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Thursday, January 29, 1976
Magha 9, 1897 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fifteenth Session)



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C O N T E N T S

[Fifth Series, Volume LVI, Fifteenth Session, 1976]

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Thursday, January 29, 1976/Magha 9, 1897 (Saka).

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[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Amendment of Mineral Concession Rules

*306 SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal under consideration to amend the existing Mineral Concession Rules, and

(b) if so, the main features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). Yes, Sir. After taking into account the various suggestions, received from the State Governments and from other sources, comprehensive review of the Mineral Concession Rules, 1960 is being made with a view to amending these Rules. The main features being kept in view are:—

(i) to streamline the procedure for the grant of mineral concessions;

- (ii) to lay emphasis on workmanlike and efficient mining of minerals;
- (iii) to check illegal mining of minerals;
- (iv) to ensure prompt payment of mining dues by mine owners; and
- (v) to facilitate extension of loans by financial institutions to the mining industry.

SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: The State Governments are already equipped with adequate powers to prevent this illegal mining and the malpractices. They are equipped also to prevent such things and for taking punitive measures against mine-owners. What are the reasons for the failure of the State Governments to take such action against the mine owners who are practising these illegal mining and indulging in all these malpractices?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): There is no specific reason. The State Governments have been taking measures, but it is felt that this organisation should be strengthened. And certain suggestions have been received from the State Governments. A little more time is wanted for processing the applications. Even the Federation of Mineral Associations etc., have also made some suggestions that certain amendments should be made in the rules. Therefore, these things are being considered—it is not as if actions have not been taken; they have been taken and we feel that this organisation should be strengthened so that the unscientific and illegal mining is not there.

SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: May I know from the hon. Minister when the rules are expected to be introduced?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: They are under consideration. I have formed a departmental Committee in which all these suggestions had been invited; certain suggestions have also been made by the State Governments and, on behalf of the Federation too, certain suggestions have been received very recently. These are being discussed. If Members too have suggestions to make, they can also give But, I hope that the decisions will be taken as soon as possible and, certainly, they will be placed before the House.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the accident which occurred recently in Chasnala was because of this illegal mining.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: The question has nothing to do with this. Moreover, there is a court of inquiry. It will not be proper to say anything at this stage.

श्री राम नारायण शर्मा : आपने कहा है कि ग्राम जन्दी से जन्दी नैजिस्ट्रेशन ला रहे हैं। मैं जानता चाहता हूँ कि क्या आपका ध्यान इन प्रोग्राम हैं जिनमें नेशनलाइजेशन के दो विशेषकों के बाबजूद भी १००% -ज्ञानी बदलाव चल रही है, श्रीराम उसमें देश के मिनरल खन को बहुत दा भरति हैं। और वह बुलेग्राम महों दरों पर द्याजार में विकला है, और इपकी वजह से हैवी स्ट्राक कोवले का हो गया है?

श्री चंद्रजीत यादव : गैर-कानूनी माइनिंग का काम हो रहा है उस पर कमें हम कार्यवाही

दरें, इस पर बहुत सक्रिय रूप से हम विचार कर रहे हैं।

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: The statement laid on the Table shows only some minor concessions in the mineral rules. The State Governments are clamouring for increasing the royalty rate. May I know whether this question of revision of royalty is also under the consideration of Government or not?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Very recently, the royalty question has been decided. There was a Committee formed which also went into all these aspects of royalties; royalties, in most of these cases, have very recently been decided.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: If I may just take up further the point raised by Mr. Sharma, the Minister replied by saying

हम विचार कर रहे हैं।

Previously, on several occasions, in this House, his attention had been drawn to the illegal mining of coal, particularly, in the State of Bihar, in your State and, at that time also, we were told that steps were going to be taken. I would like to know how many such cases of illegal mining of coal, without any concessions, in Bihar have been detected; what step has been taken to stop those things and whether the people responsible for these illegal minings have been punished in any way?

या विषय विचार ही हो रहा है।

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Really speaking, I think the hon. Member is aware that the coal mining does not need anything. Moreover here is a separate Ministry. If he wants me to give details, he may put a question for that.

Construction of Bridge on National Highway

*310. **SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:**

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN:

Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) at what stage is the construction work of the national highways including the diversions in Kerala;

(b) the names of the major bridges in the national highway which are still not completed or the work on which has not yet been started; and

(c) what are the reasons for the delay in the construction of the bridge on National Highway at Baliapattam in Cannanore District?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) Two National Highways, viz., N.H. 17 and 47, pass through the State of Kerala. Due to financial stringency no new work, including byepasses, has been sanctioned on N.H. 17 since its declaration as a National Highway in March, 1972. As regards N.H. 47, the road is already through but the works sanctioned for its development/improvement, to cater to the traffic needs, are in various stages of progress. The Fourth Plan provided for construction of 8 byepasses on N.H. 47 in Kerala. The byepasses at Koratty and Shertallai have been completed. The byepass at Alwaye is nearing completion. Earthwork for Palghat and Cochin Byepasses is in progress. The construction of byepasses for the remaining three towns, i.e., Trichur, Chalakudy and Alleppey, has not been sanctioned due to financial stringency.

(b) The names of major bridges which are incomplete or the work on which has not yet been started are as under:—

Name of Bridge	N.H. No.	Remarks
(1) Bridge between Kumbalam & Aroor in Cochin Byepass	47	In progress
(2) Bridge between Panangatt & Kumbalam in Cochin Byepass	47	Just commenced.
(3) Bridge between Maradu and Neitor	47	In progress.
(4) Bridge across Chambakara Thodu	47	Do.
(5) Baliapattam Bridge	17	In Progress. Remarks in reply to part (c) of the Question also refer.
(6) Anejera Kandy-Moidu at km. 172/180.	17	Detailed estimate still awaited from the State Authorities. In view of present financial constraints their consideration for sanction would depend on availability of funds from time to time.
(7) Dharmadam Bridge at km. 173/880.	17	Do.

Name of Bridge	N. H. No.	Remarks
(8) Moorat Bridge at km. 203/500 .	17	Detailed estimate still awaited from the State Authorities. In view of the present financial constraints their consideration for sanction would depend on availability of funds from time to time.
(9) Korapuzha Bridge at km. 233/200.	17	Do.
(10) Ferrok Bridge at km. 257/00 .	17	Do.
(11) Kottapuram Bridge . . .	17	Do.
(12) Chettuva Bridge . . .	17	Do.
(13) Varapuzha Bridge . . .	17	Do.
(14) Pudduponani Bridge . . .	17	Foundation and sub-structure completed from State funds before declaration of this reach of the route as National Highway. Sanction for the further continuance and completion of the work shall be considered on receipt of detailed estimate depending on availability of funds.

(c) The delay in the construction of the Baliapattam Bridge, is due to the poor effort put in by the Contractor who has abandoned the work on the plea of labour trouble. The Department has called for tenders for completing the remaining portion of the work at the risk and cost of the original contractor.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: In answer to part (c) of the question, that is, regarding the delay in the construction of Baliapattam Bridge, the Government says that the poor performance of the contractor was the reason for the delay in construction of this bridge. I would like to know whether it is a fact or not that it is almost five years now, still this bridge remains incomplete. I do not know whether it is due to bad performance or poor work of the contractor. I would like to know from Government when this work is likely to be completed. Since the Government says that the department is now trying to complete the remaining portion of the work at the risk and cost of the original contractor; and also when the construction is likely to be completed.

SHRI DALBIR SINGH: The reason for the delay has been given in the written reply. The State Government is now trying its best to complete it but it also depends upon the availability of funds. As soon as, and the manner in which, the funds are available, the process of completing the bridge will continue.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: It is a philosophical answer. In the written statement he has said something else and while answering he is saying something else.

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON): The tenders for the balance work have been invited and the last date fixed for the same is 10th February, 1976.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN: Sir, in the written statement at page 2 item No. 11 in respect of Kottapuram bridge. I think, the Government has received so many representations from the people of that area saying that the Government should not change the present location where the bridge has

been decided to be constructed I want to know whether it is a fact that the Government has proposed to undertake another survey in that area and construct the bridge in a completely new area. If so, what are the reasons for the Government to decide so and before taking the final decision whether the Government would consult the State Government and also the interested parties that is, the Members of Parliament from that place

SHRI DALBIR SINGH The State Government is always taken into confidence and consultations are held with the State Government and before finalising any proposal the State Government's view is always considered

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN Sir he has not replied about the Kottapuram bridge.

MR SPEAKER They are not ready with the answer

DR G S DHILLON There are three major crossings and this Kottapuram is one of them

SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN I will meet you personally and discuss with you

DR G S DHILLON That means you do not want to have a reply now

श्री नवल किशोर सिंह मेरी सूचना के अनुसार इस देश म करीब 50 हजार किलोमीटर नैशनल हाईवे हैं लेकिन प्रत्यक्ष राज्य की आवादी के अनुसार इसका वितरण नहीं है कही श्रीसत ज्यादा है और कही बहुत कम। जैसे विहार और केरल मे आवादी के हिसाब से जितनी श्रीमत हीनी चाहिए, उससे बहुत कम है। क्या सरकार पाचवीं पाच साला

योजना के अन्तर्भूत इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहना है कि जहा-जहा जनसङ्ख्या की दृष्टि मे श्रीसत किलोमीटर कम है वहा इसकी पूर्ति कर दी जाये? इस बात को ध्यान मे रखते हुए क्या पटना से सोनवरसा तक गगा के पुल से गुजरने वाली सड़क को सरकार गज्जीय राजपथ मे लेना चाहती है?

प्रध्यक्ष नहोबद्य यह हाईवे का मवाल नहीं है, पुल का मवाल है और केरल के बारे म है।

श्री शौ. एन. तिवारी : एक प्रश्न के उत्तर म मर्दी महोदय ने कहा था कि एजेंटियुटिव एजन्सी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की है और उनके जिस्म रहता है कि काम कैसे कराये या न कराये। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जब राज्य स्टेट गवर्नमेंटम को आप देते हैं तो क्या अपन कोई ऐसा सिस्टम बनाया हुआ है कि आप देखे वि स्टेट गवर्नमेंट आपके पथ को किस प्रवार बच दरही है विस तरह पर वहा राम हो रहा है मैं भी रियल कैमा इन्वेमाल किया, वकं-मैनशिप कैमा है? क्या कभी इस प्रवार की जाच करने की कोशिश की जाती है या नहीं?

