(1) मशीनों का आधुनिकीकरण / नवीकरण ;

(2) बाजार मांग तथा बेहतर मूल्य प्राप्ति के अनुरूप उत्पादन कार्यक्रम में परिवर्तन ;

(3) कच्चे माल के परीक्षण के लिए प्रयोगशाला की प्रस्तावित स्थापना ;

(4) प्रबन्ध में श्रमिक का सहयोग ताकि बेहतर उत्पादन परिणाम सुनिश्चित हो सकें ; और

(5) लागत लेखा / विस्तरेषण / नियंत्रण का आरम्भ किया जाना ।

Overdrafts by States

2364. SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state the overdrafts drawn by the various State Governments from the Reserve Bank of India during each of the last three years, year-wise?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): The overdrafts of the State Governments on the Reserve Bank of India reflect their daily cash position and vary from day-to-day. Their quantum can, therefore, be indicated with reference to a particular date only. The adjusted overdrafts of the State Governments on the last working day of

the financial years 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 are indicated below:

(Rs. crores)

31st March, 1975	271.27
31st March, 1976	326.84
31st March, 1977	351.88

Malpractice, in the Distribution of Viscose Filament Yarn

2365. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum about the malpractices in the distribution of viscose filament yarn by the Tamil Nadu Regional Committee of Spinners and Weavers; and

(b) if so, the action taken against the Tamil Nadu Regional Committee of Spinners and Weavers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir. In the past there have been a few complaints about malpractices in the distribution of viscose filament yarn by the Tamil Nadu Regional Committee of Spinners and Weavers.

(b) The Tamil Nadu Regional Committee of Spinners and Weavers which was dormant for the past two years will no more be in charge of distribution of yarn. In the new agreement under discussion between spinners and weavers for the period 1-4-77 onwards, it is proposed to allocate viscose filament yarn to the handloom weavers in Tamil Nadu, as per the arrangement to be worked out by the Handloom Development Commissioner in consultation with the Director of Handlooms, Tamil Nadu.

आपातस्थिति के दौरान अपहरण किए गए विमान

2366. श्री भागीरथ शंकर : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत आपातस्थिति के दौरान इंडियन एयरलाइन्स और एयर इंडिया के कितने विमानों का अपहरण किया गया था तथा उसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) विमान अपहरण के प्रत्येक मामले में अपहरणकर्ता किन देशों के नागरिक थे तथा उनके विरुद्ध अलग-अलग क्या कार्यवाही की गई है; और

(ग) विमान अपहरण के कितने मामलों में अभी निर्णय लिया जाना है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पद्मोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) : इंडियन एयरलाइन्स का एक बोइंग-737 विमान 10 सितम्बर, 1976 को, दिल्ली-जयपुर-औरंगाबाद-बम्बई सैक्टर पर एक अनुसूचित उड़ान (संख्या 491) का परिचालन करते हुए, अपहरण करके साहौर ले जाया गया था। अपहरण के कारण अभी स्पष्ट नहीं हुए हैं।

(ख) सरकार अभी अपहरणकर्ताओं की राष्ट्रिकता निर्धारित नहीं कर सकी है। सरकार उनके विरुद्ध कोई कार्यवाही भी नहीं कर सकी है क्योंकि वे पाकिस्तानी प्राधिकारियों की हिरासत में थे। पाकिस्तान सरकार ने 5 जनवरी, 1977 को उन अपहरणकर्ताओं को छोड़ देने के अपने निर्णय की घोषणा कर दी क्योंकि, पाकिस्तानी प्रेस रिपोर्टों के अनुसार, सरकार के पास उन पर अभियोग चलाने के लिये पर्याप्त प्रमाण नहीं थे। उनके वर्तमान ठीर-ठिकानों का पता नहीं है।

(ग) आपातकाल के दौरान किसी और भारतीय विमान का अपहरण नहीं हुआ।

Representation of Ex-Employees of Reserve Bank of Bombay

2367. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representation of Ex-employees of Reserve Bank, Bombay has been pending with the Government for many months; and

(b) whether the said employees had been transferred to Reserve Bank from the Government Finance Department?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Reserve Bank of India have reported that some of their Ex-employees who were initially transferred to the Bank's service from Government in 1935 and retired from the Bank's service on different dates prior to November 1960 had submitted a representation to Reserve Bank of India, in October 1976, seeking monetary relief by way of ex-gratia pension. Their request is being considered by the Bank.

Closure of Textile Mills in Kerala

2368. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the total number and names of closed textile mills in the State of Kerala and their total spindle capacity; and

(b) the total number of employees rendered unemployed due to the closure of these mills?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DEVARIA): (a) The names of cotton tex-

tile mills lying closed in Kerala and the spindles involved are:—

Name of the Mill	Spindles
1. Trivandrum Spinning Mills Ltd., Balaramapuram	25,200
2. Prabhuram Mills Ltd., Chengannoor	8,992
3. Kottayam Textiles Ltd., Kottayam	12,416
4. Kerala Lakshmi Mills, Trichur	28,810
5. G.T.N. Textiles Ltd., Alwaye	25,104
6. Malabar Spg. & Wvg. Mills, Calicut	18,400
TOTAL	1,18,922

(b) 2,767 workers.

बोईंग विमानों की खरीद

2369. श्री नटा लाल पटेल : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार 30 करोड़ रु० मूल्य के तीन बोईंग विमान खरीद रही है;

(ख) क्या पिछली सरकार ने इस प्रयोजन के लिये कुछ धनराशि जमा कर दी थी; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी तथ्य क्या हैं ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री बुधोलाब कीर्तिक): (क) सरकार के अनुमोदन से इंडियन एयरलाइन्स ने 30.55

करोड़ रुपये की लागत से तीन बोईंग 737 विमानों की खरीद के आर्डर दे दिये हैं।

(ख) और (ग) : खरीद के करार की शर्तों के अनुसार, इंडियन एयरलाइन्स ने बोईंग कामर्शियल एयरप्लेन कम्पनी के तीन विमानों की कीमत की 30 प्रतिशत रकम भुका कर दी है, जो 7,209,975 यू०एस० डालर (6.48 करोड़ रुपये) के बराबर है। इंडियन एयरलाइन्स ने तीन फ्राल्टू इंजनों की खरीद के लिये भी युनाइटेड टेक्नोलॉजी इंटरनेशनल, यू०एस०ए० को एक आर्डर दे दिया है तथा उन्हें उस की कीमत की 20 प्रतिशत रकम, अर्थात् 424,449 यू०एस० डालर (38.20 लाख रुपये) का भुगतान भी कर दिया है ;

Revenue from Goa, Daman and Diu

2370. SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state the annual income to the Central Exchequer separately from Goa, Daman and Diu in respect of income-tax, wealth-tax, estate duty, excess profits tax, expenditure tax, Central excise duty, Central sales tax, customs duty?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Annual income to the Central Exchequer separately from Goa, Daman and Diu for the last three financial years in respect of Income-tax. Wealth-tax estate duty, excess profit tax, expenditure tax, Central Excise duty, Central Sales-tax and Customs duty is furnished in the statement annexed.

Statement

Year	Income-Tax and Corporation Tax	Wealth Tax	Estate Duty	Excess Profit Tax	Expenditure Tax	Central Excise Duty	Central Sales Tax	3 Customs Duty
(Rupees in lakhs)								
1974-75	599	92.87	5.12	Nil	Nil	2,934	33.17	1,294
1975-76	1,090	92.06	4.18	„	„	3,084	43.44	1,306

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	1976-77	1,389	103.29	3.31	Nil	Nil	3,280	61.85	1,133
Daman	1974-75	5.60	0.61	0.29	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.49	0.04
	1975-76	11.75	0.60	0.02	Nil	Nil	"	0.49	Nil
	1976-77	5.77	0.83	0.05	Nil	Nil	156	0.87	"
Diu	1974-75	1.14	0.06	0.001	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.006	Nil
	1975-76	1.19	0.14	Nil	"	"	"	0.005	0.006
	1976-77	1.04	0.12	0.105	"	"	"	0.002	Nil

Smuggling of Silver out of India

2371. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item appeared in Patriot dated 11th May, 1977 under the heading "Smuggling of Silver to Gulf";

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps Government have taken to stop smuggling at West Coast in India?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, The reports received by Government do not indicate any large scale smuggling of silver.

(c) Although smuggling continues to be effectively contained, anti-smuggling measures have been reinforced and the field formations have been duly alerted and instructed to take stringent action against smugglers under the normal law. These measures include strengthening of investigation and intelligence set ups, rummaging of ships arriving from sensitive ports and patrolling of vulnerable areas on the sea coast and the main transport routes.

Demand of Indian made goods in Japan

2372. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian made goods are in great demand in Japan; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Exports of Indian goods to Japan have steadily increased over the last few years. Export of products like iron ore, marine products, coffee, leather, iron and steel, Aluminium, ready-made garments, tobacco un-manufactured, pearls and precious and semi-precious stones have shown particular buoyancy.

Manipulating Prices in Dry Fruits, Cloves and Cinnamon

2873. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some importers have been artificially manipulating prices in dry fruits, cloves and cinnamon; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to lower prices of these articles?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Upto the end of the year 1976-77 import of dry fruits was allowed to established importers, and the import of cloves, cinnamon was not permitted except in limited quantities, on restricted basis, for manufacture of ayurvedic medicines etc. Because of such restrictive policy, the importers were manipulating prices of these commodities.

Under the 1977-78 policy, it has been decided to allow import of these items under free licensing system, within certain monetary limits. This has already had the effect of lowering these prices.

Smuggling of Dry Fruits, Cloves, and Cinnamon

2374. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR GOYAL: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large scale smuggling is going on in dry fruits, nutmegs, cinnamon, cloves; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to end smuggling in these articles?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) No Sir, Reports received do not indicate any large scale smuggling in dry fruits, nutmegs, cinnamon and cloves.

(b) Although smuggling continues to be effectively contained, anti-smuggling measures have been reinforced and the field formations have been instructed to take stringent action against smugglers under the normal law. These measures include

strengthening of investigation and intelligence set ups, rummaging of ships arriving from sensitive ports, patrolling of vulnerable areas on sea coast and the main transport routes. Further, in order to check smuggling, import of these items has also been recently liberalised.

Securing of Fix Time Deposits from Public by Companies

2375. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether large number of companies secure fix time deposits from public at high rate of interest and do not pay the interest timely and refund the deposit after time limit;

(b) whether Government have received complaints against such companies operating in Maharashtra, if so, the names of companies and nature of complaints; and

(c) the action taken/proposed in the matter to protect the interest of the depositors?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The Reserve Bank of India have reported that they have received complaints that some companies, which have accepted deposits from the public, are not paying interest on due dates and deposits on maturity. The names of the companies, operating in Maharashtra, in respect of which such complaints have been received by the Reserve Bank, are given in the enclosed statement.

(c) While the action for non-payment of deposit to any individual depositor is a matter of contract between the depositor and the deposit company, several measures for protecting the interests of depositors have

been/are being taken. The directions issued by the Reserve Bank to financial and miscellaneous non-banking companies and the Rules issued by the Department of Company Affairs to non-banking non-financial companies restrict the quantum of deposits to be accepted by them to specified ceilings and require them to disclose, in the advertisements soliciting deposits and in the deposit application forms, the prescribed particulars regarding their financial position and management.

Government have also accepted the recommendations of the James Raj Study Group on non-banking companies (i) that the non-banking non-financial and certain categories of non-banking financial companies should bring down, in stages, the quantum of their deposits from public from 50 per cent to 25 per cent of their net owned funds, (ii) that the non-financial companies should maintain in the form of liquid assets (excluding cash in hand) not less than 10 per cent of the deposit liabilities maturing during the course of a year, and (iii) that the non-banking financial and non-financial companies should furnish certain minimum particulars in their advertisements for deposits, such as (a) the amount of deposits which they can accept under the prescribed ceiling restrictions, (b) the amount of deposits actually received by them on a recent date, (c) the amount of overdue deposits excluding unclaimed deposits, and (d) a declaration that they have complied with the rules of the Department of Company Affairs or the directions of the Reserve Bank, as the case may be, and that their compliance with the rules or the directions does not imply that the repayment of the deposits are guaranteed by the Central Government or the Reserve Bank and that the deposits accepted by them are unsecured in nature. While some of these recommendations have been implemented, the others are in the process of being implemented.

Statement

The names of the companies operating in Maharashtra against which complaints have been received for non-payment of deposits on maturity and/or interest thereon.

(A) Non-banking non-financial companies.

1. Asian Cotton Mills Ltd.
2. Anil Hard Board Ltd.
3. Bhopal Toughened Glass Works Ltd.
4. Alvin Coredills Pvt. Ltd.
5. Deccan Farm and Distilleries Pvt. Ltd.
6. Dadjee and Dhakjee and Co. Pvt. Ltd.
7. Foremost Diaries Ltd.
8. Gujarat Industries Pvt. Ltd.
9. Jolly Anil (India) Ltd.
10. Khandelwal Engineering Co. Pvt. Ltd.
11. Mass Communication Marketing Pvt. Ltd.
12. Jolly Brothers Pvt. Ltd.
13. Napal Stainless Ltd.
14. Saraswati Synthetics Pvt. Ltd.
15. S. B. Joshi and Co. Ltd.
16. Spunpipe and Construction Co. of India Ltd.
17. Shah Construction Co. Ltd.
18. Tahira Industries India Pvt. Ltd.
19. Trawlers Pvt. Ltd.
20. Khandelwal Hermann Electronics Ltd.
21. Khandelwal Builders Pvt. Ltd.
22. Khandelwal Manufacturing Corp. Ltd.
23. Centron Industrial Alliance Pvt. Ltd.
24. M. J. Fertiliser Ltd.

25. Indian Express Newspapers (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd.
26. Sahib Singh Mfg. Co. Pvt. Ltd.
27. Starit (Engg.) Water Treatment Co. Pvt. Ltd.
28. T. Maneklal Mfg. Co. Ltd.
29. Lamp Caps and Filaments Ltd.
30. Lawkin Ltd.

(B) Non-banking financial and Miscellaneous Non-banking companies.

1. Sterling Benefit and Investment Co. Pvt. Ltd.
2. Shantikam Financiers and Chit Funds Pvt. Ltd.
3. Nav Bharat Investment Ltd.
4. Gurdeo Finance and Savings Pvt. Ltd.
5. People's Mutual Benefit Pvt. Ltd.
6. Navjivan Chit Fund Pvt. Ltd.
7. Star of Cochin Chit Schemes Pvt. Ltd.
8. Sable's Chit Pvt. Ltd.
9. Bhagyalakshmi Finance Pvt. Ltd.
10. Madhu Chit Fund and Trading Co. Pvt. Ltd.
11. Uma Investments Pvt. Ltd.
12. Amar Finance (Bombay) Pvt. Ltd.

Raising of Capital by Companies

2376. SHRI PRASANBHAI MEHTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) how many companies have so far been allowed to raise their capital during the last one year;

(b) how many such companies belong to the State of Gujarat; and

(c) whether in the month of April, five companies were allowed to raise their capital?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) During the financial year 1976-77, consents/acknowledgement of proposals under the Capital Issues (Control) Act were given to 380 non-Government companies for raising capital by way of initial issues, further issues, bonus issues, debentures, etc.

(b) Of the above, 34 companies had their incorporation in the State of Gujarat.

(c) The reference is perhaps to one of the four Press releases issued by the Office of the Controller of Capital Issues in the month of April 1977 giving the names of the five companies which have been allowed to raise capital. In all, during the month of April 1977, 26 companies had been allowed to raise capital.

Indirect taxes on Non-ferrous Metals

2377. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the metal industry has pleaded for simplified and rationalised structure of indirect taxes on non-ferrous metals; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Demand from All India non-ferrous Metal Industries Association for Collection of Excise Duty on Single point

2378. SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the All India Non-ferrous Metal Industries Association has urged the Government to restrict the collection of central excise duty to a single point; and

(b) if so, the decision taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Opposition for move to reduce Central Government Staff

2379. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the move of Government to reduce the sanctioned strength of Central Government staff by 10 per cent has been opposed by the trade unions working in the field, and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) All Ministries/Departments of the Central Government have been requested vide Finance Secretary's D.O letter dated 13-5-77, to review their staff strength as also that of their subordinate formations to explore the possibility of reducing existing strength by at least 10 per cent. A copy of this letter has been laid on the Table of the House in answer to Unstarred Question No. 902 on 17-6-77. Representations have been received from a few Unions against these orders.

(b) Keeping in view the need for utmost economy in administrative expenditure, as also the fact that the general employment prospects are not likely to be affected, as a result of the orders, no change is contemplated therein.

Impact of Reduction in Import Duty on Coconut and Coconut Oil

2380. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to reduce import duty on coconut and coconut oil considerably and also to encourage large scale import of these items;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the serious impact it has made on the financial structure of the Kerala Government, as a result of a slump in the prices of coconut and coconut oil in Kerala; and

(c) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) With a view to overcoming the shortage of edible oils in the country and making them available at reasonable prices, the Government liberalised the import of edible oils and oil seeds including coconut oil and copra from January, 1977 and reduced the customs duty on coconut oil, from 75 per cent to 30 per cent, with effect from 20-5-1977. No decision has been taken to reduce the customs duty on copra.

(b) and (c). There has been no such slump in the prices of copra and coconut oil as to seriously affect the economics of coconut cultivation.

C.B.I. Investigations into suspected involvement of Indians in International Boeing purchase Scandal

2381. SHRI G. K. CHANDRAPPA: SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether preliminary investigations have been made by C.B.I. into

the suspected involvement of Indians in the International Boeing purchase scandal; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and at what stage is the investigation at present?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). The Central Bureau of Investigation have completed preliminary scrutiny of the records relating to the Boeing deal of the Indian Airlines and the matter is being examined further.

Withdrawal of Price-tag order in Delhi

2382. SHRI C K CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have withdrawn the price-tag order in Delhi;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what machinery Government have got to see that the consumers are not cheated by the unscrupulous traders?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (c) The Delhi (Display of Price of Articles) Order which was promulgated in September, 1975 under the Defence and Internal Security of India Rules, 1971, is still in force. This order is being shortly replaced by a similar Order under the Essential Commodities Act, 1935.

In order to ensure availability of essential commodities of mass consumption at reasonable prices, Delhi Administration is also exercising licensing control on foodgrains, pulses, wheat, H.V. Oils, coal, kerosene, bricks, cement, sugar, etc. and price control on bread, cement, coal, kerosene, bricks, L.P. Gas and Light

Diesel Oil. There is an organised enforcement machinery to see that the traders comply with the provisions of various laws and orders and do not indulge in unfair practices.

Review of I.T.D.C. Hotel Projects

2383. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked India Tourism Development Corporation to review all the nine hotel projects, work on which had already begun; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b). On account of constraints on financial resources and other priorities fixed by Government, the India Tourism Development Corporation has for the present deferred certain schemes including 9 accommodation projects, on which construction work had not yet begun.

Review of the working of S.T.C. by Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad

2385. SHRI PRASANNBHAI MEHTA:

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has asked the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad to undertake a comprehensive review of the working of the State Trading Corporation of India;

(b) the points referred to be investigated by the Institute; and

(c) when the report is likely to be submitted?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, has been asked to carry out a study to suggest appropriate measures for streamlining and improving the operational efficiency of the STC and the MMTC and their subsidiaries and the quality of service to their clients. The Institute has also been asked to make recommendations regarding the role of these organisations in the context of the overall national interests that they are supposed to serve.

(c) The Institute has estimated that the basic report should be available in six months time. They have, however, agreed to send interim recommendations earlier.

Overhauling of Jet Engines of Domestic Airlines by Air India

2386. **SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:** Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Air India was unwilling or unable to overhaul the domestic airlines jet engines at its Bombay port workshop and five engines had to be sent abroad leaving Indian Airlines with just one spare engine to keep its 12 twin jet Boeing 737 flying the tight schedule;

(b) if so, the reasons for not overhauling the jet engines in India itself;

(c) the expenditure involved in overhauling in the foreign country; and

(d) when the jet engines sent abroad are likely to be received back?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSSER): (a) and

(b). Air-India was not unwilling to undertake overhaul of Indian Airlines jet engines in its workshop at Bombay. Air-India facilities are planned to undertake overhaul/repair of Caravelle and Boeing 737 aircraft engines of Indian Airlines. However, due to abnormal and sudden increase in the workload arising out of—

(i) a mandatory inspection that had been called by the U.S. Airworthiness Authorities on 737 aircraft engines;

(ii) certain mandatory work called for on all Caravelle engines by Director General, Civil Aviation subsequent to the Caravelle accident in Bombay in early October 1976, Air-India facility was unable to meet the operational requirement of 737 engines for Indian Airlines operations.

In view of the above, 5 Boeing 737 engines were sent to the manufacturers in United States of America for repairs so that Indian Airlines scheduled operations could be maintained. After sending these 5 engines there were still 4 spare engines left in India.

(c) The estimated expenditure in overhauling the engine abroad is Rs. 19 lakhs per engine, of which, Rs. 16.5 lakhs would be in foreign exchange.

(d) All the 5 engines have already been received after overhaul.

Decision on Nationalisation of Jute Industry

2387. **SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN:** Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any decision not to nationalise the jute industry;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken to improve the jute industry?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). There is no proposal at present to nationalise the jute industry.

(c) The following are some of the important steps which have been taken for improving jute industry:—

1. Abolition of export duty on all jute manufactures.
2. Levy of cess on jute manufactures for financing research and development activities through a Development Council.
3. Grant of liberal assistance for research and development efforts for promoting new end uses of jute and reducing cost of production.
4. Grant of soft loan assistance to jute industry to encourage modernisation of plants and equipment for increasing their productivity and reducing costs of production.
5. Measures to make exports of some jute goods more competitive in the foreign markets and more remunerative to the manufacturers.

मध्य प्रदेश में पर्यटक-केन्द्रों को विमान सेवा द्वारा जोड़ना

2388. श्री भागीरथ शंकर : क्या पर्यटन और नगर विकास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के पर्यटक-केन्द्रों को विमान सेवा द्वारा जोड़ने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस संबंध में क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नगर विकास मंत्री (श्री पुष्पोत्तम कीशिक) (क) और (ख). मध्य प्रदेश में महत्वपूर्ण पर्यटन केन्द्र पहले ही हवाई सेवाओं से जुड़े हुए हैं।

दिल्ली, आगरा खजुराहो वाराणसी मार्ग पर परिचालन करने वाली आई०सी०-407/408 सेवा खजुराहो होकर जाती है। ग्वालियर, भोपाल (सांची के लिये) तथा इन्दौर (मान्डू के लिये) दिल्ली तथा बंबई से आई०सी० 459, 460 (दिल्ली ग्वालियर/भोपाल इन्दौर बम्बई) सेवा द्वारा जुड़े हुए हैं। जबलपुर (जो कान्हा राष्ट्रीय उद्यान के बहुत निकट है) तथा रायपुर को 5 मई, 1977 से दिल्ली तथा बम्बई से सप्ताह में दो बार की विमान सेवा द्वारा जोड़ दिया गया है।

Discussions between India and Sri Lanka to curb smuggling

2389. SHRI R. V. SWAMINATHAN: SHRI NIHAR LASKAR:

Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka have recently held talks in Colombo to discuss the measures to curb the smuggling from both the countries;

(b) if so, a brief account of subjects discussed, and the decisions arrived at;

(c) whether the areas of co-operation to check smuggling were found; and

(d) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Yes Sir, A delegation of Officers from the Customs and the Police Departments held discussion with their counterparts from Sri Lanka in Colombo on 2nd.

3rd and 4th June, 1977 regarding the measures to curb smuggling between the two countries.

(b) to (d). The discussions related to the matters of mutual interest and co-operation for prevention of smuggling of goods between the two countries. It was, *inter alia*, decided that there should be more frequent exchange of information relating to smuggling activities as well as identification of gangs of smugglers operating on both sides with a view to effectively curbing their activities.

Construction of New Aerodrome near Cochin

2390. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN:
SHRI K. A. RAJAN:

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scope for expansion of the Cochin airport is very much limited; and

(b) if so, whether Government have any proposal to construct a new aerodrome near Cochin to cope with the increasing passenger traffic requirements?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) although the scope for extension of the Naval airport at Cochin is somewhat limited due to the presence of obstructions like Port Trust building, high cranes, proximity to sea, etc. the existing airport is being developed at an estimated cost of Rs. 70.05 lakhs by realigning, strengthening and extension of the runway to make it suitable for Boeing 737 operations.

(b) There is no proposal at present to construct a new aerodrome at Cochin.

Aerodrome at Kozhikode

2391. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to construct an aerodrome at Kozhikode;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) the estimated cost of the proposal; and

(d) when the construction of the aerodrome is expected to begin?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) to (d). A project for construction of an aerodrome at Kozhikode (Calicut) was included in the draft Fifth Five Year Plan. However, due to increase in the cost of operation consequent on the hike in prices of aviation fuel and also the tight fleet position, Indian Airlines had to review their plans and found themselves unable to operate to Kozhikode (Calicut) in the Fifth Plan period. The project has therefore been deferred for the present.

Result of Economy Measures

2392. SHRI P. K. KODIYAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the various measures taken to effect economy in public expenditure have yielded any desired results in the current year; and

(b) if so, the amount of money so far saved or likely to be saved in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The adoption of various economy measures would help in containing the growth of administrative expenditure. It is, however, not possible to quantify the savings to be achieved.

Decision on Take over of two closed Jute Mills

2393. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to take over the management of two closed jute mills;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these two mills have misappropriated huge amounts of Jute Corporation of India and from the workers' provident fund; and

(d) if so, what effective measures are being taken or are proposed to be taken against these private employers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MORAN DHARMA): (a) and (b). The management of two closed jute mills, namely Khardah Company Limited and Union Jute Company has been taken over by the Government with effect from 16th May, 1977.

(c) Khardah Company Limited is alleged to have mis-appropriated raw jute worth about Rs. 13.48 lakhs belonging to the Jute Corporation of India.

(d) The Jute Corporation of India has filed cases against the Directors & Senior officers of Khardah Company, which are pending in the Court.

Alleged Involvement of Gandhi Brothers in Boeing Deal

2394. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item appearing in *Biz* dated the 4th June,

1977 regarding the alleged involvement of "Gandhi Brothers" in the Shoddy Boeing deal;

(b) if so, the facts thereof;

(c) whether any inquiry has been instituted into this allegation; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof and action being taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). So far as the allegations concerning the purchase of two Boeing 737 aircraft for Ministry of Defence are concerned that Ministry have decided not to procure these aircraft. A Commission of Inquiry headed by Shri P. Jagannathan Reddy, a retired Judge of the Supreme Court will inquire into all matters relating to the proposed purchase of the two Boeing aircraft required by the Ministry of Defence.

As regards the other allegations, these are under investigation.

Flying Clubs

2395. SHRI R K AMIN: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided not to encourage opening of new flying clubs in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir, for the present.

(b) The reasons are:—

(i) high cost of operation of aircraft consequent on increase in price of aviation fuel, increase in the cost of spare parts & increased pay and allowances to the staff;

(ii) unemployment amongst commercial pilot's licence holders; and

(iii) financial constraints in regard to subsidising of flying clubs.

Exports to West Germany

2396. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports to West Germany went up by 55 per cent in 1976; and

(b) whether there is any plan for improvement in Indo-West German trade?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following steps have been taken for boosting Indo-German trade:

(1) Market study of specified products;

(2) Participation in fairs & exhibitions like ANUGA Food Fair, Hanovar Fair, Partners for Progress Exhibition, "Electronica" Exhibition etc.

(3) Deputing specialised delegations to West Germany for exploring possibilities for market adaptation.

The imports from West Germany are also likely to increase in view of liberalised import policy.

राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा मासिक कम्पनी के लिये मंजूर किये गये ऋणों का रोक़ा जाना

2397. श्री हरमोकिश वर्मा : क्या विस तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करें कि क्या राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों द्वारा मासिक कम्पनी के लिए मंजूर किये गये ऋणों को रोकने तथा उसे दिये गये ऋणों की सीमा बसूल करने के आदेश दिये हैं।

विस तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एन० पटेल) : बैंकों में प्रचलित प्रथा और व्यवहार के अनुसार तथा बैंकिंग कम्पनी (उपक्रमों का अर्जन और अन्तरण) अधिनियम, 1970, भारतीय स्टेट बैंक अधिनियम, 1955 तथा भारतीय स्टेट बैंक (अनुवर्गी बैंक) अधिनियम, 1959 के अनुसार में भी इन सभी बैंकों के बाह्य विशेष के बारे में सूचना प्रकट नहीं की जा सकती। इसलिए माननीय सदस्य द्वारा मांगी गई सूचना उपलब्ध कराना सम्भव नहीं है। लेकिन, यह उल्लेख किया जा सकता है कि सरकार ने इस मामले में किसी भी राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंक को कोई निर्देश नहीं भेजा है।

जांच आयोग अधिनियम, 1952 के अधीन सरकार ने, हाल ही में, मासिक समूह की कम्पनियों के कारोबार की जांच करने के लिए एक जांच आयोग का गठन किया है। इस जांच आयोग के विचारणीय विषयों में, अन्य बातों के साथ साथ, राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों तथा अन्य संस्थाओं से सुविधाएं, ऋण और सहायता प्राप्त करने सम्बंधी सभी मामले शामिल हैं जिनमें इन कंसर्नों द्वारा मांगी गई वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त करने में उनकी पात्रता, जिस सावधानी से आबेदन पत्रों पर विचार किया गया उसका स्तर और ऐसी सहायता मंजूर करने विषयक तत्कालीन प्रचलित नीतियां, प्रथाओं, नियमों और निर्देशों की अनुसूचता की मात्रा की जांच करना शामिल है।

मासिक कम्पनी के लिए ऋण स्वीकृत करने वाले अधिकारियों के विच्छेद कार्यवाही

2398. श्री हरमोकिश वर्मा : क्या विस तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करें कि :

(क) क्या सरकार मासिक कम्पनी के लिए वसत ठं से ऋण स्वीकृत करने वाले सार्वजनिक वित्तीय संस्थानों के अधिकारियों के विच्छेद कार्यवाही कर रही है; और

(ख) बहि हां, तो किस प्रकार की कार्यवाही कर रही है और ऐसे अधिकारियों की संख्या कितनी है ?

बित तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (बी एच० एम० पटेल) (क) और (ख) दीर्घ कालीन ऋण प्रदान करने वाली सरकारी वित्तीय संस्थाओं में से किसी ने भारत समूह की कम्पनियों को कोई अग्रिम धन्यता ऋण नहीं दिया है। इसलिए भारत लिमिटेड को ऋण मंजूर करने के लिए इन संस्थाओं के अधिकारियों के विरुद्ध कार्रवाई करने का प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

फिर भी, हाल ही में, सरकार ने, जांच आयोग अधिनियम, 1952 के अधीन भारत समूह की कम्पनियों के कारोबार की जांच करने के लिए एक जांच आयोग का गठन किया है। इस जांच आयोग के विचारणीय विषयों, में अन्य बातों के साथ साथ ये शामिल हैं : (1) राष्ट्रीयकृत बैंकों तथा अन्य संस्थाओं से सुविधाएं, ऋण और अन्य सहायता प्राप्त करने संबंधी सभी मामले जिनमें भारत कंसनों द्वारा मांगी गई वित्तीय सहायता प्राप्त करने में उनकी पात्रता, जिस सावधानी से आवेदन पत्रों पर विचार किया गया उसका स्तर और ऐसी सहायता मंजूर करने विषयक तत्कालीन प्रचलित नीतियों, प्रथाओं, नियमों और निर्देशों से अनुरूपता की मात्रा सम्मिलित है और (2) भारत कंसनों के किसी निदेशक अथवा प्रबन्ध निदेशक अथवा ऐसे निदेशक अथवा प्रबन्ध निदेशक के मिल अथवा सहयोगी द्वारा निर्माई गई भूमिका और निवेदों में भाग संबंधी सभी मामले और उन सभी तथ्यों और परिस्थितियों विषयक सभी बातें, जिनमें ऐसे किसी निदेशक अथवा प्रबन्ध निदेशक की किसी मंत्री अथवा अन्य सरकारी कर्मचारी के किसी रिश्तेदारी अथवा संबंध का प्रत्यक्ष अथवा अप्रत्यक्ष साध उठाया गया है तथा ऐसे मामलों को पाने में प्रत्यक्ष अथवा अप्रत्यक्ष

रूप से योगदान देने अथवा सहायता करने वाले किसी व्यक्ति की भूमिका।

Measures to avoid dislocation in export of jute

2399. SHRI M. RAMGOPAL REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the strike by barge-men of the Calcutta Port during May, 1977 put the jute industry in doldrums hitting the export; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures taken to avoid dislocation in the export of jute?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Bargemen's strike was called off on 26th May, 1977 on the intervention of the Ministry of Labour. With a view to ensuring that dislocation in exports of jute and other goods does not recur, a Committee has been set up under the auspices of the Ministry of Labour to look into the problems of Barge industry operating on Hooghly.

Arrears of Income-tax against companies, firms and industries

2400. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the names and addresses of the companies, firms and individuals against whom income-tax demand above Rs. 5 lakhs was pending and letter on written off by the Department during last four years;

(b) the reasons for writing off the income-tax demand in each case; and

(c) whether Government propose to make inquiry into those cases where income-tax demand has been written off either on political pressure or for extraneous consideration?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Loans advanced by nationalised banks/financial institutions above Rs. 25 lakhs to companies, individuals and industrial houses

2401. SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies, individuals and industrial houses who got loans above Rs. 25 lakhs from any nationalised bank or financial institutions or any Government agency during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have made any inquiry against some companies and individuals to whom loans were given after violating the procedure and in some cases against the directions of Reserve Bank of India;

(c) whether Government have received any complaints against the loan to any company or individual which has been sanctioned irregularly;

(d) if so, the names and addresses of those companies and individuals etc. and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(e) what action has been taken by Government against the bank officials who sanctioned such loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

(b) to (e). Presumably, the Hon'ble Member has in mind certain allegations against the public sector banks and financial institutions which appeared in the Economic and Political

Weekly dated 30th April, 1977 as a Leaderette Caption "Financial institutions—restoring order". In addition, Government have also received some complaints on certain facilities sanctioned to individual clients by some public sector banks.

The position regarding these allegations and the specific complaints received and the action proposed to be taken thereon has already been explained in my replies to Unstarred Questions Nos. 1729 and 1734, both answered in the House on 24th June, 1977.

Retirement of income-tax officers

2402. SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of income-tax officers who have been prematurely retired during the promulgation of emergency; and

(b) whether Government propose to re-examine the cases of the officers who were retired without assigning any reasons?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). During the period of the Emergency, 10 Income-tax Officers (Class I), being officers below the grade of Assistant Commissioner of Income-tax and 18 Income-tax Officers (Class II), were retired by orders issued in exercise of the powers conferred on the appropriate authority by clause (j)(i) of rule 56 of the Fundamental Rules. Of these, 23 made representations against such retirement and 4 of them have been considered in accordance with the prescribed procedure and have been rejected. The representations of the remaining 19 Income-tax Officers are being examined.

Cost of production of Indian tea

2403. SHRIMATI RENUKA DEVI BARKATAKI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of production of tea is higher in India as compared to the other international producers; and

(b) the steps being taken to make tea prices competitive in the world market?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The cost of production of tea varies widely from area to area. In fact, there are large variations even from one tea garden to another within the same area. It is, therefore, difficult to make a meaningful comparison. Reliable data of the cost of production in foreign countries is also not easily available.

(b) As a result of the supply and demand situation the international prices of tea are high, and the question of taking steps to make the prices competitive does not arise at this stage.

Functions of the National Cooperative Development Corporation

2404. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the functions of the National Cooperative Development Corporation;

(b) whether there is another organisation named National Federation whose functions are almost the same as that of NCDC;

(c) the annual expenditure incurred by the NCDC; and

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(d) whether Government propose to take steps to wind up this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) In terms of the National Cooperative Development Corporation Act, 1962, the functions of the NCDC are to plan and promote programmes through cooperative societies for:

(a) the production, processing, marketing, storage, export and import of agricultural produce, foodstuffs, poultry feed and notified commodities;

(b) the collection, processing, marketing storage and export of minor forest produce.