श्री वल्लबोरसिंह जी हा इसके लिए स्टेट गवर्नमेंटम को हम ५ प्रतिशत एजेंसी कोम देना। वहा की आगेनाइजेशन्स इसके एजेंटियुटिव के लिए रिस्पॉसिवल है, लेकिन हमारी आगेनाइजेशन के आदमी बक्तव्य-बक्तव्यों पर जाकर सर्वे बरीच करते हैं और इस्पैशन भी रहत है और देखन है कि एजेंटियुटिव ठीक से हो रहा है या नहीं हो रहा है। लेकिन सारी रिस्पॉसिबिलिटी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट की होती है।

**Steel Production affected by Recession
in Industrial Climate**

***311. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether recession in the industrial climate has adversely affected the steel production or the produced steel for sale in the recent months; and

(b) the total steel in stock with the Steel Authority of India upto 31st December, 1975 for sale?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) The total production of saleable steel from the integrated steel plants in 1974-75 was 4.9 million tonnes. The production in 1975-76 is estimated at about 5.7 million tonnes.

There has, however, been a marginal fall in steel consumption this year.

(b) As on 31-12-1975, the stocks of saleable steel with the public sector steel plants (and their stockyards) under Steel Authority of India were around 6.5 lakhs tonnes.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: The answer to part (a) of my question is not clear. My question was: whether recession in the industrial climate has adversely affected the steel production or the produced steel for sale in the recent months. I did not want the figures.

In the answer the hon. Minister says that there has been a marginal fall in steel consumption. Is it due to recession or is it because the steel ministry and the industries ministry did not make any co-ordination on their own or make an actual review of actual requirements of steel in the industrial units whose demands are still kept pending since 1973. If so what is the reaction? If not, is the Ministry pre-

pared to make a review? Most of the industrial units have started saying to the employees that there is now raw material; even the wagon units say that wagon production has been held up due to non-availability of some special steels. I want to know whether a total review has been made by the Government or not.

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): The answer has been given quite clearly. The question was whether recession has adversely affected steel production; the answer obviously is: no; because last year production was about 4.9 million tonnes and this year it is estimated at about 5.7 million tonnes; so there is about 800,000 tonnes more of steel production; therefore it is not a fact at all. Another thing that the hon. Member says is that there is shortage of steel. I am surprised; there is no shortage of steel. Really, speaking our problem is to sell the steel, and therefore, all efforts are being made in that direction and certain changes had been made in the rules. Now, the producers are delivering the material directly to the consumers. There were certain restrictions on end-use. But that has also been removed. We have also appointed certain contact officers who are contacting these consumers so that we may be able to deliver according to the needs. Therefore, there is no shortage of steel today.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: In view of the answer given by the Minister. I would like to know whether he has exported steel in sufficient quantity, I mean during 1975-76, that is the current year, on the ground that the steel required by the industrial units during the previous years 1973-74 and 1974-75 was not much. Or whether in spite of all these things, Durgapur Steel Plant and Alloy Plant have improved their production capacity, if so, whether there is any proposal for the expansion of these units?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: The answer to the first part of the question is: 'Yes'. We are exporting steel because we feel that there is surplus steel. The hon. Member will be glad to know that by this time we have received firm orders for export of 8,46,681 tonnes, in terms of money it is Rs. 161.44 crores as against Rs. 5.0 crores last year. Therefore, considerable progress has been made so far as steel is concerned. We are selling steel to about 15 countries in different parts of the world. It is true that the internal demand is less because of the financial constraints. Now, certain efforts are being made on that score and we hope that the internal demand will also pick up. Some measures have also been taken to remove certain restrictions. In view of the inflationary situation in the country, certain restrictions like freezing, bank credit on building constructions, etc., have been removed. Now, the situation is improving and the internal demand will also pick up. So far as Durgapur is concerned, I would point out that it has made a break-through. In 1974-75, Durgapur steel plant produced 5,20,000 tonnes and this year we are expecting to produce about 7.0 lakh tonnes of steel. This will be 34.6 per cent more than the last year's production. Alloy Plant has also, for the first time, earned profit and in view of this we have now asked MECON to prepare a DPR of A.S.P. and after getting the report from the MECON we will consider its expansion.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY: The production of steel has been increased to 18 per cent, in this year. For this, he deserves congratulations. But I want to know from him whether he has found export potentialities in so far as steel is concerned, to other countries. If so, which are the countries from where orders have been received. I want to know the names of the countries.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: Sir, the hon. Member is perhaps interested in knowing the names of the countries.

These countries are mainly, Shri Lanka, Bangladesh, Iran, Gulf countries, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Kenya, Indonesia and Korea. Sir, I may also state that it is very encouraging that Egypt has very recently accepted our tender against a very stiff competition of global tenders, for the supply of 40,000 rails. We expect that another tender of equal amount will also be accepted and we hope to get that tender also.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: The production in the existing units was showing an upward trend. But in view of what the Minister himself admitted, the real problem at the moment is to sell the steel that they are producing. More emphasis is put on export. For that reason I would like to know from him whether he will dispel the widespread apprehension that—there is in the southern part of the country because of this relative sort of thing, imbalances between supply and demand, there will be no slowing down of the production in the construction schedule of the new steel plants which are projected in Visakhapatnam and Hospet. There is an apprehension that these Plants will not be constructed because production to that extent is not required or is not easily saleable.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: I do not take a very pessimistic view of the progress and development of the country. I feel that steel is a very basic industry and the country will progress and must progress in this direction because our rate of growth is very slow and we have to increase our rate of growth. That is why, we are rather doing a long-term planning, next 25-year planning also, and I would like to dispel this apprehension from the mind of the hon. Member as well as from the public that there would be no slowing down. We have already commissioned DPR for two southern plants keeping in view that we will need more steel in future. As soon as resources are available, the work will proceed according to schedule.

Commemorative Stamps

(b) if so, the outlines thereof?

*312. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to continue bringing out special and commemorative stamps both in honour of eminent individuals and also marking the significant events in the country and the world, during the year 1976; and

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement showing the proposed programme for the issue of special/commemorative postage stamps during 1976 is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

Proposed Programme for the issue of Special/Commemorative Postage Stamps during 1976.

Sl. No.	Particulars of stamps	Date	No. of Stamps		Denomination (in Paise)
			3	4	
1	2	3	4	5	
1	L. N. Mishra	3-1-76	1	25	
2	Jim Corbett	24-1-76	1	25	
3	Institution of Param Vir Chakra . . .	To be decided	1	25	
4	Ghana Bird Sanctuary	10-2-76	1	25	
5	16th Light Cavalry (Bi-Centenary) . . .	4-3-76	1	25	
6	Alexander Graham Bell	10-3-76	1	25	
7	Muthuswamy Dikshitar (Bi-Centenary) . .	13-76	1	25	
8	Locomotives of India	2-4-76	4	25, 50, 100, 200	
9	World Health Day	7-4-76	1	25	
10	Industries	30-4-76	1	25	
11	Tribals of India	2-5-76	4	25, 50, 100, 200	
12	Mindr's Day	28-5-76	1	25	
13	Independence Day of America	19-5-76	1	25	
14	Family Planning	6-76	1	25	
15	K. Kamaraj	15-7-76	1	25	
16	Subhadra Kumari Chauhan	6-8-76	1	25	
17	Sarat Chandra Chatterjee	5-9-76	1	25	
18	Bhartendu Babu Harishchandra (126th birth anniversary)	9-76	1	25	
19	Women's University	76	1	25	
20	Wild Life Series	1-10-76	4	25, 50, 100, 200	
21	Surya Kant Tripathi Nirala	15-10-76	1	25	
22	Maharaja Uggersen	10-76	1	25	
23	Children's Literature	14-11-76	1	25	
24	Hiralal Shastri	24-11-76	1	25	
25	Hari Singh Gaur	26-11-76	1	25	
26	Flowers of India	2-12-76	4	25, 50, 100, 200	
27	International Symposium on Coconut Industries	28-12-76	1	25	

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I congratulate the Minister for bringing out every year, in an increasing number, beautiful and attractive stamps. In the statement which he has given I see that out of 27, no mention of dates is there for six. I have found that four special series—Locomotives of India, Tribals of India, Wild Life Series and Flowers of India—are given out. That is good. A series of stamps regarding dances of India, produced last year, were appreciated all over the country. When I see the statement, I find that as many as 12 personalities belong to different parts of India. Now I want to ask whether Government are aware that some distinguished persons of eminence, some of them of even world eminence, of recent times, particularly after Independence, have not yet been included in this programme of honouring the respected individuals of our country?

DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA: I am thankful for the compliments paid by Mr. Mavalankar on the last year's production of stamps. So far as the prominent personalities are concerned, we are limited by two factors. One is the capacity of the Nasik Printing Press and the second is from the philatelic point of view. We cannot be expected to issue more than a certain number. Naturally when there is need of issuing stamps for a large number of personalities, we have to depend on the advice of the Philatelic Advisory Committee and we have to phase it out. Those who have not yet been covered, an attempt is being made to accommodate them in the next year or the year next to that. A general principle which has been decided and is being followed is that the personality series are issued either on the death anniversary or tenth anniversary or the centenary of death or centenary of birth. These are some of the things which we have decided so that different persons are adjusted in different years.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am obliged to the Minister for the details he has given. I want to know fur-

ther, the personnel who select these various events and individuals. What are the broad criteria they adopt? The Minister himself said just now that the considerations of philately are important. May I, then, know whether the stamps about personalities and other events are issued specially from the point of view of philately throughout the world? And, since the market for Indian stamps is increasing, whether that also is taken into consideration?

DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA: Yes. While issuing stamps we keep in view the world market. More than that, the importance of the world event or the particular person concerned is taken into consideration. For instance, last year, we issued some stamps. One was on Michelangelo. There, we depicted the paintings in a chapel. This year also we have got stamps on the American Independence. We are issuing stamps on Graham Bell. So, they all comprise of world events, national events and national personalities. All this is kept in view. There is a Philatelic Advisory Committee in which we have got representatives of Parliament from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha and other eminent persons. That usually decides.

SHRI MOHANRAJ KALINGARAYAR: Recently, our Indian stamps have been appreciated throughout the country. Some of our recent stamps have been appreciated at the international level also. Are we printing stamps for other foreign countries? If so, I would like to know the names of those countries.

DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA: No; we are not printing for other countries. I had a discussion with the Minister of Finance who is in charge of printing, because they are printed at the Security Printing Press. And now he says that he will consider it, if other countries ask. Up to this time, we were not really equipped for printing stamps for countries

other than our own. Our own printing, as you must have seen, has improved in recent years.

Progress of Malanjkhand Copper Project

***313. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the progress of Malanjkhand Copper Project in Madhya Pradesh, under Indo-Soviet agreement;

(b) assistance provided by Hindustan Copper Ltd., to complete the project; and

(c) completion period, its total cost and estimated production?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement.

(a) The concerned Soviet agency comisioned by Hindustan Copper Ltd. had submitted the Detailed Project Report for the mining part only in January, 1975 and have just submitted this month to Hindustan Copper Ltd. the Detailed Project Report for the proposed Malanjkhand complex as a whole including the proposed concentrator.

The Mining Detailed Project Report after examination has already been submitted by Hindustan Copper Ltd. to Government. The Detailed Project Report for the whole complex will now be examined by Hindustan Copper Ltd.

(b) Hindustan Copper Limited has been actively associated in the preparation of these two Detailed Project Reports by the Soviet Consultants.

(c) The latest estimate by the Consultants, which is being examined, is that the complex as a wholt would

cost Rs. 95.85 crores. Counting from actual commencement of mine construction, the Consultants have drawn up time-schedule enabling ore production at annual rate of one million tonnes to start in the fourth year, rising to two million tonnes in the sixth year.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: May I know from the hon. Minister the name of the Soviet agency and whether any Indian designer is also engaged in this project; and which part of the project would be undertaken by the Hindustan Copper Ltd. and at what cost?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: It is a very difficult name to pronounce. Anyhow, it is Messrs. Tsvetmet Prom Export. This was the USSR agency which was commissioned. And Mecon was associated with it.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: I had asked as to which part of the project will be undertaken by Hindustan Copper for construction and at what cost.

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: The cost has been given in the main answer. According to the latest estimates, the cost will be Rs. 95.85 crores. We have very recently, in this very month, rather last week, received the DPR for the entire complex. It is a 21-volume report. This will be studied by Mecon, then by Hindustan Copper; and thereafter it will be submitted to the Government. After making a proper study, steps will be taken. We are making some provisions in this current budget-year also, because the mining report was submitted earlier; and as soon as the report is finalized, work will start.

SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: I wanted to know the portion to be constructed by Hindustan Copper. Hindustan Copper is going to do some construction work in this project. What will be the cost of the Hindustan Copper's construction work?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV: It is now very difficult to indicate it, as many agencies will work and they will work together. We cannot give the break-up at this stage.

Labour Welfare Centres for Agricultural Labour in West Bengal

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*315. **SHRI TUNA ORAON:**
SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to open ordinary labour welfare centres for agricultural labour during the Fifth Plan period in the 17 districts of West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the programme?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

During 1975-76, the following 4 Labour Welfare Centres have been sanctioned which are to be opened shortly:—

- (i) Chamaranga (Hooghly District).
- (ii) Jhargram (Midnapore District).
- (iii) Bud-bud (Burdwan District).
- (iv) Kaliganj (West Dinajpur District).

During 1976-77, 6 Labour Welfare Centres and during 1977-78, 7 Labour Welfare Centres are proposed to be opened.

The Centres will provide facilities for in-door and out-door games, radio, newspapers and journals, library, group-discussions, occasional films shows, music etc., to the Agricultural Labourers and their families.

श्री दुना उराव : यह चार लेबर वैलफेर सेंटर जो संक्षिप्त हाल है वह कब तक खाले जाएंगे और 76-77 में 6 सेंटर जो खोलने की बात है तथा 77-78 में 7 लेबर सेंटर खोलने की बात है तो ये कहां कहां और किस किस जिले में खोले जायेंगे ?

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: During the year 1975-76, as I had submitted, the following Labour Welfare Centres have been sanctioned, which are to be opened shortly—1 in Hooghly district, Midnapore district, Burdwan district and West Dinajpur district. During 1976-77, six welfare centres and during 1977-78 seven labour welfare centres are proposed to be opened. As far as the location of the welfare centres during 1976-77 and 1977-78 is concerned, it will be decided in consultation with the State Government.

श्री दुना उराव : पूरे फिल्म फाइल ईयर प्लान में कितने ऐसे सेंटर खोलेंगे इस का पूरा विवरण आप ने नहीं दिया है। मैं पूरा विवरण जानना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: I do not have the total number. The question is confined to West Bengal. If the hon. Member wants the total number, if he gives notice, I can collect it and supply it to him.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: It is good to know that recreation centres are proposed to be opened in West Bengal. Is there any proposal to open similar centres in Tamil Nadu and other States of India?

MR. SPEAKER: The Question is regarding West Bengal.

SHRI K. MAYATHEVAR: But it is a national problem; not a problem confined to West Bengal.

Mr. Speaker: He can raise it at some other time.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: The Minister has stated that these welfare centres would be in the nature of recreation centres for agricultural labour. As he is aware, in West Bengal the agricultural labour is not getting the minimum wage. What machinery has the Government got to see that the agricultural labour is guaranteed the minimum wage in West Bengal?

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: The implementation of the minimum wage under the Minimum Wages Act comes within the purview of the State Government. In view of the decision taken by the Labour Ministers' Conference, various State Governments have been persuaded to revise their minimum wages and steps are being taken very vigorously to pursue the same.

Development of Villages surrounding Public Sector Steel Plants

*316. **SHRI K. M. 'MADHUKAR'** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether some measures are proposed to be taken by the public sector steel plants for development of villages surrounding them; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b). The Memorandum of Agreement reached by the Joint Negotiating Committee for the Steel Industry on 30th July, 1975, provides, among other things, that in view of the fact that it has not been possible to provide housing facility to all the employees of the companies and a number of such employees live in bustees and communities around the steel plants, wherever such communities are located in the company

area, every effort will be made to improve facilities such as provision of roads, electricity, drinking water, sanitation and public telephone booths in such bustees and communities and some funds will be set aside for this purpose every year. The public sector steel plants also have under their consideration, on an experimental basis, some proposals for the socio-economic development of some peripheral villages subject to the availability of funds and other resources.

श्री कमला मिश्र "मदुकर" : यह बात जान कर बहुत खुशी हुई है कि इस्पात मंत्रालय ने इस बात को कबूल किया है कि राजकीय क्षेत्र में जो चार इस्पात के कारबाने हैं उनके अगले बगल की वस्तुओं के विकास की प्रावध्यकता है, इस को ध्याप ने महसूस किया है। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि चिलाई,

रकेला, बोलारो और दुर्मायुर इन तमाम इस्पात के कारबानों के अगले बगल के क्षेत्रों को विकसित करने के लिए कोई समर्पण योजना बनाई गई है और उस का मुल्यांकन किया गया है कि उस में कितना धन खर्च होगा? उसकी पूरी तकनीकी कब तक पूरी हो जायेगी? इन क्षेत्रों के विकास के लिए कोई योजना बनाई गई है या यों ही चलने वाला स्वाभाविक विकास हो रहा है? मैं जानना चाहता हूँ इन के विकास के लिए कोई योजनाबद्ध योजना है?

इस्पात और लाल मंत्री (श्री चन्द्रशील यादव) : श्रीमन्, रुपाल इस बात का है कि बहत से हमारे जो इस्पात के कारबाने हैं उन के अन्दर बहुत से ऐसे हमारे श्रमिक हैं जो आस पास के गांवों से आते हैं। बहुत से ऐसे जी श्रमिक हैं जिन को आमी तक हम मकान नहीं दे पाए हैं। तो ऐसे मजबूर जो आस पास की बस्तियों में रहते हैं और वहाँ अनर सड़क

की सुविधा नहीं है, पानी की सुविधा नहीं है, या एकाई लिकाई और दवा की सुविधा नहीं है तो उन वर्सियों का भी इस तरह से विकास करें कि हमारे श्रमिकों को जो वहां से आते हैं किसी तरह की असुविधा न हो। मुख्य मकसद इस का यह है और इसी ब्याल से यह कहा गया है अपने कारखानों को कि वह स बात को देंखें कि जो उनके आस पास के गांव हैं उन के विकास के लिए वे क्या कर सकते हैं, कुछ पैसा उस के लिए लगा सकते हैं तो लगाना चाहिए। इस का अर्थ यह नहीं समझना चाहिए कि इस्पात के कारखानों के आस पास के विकास की जिम्मेदारी वह अपने ऊपर लेंगे, यह मुख्य प से हमारा काम नहीं है लेकिन फिर भी अपने मामाजिक दायित्व को ध्यान में रखते हुए जहा कारखाने के आस पास वह कुछ कर सकते हैं वहां की सुविधा बढ़ाने के लिए तो वह उन को जरूर करना चाहिए। इसी दृष्टि से ऊरकेला के आस पास के गांवों के इस तरह के विकास के लिए अनुमानतः 47 लाख 80 हजार की योजना स्थीकृत हुई थी जिस में से यह तय हुआ था कि 10 लाख पया तो फौरन कारखाना देगा और फिर कोशिश करेंगे कि केन्द्रीय सरकार और राज्य सरकार के सहयोग से तथा स्थानीय प्रशासन के सहयोग से हम इस काम को करें। स प्रकार का निर्देशन दिया गया है लेकिन माननीय सदस्य को यह बात नहीं समझ लेनी चाहिए कि तमाम आस पास के दलाके के विकास की जिम्मेदारी हमने ले ली है बल्कि मुख्य प से जहां श्रमिक रहते हैं वहां पर जो कुछ हो सकता है वह करें।

श्री कलता लिख 'बबुलर' : बब आपने इस बात को कबूल किया है कि इस्पात मंत्रालय आस पास के गांवों का विकास करना चाहता है तो उस विकास योजना के अन्तर्गत क्या कोई ऐसी योजना है जिसके जरिए अगल बगल के गांवों में छोटे भौगोग-घंवांगों का विकास हो सके और जो वहां पर वाई प्रोडक्ट निकलते हैं उनसे समन्वित उद्योग-घंवांगों का विकास हो सके?

श्री चन्द्रबीत शास्त्री : इस्पात कारखानों के प्रबन्धकों का यह काम नहीं है कि वहां पर छोटे भौगोग-घंवे विकसित करने की जिम्मेदारी अपने ऊपर लें लेकिन जो कारखानों से इस्पात का प्रोडक्शन होता है उसके सम्बन्ध में अगर कोई इडस्ट्रीज लगाते हैं उनको सुविधा मिल सके, उनको कोई दिक्कत न हो, इसके लिए जो सहयोग हमारी तरफ से दिया जा सकता है वह दिया जायेगा।

श्री मान सिंह भौता : जहां तक भजदूरों को हाउरिंग फैसिलिटीज देने का सवाल है, एक बात हमारी नोटिस में हर जगह आती है कि शेड्युल कास्ट्स और शेड्युल ट्राइब्ज के जो लोग होते हैं उनको किराये पर भी कोई मकान नहीं देता तो क्या मन्त्री जी इस बात को ध्यान में रखेंगे कि पहले शेड्युल कास्ट्स और शेड्युल ट्राइब्ज के जो एम्पलाईज हैं उनको रहने के लिए जगह दी जाये?