In particular, the Corporation may:

(i) advance loans or grant subsidies to State Governments for financing cooperative societies and for employment of staff for implementing programmes of co-operative development;

(ii) provide funds to State Governments for financing cooperative societies for the purchase of agricultural produce, foodstuffs and notified commodities on behalf of the Central Government;

(iii) plan and promote programmes through cooperative societies for the supply of seeds, manures, fertilisers, agricultural implements and other articles for the development of agricultural produce;

(iv) provide loans and grants directly to the national level co-operative societies and other co-operative societies having objects extending beyond one State;

(v) provide loans to cooperative societies on the guarantee of State Governments or in the case of co-operative societies in the Union Territories, on the guarantee of Central Government;

(vi) participate in the share capital of the national level co-operative societies and other co-operative societies having objects extending beyond one State.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) No administrative expenditure on the NCDC is incurred by Government. However, loan to the extent of Rs. 1621.29 lakhs and grants to the extent of Rs. 455.19 lakhs were given to the NCDC during the year 1976-77, for financing various programmes of cooperative development within its purview.

(d) No, Sir.

Amount spent by Managing Director of National Cooperative Development Corporation on entertainment

2405. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Managing Director of the National Cooperative Development Corporation on entertainment during the last three years upto 31st March, 1977; and

(b) the reaction of Government towards this expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) The amount spent by the National Cooperative Development Corporation on entertainment during the last three years is as follows:

	Rs.
1974-75	21,990.50
1975-76	34,563.79
1976-77	44,907.61

(b) The expenditure incurred is within the scale laid down by the Corporation.

Reservation of posts in the Ministry for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

2406. SHRI SHEO SAMPAT: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) the percentage of posts reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in his Ministry, its attached and subordinate offices on various posts;

(b) whether all these reserved posts have been filled with persons of these classes;

(c) if not, the extent to which the reserved quota is still lying unfilled or persons of unreserved castes have been appointed against reserved posts; and

(d) the efforts being made to achieve the target?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Percentages are fixed by the Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms which at present are 15 per cent for Scheduled Castes and 7½ per cent for Scheduled Tribes for direct recruitment posts and certain categories of promotion posts filled on All India basis.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected.

(d) So far as the Ministry of Commerce is concerned, instructions are issued that all reserved vacancies should be filled up by Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates only, failing which such posts may be kept vacant.

Compulsory retirement of Class I officers of Finance and Banking Departments

2407. SHRI R. K. MHALGI: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Class I officers of Finance and Banking Department?

who were asked to go on compulsory retirement or whose services have been terminated during the period of last emergency;

(b) whether any of them have represented to Government in this regard; and

(c) the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) 24 officers were retired prematurely under Fundamental Rule 56(i). Two other officers were compulsorily retired under Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules as a measure of penalty.

(b) 19 officers submitted representations.

(c) One officer has been reinstated on consideration of his representation, 8 representations have been rejected and the remaining 10 representations are being examined.

Director in the Board of Vijaya Bank

2408. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Reserve Bank had no director in the Board of the Vijaya Bank for a long time and this was the only private sector bank which was not having a RBI director in its board; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). It is not the practice of the Reserve Bank to appoint directors on the Board of Directors of each and every private sector commercial banks. Such appointments are made by the Reserve

Bank only when they are of the opinion that in the interest of the banking company or its depositors, or in public interest it is necessary to do so. All such appointments are made under the provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949. There are at present seventeen functioning banks in the private sector in whose cases the Reserve Bank have not appointed any directors.

Rise in Price Index

2409. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI:** Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state the General Price Index during the month of June, 1977 with 1960 as base year and how does it compare with the price index of the corresponding period of the previous year?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): Presumably, the reference is to the All India Industrial Workers' Consumer Price Index (1960 = 100). It was 313 for April 1977 (the latest available) and showed an increase of 8.3 per cent over the level of 289 for April 1976.

Setting up of Gold Bank

2410. **SHRI RAMANAND TIWARY:** Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether setting up of gold bank has been suggested by Bombay Bullion Association Ltd., and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). A news item published in the "Economic Times" of 28th April, 1977 contained such a suggestion by the Vice President of the Bombay Bullion Association Ltd. The Government, however, has not received any such suggestion.

सीमेंट और मोटे कपड़े का निर्यात

2412. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :
क्या बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूति और
सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने का कृपा
करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार चालू
वर्ष में सीमेंट और मोटे कपड़े का निर्यात
करने का है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो गत वर्ष की तुलना
में यह कितने प्रतिशत अधिक होगा ?

बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूति और सह-
कारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) :

(क) सरकार सीमेंट और मोटे
कपड़े के निर्यात की अनुमति दे रही है।

(ख) 1977-78 के दौरान सीमेंट
की जितनी मात्रा निर्यात के लिए उपलब्ध
होगी वह अभी तक अन्तिम रूप से
निर्धारित नहीं की गई है। निर्यात की
जाने वाली मात्रा, संभावित उत्पादन तथा
स्वदेशी आवश्यकताओं को ध्यान में
रखते हुए प्रत्येक तिमाही में निर्धारित
की जाती है। अतः इस अवस्था में यह
बताना संभव नहीं होगा कि विगत वर्ष
के निर्यातों की तुलना में इस वर्ष कितने
प्रतिशत सीमेंट निर्यात किया जायेगा।

वस्त्रों के कुल निर्यातों की तुलना
में मोटे कपड़े के निर्यातों के आंकड़े अलग
में नहीं रखे जाते हैं। अतः कोई अनुपात
बताना कठिन है।

Visit of Officials of State Bank and
Nationalised Banks to Malda, West
Bengal

2413. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of FINANCE AND
BANKING AND REVENUE be pleas-
ed to state:

(a) number of bank officials of State
Bank as well as nationalised banks
who visited Malda (West Bengal)
during 15th January, 1977 and 16th
March, 1977;

(b) purpose of such visit and whe-
ther it is a fact that some bank offi-
cials visited Malda with the object of
handing over funds for election
purpose of erstwhile Minister of
Banking and Revenue; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND
REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H.
M. PATEL): (a) to (c). According to
the information furnished by the pub-
lic sector banks, the then Chairman
and 4 other officials of State Bank of
India and 9 officials of two nationalis-
ed banks have visited Malda (West
Bengal) during the period from 15th
January, 1977 to 16th March, 1977 on
official purpose. These banks have
confirmed that none of these officials
have handed over any funds belong-
ing to the concerned bank for the
election purposes of the erstwhile
Minister for Revenue and Banking.

Cottage Industries in West Bengal

2414. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU:
Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND
CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERA-
TION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware
of the fact that there are about
century old extensive cottage indus-
tries manufacturing garments and run
by minority community in areas under
Mahastala, Budge Budge, Santoshpur,
Metiaburj, Garden Reach of South 24
Parganas of West Bengal;

(b) whether any step has been
taken by Government to make them
produce things as required for export
markets and also for sophisticated
internal market;

(c) if so, details thereof; and

(d) whether Government propose to draw up a comprehensive plan immediately to revitalise this Industry and remove the defects and problems for increased production as well as welfare of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) to (d). Commercial-oriented making of garments on a sizeable scale has been of comparatively recent origin, and is further improving in response to foreign markets. Manufacture and export of garments which is highly fashion oriented, is in the hands of entrepreneurs, who enter into export contracts on the basis of their own patterns and designs or the designs given to them by foreign buyers.

In order to provide requisite institutional set-up to plan and mobilise the efforts of different interests for export production of garments and to provide necessary guidance, the Government has recently decided to approve of the creation of Garment Export Promotion Council by the garment interests in the country.

P.A.C. Report on Coffee Board

2415. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has gone through the recommendations of the Hundred and Thirtieth Report (1973-74) of PAC on Coffee Board;

(b) whether he is planning to start instant coffee production under the control of Coffee Board; and

(c) if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present there is no plan to get instant coffee manufactured by or under the control of the Coffee Board.

(c) Does not arise.

Working Results of Indian Airlines

2416. SHRI S. R. DAMANI: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the working results of the Indian Airlines during the year 1976-77 and how do they compare with the previous year;

(b) the routes which are operating uneconomically with full particulars thereof; and

(c) the main features of proposals for reducing operational and administrative costs?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTTAM KAUSHIK): (a) and (b) The financial accounts of Indian Airlines for the year 1976-77 are still under compilation. However, on the basis of revised estimates for the year 1976-77, the financial results of the Corporation for the years 1975-76 and 1976-77 are as follows:

	1976-77 (Revised Estimates)	1975-76 (Actual)
(Rupees in lakhs)		
Operating Revenue	12,225.00	10,911.60
Operating Expenses	10,499.00	9,794.35
Operating Profit	1,726.00	1,117.25
Total Revenue	12,375.00	11,117.98
Total Expenses	11,237.50	10,338.51
Net Profit	1,137.50	779.47

The economics of the various routes operated during 1976-77 will be worked out by the Corporation only after the accounts have been finalised. However, during the year 1975-76, of the 93 routes operated by the Indian Airlines, 25 provided surplus after meeting the total operating cost. The remaining 68 routes could not meet the total operating cost.

(c) The major items of expenditure in the Indian Airlines are staff and aviation fuel which represent approximately 25 per cent and 35 per cent respectively of the total expenditure. In the case of staff costs, the Corporation have undertaken a complete review of their staff requirements and of the systems and procedures. In so far as the consumption of aviation fuel is concerned, detailed instructions have been issued by Indian Airlines regarding flying techniques to be followed and other measures to be taken for reducing consumption of fuel. The consumption of fuel is being constantly monitored and remedial action taken wherever improvement is possible.

Rate of Inflation

2417. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) the rate of inflation, actual and expected in the country during the first six months of 1977; and

(b) comparable figures for the corresponding periods of the years 1974, 1975 and 1976?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) and (b). The latest monthly average of the wholesale Price Index (1970-71=100) relates to May 1977 and the All India Industrial Workers' Consumer Price Index (1960=100) to April 1977. The percentage variations for the first 5 months of each of the years from 1974 to 1977 in the case of the former index and for the first 4 months in

the case of the latter index are given below:

	Wholesale Index	Consumer Index
	(Per cent variations between Dec. & May)	(Per cent variations between Dec. & April)
1973-74	+16.4	+8.8
1974-75	+1.0	(-)-0.9
1975-76	+0.1	(-)-5.6
1976-77	+5.2	+2.3

Grounding of AVRO Aircraft

2418. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the entire fleet of 'AVRO' aircraft have been grounded recently;

(b) if so, the full facts and the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Indian Airlines propose to continue using the said aircraft for their internal flights after the necessary inspection and improvements, if any, already effected in the 'AVROS'?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURSHOTTAM KAUK): (a) to (c). No, Sir. The 'Avro' HS-748 fleet of Indian Airlines has not been grounded recently. However, these aircrafts were withdrawn temporarily from service, one at a time, for carrying out a mandatory structural inspection as advised by the manufacturers of the aircraft, viz. M/s. Howker Siddeley Aviation Limited, U.K. After the mandatory inspection, in which no defect was detected, these aircrafts are presently in operation.

Export of Mangoes

2419. PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether fresh mangoes are exported during the season by individual and public agencies; and

(b) if so, facts thereof for the years 1975, 1976 and 1977, including the countries where the said fruit is exported and the foreign exchange earned therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The total export of fresh mangoes is about 4000 MT which represents a negligible proportion of the total production estimated at 89 lakhs tonnes. Export of fresh mango is mainly of Alphanso variety. A statement showing countrywise figures of export and foreign exchange earned is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-586/77.]

इंडियन एयरलाइन्स द्वारा कंचनजंगा बिल्डिंग के लिये दिये गये किराये की केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो द्वारा जांच

2420. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इण्डियन एयरलाइन्स के उच्च अधिकारियों द्वारा कंचनजंगा बिल्डिंग के लिए दिये गये किराये के बारे में की गई अनियमितताओं की जांच का कार्य केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो को सौंपा गया था ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो कब; और

(ग) जांच के क्या परिणाम निकले और उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

पर्यटन और नागर विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुष्पकोसन चौधरी) : (क) और (ख). केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो ने अपनी ही सूचना के आधार पर 12 दिसम्बर, 1976 को एक

प्रारंभिक जांच दर्ज की।

(ग) केन्द्रीय जांच ब्यूरो ने 22 दिसम्बर, 1976 को जांच करनी प्रारंभ कर दी थी और वह अभी चल रही है।

चरस, गांजा और अफीम का पकड़ा जाना

2421. श्री ईश्वर चौधरी : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) आपात स्थिति के दौरान प्रत्येक राज्य में कितनी-कितनी मात्रा में चरस, गांजा तथा अफीम पकड़ी गई; और

(ख) चोरी-छिपे किये जाने वाले इस धन्य में लगे कितने भारतीय तथा विदेशी पकड़े गये और ये लोग किन स्रोतों से यह माल प्राप्त करते थे और कौन लोग इसके खरीददार थे ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एच० पटेल) : (क) तथा (ख) : विभिन्न केन्द्रीय और राज्य प्रवर्तन एजेंसियों द्वारा नाकॉटिक्स गुप्तचर्या ब्यूरो को दी गई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 1-7-75 से 31-3-77 तक की अवधि के दौरान पकड़ी गई अफीम, गांजा और चरस की मात्रा और गिरफ्तार किये गये विदेशियों और भारतीयों की राज्यवार संख्या का विवरण पत्र सभा पटल पर रखा गया है। ग्राम्पालय में रखा गया। बेल्जिए संख्या एल०टी०-587/77)

जहां तक उपर्युक्त स्थापक अधिधि इन्धनों को प्राप्त करने के स्रोतों और उनके खरीददारों का सम्बन्ध है, सूचना नीचे दिये अनुसार है :—

(1) अफ़्ग़ानिस्तान : पकड़ी गई अफीम की अधिकांश मात्रा मध्य प्रदेश, राजस्थान

और उत्तर प्रदेश के अफीम उत्पादक राज्यों से आई थी। भारत-पाकिस्तान सीमा पर भी थोड़ी मात्रा में अफीम पकड़ी गई थी। पकड़ी गई अधिकांश अफीम स्पष्टतया देश के अन्दर अवध खपत के लिए आशयित थी।

(ii) चरस : पकड़ी गई चरस की अधिकांश मात्रा नेपाल, पाकिस्तान, अफगानिस्तान जम्मू और कश्मीर और हिमाचल प्रदेश के भीतरी क्षेत्रों से आई थी। ऐसा बताया जाता है कि यह माल अन्य देशों को ले जाया जा रहा था।

(iii) गांजा : पकड़ा गया लगभग सारा गांजा नेपाल, उत्तर प्रदेश के हिमालय की तराई के क्षेत्र, बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल और मणिपुर से आया था। मध्य प्रदेश, बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल, उड़ीसा और उत्तर प्रदेश को छोड़ कर, जहाँ गांजे की खपत कतिपय निर्धारित सीमा के अन्दर अनुमत है, गैर औषधीय प्रयोजनों के लिए गांजे की खपत पर भारत के सभी राज्यों में प्रतिबंध लगा हुआ है।

Export of Jaggery

2422. SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Jaggery is being exported to other countries; and

(b) if so, the quantity exported to Ceylon during each of the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) To meet the requirement of the Indian community abroad a small quota of jaggery is being exported to other countries.

(b) No Jaggery was exported to Ceylon during the year 1974-75, 1975-76 and 1976-77 (April—February).

Night Airmail Facility

2423. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal for re-introduction of night airmail facility with Nagpur as a centre is under the consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURU-SHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Unsatisfactory management of Government Controlled Sick Textile Units

2424. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether sick textile units taken over by Government are not operating properly and as a result the workers are not getting their dues and bonus; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken proposed to improve the management and working of these units?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):

(a) Taking into account the problems inherited by the National Textile Corporation namely obsolescence of machinery, surplus labour etc., the Government does not consider the performance of the National Textile Corporation on the whole as unsatisfactory. By and large, the wages and other dues of the workers are being paid regularly.

(b) Important steps taken to improve the working of these mills include modernisation/renovation of machinery, rationalisation of surplus labour, bulk procurement of raw material on centralised basis, diversification in the pattern of production and changes in the marketing strategy.

Plan to secure increase for Investment

2425. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a seven point plan to secure 'a bold increase for investment in all sources of economic activities' was forwarded to the Government by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry;

(b) if so, reaction of Government thereon; and

(c) action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): (a) to (c). A 7-point proposal for stimulating investment was contained in the address by the President of the FICCI at its Golden Jubilee Session held on 23rd April, 1977 at which the Prime Minister was the Chief Guest. Government takes into account all proposals presented to it before formulating the budget and the budget proposals indicate the result of such consideration.

Trivandrum Airport

2426. SHRI M. N. GOVINDAN NAIR: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the question of expanding the Trivandrum airport in view of the expected large influx of international tourists to Kovalam beach resort has been examined by Government; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sanction has been accorded for extension and strengthening the runway and for other associated development works at Trivandrum aerodrome at an estimated cost of Rs. 64.79 lakhs to make it suitable for regular Boeing 737 operations and occasional charter flights with Boeing 707 type aircraft. Plans also been finalised for extension of the terminal building at an estimated cost of Rs. 12 lakhs.

भूतपूर्व केन्द्रीय मंत्रियों द्वारा आयकर की प्रशंसा

2427. श्री नवाब सिंह चौहान : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) श्री संजय गांधी पर आयकर की कितनी राशि बकाया है ;

(ख) भूतपूर्व मंत्रिमंडल में 9 फरवरी, 1977 तक पद पर रहने वाले प्रत्येक मंत्री मंडलीय मंत्री ने कितनी वार्षिक राशि आय कर के रूप में प्रदा की ;

(ग) उनमें से उन भूतपूर्व मंत्रियों के नाम क्या हैं जिन पर आय कर की राशि बकाया है; और

(घ) इन भूतपूर्व मंत्रियों की चल तथा अचल सम्पत्तियों का ब्योरा प्राप्त करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच. एम. पटेल) : (क) कुछ नहीं ।

(ख) ऐसे मंत्रियों द्वारा, कर-निर्धारण वर्ष 1974-75, 1975-76 और 1976-77 के सम्बन्ध में, अदा किये गये आयकर का ब्योरा विवरण I में दिया गया है।

(ग) जिन मंत्रियों के खिलाफ 31-3-1977 को आयकर की मांग बकाया पड़ी थी, उनके नाम विवरण II में दिये गये हैं।

(घ) मंत्रियों के लिए बनायी गई आचरण-संहिता के अनुसार मंत्रि-

मंडल स्तर के भूतपूर्व मंत्रियों से यह अपेक्षा की जाती थी कि वे अपनी परिसम्पत्तियों और देनदारियों का वार्षिक विवरण तत्कालीन प्रधान मंत्री को प्रस्तुत करते। इस प्रकार की सूचना ऐसे प्रत्येक व्यक्ति द्वारा भी दाखिल की जाने वाली अपनी शुद्ध-धन की विवरणी में भेजी जानी आवश्यक होती है जिस पर धन कर अधिनियम 1957 के अधीन धन लगता हो।

विवरण I

9-2-1977 की स्थिति के अनुसार मंत्रि-मंडल स्तर के मंत्री पद पर कार्य कर रहे भूतपूर्व मंत्री का नाम	कर निर्धारण वर्ष 1974-75, 75-76 और 76-77 के सम्बन्ध में अदा की गई आयकर की रकम (रुपयों में)		
	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
1. श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी . . .	49940	47081	40250
2. श्री बाई० वी० चव्हाण . . .	6321	9785	8151
3. श्री कमलापति विपाठी . . .	तीन वर्षों की आय-कर विवरणियां अभी तक दाखिल नहीं की गई हैं।		
4. श्री बंसी लाल . . .	7895	14523	9553
5. श्री डी० पी० चट्टोपाध्याय . . .	5336	4860	4239*
6. श्री हितेन्द्र देसाई . . .	5660	9114*	12046*
7. डा० जी० एम० डिल्लों . . .	5520	6109*	5713*
8. श्री एच० आर० गोखले . . .	21682	4063	2914
9. श्री केशव देव मालवीय . . .	520	4890*	4719*
10. श्री टी० ए० पै . . .	16232	13791	7809*
11. श्री सैयद मीर कासिम . . .	1482†	1211†	कुछ नहीं

9-2-1977 की स्थिति के अनुसार मंत्रिमंडल स्तर के मंत्री पद पर कार्य कर रहे भूतपूर्व मंत्री का नाम कर निर्धारण वर्ष 1974-75, 75-76 और 76-77 के सम्बन्ध में भदा की गई आय कर की रकम (रुपयों में)

	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77
12. श्री के० रघुरमैया . .	11765	12688	9581
13. श्री के० ब्रह्मानन्द रेड्डी . .	11478**	16203*	17083*
14. श्री पी० सी० मेठी . .	3679	3000*	3432*
15. श्री शंकर दयाल शर्मा . .	180	2143	6008
16. डा० कर्ण सिंह . .	95712	107058*	147840*
17. श्री सी० सुब्रह्मण्यम् . .	5686	5999	7485

*. इन कर-निर्धारण वर्षों से सम्बन्धित नियमित कर-निर्धारण अनिर्णीत पड़े हैं। इसमें दिये गये आंकड़े पूर्व-प्रदत्त करो (अर्थात् स्रोत पर काटे गये कर, स्व-निर्धारित कर आदि) को दर्शाते हैं।

**. स्रोत पर काटे गये कर के रूप में 5078 रु० की अतिरिक्त भदायगी की जांच की जा रही है।

†. जम्मू और कश्मीर सरकार द्वारा भदा किये जाने वाले कर।

विवरण

टिप्पणियाँ

1. श्री सैयद मीर कासिम —
2. श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी . अनिवार्य जमा योजना के अन्तर्गत की गई भदायगी की जांच की जाने तक कुछ राशि बकाया पड़ी है।
3. डा० कर्ण सिंह . कुछ मांग 31-3-1977 बकाया पड़ी थी, परन्तु उक्त तारीख को यह मांग भदायगी के लिए देय नहीं थी।
4. श्री के० ब्रह्मानन्द रेड्डी . पूर्व-प्रदत्त करों की जांच की जाने तक कुछ राशि 31-3-77 को बकाया पड़ी थी।

मंत्रालय में कर्मचारियों की संख्या कम करना

(ग) जी नहीं।

2428. श्री नत्ताब सिंह चौहान : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या उनके मंत्रालय के दो सचिवों के स्थान पर इस : मय केवल एक सचिव है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ;

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार संयुक्त सचिव, उप-सचिव, आदि जैसे पदों की संख्या में भी कमी करने का है ;

(घ) क्या उनके मंत्रालय और उससे सम्बद्ध स्थायित्व निगमों में कर्मचारियों की संख्या कार्य के लिहाज से बहुत अधिक है; और

(ङ) इस बारे में सरकार का कब तक मितव्ययिता करने का प्रस्ताव है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन भारिया) :

(क) तथा (ख) . जून, 1977 से पहले वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में तीन सचिव थे, अर्थात् सचिव (वाणिज्य), सचिव (विदेश व्यापार) तथा सचिव (वस्त्र) तब से कार्य का बेहतर समन्वय सुनिश्चित करने तथा मितव्ययिता की आवश्यकता को ध्यान में रखते हुए मंत्रालय का पुनर्गठन किया गया है। इस समय केवल दो सचिव हैं अर्थात् वाणिज्य सचिव, जो निर्यात उत्पादन तथा विदेशी व्यापार का कार्य देखते हैं और सचिव (वस्त्र) जो वस्त्र से सम्बन्धित सारा कार्य देखते हैं जिसमें सूती वस्त्र, ऊनी वस्त्र, मानव-निर्मित रेशो तथा पटसन वस्त्र शामिल हैं। वे हस्तशिल्प से सम्बन्धित कार्य को भी देखते हैं।

(घ) तथा (ङ). मंत्रालय तथा इसके स्वायत्तशासी निकायों के कार्य भार की अवधिक समीक्षा कार्य अध्ययन यूनिट द्वारा की जाती है। कार्य अध्ययन ग्रुप की अंतिम रिपोर्ट के अनुसार वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में कर्मचारियों की संख्या कार्यभार की तुलना में अधिक नहीं है। मितव्ययिता की दृष्टि से ये समीक्षाएं समय-समय पर की जाती रहेंगी तथा तदनुसार स्टाफ की संख्या को समायोजित किया जायेगा।

भारतीय पर्यटन विकास निगम द्वारा हेटलों का खोला जाना

2429. श्री नत्ताब सिंह चौहान : क्या पर्यटन और नागरिक विमानन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान दिल्ली स्थित भारतीय पर्यटन विकास निगम के होटलों से कुल कितनी वार्षिक आय हुई?

(ख) क्या निगम का विचार पर्वतीय नगरों में और उत्तर प्रदेश के आगरा, इलाहाबाद और वाराणसी के पर्यटन केन्द्रों में होटल खोलने का है ;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या है ?

पर्यटन और नागरिक विमानन मंत्री (श्री पुरुषोत्तम कौशिक) : (क) भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम दिल्ली में 6 होटलों का संचालन कर रहा है। 1974-75, 1975-76 तथा 1976-77 के दौरान इन होटलों की कुल वार्षिक बिक्री क्रमशः 832.08 लाख, 924.95 लाख तथा 1081.43 लाख रुपए (अंतिम) थी।

(ख) और (ग). निगम की इलाहाबाद तथा उत्तर प्रदेश के पहाड़ी नगरों में होटल खोलने की फिलहाल कोई योजनाएं नहीं है। निगम का आगरा में एक 100 कमरों वाले स्वागतकेन्द्र-व-होटल के निर्माण का प्रस्ताव है, परन्तु वित्तीय साधनों की कमी तथा गणराज्य-मिकताओं के कारण, इस परियोजना के क्रियान्वयन का कार्य फिलहाल स्थगित कर दिया गया है। वाराणसी में निगम पहले ही एक 50 कमरों वाला होटल सितम्बर 1973 में चला रहा है।

Issue of Import Licenses by Faridabad Office of Import Trade Control

2430 SHRIMATI MRINAL GORE. Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some additional import licences were issued by the Faridabad Office of the Import Trade Control in favour of some parties under public notice No. 140/70 dated the 11th September, 1970 for the item Tin Plate or Tin Plate w/w even though that item was not a permissible item under the said public notice;

(b) if so, who were the beneficiaries of such licences and what was the value of each licence;

(c) whether any action was taken against the Officials;

(d) whether any prosecution was launched against them; and

(e) whether any adjustment was made against parties' regular licences?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) Import of tin plate waste was allowed in a few cases because of a bona-fide mistake by the

Faridabad office as the item was not specifically mentioned as non-permissible in the public notice. Decision to disallow it was taken subsequently.

(b)

1. M/s. Acaro Engineering Works, Ludhiana . . .	3,63,905
2. M/s. Jiwan Engineering Works Ludhiana . . .	26,89,827
3. M/s. Zieco Engineering Works, Ludhiana . . .	2,29,292
4. M/s. T.C. Industries, Ludhiana . . .	16,51,675

Tin Plate Waste was one of the 10-12 steel items allowed under these licences.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir. In two cases complete adjustments have been made and in the remaining two cases partial adjustments have been made. In the latter two cases, adjustments will be completed when the parties come up for further licensing.

Asian Cable Company

2431. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Asian Cable Company was involved in serious black marketing of imported items worth market value of about a crore and a half of rupees;

(b) if so, what precise steps have so far been taken against actual owners and culprits who are the beneficiaries of this black marketing;

(c) whether erstwhile Government headed by Smt. Indira Gandhi was receiving huge amounts of black money from these people for running their party's election expenses; and

(d) whether Government propose to ensure that the actual beneficiaries of black marketing in imported goods get exemplary punishment as soon as possible?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOPERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library See, No. LT-588/77.]

(c) It is not possible to ascertain these facts from the records as are available.

(d) Government shall take severe action against those who indulge in mis-use of imported goods.

व्यापार संतुलन

2432. श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विदेश व्यापार में 72 करोड़ रुपये की अतिरिक्त वृद्धि (ट्रेड सरप्लस) सीमाशुल्क से प्राप्त राजस्व आंकड़ों पर निर्भर है ; और

(ख) क्या विदेशों में रह रहे भारतीयों द्वारा भेजी गई विदेशी मुद्रा को छोड़ कर विदेश व्यापार के "क्रेडिट बैलेंस" में लाभ की स्थिति वर्ष 1976-77 के दौरान बनी रहेगी ; और यदि हां, तो कितनी ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन धारिया) : (क) 72 करोड़ रु० का व्यापार अधिशेष

व्यापारिक माल के हिसाब में है और यह सीमाशुल्क सम्बन्धी आंकड़ों पर आधारित है ।

(ख) व्यापारिक माल के हिसाब में उपरोक्त अधिशेष में विदेशों में रह रहे भारतीयों द्वारा विदेशी मुद्रा में भेजी गई रकम शामिल है ।

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक से क्यथा निकालने के कारण मुद्रास्फीति

2433. श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : क्या वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने 25 मार्च से 13 मई, 1977 तक की अवधि में ऋण के रूप में भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक से 850 करोड़ रुपये की राशि निकाली थी ;

(ख) क्या वर्ष 1976 की इसी अवधि के दौरान केवल 671 करोड़ रुपया ही निकाला गया था ;

(ग) क्या इस कारण मुद्रा स्फीति बढ़ी है जिसके फलस्वरूप मूल उत्पादों के मूल्यों में 3.2 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई है ;

(घ) क्या इस प्रवृत्ति के जारी रहने पर इस वर्ष के अन्त तक मूल्यों में 20 प्रतिशत से भी अधिक की वृद्धि हो जायेगी ; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इसे रोकने के लिये सरकार का विचार क्या उपाय करने का है ?

वित्त तथा राजस्व और बैंकिंग मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० पटेल) : (क) और (ख) : सरकार (केन्द्र और राज्य सरकारें)

द्वारा भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक से लिए गए निवल ऋणों में 25 मार्च से 13 मई, 1977 के बीच 850 करोड़ रुपए की वृद्धि हुई जबकि पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि में इन ऋणों में 671 करोड़ रुपए की वृद्धि हुई थी।

(ग) मूल वस्तुओं के धोक मूल्य के सूचकांक में 26 मार्च और 14 मई, 1977 के बीच 3.8 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई जबकि इसके मुकाबले पिछले वर्ष की इसी अवधि में 7.1 प्रतिशत की वृद्धि हुई थी।

(घ) और (ङ). सरकार द्वारा रिजर्व बैंक से लिए जाने वाले ऋणों की वृद्धि और मूल वस्तुओं के मूल्यों में होने वाली वृद्धि में कोई सीधा सम्बन्ध नहीं है। सरकार कीमतों पर कड़ी निगरानी रखती है और स्थिति के अनुसार उचित उपाय किए जाते हैं।

विश्व-निर्यात में भारत का हिस्सा

2434. श्री रामानन्द तिवारी : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1976-77 के विश्व निर्यात में भारत का हिस्सा कितने प्रतिशत रहा ;

(ख) क्या वर्ष 1963 से ही विश्व-निर्यात में भारत के हिस्से का प्रतिशत निरन्तर गिरता आ रहा है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इसे रोकने के लिये सरकार क्या प्रयत्न कर रही है और इस स्थिति में कब तक सुधार होने की आशा है ?

वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन बरिखा) :
(क) जनवरी-दिसम्बर, 1976 के बीच की अवधि में, जिस नवीनतम अवधि के

लिए आंकड़े उपलब्ध हैं, विश्व निर्यातों में भारत का अंश 0.57 प्रतिशत था।

(ख) विश्व निर्यातों में भारत का अंश लगातार कम होता रहा है जो 1963 के 1.2 प्रतिशत से कम होकर 1974 में 0.51 प्रतिशत रह गया। किन्तु उसके बाद हमारा अंश शनैः शनैः बढ़ना शुरू हो गया है।

(ग) भारत के अंश में कमी को रोकने के लिए सरकार द्वारा लिए गये उपायों में बाजार विकास सहायता, शुल्क वापसी, नकद मुआवजा सहायता, अपेक्षाकृत लम्बी अवधियों के लिए रियायती दरों पर निर्यात वित्त व्यवस्था, निर्यात अभिमुख उद्योगों के उत्पादन आधार को मुदृढ बनाने के लिए उदारता से आयात लाइसेंस देना, निर्यात संभाव्यता वाले क्षेत्रों तथा मर्दों का पता लगाना आदि उल्लेखनीय हैं। निविष्ट साधनों, कच्चे माल तथा मशीनों, फालतू पुर्जों और संघटकों का आयात उदार बना दिया गया है। लघु क्षेत्र के उत्पादों और निर्यातकों पर विशेष बल दिया जा रहा है। विश्व व्यापार में भारत जैसे देश का अंश, जो अधिकतर प्राथमिक तथा परम्परागत निर्यातों पर निर्भर है, तब तक कम बना रहेगा जब तक कि उनका बेहतर ढंग से विविधीकरण नहीं कर लिया जाता।

केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड द्वारा विदेश-व्यापार

2435. श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद बाबू : क्या वाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड ने विगत तीन वर्षों के दौरान विदेश व्यापार के क्षेत्र में कितनी प्रगति की है ; और

(ख) केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड के कार्यकरण का मूल्यांकन करने के पश्चात् इसमें सुधार करने के लिये क्या अतिरिक्त उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ?

बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन भारिया) :
(क) नीचे दी गई सारणी में विगत तीन वर्षों के दौरान प्राकृतिक रेशम के उत्पादों में होने वाली निर्यात आय दर्शाई गई है :—

वर्ष	निर्यात उपार्जन (करोड़ रु० में)
1974-75	12.66
1975-76	17.52
1976-77	23.87

(ख) विचाराधीन अतिरिक्त उपाय ये हैं :

- (1) केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड के सचिवालय में कर्मचारियों की संख्या बढ़ाना तथा उसका पुनर्गठन करना ;
- (2) केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड के गवेषणा संस्थानों के गवेषणा, प्रशिक्षण तथा विस्तार कार्य को सुदृढ़ बनाना तथा उनका विस्तार करना ;
- (3) देश में कच्चे रेशम का उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित गहन रेशम विकासात्मक योजनाएं आरम्भ करना तथा उन्हें क्रियान्वित करना ।

इन उपायों से केन्द्रीय रेशम बोर्ड के कार्याचालन तथा कार्य निष्पादन में सुधार

आने की संभावना है । इन उपायों को शुरू करने की दृष्टि से उद्योग के लिए योजनागत परिव्यय बढ़ाकर 1977-78 के लिए 4 करोड़ रु० कर दिया गया है जबकि वर्ष 1976-77 के लिए वह 2 करोड़ रु० था ।

अयोध्या टेक्सटाइल मिल के कर्मचारियों के लिये राष्ट्रीय कपड़ा निगम (डी०पी०आर०) में सुविधाओं का प्रावधान न होना

2436. श्री राम बेनी राम : क्या बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अयोध्या टेक्सटाइल मिल के कुछ कर्मचारियों को राष्ट्रीय कपड़ा निगम (डी०पी०आर०) के मुख्यालय में लगाया गया है ;

(ख) क्या उन्हें अभी तक वेतन-मान और अन्य सुविधाएं नहीं दी जा रही हैं ;

(ग) क्या अन्य कर्मचारियों की नियुक्ति उनके बाद में हुई है और उन्हें अनेक सुविधाएं दी जा रही हैं ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस भेदभाव के क्या कारण हैं ?

बाणिज्य तथा नागरिक पूर्ति और सहकारिता मंत्री (श्री मोहन भारिया) :
(क) जी हां ।

(ख) राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम (दिल्ली, पंजाब तथा राजस्थान) लि० को स्थानांतरित किये गये 12 कर्मचारियों में से दो कर्मचारियों को पहले ही निगम के वेतनमान दे दिये गये हैं । शेष 10 कर्मचारियों के मामले विचाराधीन हैं । इस बीच उन्हें अपनी मूल परिलब्धियां लेने की अनुमति दी गई है ।

(ग) अयोध्या टेक्स्टाइल मिल से स्थानांतरण होने पर कर्मचारियों की तैनाती के बाद नियुक्त किये गये कुछ कर्मचारियों को निगम में निर्धारित वेतनमान दिये गये हैं। उन्हें कोई अतिरिक्त सुविधाएं नहीं दी गई है।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Number of Air Hostesses in Indian Airlines belonging to S.C. and S.T.