श्री चन्द्रबीत शास्त्री : जहा तक हाउस एलाटमेंट का सावल है अपने ट्रेड युनियॉन के नुमाइनों के साथ बैठकर कुछ नियम बनाए हैं और जो हम आगे करना चाहते हैं उस पर उनके साथ बैठकर विचार करते हैं और हमारे

यह निर्देश है कि नीकर्ता अंशीर इस संरह के दूसरे कानूनों में जो निर्देश वर्ग के लागत है, लोडपुस्ट कास्ट्स और लोडप्लॉट ट्राइव्स के उनको न्यूलियत दी जाये लेकिन कभी कभी जो दूसरे लोग पहले से काम कर हैं उनको नहीं मिलता है तो कठिनाई आती है किर भी इन बातों का ध्यान आम तौर पर रखा जाता है।

Extension of Employees' State Insurance Scheme to Labourers

*317. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether coverage under the Employees' State Insurance Scheme has steadily expanded; and

(b) whether Government propose to extend the E.S.I. Scheme to unorganised working population such as agricultural labourers, bidi workers, contract labourers, construction workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

(b) The Employees' State Insurance Corporation has furnished the following information:—

The agricultural workers employed in workshops in agricultural farms and the contract labour employed in connection with the work of factories/establishments to which the Employees State Insurance Act, 1948 already applies and which are situated in the areas where the benefit provisions of the Act are in force, are already coverable under the E.S.I. Scheme. Further, such of the bidi workers as are employed in non-power using

factories/establishments and shops, employing 20 or more persons and located in the areas where the benefit provisions of the Act are in force, will also be coverable under the Scheme as and when the provisions of the Act are extended to these classes of establishment by the State Governments under section 1(5) of the E.S.I. Act. The extension of the Scheme to the other categories of workers in the unorganised and semi-organised sectors of employment, including agricultural labourers, construction workers etc., is not considered feasible for the present, in as much as the organising of medical and other facilities for such workers will present serious difficulties.

SHRI S M BANERJEE: I would like to know whether it is a fact that the ESI scheme has not been extended to even 50 per cent of the workers working in the organised sector and if so, whether there is a plan to extend it further during the Fifth Plan, and if so, the number of workers likely to be covered and whether construction workers will also be covered.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: The ESI scheme is being extended from time to time having regard to the ability of the organisation to deal with the matter and also the industrial organisations to be covered. For the information of the hon Member I may state that after the recent amendment of the Act raising the remuneration of the workers to be covered from Rs. 500 to Rs 1,000, this sector alone consists of nearly 51 lakhs of additional workers, and the total number so far covered is 56 lakhs. In fact, there is an increase of six lakhs workers as a result of this, and the total beneficiaries come to nearly 2.2 crores in India, including the members of the workers' families. The scheme is in operation in three central industries, in 15 States and in the Union Territories of Delhi and Pondicherry. We are trying our best to cover as many workers as

possible, and this will be done on an instalment basis.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Has it been brought to his notice that some of the public sector units like HAL, Kanpur, have asked for exemption from the scheme on the ground that their present medical arrangements are better, and may I know whether exemption will be granted to them if they so desire.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: This is a matter that should be decided on the merits of each case. There cannot be any general principle. Though in certain cases the medical benefits may be better, this scheme not only covers medical benefits but also sickness benefits, insurance, and in case of death, the family is also covered. If a person dies, his wife will be provided for until she gets married or dies. or the children are also provided with all these benefits until they became major. Therefore, all these benefits can be provided under the scheme concerned by the public sector. Otherwise, taking a balanced-view in this matter, if the public sector provides more advantageous scheme for the benefits of the workers, naturally on such cases a decision will be taken on merits.

श्री राम नारायण शर्मा : ग्राहक महोदय, इस प्रश्न के द्वारा यह जानने की के शिश की गई है कि अधिक से अधिक लोगों को कैसे कवर किया जाये लेकिन क्या संग्राकर की जानकारी में यह बात है कि जिन्हें लोगों के ऊपर यह इस आई स्कीम लागू है और जहां जहा डिस्पेसरीज हैं उनमें बहुत सी जगह डाक्टर नहीं हैं, दवाओं का प्रबन्ध नहीं है और मिडिल अटेंडेन्ट नहीं है जिसके कारण अमीं जो आलरेही कवर है वे सका कर रहे हैं तो क्या सरकार इप स्कीम को एक्सटेंड करने के पहले इप बात की जांच करेगी और जांच करके इस सम्बन्ध में उचित कार्यवाही करेगी ?

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: As I submitted, now 56 lakh workers belonging to the various industrial organizations are covered. Regarding the specific question put by my good friend Mr. Sharma, I may submit that as far as the posting of doctors and the administration of the hospitals are concerned, it is completely in the hands of the State Governments. We have impressed upon them and they are also taking a keen interest in this matter, and I hope sufficient progress will be made.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: My question also relates to the part of the question asked by Mr. Sharma. They are spreading the net which will be covered under ESI. My question not only relates to medical facilities but also the cash benefit for which the workers are being harassed in almost all the places. I want to know whether any scheme has been drawn up so that the insured persons may get cash benefit when it is due to them without going through any harassment.

SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY: This is a question of expression of opinion. If the hon. Member has got any specific case, we can look into it.

Pollution of Ganga Waters in West Bengal

*318. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

- whether the percentage of pollution of Ganga waters is increasing every year in West Bengal;
- whether the pollution has become a health hazard;
- the causes for this rapid increase in the percentage of pollution; and
- the steps taken to minimise it?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH): (a) to (c). No such report has been received by the West Bengal Prevention and Control of Water Pollution Board. However, it is well known that water pollution does constitute a major health hazard.

(d) Under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974 a State Board for the prevention and control of water pollution has been set up in West Bengal from 20-9-1974. The Board is required *inter alia*, to take measures to counteract water pollution of streams in West Bengal.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI: Water pollution is posing a serious problem. We have heard from the answer of the hon. Minister that no report has yet been received. It has been expressed in the papers so widely. In this background, may I know from the hon. Minister if any guidelines have been laid down for coordinating the working of the State Board with the Central Government to know what is the position or for what the State Boards are formed or the whole matter is left to the States?

DR. KARAN SINGH: Under the Act, there is a Central Board that is set up and also there are State Boards. It is one of the duties of the Central Board to advise the State Board upon how they should proceed. In addition to that, I may inform the hon. Member that two special reports on water pollution in India from the World Health Organisation experts were received both in 1975. Therefore, the Central Government is very actively pursuing the matter and is in close touch with the State Government.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI: I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to a survey report of the West Bengal, which has been done particularly for West Bengal, which is creating a very serious constraint on water pollution. May I know if you are ask-

ing the industries all over the country to put cleaners so that pollution in the rivers may be reduced to a minimum.

DR. KARAN SINGH: The hon. Member has drawn attention to a very grave matter and that is increasing pollution of the entire water system in this country. The whole Ganga river-system almost from Rishikesh downwards is getting increasingly polluted as a result of a number of industries that are coming up on the Ganga itself and the tributaries and also as a result of untreated sewage. The Ganga water for thousands of years has been a symbol of purity, but, unfortunately, the modern industrial development is polluting it. Therefore, the Government is very much concerned about this matter. The Parliament passed this Act for this very purpose. We are indeed advising all industries everywhere in the country that they should include the latest anti-pollution technology in any new plant that they set up.

श्री द्वार्ण चाहू हात्वर : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा, इम नमय जो गंगा का पानी दूषित हो रहा है, इस को ठीक करने के लिए आप क्या प्रयास कर रहे हैं? आप ने अभी कहा है कि हजारों बर्बादी से गंगा का पानी पवित्र था, लेकिन इन कारबाहों की वजह से दूषित हो रहा है—मैं जानना चाहूता कि पवित्रता की परसेंटेज कितनी कम ही तथा पवित्रता को बढ़ाने के लिए आप क्या कौशिश कर रहे हैं?

डॉ कर्ण तिहू : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दृष्टि अधिक और दूषित पानी की तोलना बहुत कठिन है। इस में कोई साक नहीं कि जहाँ पर फैक्ट्रीज बहुत नजदीक हैं, वहाँ पानी अधिक दूषित हो जाता है, लेकिन थोड़ी देर बहने के बाद साक ही जाता है। लेकिन इस सम्बन्ध में दो बातें बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं—एक तो यह कि

स्विरेज ट्रीट करना बहुत आवश्यक है। आरामदाती, हरिहार, कानपुर जैसे बड़े नदीरें...

अध्यक्ष अहोदय : यह प्रश्न वेस्ट बंगाल का है, इस लिए वेस्ट बंगाल बीडिए।

श्री एस० एस० अर्पण : कानपुर में पाल्यूशन नहीं होता है।

अध्यक्ष अहोदय : कानपुर की बात अभी नहीं चल रही है।

डा० कर्ण सिंह : वेस्ट बंगाल में भी, अध्यक्ष महोदय, बहुत सी फैक्ट्रीज हैं। उन से यह कहा गया है कि आप अपने यहाँ जो नई कंट्रीज लगायें उन में ट्रीटमेंट टैकनालाजी लगायें। जो फैक्ट्रीज पहले से लगी हुई हैं उन में भी कुछ ऐसे यंत्र लगाये ताकि जो पानी दूषित हो रहा है, उस में कमी आये।

SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI: The hon. Minister has stated a general proposition. We are quite aware that the Government is seized of the problem in a general way. But the fact is that very recently, only early this month, one of the expert bodies appointed by the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority and their allied organisations to examine the question of the pollution of the Ganga water in the industrial area of Calcutta, has expressed the opinion that very soon, in spite of the normal treatment that is given by the water supply agencies of the municipalities, the Ganga water in the industrial area of Calcutta downstream will become completely polluted and inpotable. May I know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to that report and whether it will be possible for the Central Board or the Central Government to take some measures or steps at least to bring it to the notice of the appropriate authorities so that remedial action could be taken?

2297 LS—2.

DR. KARAN SINGH: As I mentioned, two special reports of last year brought out by the World Health Organisation are with me. I am aware that the C.M.D.A. is conducting a survey on this problem. But the report has not yet, as far as I know, come to us. I may clarify that under the Act also, the primary responsibility for this rests on the State Board. It is they who have to take the necessary action to ensure that pollution does not take place. The Government of India also or the Central Board is involved. It is really a cooperative endeavour. May I mention that just two days ago, a file came to me and I have released a very senior officer who was the Director of the All-India Institute of Hygiene, Dr. Banerjee, to head the West Bengal State Board. I must admit, looking through these papers that I am left with the impression that there is scope for improvement in the functioning both of the Central Board and the State Boards. I will admit that and I agree that this is a matter which should receive much closer attention than it has received so far.