2437. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY: Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state the number of air hostesses, Statewise, belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes separately who are employed in the Indian Airlines?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PURUSHOTAM KAUSHIK): The requisite information is as under:

State	Number of air hostesses belonging to—	
	Scheduled Castes	Scheduled Tribes
(1) Andhra Pradesh	5	..
(2) Meghalaya	..	6
(3) Assam	3	1
(4) West Bengal	10	13
(5) Himachal Pradesh	1	1
(6) Madhya Pradesh	1	1
(7) Maharashtra	15	3
(8) Punjab	2	..
(9) Tamil Nadu	..	2
(10) Uttar Pradesh	1	..
(11) Delhi	7	..
(12) Mizoram	..	2
(13) Gujarat	2	..
(14) Karnataka	1	..
	48	29

12.33 hrs.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): Sir, what about the matter which I wanted to raise

MR. SPEAKER: Just now I have got your paper—half-an-hour back I have got your paper. I will allow you some time after the papers have been laid. But it will be a very bad precedent. Anybody can send me a paper tomorrow and want to discuss without any notice and it will create a problem. Therefore, to buy peace I will allow you. But there is nobody to answer. Only tomorrow I can allow you by giving notice to the Minister today. But if you want to raise it today, it will be a bad precedent.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: I need not tell you. If I tell you what it is, there will be shouting from all sides and it will serve no useful purpose. I can give at least notice to the Minister. He has to answer. At least some Minister has to answer. If you don't want it, I will allow you immediately after the papers are laid on the Table. You please think about it I don't want to tell the subject of it at all.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Please sit down. Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

12.35 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

Review and Annual Report on the Cotton Corporation of India, Ltd., Bombay, 1975-76, Review and Annual Report on the Cashew Corporation of India Ltd., for 1975-76 and a statement.

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOP-

RATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA):
I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited, Bombay for the year 1975-76.

(b) Annual Report of the Cotton Corporation of India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1975-76 along with the Audited Accounts the Comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT 561/77.]

(ii) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Cashew Corporation of India Limited New Delhi, for the year 1975-76.

(b) Annual Report of the Cashew Corporation of India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1975-76 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at item (1) (ii) above.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-562/77.]

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER EXPORT (QUALITY CONTROL AND INSPECTION) ACT.

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 17 of the Export (Quality Control and Inspection) Act, 1963:—

(i) The Export of Pesticides and their Formulations (Inspection) Amendment Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S. O.

1242 in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 1977.

(ii) The Export of Cast Iron Spun pipes (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S. O. 1270 in Gazette of India dated the 30th April, 1977.

(iii) The Export of Ceramic Sanitary Appliances (Quality Control and Inspection) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S. O. 1553 in Gazette of India dated the 28th May, 1977.

(iv) The Export of Inorganic Chemicals (Inspection) Amendment Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. S. O. 1888 in Gazette of India dated the 11th June, 1977.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-563/77.]

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE, 1977-78

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री (श्री राज नारायण): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप की अनुमति से वर्ष 1977-78 के लिये स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय के अनुदानों की विस्तृत मांगों (हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी संस्करण) की एक प्रति सभा पटल पर रखता हूँ।

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-564/77.]

REPORTS UNDER BANKING COMPANIES (ACQUISITION AND TRANSFER OF UNDERTAKINGS) ACT AND NOTIFICATIONS UNDER INCOME-TAX ACT—

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AND REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI H. M. PATEL): I beg to lay on the Table:—

(1) A copy each of the following Reports (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (8) of section 10 of the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970:—

(i) Report on the working and activities of the Central Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(ii) Report on the working and activities of Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(iii) Report on the working and activities of the Punjab National Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(iv) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Baroda for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(v) Report on the working and activities of the United Commercial Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(vi) Report on the working and activities of the Canara Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(vii) Report on the working and activities of the United Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(viii) Report on the working and activities of the Dena Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(ix) Report on the working and activities of the Syndicate Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(x) Report on the working and activities of the Union Bank of India for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xi) Report on the working and activities of the Allahabad Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xii) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xiii) Report on the working and activities of the Bank of Maharashtra for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

(xiv) Report on the working and activities of the Indian Overseas Bank for the year ended the 31st December, 1976 along with the Accounts and the Auditor's Report thereon.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-565/77.]

(2) A copy each of Notification Nos. S.O. 1984 to 1996 (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1977, under section 296 of the Income-tax Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-566/77.]

NOTIFICATION UNDER CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT, UNDER CUSTOMS ACT AND UNDER CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, AND AN EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM IN RESPECT OF NOTIFICATIONS NOS. 282 (E) TO 383(E)

SHRI H. M. PATEL: I beg to lay on the Table:

(1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—

[Shri H. M. Patel]

- (i) The Central Excise (Fourteenth Amendment) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 281(E) in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1977.

- (ii) The Central Excises (Forteenth Amendment) Rules, 1977 published in Notification No. G.S.R. 316(E) in Gazette of India dated the 13th June, 1977. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-567/77.]

(2) A copy each of Notification Nos. G.S.R. 310(E) and 312(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1977 issued under section 3 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-568/77.]

(3) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962:—

- (i) G.S.R. 362(E) to 383(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1977.

- (ii) G.S.R. 387(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 20th June, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-569/77.]

(4) A copy each of the following Notification (Hindi and English versions) issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944:—

- (i) G.S.R. 771 published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (ii) G.S.R. 280(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1977 together with an explanatory memorandum.
- (iii) G.S.R. 282(E) to 309(E), 311(E), 313(E) to 315(E) and 317(E) to 391(E) published in Gazette

of India dated the 18th June, 1977. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-570/77.]

- (5) An explanatory memorandum (Hindi and English versions) in respect of Notification Nos. G.S.R. 282(E) to 383(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th June, 1977. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-571/77.]

DETAILED DEMANDS FOR GRANTS OF THE
MINISTRY OF ENERGY FOR 1977-78.

THE MINISTER OF ENERGY (SHRI P. RAMACHANDRAN): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Detailed Demands for Grants (Hindi and English versions) of the Ministry of Energy for 1977-78. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-572/77.]

12.38 hrs

ELECTIONS TO COMMITTEES

(i) CENTRAL SILK BOARD

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE
AND CIVIL SUPPLIES AND COOP-
ERATION (SHRI MOHAN DHARIA)
I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of Section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (3) (c) of Section 4 of the Central Silk Board Act, 1948, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, four members from among themselves to serve as members of the Central Silk Board, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The Motion was adopted.

(ii) TOBACCO BOARD

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I beg to move:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (b) of Section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tobacco Board, subject to the provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is.

"That in pursuance of sub-section (4) (b) of Section 4 of the Tobacco Board Act, 1975, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Tobacco Board, subject to the provisions of the said Act."

The Motion was adopted

(iii) MARINE PRODUCTS EXPORT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

SHRI MOHAN DHARIA: I beg to move.

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3) (c) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

MR. SPEAKER: The question is.

"That in pursuance of Section 4(3)(c) of the Marine Products Export Development Authority Act, 1972, the members of this House do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Speaker may direct, two members from among themselves to serve as members of the Marine Products Export Development Authority, subject to the other provisions of the said Act."

The motion was adopted

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI (Chirayinkil): There is one very important political point.

MR. SPEAKER: I am myself raising it.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Shri S. B. Chavan and Shri P. K. Sawant have had a meeting (*Interruptions*). It is a very important political matter, because government intends to bring in a bill to prevent defections. There is a constant dialogue. Now the Prime Minister himself is taking initiative to bring about defections from the Congress to the Janata Party. (*Interruptions*) It is a very serious matter, when government is considering steps to prevent defections.

MR. SPEAKER: I agree with you.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Now, Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, order, order. Does it mean that Mr. Chavan has to reply to the question? Who else can reply to the question? The Speaker cannot give a reply to the question. Therefore I can make the request only to Mr. Chavan. Therefore, raising it like this does not help. I want to avoid the Zero Hour. There should be no Zero Hour. Every minute of the time of the House must be utilized properly

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN (Satara): It refers to S B. Chavan; not to Y. B. Chavan.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not know whether it refers to the other Chavan.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE (Howra): I had submitted one notice under rule 377.

MR. SPEAKER: There are a number of notices. Mr. Samar Mukherjee. They are with me.

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: One worker has been beaten to death, Sir.

MR. SPEAKER: I know that. Let me explain to you. Will you please sit down? I am coming to the same subject now. Please hear me. There are Calling Attention notices, notice under rule 377 and Short Notice Questions. I think there are about 20 things which have come to me about this Faridabad trouble. Now there is a State government. Faridabad is in Haryana. The industry is located in Haryana, the trouble took place in Haryana. The murder took place in Haryana. We read it in the papers.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: Whether it relates to a worker or a Speaker, it does not matter. Murder is murder. My point is: shall we take up the murders concerning may be a worker, a kisan or somebody. Shall we take it up in this House when it happens? There is an Assembly there; there is a government there; and there are also Opposition parties there. I considered this. There are about 20 of them given to me.

(Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER: You will have to move it in the State, on the same lines as you want to move it here. After all, I want only a precedent and guidance from you. This is not the first occasion. Tomorrow something may happen. Every day some murder is taking place in some part of the country or other. In Andamans something has happened and somebody has given me a Short Notice Question or Calling Attention. If these are the things to be taken up on the floor of the House, if I am to admit all of them, every day we will have to take up so many Calling Attention Notices, instead of the usual one, because every day there is bound to be some murder in some corner of India. Further, it is not as if there is no forum to raise these things. The State Assembly is there. The opposition party must attack the Government there. The location of the crime and the trouble, both are in Haryana. That is why I have not allowed it. If you want those

things also to be discussed here, than let us change the rules. Advise me to change the rules; then I will admit them from tomorrow. But just now, as the rules stand at present, I will not allow them.

Then, Shri Sathe wanted to raise a point. I do not know whether it cannot be done tomorrow.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): I will mention the matter today. Let the Government find out the position and explain it tomorrow.

MR. SPEAKER: Tomorrow I will not give him an opportunity, if he wants to mention it today.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: Tomorrow I will not mention it. If they have any information, let them supply it.

MR. SPEAKER: Why not we take it up tomorrow? I will send it to the Government. Tomorrow it can be taken up at least under rule 377. But if he wants to raise it today, I have no objection.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will bring it to the notice of the Government.

MR. SPEAKER: I can pass this on to the Government.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: That is not sufficient to get the information. I have not stated all the facts there.

MR. SPEAKER: I leave it to you.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I am coming straight from the airport.

MR. SPEAKER: Here is the paper with me. I will myself send it to the Minister. If he is able to answer it tomorrow, well and good. If they are not able to answer it, then I will admit it under rule 377, which is within the power of the speaker.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: I will do as you suggest.

12.45 hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS, 1977-78—
contd.

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION—Contd.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): I want to raise only one important matter, and that is irrigation. The most important item on agriculture is the question of irrigation and water. One of the most important things that has been discussed for many years in this country is the question of linking the various rivers of this country. This idea was first mooted by no less a person than Sir Visweswarayya. Though this suggestion has been made by many people, no action has been taken on that. We know fully well that a major portion of the waters of our rivers are wasted in the sense that they just flow to the sea. Almost every year there are floods and consequent devastations and it has been suggested that if there is some method of linking the Ganga with Cauveri by a system of canals, that would solve not only the problem of floods but also the problem of irrigation.

I quite realise that this is a gigantic scheme, which is bound to involve heavy investment. This point was examined by a Committee of the United Nations and that Committee has recommended this as a feasible scheme for implementation. I am told that even Morarjibhai some days back, speaking at a meeting in Madras or somewhere in the South, expressed his admiration for a scheme like this. Mr. Dastoor, one of the famous engineers, has also suggested a scheme to link a chain of canals. If such a scheme could be taken up, it will give employment to lakhs and lakhs of our young men. Such things have been done in other parts of the world, in USSR, in China, even in smaller countries like Yugoslavia and Israel. So, this is not a new thing.

श्री बलदेवराव विखे (इलाहाबाद):
जादनीय सद्यस् सर्वो बकालत कर्तव्य है। उन
को कोई बेरोज़गारी है।

SHRI VASANT SATHE: My hon. friend does not know that this linking of rivers has been suggested by great experts. You may be an expert on agriculture, but I do not know whether you are an expert on irrigation of this nature, of having canals.

SHRI RAM MURTI (Bareilly): It is a fantastic scheme.

SHRI VASANT SATHE: It is not fantastic. That is what I want to suggest. Thousands of crores are spent every year on flood control. So, I wish you can make a beginning on it some day. It has been suggested by great experts like Dr. K. L. Rao and U.N. experts. You people cannot consider yourselves the only experts and call it fantastic. They have considered it to be feasible. The World Bank is willing to give monetary help. You have the manpower. Why don't you utilise this manpower and consider it seriously, because if you do this, you will be able to irrigate at least 60 per cent of your land. Today your percentage is only 26. With that I think you will be able to solve the problem of food in this country, and may be you can even export.

By the turn of the century, our population will be 100 crores. How are we going to feed our people? Now that you do not want family planning and the Health Minister is giving full scope for births, wanting only brahmacharya, the population is bound to grow. How are you going to feed it? So, kindly consider utilisation of the waters of the rivers of this country by the famous scheme of linking the Ganga with the Kaveri.

In Maharashtra we had the monopoly cotton scheme. It was a good scheme ensuring minimum price to the cultivators, but I am informed that the Government of India is now telling the Maharashtra Government that they will not give them money, that they will not allow even the Reserve Bank to finance the scheme, with the result that the Government of Maharashtra will have to give it

[Shri Vasant Sathe]

up. It was approved as a matter of policy that we must give protection to the cultivators and stop the middleman's exploitation. Instead of applying it to the whole country, and instead of having a policy of assuring a fair price to the cotton growers or jute growers or sugarcane growers, this Government is taking a different attitude. Mrs. Indira Gandhi's Government went to the help of Maharashtra and gave Rs. 42 crores for the monopoly scheme, and it could continue. But this year when the Maharashtra Government approached the Janata Government at the Centre, the Government turned a blind eye and told them that they are not going to give them any help. And what was the excuse given? The excuse given was that the monopoly scheme of Maharashtra helps the big cotton growers which is a complete lie. It is a dry farming region and most of the farmers are small and medium and cotton is their only cash crop. So, I would like to know what is the policy of the Government. Are they going to support such a scheme in Maharashtra of the cotton monopoly for the protection of the cultivators? Or are they going to kill the scheme? If that is done, it will be a death nail on the cotton producers of Maharashtra because they will be thrown at the mercy of the traders.

12.51 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

श्री ब्रज भूषण तिवारी (बलीलाबाद) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, खेती के बारे में बड़ी चर्चा हो रही है। अपने देश में पिछले तीस वर्षों में पिछली सरकार की जो खेती से संबंधित नीतियां रही हैं उन का परिणाम यह रहा है कि खेती पर जितना हमें खर्च करना चाहिए और खेती का विकास करने के लिए जो नीति निर्धारित करनी चाहिए वह हम ने नहीं की और उस के फलस्वरूप हमारा क्षेत्र जहाँ पर 80 प्रतिशत लोग खेती करते हैं और जो खेती पर ही निर्भर रहते हैं, इस काबिल नहीं

हो पाया कि हम अपना उत्पादन इतना बढ़ा सकें कि अपने यहां के लोगों को खुराक दे सकें और उन का पेट भर सकें। इस के साथ साथ हमारा ज्यादा पैसा विदेशों में अनाज मंगाने में खर्च हो जाता है।

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी (निजामाबाद) :
होता था, अब नहीं होता।

श्री ब्रज भूषण तिवारी : अभी तो पिछले साल भी मंगाया गया है। तो हम विदेशों से लगातार अन्न मंगाएं जब कि अपने देश में हमारे पास इतनी उत्पादन क्षमता है, यह किसी तरह उचित नहीं है। हम लोग इस माने में सौभाग्यशाली हैं कि जो हमारी जलवायु है और जो यहां की जमीन है, जो यहां का वातावरण है वह दुनिया के अन्य देशों के मुकाबले में सब से अच्छा वातावरण है क्योंकि हम यहां हर मौसम में हर प्रकार की फसल उगा सकते हैं और अपने देश की जो जमीन है उस की उत्पादन क्षमता कई गुना बढ़ा सकते हैं। साथ ही साथ अपने यहां के जो किसान और खेतिहार लोग हैं उन में श्रम करने की अपार क्षमता है और हमारे पास अपार जनशक्ति है। अगर इस के बावजूद सरकार की नीतियों का परिणाम यह हुआ कि हम अपनी खेती को सुधार नहीं पाए, लगातार उसमें गिरावट आई।

इस के और भी बहुत से कारण हैं। अभी कांग्रेस के माननीय सदस्य श्री बंसंत साठे ने यह जिक्र किया कि सिंचाई पर हमें सब से ज्यादा जोर देना चाहिए और हमारी सरकार की तरफ से, सिंचाई पर जितना जोर देना चाहिए या वह नहीं दिया गया। आज भी हम अपनी 25 या 26 प्रतिशत जमीन पर ही सिंचाई कर पाते हैं। मैं इस को सही आंकड़ा नहीं मानता। क्योंकि अगर पूरा हिसाब रखा गया तो आज भी बहुत नहरें ऐसी हैं, बहुत सी सिंचाई की स्कीमें ऐसी हैं, जहाँ पर किसानों को अपने मज के मुताबिक

पूरा समय पानी नहीं मिल पाता है। वह केवल एक फसल को ही पानी दे पाती है। आज भी बहुत से डैम ऐसे बन गये हैं जो वर्षा पर निर्भर हैं, उन में पानी नहीं रहता है और ऐन समय पर जब किसानों को पानी की आवश्यकता होती है, उन को पानी नहीं मिल पाता है, उस को उस की आवश्यकता का वर्ष में केवल 20 या 22 फीसदी पानी ही मिल पाता है। ऐसा क्यों है? यह बात सब ने स्वीकार की है—अगर हम खेती की पैदावार को बढ़ाना चाहते हैं तो उस की एक-एक इंच जमीन को पानी देना होगा। इस के लिये हमें क्या करना चाहिए? यह सही है कि हम ने तमाम बड़ी-बड़ी योजनायें शुरू की, बड़े बड़े डैम बनाये, लेकिन इन बड़ी योजनाओं और बड़े डैमों का क्या प्रतिफल मिला? आज हम को उतना पानी नहीं मिल पाता, जितना हम को जरूरत है। आज भी हमारी खेती प्यासी पड़ी है। इस लिये मेरा मुझाव है कि बजाय बड़ी योजनाओं के हम पहले छोटी योजनाओं को लें, छोटी योजनाओं को हमें प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिये, क्योंकि उन में कम पूजी लगेगी, उन का नियन्त्रण केन्द्रित नहीं होगा, विकेंद्रित होगा और किसानों को उन के द्वारा अधिक से अधिक पानी दिया जा सकेगा।

इस तरफ पिछली सरकार द्वारा कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया, वह नेताशाही, नौकरशाही और बड़े-बड़े सेठों के सिगुट में फंस कर देश की अर्थ-व्यवस्था को चौपट करती रही। क्योंकि बड़ी योजनाओं के चलने से ठेकेदारों और बड़े अफसरों को कमीशन खाने का मौका मिलता था, उस में भ्रष्टाचार की ज्यादा गुंजाइश थी। अगर छोटी योजनायें चले, कुछ खोद जायें, ट्रब-वेल लगाये जायें, तो इन से सिंचाई की क्षमता ज्यादा बढ़ेगी। कुछ ऐसी योजनाएं हैं, जैसे गंगा और कावेरी को जोड़ने की योजना, ऐसी तमाम योजनाओं को भी शुरू किया जाय, लेकिन फिलहाल छोटी योजनाओं पर ही ज्यादा जोर दिया जाना चाहिए। इन कामों के लिए हम को

अपनी अपार जन-शक्ति का इस्तेमाल करना चाहिये और मैं तो यहां तक भ्रष्ट कहेगा कि अगर लड़ाई नहीं चल रही है तो जो हमारे सेना के लोग हैं, उन को भी इस रचनात्मक काम में इस्तेमाल करना चाहिये। जो स्वयं सेवी संगठन है उन का इस्तेमाल भी इस काम में हो सकता है। हम को सम्पूर्ण देश को दृष्टि में रख कर राष्ट्रीय कार्यक्रम के आधार पर सिंचाई की योजनाओं को स्वीकार करना चाहिये, तभी हम सफल हो सकेंगे।

सिंचाई के साथ-साथ उर्वरक (खाद) का भी बहुत ज्यादा महत्व है। यदि खाद महंगी हो जाय, खेती में डानने वाली दवाइयां महंगी हो जाय, खेती के उपयोग में भाने वाले उपकरण महंगे हो जाय तो खेती की लागत बढ़ जाती है। आज का किसान इस स्थिति में नहीं है कि वह इतनी पूंजी लगा सके। आज भारत के किसानों के सामने पूंजी का संकट सब से बड़ी समस्या है, वह जितना पैदा करता है, उस से ज्यादा उस का खर्च हो जाता है। उस के पास इतना ऋण भी नहीं बच पाता है कि वह अपना और अपने बच्चों का पेट भर सके। उस के सामने दवा का सवाल है, कपड़ों का सवाल है, दूसरे खर्च है, खेती की भ्रामवनी से वह इन को पूरा नहीं कर पाता है। इस लिये हमें इन चीजों के दामों में कमी करनी चाहिए। आप खाद को देखिए सब से ज्यादा उस में एकसाइज इयूटी लगती है, उस के दाम दिन-प्रति दिन बढ़ते जाते हैं। आप प्रांकड़ों को देखिए—दो साल पहले खाद की काफी ज्यादा खपत होती थी, लेकिन अब खाद की खपत कम होने लगी है। इस का सब से बड़ा कारण यह है कि खाद के दाम बहुत ज्यादा बढ़ गये हैं, उस की सामर्थ्य से बाहर हो गये हैं। मैं आज इस निश्चित राय का हूँ—अगर खाद के दामों को बढ़ाया नहीं गया, उस को सस्ते दामों पर उपलब्ध नहीं कराया गया, तो हम जिस खेती के विकास की बात करते हैं वह कभी सम्भव नहीं हो पायेगा।

[Shri Braj Bhushan Tiwari]

अनाज के बाजों के द्वारे में भी हमारे किसान के साथ बहुत घन्याम हुआ है। आप का भारतीय कृषि मूल्य समीक्षण अनाज के साथ तब करते समय किसानों की वस्तु स्थिति को दृष्टि में नहीं रखता है, उन की पूँजी की लागत की दृष्टि में नहीं रखता है। केवल एक थारन्टी देने की कोशिश की जाती है कि फसल से पहले दाम निर्धारित किये जाते हैं। दो फसलों के बीच में जो दामों में उतार-चढ़ाव है, उस को रोकने की कोशिश की जाती है मगर कृषि मूल्यों और कारखाने की चीजों के दाम में क्या रिश्ता होना चाहिए, क्या सामंजस्य होना चाहिए, उस को नजरान्दाज किया जाता है, उस को दृष्टि में नहीं रखा गया। इस का परिणाम यह है कि एक तरफ खेती की उपज के दाम लगातार कम हुए और दूसरी तरफ कारखाने की चीजों के दाम लगातार बढ़े। इस का प्रभाव यह हुआ कि हमारे किसान की जो मांजी हासल है वह निरन्तर गिर रही है। ये तमाम धाँकड़े इस बात को स्पष्ट करते हैं कि खेतिहार लोगों की ग्रामदानी में लगातार गिरावट आई है क्योंकि उन की उपज के दामों में जगातार गिरावट आई है। इस विषयता को समाप्त करना होना अगर आप किसानों की हालत सुधारना चाहते हैं ज़रना कोई रास्ता नज़र नहीं आता। इसलिए दामों के लिए आप को एक नीति निर्धारित करनी पड़ेगी।

13 hrs.

इस के साथ ही साथ मैं यह अर्थ करना चाहूँगा कि कृषि के अनुसंधान पर भी जोर देना बड़ा ज़रूरी है। दूसरे क्षेत्रों में उस पर बहुत जोर दिया जा रहा है मगर अपने क्षेत्र में जो कृषि के अनुसंधान की दयनीय स्थिति है, उस पर भी सरकार को ध्यान देना चाहिए। विज्ञानी मर भी सरकार का ध्यान इस तरह दिखावा नबा था। इस रिपोर्ट में मन्थवर यह लिखा गया है “कृषि और किसानों के विकास

का कृषि अनुसंधान और शिक्षा विभाग 16 किसानों, 1973 को बना। इस सब उद्देश्य भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद को अग्रगण्य सरकारी सम्पर्क का आधार बनाना करना था”।

मान्यवर, इस भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद में एक वैज्ञानिक डा० माह ने प्रारम्भ-हत्या कर ली थी और उस की चर्चा इस सदन में हुई थी और उस पर ग. रेड्गनडकर कमीशन बैठा था। उस कमीशन ने बहुत काबिल और विद्वान लोग रखे गये थे और उन्होंने रिपोर्ट में यह संस्तुति सरकार को दी थी कि इतने बड़े संगठन, इतनी बड़ी संस्था का प्रशासन एक गैर-सरकारी संस्था के अन्तर्गत ठीक तरीके से नहीं चल सकता। उस संस्था के जो डाइरेक्टर डा० स्वामीनाथन हैं, उन के कार्यकालों की चर्चा भी इस सदन में हो चुकी है और सबबातों में भी छप चुका है कि किस प्रकार से उन्होंने झूठा बोध प्रमाण दिया और तमाम बातें करने की कोशिश की। उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि सोनारा जो मेहू की किस्म है, उस में से लाइजिन नाम के तत्व को उन्होंने निकाला है मगर बाद में उस की प्रामाणिकता सिद्ध न हो सकी। उसी प्रकार से तमाम प्रशासन में भी भ्रष्टाचार है। आज भी वहाँ उस संस्थान में बहुत तनाव, असंतोष और अलोक का वातावरण व्याप्त है। ऐसी स्थिति अगर एक ऐसे संस्थान, जहाँ पर बोध कार्य होता हो, जहाँ पर नया ज्ञान विकसित किया जाता हो, की हो, तो इस तरह के वातावरण का होना उचित नहीं है और खास कर ऐसे संस्थान में जिस का सम्बन्ध खेती से हो। हमारी सरकार को इस पर विशेष ध्यान देना होगा और एक विशेष दृष्टि अपनानी होगी। वहाँ का वातावरण बहुत स्वस्थ होना चाहिए और वहाँ की जिम्मेदारी एक ऐसे पुरुष और विशेषज्ञ लोगों के हाथ में नहीं दी जानी चाहिए। इसीलिए गजेंद्र गडकर कमेटी ने यह सुझाव दिया था कि इसकी कृषि मन्त्रालय के विभाग में

परिवर्तित कर देना चाहिए। मान्यवर उसमें क्या खाद्य हुआ कि उसको कृषि अनुसंधान और शिक्षा विभाग कर दिया गया और जो कृषि अनुसंधान परिवर्द्धन की उसको बरकरार रखा गया। अब स्थिति यह हो गयी है कि इस परिवर्द्धन के जो महाविभाग भी स्थापित हुए हैं, वे डायरेक्टर भी हो गये, उसके साथ साथ विभाग के सचिव भी हो गये। अब एक ही भावनी दोनों पर संभालेंगे। फिर कैसे इसमें समन्वय स्थापित होगा, कैसे प्रशासन में सुधार होगा। अगर अपने देश की स्थिति को सुधारना है, अगर कृषि जगत में कुछ उपलब्धि हासिल करनी है तो इसमें भी सुधार लाना होगा।

इसके साथ-साथ जो कृषि संगठन हमारे गांवों के लिए हैं, जैसे ब्लाकस, पांचायतें, ये तमाम कृषि संगठन भी बुराबोली हो गये हैं। ब्लाक के बारे में आप देखेंगे कि वहां का जो इंतजाम है, वहां की जो व्यवस्था है, उस व्यवस्था में आम, साधारण किसान को कोई फायदा नहीं पहुंच पाता है। होता यह है कि कुछ लोगों को रोजगार मिल जाय, कुछ बड़े बड़े मकान बना दिए जाएं। वहां तमाम अनुत्पादक कार्यों पर खर्च होता है। सही मायनों में जो मदद मिलनी चाहिए वह मदद नहीं मिल पाती है। जो मदद मिलती भी है वह केवल बड़े किसानों को ही मिलती है। जो शक्तिशाली किसान होते हैं, या जो किसी तरीके से राजनीति में खलल रखते हैं वे ही वहां से फायदा उठाते हैं। छोटे किसान को सरकारी सहायता और सरकारी साधनों का कोई फायदा नहीं पहुंचता। इसीलिए मान्यवर किसानों की दशा भिन्न होती जा रही है। तमाम लोग अपने खेत बेच रहे हैं और बेच करके शहरों में रिक्सा चालने का काम कर रहे हैं। उन्हें अपने खेत बेचने पर इसलिए मजबूर होना पड़ा रहा है कि उन्हें इन कृषि संगठनों से कोई मदद नहीं मिल पाती और खेती से उपज नहीं बढ़ती। खेती से उनके परिवार का खर्च भी नहीं चलता। इसलिये

मान्यवर इन बातों पर सरकार का ध्यान देना आवश्यक है। जब हम खेती पर इतना ज्यादा खर्च करते हैं, खेती के विकास पर इतना ज्यादा खर्च करते हैं फिर भी छोटे किसान को उसका कोई फायदा नहीं पहुंचता। हमें यह जो वर्तमान बाधा है इसको समाप्त करना होगा। इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं इन प्राप्ति का समर्थन करता हूं।

SHRIMATI RASHIDA HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Silchar): Respected Deputy-Speaker, Sir, agriculture is the mainstay of the Indian economy. It accounts for about 50 per cent of the total national income and employs about 75 per cent of the total Indian population. Agriculture thus occupies a vital and strategic position in the national economy. In fact, the overall development is dependent on, and determined by, the agricultural production.

Agricultural production is primarily determined by the rainfall. If the monsoon is delayed, it may lead to drought conditions, and on the contrary, if the monsoon breaks in full force, there is heavy rainfall and floods are likely to cause crop losses. As I represent the flood-prone area, I am giving special emphasis on flood and prevention of flood damages.

The economy of Assam is predominantly agrarian. More than 70 per cent of the population derive their means of livelihood mainly from this sector. The rice-growing area is predominant. The tea cultivation in Assam started as early as 1835 near the confluence of the Brahmaputra. The tea industry plays a vital role in the economy of Assam. Sericulture and weaving play an important role particularly in rural areas.

Though the land of Assam is very fertile, the agriculturists cannot gain any profit due to the devastating floods. Generally the monsoon starts in Assam from the month of April, which is the proper time for the

[Shrimati Rashida Haque
Chaudhuri]

kharif crop. The Brahmaputra valley, which called Upper Assam, is suffering from heavy floods and erosion almost every year.

The recent devastating floods in Jorhat subdivision in upper Assam have added to colossal loss of human lives, poultry and agricultural products and have caused damage to the standing crops.

Lower Assam, which is called Barak Valey in the State, mainly comprises the Cachar district. The River Barak is the River of Sorrow to the people of Cachar. In the year 1976 more than half of Cachar district was under water for months together, causing extensive damage to the district.

This year also the monsoon has started early with a bang in the Cachar district. The standing 'Boro' crops have been totally damaged. Considerable wealth has perished in this calamity.

Every year the State Government allocates some amount to meet the emergency expenses caused by floods, but the amount is inadequate always.

I am thankful that the Hon. Prime Minister Mr. Morarji Desai has sanctioned Rs. 1 lakh from the Prime Minister's Fund for the victims of floods in Darrang and Cachar districts. Now the question before the Government is how to control the annual flood situation in the State. The State's location in a highly earth-quake prone region makes the problem of flood control bigger and more complicated.

A major problem is the silting of the river channels in this region which has considerably reduced its flood-carrying capacity and, in the process has extended the area of the flood plains.

No major afforestation programme is known to have been taken up to prevent erosion in the catchment areas, particularly in the hill areas.

Despite measures taken in the past to control the fury of turbulent rivers like the Brahmaputra and Barak, floods continue to be an annual occurrence and so also sufferings of the people.

I feel it is impossible for a poor state like Assam to touch even the fringe of the problem, let alone tackle it fully. So I would like to request the Central Government to take over the responsibility.

Regarding the Barak Dam project in Cachar District, which is already taken up by the Central Projects Commission—the Commission is making a survey for the purpose—it should be expedited so that the people of the area can be saved from this great calamity; and by this act, the easternmost State can be a prosperous State.

With this, I conclude.

SHRI CHARAN NARZARY (Kokrajhar): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I am speaking in support of the Demand for Grants for the Agriculture and Irrigation Ministry. I have nothing to object to a Demand for any amount, if for a noble purpose. The slogan 'Grow More Food' is a very popular one among the cultivators, but when I see that there is contradiction between the profession and the practice of the Government, I am simply taken a back. I am from Assam and I belong to the scheduled tribe community I represent the Kokrajhar Scheduled Tribes constituency along the foothills of Bhutan which is agriculturally very resourceful. But it gives me much pain to reveal in this august House that during the period since March, 1975 and till today, about then thousand tribal peasant families have been ruthlessly evicted without making any provision for their rehabilitation or shelter. Before and, of course, during the emergency and even after emergency, those people have been subjected to untold miseries. I should remind the both Members that Assam is still under Congress rule.

My heart bleeds today when I think of thousands of my people who have been suffering for a long time. They have been living in a state of extreme misery; there is no remedy for them, no protection either from the State Government or from the Centre. I am happy that the present Minister of Agriculture, Shri Barnala, is from Punjab, which is agriculturally a resourceful State in the country. I am sure he understands the basic problems and needs of the peasants in the country and he will appreciate the difficulties faced by my tribal brethren in the North-eastern region of the country.

Article 46 of the Constitution, under Directive Principles of State Policy, clearly states:

"The State shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation.

It clearly establishes the fact that the subject relating to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes falls within the purview of the Central Government. But the provision of the said Article of the Constitution has been nakedly flouted by the State Government of Assam. I have said this because I am afraid that the Central Government may even have a tendency to side-track the issue like this on the plea that it belongs to the State Government. I am sure, it is not only a question of land settlement or land Revenue; it is also not only a question of law and order, but it is a question of protecting the basic rights and interests of the tribals of the country.

Sir, in the Gohpur plains Reserve Forest Area in the district of Darrang, 2000 tribal peasant families have been ruthlessly evicted. In the Charduar area of the same district, 1500 tribal peasant families have been evicted.

At Luunsung, Amteka, Bengtoi etc. in the Haltugao Forest Division of the Kokhrajar Sub-Division in the Goalpara District, 3000 tribal families have been evicted and in the course of eviction operation, the forces of the Assam Police Battalions and Armed Home-guards had been deployed. The houses of the poor tribals had been either demolished or burnt down, their women molested, their properties damaged and looted and they were strewn everywhere like the Jews in Germany during the terrorist Nazi reign of Hitler.

It gives me so much pain to say that in this democratic, socialistic Republic of India, these helpless 'people have been made to suffer like cats and dogs as if they are not citizens of this country. They are being treated like foreigners and there is nobody to speak for these people. Even today, they have been living without shelter, without food and without clothes. Uptill now about 200 persons including small children from among these evicted tribals have died of various diseases as a consequence of eviction, such as (1) starvation, (2) mal-nutrition, (3) exposure to severe cold and rains and the scorching heat of the sun, and (4) various diseases like Malaria, cholera, etc. There is nobody to give them any medical aid. This is the lot of those unfortunate people. So, I am very much aggrieved and my heart bleeds, if this situation is allowed to continue, there will be no use for me staying here and I will be left with no option but to resign and go back. Sir, I will be failing in my duty if I do not speak out the naked truth and injustices meted out to my people in that part of the country. The plea on which those people have been evicted is that they have encroached upon the reserve forest areas. But in reality those areas are forest areas in name only. There are no valuable trees. The area is fit only for paddy cultivation.

In many places there exists boundary dispute also between the Forest

[Shri Charan Natzary]

Department and the Revenue Department. Sometimes claim and counter-claim is being made by these two Departments.

This problem of landlessness among the tribal people and other weaker sections could have been solved very easily, if realistic approach were made by the Government without any bias and prejudice. But in Assam, those who are sitting at the helm of affairs, want to keep this problem alive. They have their own political reasons. That is why, they do not seem to be interested in solving this problem permanently.

Along the border of Assam and Nagaland 10,000 peasant families including the tribals had been ruthlessly evicted. Elephants were used. Border Security Force, Assam Police Battalions and Armed Home Guards were used. Even today, in Mikir Hills District which is governed under the Sixth Schedule of the Constitution, many tribals, particularly those belonging to the Boro-Kachari Community, are facing eviction. I am sure the eviction operations will be carried out very soon. Who will protect these poor tribal peasants? Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I seek your protection.