श्री डी० एन० तिवारी : अध्यक्ष महोदय, गंगा बाटर पाल्यूशन के सम्बन्ध में समय समय पर कई कमेटियाँ बनी थीं और उन्होंने अपने प्रतिवेदन भी दिये थे। गंगा का पानी, यदि इलाहाबाद में पाल्यूट होता है तो उसका असर बिहार में अधिक पड़ता है, बिहार में पाल्यूशन होता है तो उस का बगाल तक जाना निषिद्ध है। इसी नरह बरीनी में गंगा बाटर पाल्यूशन के सम्बन्ध में एन्क्वायरी हुई थी, तथा उस का प्रतिवेदन भी आया था। मैं जानता चाहता हूँ—उम्र पर गवर्नरेंट ने क्या स्टेट उठाये और पाल्यूशन रोकने के लिए क्या कार्यवाहियाँ की?

डा० कर्ण सिंह : यह प्रश्न वेस्ट बंगाल के सम्बन्ध में था, बरीनी के सम्बन्ध में। मैं इस समय सूचना नहीं दे पाऊँगा। लेकिन इस

समय एक बात कह देना चाहता हैं—एक्ट के पास होने के 6 महीने के अन्दर विद्युत को बोर्ड बनाना था, लेकिन दुर्भाग्य से वह बोर्ड अभी तक नहीं बनाया गया है। आज यह स्थिति है कि आप के राज्य में कोई बोर्ड नहीं है और चूंकि इस एक्ट में लिखा गया था कि 6 महीने के अन्दर-अन्दर बोर्ड बनाया जायेगा, वह समय तो बीत गया, अब तो एक्ट की ही बदलना होगा—यह बड़े दुर्भाग्य की बात है।

Micro-Wave Station of Gorakhpur

*319. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal for the installation of micro-wave station at Gorakhpur; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Gorakhpur Microwave Station will be a dropping station on Lucknow-Gorakhpur—Patna Section of Calcutta—Lucknow wideband microwave link. Installation work is in advanced stages and this section is likely to be put into service during 1976.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ—माइक्रोवेव स्टेशन का काम कब से शुरू हुआ और इस के कब तक पूरा होने की उम्मीद है, यह स्टेशन कब से काम करने लगेगे।

डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा : इस काम को शुरू किये चार साल हो चुके हैं। यह आशा

की जाती है कि इस सैक्षण पर दिसम्बर, 1976 तक काम पूरा हो जायगा।

New Post Offices in Eastern and North Eastern Region

*320. SHRI TUNA ORAON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices opened in Eastern and North Eastern Region States, State-wise, in 1975; and

(b) how does it compare with those in other regions, so far as population and area are concerned?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) The details are as follows:

West Bengal	42
Bihar	11
Orissa	106
Assam	4
Mizoram	3

Aruuachal
Manipur
Meghalaya
Nagaland
Tripur }
A number of proposals are under consideration. No P.O. could be opened during 1975 due to financial stringency.

(b) In the Eastern and North Eastern Region States, there is one post office for 5553 persons and 23.21 sq. kms. against the All India average of one post office for 4662 persons and 27.26 sq. kms.

श्री कमला मिश्र 'मधुकर' : अध्यक्ष जी, हमारे देश का पूर्वी और उत्तरी इलाका कम्यूनिकेशन के मामले में बहुत पिछड़ा हुआ है। हम लोगों की जानकारी है कि इस समय नये पोस्ट ऑफिस खोलने पर ब्लैकट-बन लगा हुआ है, इस को दृष्टि में रखते हुए, जैसा आप ने अभी कहा है कि

5000 की आबादी पर पोस्ट आफिस खोला जायगा, मैं समझता हूं कि एक भी पोस्ट आफिस नहीं खुला है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं—क्या यह ब्लैकेट बैन अभी लागू रहेगा?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : विहार के बारे में तो उन्होंने कहा है।

श्री कमला मिश्र 'मधुकर' : विहार में 11 खुले हैं—यह ठीक है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि यह ब्लैकेट बैन कब खत्म होने वाला है?

डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा : पहली बात तो यह है कि इस समय कोई ब्लैकेट बैन नहीं है, बैन उठ गया है, मैंने इस सदन में भी बताया था कि अब कोई बैन नहीं है। लेकिन इस के लिये कुछ नियम बने हुए हैं। पिछड़े इलाकों में हम जो पोस्ट आफिस खोलते हैं—वहां पर यह देखते हैं कि जो हमारा व्यय हो, उस का 25 प्रतिशत, यदि पहाड़ी इलाका है तो 15 प्रतिशत—कम से कम इतनी आमदनी अवश्य होनी चाहिये, उसी बुनियाद पर हो उसे खोल सकते हैं। जहां विशेष स्थिति होती है, उसे में यदि एक हजार रुपये तक खर्चा हो, तो उस को माफ कर के खोल देते हैं, लेकिन पोस्ट आफिस खोलने में बिना हिसाब के खोलना मुमकिन नहीं है, क्योंकि पोस्टल सर्विसिंग में सदन को ज्ञात है कि काफी हानि हो रही है।

श्री कमला मिश्र 'मधुकर' : कोई काम नहीं हो रहा है, पिछड़ापन दूर नहीं हो रहा है, इस तरह से काम नहीं चलेगा।

SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI : From the answer of the hon. Minister, it appears that last year, out of so many post offices that were opened, only four were opened in Assam which, the hon. Minister himself has admitted, is a very inadequate number. Opening of post offices in this part is more important because there are many tribal areas in Assam in which there is no communication,

either rail or road, even postal facilities are not available. We have requested a number of times, at the Central level, to give at least, postal communication. In that context, may I know from the hon. Minister whether he will try to speed up the process of opening post offices there in order to bring parity with the rest of the region?

DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA : Yes, we are trying to open more post offices. For instance, this year itself, by the 31st of this month itself, we are opening 100 post offices out of which 25 are earmarked for the eastern region.

Serious Accidents at Calcutta Port

*322. SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether among all Indian ports, Calcutta is most prone to serious accidents; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Statement

The figures of accidents at Calcutta Port for the last 5 years are as follows:—

Year	Nature of accidents		Total number of accidents
	Fatal	Non-Fatal	
1971	.	1	1363
1972	.	3	1426
1973	.	3	1041
1974	.	7	955
1975	.	10	830
			1364
			1429
			1044
			962
			840

The number of fatal accidents in which Calcutta Port Trust personnel and equipment were involved was, however, as under:—

1973	.	.	.	.	2
1974	.	.	.	.	2
1975	.	.	.	.	3

2 Although the total number of accidents is more in Calcutta Port than in other Ports, the average rate of accidents per man-year is, however, not the highest amongst India Ports. It may be seen from the statement that there has been considerable and continuous decline in the total number of accidents in Calcutta Port

3. A larger number of accidents in Calcutta Port may be ascribed to its following special features *vis-a-vis* other Ports —

- (i) It has the largest number of employees amongst the ports. The number of accidents due to human error is, therefore, likely to be more
- (ii) Nature of cargo at this port is variegated
- (iii) Employees have to work on a large number of river moorings and riverside jetties, where working conditions are more difficult than inside the docks
- (iv) Employees have to work on river crafts and vessels plying on the long 126 miles riverine channel (leading from sea to the Calcutta Port) for river dredging and survey and pilotage

SHRI H N MUKERJEE I find that in Calcutta alone, the number of fatal accidents increased from one in 1971 to three in 1972, again three in 1973, seven in 1974 and as many as ten in 1975. May I know what were the reasons for this steep increase in fatal accidents and if, every time a fatal accident took place, adequate

inquiry was made and requisite compensation given to the aggrieved family?

SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI: The total number of fatal accidents has been on the increase. But that has to be divided into two parts: one, accidents to Calcutta Port personnel in the dock system, and two, to personnel working on board the ships. I have indicated in my reply in para two that the number of fatal accidents in which Calcutta Port personnel were involved was two, two and three in the years 1973, 1974 and 1975, respectively.

As far as the second part is concerned, an inquiry was held after every fatal accident and compensation in each case is being paid

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Production of Steel

*307 SHRI DAMANKAR Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the total anticipated production of steel in the country during the current year in terms of quantity and value,

(b) the domestic consumption of steel during the last two years;

(c) the orders on hand in terms of value for export of steel and to which countries, and

(d) how do they compare with the figures for the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV) (a) The total production of saleable steel from the integrated steel plants in 1975-76 is estimated at about 5.7 million tonnes valued at about Rs 1026 crores

(b) The domestic consumption of mild steel during the years 1973-74

and 1974-75 is estimated at about 5.6 and 6.1 million tonnes respectively.

(c) Till 31st December, 1975 orders have been booked for the export of 8,46,631 tonnes of steel valued at Rs. 161.44 crores. The export orders cover a number of buying countries including Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Iran, Gulf Countries, Yugoslavia, Egypt, Kenya, Indonesia and Korea.

(d) In 1973-74, 36,652 tonnes of steel materials valued at Rs. 4.62 crores were exported. The exports in 1974-75 amounted to 52,135 tonnes valued at Rs. 10.92 crores.

पटना तथा गाजीपुर के बीच जल परिवहन

*308. श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद : क्या नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गंगा नदी में पटना और गाजीपुर (उत्तर प्रदेश) के बीच चल रहे जल परिवहन को स्थायी रूप दे दिया गया है; और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

नौवहन और परिवहन मंत्री (डा० जौ० एस० डिल्लौ) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) यह सेवा 1971 से प्रयोगात्मक एवं संबद्धनात्मक आधार पर चलाई जा रही है। अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय जल परिवहन निदेशालय की कोशिशों के बावजूद इस सेवा के लिये यातायात की मात्रा में वृद्धि नहीं हुई है और इसमें लगातार बाटा हो रहा है। परिचालनों में और विविधता लाई जा रही है।

Microwave Communication System between Delhi and Calcutta

*309. SHRI A. K. KISKU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state the progress so far made to provide alternative communication between Delhi and Calcutta through microwave system?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): The installation of the Microwave system has been completed in Calcutta-Kharagpur-Asansol section of the Calcutta-Delhi route. Installation is in advanced stage in the Asansol-Patna-Gorakhpur-Lucknow section. This section will be through progressively in about six months' time. Materials for the Delhi-Lucknow section are being received. Civil works are also in progress.

Telecommunication Industries in West Bengal

314. SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received request from State Government of West Bengal to have more telecommunication industries;

(b) if so, the outlines thereof; and

(c) the decision taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The State Government have offered to provide land and other infrastructural facilities for the setting up of a telecommunication factory in West Bengal.

(c) The question of location of the new units of Indian Telephone Industries to be set up during the Fifth Five Year Plan period is under consideration.

Asian Tele-Communication System

*321. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether four South Asian countries had expert level meeting at Dacca recently for the implementation of the inter-State regional projects under the Asian telecommunication net work system; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b). A meeting of the National Co-ordinators of Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh and India was held at Dacca from January 5 to 9 1976 under the auspices of ESCAP/ITU. This meeting reviewed the progress of implementation of the following regional links:—

- (i) India-Nepal broadband microwave link;
- (ii) India-Bangladesh broadband microwave link;
- (iii) India-Sri Lanka broadband microwave link; and
- (iv) Nepal-Bangladesh Ultra High Frequency radio link.

These links are expected to be completed by early 1978 and it was unanimously agreed in the meeting that operator trunk dialling should be introduced in the interim period on the following regional routes:—

- (1) Calcutta-Dacca;
- (2) Calcutta-Kathmandu;
- (3) Kathmandu-Delhi; and
- (4) Madras-Colombo.

Bridge connecting Balasore and Kharagpur

*323. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount released by the Centre for the construction of the

road-bridge over the river Suberna-rekha connecting Balasore (Orissa) with Kharagpur (West Bengal);

(b) whether the construction of the bridge has been a slow process due to paucity of funds; and

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

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON): (a) A sum of Rs. 37.87 lakhs was released from 1972-73 to 1974-75. In addition, a sum of Rs. 20 lakhs has been earmarked for payment during 1975-76.

(b) and (c). Although the State Government have been approaching for higher allocations for the bridge, they have not indicated that the progress of the work has been held up due to lack of funds. On the other hand, in September 1975, the State P.W.D. intimated that the progress had been held up on this project on account of time taken in detailed soil investigations, rains, transport bottlenecks etc. Since the bridge in question falls on a State road, the State Government are primarily concerned with the question of tackling all these problems.

Loss to Central Road Transport Corporation

*324. SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Road Transport Corporation is running into loss;

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

(c) whether any decision has been taken to dissolve the Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main reasons for the losses of the Central Road Transport Corporation are:—

(i) Labour trouble almost in all the branches of the Company during 1970, 1971 and 1972;

(ii) Non-replacement of aged vehicles by new ones; and

(iii) Higher cost of operation on account of steep rise in the prices of tyres, tubes, spares, fuels, etc.

(c) In view of the deteriorating financial position of the Central Road Transport Corporation, the question regarding its closure is under consideration.

Withdrawal of Rebate on Steel

*325. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have withdrawn the rebate of Rs. 200/- per ton on steel;

(b) if so, whether its impact on the price of steel and on engineering units, in particular, has been studied; and

(c) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): (a) No instructions have been issued by Government on this subject.

(b) and (c). In view of (a) above, do not arise.

Violation of Simla Agreement by Pakistan

*326. SHRI SHANKER RAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) how far Pakistan has violated the provisions of the Simla Agreement in letter and in spirit;

(b) the steps taken to stop the violation; and

(c) the action contemplated for the violations already made?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Pakistan's resort to an anti-India campaign in recent months is in violation of the provision of Simla Agreement on prevention of hostile propaganda directed against each other.

(b) and (c). The matter has been taken up with the Pakistan Government officially. India has made it clear in its recent communications sent to Pakistan that negative propaganda against India is likely to cause a setback to the progress of normalising relations between the two countries.

विकासशील देशों को सहायता देने के लिए पैरिस में सम्मेलन

1396. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) विकासशील देशों में विकासशील देशों की समस्याओं को प्राथमिकता देने तथा विकसित देशों द्वारा उन्हें आर्थिक सहायता देने के सम्बन्ध में कोई सहमति नहीं हुई थी;

(ख) क्या विकासशील देशों के एक समूह, पैट्रोलियम निर्यातिक देशों के संगठन (ओपेक) ने भी अपनी मत भिन्नता प्रकट की थी; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में भारत ने क्या कार्यवाही करने का सुझाव दिया है?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री विपिन-पाल दास) : (क) से (ग) : सम्मेलन के सम्मुख मुख्य कार्य था—विभिन्न अंतर्राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक मामलों के लिए चार आयोगों की स्थापना करना। सम्मेलन में मंत्रिस्तरीय प्रतिनिधियों ने अंतर्राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक स्थिति का सर्वेक्षण किया और इस बात के लिए

कुलाव रहे कि विवर समस्याओं की संहृदय कर भी पहुँच है उनका समाधान कैसे किया जा सकता है। विकाससीर देशों की समस्याएँ और इन समस्याओं के समाधान के लिए ठोक उपयोग कैसे की जायसकता ही इस विचार-विवरण के मुद्रण विवर रहे। भारत ने इस सम्बेदन से अनुरोध किया कि अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापक सहयोग के लिए भी भी योजना तैयार हो उसमें यह सुनिश्चित कर लिया जाये कि विकाससीर देशों के विवेषतय सभसे गरीब देशों के हित पूर्वतया सुरक्षित रहें।

G.S.I. Integrated Survey of Mineral Deposits of Orissa

1397. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the plans of Geological Survey of India to undertake integrated survey through geological and geochemical methods, of all the mineral deposits in Orissa during 1976;

(b) the approximate percentage of mineral reserves of Orissa which have not come up to surface by usual prospecting methods; and

(c) the broad measures proposed to be taken in regard to above matters?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Apart from the normal geological programme consisting of geological mapping and exploratory drilling, regional integrated surveys involving geo-chemical and geophysical surveys are proposed to be carried out in 1976 in the Districts of Sundargarh, Keonjhar and Sambalpur.

(b) These are different and inter-dependent phases of the programme to identify minerals and so it is not possible to apportion success, in the manner suggested, as between the different methods of exploration.

(c) Mineral exploration is a continuous programme and efforts are being intensified in Orissa, as in other States, for location and exploration of minerals.

Postal and Tele-Communication services in Orissa

1398. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ministry have given priority to provide communication facility both postal and telecommunications in the identified backward districts in the State of Orissa;

(b) if so, the progress made and new proposals sanctioned;

(c) the allocation earmarked for these districts for last year and current financial year; and

(d) the guidelines issued by the Ministry regarding priority monitoring planning and execution regarding these areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Statewise *inter se* priority has not been given for providing postal and telecommunication facilities, but the policy to provide these facilities in all the backward areas of the country has been liberalised for the 5th Plan.

(b) 96 proposals for opening of post offices have been sanctioned. The information with regard to telecommunication facilities is given in the attached statement.

(c) Rs. 22,000 have been spent so far on opening Post Offices in the backward areas during the last year and the current financial year. Allocation of funds for Telecom facilities is not made districtwise.

(d) Instructions have been issued to the Circle Office to provide facilities in the backward areas under the

special concessions applicable to such areas.

Normally, telecom. facilities are provided only if the proposals are financially viable and technically feasible. However, in the case of backward areas the guidelines authorise the provision of long distance Public Call Offices and Combined offices at stations of administrative or tourist importance, stations with 2500 population, etc. even if the anticipated revenue is 15 per cent of the annual recurring expenditure. Planning and execution of PCO/CO projects takes into account the above factors.

The General Manager Telecom. responsible for the Planning, sanctioning and execution of these works in his jurisdiction. Periodical progress reports are received and monitored in the P&T Board.

Statement

Progress of Telecommunication facilities in backward districts of Orissa.

1. PCO-cum-COs.

Year	No. opened
1973-74	21
1974-75	15
1975-76 (till 31-12-75) . .	9

2. Telegraph (Combined) Offices

Year	No opened
1973-74	6
1974-75	16
1975-76 (till 31-12-75)	8

3. Position as on 31-12-75

No of Telephone exchanges	84
No. of Direct Exchange lines	7013
No. of carrier systems . .	43

No. of Long distance Public Call Offices	143
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No. of Telegraph (Combined) offices	341
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4. New sanctions due for execution:

Telephone Exchanges	1
Carrier Systems	2
Long distance Public Call offices	29
Telegraph (Combined offices)	6

Growth of Population

1899 SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of growth of population has increased or decreased during the years 1973, 1974 and 1975;

(b) the break-up of such figures regarding (i) urban and (ii) rural areas, and

(c) the figure of total population by the end of the year 1975?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) According to the Expert Committee on Population Projections, the rate of growth of population was expected to decline from about 2.1 per cent in 1973 to about 2.0 per cent in 1975.

(b) Estimates based on the Sample Registration System show the under-mentioned rates of natural growth in urban and rural areas derived as the difference between estimated birth and death rates for 1973. These estimates are subject to sampling and reporting errors.

Urban	1.93
Rural	1.89
Combined	1.91

The corresponding figures for the years 1974 and 1975 are not yet available.

(c) The total population of India at the end of 1975 has been estimated to be approximately 604 million.

Workers' Education Scheme

1400. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for extension of workers' education scheme to more areas during the Fifth Plan period;

(b) if so, the main features thereof;

(c) whether Government have reviewed the working of the workers' education scheme with a view to making it more effective and useful to ensure effective participation of workers in the productive activities; and

(d) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY):

(a) Yes.

(b) One new Workers' Education Centre has already been set up at Siliguri bringing the total number of centres to 37. More Centres are also proposed to be set up.

(c) and (d). The scheme has been recently reviewed by a Committee appointed by Government and its report is now before them.

Pending Vigilance Cases against Officers in N.W. Circle

1401. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of vigilance cases which are pending against Class I and Class II officers in the N.W. Circle, as

also the Amritsar telephone district and the number of such among them as are pending for over 3 years; and

(b) steps taken to expedite disposal of these cases?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) The information about the number of vigilance cases (including vigilance complaints) pending against Class I and Class II officers is furnished below:—

	N.W. Postal & Telecom. Circles	Amritsar Telephone District
Total No. . .	38	2
Pending over 3 years	I	Nil

(b) Instructions have been issued from time to time for expeditious finalisation of these cases and a special watch is kept over cases pending more than a year.

Employees' Provident Fund outstanding against Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur

1402. SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:
SHRI R. K. SINHA:
SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether huge amount of arrears of employers' contribution towards Employees' Provident Fund and Employees' State Insurance by the Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur is outstanding;

(b) if so, the amount under each head; and

(c) the action being taken against the Company for defaulting the payment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) to (c). The Provident Fund Autho-

rities have reported that the establishment has paid provident fund dues in full upto October, 1975. It is reported that the establishment has not disbursed the wages to a majority of the employees for November and December, 1975. However, special investigations have shown that the following amounts are due from the establishment in respect of the months noted against each:—

Period	Amount
November, 1975	Rs. 3.42 lakhs
December, 1975	Rs. 3.85 lakhs

These figures are provisional and action has been initiated under Section 7A of the Employees' Provident Fund & Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 to determine the exact amount due.