Assam Government, with a view to solve the growing land problems of the landless peasants in the State, started Agricultural Farming Corporations at many places. Crores of rupees had been spent for the purpose. If the hon. Agriculture Minister makes an enquiry into the functioning of these Agricultural Corporations, he will be simply amazed. Except land propaganda nothing was done to achieve the goal of such corporations. Not a single farming Corporation in the State of Assam has been functioning with success. At Gohpur, the evicted people applied to the State Government for being included in one Purbajyoti Agriculture farming corporation. They were denied. The said agricultural

farming corporation was, started at the same reserve forest area from where the 2,000 landless tribal families have been evicted. Now, my question is: If an Agricultural farming corporation can be started within the reserve forest area, why these tribal families could not be settled down there? What will be their fate? Another instance. When the late Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed Sahib was the Agriculture Minister, similar thing was done. About 2200 tribal landless families had been evicted from the eastern fringe of the Manas Games Sanctuary near Koklabari in the district of Kamrup. It is a very surprising thing that those landless peasants had been ruthlessly evicted and in their place, the Koklabari Central State Farm was started. If you evict the landless peasants and in their place you set up a Central State Agricultural Farm, does it not amount to anti-peasant policy? Whether the Farm is functioning successfully or not, is a matter of enquiry. I am sure, if the Agriculture Minister makes an enquiry, the facts will come out. Time and again we have seen how people at the helm of affairs had been adopting anti-people and anti-peasant policy, which is very much dangerous to the growth and development of our national economy.

To ascertain the magnitude of the problem arising out of the evictions of thousands of landless tribal peasant families, including people of other weaker sections, the hon. Agriculture Minister should institute a parliamentary committee to go into the matter. I say this because if the hon. Agriculture Minister asks for some report from the State Government, he will not get the correct picture. They will only furnish some distorted facts which will not help the Government in assessing the gravity of the problem.

I am concluding with one more point. In order to give land to the landless, the Land Ceiling Laws were enacted by the State Government of Assam. All right. We do not have anything to say. So far so good. But certain

anomalies cropped up there in the implementation of the Land Ceiling Laws. It has given ample scope to the corrupt officers to indulge in mere corruption and earn money while implementing the land ceiling laws.

Sir, in most of the cases, the land ceiling laws have been implemented by them without proper physical verification. As a result, many peasants, who did not have excess land, have been victimised and a new class of landless people has emerged in the State of Assam. Lands could not be obtained from the landlords but the land has been snatched away under the land ceiling law from the poor people. This has happened because the records of rights have not been corrected for many years and the lands of the brothers possessed separately stand in the name of their deceased father.

I am sure, the hon. Minister, while replying to the debate on this subject will give a positive statement on all these problems. I am hopeful that certainly the would extend all possible help to the eviction victims I have mentioned earlier. I am sure, he will give the necessary protection to them. Otherwise, there is no use of our sitting here as representatives of the people.

SHRI SUBHAS CHANDRA BOSE ALLURI (Narasapur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to make my maiden speech on the Demands for Agriculture. First of all, I have to congratulate our Minister for Agriculture for assuming this Office.

India, like any other developing nation basically has an agrarian economy, where agriculture is the primary sector and as such it is obvious that primary importance should be given to this subject.

The main features that contribute to a strong and stable agricultural system are: irrigation facilities, fertility of the soil and input of the deficient nutrients into the soil, control of pest attacks and fungal attacks on crops, use of good seeds and good remuneration to the farmers.

Unfortunately, there is a strong rumour that the Janata Government is going to reduce the production of fertilisers and pesticides. I would like to tell the Minister for Agriculture that that will be a disastrous step in the agricultural field.

So far, the Government has taken up so many irrigational projects as a result of which a substantial acreage of land has been brought under the plough, but the fact still remains that even today in rural parts of the country, agriculture still continues to be a gamble on the monsoon.

In this connection, I would like to appeal to the hon. Minister of Agriculture to give a larger assistance to the States for the purpose of having minor and medium irrigation schemes in areas where there are no irrigational facilities at all at present. Sir, the irrigation projects have so far been centred around large colossal schemes which irrigated a large stretch of land. But, large acreages of fertile lands are still lying unirrigated because minor sources such as perennial mountain streams and spring channels have not been made use of in several places, and by using these sources, a large acreage of land would have been assured of the water supply.

Sir, such schemes would cost much less and can be spread over larger areas where such sources exist and, as a result, a lot of people living in the interior places would be benefited by such schemes. This would also result in equal distribution of wealth and labour which is now being concentrated in a few pockets.

Another point I would like to raise is the need for having more technical personnel trained in the field of modern agricultural techniques. Agriculture, as you know, Sir, has been improved in the recent years and it is now being done in countries like China on a highly technical and practical basis and as such, it is obvious that the need is for educating the farmers in a country like ours where we have far more farmers than persons in other professions.

[Shri Subhash Chandra Bose Aliuri]

A step in this direction Sir, will also give employment to a lot of trained young men in the rural areas who have to migrate to the urban areas and abroad in search of jobs. Sir, in a basically agrarian economy where more than 87 per cent people live on agriculture it is obvious that any move to reduce socio-economic disparities should come from the agriculture sector and as such, I would like to sincerely appeal to the Hon'ble Minister for Agriculture to see that positive steps are taken without any delay to see that land reforms are effectively implemented to bridge the gap that exists between the peasant and the landlords.

Sir, I would like to bring to the notice of the hon'ble Minister the fact regarding the zonal system of price fixation as far as sugarcane is concerned. Sir, there are a lot of disparities in the prices that are fixed to be paid to various zones and as this system is actually acting as a disincentive to the cane grower in some parts of the country. I would also like to appeal to the hon'ble Minister to have a common price fixation system and bring an end to this discrimination between farmers of various areas.

Another important point that I would like to draw your attention to is the exorbitant prices of agricultural implements prevailing in the market today. As far as I know, the cost of production of these implements is much less comparatively. Imposition of tax is making these implements costly. So, I would request the hon'ble Minister to see to it that these implements are exempted from all types of taxes.

Sir, without proper implements no farmer can be successful in attaining maximum results and as such it is absolutely necessary to reduce the price of agricultural implements so that they can be easily accessible to the average marginal farmer.

I would like to suggest that to encourage the farmer and to enable him to get remunerative price for his products the government should encourage agro-based industries in rural areas.

Sir, the hon'ble Minister must already be aware of the fact that the supply of good seeds and other plant protection measures are most essential to increase crop produce and I would not like to speak much on this subject.

Sir, I would conclude by saying that it is absolutely necessary for the farmer to get remunerative prices for his produce to enable him to march with the modern techniques, innovations. I sincerely hope that the hon'ble Minister would think deeply on this matter and be able to deliver the goods that our country so badly needs.

Sir, I am deeply thankful to the Chari for giving this opportunity to express my views on this occasion.

SHRI S. NANJESHA GOWDA (Hassan): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the demands for Grants of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation. At the outset, I would like to congratulate Mr. Barnola, the hon'ble Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, for having taken charge of this portfolio. We all know that he comes from a State where they have developed agriculture in such a way that the production of wheat has touched a record yield in the country. I would also like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister and the hon. Home Minister for their recent statements regarding special attention they are going to give to the agriculture and irrigation in India. Many of my friends on the other side have spoken much about the developmental activities that had taken place in the last 30 years. Some of my senior Members have also spoken about the development made in the last 30 years. But I am sorry to say that even after 30 years, when they claim that all these developments have taken place, there is no drinking water available in many villages let alone food, shelter and clothing. In Karnataka itself, they

have identified about 5000 villages without any kind of facility for drinking water. Of course, they have completed some projects. Some plans and schemes have been implemented, but they are speaking highly of them and very promising slogans are raised. But if you look into the report and compare the achievements made and the targets achieved in irrigation, you will find that after implementing three or four five year plans, they were able to increase the additional irrigation potential by 11 million hectares only, after spending about Rs. 3020 crores. But I am proud to say that the present Janata Government has made a provision of Rs. 3080 crore to increase the additional irrigation potential of 5.05 million hectares in coming 3 years. There is utilisable water on the surface as well as from the ground to irrigate land to the extent of 107 million hectares. I would like to request the hon. Minister through you, Sir, to achieve this target in the coming 10 years.

Regarding plans and programmes implemented so far, I would like to give a comparative picture. If you go and see the conditions in the villages and compare the living conditions in the villages to those of the cities, you will be shocked to know that the living conditions of the people in the villages are so pathetic. We have everything in the cities. In the cities, we have beautiful bungalows, we have medical facilities we have educational facilities everything is provided. Very few villages have got those facilities, so those facilities have been denied to the villagers in our country. That means more than 70 per cent of the people of our country who are farmers and who live in the villages have not got those facilities. The plan programmes and targets and performance are not seen in the villages. I appeal to the hon. Minister to give special attention to the villages in the country. It is they who produce the food needed for the country. To do that our farmer wants assured water supply, credit facilities and timely availability of seeds, man-

ure etc. If you provide those facilities, our production will be doubled, even with existing irrigation facilities. I appeal to the hon. Minister to make easy credit facilities to the farmer. I also come from a village; I am myself a farmer. I have seen that when the rain sets in and when he is in need of seed or manure or credit, he is made to go from office to office, and from table to table, with the result that often he does not get them in time. If he gets them after the season, the season is wasted for him and one season wasted means one year wasted wholly. 70 per cent of our people live in villages and they account for 47 per cent of our national income; they are not cared for hitherto. No doubt friends from the opposition tell us about their ambitious programmes, but very little was actually done to benefit the villagers. Our farmer even now has to depend upon rains; as is said it is a gamble of the monsoon. For assured water supply, you have to increase irrigation facilities. In my state of Karnataka, more than 15-20 years back some twenty major and medium projects were started; they are still lingering and they have not been completed till today. The hon. Minister should give all possible assistance to those projects and he should advise the state government to complete those projects early. River water disputes have come in the way of completion of some of those projects. The hon. Minister and the central government should have a national policy and settle those disputes amicably. So, Sir, providing irrigation is a must in the country. It is a solution to our food problem, and for solving our unemployment problem, both of educated and of uneducated. It is a solution to develop agro-based industries and these irrigated areas will provide raw materials to our agro-based industries. Finally this will lead to the growth of the economic condition of the rural parts particularly villages and also of the entire country. I would request the hon. Minister to settle these river water disputes as early as possible and provide maximum financial assistance to State Governments.

[Shri S. Nanjesha Gowda]

Regarding agricultural produce, my friends on the other side were telling that the removal of the zonal system will have some bad effect and that the traders will take advantage of that. Regarding the zonal system two years back there were very good rains and there was a very good bumper crop of hybrid jowar in Karnataka. That jowar was not allowed to be lifted outside the district, not only outside the State. As a result the people had to auction their jowar at Rs. 40/- per quintal, whereas the jowar at the time of its sowing was selling at Rs. 180/- per quintal. You can very well understand how the farmers were suffering.

Regarding this linking of Cauvery with Ganga—my friends were also referring to it—I welcome that constructive suggestion. It is really a very good suggestion. So many eminent engineers have thought of it and I also appeal to the Minister to take up that project at least in future.

I want to say a few words regarding the coffee crop. I come from the district where, coffee, tea, pepper and all these things are grown. This coffee crop is a sensitive crop, which earns foreign exchange. That crop can be doubled in the district. But the problem is that the issue of CRC certificate has been delegated to the Collector/Deputy Commissioner, who has been already over-loaded with work. About 1000 cases of issue of CRC certificates are pending with him in one district. Similarly in several districts, I think, thousands of such cases are pending. This may be entrusted to the Coffee Board which is doing some good work. I am also told that there is a perspective plan for improving coffee crop and that is pending with the Planning Commission and with the Government of India. I would like to appeal to you, Sir, to take up that plan and help increase the coffee growing in the country.

I had many things to say, but for want of time, I am closing my speech.

The last official in any department is responsible for the execution of our plans and programmes and that man must be provided with sufficient facilities. Our programme starts from Delhi and it reaches a state headquarter or district headquarter or taluk headquarter. There it stops. It never reaches the village. The man in the village, that is, a village accountant or a revenue inspector or a junior engineer who executes the work must be given sufficient facilities like telephone and an office to sit all of them at one place. You can entrust much more responsibility and give more facilities at such places where you want to execute all our plans and programmes.

I thank the Deputy Speaker for having given me this opportunity to speak and I thank the House also, and I support the Demands.

14 hrs.

SHRI P. K. KODIYAN (Adoor): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, our new Government has already made it clear that in the matter of economic development, prime importance will be given to the agricultural sector and they have also said that sufficient attention has not been paid to this sector, but I would say here that it was not that sufficient attention was not paid to this sector in the sense that big allocation was not made, but so far as the fund allocations were concerned, Sir, I would say the agricultural sector has received considerable attention, from the previous government. In this Budget also I don't think that there is much advance from the point of view of financial allocations though prime importance has been given to this sector by the new government. More or less the allocations for agriculture and the allied sectors in the Plan outlay in the last several years has been somewhat around 25 per cent. Last year it was about 29 per cent and this year in the new Budget it is just about 30 per cent. Therefore, there is not much difference so far as the allocations to the agricultural sector from the Plan outlay are concerned.

My main point is that when you say that you are going to give prime importance to the agricultural sector, which in your opinion, was the most neglected sector in the past, your intention should be followed up by concrete action. But that concrete action is lacking in the Budget proposals. It is neither in the financial allocations nor in terms of practical approach. Now, my main complaint so far as this Government's agricultural policy is concerned is that you are going to develop the agrarian economy without caring for a proper restructuring of the agrarian set up. You have neglected; I should say almost completely, the question of effecting fundamental changes in the existing agrarian set up. I am referring to the question of implementation of the land ceiling laws. Even under the previous Government not much progress was made. Whatever progress was made by the Government was sought to be sabotaged by the landlord vested interests which had very strong influence in the then ruling party. Now I find that many of these landlords and rural rich have shifted their loyalty to the present ruling Party. So, I do not know how this basic question of structural reforms in the agrarian sector is going to be implemented by the Government and I am pained to say that either in the President's address or in the Finance Minister's Budget speech there is not much of a reference to this most vital question of our agrarian economy. When you say that you are going to pay the greatest attention to the problem of rural development, you should take into consideration the realities in the rural areas, the objective conditions there and peculiarities of our agrarian economy. The overwhelming majority of the peasants of India are small and marginal farmers, or landless agricultural workers. As the agricultural census has already brought out, out of the 70 million holdings in India, 50 per cent are possessed by marginal farmers who have got land less than 1 hectare and if you add the number of small farmers who are having land between 1 and 2 hectares, the number

will come to an overwhelming majority of about 70 per cent. This is the peculiarity of India's agrarian economy, viz., the predominance of small proprietorship. Unless you shift your emphasis on the problems of these vast sections of our Indian farmers, who are below even the subsistence level, there is not going to be any improvement in the agrarian economy and in agricultural production. All the previous attempts to solve the agrarian crisis on the narrow base of landlords and a few rich Kulaks, had collapsed and failed.

You talk about green revolution. The hon. Minister, Shri Barnala comes from Punjab which is known as the State of green revolution. I should congratulate the hon. Minister and the people of Punjab. They have tried to develop to agrarian economy. They have achieved great success. But along with benefits, there have also been a series of disadvantages. Economic disparities have widened even in the State of Punjab, if you take into account the incomes of the rich peasants who are adopting modern agricultural methods and those of the poor peasants and agricultural workers. Even this green revolution in Punjab is confined to a particular areas. If you take the country as a whole, the green revolution is confined to certain areas, particularly developed areas. The so-called benefits of green revolution have never reached these vast millions of India's peasants, viz. small and marginal farmers. When you want to modernize India's agriculture and when you try to adopt the methods of modern cultivation, if these vast sections are just removed from the scene of action in the rural area, how are you going to bring prosperity to the life in the villages? The modern technology which you want to encourage which you want to bring to the villages, does not reach them. The credit system now in force is not favourable to them. The other inputs required for agricultural production do not reach them in time. So, they are always suffering.

They are being exploited not only as producers but as buyers also. At the

[Shri P. K. Kodiyan]

time of harvest, the prices are deliberately being kept down by speculative commercial capital which has entered the agrarian sector in a big way in the past several years, and they are forced to resort to distress sale. At the same time, when they go to the market to buy their own requirements daily necessities, they have to pay a higher price. Therefore, these vast millions of peasants are being exploited both as producers as well as buyers. So, my humble request to the hon. Minister, to the Janata Government and the hon. Members of the Janata Party is to consider the problems and requirements, hopes and aspirations, of these vast millions of Indian peasantry and do something for them, by making a shift in your policy in favour of these vast sections. Unless this shift is effected in your policy, the prosperity which you are talking so much about in the village will be confined to the rich peasants, the kulaks and a narrow section of the landlords.

Another aspect of the agrarian economy which the Government should take into account is this. When you plan and when you try to implement the rural development programme, please bear in mind that there are millions and millions of agricultural workers in our country. They should have a role both in the formulation as well as the implementation of the rural development plan. An attempt is now being made to formulate and implement the rural bureaucratic machinery. The agricultural workers numbering about 4.75 crores is not a small number. They have to play a vital role. Their necessities and requirements should be taken into account and they should be associated in the formulation and implementation of the plan for agrarian development.

DR. VASANT KUMAR PANDIT (Rajgarh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I rise to congratulate the Minister of Agriculture, as he has become the pioneer in leading the path of the

Janata Party in the agricultural sector. This year's budget has given him a larger allocation. It is an agriculture-oriented budget. I would call it a rural seed budget—a budget that will usher in the coming years the development of the rural sector, the development of the under-developed areas and the backward areas of the country, which have been neglected, lagging behind under the backlog of many years.

I have been elected from Rajgarh in Madhya Pradesh, an area which is almost like "a no-man's land." Throughout my tour life, I did not find any sign or proof that any plan has touched any aspect of life there. The main problem is of drinking water. A large number of villages do not have water to drink except that they bring it from a distance of five to seven kilometres. How are we going to develop these areas? Therefore, I would ask the hon. Minister: having allocated a large sum for rural development, what will be the operative part of your Budget? What would be the machinery to look after it? Ultimately, this money will go to the State Governments. Fortunately for us, Janata Governments have come in some States. So, let there be a co-ordinated and co-operative effort to see that the poor peasants' needs are met.

Rajgarh, Bhaora, Jirapur, Khilchipur and other tehsils are barren areas so far as agriculture is concerned. Deforestation has been going on. Therefore, my insistence is on small irrigation projects. Several rivers like the Parvati and Kali Sindh pass through my area. Several small irrigation projects have been approved, but have not been taken up. No one has paid attention to the problems of the agriculturists of this under-developed area. Electrification is not there. There are no tubewells in many villages. Therefore, my appeal to the hon. Minister is that we must have some machinery to see that the goods are delivered. That is the expectation of the common people. Mere higher allocation is not enough, but the effective part of it has

got to be planned. How will the small farmers feel the change, and what will they see in the coming years? All that has to be settled and defined. Therefore, I suggest that the Hon'ble Minister should, in consultation with the State Governments, form a survey or vigilance committee which includes Members of Parliament and experts to devise ways and means of going ahead and reaching the needs of the agriculturists. Integrated Rural Development should be meaningful and purposeful, rather than remaining only as paper projects.

There is a suggestion by my hon. friend Shri Sathe about the Dastoor Plan. It is a fantastic plan. In the years to come, when we have made some progress, we can think of connecting the North Indian rivers with the South Indian rivers. But the present problem is of small irrigation projects. We have to start right from the grass roots we have not to play to the gallery but to deliver the goods. Therefore, this Vigilance or Survey committee should be given the responsibility to see that the staff of the agricultural department does real work and check how much work is done in every quarter of the year. Our objective is: operation agriculture. I hope the coming years will see the green light as far as rural development of the underdeveloped areas is concerned turning them into the granaries of the country.

There is another big source of subsidiary food which comes from fisheries, both coastal as well as sweet water fishery. I come from Bombay and I have the privilege of ushering in many schemes in the State of Maharashtra. Schemes have been put down for the fishermen to go for deep sea fishing or mid-sea fishing, but those schemes are not useful to them. I would appeal to the Agriculture Minister to call a conference of the real fishermen and solve their difficulties. Their difficulty is not solved just by giving them mechanised trawler and all that, but their main difficulty is marketing and of preserving the sea food which they

get. 'Unfortunately, the fishing business has gone into the hands of export sharks, the businessmen, while the traditional fisherman remains still poor. Of course, we want exports and earn foreign exchange from the export of fish, but the real producer, the fisherman does not get any benefit. He has not been given the infrastructure right from the fishing to marketing.

Regarding sweet water fishing an experiment was conducted in Maharashtra where we had planted fish-seeds in sweet waters and developed some ponds and rivers for this purpose and the scheme was successful.

Finally, I call upon the Agriculture Minister who comes from an area which is agriculturally developed, which has seen the fruits of irrigation and which has tasted the fruit of the efforts of agriculturists, to usher in a total re-orientation of plan and give a new outlook to the development of agriculture and bring such schemes which are feasible and which have time-bound programme.

श्री हरमोहिन्द बर्मा (सीतापुर) :

अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एग्रीकल्चर मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ से जो मांगे रखी गयी हैं उनके समर्थन में खड़ा हुआ हूँ। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं अपने कुछ विचार पेश करना चाहता हूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारा देश कृषि प्रधान देश है और इस बार पहली मर्गबा हमारी भारत सरकार ने अग्रिक माला में एग्रीकल्चर के ऊपर ध्यान दे कर घन स्वीकृत किया है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं कुछ सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। खेती के बारे में सदा एक प्रश्न सामने रहता है कि इसका विकास कैसे हो। उत्तर प्रदेश में कांग्रेस सरकार ने श्री मंगल देव बिहारद के नेतृत्व में एक कमीशन नियुक्त किया था और उसने सर्वे किया था। सर्वे करने के बाद उसने अपनी रिपोर्ट पेश की कि जमीन का वितरण ठीक

[श्री हरमोबिन्ध वर्मा]

किया जाए। अगर जमीन का पूरे मुल्क में ठीक बटवारा किया जाए तो खेती का कितना विकास हो सकता है।

हमारे देश में जमीन काफी है लेकिन जमीन का वितरण अभी तक ठीक ठग से नहीं हुआ है। जमीन का वितरण कागजों पर तो हो गया है लेकिन सही मायने में उसका वितरण नहीं हुआ है। आज भी बहुत से आदमी ऐसे हैं जिनके पास सौ-सौ एकड़ जमीन हैं। दूसरी तरफ ऐसे लोग भी हैं जिनके पास एक या दो बीघा जमीन है। इनके अलावा बहुत से ऐसे भी जो जमीनहीन हैं। अगर जमीन का वितरण सही नहीं होता है तो खेती का उत्पादन नहीं बढ़ सकेगा।

खेती के सम्बन्ध में सिंचाई की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिए। सिंचाई की व्यवस्था हमारे देश के अन्दर ठीक नहीं हो पाई है। केवल कुछ इलाकों में जैसे कि पंजाब, हरयाणा या उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ भाग में सिंचाई की व्यवस्था है। लेकिन हमारे क्षेत्र में सिंचाई की व्यवस्था बिल्कुल भी नहीं हुई है। जो हमारे यहाँ दूधबबल या नहर की व्यवस्था की गयी है उसमें भी बहुत अव्यवस्था है। हमारे यहाँ जो नहर पम्प लगाये गये वे 1969 में चलाये गये थे लेकिन अभी तक वे चालू नहीं हुए हैं। उनमें जो पैसा लगाया गया वह तमाम बेकार हो रहा है। उनमें से एक भी पम्प चालू नहीं हुआ है। यहाँ तक कि बिजली के खम्भे गाड़ दिए गए हैं लेकिन बिजली का कनेक्शन नहीं दिया गया। इस तरह से हम सारे मुल्क के बारे में अनुमान कर सकते हैं कि जो पैसा इन्वेस्ट हुआ है उसका कितना इस्तेमाल हुआ। क्यों नहीं हो रहा है इसको सरकार को देखना पड़ेगा और सिंचाई की व्यवस्था उसको करनी होगी।

खेतों का सम्बन्ध पानी के बाढ़ बाढ़ से आता है। बाढ़ खेती का उत्पादन बढ़ाने

के लिए बहुत आवश्यक है। बाढ़ की कीमतें बहुत बड़ बड़ हैं और किसान इस कारण से उसका इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पा रहा है। हम धाधा कर रहे थे कि बाढ़ की काममें कम की जाएगी लेकिन ऐसा नहीं हुआ है। मेरा सुझाव है कि बाढ़ की कीमत को गिराया जाए ताकि छोटा किसान भी उसका इस्तेमाल कर सके। बाढ़ इस्तेमाल नहीं होगी, पानी की समुचित व्यवस्था नहीं होगी, जमीन ठीक नहीं होगी तो जमीन का ठीक उपयोग नहीं हो पाएगा और उत्पादन बड़ नहीं पाएगा। हमारा कृषि प्रधान देश है। वह तब तक डिबेलेप नहीं कर सकता है जब तक इन चीजों की ठीक से व्यवस्था नहीं कर दी जाती है। वे लोग गरीबी में रह रहे हैं, नये भूखे हैं। उनकी तर्क आपका विमेल ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

बीज की व्यवस्था भी ठीक नहीं है। जो बड़े जमीन वाले हैं और जो आपके कृषि विभाग के बड़े अधिकारियों से सम्पर्क बनाए रखते हैं उनको तो बीज मिल जाता है लेकिन जो गरीब लोग हैं, जिन के पास थोड़ी जमीन है उनको बीज नहीं मिलता है। अगर उनको मिलता भी है तो इस भाव पर मिलता है कि वे खरीद नहीं पाते हैं।

जब उनका मूला तैयार हो जाता है, मेहू या चावल कोई भी फल तैयार होती है तो वह इस भाव पर बिकती है जो बहुत ही नीचा भाव होता है, उनको उसके दाम ठीक नहीं मिलते हैं। बीज उनको सच छः रुपये किलो के भाव पर मिलता है। जबकि वे इस भाव पर ले नहीं सकते हैं इस वास्ते उनकी खेती खराब हो जाती है, पैसाबार बहुत कम हो पाती है। इस वास्ते आप खेती का सब करे, उनको पानी दें, बाढ़ दें, बीज दें तथा दूसरे साधन मुहैया करे।

छोटे किसानों के लिए साधन उपलब्ध करना भी अत्यन्त आवश्यक है। हम धाधा कर रहे थे कि बजट में इसकी व्यवस्था की जाएगी।

जी पैसा खर्चा गया है वह किस मद में धीरे-धीरे कैसे खर्च किया जाएगा इसका तो बाद में पता चलेगा। लेकिन इस वक़्त आपको ट्रेक्टरों की कीमतें घटानी चाहिये थी। जो साधन खेती के काम में आते हैं, जिन जिन चीजों का किसान अपनी खेती में इस्तेमाल करता है उन पर कोई टैक्स नहीं लगने चाहिये थे। गवर्नमेंट जो उन पर टैक्स लगाती है उनको बिल्कुल सरकार को विद्यूत कर देना चाहिये ताकि किसान को साधन ठीक से मिल सकें और सस्ते मिल सकें।

किमान जो उत्पादन करता है उसका मूल्य भी उसको सही नहीं मिलता है। उसको मूल्य नहीं मिले इसका देखना भी बहुत आवश्यक है। आपका दाम बांधो नीति अपनानी चाहिये। बिना इसके एप्रिकल्चर डिबेलेप नहीं कर सकती है। इसके बिना छोटा किसान धाने नहीं बढ़ सकता है। उसका गन्ना इतना सस्ता बिक जाता है कि उसकी जो लागत है वह भी वापिस नहीं हो पाती है। बैंक का कर्जा, सरकार का कर्जा, महाजन का कर्जा उस पर इतना अधिक होता है कि अपने उत्पादन को बेच कर फौरन उसको वह कर्जा अदा करना पड़ता है। अगर न करे तो जेल जाने की नीबट आ जाती है। ये तमाम विवरण उसके सामने होती है। मजदूर हो कर उसका सस्ता गन्ना बेच कर कर्जा अदा करना पड़ता है। कर्जा अदा करने के बाद उसके पास कुछ भी शेष नहीं बचता है। दुबारा उसको कर्ज लेकर खाना पड़ता है। इस तरह से वह कभी भी कर्ज से निकल नहीं पाता है। इस वास्ते उसको सही दाम मिले इसकी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। तभी किसान तरक्की कर सकता है। आज तक ऐसा नहीं हो पाया है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस बांधो नीति बहुत ही आवश्यक है। खेती के उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिए यह बहुत आवश्यक है। जिसकी लागत उसकी उत्पादन में आती है उस लागत का

कम से कम दस प्रतिशत फायदा तो उसको मिलना ही चाहिये

आवायमन के साधनों की भी इस संबंध में आवश्यकता निबिबाद है। सीतापुर जिले में हमारे किसान गन्ना पचा करते हैं। आज भी उनको अपना गन्ना पांच छः रुपये बिटल में बेचने पर मजबूर होना पड़ता है। चूंकि उसको ले जाने के वास्ते साधन उपलब्ध नहीं हैं इस वास्ते उसको अपने गन्ने की सही कीमत नहीं मिल पाती है। ऐसी जब हालत हो तो कभी भी किसान तरक्की नहीं कर सकता है। सही दाम के साथ साथ धाने-जाने के साधन भी उसके लिए मुहैया किए जाने चाहिये। किसान अगर अपने गन्ने को बे लोग महौली मिल, हरगांव मिल, बिसवां मिल में लाना चाहते हैं तो मिल तक धाने के लिए रास्ता नहीं है। यह हमारे जिले की हालत है। मैं समझता हूँ कि पूरे मुल्क में यही हालत होगी। दूसरे प्रदेशों में भी रास्ते ठीक नहीं होंगे, सबकें ठीक नहीं होंगी, गलियारे ठीक नहीं होंगे। किसान पैदा किए हुए सामान को बाजार नहीं ले जा सकता है। जो दाल, बिचौलिया, होता है वही सस्ते में उसके सामान को खरीद लेता है और वही मुनाफा कमाता है और किसान मारा जाता है। यही स्थिति पूरे मुल्क में होगी। उदाहरण के तौर पर मैंने अपने जिले की बात आपने सामने रखी है। यह वह जिला है जहां अच्छी खेती होती है, अच्छा गन्ना, अच्छा गेहूं, अच्छा बाबल पैदा होता है। उसके बावजूद हमारे जिले के किसान भूखे और नंगे रहते हैं। आप जा कर इसकी अपनी धांधली से देख सकते हैं। सैकड़ों किसान आज कर्ज के मारे परेशान हैं। उनके सामने जेल जाने की नीबट उपस्थित है। लैंड मार्टगेज बैंक के द्वारा उनकी जमीन नीलाम की जा रही है। वह परिश्रम करता है लेकिन उसको अपने परिश्रम का फल नहीं मिलता है। उसको सुविधाएँ उपलब्ध नहीं की जाती हैं। गन्ना पैदा करने के बाद उसका गन्ना मिट्टी के भाव

[जी हर गोविंद बर्मा]

बिक जाता है। और जब उनको बीज और साधनों की जरूरत होती है तब इतना जबरदस्त उन पर बोझ पड़ता है कि उ. की रीढ़ टूट जाती है। पूरे मुल्क के अन्दर किसानों की यही दुर्दशा है। हो सकता है कि पंजाब में किसान की हालत अच्छी हो। मेरा अनुमान है कि उत्तर प्रदेश, बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश गरीबी से पीड़ित हैं जिसका मुख्य कारण वह है कि खेती बाहुल्य प्रदेश होते हुए भी कृषि के विकास की तरफ कोई निगाह नहीं डाली गई।

खेती के लिये जो बजट रखा गया है उसका सही उपयोग हो इसके लिये मैं सरकार से अनुरोध करूंगा कि सरकारी मशीनरी ठीक से आप इस्तेमाल करें, और जो सुझाव मैंने दिये हैं उन पर ध्यान दिया जाय। साथ ही जमीन का वितरण ठीक हो, मिर्चाई की, खाद की व्यवस्था हो, खाद की कीमत कम की जाये, बीज सही और अच्छे दिये जायें तब जा कर खेती का विकास होगा। और जो झलाभकर जोत वाले किसान हैं, या छोटी-जोत वाले किसान हैं उनको अच्छा और मुफ्त बीज दिया जाये, खाद मुफ्त दी जाये, पानी की सही व्यवस्था की जाये तभी खेती डेवलप कर सकेगी। अगर सरकार यह नहीं कर सकती है तो पूरे मुल्क के किसान को बड़ी निराशा होगी क्योंकि आज वह जनता पार्टी की तरफ आशा भरी दृष्टि में देख रहा है। उसके दिमाग में है कि यह गरीबों की, किसानों भूमिहीनों की पार्टी है इसलिये जनता पार्टी सरकार उनके भले के काम करेगी। इसलिये पूरी ताकत और दिल दिमाग से खेती की तरफ जूट जायें और जो सरकारी मशीनरी है उसको ठीक रखा जाये। क्योंकि आज पूरे मुल्क के अधिकांश वर्ग ने वही रईया अन्धियारा कर लिया है जो उन्होंने पिछली सरकार के साथ और उसके जमाने में किया था। इसलिये हमें सदेह है कि कहीं हमारी

योजनाओं को सरकारी मशीनरी गांवों तक न पहुंचने दे, और हम भी फेल हो जायें। इसलिये कृषि मंत्री जी इस पर विशेष ध्यान रखें कि जो पैसा जिस मद में रखा जाये उसका सही इस्तेमाल हो रहा है कि नहीं यह देखें। अगर ऐसा नहीं हुआ तो सरकार अपने उद्देश्य में फेल होगी और नतीजा क्या होगा, यह भविष्य बताएगा, मैं क्या कहूं। इन मन्त्रों के साथ मैं आपको धन्यवाद देता।

*श्री सहानू तिरुबा कोम (डहानू) :
उपसभापति महोदय, आज जिस महत्व की समस्या पर हम चर्चा कर रहे हैं वह है भूमि समस्या। कृषि मंत्री ने खुद कहा है कि हिन्दुस्तान में खेतिहर और अल्प भू-धारकों की संख्या ही ज्यादा है और समाज का यही भाग सबसे ज्यादा शोषित है। इस पीड़ित समाज की उन्नति पर ही खेती का विकास हो सकता है। खाद्यान्न बढ़ सकता है। लेकिन आज वही गरीबी की सीमा रेखा से भी नीचे के स्तर का जीवन बिता रहा है।

1971 में जो जनगणना हुई थी उस रिपोर्ट के अनुसार 1961 से 1971—इस दस साल के भीतर खेत सज्जदों की संख्या में 8 प्रतिशत की बढ़ोतरी हुई। जहां 1961 में 17 प्रतिशत खेतिहर मजदूर थे वहां उनका प्रतिशत 1971 में 25 प्रतिशत हो गया। इसके माने कांग्रेसी राज की सब घोषणाएं निष्फल हुईं। इतना ही नहीं बल्कि चन्द उलटी दिशा में चली गई। इन्दिरा गांधी के 10 साल के राज्य में तो इन भूमिहीनों की संख्या में और वृद्धि हुई है। 40 प्रतिशत से बढ़ कर 70 प्रतिशत तक दरिद्रता के स्तर के नीचे अपना जीवन बिता रहे हैं। यानी गरीब अधिक गरीब होता गया है।

जब तक जमींदारी खत्म कर के भूमिहीनों में जमीन का बंटवारा नहीं होता तब तक यह समस्या हल नहीं होगी। 30 साल में

क्या किया कांग्रेस ने ? 1950 में महास-
नोबीस कमीशन ने कहा था कि अगर होल्डिंग
का कानून बनाकर जमीन का बंटवारा किया
जा तो 6 करोड़ 30 लाख एकड़ जमीन
उपलब्ध हो सकती है। 1970-71 में डांडेकर-
रथ कमेटी ने कहा था कि 4 करोड़ 20 लाख
एकड़ जमीन उपलब्ध हो सकती है। 1972 में
स्वयं केन्द्रीय कृषि मंत्री ने कहा था कि 4
करोड़ एकड़ जमीन बंटवारे के लिए मिल
सकती है। आखिर जब आपातकालीन
स्थिति लागू की गई और गरीब किसानों को
और भूमिहीनों को जमीन देने के डोल बजने
लगे तब कहा गया कि 37 लाख एकड़ जमीन
उपलब्ध होगी। क्या नतीजा निकला ?
प्रत्यक्ष में केवल 9 लाख एकड़ जमीन ही
उपलब्ध हुई। कहां गई जमीन ? जमींदारों
ने झूठे रिकार्ड तैयार किए और जमीन
बचाई। उनका कांग्रेस सरकार ने साथ
दिया। यह हुआ जमीन बंटवारे का हाल।

हमारे देश में 62 प्रतिशत किसान अल्प
भू-धारक हैं। उनको खेती की उपज बढ़ाने
के लिए सहायता की आवश्यकता थी। बैंकों
का राष्ट्रीयकरण हुआ। अल्प भू-धारकों की
सहायता करने के नाम से। मगर उनको और
भूमिहीनों को उन बैंकों से कुछ नहीं मिला।
बड़े कारखानेदारों ने इससे फायदा उठाया,
साथ ही जमींदारों ने भी। कुछ थोड़ा सा
फायदा मध्यम किसान का हुआ। ऐसी हालत
में अल्प भू-धारकों को अपनी जीविका के
लिए खानपी साहूकारों से कर्जा उठाना पड़ा
और उसके भुगतान में इनकी जमीनें चली
 गईं।

इन खेतिहर मजदूरों की और एक समस्या
है—मजदूरी की। सन् 1947 में कानून की
किताब में न्यूनतम मजदूरी की बात कही
 गई है। उसके बाद जीवन निदेशांक सैकड़ों
गुना बढ़ा है। लेकिन उनकी जो मजदूरी
बढ़ी है वह नहीं के बराबर। कई राज्य
सरकारों ने न्यूनतम मजदूरी के कानून बनाए।

लेकिन मजदूरी का दर इतना कम रहा गया
कि खेत मजदूरों ने अपनी संघटित ताकत
पर जो मजदूरी हासिल की उससे भी कम
था। पश्चिम बंगाल, पंजाब, आन्ध्र प्रदेश,
केरल, महाराष्ट्र में थाना जिला—यहां के
संघटित खेतिहर मजदूरों ने न्यूनतम मजदूरी
के कानून से भी अधिक मजदूरी हासिल की
थी। वह इस नए कानून के आधार पर जमी-
दारों ने छीना शुरू किया है।

थाना जिले में अभी अभी मजदूरी के
लिए खे : मजदूरों की हड़ताल शुरू हुई है।
5 रु० न्यूनतम मजदूरी की उनकी मांग है।
आश्चर्य की बात है कि महाराष्ट्र की सीमा
पर बसने वाले गुजरात राज्य में खेतिहर
मजदूरों के लिए न्यूनतम 5 रु० मजदूरी का
कानून बनाया गया है। नगर हवेली में
4 रुपए 50 पैसे मगर महाराष्ट्र में केवल तीन
रुपए।

यह सब कांग्रेस सरकार के राज में हुआ
है। अब लोग जनतापार्टी को सत्ता पर लाए
हैं। इसलिए मैं सभापति महोदय के माध्यम
से कृषि मंत्री को याद दिलाना चाहता हूं कि
इन तमाम समस्याओं का सही सही हल
ढूंढना पड़ेगा। जमींदारों के खंगुल से जमीन
निकाल कर भूमिहीनों में उसका बंटवारा
करने का सही सही रास्ता प्रपनाना पड़ेगा
तब ही किसानों को सही राहत मिलेगी।

अब मैं कृषि मंत्री का ध्यान एक ग्रहण
सवाल की ओर खींचना चाहता हूं वह है
आदिवासी विभाग की जमीन के हस्तांतरण
की समस्या। आपातकालीन स्थिति में महा-
राष्ट्र सरकार ने जो जमीनें आदिवासियों के
हाथ से गई थीं वह वापस देने की बात कही
थी किन्तु उस पर प्रमल अभी तक नहीं हुआ
है। इतना ही नहीं बल्कि यह आदिवासियों
की जमीनें वापिस करने का कानून भी खरब
किया है। मैं केन्द्रीय कृषि मंत्री से कहना
चाहूंगा कि आप इस समस्या की ओर ध्यान

[श्री लहानू सिङ्ग कोम]

दे कर उन आदिवासियों की जमीनें जो जमींदारों ने अपने कब्जे में ली थीं, आदिवासियों को वापस दिलाने में सहায়ता करें।

जंगल में जो उपजाऊ जमीन है वह जमीन आदिवासी लोग गत 15 साल से बो रहे हैं। कुछ साल पहिले महाराष्ट्र सरकार ने अपनी पुलिस, रिजर्व पुलिस भेज कर जिन आदिवासियों ने जमीन में धान बोया था उनको खत्म करने की चेष्टा की। जब आदिवासियों ने प्रतिकार किया तो पुलिस ने उनका दमन किया। लाठी चार्ज किया। कई आदिवासी महिलाओं पर अत्याचार किया। कृषि मंत्री महोदय से मेरी मांग है कि उस दमन की वह जांच करें।

1976-77 की जो रिपोर्ट कृषि मंत्री ने दी है उसमें पेज 24 पर 1971-72 से 1975-76 इन पांच साल के जो उत्पादन के आंकड़े दिए हैं उसमें कभी कम कभी ज्यादा उपज हुई है। 1971-72 में 105.2 मिलियन टन खाद्यान्न की उपज हुई है तो 1972-73 में 87.1 और अगले साल और बढ़ी है। यह चढ़ाव-उतार क्यों हुआ है? इसका कारण यह है कि हमारी कृषि पैदावार सरकार की योजनाओं पर निर्भर नहीं है बल्कि निसर्ग पर निर्भर है। वर्षा अच्छी हुई तो उत्पादन बढ़ा, वर्षा कम हुई तो उत्पादन कम हुआ। इससे साफ होता है कि कृषि सुधार के नाम पर करोड़ों रुपए खर्च डाला गया लेकिन फिर भी, वर्षा ठीक न रही तो किसान मर जाता है।

देश में बड़े बड़े प्रोजेक्ट बने, नहरें, खुदी। मगर इसका उपयोग अल्प भू-धारकों को बिल्कुल नहीं हुआ। धाना में अल्प भू-धारकों ने जिला परिषद की मदद से कुछ खोदे मगर पम्पसेट नहीं। पम्पसेट आए तो बिजली नहीं। इसलिए पानी देना बन्द। यह हाल है।

महाराष्ट्र के आदिवासी किसानों में जंगल की उपजाऊ जमीन बहुत है। लेकिन जंगल संरक्षण के नाम पर उनको नहीं दी जाती। जब धाना जिले के आदिवासियों ने संघठित होकर आन्दोलन किया तब कही 40 हजार एकड़ जमीन उनको दी गई। वर्षा के लिए जंगल सुरक्षा का बहाना किया जाता है। लेकिन सब जंगल सरकार की तरफ से काटे जा रहे हैं, उस पर नये वृक्ष नहीं लगाये जाते।

किसान की सबसे महत्व की और एक समस्या है। वह उनके उत्पादित माल का भाव देने की है। अभी तक सरकार खेती उत्पादन को योग्य कीमत नहीं दे सकी। इसलिए किसानों का जीवन अस्थिर रहता आया है। अपना माल बाजार में बेभाव उसको बेचना पड़ता है तो दूसरी तरफ उसको बढ़ी हुई कीमतों पर रोजमर्रा की आवश्यक वस्तुएँ खरीदनी पड़ती हैं। साथ ही जिस माल के हमारे यहां कम दाम मिलते हैं लेकिन वही माल निर्यात हुआ तो दलाल खूब नफा कमाते हैं। उदाहरण के लिए प्याज की मिसाल लीजिए। दुनिया में जितना प्याज उत्पादन होता है उसका छठा भाग भारत में होता है और जितना भारत में होता है उसका एक तिहाई केवल नासिक जिले में होता है। मगर प्याज उत्पादन करने वाले किसानों को केवल प्रति किलो 5 पैसे से लेकर 25 पैसे तक दाम मिलते हैं। मगर वही प्याज जब बाहर जाता है तो बिबल पर कई सौ रुपए व्यापारी कमाते हैं। किसानों की यह लूट बन्द होनी चाहिए। मगर यह लूट बन्द नहीं हुई तो उत्पादन बढ़ने के बाद भी अल्प भू-धारकों को उसका फायदा नहीं होगा।

ग्रामाज और दूसरे उत्पादन पर जो कीड़े आदि की बीमारी लगती है उसका कोई ठीक इलाज नहीं होता जिससे ग्रामाज की कसब बर्बाद होती है। इन रोगों के संशुल से भी किसान के उत्पादन की बर्बाद है।

इन तमाम समस्याओं को, और खास कर जमीन के बंटवारे के सबाल को हल करना है। सांस्कृतिक को संरक्षण देना है तो इसके लिए पुराना जो लैण्ड रिकार्ड है वह काम नहीं देना। हर जगह खेत मजदूर और नदीब किसानों की कमेडियां बनानी होंगी और उनकी सलाह से ही यह काम हो सकेगा। वह कमेडियां जमींदारों द्वारा छुपाई हुई जमीनों का सही सही पता बतलायेंगी, साथ ही छूटा हुआ लैण्ड रिकार्ड भी दुस्त होगा।

मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि कांग्रेस सरकार की इन नीतियों को छोड़कर जनता पार्टी के कृषि मंत्री एक ऐसी कृषि नीति अपनायेंगे जिससे ऊपर बताई तमाम समस्याएँ हल होंगी और किसानों को खासकर निर्धन वर्ग को राहत मिलेगी तथा गरीबी की जो दर बढ़ रही है वह कम होगी। अगर ऐसा हुआ तो ही हमारा कृषि प्रधान देश सही माने में विकास कर सकेगा।

श्री डारिका नाथ तिवारी (गोपालगंज) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं मंत्री जी को अभी तो बधाई नहीं दूंगा, लेकिन कुछ साल काम करने के बाद वे बधाई के पात्र हो सकते हैं। कृषि मंत्रालय में बहुत से विभाग हैं। जैसे फूड, एग्रीकल्चर और साइन्टिफिक रिसर्च। जहाँ तक एग्रीकल्चरल रिसर्च का सम्बन्ध है, इसमें बहुत ज्यादा गड़बड़ी है। बहुत समय पहले डा. साहा ने श्राव्य हत्या की थी। उसके बाद एक कमेटी बहाल हुई—गवर्नरगडकर कमेटी, उस की रिपोर्ट आई लेकिन अभी तक वह रिपोर्ट कार्यान्वित नहीं हुई। रिपोर्ट कार्यान्वित क्यों नहीं की गई, इसका कारण क्या है? उस समय जब रिपोर्ट आई थी, तो दोनों सभों में उस पर बहस हुई थी और दोनों सभों में बहस का यदि आप सारांश देखेंगे तो उस समय-समय दोनों ने यह धांग की थी, चित्तवे कोलने वाले थे, जब ने यह

कहा था कि जो टाप-एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर है, उनका रबीया ऐसा होता है, जिसमें साइन्टिफिक रिसर्च की वहाँ गुंजाईश ही नहीं है। वहाँ ऐसा एटमास्फियर नहीं है कि साइन्टिफिक रिसर्च हो सके। अतः टाप एडमिनिस्ट्रेटर को हटाया जाए।

साइंस के मायने हैं कि प्रिसाइज हो, कोई भी काम हो वह इतना प्रिसाइज होना चाहिए कि उस के डेटा में गलती की गुंजाइश न हो। लेकिन हमारे आई० सी० ए० आर० में जो रिसर्च होती है उसमें यह ख्याल नहीं किया जाता है कि डेटा गलत है या ठीक है। टाप-एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन में कुछ लोग ऐसे हाली मुहाली हैं जो गलत डेटा देकर अपने भाका को बढ़ाने की कोशिश करते हैं। इसी कारण उन्हें बहुत एवार्ड भी मिलते हैं और एवार्ड के बारे में उन्होंने स्वीकार भी किया है कि गलत तरीके से मिल गए।

इस प्रश्न को एक वर्ष पहले भी मैंने इस हाउस में उठाया था। उस वक्त जो जवाब दिलाया गया—मिनिस्टर आफ स्टेट के द्वारा वह गलत डेटा के अनुसार विलाया गया था। उन्होंने कोट करते हुए एक लाइन को धाधा पड़ा, जिसके पढ़ने से वे फंसते थे, उसको नहीं पढ़ा। जैसे शर्बती-सुनारा गेहूँ के बारे में उन्होंने कहा कि इस में साइसिन कन्टेन्ट दूध के बराबर है, लेकिन रिपोर्ट में कहा गया था कि प्रोटीन है, साइसिन कन्टेन्ट नहीं है। उन्होंने प्रोटीन तक पढ़ दिया, लेकिन आगे के पाँच सात शब्दों को नहीं पढ़ा जिसमें उन का दावा झूठा साबित होता था।

आज स्थिति यह है कि वहाँ के साइन्टिस्ट्स बेचैन हैं, काम नहीं कर सकते हैं और जो काम करते हैं उनको झुठलाने के लिए गलत-गलत बात जर्नल में छाप दी जाती है। जब वे पूछते हैं कि

[श्री द्वारिका नाम त्रिवारी]

यह बात कहां से आई, किस डेटा के बिना पर आप ने इस को जर्नल में छापा— उस का कोई जबाब नहीं मिलता है। इस तरह के एटमास्फियर से साइन्टिस्ट डिप्रेस्ड हो जाता है। जब हैड-क्वांटि-डिपार्टमेंट का रवैया ऐसा हो तो नीचे के साइन्टिस्ट्स जो काम करने वाले हैं, उनका होमला पस्त हो जाता है और उनकी काम में दिलचस्पी नहीं रह जाती है। आप एक दो भ्रष्टाचारों की कटिंग्स को देखेंगे तो आप को मालूम होगा कि वहां पर साइन्टिस्ट्स के साथ कैसा व्यवहार होता है या दुर्व्यवहार होता है।

“IARI Staff on Fast”

“IARI Staff protest day-to-day.”

किसी भी साइन्टिफिक इन्स्टीट्यूशन के लिए ऐसी बात शोभा नहीं देती है। मैं आप से इतना ही कहना चाहता हूं कि आप गजेन्द्रगड्कर कमेटी की रिपोर्ट को पूरी तरह से कार्यान्वयन कराने का प्रयत्न कीजिए। यदि रिपोर्ट का पूरा कार्यान्वयन नहीं हुआ तो जिन कारणों से डा० शाह की आत्म हत्या हुई, उन के बाद दो और साइन्टिस्ट्स की आत्म हत्या हुई, आप देखेंगे—तो शायद भविष्य में और भी आत्म हत्याएं हों। फस्ट्रेजेशन जब एक सीमा पर पहुंच जाता है और उसके बाद साइन्टिस्ट को कोई चारा नहीं रहता कि वह आत्म हत्या करे या जलालत की जिन्दगी व्यतीत करे तो वह आत्म हत्या करता है। जो लोग जलालत की जिन्दगी व्यतीत नहीं करना चाहते वे आत्म हत्या कर लेते हैं।

गजेन्द्रगड्कर कमेटी की एक सिफारिश है कि जो संस्थान बना है, इसको हटाएं और आई० सी० ए० आर० को सरकार

का विभाग बनाए। उस रिपोर्ट पर गवर्नमेंट ने कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया। तीन-चार वर्ष हो गए, कितने मिनिस्टर्स आए और गए लेकिन किसी ने इस तरफ तबज्जह नहीं दी।

आपके जो टाप अधिकारी हैं उन्होंने स्वीकार किया है कि

Magasay award might have been given wrongly

भगर यह मालूम हो गया कि यह गेंगली भवाईं हुआ, रीग डाटा पर मिला है फिर भी उससे चिपके रहे, यह किसी साइन्टिस्ट के लिए शोभा की बात नहीं है। पण्डित जवाहर लाल नेहरू के जमाने में एक साइन्टिस्ट का डेटा गलत साबित हुआ तो पण्डित जी ने उन्हें रिजाइन करने के लिए फोर्स किया और वे रिजाइन करके चले गए। साइन्टिस्ट का यह काम नहीं है कि वह गलत डेटा पर पलरिश करे। आप इस मामले में जांच करा लें और उसके बाद यदि यह समझें कि ये गलत डेटा पर पलरिश करते हैं तो उनको हटाने की जरूरत होगी। यह बीज एग्रीकल्चर की एडवांसमेंट के लिए जरूरी है। आपका इतना पैसा एग्रीकल्चर रिसर्च पर खर्च होता है, भगर यह नहीं हुआ तो यह सब बर्बाद हो जाएगा।

अब इतने बड़े साइन्टिस्ट भी भगर गलत बयानी करें तो ताज्जुब होता है। क्या गलत बयानी है जरा देखें।

The lysine content of sharbati sonara is similar to that of milk—page 93 of Gajendragadkar Report.

यह गजेन्द्रगड्कर की रिपोर्ट के पेज 93 पर है।

The maize variety with high lysine and high protein content—page 92-93 of the report.

यह रिपोर्ट का है।

The multiple cropping pattern developed in IARI would provide job for 17.8 million people.

यह भी गलत है। कोई भी क्या 17.8 मिलियन पीपुल को जोब्स दे सकता है? जब साइन्टिस्ट पोलिटिशियन हो जाता है और पोलिटिशियन जैसा व्यवहार करता है तो उसका काम खटाई में पड़ जाता है और जिस काम के लिए उसे रखा जाता है वह नहीं हो पाता है। (व्यवधान)

मैंने उनके पद का नाम लिया है, उसी से उनको मालूम हो जाएगा।

सबसे पहले मैंने इस बात को लिया है कि आपके साइन्टिस्ट का ठीक से उपयोग नहीं होता है। आपके साइन्टिस्ट जो एग्मिनेन्स में अन्वेषण करते हैं उनके साथ बदतर व्यवहार हो रहा है। कल ही एक प्रश्न आया था कि कैसे इस समस्या को दूर किया जाए। ये लोग काम में बाधक हैं यही नहीं, साइन्टिस्ट पूल में भी उनका इन्डक्शन नहीं हुआ है। जो पांच सात वर्ष से काम कर रहा है लेकिन उसके नाम का इन्डक्शन नहीं हुआ है। उसका नाम नहीं आया है। इस तरह की जो स्थिति है वह रिसर्च के काम को पीछे ले जाएगी। गौर से इसकी आप जांच करें। मजिस्ट्रेट्स करमेटी की रिपोर्ट है उसको भी मंत्री जी देखें। उसकी जो सिफारिशें हैं उनको कार्यान्वित करने का प्रयत्न होना चाहिए।

15-00 hrs.

अब मैं सिचुएशन के बारे में थोड़ा सा कहना चाहता हूँ। हमारे यहां बिहार में एक गंडक परियोजना है। कल हमारे भाई श्री यादव ने भी इसका जिक्र किया था। यह योजना पन्द्रह बरस से चली आ रही है। पहले इसका जो एस्टीमेट था वह 64 करोड़ का था। आज यह दो सौ करोड़ से अधिक की हो गई है। पन्द्रह हजार एकड़ जमीन लेकर आपने इसके लिए रख ली है। उस जमीन को रखने से कोई फायदा आपको नहीं हो रहा है। वहां न सिचुएशन का पानी पहुँचता है और न कुछ पैदा किया जाता है। गोग्रपुर होकर मेरी कस्टिट्यूट से उसका पानी जाना है। वह योजना ऐसे ही पड़ी हुई है। उसके ज़िम भाग को पूरा किया गया है उससे नुकसान ही अधिक हो रहा है। फायदा होने की बजाय नुकसान ही अधिक हो रहा है। साइफन नहीं बने हैं। चैनल ठीक नहीं बनाए गए हैं। इसका नतीजा यह होता है कि पानी जो जाता है वह बेकार चला जाता, बर्बाद जाता है सारी जमीन वहां की बरबाद होती जा रही है। यह एक पुरानी योजना है। आपने कहा है कि पुरानी जो स्कीज हैं उनको जल्दी से जल्दी कम्प्लीट किया जाएगा। इसका भी आप जल्दी कम्प्लीट करने की कोशिश करें। क्यों विलम्ब किया जा रहा है यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है। स्टाफ पर बहुत खर्च हो रहा है लेकिन काम होता नहीं है।

छोटे किसानों के सम्बन्ध में मैं दो बातें कह कर समाप्त कर दूंगा। छोटे किसानों में इन्फ़ी सिविल नहीं होती है कि है एग्रिकल्चरल इम्प्लीमेंट्स खरीद सकें। कोऑपरेटिव्स पर आप निर्भर करते हैं। वे भी इसकी सर्वेसप्लुस नहीं हुई हैं और एग्रिकल्चर के क्षेत्र में तो और भी सर्वेसप्लुस साबित नहीं हुई हैं।

[श्री डारिका नाथ तिवारी]

मेरा सुझाव है हर ब्लॉक में एक दो ट्रैक्टर रख दिए जाएं जिन को लॉग किराए पर ले जा कर अपने खेत जोत सकें। सीलिंग जमीन की जो हुई है उसकी वजह से फेगमेटेशन ग्राफ होल्डिंग बहुत हो गई है। किसानों में शक्ति नहीं है कि वे अपने ट्रैक्टर खरीद सकें। इस वास्ते हर ब्लॉक में एक दो ट्रैक्टर ग्राप रख दें ताकि किसान चाहे तो किराए पर ले कर अपनी खेती को जतवा लें। बहुत फायदेमन्द यह चीज साबित हो सकती है। किसानों के पाम शक्ति नहीं है कि वे खरीद सकें।

श्री जगदम्बी प्रसाद यादव (गोहा) :
जिला स्तर पर तो है।

श्री डारिका नाथ तिवारी : जिले की आबादी 12-14 लाख होती है, दो तीन लाख फैमिलीज होती हैं। तीन लाख फैमिलीज को जिला स्तर पर ट्रैक्टर रखने से फायदा नहीं होता है। ब्लॉक स्तर पर दो ट्रैक्टर ग्राप रख दें तो छोटे किसानों को फायदा हो सकता है।

ग्रापको हर ब्लॉक स्तर पर चीज खाद ग्राप का भंडार भी रखना चाहिए ताकि किसान आसानी से जाकर उसको ले सकें। कुब्बालय का सब डिभिजन के हैडक्वार्टर पर रखने से किसान को तीन मील जाना पड़ता है और उसके को बिन खर्च हो जाते हैं। यह बड़ा बर्बाद और खर्च फायदा उठाने के बड़े सम्भव नहीं होता है।

यहां नहीं हैं उनके कर्मांड एलिया के बाहर ग्रापको ट्रैक्टरों की व्यवस्था करनी चाहिए यहां पर ट्रैक्टरों के सिफर हैं इसकी व्यवस्था प्रकल्प करें। किसानों

को कुछ पैसा भी इस काम के लिए ग्राप अवश्य दें। सिफर की व्यवस्था न हो तो खाद भी काम नहीं आता है। बिना पानी की सुविधा के खाद डाल दिया जाता है तो वह फायदा करने के बजाय नुकसान करता है। इस वास्ते ग्रापको ट्रैक्टरों का भी प्रबन्ध करना चाहिए।

मिट्टी का परीक्षण भी बहुत महत्वपूर्ण है। कौन सी मिट्टी में क्या बोया जाए ताकि अधिक फल हो सके, इसको लोगों को बताया जाना बहुत जरूरी है। हर एक इलाके की मिट्टी का परीक्षण करके ग्राप लोगों को बता दें कि कौन सी फसल वहां अधिक पैदावार दे सकती है तो उनमें लोगों को बहुत फायदा होगा। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इन मांगों का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI K MALLANNA (Chitradurga): Sir, may I congratulate the new Minister for Agriculture? He is a new minister for Agriculture. Formerly, Mr Badal was Minister for Agriculture. Coming to the discussions on Agriculture Ministry's Demands, this year the target is fixed at 125 million tonnes of foodgrain production. Still, it will be insufficient to meet the needs of the country and foodgrains worth Rs. 200 crores are to be imported from outside.

Sir, in order to be self-sufficient in foodgrains production and arrest the import of foodgrains from countries, we have to adopt some agricultural strategy to increase the agricultural production in this country. I want to give a few suggestions apart from other things.

We must have proper agricultural planning, crop pattern, development of irrigation and agricultural inputs like fertilisers, application of pesticides by using modern methods and by persuading our peasants and agriculturists in the country. Our agriculturists are by tradition following the conventional methods.

We have also to develop all backward as also drought and hilly areas. Last but one is to control floods and to start agro-based industries. Unless and until we develop all these things, we cannot achieve the target of 125 million tonnes of foodgrains in this country.

Regarding our agricultural plan, I am sorry to say that we have not yet prepared any plan. We have to prepare that plan according to the availability of water, fertility of land as also other natural resources. Our peasants are illiterate. They are using traditional or old method of agriculture. They must be persuaded to adopt new methods or new techniques. Otherwise, I do not think we will be able to achieve the targets fixed.

Planning should be done according to availability of natural resources such as water, land etc. Of course, resistance may come from the peasants because they are following traditional methods and they are illiterate people. With a vast land and water availability in our country, it is possible for us not only to become self-sufficient but we shall be able to export foodgrains to other countries. 80 per cent of the population in our country depend on agriculture. They reside in the rural areas whose economic conditions are very bad. In order to improve the economic conditions, we must develop agriculture and start agro-based industries. We must introduce the crop pattern. Unless and until we do that, whatever investment that is made in agricultural development will go waste.

Our agriculturists are conservative. The land is used for growing paddy, jowar and other crops. Because of that, the fertility of the soil is lost. So, I request the Minister to look into the matter and see that he introduces the crop pattern and see that agricultural plan is prepared.

Coming to other things, I want to say that our country consists of agricultural people mostly and hence

agriculture is mostly dependent upon irrigation. I now read from this Performance Budget of the Department of Irrigation. I quote:

"Since the inception of the Plan period—1951—115 major and 610 medium irrigation schemes have been taken up upto March, 1976, of which 32 major and 410 medium schemes have been completed and a few others having been substantially completed have started giving partial benefits. A number of minor irrigation schemes were also taken up during this period. This enabled raising the irrigation potential which was 22.6 million ha. in 1951 to about 48 million ha. by March 1976. According to present assessment the ultimate irrigation potential is assessed as about 107 million ha. The achievement so far is thus about 45 per cent of the ultimate potential. The development of irrigation in the country is, however, un-balanced over different States and Regions."

So, I request the hon Minister to give more attention to irrigation facilities.

I also request the hon. Minister to look into the details of inter-State river disputes. For want of award on these disputes, so many projects are held up. The delay in taking up these projects will enhance the cost of these projects.

Sir, I am coming from an area which is covered by DPAP programme. I do not know why Hiriyur taluk of Chitradurga has been omitted. This taluk is very backward and a few patches are irrigated by water there. I request the hon. Minister to include Hiriyur taluk in DPAP programme. The purpose of this programme is to give more importance to weaker sections of society in order to pursue the policy of social justice. Under the DPAP programme only the contract-oriented works like minor irrigation and afforestation are undertaken while the other schemes like horticulture, sericulture and fisheries are not undertaken.

[Shri S. Nanjesha Gowda]

Sir, by introducing dairy development schemes in Rayalaseema it will lead to generation of more employment.

Lastly, Sir, there is every possibility of getting water from Upper Badra for my constituency. A survey is going on for this purpose. I would request the government to clear this project so as to get water for the Chitradurga constituency area.

डा० सुशीला नायर (झाँसी) : उपध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं सर्वप्रथम माननीय मंत्री महोदय को बधाई देना चाहती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार ने जो फूड प्रेस के मूवमेंट पर रिसट्रिक्शन्स थे, फूड-जोन्स बनाये थे, उनको हटाकर देश की जनता और किसानों की बहुत सेवा की है। इसमें बेईमानी और करप्शन के रास्ते भी बहुत कुछ बन्द होते हैं और साथ ही साथ उपभोक्ताओं को मुनासिब दाम पर अनाज मिलता है, किसान को अच्छे दाम मिलने की संभावना बढ़ती है। इसलिए यह जारी रहना चाहिये और इस प्रकार के रिसट्रिक्शन्स दोबारा न आये, इसकी तरफ मंत्री महोदय ध्यान दें।

बहुत से माननीय सदस्यों ने किसानों को मुनासिब दाम देने की तरफ ध्यान दिलाया है। मैं कहना चाहती हूँ कि जब सर्व-सामान्य लोगों को 10,000 रुपये तक की ग्रामदानी पर इनकम टैक्स की छूट दी गई है, तो क्या कारण है कि किसान की थोड़ी सी इनकम पर भी विकास-कर लगाया जाता है। लैंड रेवेन्यू, लगान, को भले ही न हटाया जाये, इस को मैं समझ सकती हूँ, क्योंकि लगान के डाकुमेंट्स किसानों की ओनरशिप, मिस्किमट, की सनब हो जाते हैं और उन से उन की सुरक्षा रहती है। लेकिन थोड़ा सा पानी और कुछ

सुविधाएं दे कर किसानों पर बड़ा भारी विकास-कर लगा दिया जाता है। मेरा अनुरोध है कि जब किसान की ग्रामदानी 10,000 रुपये हो जाये, उस के बाद ही उस पर यह कर लगाया जाये, उससे पहले नहीं।

15.16 hrs.

[SHRI DHIRENDRANATH BASU in the Chair]

किमान की ग्रामदानी को बढ़ाने के लिए कृषि उद्योगों, एग्रीडंडस्ट्रीज, को भी अधिक तेजी से बढ़ाया जाना चाहिए। माधो के चीन में जहां चाय पैदा होती है, वही उस का प्रोसेसिंग होना है, जहां धान पैदा होता है, वही चावल निकाला जाता है; जहां तिलहन पैदा होता है, वही तेल निकाला जाना है और जहां मूग पैदा होती है, वहीं दाल बनाई जाती है। लेकिन हमारे देश में इस प्रकार के सभी उद्योग देहात से निकाल कर शहरों और कस्बों में बड़े लोगों को दिये जाते हैं और किसान की ग्रामदानी इस कारण बढ़ नहीं पाती है—किसान गरीब का गरीब रहता है। इस लिए इस नियम का कड़ाई से पालन किया जाये कि किसान जो उत्पादन करता है, उस का प्रोसेसिंग, उपभोक्ता तक पहुंचाने की प्रक्रिया, भी किसान द्वारा हो और उस के लिए सब सुविधायें उस को दी जायें, ताकि उस की जेब में चार पैसे अधिक जा सकें।

हमारे देश में अनाज का बहुत स्टॉक इकट्ठा हुआ है, मगर उस को रखने की व्यवस्था उन्नत नहीं है। उस को कीड़ों और चूहों से, पानी से भीगने और सड़ने से बचाने के लिए बड़ी तेजी से काम करने की जरूरत है। यह खुशी की बात है कि हमारा उत्पादन बढ़ रहा है, और इस बीच में और भी अनाज आयेगा। हमारे

देश के लोग अधिक भनाज खरीद सकें, उन की खरीदने की ताकत बढ़े, उस के लिए तो बहुत उपाय करने की आवश्यकता है लेकिन यह काम केवल कृषि मंत्री नहीं कर सकते।

नगर कृषि मंत्री यह सोच सकते हैं कि इस डकटूटा हुए भनाज का क्या किया जाये। हम ने रूस से जा दा मिलियन टन भनाज उधार लिया था क्या हम उस का वापस करने का मोच सकते हैं? अन्य विश्व के देशों को मदद देने हैं। क्या उस में इस भनाज का किसी प्रकार इस्तेमाल हा सकता है? क्या विश्व के गव बड़े भनाज के स्टॉक का बनाने में हम अपना योगदान कर सकते हैं? पुराना भनाज पड़ा सड़ता रहेगा और स्टोरेज की व्यवस्था प्रायद तेजी से सही हा पायेगी इस को देखने हुए कृषि मंत्री का इस तरह ध्यान देना चाहिए कि इस स्टॉक का क्या करना है।

जहा तक सिचाई की योजनाओं का संबंध है, एक दो माननीय सदस्यों ने कहा है कि हमारे देश की नदियों का पानी समुद्र में जा कर बर्बाद होता है, क्या हम उस पानी का सही इस्तेमाल नहीं कर सकते? बाढ़ के कारण हमारे देश में हर साल सैकड़ों करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हो जाता है। कृषि मन्त्रालय की रिपोर्टें से कहा गया है कि पिछले साल बाढ़ के कारण 617 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ। उस के साथ साथ यह भी कहा गया है कि प्लव कंट्रोल योजना को 1954 में शुरू किया गया और उस पर आज तक 516 करोड़ रुपये खर्च किये जा चुके हैं। यह कहा की बुद्धिमत्ता है कि हम हर साल बाढ़ के कारण 500, 600 या 700 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान उठाएँ, और साल में केवल 40, 50 करोड़ रुपये प्लव कंट्रोल पर खर्च करें? क्या हम दूसरे कामों को दीवा कर के भी इस 1958 L.S.—8

काम को तेजी से नहीं कर सकते, ताकि प्लव कंट्रोल के साथ साथ हमारे पानी का भी उपयोग हो सके। उस में से बिजली भी निकल पाएगी और बहुत से राष्ट्र के निर्माण के कार्य हो सकेंगे। तो प्लव कंट्रोल का टाप प्रायरिटी दी जाय और जो योजनाएं अपनी नदियों को दूसरे से मिलाने की है उन का तेजी से भागे बढ़ाया जाय। मुझे खुशी है रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि प्लव और सतलज को जोड़ने की योजना चल रही है। लेकिन जैसा आज मुबह साठे जी ने बताया था एक योजना हमारे विशेषज्ञों की तरफ से बनाई गई थी जिस में सारी की सारी नदियां लिंक की जा सकती हैं और दो चैन बन सकते हैं देश में पानी की नदियों को जोड़ कर दो हार पानी के भारत की भूमि पर बन सकते हैं, जिस में खर्च तो शुरू में होगा, प्रायद दस बीस हजार करोड़ भी लग सकता है लेकिन उस का जो उत्पादन होगा वह कई गुना ज्यादा होगा। हम कहीं से भी उस के लिए मदद ले कर अपनी नदियों को जोड़ने के काम को टाप प्रायरिटी दे कर करें, ऐसा मंत्री जी ने मेरा अनुरोध है।

सिचाई की सरकार की रिपोर्ट मैंने देखी। इतने दिनों के काम के बाद 22 6 मिलियन हेक्टेयर को हम पानी दे पाए हैं मेजर स्कीम्स से और 50 मिलियन हेक्टेयर को माइनर स्कीम्स से। मैं पूछना चाहती हू कि माइनर स्कीम्स में कितना खर्च किया गया है और मेजर में कितना खर्च होता है। सिचाई का पोर्टेबिलिटी, संचायना, शहर माइनर स्कीम का ज्यादा है, तो उस तरफ ज्यादा सबजसह देनी चाहिए और जो बड़ी बड़ी मोस्मार्प हमने शुरू की हैं उनको पूरा करने की तरफ सबजसह दी जाय न कि और योजनाएं बिछेदने की बात की

[डा० सुशीला नायर]

जाय। इधर भी काम शुरू कर दिया, उधर भी कर दिया और पूरा एक भी नहीं हुआ, यह चीज नहीं होनी चाहिए यह समाज के लिए और देश के लिए फायदे की बात नहीं होगी।

मेरी कास्टीट्यूटी में बैठवा पर एक राजघाट बांध की योजना है। मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश दोनों का उस से लाभ हान वाला है, दो साल पहले 1975 में श्रीमति इंदिरा गांधी ने प्रधान मंत्री की हैसियत से उस का जिलान्यास किया था। आज तक उसमें जरा भी काम नहीं हुआ है। लाखों रुपये की सीमेंट और तेल इकट्ठा कर रख दिया गया था। सीमेंट पर पानी पड़ कर पत्थर बन गया। तेल की बीरेन्स में छेद हा कर तेल साग बह गया, सारा पैसा बरबाद हो गया। तो ऐसे काम हम को नहीं चाहिए। मंत्री महोदय हम यह आश्वासन दें कि जो योजनाएं इस बजट चल रही हैं उनको पहले पूरी तरह से कंप्लीट किया जाएगा ताकि उन के पानी का इस्तेमाल हो सके। और नयी योजना उस के बाद भी जाए। थोड़ा थोड़ा काम शुरू करके सब का खुश बनने का काम न किया जाय क्योंकि उसमें राष्ट्र का हित नहीं होता।

अभी तक हमारी मिचाई की योजनाओं का जो 107 मिलियन हेक्टेयर का हमारा ध्येय है उसमें से 46 प्रतिशत हम कर पाए हैं तीस सालों में, तो यह हम कितने समय में पूरा कर पाएंगे। इसकी कोई योजना बना कर मंत्री महोदय हमें बताएं ताकि अगले पांच साल, या अधिक से अधिक दस साल के अन्दर यह 100 प्रतिशत सम्भव हो जाय, मिचाई का काम पूरा हो जाय और नदियों को जोड़ने का काम भी