The Employees' State Insurance Corporation has reported that the establishment is in arrears of contributions amounting to Rs. 6,10,000 for the period from January, 1975 to September, 1975 as on 31st December, 1975. Interest amounting to Rs. 2,57,149 on Employers' Special Contribution is also due from the establishment. Prosecution under Section 85 of the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 has been launched.

Seminar held by Indian Roads and Transport Development Association

1403. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the deliberation of a seminar held at Jamshedpur by the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association;

(b) whether the problems of transportation in the eastern region was also discussed;

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

(d) the steps suggested by Government to meet these problems in the eastern region?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (d). A seminar was held by the Indian Roads and Transport Development Association at Jamshedpur on the 5th, 6th and 7th December, 1975. Final report of proceedings on the seminar is still awaited from the Association. The recommendations made at the seminar will be examined after the final report of the proceedings is received.

मध्य प्रदेश के ज्ञाबुआ जिले में राक-फास्फेट का खनन

1404. श्री भागीरथ भंवर: क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के ज्ञाबुआ जिले में राक-फास्फेट के खनन के बारे में क्या प्रगति हुई है; और

(ख) अब तक कितने राक-फास्फेट का खनन किया जा चुका है?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) : (क) और (ख). मध्य प्रदेश के ज्ञाबुआ जिले में राक-फास्फेट का खनन मध्य प्रदेश राज्य खनन निगम ने परीक्षण के तौर पर 1974-75 में शुरू किया था। राज्य खनन निगम से प्राप्त सूचना के अनुसार राक-फास्फेट का अब तक का उत्पादन इस प्रकार है:—

1974-75 2,977 टन

1975-76 16,351 टन

(दिसम्बर 75 तक)

खनित राक-फास्फेट का ग्रेड 25 पर सेंट से लेकर लगभग 30 परसेट फास्फोरस पेट आक्साइड के बीच है।

स्टेनलैस स्टील का व्यापार

1405. श्री गूड बाबू जाना : क्या इस्पात और जान वर्षी वह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विवार स्टेनलैस स्टील का आयात जारी रखने का है,

(ख) क्या हिन्दुस्तान स्टील एलाय आंट, दुर्गम्भुर में स्टेनलैस स्टील का बहुत स्टाक जबा ही गया है, और

(ग) क्या कुछ निकल का आयात किया जाने पर स्टेनलैस स्टील देश में ही तैयार किया जा सकता है।

इस्पात और जान व्यापार में उपलब्धी (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) : (क) वर्ष 1976-77 के लिए आयात नीति बनाने के सम्बन्ध में आयात नीति की समीक्षा की जा रही है। सरकार इस बात के लिए सदा भरमक प्रयत्न करनी गही है कि केवल उन्हीं वस्तुओं का आयात किया जाए जो देश में नहीं मिल सकती।

(ख) जी, नहीं।

(ग) केवल निकल का अधिक आयात करने में मिशन दस्तावेज़ को लेना

किया जाता है।

कोयला खानों द्वारा भविष्य निषिद्ध की राशि का जमा न कराया जाना

1406 श्री हुकम जन्द कछुवाय क्या अब मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि अग्राल, बिहार और मध्य प्रदेश की राष्ट्रीयहृत तथा दूसरी कोयला खानों से कर्मचारी भविष्य निषिद्ध की काफी बड़ी राशिया जमा नहीं

कराई है तार बारे ही, तो 1974-75 के वर्ष में यसमें भवय निषिद्धी जमाया रखिया था ?

क्या जंगी (श्री रमेश रेडी) : केवल जल विषय लिए अधिकारियों द्वारा विषय अधिकार सूचित किया है :

1974-75 में, बंगाल, बिहार और मध्य प्रदेश के राज्यों में नियोजकों की तरफ भविष्य निषिद्ध की जावत कदम : 9,55,97, 978 रुपये, 6,51,61,388 रुपये और 1,11,96,592 रुपये बकाया थे।

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation

1407 SHRI B R KAVADE Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) how many and since when Grade I, Assistant Provident Fund Commissioners in the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation are working on ad-hoc basis,

(b) whether some direct recruits in the Assistant Commissioner cadre have superseded the departmental candidates because the departmental candidates were continued on ad-hoc basis for years together and were not made

many regular departmental
ying vacant and when these
ointees wil be regularised?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) The Provident Fund Authorities have reported as under —

(a) Seventeen Assistant Provident Fund Commissioners (Gr I) have been officiating on an ad-hoc basis, one each from May 1967, January 1969, May 1971, June 1972, March 1974 and January 1975, six from March 1975, three from April 1975 and two from June 1975

(b) Promotions are made on the basis of the Recruitment Rules applicable to the posts.

(c) Ten posts in the departmental promotion quota in the cadre of Assistant Provident Fund Commissioners (Gr. I), are available for being filled on a regular basis, for which proposal is under examination in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission.

मध्य प्रदेश में एन्फूमिनियम संयंस्करण

1408. श्री गंगाधरन बीजित : क्या इस्पात और लाल मरी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में एन्फूमिनियम कारखाने की स्थापना की दिशा में 1974-75 में क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(ख) इसे कब तक पूरा किया जायेगा ; और परियोजना कार्य की विभीति के क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात और लाल मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) : (क) और (ख) कोरवा प्रदावक को पहली प्रावस्था से एन्फूमिनियम का उत्पादन पहले ही मई, 1975 से शुरू हो गया है। पहली प्रावस्था के चालू करने में निम्नलिखित कारणों से 4-5 महीने की मामूली देर हुई। विदेशी प्रतिकर्ताओं से कुछ महत्वपूर्ण उपकरणों के लादान में विलम्ब, 1973-74 के दौरान सीमेट, इस्पात आदि सामान की प्राप्ति में कठिनाई तथा मध्य प्रदेश बिजली बोर्ड से बिजली की विलम्ब से प्राप्ति।

प्रदावक तथा गढाई संघर्षों की शेष तीनों प्रावस्थाओं का निर्माण कार्य चालू है। तथापि इन तीन प्रावस्थाओं को वास्तविक रूप से चालू करने का काम मध्य प्रदेश बिजली बोर्ड से बिजली की उपलब्धि के साथ तालमेल के बाद ही संभव होगा।

Fertilizers Produced by H.S.L.

1409. SHRI M. R. SHARMA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of fertilizers produced annually by the Hindustan Steel Limited; and

(b) whether Hindustan Steel Limited is giving any priority to educated young entrepreneurs under Government declared policy that public sector undertaking would give preference to them?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) The total production of fertilizers from the Fertilizer Plant at Rourkela and the steel-plants under Hindustan Steel Limited in 1974-75 was 2.98 lakh Tonnes. The production in 1975-76 is estimated at 3.3 lakh tonnes

(b) The policy of Hindustan Steel Limited is to distribute their fertilizers through wholesale dealers which include Cooperatives, State Agro-industries Corporations and private parties having sound financial standing and adequate experience.

HSL Chemical Ry-Products

1410 SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the chemical by-products manufactured annually by the Hindustan Steel Limited; and

(b) the names of concerns receiving annual allocations of these by-products from the Hindustan Steel Limited?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) A number of by-products chemicals are produced and marketed by Hindu-

stan Steel Limited. These are broadly classified as under:—

- (a) Benzol products like benzene toluene, solvent oil, etc.
- (b) Tar products like pitch, naphthalene, creosote oil, tar oils and tar acids, etc.
- (b) The names of major/important consumers purchasing these products on more or less regular basis from Hindustan Steel Limited are given in the list laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10276/76].

Report on National Wage Policy

1411. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the report on the 'National Wage Policy' has been submitted to Government;
- (b) whether Government have taken any decision on the report; and
- (c) if so, when will the recommendations of the report be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) An "interim" report has been submitted to Government.

(b) and (c). The recommendations of the report relating to the setting up of a Wage Cell in the Ministry of Labour has been accepted by Government and implemented. The other recommendations are under Government's consideration.

Citizenship Problem in Sri Lanka

1412. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the issue raised in Sri Lanka Assembly with re-

gard to citizenship problem in Sri Lanka by those who were unable either to acquire citizenship of India or get a visit visa or a resident visa for their wives who were citizens of Sri Lanka; and

- (b) if so, Government's reaction about it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Grant of visa or Indian citizenship to spouses of Indian nationals is covered by existing laws and regulations. Specific instances of hardship are always looked into with sympathy by the Government.

Per-capita Income of Working Class

1413. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the per-capita income of the working class for the years 1960, 1974 and 1975 respectively?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): Figures of annual earnings of industrial workers for the years 1974 and 1975 are not yet available. Since 1960 the basis of computation of annual earnings data has been modified. Hence figures for 1960 will not be comparable to those of subsequent years.

Accidents in Coal-fields

1414. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there have been frequent accidents in the coal-fields;
- (b) if so, reasons therefor; and
- (c) the steps taken to stop accidents?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY):

(a) A statement giving information about the number of fatal and serious accidents and the number of persons killed and seriously injured for the last five years is attached.

(b) and (c). No specific reasons could be attributed. Improving safety measures in mines is a continuous process. Steps are being taken to tighten supervisions and arrange training programmes in safety measures. Managements are also being advised to comply with safety rules strictly.

Statement

ACCIDENTS IN COAL MINES

Year	No. of accidents	No. of persons			
		Fatal	Serious	Killed	Seriously injured
1971 .	199	1,460	231	1,542	
1972 .	200	1,534	217	1,616	
1973 .	172	1,904	237**	1,975	
1974 .	200	2,065	232	2,162	
1975*	222	2,044	660***	2,119	

*Provisional and subject to revision.