हो जाय उसके बाद भी बहुत सा एरिया रह जाएगा जिसमें सिंचाई नहीं पहुंच पायी होगी। उस को कैसे उपजाऊ बना सकें, उसके लिए ड्राई फार्मिंग की तरफ ज्यादा तबज्ज दी जाये ज्यादा अनुसंधान उसमें किया जाय। इस तरह के काम इस्त्राएल में बहुत हुए हैं। वहां पर वे एक तरह की प्लास्टिक की चदर क्राप के ऊपर डाल देते हैं जिससे ग्रायस्चर अर्थात् नमी हवा में उड़ नहीं जाती। इस तरह के कई एक प्रयोग उन्होंने किए हैं। मयह सब उन में समझ सीखें और उन का अधिक में अधिक उपयोग करें।

बड़ी बड़ी मिचाई की योजनाएं जो हमने बनाईं उनके रिजर्वायर्स बहुत में खराब हुए जा रहे हैं मिट्टी से भर जा रहे हैं क्योंकि हमारा जगलात बड़ी निर्ममता से काटे जा रहे हैं। इधर विशेष ध्यान देने की आवश्यकता है। जगलात कितने तरह से उपयोगी है यह सब जानते हैं। मैं ज्यादा समय इसमें नहीं लेना चाहती। जगलात से एक तरफ तो पानी बरसने में आसानी होती है, दूसरी तरफ उससे सौमल ईरोजन रुकता है, तीसरी तरफ हमारे जो रिजर्वायर्स हैं, बड़े बड़े सरोवर जो हम ने बनाए हैं, उनका भी संरक्षण होता है। तो एफोरेस्टेशन तेजी से किया जाय और बड़ी सूख बूझ से किया जाय। आज जगलात में बेइतहा खोरी होती है। उत्तर प्रदेश के लोगो ने, सर्वोदय के कार्यकर्त्ताओं ने “चिपको-आन्दोलन” के द्वारा जगलात की रक्षा की—बहु एक बहुत सुन्दर उदाहरण था। हमारे पड़ोस में मध्य प्रदेश में और दूसरी जगहों पर कितनी खोरी होती है—यह मैं जानती हूँ। इसको कैसे रोका जाय—इसकी तरफ विशेष ध्यान देने की जरूरत है।

मैं आपसे बड़ी विनम्रता से निवेदन करना चाहती हूँ — पिछली सरकार ने दिसम्बर, 1976 में एक फ्लड कन्ट्रोल बोर्ड नियुक्त किया था। सब से पहली बात तो यह है कि यह बोर्ड काफी देर से नियुक्त किया गया, लेकिन नियुक्त होने के बाद यह भागे चल ही नहीं रहा है। इसके चेयरमैन श्री हाथी साहब थे, जो गवर्नर बन कर चले गए, उन के जाने के बाद से इस बोर्ड का कोई बली वागिन नहीं है। मैं चाहती हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इसकी तरफ तबज्जह दें और इसके काम को भाग बढ़ाएं।

रिहैबिलिटेशन एण्ड माडर्नाइजेशन आफ एंजिनिंग इरिगेशन स्कीम्स—इसका जिक्र आप की रिपोर्ट में है, लेकिन इसके बारे में कुछ विशेष कार्य हुआ हो-ऐसा दिखाई नहीं देता है। मैंने माडर्न-इरिगेशन (लघु सिंचाई योजनाओं) के बारे में भी जिक्र किया है। इसमें लिफ्ट इरिगेशन की बहुत आवश्यकता है— जिस की तरफ मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान विशेष रूप से खींचना चाहती हूँ। मेरी कॉस्टीचूगन्सी में एक जामने नदी बहती है, उसके एक तरफ टीकमगढ़ का क्षेत्र है और दूसरी तरफ खलिसपुर की महरौली तहसील का क्षेत्र है। टीकमगढ़ के क्षेत्र में लिफ्ट इरिगेशन का काम हो रहा है, टीकमगढ़ सरसबज्ज है, लोग खुशहाल हैं लेकिन दूसरी तरफ काम नहीं हो रहा है वहां सूखा पड़ा है वहां के लोग बहुत गरीब हैं मैं चाहती हूँ कि उस क्षेत्र में इस काम को जल्द शुरू किया जाय, इस बात का अनुमान लगाया जाय कि कहां कहां लिफ्ट-इरिगेशन हो सकता है, उसको करने के लिए क्या क्या साधन चाहिए, बिजली पहुंचानी चाहिए, बिजली मिलनी भी चाहिए, किसान को। इस सब बातों को देखा जाय।

आज किसानों और गरीबों की बातें

हम बहुत करते हैं, लेकिन जब बिजली की कटौती का सवाल आता है तो सबसे पहले किसानों और गरीब आदिमियों की बिजली काटी जाती है। किसानों को बिजली नहीं मिल रही है। उसने कर्ज लेकर पम्प लगाया है, लेकिन वह पम्प का इस्तेमाल नहीं कर पा रहा है, क्योंकि उसको बिजली नहीं मिलती है। उत्तर प्रदेश और मध्य प्रदेश में तो जुलूम हो रहा है—वहां पर एक नियम है—मिनिमम चाज्ज का। किसान में यह बायदा लिया हुआ है कि इतनी बिजली वह अवश्य इस्तेमाल करेगा और उसके बधले में इतना पैसा अवश्य देगा। अब बिजली उमको देते नहीं है, लेकिन मिनिमम चाज्ज खूब करते हैं। यह ठीक है कि मिनिमम चाज्ज में अभी थोड़ी सी कटौती की है, लेकिन उमसे काम नहीं चलना है। जितनी बिजली उस कां दी जाती है उसका पैसा लिया जाय, उससे ज्यादा बसूल करने का अधिकार सरकार को नहीं है, यह तो एक तरह से किसानों और गरीबों का शोषण है, जिस को गुर्रस्त बन्द करने की आवश्यकता है।

मैं बड़े अवध में यह कहना चाहती हूँ—हम ने बीड़ी के पत्ते के उद्योग का राष्ट्रीयकरण कर दिया है। इस का तीजा क्या हुआ? जितने बड़े बड़े पैसे बाले हैं, वे ही पैसा देकर उसका ठेका ले सकते हैं, जो लोग गरीब हैं, थोड़ा पैसा लेकर अपनी रोजी रोटी कमाते थे, उनका काम बन्द हो गया है। यह एक ऐसा मासला है जिस की तरफ मंत्री महोदय को ध्यान देना चाहिए मैं जानती हूँ यह स्टेट का मसला है, सेंट्रल का नहीं है, लेकिन फिर भी आप इस को देख सकते हैं। हम ने एम्प्लायमेन्ट बढ़ाने के लिए जनता से बायदा किया है, इस लिए एम्प्लायमेन्ट बढ़ाने के रास्ते में जो रुकावट करने वाले

[डा० सुशीला नय्यर]

कार्य और कामूने बने हैं, उनको दूर करना हवागर्ज हो जाता है।

जहां हमको खेती और मिर्चाई की जरूरत है, उसके साथ-साथ एग्रीकल्चरल-इन्फ्रेस्ट्रक्चर—गाय और बलों को तरफ भी खाम तबज्जह देने की जरूरत है। गायों की नस्ल सुधार का काम हो रहा है, लेकिन जिनकी तजी में होना चाहिए, उनकी तजी में नहीं हो रहा है। इन की नस्ल सुधार से एक तो हमको दूध मिल सकता है, दूसरे खाद मिल सकती है। गावर गैस प्लांट की योजना को विस्तृत रूप से बताया जाए तो ईंधन भी मिल सकता है। आज जो हमारे जंगलों के रिमोसेज बरबाद हो रहे हैं, उसमें कुछ राक लग सकती है। इस लिए इस की तरफ विशेष ध्यान दिया जाय।

श्रीमान् किसान खेती करेगा तो चाहिए है कि उसके बान की भी किक होगी। इसके लिए हमें कोई नीति निर्धारित करनी चाहिए। जो प्रेजेंट पालिसी है केश फास और फूड काम के बारे में उससे तो किसान केश काम की तरफ ही झुकेगा, दूसरी तरफ नहीं जायेगा। मेरा नज़र निवेदन है जैसा कि हमारे तिवारी जी ने कहा है कि हमें ज़मीन का अनुसंधान करके यह तय करना चाहिए कि कौन सी ज़मीन किस काम के लिए अच्छी हो सकती है। ज़मी के अनुसार किसान अपनी खेती करे। मिमाल के नीचे पर गन्ने का पैदावार में हर जगह पर एक सा ग़ुवर कन्टेन्ट नहीं होता। दक्षिण और महाराष्ट्र के गन्ने में अधिक ग़ुवर कन्टेन्ट पाया जाता है और हमारे यहाँ ५० पी०, बिहार में जो गन्ना होता है उसमें कम मात्रा में ग़ुवर पायी जाती है। ये सारी चीज़ें देखने की हैं। ग़ुवर, ५० पी०, बिहार में

चीनी के बिल नगे हैं सो किसान गन्ना पैदा करता है।

आखिर में श्रीमान मैं एक बात कहना चाहती हूँ। हमें लेण्ड के सुधार को भी महत्व देना चाहिए और लेण्ड रेक्लेमेशन के इस काम को अधिक तेज़ी से करना चाहिए। कहा ज़मीन खेती लायक बन सकती है सर्व करन की भी आवश्यकता है। गांधी जी के एक पुराने साथी श्री सनीश चन्द्र दाम जो कि १५-१६ बग की उम्र के हैं, लेण्ड रेक्लेमेशन पर बाकंग (बगाल) में सुन्दर प्रयोग कर रहे हैं। माननीय मंत्री उनके प्रयोग को देखें और तय करें कि उनके प्रयोग से कौन सरकार लाभ उठा सकती है ताकि हमारी ज़मीन को पैदावार बढ सके। इस पर मंत्री महोदय ध्यान दें।

इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ मैं आपका धन्यवाद करती हूँ कि आपने मुझे समय दिया।

15.31 hrs.

RE. TREATMENT BEING GIVEN TO SUNDERKALI, A SICK ELEPHANT

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is time for private members business.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA (Delhi Sadar): Sir, before that, I want to invite the attention of the minister to an important matter. There is one elephant—Sunderkali—lying sick in Delhi for many days. The government is not paying attention to it at all. The

news has appeared in the papers also many times that the government should go to its help. The Defence Ministry is sleeping over the matter. May I request the minister through you to contact the Defence Ministry and send a crane there immediately to save the life of the elephant? Delhi people are very much agitated about it. After all, we are all interested in saving the life of the animal.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI SURJIT SINGH BARNALA): Some veterinary doctors were sent and they examined the elephant. Our department is trying to see whether the damage can be repaired. The leg is fractured and many weeks have passed. It is being examined whether it will be possible to keep the animal alive. Efforts are being made in that direction. We are trying to contact the army authorities for getting a crane so that the elephant can be moved.

15.33 hrs.

MENTAL HEALTH BILL*

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR (Jhansi): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the treatment and care of mentally ill persons, to make better provision with respect to their property and affairs and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the treatment and care of mentally ill persons, to make better provision with respect to their property and affairs and for matters connected herewith or incidental thereto."

The motion was adopted.

DR. SUSHILA NAYAR: I introduce the Bill.

15.35 hrs.

INDIAN AGRICULTURAL WORKERS BILL*

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare of agricultural workers in India and to regulate the conditions of their work.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the welfare of agricultural workers in India and to regulate the conditions of their work."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION (RESTORATION OF SETTLEMENTS) BILL*

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN (Coimbatore): Sir, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the restoration of the settlements arrived at between Life Insurance Corporation of India and All India Life Insurance Corporation Employees Federation and other Unions.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the restoration of the settlements arrived at between Life Insurance Corporation of India and All India Life Insurance Corporation Employees Federation and other Unions."

The motion was adopted.

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Sir, I introduce the Bill.

15.37 hrs.

COMPULSORY ADULT EDUCATION BILL

by Shri C. K. Chandrappan

MR. CHAIRMAN: Before I call upon Shri Chandrappan to move the motion for consideration. We have to fix the time-limit for the consideration of this Bill. Shall we fix it for two hours.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN (Chennanore): Sir, it is an important Bill and I think at least three hours should be fixed.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let it be up to 6 O'Clock.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, I beg to move:†

"That the Bill to provide for funds and facilities, and to set up necessary bodies to ensure compulsory adult education in India, be taken into consideration."

Sir, while discussing this Bill, I am very sure that the whole House will extend support to the issue that we are trying to raise through this discussion. I know that there might be differences regarding the provisions of the Bill, but the more significant thing is the question of illiteracy and how to eradicate it. There are certain suggestions which have been made in this respect.

Sir, when we speak of illiteracy, I think that the whole approach towards this problem should be that it is another face of poverty. Illiteracy is another face of poverty and it may be even said that illiteracy and poverty are twins. So it is a part of this project to eradicate poverty. It is as a part of that struggle we have to take up the challenging task of fighting this menace. Sir, I also don't approach this problem as a problem of mere

statistics, because there are a large number of people in this country who are illiterate. If you take the age group of 15 to 25, there were 48.1 million illiterate people in 1961. The number has increased to 50.6 million in 1971.

In 1976, it again became 52.6 million. You will see that there has been an increase of several millions of illiterate people during a short span of 13 years. That is why Dr. Zakir Husain, the late President of this country had said that illiteracy in India was a great human tragedy. We should also realize the fact that we are having nearly 50 per cent of the entire illiterate population in the world. According to Unesco statistics, there are 800 million illiterate people in the world; and we have more than 50 per cent of this figure in our own country. Mr. S. P. Mitra who was the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, said while participating in a seminar on illiteracy that we had an illiterate population in 1975, which was more than the entire population of this country in 1951. It means that the entire population of 1951 was less than the illiterate population that we had in our country in 1975. This is the magnitude of the problem.

When Mr. Edmund Hillary, the famous mountaineer went to the hills in search of Sherpas, a Sherpa woman said this to him: "My child is blind, though he has two eyes, because his eyes are not open. He is illiterate." This is the kind of a situation that we are facing insofar as millions and millions of our people are concerned.

There can be a solution to this problem; and there are many solutions suggested. It is not only my privilege to speak about it. Several education ministers in the past, political leaders and social workers—all came forward with suggestions. Mr. C. D. Deshmukh said that there should be

†Moved with the recommendation of the Vice-President acting as President.

a time-bound programme. He was speaking many years ago. He said that if we have to solve this problem in 15 years, there should be a spending of Rs. 450 crores. Then the Kothari Commission on Education suggested that a massive effort should be made to wipe out illiteracy; they suggested a time-bound programme of 20 years. I think 12 years of that period have already elapsed. But illiteracy has only increased.

I need not narrate all the cases. The present Education Minister, Mr. P. C. Chunder has said after taking office that a Janata programme should be unleashed to eradicate illiteracy. He said that he would ask every teacher in this country to teach an additional number of 10 students; and that they will be paid an extra fee for it. There are 2 million primary teachers in our country. It is a good effort, if it can be done. Then Mr. Morarji Desai made a very significant speech in Coimbatore, while participating in an election campaign. There he said that his party is determined to wipe out illiteracy within a period of five or six years. These are some of the programmes advanced by people. The question is not one of lack of programme; we have so many programmes; the question is whether this country will have a determined approach to the problem that we will unite the entire country, the whole democratic nation, and unleash a massive attack on illiteracy so that we will be able to achieve in this country a position where there will not be a single person without literacy within a short period. Mere declarations would not help.

In this context, I would like to cite some of the examples as to how other countries have achieved this goal. In the Soviet Union, one of the first things done after the October Revolution was to make an effort to wipe out illiteracy. Perhaps you know, Sir, that the Soviet Union, particularly the Asiatic region of the Soviet Union, was much more backward

than India in 1917. In Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan the percentage of education was only 5 per cent and 2 per cent respectively. In 1919 the famous decree on illiteracy was signed by Lenin and the whole country was mobilised.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): With a danda.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: The whole country was mobilised and within a short span of time they could wipe out illiteracy. In 30 years they eradicated illiteracy completely. They came forward with a scheme to stamp out illiteracy. They mobilised one lakh young Communists and through them they covered all over the Soviet Union the fight against illiteracy. Then they came with a plan to link work and literacy and finally they succeeded, because the State had an approach. Lenin explained that a population which is illiterate will be a dead weight in the course of social advance. He felt that in order to fulfil the success of the October Revolution one of the prime tasks for him was to remove or wipe out illiteracy.

If you come nearer home, Viet Nam, a country which was engaged in a battle for three decades against three imperial forces, namely, France, Japan and the United States, in the battle field one of the slogans to the young people was "you should make it a point to teach your fathers, mothers and elder brothers." And they taught. There is no illiteracy in Viet Nam. They fought and defeated all the imperialists. It was the graveyard of imperialism, but it was the graveyard of illiteracy also. That is how a population with a definite goal set before itself fought illiteracy.

Take the case of Cuba, a country which was subjected to almost perpetual blockade by U.S. imperialism, always threatened and blackmailed by imperialism. In twelve years they have removed illiteracy. Literacy

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was only 16 per cent when Castro came to power, but he has wiped it out.

These are some of the experiences that I am citing, not because they are socialist countries. Of course, that is an important factor, because the whole population has been given a vision, a confidence. You fight this social evil and only then you can create a new social order.

One of the most important slogans after the Chinese revolution given to the people by the Chinese Communist Party was: "Education is the key". They were told; if you can hold that key properly in your hand, you can open the floodgates of revolution. And they have succeeded in a much bigger way.

There are other countries also, especially in Latin America, like Mexico, Columbia and Brazil which have made certain efforts, but not to the full extent.

SHRI VINODBHAI B. SHETH (Jamnagar): The key will open the floodgates of revolution, not of knowledge.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: The greatest knowledge is the knowledge of revolution. You may quarrel with me on communism, but let us not quarrel on revolution.

Coming to our problem in India, I feel that there is an inadequate realisation among the people that this problem of illiteracy should be fought like a disease. I am quite sure that inadequate realisation has crept into the minds of people because those who were ruling this country never made a very massive effort to educate the people, to fight illiteracy with the determination that it deserves.

Secondly, there is a big social problem. Women in our country are the most illiterate. That is because we

have a social approach to that problem. When the average literacy for the whole country was 29.34 per cent in 1974, for males it was 39.1 per cent and for females it was only 18.44 per cent. That is to say, we had 70.66 per cent of people illiterate in this country, of which 60.9 per cent were males, whereas 81.56 per cent were females. If you take women in the rural side, their percentage of literacy was only 12.96. That means illiteracy in the countryside among women was 87.04 per cent. There are social reasons for this. The traditional society does not want women to get educated in any way. So, we have to fight that tradition. There is superstition, obscurantism. It is a big fight, fight for social change. That fight we will have to undertake.

See again the concentration of illiteracy among the tribals. Illiteracy is more acute among Harijans and other socially backward sections like agricultural workers and scavengers. In the slums you can see the illiteracy. But if you take urban agglomerations, there is higher percentage of education. Take Delhi, Calcutta, Bombay or Madras, there are more than 70 per cent literates. But if you take the State as a whole, you will find that in the countryside the illiteracy is concentrated. We have to identify the areas and sections of the people and we should adopt such a policy which will enable us to fight illiteracy on a war footing. There, I think, all the sections of this House will agree on that point.

Illiteracy is another face of poverty. I would like to cite one example to this House. There are 40 million children in the world who are today forced according to UNESCO Report, to take to child labour, and quite a good number of them are Indians. And they are adding every year to the fold of illiteracy. They later become adult illiterates. There are 165 million children in the world today who do not have facilities of schooling and of them quite a good

number is in this country. This is how poverty takes its own toll in the field of illiteracy.

I do not know the programmes of the present Government; the Education Minister will explain that. But according to the policies and programmes of the previous Government, it would take 100 to 140 years to wipe out illiteracy. That is what experts say. That means, your grand children and my grand children will not get the chance of getting education. These are some of the important factors which we have to bear in mind when we discuss the problem of illiteracy. In this background, I thought that I should introduce a Bill for the consideration of this House. My only intention is that the problem of illiteracy in all its seriousness, should be discussed in this House and this Bill should be taken only as an opportunity for such a discussion. I tried to bring out some of the important aspects which should be kept in mind by the Education Minister while formulating his different policies. He may have differences with me or I may have differences with his policies, but that is a different point.

The problem of illiteracy should be taken in the context of socio-economic development of the country. It should also be realised that you are educating a child to make him a fully grown up citizen, fully equipped to face life with all its agonies, pains, pangs and everything. It will be an opening to the development of a citizen whose all faculties in him are fully grown. We have to have that approach to the problem.

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Then, we should not also allow little efforts which we are making to make the people literate to go waste. If you do not care for them after giving six months or one year's education, they will fall back to illiteracy after some time. So, this should be continuing effort. You may give

education to 1 million people by giving six months course. If you forget about them after one year or after two years, you will find that they will come back to illiteracy. So there should be a continuous effort. They should be provided schooling text-books, money, everything so that they become fully educated people. The first batch of nearly 40,000 graduates were given certificates in Cuba this year. They were all illiterate. But they were raised to the level of graduation. They will now go in for further education. We must have a continuing approach so that they will make full use of the benefit that they have derived out of it.

My first suggestion in the Bill is to set up one-man literacy centres. It should be in every factory, in every panchayat, in every ward of big cities and in every town. The one-man literacy centre should be a nucleus spread over throughout the country in all walks of life where illiterates are there. These centres should provide education to them. Who will be the students? According to this Bill, all the illiterates can find a place in the one-man literacy centre. Who will finance it? The society should finance it. If they are working in a factory, the employer should take up the responsibility, not the full but a part of the responsibility. If they are agricultural workers, the landlord or whoever employs them should take a part of the responsibility. The financing of the scheme may cost hundreds of crores of rupees. I suggest that a literacy fund may be created. There are certain proposals for cess and surcharge on certain taxes. I am not a financial expert to say that this is the last word about it. My idea is that there should be money raised out of the present budgetary allotment so that this scheme may be put through in a manner in which we all like it to be.

My second suggestion is that the students and teachers of this country, specially the students of Higher

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Secondary Schools and Colleges and the teachers, should be drawn into the scheme. The hon. Minister had also suggested that the teachers should be drawn into the scheme. My suggestion is that students should also play a role. If the students are drawn and they are made teachers, you will get several millions of people who will go round the country and teach the millions and millions of illiterates. There are a large number of unemployed educated people registered with the employment exchanges. They should be drawn with a minimum payment and should be asked to take classes for the illiterates so that we will not find shortage of teachers for manning the one-man literacy centres.

I would like to mention one thing here. It may not be liked by everybody. But it is something that everybody should keep in mind. In Cuba, when they wanted the whole country to go in for literacy campaign, they closed down the schools and the universities for one year. They had the determination to see that education should not remain a privilege of few. So, they closed the schools and sent them for literacy training.

Well, we should think about it; we should think about it if we are serious in solving the problem. You have to collect every possible person to teach and to go to the villages. Well that is a Janata scheme. So, there should be no quarrel about it.

Another important point is about the setting up of a board at the Centre and in the States because this Board will have to coordinate the whole work. They have to provide the text-books; they have to give equipment and training for the teachers and the whole orientation in the country should be directed towards a mass literacy movement. For that, this board will have to function in the States and at the Centre.

If we spend hundreds of crores of rupees or thousands or a little more of rupees what the country will gain, we should know about it. There are estimates made by UNESCO. For example, if 90 per cent of the Indian peasants who are illiterate are made literate, if their eyes are open, then they will be more responsive for scientific techniques on cultivation; they will be more capable of doing that; they will be better equipped. But the assessment made by UNESCO is that with the very fact that you are giving an opportunity and enabling the Indian peasants to be more equipped, educated and more adaptable to the scientific things, the cultivation in this country can increase by 50 per cent. The production will more than compensate the money that we spend.

Secondly, about the industrial sector if the workers are educated, then undoubtedly the productivity will go high. So, the agrarian sector will increase production; in the industrial sector, the production will also be increased.

Then the most important thing is the problem of political awareness of the people. The political awareness of the people will surely be increased if we increase literacy among the illiterates. All that we discuss about ideology, politics, fascism, all these things will go over the heads of millions of illiterates, if people become literate.

AN. HON. MEMBER: The previous Government had discouraged it.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Now the situation is changed. They should encourage it. I do not want to quarrel like that. The political awareness of the country will increase if education is enhanced. We will have more stable, durable and meaningful democracy if the people are literate, if the people are educated.

(Interruptions)

AN HON. MEMBER: What about family planning?

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: I would say a few words about Mr. Sanjay Gandhi who was speaking about eradication of illiteracy and need for family planning without any perspective. That is why, he and his plan ended in disaster. But in other countries, in China, for example, they take to family planning; they educate people about it. The people go to the family planning centres. They will do it themselves. Kerala is an example where there is no case of compulsory or forced sterilisation. There is a United Front Government in Kerala which appealed to the people to practise family planning methods. There was no coercion and the people responded because most of them are educated. The educated young Christian boys and girls do family planning. The educated young Muslim boys and girls do family planning. They do practice it.

Coming to the last point, I would like to mention that it will unleash the flood-gates of a cultural revolution in this country, if you make the people educated; all the talents in various fields will get unleashed; a new cultural awakening in the country, a multi-sided awakening in the social life, will take place. If anybody can contribute meaningfully to that, this country will remember him. Whichever Government it is that can achieve, even partly, the goals that I have suggested, that Government will be remembered in the history of this country as a Government which has liberated the people from ignorance, which has opened the eyes of the millions.

It is with this purpose in mind that I have introduced this Bill, and I appeal to every section of this House to consider it and face the challenge, not as a party matter, not in a partisan spirit, but as a national problem, mobilising all the democratic opinion together, creating a new awareness

and unleashing a big fight, on a war-footing, against this dark scourge on the Indian masses.

I hope, this House will agree with me, and with that wish, I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for funds and facilities, and to set up necessary bodies to ensure compulsory adult education in India, be taken into consideration."

There are more than 15 Members who wish to speak on this Bill. There should be a time limit for each Member. I suggest that the Members may take seven minutes each. The hon. Minister will intervene and the Mover has also the right of reply.

श्री लक्ष्मीनारायण नायक (बजुराहो) : यह सही बात है कि भारत में आज जो निरक्षरता है इसका अन्त होना चाहिये। जो पिछले दिनों सरकार रही उसे इसका प्रयास करना चाहिये या ताकि देश में निरक्षरता में कमी आती। निरक्षरता के कारण लोगों में अन्ध विश्वास, रुढ़िवादिता और तरह तरह की कुरीतियों का बोलबाला रहता है। व्यक्ति जब शिक्षित हो जाता है तो उसके अनेको काम सहल हो जाते हैं और उसकी इज्जत भी बढ़ती है। गांव में या देहात में या किसी अन्य छोटे स्थान पर जो अनपढ़ आदमी होता है उसको तरह तरह की कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है और वह साधनहीन भी होता है। इस बात से इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता है कि बच्चे हों या प्रौढ़ सभी का शिक्षित होना बहुत जरूरी है।

विधेयक में कुछ साधन बटाने की बात कही गई है। जो शिक्षक हैं उसको चाहिये कि वह कारखाने में मजदूरों या गांवों में जो निरक्षर हैं उनको साक्षर बनाने के लिए एक बंटा वे और सेवा के नाते वे। कर या टैक्स

[श्री लक्ष्मीनारायण नावक]

लवाने से मैं समझता हूँ कि काम चल नहीं सकेगा। शिक्षक जो जहाँ रहता है उसको जीव विज्ञानी चाहिये और इस तरह की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये ताकि वह समय निकाल कर जहाँ वह रहता है वहाँ कम से कम एक घंटा इस काम के लिए दे। हर व्यक्ति अपने को कहता है कि हम अनैसर्गिक हैं, देश की सेवा करना चाहते हैं। लेकिन मन से सेवा नहीं करते हैं। यह कार्य रूप में परिणत होना चाहिये, जैसे गांधी जी कहते थे कि कच्ची और करनी में अन्तर नहीं होना चाहिये। इसलिए ऐसी व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये कि जितने भी देश में शिक्षक हैं उनकी इयूटी होनी चाहिये कि जिस स्थान में रहते हैं कम से कम 1 घंटे, चाहे बालक हो या प्रौढ़, उनको पढ़ायें। हमारे ऐसे बच्चे हैं जो अच्छे बन सकते हैं। हालांकि प्रस्ताव में प्रौढ़ व्यक्तियों की बात कही गई है, लेकिन मैं चाहता हूँ कि बच्चों को भी इस में शामिल किया जाय। बहुत से छोटे बच्चों की शिक्षा नहीं हो पाती है, छाटी उम्र से वह काम में लग जाते हैं और निरक्षर रह जाते हैं। जिस तरह में अनिवार्य शिक्षा चली लेकिन उस का काम घूमिल हो गया क्योंकि छोटे छोटे बच्चे या तो खेलते रहते हैं या गाय, भैंसों को चराने हार में चले जाते हैं और पढ़ते नहीं हैं। साधनहीन परिवारों के छोटे छोटे बच्चे पढ़ नहीं पाते हैं। इसलिए चाहे प्रौढ़ हो, या बालक हो, उन सब के लिये अनिवार्य शिक्षा होनी चाहिये और इनका दायित्व सरकार को इस तरह लेना चाहिये जैसा मैंने सुझाव दिया। यदि आप इस काम के लिये टैक्स लगाते हैं तो उसका बोझ हम ठीक नहीं समझते। हम चाहते हैं कि जो शिक्षित और समझदार व्यक्ति हैं उनको कम से कम एक घंटा देश के लिये देना चाहिये और लोगों को पढ़ाना चाहिये। निरक्षरता के कारण हमारा देश बहुत पिछड़ा है। हम देखते हैं कि जिस प्रदेश में साक्षरता अधिक है वहाँ के पढ़े लिखे लोग हर काम में सफल होते हैं। केवल वे शिक्षा सब से अधिक है और

इसीलिए वहाँ के लोग सब से धन्य हैं। शिक्षित होने के कारण वह कहीं भी मौकरी करते हैं, अपना काम करते हैं और अच्छी तरह में रहते हैं।

यह प्रस्ताव ठीक है और मैं शासन से कहूँ कि बहुत ही समझदारी में और विचार करके जरूर इस देश में सभी के लिये अनिवार्य शिक्षा होनी चाहिये, और ऐसी व्यवस्था बनायें जिस से सब लोग साक्षर हो सकें। इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस का समर्थन करता हूँ।

SHRI SARAT KAR (Cuttack) I have a few points to suggest I don't find fault with the Government for the continuing of illiteracy in our country. Our social atmosphere is such that even if you try to educate the people, they will not turn up for such education. We had tried to do this in different States but without success. So, though there is a Directive in our Directive Principles of the Constitution for compulsory universal education we cannot make it compulsory. As you know, even in the primary schools the drop outs have been increasing day by day because most of the people are poor and due to poverty and ignorance they don't send their kids to schools—even small kids do not find the school interesting, rather they feel it to be like a jail. Unless the social atmosphere is changed how can we talk of compulsory education whether for children or adults?

Some solution, however, can be found and I would like to make a few personal suggestions for doing so. The unemployed educated youth may be engaged in teaching a sort of pre-primary education courses to both children and adults in every village and town. In other words before their going to school we can make the village atmosphere so interesting that small kids and even adult persons become interested to take lessons in a homely way without the school routine. In my State we have in

distant villages places where the *Bhagawat* is sung before a rural gathering. If we can have similar places in various areas as venue for literacy campaign where the *Bhagwat*, the *Mahabharata* and other Puranic literature is recited, people will get interested. These things can be entrusted to the educated, unemployed or retired educated people of the locality for a certain remuneration.

My second suggestion, which is, of course, not original is this. Shri C. D. Deshmukh, as far as I understand, had suggested in the Constituent Assembly that the voters should be literate and in order to make them literate, all the political parties will compete with each other to make them educated. Of course, this was turned down, and there is adult franchise irrespective of voter's education. It seems to me quite reasonable that we can try this after thirty years of independence. We can change the election laws in such a way that only the literate persons should have a voting right. In that case, all the political parties will be interested and be duty bound in campaigning for literacy. For such literacy campaign or campaign for educating voters the Government can also make contributions to the political parties. In old times, in our *Maths*—monasteries—, religious places, temples, mosques etc. religious prophets, gurus, *Muttas*, and others were engaged in spreading education. These days even if those institutions continue, we do not hear much of their noble duties. So, they can also be persuaded for this literacy campaign.

Thus is, of course, not an easy task, but some thought must be given to this aspect. I do not think that this can be enforced by a legislative measure, we cannot force anybody; unless one is committed and dedicated to the mission of removing illiteracy.

Sometimes, the literate pupils become the problem children of the village. The poor families usually engaged their children for procuring

food and wood from the jungle or for catching fish from the river. Instead of forcing these children to go to the schools, which may be jails for them—some sort of incentive may be given so that their parents neither object nor suffer and they themselves get interested must be given to this problem. There should be a national and State level conference of the literate and cultured persons to suggest suitable solutions and the Government can take up the subject not by making laws but by changing social conditions in such a way that the literacy campaign can be started widely and made a success in this country.

SHRI SAUGATA ROY (Barrackpore). Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support this Bill and while supporting the Bill, I also congratulate Shri Chandrapan on having brought forward such a Bill and provided an opportunity to discuss a subject of such a vital importance to our country. In fact, the problem of adult illiteracy is one of the major problems facing this country. Today, in our population of over 600 millions, we have nearly 460 million illiterate people and a large section of them are adult illiterates, because the available statistics show that 80 per cent of children between five and fourteen years of school-going age go to school. Though a propensity has been created among the adults, illiteracy remains there. As mentioned earlier, in the Directive Principles of our Constitution, we said that we would give free and compulsory primary education to all within ten years. This is one of the major goals of the Constitution which this nation has failed to achieve.

Now, a time has come to take up this issue on a war footing. Many may argue with me or Shri Chandrapan that a legislative measure for this matter is not necessary, possibly a social movement of the type suggested by Gandhiji may be undertaken for this purpose. I have no quarrel with them, but I would like to emphasise and draw their attention to the

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modern systems, which are being advocated, for fighting illiteracy among adults. In this connection, I would like to quote from the address by Mr. John E. Fobes, Deputy Director General of UNESCO in the Conference held in Paris in 1976. They are concerned with the development of adult education also. He said that three important things are there to fight illiteracy, especially adult illiteracy.

"First, to make evident the specific features of adult education seen as a constituent part of comprehensive and integrated systems of education conceived in the perspective of life-long learning.

.... The description is intended to provide a basis for reflection and discussion between all parties concerned.

Secondly, to mobilize the political support which is needed for the development of adult education.

Thirdly, to pave the way for adoption of specific national legislative and administrative instruments."

This is the report of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and I feel that without a legislation and without a suitable administrative body to take forward this scheme of adult literacy, this cannot succeed. I am very glad that Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder, a noted litterateur and a noted scholar from my home State of West Bengal has, after becoming the Union Education Minister, first emphasized the need to take up this adult education programme on a war footing. But, it is unfortunate that even after the Janata Party has come to power and even after a person of Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder's erudition and integrity, has taken over this portfolio, not enough money has been allotted for education in the present Budget of

the Central Government. Education has always received a step-motherly treatment from all governments and the Education Ministry, being a non-economic and non-earning Ministry, is supposed to be not a politically powerful Ministry and that is why when any cut there is in the Budget, it comes straight to Education first. Not only that, in our education also I fully admit to-day the whole system has been an inverted pyramid with a very big apex but with a very small base. What education should have been is a pyramid with a very wide base of functional literacy among all adults and with very much thinning of University education at the apex. In this country in 30 years of after-Independence we have now almost 90 Universities but not enough primary schools to cater to all our children and also adult illiterates.

So, the proposal of Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder to set up an Adult Education Board is very welcome, but is not sufficient. It is necessary but not enough because unless more administrative measures, both at the central and at the States level, are taken and suitable legislative measures conceived and brought out and also the required money collected from the people, especially those sections of the people who can afford to pay it, this scheme is going to flounder. The government of whichever Party that may come to power in this system will not be able to allow sufficient money for education. Money will go to other schemes first because we will say, 'we are a poor country. We do not want education. We want food, agriculture and industry'. And education will suffer in this process. The proposal to set up a National Literacy Fund is also very welcome but whether it should be a cess on income tax or a surcharge on income-tax and which is the best method for this is not known to me. Possibly Dr. Chunder might consult financial experts who may advise him on this matter.

But this is not enough at this stage to emphasize on the value of adult education for the poor man. If you go to him and tell him, 'You will learn the three Rs,' he will say 'How will it help in earning my bread?' We have not thought of that famous slogan of the German playwright, Bertolt Brecht, 'Oh! Hungry man, get hold of a book and that is your weapon. That is the weapon which a hungry man can fight with against exploitation. That is the weapon with which a hungry man can fight against poverty. That is the weapon with which a hungry man can fight for bringing about a social transformation.' This is the very basic thing I want to submit at this stage. In this world there have been many examples of countries, many socialist countries which have achieved total literacy through State's efforts and co-operative efforts. It may be argued at this stage that our State not being a socialist State or since we are not believing either in a totalitarian form or collectivism, effort by the State is not called for.

Mr. Chandrapan has already given examples of China, Cuba, Vietnam, etc. I do not want to multiply the examples. I only want to give a small example of a socialist country from my own experience. Last year I had a chance to go to the different Soviet Socialist Republics. I visited Uzbekistan. The Vice President of the Soviet Union is a lady from Uzbekistan—a Muslim lady. I said to her, "Since illiteracy in your country was of a high percentage, how did you manage it? How is it that in your country women are running textile mills, women run tractors?" I had to bow my head in shame when she said, "In 1917, the literacy over there was 2 per cent. but in 1927 they had 100 per cent literacy." This is possible where the State takes interest.

I bring to your notice another example. It will be more relevant to the Indian conditions. I refer to the experience of Paulo Freire and his work in Brazil. Columbia and other

Latin American countries. I am sure the Education Minister is acquainted with Paulo Freire—the historic work 'the Pedagogy of the oppressed' in which he speaks about functional literacy, in which he speaks about how one can make this whole system of education to function for the poor man who is working on land and in the forest. How can this be done?

At this stage I want to say that the experience of the Latin American countries in this respect is not only welcome but we need to emulate efforts to find our moorings in his respect. I have no doubt that it is possible to evolve a national consensus on a scheme to make adult education free and compulsory. We can raise revenue for the adult education. This will cut across party lines, cut across political lines. It is possible and it has been shown in this country.

Yesterday, I was talking to some students from Jaipur. They are from Rajasthan University. By 1978 they are going to make Jaipur literate. I do not know how far their target will be achieved. Voluntary effort has to be encouraged by the Government. All this is good but not good enough. The State must intervene at this stage. We cannot afford that lakhs and crores of our countrymen should remain in the darkness of illiteracy. We cannot allow them to be oppressed for ages and ages. We must bring to them the light of education. This is the duty of all modern States and this is the duty of the Indian State.

Lot of talk has been going on about compulsory sterilization. This has happened in this country. It is unfortunate that in this country people went in for forcible sterilisation. Had the people been literate, there would not have been excesses. There would not have been cases which the Health Minister was mentioning yesterday.

I will also draw the attention of the Minister to the report of the task force of U.G.C. on Adult Education

[Shri Saugata Roy]

which suggested that system of adult education be made a compulsory subject in most of the Indian universities. Up till now this very basic and immediate thing has not been done. The universities have not introduced 'Adult Education' as a part of their curriculum though it was recommended by the U.G.C. a year ago.

While commending the Bill, I say that both the State effort and voluntary effort are called for at this stage to fight against this grave problem which threatens to take our country back towards extinction. In this context I end with the quotation from Rabindra Nath

‘हे मोर दुर्भाग्य देश, जादेर करेछ अपमान
अपमाने हते हबें ताहादेर सबार समान
मानुषेर अधिकारे बंझित करेछ जारे,
सम्मुखे बाँझये रेखे तब कोने देखा नई म्बान
अपमाने हते हबें ताहादेर सबार समान
जारे सुमि नीचे फेलो, से तोमारे फेनिछे जे नीचे
पञ्चाने रेखेछ जारे से तो मारे पञ्चाने टाकिछे।’

—‘Oh, unfortunate country, those whom you have insulted, to those, you have to be equal in insult’

I appeal to the Education Minister to take appropriate steps to evolve a national consciousness so that we can be free from this national shame and national insult.

SMRI SHYAMAPRASANNA BHAT-TACHARYYA (Uluberia): I basically support this Bill moved by Mr. Chandrapan.

Sir, I think that the Bill will help Dr. Chunder, our Education Minister to know the attitude of different sections of the House about how Members feel on those matters.

Our Constitution said long ago that illiteracy must be abolished within 10 years. But our Congress government increased the expenditure on defence

and police and curtailed the education budget. This has long been their policy.

Now, in West Bengal there have been some social initiatives regarding development of Adult Education in Hooghly district. 2,000 adult persons were given education. But the police arrested these persons who were educating the people. This campaign was thus stopped by the police there.

If you go to a remote village in a rural area of our scheduled caste and scheduled tribe people you will find that the parents want their children somehow to earn something so that in their totality they can have minimum earning for their existence. In spite of their wish to educate their children they cannot afford to do it because the child has to earn something for the family to be run.

The urge for a new life has to be there. The urge of the people to educate their children is lacking now. This has to be developed in our people.

Our Jana's Government, particularly our Education Minister, is eager to drive out illiteracy. We should develop the zeal of the people for a new life in the village and we should put all our resources in this regard for all round agricultural development, for setting up rural industries and for driving out poverty and illiteracy.

We should develop not only rural industry but we should bring about radical land reforms as China has done. With this new enthusiasm developed among our rural masses, I am sure that our efforts will be successful. If the necessary urge is developed among the rural people, I am sure the Government's efforts will succeed in eradicating illiteracy in this country, along with the bringing in of total rural development.

There were certain land reform laws passed by the previous Congress Government but the will to execute them

was not there. As the Task-force on Land Reforms has said, in spite of so many land reforms, there was no will in the machinery of the Government to execute it. There was no urge to fulfil those reforms.

The cooperation of the mass of our people was not taken. So, if education is to be developed, then that must be made part and parcel of the total campaign to create a new life among the villagers by developing industries and agriculture. For that purpose a new initiative must be developed.

That should be the objective behind this I urge upon the hon. Minister to see that it is developed. Everything is there in the manifesto. Their promise is there. That promise has got to be translated into action and into a reality. To ignite that spirit for a new life among the people and to build a new India, campaign to get rid of illiteracy should be made a part and parcel of the objectives of the struggle for new life and New India.

SHRI S. KUNDU (Balasore): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I did not wish to speak on this Bill. But, after listening to my good friend, Shri Chandrapan, I thought that I should add a few words for his brilliant speech which he has made in this House.

Sir, I support his ideas entirely but at the moment, it would be very difficult to support this Bill as it is. I should thank him, however, because he has given us an opportunity to discuss this important topic in this House.

It is indeed a sin, rather, it is a tragedy that in India, there are 22 to 23 crores of illiterates and 230 million dumb people. It is something very much agonising to think that even after thirty years of our freedom, this sort of situation still prevails in India.

When Independence came in 1947 and when we were young students then we were all surcharged with ideals that, perhaps, within a period of five to ten years we would have the

first massive attack against this illiteracy and the entire youth and student forces would be deployed against that massive attack—what should I say—against this very bad disease, indeed and, in a short period, through voluntary force and labour, we would be able to make all people literate. But, somehow, years have gone by but still our hopes have been shattered. Instead of channelising the enthusiasm of the young people in a proper direction, more and more bureaucratic thoughts and actions have started prevailing in our administration and education completely became the exclusive preserve of the few elite and, to-day, in spite of the pronouncements in the Directive Principles that within ten years' period, we shall do away illiteracy, the rate of growth of illiteracy is more and more. This is a most unfortunate and sad thing.

Any battle against poverty or any battle against the want should proceed with a massive war against illiteracy. When I say 'battle against poverty' I qualify it and I say that we must proceed on a war footing against illiteracy. It is difficult to build any super-structure of democracy with ignorant people or, if I may say so, with this foundation of ignorance it is impossible to build any super-structure of democracy, nationalism, secularism or even socialism in this country. Therefore, Sir, it is very necessary that the whole thing should be looked into from a fresh angle.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I agree with Mr. Chandrapan when he says that this is not a party issue. It is definitely a national issue. There cannot be any bigger national issue than this. Therefore, I would request the hon'ble Education Minister to see as to how we can lend a national perspective to this whole problem. If we do not tackle this cancer which is eating into the vitals of the harmonious growth of a nation, the whole nation will be ruined. We appreciate the various suggestions made by Mr. Chandrapan from this point of view.

[Shri S. Kundu]

But Mr. Chandrappan, as usual, was reading through his preamble and quoted some of the countries which are allied with the Soviet Union. Though he mentioned about China in his speech, yet he never mentioned the same in the memorandum. Mr. Chairman, Sir, my country, my people and my government would accept anything that is good throughout the world. It keeps its eyes and ears open and rejects anything which is bad. Sir, he must have read about Yugoslavia when it was attacked by the Soviet Union in 1947-48. At that time Marshal Tito came to the Belgrade university and addressed the students: "I am attacked by my former friend and ally, Soviet Russia. I want to build a road to the port which is hundred kilometres away and at the same time I want to tackle the problem of illiteracy." Thousands of students volunteered. While in the day they constructed roads, in the night they started adult education centres. Much before Marshal Tito would expect the roads were completed and people were also made literate. This has been possible there.

AN HON. MEMBER: Which war are you referring to?

SHRI S. KUNDU: In 1948 Yugoslavia had a war with Soviet Russia. In African countries like Tanzania—I do not know much about that country, but I have heard much about that country—the adult education scheme is getting the pride of place. Similarly as he said, in countries like Vietnam, I am thrilled to know that the people of

Vietnam tilled their land with bombs on their back and whenever they saw American bombers they threw the bombs at them and at the same time they went to the villages to teach the villagers and make them literate. They also taught them what ought to be taught. They taught them how to build a nation, how to treat human beings, how to know the real content and quality of many good things for which Gandhiji lived, Gandhiji worked and Gandhiji died. Gandhiji said that if we wanted to know the whole of India, we must first know the millions of villagers, we must know and understand the millions of people living in villages. Therefore, perhaps I could find one person after Raja Ram Mohan Roy, is Gandhiji who understood this problem in its correct perspective. At that time, when Gandhiji started the movement of non-cooperation against the British regime, he started voluntary adult education. I would now appeal to the hon. Minister if he could consider the possibility of closing all the universities and colleges—if not in the near future but after sometime—for one year so that the students, and the teachers could go to the villages and teach the villagers. The entire present education system should be changed. I cannot imagine when some people cry that they have to find a seat in some of the schools in a cool place in the Himalayan region. As soon a child is born, the parent immediately starts reserving a seat in a public school. Some people boast themselves that they are spending some Rs. 1500 or so per month for the education of their lads and still they say they are poor.

and they could not save anything. There should be some basic change in the whole system. I want to know whether it would be possible to close down some of the universities and public schools, at least for 4 months, and send the teacher and the taught to the villages and draw up a programme of adult education. Within a period of 4 months or 5 months, we can make the villages people literate. We can make them read and write. If we also take up the services of unemployed educated people who are in the villages, we can successfully complete this programme. Therefore, we have to face it as a national problem. We have to teach them with necessary equipments and other apparatus. We should not make them crammers. There are many crammers among the people who just like to sing music, and reel out statistics, but they have no commitment to anything. We do not want people who say that they are so-called intelligent people. Unless these people acquire a lot of wisdom, wisdom on the top of everything, it would not have been possible for us to put an end to the Congress mis-rule for the last 30 years, especially for the last 19 months during the Emergency. People are there in the villages with a lot of wisdom. But that has to be canalised. Therefore we have to draw up a crash programme and see whether we can make literate these 23 crores of illiterate people within five years. The whole content of this programme should be voluntary, like the bare foot doctors. We do not want students and lecturers and readers with black ties to go to the villages. They should go and like the villagers in the village conditions. If you go with sophisticated ideas it will curb them. In conclusion, we should also consider whether it would be possible to mop up some money for this, it is just thinking aloud, would it be possi-

ble to raise some sort of education tax, not by force and compelling the people. We feel that this is a sort of a national programme and we want to do it within five years, let us go and tell the people; give us Rs. 5 a year. We can ask people who are earning more than 500 or 600 a month. Perhaps we can get about a 100 crores from those people and build up a fund. With this fund a voluntary programme could be started and this would go to a great extent in solving this problem. While I support the idea of Mr. Chandrappan, I thank him for giving the House an opportunity to discuss the problem. I request him to withdraw the Bill so that we can get a better opportunity to discuss the entire thing. I hope the hon. Minister would respond to our request and I think he is also going to request him to do likewise.

SHRI T. A. PAI (Udipi): I must congratulate my hon. friend Mr. Chandrappan for raising an issue of great national importance before the House. I do not know why the previous speaker wants this Bill to be withdrawn unless there is an assurance by the government that they are equally serious, not to talk out this problem but, to do something about this much more seriously than this was tackled all these years. For a developing country the worst enemies are poverty, illiteracy and ill health and unemployment. We have had wars with Pakistan and China and ultimately we had to sit across the table and compromise with them. There can be no compromise on these issues so far as the people of this country are concerned. After thirty years of independence, with thousands of crores money spent on education, we continue to be a nation of illiterates.

16.56 hrs.

[SHRI SONU SINGH PATIL in the Chair]

The percentage has gone up from 14 to 29 per cent. This percentage is illu-

[Shri T. A. Pai]

sory because it takes into account states like Kerala with 95 per cent literacy and may be Tamilnadu with 90 per cent and also states like Bihar where it would be 6 to 8 per cent. It is like the average depth of a river. We are a nation of illiterates. On account of the population growth in this country we have in absolute numbers more illiterates today than we had when we began as an independent nation. When the East India Company came here, Europe was an illiterate country and India was literate because our system of culture required every parent to send his child to a guru to get educated. The moment the system of Macaulay was introduced to produce a few quill drivers in this country, English education became the only education and the existing system was destroyed. The result is that today among the developing countries, India after independence still continues to present this picture. We have several castes in this country and we have introduced one more, the caste of literates and illiterates. The result is that certain occupations continue to be reserved for the illiterates because the literates think that they are not good enough for them. If only everybody was literate in this country, then the social barriers would have been broken and we would have ceased to be feudalistic country. We have tried to be a socialist country. But I am afraid socialism and feudalism do not go together. Today we are a very class conscious country. We are absolutely feudalistic in our outlook with a high and low not only on account of birth but also because the opportunities to get educated have been denied to millions of people. So it is of outmost importance that the entire educational system will have to be looked into. I would say that while we have always dealt with this problem in a compartmentalised way—adult illiteracy, elementary education, secondary education and higher education—the time has come when we have got to take the whole picture in totality because if

the resources are limited, it is wise that these resources are reallocated to do what is most important, if necessary, by cutting down the expenditure that we have been incurring. Now when we are not providing enough money or elementary education, when we find that there are drop outs upto 40 per cent by 6th standard, upto 60 per cent by 8th standard and when the millions of children are relapsing into illiteracy, what are we going to do about it? On the other hand a great exercise is whether we should have 10+2 or 10+3. It does not make any difference. You are only thinking of the elite type of society which gets educated at the expense of the country. We have been thinking of the transfer of resources. When you transfer resources to the elite society to get higher education—I do not deny its importance—what is most important is you cannot educate a few people keeping millions of people illiterate. The object of the country's educational policy should be making everybody literate. From this point of view, I would request you to look into the whole proposition and take up the challenge. The nation must take up the challenge for getting ourselves educated. After all our Planning Commission and Finance Ministry always think that any amount spent on education is more of social welfare and in economic terms it is not an investment. It is an archaic idea because it is an investment in the human being. If investment in the human being is not important in this country, it does not matter what types of investments you indulge in. After all, development is for the man. If our planning is not centred around man, our planning has absolutely no meaning. If example of Soviet Russia, China and all other countries have been pointed out, it is open to our eyes that all the developing countries have given the greatest importance to man. Unfortunately in this country we have only spoken about him. But we have ignored him because we are yet to find out who the common man is.

Thank you very much. I support this Bill very strongly.

SHRI CHITTA BASU (Barasat): Sir, I rise to congratulate my friend Mr. Chandrappan for offering us the opportunity of discussing such an important national issue. I also agree with him that it is not his privilege alone to raise such an issue today. This issue has been discussed and I think there have been certain programmes in this respect also. But there are certain new elements in this proposal which I will discuss or I would like to point out to the hon. Minister and to the House. The magnitude of the problem has been identified by the over of the ill himself and from other sources also. I have got one set of figures, which is very alarming to me. The source of it is a Government Agency. It says that there are about 5,26,00,000 adult people in the age group of 15 to 25 who are illiterate. This is the working population. This entire working population is illiterate. That means for every 12 adult working population, one is illiterate. Is it not a drag on the national wealth because human capacity is the greatest wealth? It is the greatest drag on the human strength itself. I do not say that the minister is not alive to the problem, because in his first policy statement made in the House on the 5th April 77, immediately after assuming office, he stated:

"In term of numbers, I understand more than 200 million adults below the age of 50 are still illiterate."

I hope the Janata Government will continue to pursue the policy which is conducive to eradicate this scourge which the minister himself has identified in quantitative terms. Of course, in this policy statement he has not spelt out the measures which his government proposes to take in order to eradicate this scourge in our social life. But attempts have been made in this regard and steps have been taken for the literacy campaign among adults. Many non-official agencies have been put into commission. The programme

of action has generally been divided into two classes—non-formal education and functional literacy campaign. I have mention these two programme taken up by the erstwhile government. I do not want to enter into a debate as to whether they are good or bad. But what have been the achievements of this programme? According to the government agency's evaluation, it is said that by the end of the fifth five year plan, the functional literacy projects are expected to cover 200 districts, the number of people expected to benefit being about 20 lakhs adults—I add the word 'only'. If I accept the minister's statement that there are 5.26 crores of adults who constitute the working force of our country, by the programme of action pursued by the previous government, by the end of the fifth plan, the benefit will reach only 20 lakhs people. What about the remaining 5 crores? There are also voluntary organisations. My friend, Shri Kundu, was very eloquent about relying entirely on the voluntary efforts. He mentioned the name of the great Mahatma Gandhi. I donot for a movement belittle the scope or importance of the role to be played by or has been played by the voluntary organisations. But the result has not been very satisfactory and it does not lead us to a place from where we can really say that we can eradicate it within a specified period of time. If there is a new element in the proposal of Mr. Chandrappan I think that it is an element of compulsion. While agreeing to the necessity or vital role to be played by the Voluntary organisation, the element of compulsion is necessary as far as I have understood Mr. Chandrappan, and in this respect I am in complete agreement with him. It is not the question of political consideration. It is not the question of any ideological issue. It is not even the question of communism or socialism. Even in this capitalist country it is one of the first attempts that by pursuing the capitalist path of development, it also wants the development of literacy. If there is any new element in the proposal the newness

[Shri Chitta Basu]

lies in compulsion. He has elaborated the scheme by which our working people can have some scope of literacy and the employer will have to bear a certain part of the responsibility. The Government will also have to bear certain responsibility. Sir, I strongly support the measure because unless there is an element of compulsion, if we leave it entirely to the voluntary effort, we shall not be able to reach the target.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): Don't talk of compulsion. That word is taboo.

SHRI CHITTA BASU: I don't like to join issue with you. Therefore, I urge upon the hon. Minister to give a careful consideration to the set of proposals which have been embodied in the Bill and if he feels it necessary to further expand it, he is certainly free to do so, but by merely leaving the matter to the voluntary organisation and voluntary effort, I am afraid the matter will be rather shelved and the problem will not be solved. If he wants to fight against poverty and illiteracy, the element of compulsion should be there and we cannot fight shy of this new element of compulsion. And compulsion does not lead to totalitarianism, I would make this clear. It is not the concept of totalitarianism. You force your citizens to behave in a way as the State wants. It is not totalitarian, it is merely a direction, a meaningful and purposeful direction of life. I think the Janata Party is not averse to that meaningful and purposeful life.

With these words, Sir, I strongly commend this Bill at this stage of consideration.

श्री हुकम देव नारायण बाबू (मधुबनी): सभापति जी, यह जो विधेयक प्रायः जहाँ प्राया है, इस विधेयक को पेश करने वाले सदस्य की मैं सम्मति बिलकुल है, लेकिन

जहाँ प्रौढ़ शिक्षा की इस देश में जरूरत है, वहाँ सब से पहले गाँवों में रहने वालों की शिक्षा की भी जरूरत है। प्रायः शिक्षा में समानता की बात सब करते हैं, लेकिन शिक्षा में समानता है ही नहीं। बड़े लोगों के बच्चों को पढ़ाने के लिये प्रायः सब जगह बढ़िया स्कूल हैं लेकिन हमारे गरीबों के बच्चों को पढ़ाने के लिये टूटे-फूटे स्कूल हैं। यह कहां का न्याय है कि बड़े लोगों, अफसरों और राजनीतिज्ञों या अच्छी आमदनी वालों के बच्चे तो अंग्रेजी स्कूलों में पढ़ें और जो गाँवों में रहने वाले हैं, उनके बच्चों के स्कूलों पर छप्पर नहीं हैं, शिक्षक नहीं हैं। जब वहाँ शिक्षक ही नहीं तो बच्चे स्कूल में पढ़ेंगे क्या। हमारे बिहार में 99 प्रतिशत ऐसे स्कूल हैं जिनमें अगर शिक्षक हैं तो छात्र नहीं हैं, अगर छात्र हैं तो शिक्षक नहीं हैं। जहाँ ये दोनों हैं वहाँ बैठने की जगह नहीं है। इस तरह से बिहार में स्कूल चल रहे हैं।

हमारे माननीय सदस्य ने दूसरी तरह यह विधेयक पेश किया है। इसके सम्बन्ध में मैं सर्वप्रथम कहूँगा कि इतने दिनों तक इस देश में संविधान की हत्या होती रही है? हमारे संविधान के नीति निर्देशक सिद्धांतों में लिखा हुआ है, सरकार को यह आदेश दिया हुआ है कि वह सभी के लिए शिक्षा की व्यवस्था करे और उसके बाद भी हमारे देश में इतनी निरक्षरता है। हमारे यहाँ लक्ष्मी की सब से ज्यादा पूजा होती है उसके बाद भी यह देश इतना दरिद्र है। हमारे यहाँ सरस्वती की पूजा होती है उसके बाद भी इस देश में इतनी निरक्षरता है। सभापति महोदय मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे देश में इतना धंध बिश्वास चल रहा है कि लक्ष्मी की पूजा करते रहो तो संपत्ति बची रहेगी, सरस्वती की पूजा करो तो इनाम मिलेगी। यह धंध बिश्वास हमारे देश में चल रहा है इसी से हमारा देश दरिद्र और निरक्षर बना हुआ है। हमारे डा० राज मनोहर लोहिया ने कहा था कि हिन्दुस्तान में एक साक्षर सेना बचायी जाए जो निरक्षर लोगों को साक्षर बनाने का काम करे। हमारे

पढ़े-लिखे नौजवान बाबों में बड़े हैं उनको इस काम में लगाया जाये। उनसे प्रौढ़ शिक्षा का काम लिया जाए।

दूसरी जगह की बात तो मैं नहीं जानता लेकिन हमारे बिहार में शिक्षकों की नियुक्ति इस बात को लेकर की जाती है कि किसी तरह से बेकारी की समस्या का समाधान हो जाए। वह चाहे कुछ पढ़ावे या न पढ़ावे। इसी सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि स्कूल में शिक्षक भी पढ़ाये गये और पढ़ने वाला भी भ्राम्य लेकिन पढ़ने वाले के पेट में रोटी नहीं और तन पर कपड़ा नहीं तो वह क्या पढ़ेगा। ये दोनों बातें एक साथ कैसे चल सकती हैं। अगर लोकतंत्र को ज़िन्दा रखना है तो निरक्षरता को जाना ही होगा नहीं तो यह निरक्षरता रूपी राक्षस इस लोकतंत्र का सर्वनाश कर जायेगा। यह तो हमारा सौभाग्य है कि इतना निरक्षरता के रहते हुए भी हमारा लोकतंत्र खड़ा है और मजबूती से चल रहा है। इसलिए निरक्षरता को मिटाने के लिए यह जरूरी है कि सबको शिक्षित किया जाए। निरक्षरता और लोकतंत्र एक साथ नहीं चल सकता है।

इस विधेयक में टैक्स वगैरह की बात कही गयी है कि किस तरह से टैक्स लगाया जाये और इस काम को किया जाए। इसके लिए कोष बनाने की बात है। मैं आपको बताना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे बिहार में शिक्षा के लिए सभा छः प्रतिशत का सेस लगाया गया है। वह सेस मालगुजारी के साथ लिया जाता है ताकि वहाँ के लोगों को साक्षर बनाया जाए। वह सेस तो ले लिया गया लेकिन लोगों को साक्षर नहीं बनाया गया। क्यों न उस सरकार के बिल 420 का मुकदमा चलाया जाए जिसने इतना बड़ा घोषा साक्षरता के नाम पर लोगों के साथ किया है? सेस ले लिया लेकिन निरक्षरता वहीं की वहीं बनी हुई है। अगर कोई प्राइवेट एजेंसी इस चीज को करती हो उस पर मुकदमा चलाया

जाता। सरकार सेस लेती रही और उसे शिक्षा के मय में खर्च न करके ज्ञान शक्ति पर खर्च किया गया।

इसलिए मैं शिक्षा मंत्री जी से चाहूँगा कि वे इस विधेयक पर विचार करके सरकार की ओर से कोई ऐसा विधेयक लायें जिसमें इन सभी चीजों का समावेश हो। इस प्रकार का कोई झण्डा से झण्डा विधेयक इस सदन के सामने लाया जाये। सम्पूर्ण रूप से देश में एक शिक्षा पद्धति लागू की जानी चाहिये और एक जैसी शिक्षा सब को देने की व्यवस्था होनी चाहिये। राजा पूत या भंगी संतान, शिक्षा पावें एक समान। चाहे राष्ट्रपति का बेटा हो और चाहे कुली मजदूर का बेटा हो दोनों के लिए एक स्कूल हो, एक शिक्षा पद्धति हो, एक मास्टर हो, एक जगह बैठने की व्यवस्था हो। ऐसा नहीं होता है तो बड़े लोगों के बेटे बड़े स्कूलों में बैठेंगे और हमारे बेटे बैठेंगे दूटे स्कूलों में। जहाँ कोई समान शिक्षा की व्यवस्था नहीं तो किस तरह से दोनों के लिए समान अवसर उपलब्ध किए जा सकेंगे। जब प्रतियोगिता होगी तो दोनों जब उस में भाग लेंगे तो कुली मजदूर का लड़का उसे उस में उसका मुकाबला कर सकेगा इसका आप सहज ही अनुमान लगा सकते हैं। समान अवसर अगर आप सब को देना चाहते हैं तो शिक्षा भी समान स्तर पर दोनों को देनी होगी। जितने पब्लिक स्कूल हैं उनको आपको तुरन्त बन्द करना होगा और एक मात्र सरकारी स्कूलों की व्यवस्था आपको करनी होगी और उस में राष्ट्रपति का बेटा हो या भंगी का बेटा हो, शिक्षा ग्रहण करें। लोगों को आप साक्षर भी बनाएं। पूज्य लोहिया जी का जो दर्शन था, जो उन्होंने राष्ट्र को दिया है आज उसको प्रदान करने की आवश्यकता है।

इन्हीं सबों के साथ मैं अपनी बात को समाप्त करता हूँ।

Some hon. Members rose—

MR. CHAIRMAN: I realise that the Bill is very important and there are a number of members who want to speak, according to my list. There is also a request for extending the time. The position is that for Private Members' Bills no extension of time can be granted. So, now may I request the Minister in charge to reply?

श्री एच० राम गोपाल रेड्डी (निजामाबाद) : मैने नाम दिया हुआ है। तीन तीन मिनट दें सब को।

MR. CHAIRMAN: The difficulty is that there are a number of speakers. The hon. Minister will have to reply. I have ascertained from him that he will require at least 30 minutes. Then Shri Chandrapan will have to reply.

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): You can extend the time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no precedent for extension of time. The provision is that if there is unanimous consent, then we can extend the time. Is there unanimity in this matter?

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Then the question is by how much time we will extend it.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contal): Sir, I do not disagree to the extension of the time for this Bill. Today the whole of the time can be taken up for this Bill. But, on the next Private Members' Bill day, I should be given a few minutes at the end, say 10 or 15 minutes. So that I can move my Bill for consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The difficulty is have to stand over.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA: I want only to start. Just one minute will do.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The difficulty is that you can have it only if we extend

the time. The sense of the House is that we should extend the time for this Bill. We can sit for half an hour extra.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY (Nizamabad): Mr. Chairman, Sir, to cure the disease first there must be proper diagnosis, then proper prescription and then proper application of the medicine. Here the malady or the disease is the illiteracy in this country. What should we do with the illiteracy in this country? Every year we are adding to our population about 1.3 crores, which is more than the entire population of the continent of Australia. Every four years we are producing as many people as there are in Great Britain. In four years we are producing as many people as there are in West Germany. If the population goes on increasing in this way, be it the Janata Government or any other Government in power, could they provide education to every child? Already the States are spending 25 per cent of their budget on education. So, it is not a small problem. The population of the developed countries in the world while they were developing, had gone down. France, Germany and England had to give incentives for producing more children. But here, in West Bengal, in the First Five Year Plan we produced at the rate of 4.3 per year and our average growth of population is 2.5. When we achieved independence, we were 30 crores. After 30 years, we are 60 crores. And the Janata Government says that they have come to power because there was compulsion. This is strange logic. My suggestion is that if you have to apply the correct medicine, first you have to control the birth rate. The birth rate should be equal to the death rate. Unless and until that is done nothing is going to happen. When we got independence, our literacy was 10 per cent.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Are you on the principles of the Bill?

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY: In our State there is one Hari Sarvottama Rao who has introduced a system of

teaching Telugu in 30 days. He has stated that each one must teach one. If this policy is adopted, I think the entire nation can be educated without spending any money.

After all, from where will this Minister bring the money? Only through taxes. And there are so many priorities. Already, the money that is being spent on education is out of all proportion, we are spending more money on it. So, I propose that the hon. Minister should call all the voluntary organisations and persuade them to start teaching the people so that they may become literate. Most of the MPs, I think, are literate. Let us start teaching people in our own villages, and when we come here next time, let us report to the hon. Minister how many people we have educated. What is the use of merely talking? We are about 750 MPs. Let each M.P. teach at least ten persons. The number of literates will go up by 7,500 every year. That will be an inducement and encouragement to other people.

An hon. Member suggested the abolition of all public schools. Why do you abolish? Instead, you raise the village primary school to the level of the public school. Why do you destroy a huge building and have hermitages with people sitting under the trees like sanyasis? These are strange ideas. Dr. Lohia might have said something on some occasion, but that cannot be the Bible for all time to time.

श्री अम्बिका प्रसाद पांडे (बांदा) : माननीय सभापति महोदय, मैं माननीय सदस्य द्वारा प्रस्तुत बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ और उन्हें बधाई देता हूँ कि यह बिल सदन के सामने प्रस्तुत किया। लेकिन मुझे अफसोस है वह प्रायः पिछले सदन के सदस्य रहे हैं और जब इतना आवश्यक यह बिल था तो इसे पहले ही प्रस्तुत होना चाहिये था। लेकिन नहीं प्रस्तुत किया गया। जैसे हमारी पिछली सरकार इस महत्वपूर्ण विषय की 30 वर्षों से अग्रगण्य करती रही और जिसको कि हमारी सरकार को प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिये

थी, सर्वप्रथम शिक्षा पर, भोजन पर विशेष ध्यान देना चाहिये था, उसी की अग्रगण्यता सरकार अभी तक करती रही है। मुझे आशा है कि हमारी वर्तमान जनता सरकार इस पर अवश्य ध्यान देगी। हमारी भारतीय परम्परा के अनुसार शिक्षा यहाँ प्रमुख रही है। जब यहाँ मुसलमानों के आक्रमण हुए, उसके पहले जितने भी विदेशी अर्न्वैसंडर यहाँ आये, उन्होंने कहा है कि यहाँ का हर नागरिक शिक्षित था, हर व्यक्ति संस्कृत जानता था। यही कारण था कि इसके पूर्व हम कभी गुलाम नहीं हुए।

जब हमारे ऊपर आक्रमण हुआ, यहाँ की लायब्रेरी जला दी गई। सबसे पहले शिक्षा पर आक्रमण किया गया, जिससे जनता निरक्षर हो और उन पर गुलामी की जा सके। गुलामी का प्रमुख साधन ही निरक्षरता है। आज हम देखते हैं कि समाज में निरक्षरता के कारण ही, जो हमारा पिछड़ा हुआ वर्ग है, उस पर एक बड़ा तबका शासन कर रहा है। उन लोगों का शोषण किया जा रहा है।

हमारे प्रजातंत्र के लिये और देश को आगे बढ़ाने के लिये आवश्यक है कि शिक्षा पर विशेष ध्यान दिया जाये। जहाँ तक श्री बन्धुप्य ने हमारी शिक्षा के लिये धन की बात कही, सरकार के अपने ओतों के आधार पर अगर वह कम है, तो उसको बढ़ावे और शिक्षा पूर्णतया सरकार की ओर से होनी चाहिये। शिक्षा की एक ही पद्धति होनी चाहिये। जैसे कि लोगों ने कहा है कि शिक्षा चाहे राष्ट्रपति के बच्चों की हो या एक बंगी के बच्चों की हो या एक साधारण नागरिक के बच्चों की हो, वह एक समान होनी चाहिए। क्योंकि हमारे पब्लिक सचिव कमिशन के सामने जब कंपीटीशन होता है तो उनको एक ही कैटेगरी में आँका जाता है। अगर शिक्षा की पद्धति एक नहीं होती तो वह निश्चित है कि उन कंपीटीटर्स में हमारे सभी व्यक्ति या कंपीटीटर्स समानता से अपने ज्ञान को प्रस्तुत न कर सकेंगे।

[श्री अम्बिका प्रसाद पांडे]

इसलिये मेरा यह निवेदन है कि जो भी शिक्षा पद्धति हो एक हो और पूरे देश में लागू की जाये। आज भी लाखों मैकोले के द्वारा निर्धारित शिक्षा पद्धति यहाँ लागू है, उसमें आमूल परिवर्तन किये जायें। जैसे श्री चन्द्रप्यन ने कहा है कि शिक्षा का विषय किसी बलगत या पार्टी विरोध का नहीं है, मैं भी इससे सहमत हूँ। शिक्षा मंत्री ने मेरा भी यह कहना है कि इसको पार्टी का विषय न बनाकर, मानवता और पूरे राष्ट्र का विषय बना कर देखें और इस पर पहल करें।

अगर हमारे पूरे नागरिक शिक्षित होंगे, तो उत्पादन बढ़ेगा ही, चाहे खेत में हो या उद्योग में हो। शिक्षित व्यक्ति जहाँ लगेगा निश्चित ही उत्पादन में वृद्धि करेगा।

आज किसानों में देखा जाता है कि हमारे वैज्ञानिक जो भी नई पद्धति की खोज करते हैं, उसको लागू करने में वह हिचकिचाते हैं और अपनी रुढ़िगत भावना और परम्परा के अनुसार काम करते हैं। अगर वह शिक्षित हो तो हमारे वैज्ञानिकों की खोजों को लागू कर के एग्रीकल्चर में क्रांति पैदा कर सकते हैं। लेकिन यह अधिकांश के कारण ही है कि जो हमारे पिछड़े हुए देहातों के लोग हैं, वह नई नई खोजों से अपने आपकी परिचित न होने के कारण पूरी तरह से उनका लाभ नहीं उठा पाते हैं। इसलिये चाहे उद्योग हो या कृषि हो, जहाँ कहीं भी उत्पादन बढ़ाना है, अपने देश को आगे बढ़ाना है, वहाँ शिक्षा अनिवार्य हो जाती है।

इसके अलावा मैं चाहूँगा कि जिस तरीके से अभी तक हमारी कांग्रेस सरकार ने शिक्षा की अवहेलना की है, हमारी जनता सरकार शिक्षा की अवहेलना नहीं करेगी।

श्री एच० रामगोपाल रेड्डी : कांग्रेस सरकार ने कभी नहीं की।

श्री अम्बिका प्रसाद पांडे : मैं कहता हूँ कि भारत को स्वतंत्र हुए 30 वर्ष हो गये हैं, लेकिन अगर आज भी देहातों में जायें, या गहरों में देखें तो नागरिक 30 वर्ष का हो चुका है, लेकिन अधिशिक्षित है। अगर उसको पूर्णतया शिक्षा मिली होती तो शायद 20 महीने की आपत्कालीन स्थिति में जो बर्बत कांग्रेस सरकार द्वारा की गई, उसका वह खुलकर विरोध करता। लेकिन यह अधिकांश का ही कारण है कि वह चुपचाप उसे सहता रहा।

श्री एच० रामगोपाल रेड्डी : जहाँ शिक्षा है, वहाँ लोगो ने कांग्रेस को वोट दिया है और जहाँ अधिकांश है वहाँ जनता को वोट दिये गये हैं।

श्री अम्बिका प्रसाद पांडे : मुझे इसी बात का अफसोस है कि जो शिक्षित रहे, वह यहाँ बैठे रहे और उनकी हाँ में हाँ मिलाते रहे। हमें ऐसी शिक्षा नहीं चाहिये जो तानाशाही के पीछे हाथ उठाने वाले और हाँ में हाँ मिलाने वाले तैयार करें। जैसा कि लाखों मैकोले ने किया कि क्लर्क चाहियें, इसलिये वैसी शिक्षा उसने चलाई। तो ऐसी शिक्षा जो कांग्रेस पार्टी के समय में चली है जिसमें पिछले 20 महीने में हाँ में हाँ मिलाने वाले लोग रहे, ऐसी शिक्षा हमें नहीं चाहिये।

मैं शिक्षा मंत्री से अनुरोध करता हूँ कि देश में ऐसी शिक्षा लागू न करें जो सम्झी चीज को लेकर न चले। शिक्षा ऐसी होनी चाहिये कि अगर गलती की जाती है तो उसका विरोध करने के लिये उनके हृदय में ताकत पैदा करे। ऐसी शिक्षा से ही हमें अपने समाज के नागरिकों को शिक्षित करना है।

मैं इन्हीं शब्दों के साथ अपने संसद्-सबन्ध द्वारा प्रस्तुत विषय का सन्दर्भ करता हूँ और धन्यवाद करता हूँ कि इस पर हमारे मंत्री प्रह्लाद पाल देते हैं।

डा० रामजी सिंह (भागलपुर) : सभा-पति महोदय, यह बिल जितना सुन्दर है, उतना क्रान्तिकारी नहीं है, जिस को मुझे माननीय सदस्य, श्री बन्धुप्यन से अपेक्षा थी, क्योंकि वह अपने भाप को एक क्रान्तिकारी संस्था का प्रतिनिधि कहने हैं।

पहली बात तो यह है कि इस बिल का जो शीर्षक है, "कम्पलसरी एडल्ट एजुकेशन बिल", उस में भ्रन्तबिरोध है। माननीय सदस्य ने इस को एजुकेशन बिल, शिक्षा विधेयक कहा है। यह गलत है। यह साक्षरता विधेयक है, शिक्षा विधेयक नहीं है। साक्षरता न तो शिक्षा का आरम्भ है और न अन्त। कबीर साक्षर नहीं थे, लेकिन शिक्षित थे। "मसि कागद छुभो नहीं, कलम गह्यो नहीं हाथ"। साक्षरता शिक्षा का पर्यायवाची शब्द नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिए मैं माननीय सदस्य से नम्र निवेदन करूंगा कि वह विधेयक के शीर्षक में परिवर्तन कर के इसे अनिवार्य वयस्क साक्षरता विधेयक कहे।

जहाँ तक कम्पलसरी शिक्षा का सम्बन्ध है, मैं माननीय सदस्य से कहना चाहता हूँ कि जिस देश के 68 प्रतिशत लोग भाज गरीबी की रेखा के नीचे हैं उन्हें अनिवार्य शिक्षा देने का विचार एक दिवास्वप्न है। अनिवार्य शिक्षा तभी हो सकती है, जब लोगों को राइट टु वर्क दिया जाये, और आशा है कि माननीय सदस्य राइट टु वर्क को संविधान में स्थान देने के सम्बन्ध में जनता पार्टी का समर्थन करेंगे। इस समय शिक्षा को अनिवार्य नहीं किया जा सकता है।

मैं नहीं जानता कि माननीय सदस्य गांव में रहते हैं या नहीं। भाज गांवों के लोग अपने अपने कार्यों में लगे रहते हैं। प्राइमरी स्कूल में जितने बच्चे दाखिल होते हैं, जब वे हाई स्कूल में जाते हैं, तो उन में से 69 प्रतिशत ड्राप कर जाते हैं। गरीबी के कारण वे पढ़ नहीं पाते हैं। इसलिए भाज की परिस्थिति में कम्पलसरी एजुकेशन को लागू नहीं किया जा सकता है।

जहाँ तक एडल्ट शिक्षा का सम्बन्ध है,...

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी : क्या "एडल्ट" के लिए हिन्दी में कोई शब्द नहीं है ?

डा० रामजी सिंह : मैं माननीय सदस्य को बताना चाहता हूँ कि हम क्रैनेटिक नहीं हैं, हम हिन्दी इम्पीरियलिस्ट नहीं हैं।

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी : हम अच्छी हिन्दी सुनना चाहते हैं।

डा० रामजी सिंह : वयस्क शिक्षा के बारे में गांधी जी ने कहा है :

"Nearly half the members who attended the class during the first session have approached the worker in-charge to repeat the lessons. In fact, they had lapsed into illiteracy."

यह साक्षरता कुछ वर्षों में फिर निरक्षरता में परिवर्तित हो जाएगी। इस लिए इस प्रकार का व्यर्थ परिश्रम भाज राष्ट्र के लिए निरर्थक है। मैं समझता हूँ कि जब इस प्रकार का बिल यहाँ प्रस्तुत हो, तो शिक्षा के सम्बन्ध में एक समग्र दृष्टि से विचार करना चाहिए। जब शिक्षा मंत्रालय की डिमांड्स पर यहाँ बातचीत होगी, तब ये सब विचार यहाँ रखे जाएंगे। जिस देश में आर्थिक योजना के साथ शिक्षा की योजना जुड़ नहीं सकी है वहाँ फिर शिक्षा की योजना चल नहीं सकती है। मुझे आश्चर्य तब होता है जब बन्धुप्यन साहब जैसे अपने को क्रान्तिकारी कहलाने वाले भादमी इस तरह का बिल लाते हैं। उन्हें मालूम होगा रूस के अंदर मेन्शेको की शिक्षा पद्धति में भी काम के अभाव की आलोचना वहाँ की गई है। चीन में भी माओ-त्से-तुंग ने वहाँ की शिक्षा पद्धति में हाफ वर्क हाफ एजुकेशन का सिद्धांत दिया है। गांधी जी की बात छोड़ दीजिए क्योंकि वह तो आप स्वीकार करेंगे या नहीं करेंगे, मालूम नहीं लेकिन उन्होंने बहुत पहले कहा था—**शिक्षा जाह**

[डा० रामजी सिंह]

बूझूँ। इसीलिए मुझे वयस्क साक्षरता में कोई रुचि नहीं है। यह तो एक प्रकार का पलायन है। हमारी जो आवश्यकता है, जो राष्ट्र की अनिवार्य आवश्यकता है उससे भागने की, पलायन करने की दिशा हम ले रहे हैं।

हमारे सामने जो समस्या है उस से हमें जूझना होगा और वह है शिक्षा में परिवर्तन की समस्या। उस के लिए कल्पना तो चाहिए ही साहस भी चाहिए। आप ऐसी शिक्षा नहीं चाहिए जो केवल बेकार लोगों को पैदा करे और जो शिक्षा मंत्री के लिए सर्वथा सरदर्द बन जाय। जैसी शिक्षा चाहिए उस के संबंध में तो अभी भ्रमसर नहीं है कि मैं उस का प्रतिपादन आप की सेवा में करूँ। लेकिन अगर इस वयस्क शिक्षा को ही चलाना चाहते हैं तो जैसे रेड्डी जी ने कहा, बिल्कुल सही कहा, यह बिल्कुल अपनी स्वेच्छा से एक क्रान्तिकारी सांस्कृतिक अभियान के द्वारा होना चाहिए। जब सम्पूर्ण क्रान्ति का अभियान चल रहा था तो लोक नायक जय प्रकाश नारायण ने आह्वान किया है कि—ईच बन टीच बन, हर व्यक्ति एक एक आदमी को पढ़ाए।

दूसरी बात यह है, मैंने शिक्षा मंत्री जी से निवेदन किया था कि यह साक्षरता अभियान चला कर सरकार के द्वारा लोगों को साक्षर नहीं कर सकते हैं। उस के लिए न आप के पास सामर्थ्य है और न आप के पास प्रशासनिक योजना है। आप को उस के लिए सचमुच में एक सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम बूझना होगा। मैंने निवेदन किया था कि लोक नायक जय प्रकाश नारायण जिन को हमारे राष्ट्र के युवकों की वक़ू है उनसे आप आह्वान कराएं और राष्ट्र की समस्या के साथ आप इस को जोड़ें तब यह होगा।

इस के लिए शिक्षा की एक सेना, एज-केशन आर्मी जैसा डा० लोहिया ने कहा था, वह बनानी होगी। मैं ने चांदी जी की एक

पुस्तक देखी, उस में उन्होंने कहा था कि यह दो दो महीने का प्रीम्बावकाश होता है, उस में क्या होना चाहिए? उस में शिक्षा की सेना बने और लोगों को साक्षर करे। इसीलिए मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि अगर वयस्क साक्षरता जैसी अत्यन्त कम क्रान्तिकारी चीज से ही आप को संतोष है तो मैं विरोध तो नहीं करूँगा लेकिन यह अवश्य कहूँगा कि शिक्षा में क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन की जो राष्ट्र की आकांक्षा है उस से पलायन करने के लिए आप एक छोटी बात को राष्ट्र के सामने बड़ी बना कर रख रहे हैं। मैं आप से कहूँगा कि आप शिक्षा की एक सेना बनाएं, हर व्यक्ति एक एक आदमी को पढ़ाने का संकल्प ले और वयस्क शिक्षा के साथ सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक शिक्षा को भी आप जोड़ें। बिनोबा जी ने भी कहा था कि एक-एक घंटे की पाठशाला और दो दो घंटे का महाविद्यालय गांव में आप के चारों ओर या बरगद के वृक्ष की छाया में चलाएं जिसमें आप रामायण लेकर बैठें। उसमें सामाजिक और सांस्कृतिक शिक्षा भी होगी जिस में हम अपने स्वास्थ्य के संबंध में और जन-स्वास्थ्य के संबंध में भी चर्चा करेंगे। यह चीज राष्ट्र के लिए उपयोगी होगी। गांव के लोग जिन को दिन में तो खाना किसी तरह मिल जाता है, रात को ठंडा पानी पी कर सो जाते हैं, उन के लिए और किसी तरह की शिक्षा का कोई अर्थ नहीं बनता है। भारतवर्ष की निरक्षर जनता ने दिखला दिया है, सचमुच में दिखला दिया है कि अंग्रेजों की हुकूमत को भी बहुसात समुद्र पार भेज सकती है और 20 महीने की तानाशाही को भी सदा सर्वदा के लिए कब में गाड़ सकती है। इसलिए उस निरक्षर जनता के प्रति कोई भी अपमान-जनक बात नहीं होनी चाहिए।

बी एच० रामगोपाल रेड्डी : मैं आप को बधाई देता हूँ। आप बिल्कुल गूढ़ हिम्मी बोले हैं। आप जब भी बोलेंगे तो सुनूँगा।

PROF. P. G. MAVALANKAR (Gandhinagar): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I congratulate my good friend, Shri C. K.

Chandrappan, for bringing forward this Bill because it really focuses the attention of the House and, through this House, of the country to a very serious problem which unfortunately has remained on a low priority in the last 30 years. I am afraid, we in this country, irrespective of party affiliations or otherwise, have not fully realised or measured the urgency and seriousness of this problem.

The enormity of illiteracy is a matter of eternal shame, and a further shame is that we have tolerated it all along; we do not feel bad about it, we do not feel sad about it, we do not feel ashamed of the fact that a large number of our brethren, our own masters, are, by and large, illiterate. We should feel continuously a sense of shame about such a State of affairs, and if we feel that continuous sense of shame, I am quite sure, we will also give a little higher priority to eradicating this lack of political and civic education, lack of adult education, in our country. I feel, therefore, that this Bill is good. As Shri Chandrappan himself has said, one can have issues with him on this or that provision of the Bill. But I do not think that his intention is to make all of us agree with all the provisions of his Bill; his intention really in bringing forward this Bill—I hope I am saying this correctly on his behalf—at the moment is to focus the attention of the entire country and particularly of the Education Minister to this enormous problem. I say this because the problem of illiteracy, the problem of lack of adult education in our country, is very disastrous and very ugly. As Shri Chandrappan himself has said, illiteracy is the other side of poverty. In fact, illiteracy and poverty are two sides of the same coin. Illiteracy, like poverty, is a curse, and we must banish it. One must not say, "I am illiterate because of my past birth's deeds." We do not say, "we are poor because of our past birth's deeds", we say that poverty will be abolished. Similarly, illiteracy, lack of adult education, must be banished from this country. I say this because the hardships, the harassments and the

humiliations which illiteracy brings about, which lack of education brings about, on a large number of people, we cannot just tolerate. Therefore, it is good that this Bill has been brought forward.

I do not think, this is a problem of statistics or strategy, although we need both statistics and strategy. I am sure, the Minister needs both statistics and strategy to help him tackle this problem but more than statistics and strategy, what we require is sheer determination because it is a matter of our own survival. As a democratic society and as a free society, we shall not survive, if a large chunk of our population remains continuously in backwardness because of illiteracy and lack of opportunities and adult education.

I must also say this. The hon. Member who spoke before me talked about literacy. There is a difference between literacy and education. As far as education is concerned, our Constitution is clear; it says that every Indian citizen shall get free and compulsory education upto the age of fourteen years. That is a Constitutional obligation, and I am sure that my esteemed friend, Dr. Chunder, will agree with me that he and his Government, and indeed all future Governments, will have to make a serious effort to see that this Constitutional obligation is met as much as possible and as quickly as possible. But even after you have met that, the problem still remains of educating the adults. When you have got education upto 14 years, when you progress further, you tend to forget the formal education; you need to have informal education; you have to equip and strengthen your professional and other job requirements. The emphasis is thus shifted from adult education to functional education or continuing education. For all these, funds are required, increased allocations are required, programmes are required. I know, my friend, the Education Minister, will say that adult education is, primarily and largely, a problem and a responsibility for the State Governments to tackle; the Centre can come

[P. G. Mavalankar]

in the picture only in terms of providing assistance by way of monetary grants, etc., to voluntary agencies; perhaps, it can run a few pilot projects here and there. But, surely, in a country of this enormity, the Government of India should, through pilot projects and through massive educational and financial assistance, give a lead to a large number of States and a large number of institutions in this country. My information is that there are about 200 voluntary organisations involved in this work today; but, for a country of this size and with a population of 60 crores, 200 is just a pittance. We must increase this. I am not saying that everything must be done by the Government: most of it can be done by voluntary organisations, but the Government of India must come forward with a large amount of money and resources if it considers this to be a serious matter. I feel we can go ahead on these lines by looking at the experience of countries like U. K., France, Canada, U.S.A., Russia, China, Yugoslavia and many other socialist countries. I have no time to go into all the details, but in a country like the United Kingdom you will find extra-mural departments of the various Universities doing the job for citizens and, besides, the WEA—Workers Educational Association—has been doing good work in Britain for the last 50 years or more. We must have something on these lines in this country—extra-mural departments and workers educational associations working together for the benefit of workers and other people.

Then, in a country like Canada, there are correspondence courses. Thousands of adults who had left formal education at a particular age go through correspondence education in order to improve and upgrade themselves. The same thing can be said with regard to U.S.A. and Russia and China and other such countries but, for want of time, I will refer to only one or two points about Russia. Here is a book on the Soviet Union by Prof. J. J. Tomiak in which he mentions that in

Russia there are a large number of institutions—both voluntary and State managed—which are involved in the work of adult education. Some of the interesting aspects of the matter can be seen from the illustration I am going to give you. There are Parents' Universities. Even parents need to be taught as to how to bring up their children in their families. We merely bring forth children but don't know how to bring them up. So we require education. Russia has also Universities of Culture and schools for working and rural youth, industrial training centres and so on. The point is, whether it is Canada, Russia, Britain or China or any other country, their Governments, voluntary bodies, colleges and Universities and other institutions all make a concentrated, combined effort.

Therefore, I want to conclude on this aspect by saying that if you really want education of adults to continue un-interrupted so that it becomes better and better and more and more improved in terms of quality of its work and in terms of production and in terms of commitment to ideals, you will have to satisfy yourself that it enables every adult citizen to contribute his or her best to the country's welfare.

That is why, I feel Shri Chandrapan's Bill is a good one. I will not go into the details but the Bill says that since Independence our illiterate population has increased rather than decreased and 70 per cent of our population is still illiterate. Then, what about the proportion of women? If 70 per cent of our people are still illiterate, I am ashamed to think that a large number of our sisters, mothers and daughters are much more illiterate than men. Mahatma Gandhi, through the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, concentrated on the welfare of villages having a population of less than 5000, and he concentrated on women's education because he used to say that if you educate one woman you educate the whole family; whereas if you educate one man, perhaps you

would have educated only the man—I am not sure even about that! So, I feel women's education also requires a lot of attention. Shri Chandrappan's Bill says that top priority is needed for this problem of adult education, and and resources are also needed for this. I am very glad that the Prime Minister has appointed Dr. Chunder as a full-fledged Cabinet Minister. I congratulate him on that and also our Minister of Education for being a member of the Cabinet. For the last several years we had been seeing that Education Ministers were outside the Cabinet. I cannot understand how any planned project for the country's development can succeed without the Minister of Education being a member of the Cabinet, the highest Council. I am sure that now that he is there, with his understanding and experience, he will do his best to state in the Cabinet itself that resources for education must increase. I will perhaps say more about this when the Demands of the Education Ministry come up. I now conclude by saying that education is important for this country. And may I say that we are a country comprising people who are illiterate but wise and people who are literate but uneducated? We now want a combination of literate, educated and wise people and this can be achieved only through good education and with continuing adult education. People ask: why should it be compulsory? If you do not make it compulsory and have it on voluntary basis, who will get the chance? Only those of us will get the chance, who are in a position to afford; others who have the intention and the brain, but cannot afford, will be denied this opportunity. If you make it compulsory and the States have a stake in the whole matter, I am quite sure, we will be able to make a headway in this and it will be a good thing. I would suggest that the Government should go into this matter and the Education Ministry should prepare a programme of producing literature, pamphlets, journals and similar other things on this. As a

professor of political science and history with an experience of last 28 years, and as a Founder-Director of an educational institution in Ahmedabad, I can tell you from my personal experience that this is, and has to be, one of the most fundamental activities of a developing country. Unless we have an educated citizenry in terms of literacy, in terms of understanding, in terms of citizenship education and responsibility, in terms of democratic political education, we will not succeed. My friend from the Janata Party spoke a little while ago and he was absolutely right that if this country was properly and well educated, the emergency would never have come and even when it came, it would not have lasted for 19 months, not even for 19 hours. Therefore, what we want is sensible, good and sane education, political education and democratic education which will make everybody look and work alike with everybody else in terms of opportunities to go ahead so that this country can progress with all the internal resources at its command.

SHRI P. RAJAGOPAL NAIDU (Chittoor): Mr. Chairman Sir, I am having some experience in this field and I am happy to participate in this debate. First of all, I would like to know from the Government, whether they would have resources to introduce adult education on a compulsory basis.

I am inclined to agree with Shri Ram Gopal Reddy that we have to find out ways and means to involve educated young men and also Panchayats and other organizations for this purpose. In our State, there is one teacher for 40 to 70 students. It becomes impossible for the teacher to teach so many students. Now, secondly there has been compulsory education in Andhra Pradesh for the last twenty years; this is on the statute Book, but it is becoming impossible

[Shri P. Rajagopal Naidu]

to implement it. This is because the poor people are unable to go to school. I have seen this myself and I have also statistics with me. The children will go for the first and second standard and from third standard they will drop out. It is because his or her parents have to go out to earn their livelihood and in their absence from the house, the children have to look after the other children. Unless they look after the other children, their parents will not be able to go out and earn their livelihood. Therefore, unless some mid-day meal or food is given to the children. It is very difficult to implement this compulsory education.

18 hrs.

I have one or two suggestions for this. If you want to implement compulsory education, it must be given to the Panchayats; they can implement it. The other thing is that the unemployed educated youngmen must be involved in this. They must be given preference in employment only when they take to teaching in the schools for at least one year. In this way, we can reduce the expenditure on the spreading of this sort of education. I agree with Mr. Mavalankar also because illiterates when they become literates, after coming out of the school, are forgetting everything. So, unless there is some informal or continuing education, it will not be useful for them. Even the education which they had in the schools will not be of much use. Therefore, what I say is that unless there is a movement in the country for spreading education, it will become impossible. Whether we introduce compulsory education or not, it may be a law, but it will not be in implementation. If you want to implement it, it is the quite necessary that everyone from the top to the bottom should involve himself in this movement. Only through such a movement we can solve this problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We will have to call upon the Minister to reply.

श्री विनायक असाव दास (सहस्त्रा) :
सभापति जी, हमें भी दो मिनट का बोलने का समय दीजिए क्योंकि यह बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण विषय है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no possibility of extending the time. The time is already extended. Now, there is no possibility. I am sorry I cannot do it.

Mr. Chunder, there cannot be any limitation on your reply. All the same, looking to the time at your disposal, I will request you to be brief.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (DR. PRATAP CHANDRA CHUNDER): Many Members have very correctly congratulated our hon. Member, Shri Chandrappan, for bringing forward this Bill and I join them in congratulating him. Certainly, there are no two opinions about the importance of this subject and the enormous problem that we face today is simply staggering. We have to find out some means whereby we can tackle the problem in a proper manner and, I should say, in a successful manner.

Many of the hon. Members have kindly referred to my statement made on 5th April 1977 before this august House when I stressed the importance of this problem and I wanted to shift the priority in our approach towards our educational problem as a whole. In fact, in that statement I have said that we must take measures for fighting illiteracy and universalise primary education because the two are actually complementary; because if we do not step up the process of universalisation of primary education, we will be throwing every year a lot of children into the great mass of adult illiterates.

Therefore, one method of fighting adult illiteracy will certainly be to universalise primary education and that

duty was imposed on us by the Directive Principles of our Constitution—I mean Article 45 of the Constitution. A time limit was put. That is, within ten years after the adoption of the Constitution, that is to say, by 1960 we should make education free and compulsory for every child attaining the age of 14 years. But, unfortunately, it has not been possible for our country to do so. The government which ruled this country in the past years tried to do something about education. At one time we were also associated with that government. Therefore, I cannot straightaway blame that government simply by saying that it did nothing. In fact, there has been some improvement in the literacy percentage and we cannot deny that. But, at the same time, as the hon. Member, Mr. Ram Gopal Reddy rightly pointed out, there has been an increase in population also. So, whatever we gained in the matter of numbers, we lost in the matter of percentages. So, that problem has to be looked at from this angle.

Even then, while I admit that this enormous problem will have to be tackled in a proper manner and as quickly as possible, I would say that the measure which the hon. Member, Shri Chandrappan, has brought before us will not be able to solve the problem. Why? I will try to explain it very briefly. I would not take much of the time of the House as it is getting late. The hon. Member Shri Chandrappan has referred to his experience in Socialist countries, I have the good fortune of visiting two very important Socialist countries—Soviet Union and China. I have studied their problems to a large extent. I tried to keep up my information about the developments there. So far as the Soviet Union is concerned, I am full of praise for the efforts that they had made in removing illiteracy from their people. But I should respectfully point out that they had a better start than we had in our country. From the figures which I got out of a book which has been published from Moscow 'Education in

USSR' written by M. I. Kondakov, published by Foreign Languages Publishing House, Moscow, I find that when the Soviet system was established three-fourths of the population was unable to read or write. That means 25 per cent of their people were literate when the Soviet came to power. Whereas when we attained independence, only 10 per cent of our population had been literate. All these years about 300 per cent increase has been achieved. It is true, as our hon. Member had pointed out, Lenin had declared that policy of literacy in 1919 and by that policy he called upon a massive literacy programme. All available persons who were fit for this particular job—doctors, teachers, Government officials, advocates, workers and farmers, de-mobilised service men, senior students of the Secondary school were engaged in this. It was like a movement. It was not simply done by Government offices and Government officers. Here again I cite the observation made by the hon. Member Shri Reddy that even the M.P.s. should be involved in this task. I have no quarrel. I have also said, and hon. Member Shri Chandrappan also quoted my statement, that this attack against illiteracy will be on the basis of the Janata movement. By Janata I do not mean Janata Party movement, it is certainly the movement of the entire people and unless we can involve the entire people in this important task, it is not possible for us to tackle this problem at all.

Even when Lenin had given that call, let us see how the progress was made in Soviet Union. I am quoting this figure from a book entitled 'The Adult Education in India and Abroad' by Nikhil Ranjan Roy, formerly Assistant Director of Public Instructions, West Bengal. This is the second edition of that book. We find that Lenin gave the call in 1919. In 1928-29, 2 million had attended the schools that were set up for adult education. In 1929-30, 8 million had attended. In 1930-31, 11 million had attended. Over 40 million persons were counted as

[Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder]

having attained literacy as a result of these efforts during 15 years from the promulgation of the famous decree on the abolition of illiteracy. In spite of this massive effort, in spite of a very well knit party, in spite of the fact that Government was very powerful (I am not using any hard word about this), in spite of the fact that the Government could induce the people to carry out the directive of the Government, the achievement in terms of adult literacy could be 40 million persons in 15 years from the promulgation of the famous decree on abolition of illiteracy. We should compare this with the gigantic task that we face. You will agree that simply by having this method in this country where we follow the democratic path, this cannot be done. It is rather a difficult task for us to solve this serious obstacle in a satisfactory manner. Moreover, the compulsion which Mr. Chandrappan wants to introduce has not been carried out in its full effect. I am not going into the details of the Bill; I am simply discussing the principles of it. I would like to draw the attention of the House to some basic difficulties, which perhaps he also has raised. In Section 8, he has said that all illiterate adult workers and agricultural workers shall compulsorily join the one-man literacy centres for education for one year. And then there is the question of punishment. But then in the next section he speaks of this compulsion. He says that all adult illiterate persons other than the adult illiterate workers or agricultural workers shall have to join the one-man literacy centres compulsorily.

When that word "compulsorily" has been mentioned, nothing has been said how that compulsion can be made possible, because in none of the sections we find this. What we find is only that some inducement is given in terms of money. Illiterate adult male person shall be given Rs. 75 per month for one year. Female

adult person will get Rs. 100 per month for one year. Adult illiterate whether male or female of SC or ST will get a stipend of Rs. 100 per month and that is the inducement given. But that does not mean compulsion. So, unless you have some element of compulsion and carry it to the end that is thought of, the whole purpose of the Bill which Mr. Chandrappan has in mind will be lost. Mr. Chitta Bosu referred to compulsion. But I respectfully submit that the Bill does not go the whole hog and there is not that element of compulsion and if we look at the figure of workers in fields and factories we will find that they constitute only a very small part of the total number of illiterates, that we have.

The adult illiterates' figure of 1971 census, that is those who were above the age of 15 years, was 20.95 crores. If we add 10 per cent in view of the increase in these years, it will come to 23.04 crores. Of these the agricultural workers constitute 4.40 crores and the factory workers 0.42 crores. The rest of the adult illiterates will not be covered by the compulsory element of the Bill which Mr. Chandrappan wants to put before us. So, this compulsory element goes by and large.

Now the question is whether under our constitution we can have any compulsory education programme for our adult people. That point should be considered keeping in view of course the economic capacity and development in the country.

Article 45 refers to children upto 14 years of age. It does not speak of children or so-called adult above 15 years of age.

We have Article 41 which has the Directive Principle relating to right to work, to education, to public assistance in certain cases. I quote:

"The State shall, within the limits of its economic capacity and development, make effective provisions

for securing the right to work, to education, and to public assistance in cases of unemployment, old age, sickness and disablement, and in other cases of undeserved want".

So, you will see that Art. 41 is subject to this limitation, namely, within the limits of its economic capacity. At the same time, you have to see that the scheme which is now put forth before us is actually commensurate with economic resources. That is a very vital question. The hon. Member, Shri Chandrappan, has given a very modest estimate in the Financial Memorandum. I find that it is something like Rs. 120 crores or so. But, if we look at the provisions of the Bill which require payment of stipends to adult male illiterates, women illiterates, harijan and tribals other than workers in fields and factories, then we will find that, according to that calculation—in fact, I had this calculation made—by multiplying this figure of Rs. 75 per month by the number of illiterate men other than workers, that will be Rs. 3,555 crores in one year and for illiterate women other than workers at the rate of Rs. 100 per month, it will be Rs. 9,924 crores in one year and for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, at the rate of Rs. 100 per month, that will come to Rs. 6,000 crores for one year. The total of stipends will come to Rs. 19,479 crores only one year because that is the time limit which Shri Chandrappan has put forth.

Then he tells us about the teacher. He has thought of one teacher school. So, if we have 23 crores of illiterate adult people and if we divide that by 40 students per teacher as suggested by him, then we have to get at least 57.5 lakhs of teachers to be engaged. He wants to pay them at Rs. 150 per month, that is, Rs. 1,800 per year. That makes Rs. 1,035 crores.

Then he has also made a provision, rightly so, for books. If one rupee per learner should be the price of book, then that will amount to Rs. 23

crores; for other materials it will come to Rs. 46 crores and the contingency expenditure at the rate of Rs. 100 per school may come to Rs. 57.50 crores.

Many of the hon. Members have pointed out that it will be a continuing process. So, I assume that there will be a follow-up action and if Rs. 5 per person for the follow-up action is needed, that will come to Rs. 115 crores thus totalling to Rs. 240.50 crores per year. So, the grand total of expenditure will be Rs. 22,755.50 crores in one single year. Now, Sir, is it possible for our budget both at the Central level as well as at the State level to carry out this scheme?

While I fully agree with the hon. Member that we should have some positive things to be done in respect of the fight against illiteracy, we cannot in my humble submission, carry out this scheme keeping in view Article 41, as I have already indicated. Our financial resources, whether at the centre or at the State level, will not suffice.

Now, some hon. Members, particularly, Shri Bhattacharyya and Shri Kundu, rightly pointed out that it was not always a question of money. That is so. The hon. Member, Shri Ram Gopal Reddy also pointed out that we have to motivate the students. We already have schools and these children go. But, after two or three years of study, they drop out. That is a big problem. After drop-out, very often they relapse into illiteracy. How to avoid that great menace?

The school is there. Money is invested there. Teachers are employed but because of backward economic condition it is not possible for us to compel those students to remain in the school and carry out their instruction to the end. That is a big problem. So, Sir, the question of drop-out will also have to be taken into account.

[Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder]

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is a problem connected with the main problem of poverty. As the hon'ble Member Shri Mavalankar, pointed out illiteracy and poverty are the two sides of the same coin. We have to tackle the whole problem together, that is, solution of the problem of poverty to be taken up with the solution of the problem of illiteracy.

Sir, I have suggested in the other House that this matter will have to be taken up with the Planning Commission and we have to frame certain schemes by which we can have not only inputs in this matter but also psychological motivation behind the need for literacy. Unless we can impress upon our people that literacy is absolutely necessary, simply by setting up of some schools or providing some stipends, I am afraid, we would not be able to solve the problem.

Sir, we know the common proverb: We can bring a horse to water but we cannot make him drink. So, we may have the schools but there we may not have proper motivation for learning. Adults may be brought to the school—if we offer them a stipend of Rs. 100—but whether they will agree to learn, we do not know. In that case, the enormous sum of money which is being provided here may be a waste.

Sir, I would like to inform the House what the present Government is going to do to meet this problem. I called two important informal meeting which were attended by a number of persons who are interested in this field or are experts in this field. So many voluntary associations which have acquired some experience in this field were invited and their representatives had come. Then one of my predecessors, Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao, who is very well known for his concern about fighting illiteracy, was requested to attend after two-

days deliberations we have come to the conclusion that we are going to set-up a National Board of Adult Education and that National Board of Adult Education will certainly meet the point which has been raised by hon'ble Shri Chandrapan in clause 16 of the Bill. This National Board will try to find out measures or frame strategies and also suggest steps to be taken for the purpose of meeting this problem.

Another hon'ble Member pointed that this is a State matter as well because education other than university and technical education largely falls within the jurisdiction of the States. So, we propose to have a meeting of the State Education Ministers. We had been waiting for the elections to be held in a large number of States and the formation of governments there. Only in this week most of the governments have been formed. Very soon we are going to call a meeting of the State Education Ministers and after we consult them we might be able to impress upon them the necessity of having a massive programme for fighting against the menace of illiteracy. After that it may be possible for us to frame certain measures for the purpose of fighting this menace. I do not want to extend my speech. I want to impress upon the hon'ble Member, Shri Chandrapan, that in view of the points that I have indicated. And in view of the sense of urgency that the present Government has and my statement in this House as well as in the other House, the hon. Member will very kindly withdraw this Bill. Whenever, in future, there will be any further discussion on tackling this problem, I can assure this House that the hon. Member himself will be associated with that discussion and any other hon. Member who would like to be associated with it, will be most respectfully invited. With these words, I would not say that I am opposing the Bill in that sense, if he would kindly withdraw this Bill in view of the assurances that I have given; otherwise I will reluctantly have to do so.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I should thank all those Members who took part in this discussion and I am very happy that hardly anyone has expressed any opposition to the ideas that we were trying to present before the House. At the stage of initiating the discussion, I said that it was not the question whether everybody would agree to this Bill. That is not the intention. I think the purpose has been served because we had a very useful and fruitful discussion and I think the country will know what the House thinks and what the various sections of the House think about it.

Sir, I am very happy that the hon. Minister also had taken a positive view about the proposals in various parts of the Bill and he has agreed that a National Board will be constituted and the Government will try to tackle this problem on a war footing. I need not go into the detail of all the various points raised here by various Members. But one point, I think should be made, that is, I think that without an element of compulsion, without a legislative measure, however pious may be our wishes and however great may be the people who are pleading for having literacy in this country, from Mahatma Gandhi onwards, it is not possible to achieve the aim. We have been hearing this. Even then, we will be facing the same situation after 30 years hence. So, I think that an element of compulsion is necessary and the Minister has rightly pointed out that Rs. 25,000 crores for a modest implementation of the programme will be required. I do not say that the Minister should spend it tomorrow or immediately. But that shows the enormity of the problem, that shows the magnitude of the problem. After hearing the reply given by the hon. Minister, again I have to express my doubt whether, after 30 years, the Members of the future House will discuss the problem with the same vehemence. I think that all those who talk about lack of resources, etc. will face the same problem that we are

facing now. I have appended a Financial Memorandum to my Bill. But I am not an expert in financial matters. But the problem has been brought before this House and to tackle this on a time-bound basis, we have to find resources. And that duty lies on everybody, not on that side alone, this side also. I have one or two points which I would like to make. I have cited experiences of Soviet Union, experiences of Vietnam, Cuba and all that. I do not want that we should be a carbon copy of that, but these are valuable experiences. That is the valuable experience of the people of those great nations who washed all those miseries which you have pointed out—poverty, illiteracy, unemployment; they did this by bringing about structural reforms in society. That is exactly where everybody is shivering in his shoes. Are you ready to face the realities in this country today? I have no illusions that by bringing in a Bill the Minister will solve the problem. Are you ready to choose a different path than the capitalist path which you are now pursuing? To put an end to feudalism? That is the question with all its implications, economic, social and political. If you are ready to do that, you will find a way; you will find resources. Otherwise, I must say that the speech made by Shri Morarji Desai that he would tackle the problem within 5-6 years in Coimbatore in the heat of elections would remain a mere propaganda stunt of the election. I once again thank everybody for the support they have extended; I am thankful to the Minister; he was very responsive in replying. I think the purpose of the discussion has been served and so I do not want to press the Bill to a division; that is not the intention. I agree with the suggestion of the hon. Minister to withdraw and I hope he will keep these things in view.

Sir, I seek leave of the House to withdraw the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That leave be granted to withdraw the Bill to provide for funds

[Mr. Chairman]

and facilities, and to set up necessary bodies to ensure compulsory adult education in India."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: I withdraw the Bill.

SHRI SAMAN GUHA (Contd.): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to regulate the publication and import of political literature by foreign missions in India, be taken into consideration."

MR. CHAIRMAN: He may continue next time

18.24 hrs.

18.35 hrs.

PUBLICATION AND IMPORT OF
POLITICAL LITERATURE BY
FOREIGN MISSION IN INDIA
(REGULATION) BILL

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Saturday, July 2, 1977/Asadha 11, 1899 (Saka).

by Shri Saman Guha