**Includes 48 deaths of Jitpur Colliery disaster.

***Includes 372 persons reportedly entrapped in Chasnala disaster.

राज्यों के लिए ई० सी० ग्रेड एल्यूमिनियम का कोटा

1515. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने ए० ए० और ए० सी० एस० आर० कन्डवर्टर्स बताने के लिये प्रत्येक राज्य को ई० सी० ग्रेड एल्यूमिनियम का कोई कोटा निर्धारित किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कोटा निर्धारित करने का सिद्धांत क्या है ;

(ग) क्या विहार में ई० सी० ग्रेड एल्यूमिनियम के दुरुपयोग के बारे में उन्हें शिकायत मिली हैं ; और

(घ) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या तिकिया है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री सुखदेव प्रताद) : (क) और (ख) . राज्य उद्योग निदेशकों को ई. सी. ग्रेड एल्यूमिनियम का इकट्ठा आवंटन भारत सरकार के लघु उद्योग विकास आयुक्त

दाता किया जाता है : आवेदन की प्रक्रिया इस रूपार्थ है :-

ई. सी. सेड एल्बूमिनियम की अपेत करने वाले उच्चोंगों से उनकी जान के बारे में सूचना प्राप्त की जाती है। एल्बूमिनियम उत्पादकों से भी इस बातु के उत्पादन संबंधी अनुभाव प्राप्त किए जाते हैं। उन दो तथ्यों को व्याप्ति में रखकर विभिन्न उपर उच्चों के प्रभारी प्रायोजक प्राधिकरणों को ई. सी. सेड धातु का इकट्ठा प्रावंटन कर दिया जाता है। इस प्रकार के इकट्ठे आवटनों के सबधि में एक अन्तर मंत्रालयिक बैठक में निर्णय किए जाते हैं, जो वित वर्ष मू़ह होने से पूर्व आयोजित की जाती है।

प्रायोजक प्राधिकरण अपने इकट्ठे आवंटन से सम्बद्धित उच्चोंगों के उच्चोंगों को उच्चोगवार आवटन करते हैं। लघु उच्चोंगों के सबधि में भारत सरकार के लघु उच्चोग विकास आयुक्त द्वारा राज्य उच्चोग निदेशकों को इकट्ठा आवंटन किया जाता है जो अपने अधिकार क्षेत्र के उच्चोंगों को आ टन करते हैं।

ई. सी. सेड एल्बूमिनियम का उच्चोगवार बटन करते समय ये प्रायोजक प्राधिकरण विभिन्न बातों को व्याप्ति में रखते हैं, जिनमें अन्य बातों के साथ-साथ उच्चोग की समता, उत्पादन की पिछली दर, कंडक्टरों/केर्बलों की प्रति/निर्यात के लिए प्राप्त आदेश तथा ई. सी. सेड धातु की कुल उपलब्धि भी शामिल है।

(ग) ची, नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

उहाँ में उत्तर भूलकर आज उत्तरीयों करने की ज़रूरत

1416. श्री संकर दत्त शिख : वह कहाँ में यह उत्तरों की कुप्रा करने के लिए कि उन उत्तरों के नाम व्या है विद्यमें उत्तर दूसाकर सीधे देसीकोन करने संबंधी सुविधाएँ वर्ष 1976-77 में उपलब्ध हो जायेंगी ?

संचार बंदी (डा० ज्ञानकर दत्तल व्यार्थ) : ऐसी भावाः है कि वर्ष 1976-77 के अन्त तक निम्नलिखित स्थानों को एक या अधिक भागों पर उपभोक्ता द्वाक डार्यालिंग सुविधा मिल जाएगी :—

1.—दिल्ली	2.—गुरुर	3.—काकीनाडा
4.—मछलीपट्टम	5.—सिकन्दराबाद	
6.—तिरुपती	7.—विजयवाडा	8.—विशाखा-पटनम
9.—छपरा	10.—दरभंगा	
11.—जमशेदपुर	12.—मुजफ्फरपुर	
13.—रोची	14.—पटना	15.—ग्राहमदाबाद
16.—बडीदा		17.—गान्धीनगर
18.—जामनगर		19.—मेहसाना
20.—नडियाद	21.—राजकोट	22.—सूरत
23.—ग्रनंतनाग	24.—बड़मूला	25.—जम्मू
26.—सापारे	27.—श्रीनगर	28.—ऊधमपुर
	29.—बगलूर	30.—बेलगाव
	31.—गडग	32.—हुबली
	33.—मगलीर	34.—शिमोगा
	35.—तुमुकुर	36.—उदीपी
	37.—मलप्पी	38.—एनकुलम
	39.—कोट्टायम	40.—कोजीकोड
	41.—नरस	42.—किल्लोन
	43.—किंचूर	44.—दिवेन्द्रम
	45.—ग्रमरावती	

46. चिंचडी 47. बम्बई 48. 121. बहुला 122. कलकता 123. दुर्गापुर
 जलगांव 49. कोल्पीवाडी 50. 124. जमुरिया 125. खड़गपुर
 कोपरगांव 51. भरगांव 52. नागपुर 126. नियामतपुर 127. रानीगंज
 53. नासिक 54. पंजम 128. रुपनारायणपुर
 55. पूना 56. पुंताम्बा 57. 1417. SHRI ANNASAHEB GOT-
 रहटा 58. सांगली 59. वास्को-
 डिगामा 60. वारी 61. खोगाल
 62. इंदौर 63. मीहौर 64. शिलांग
 गोहाटी (दीजपुर महिन) 65. शिलांग
 66. अम्बाळा 67. अमृतसर 68.
 चंडीगढ़ 69. छरटा 70. गुडगांव
 71. होशियारपुर 72. जालधर 73.
 कपूरथला 74. करनाल 75.
 लुधियाना 76. पानीपत 77. रोहतक
 78. शिमला 79. मोनीपत 80.
 भुवनेश्वर 81. कटक 82. ग्रजमेर
 83. भ्रतवर 84. भरतपुर 85.
 धोनपुर 86. जयपुर 87. जोधपुर
 88. चिंगलपुर 89. कोश्मिटूर
 90. इरोड़ 91. काचीपुरम 92. मद्रास 93.
 मदुरै 94. ऊटी 95. सर्लैम
 96. तिहापुर 97. त्रिची 98.
 उदुमलपेट 99. वेल्लोर 100.
 विरुद्धनगर 101. आगरा 102. अलीगढ़
 103. इलाहाबाद 104. बुलदशहर
 105. देहरादून 106. फैजाबाद
 107. गोरखपुर 108. हापुड़ 109.
 कानपुर 110. लखनऊ 111.
 मेरठ 112. मिर्जापुर 113.
 मोरीनगर 114. मसूरी 115.
 रायबरेली 116. सहारनपुर 117.
 उम्राव 118. वाराणसी 119.
 आसनसोल 120. बराकर

**Delay in Transmission of Press
Telegrams in Devnagri**

1417. SHRI ANNASAHEB GOT-KHINDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received a representation regarding the delay in the transmission of Devanagri press telegrams between Sangli and Bombay,

(b) whether these press telegrams are sometimes delayed for hours; and

(c) if so, what are the causes for the same?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Normally the telegrams are despatched within an hour except when the circuit is interrupted.

**Establishing Telephone link between
Bahrain, Gilaula and Ikauna**

1418. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to establish telephonic link between Bahrain, Gilaula and Ikauna; and

(b) whether by the close of the current financial year, the exchanges at Gilaula and Ikauna are likely to start functioning?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Work is in progress for the opening of Long Distance Public Call Offices at Gilaula and

Ikauna. While Gilaula will have direct link with Bahraich, Ikauna will have direct telephonic link with Balrampur Telephone Exchange which is connected to Bahraich via Gonda.

(b) There is no proposal to set up exchanges at either of the two places. However, the long distance PCOs at these places are likely to be commissioned by the end of the current financial year.

Visit of Communications Minister to Hungary

1419. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he visited Hungary recently; and

(b) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. For a day in October, 1975.

(b) The Minister of Communications hold discussions with the Hungarian Minister of Metallurgy and Machine Engineering and their senior officials, on matters of mutual interest, such as exchange of technical information relating to telecommunication research, besides visiting the factories manufacturing microwave equipment and PABXs and also their telecommunication research centre.

Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, New Delhi

1420. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Sir Ganga Ram Hospital of New Delhi is aided by Central Government, Delhi Administration, New Delhi Municipal Committee and other authorities;

(b) if so, the amount of aid or grant which have been given to it during

1974-75 and upto December, 1975 by these authorities; and

(c) the total number of employees at present in the said hospital?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) Yes.

(b) The amounts of grant given to Sir Ganga Ram Hospital during 1974-75 and upto December, 1975 are as under:—

	1974-75	1975-76 upto (December, 1975)
Central Government	86,623.00	Nil
Delhi Administration	84,275.75	29,040.00
Municipal Corporation of Delhi	85,000.00	Nil
New Delhi Municipal Committee	5,000.00	Nil
Total	2,60,898.00	29,040.00

(c) The total number of employees in various categories is as under:—

Designation	No. of Posts
<i>Medical & Para Medical</i>	
Registrars	4
House Surgeons	14
Matron	1
Ward Sisters	5
Tutor Sisters	4
Staff Nurses	20
A. N.M.	2
Student Nurses	48
Home Sister	1

Designation	No of Posts
Pathological Department	
Director of Path	1
Pathologists	2
Biochemist	1
Cytotechnologist	1
Laboratory Technicians	6
X-Ray Department	
	1
Radiographer	
X-Ray	1
O.P.D & Casualty	
Dispensers	4
Refractionist (Part-time)	1
Orthopist (,,)	1
Audiometrist (,,)	1
Jr. Physiotherapist (,,)	1
Kitchen & Linen Store	
Dietitians (Part-time)	2
Linen-Incharge	1
J.C.C.U.	
E.C.G. Operator	1
Class IV	
Nursing Orders, etc.	64
Swepers	34
Administrative Staff	
Medical Administrator	1
Asstt. Secretary	1
Accountant	1
Stenographer	1
U.D.C.	1
Typists	1
A/c Clerk	1
Store-keeper	1
Caretaker-cum-Security Officer	1

Postal Life Insurance Scheme for Rural Areas

1421. SHRI SAKTI KUMAR SARKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Postal Life Insurance scheme is being encouraged to cover the rural areas and provide the benefit of life insurance within the reach of millions in the rural areas; and

(b) the total amount of business transacted by the post offices regarding payment of premia in 1975?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) The postal Life Insurance Scheme is meant for employees of the Central and State Governments, Local Bodies, Universities and Government-aided Institutions, Nationalised Banks etc. There is no proposal at present to extend the Scheme to general public in rural areas.

(b) The Postal Life Insurance business transacted by Post Offices during the financial year 1974-75 and the calendar year 1975 is as under:—

Year	No. of proposals	Amount
1974-75	36,440	Rs. 17,98,97,400
1975 (1.1.75 to 31.12.75)	35,158	Rs. 20,31,05,900

Arrears towards Telephone Subscribers

1422. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total arrears due from the telephone subscribers all over the country; and

(b) the steps Government have taken to collect these dues?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Rs. 10.24 crores as on 1st November, 1975 for bills issued upto 31st July, 1975.

(b) The recovery of arrears is a continuous process. Initially this is achieved by such steps as reminder on telephone, Disconnection of defaulting subscribers except of a few exempted categories, then by personal contact and correspondence with subscribers and finally legal action, where necessary. The recourse to law is taken only in cases of private subscribers and under the existing procedures it has to be ensured that there is reasonable prospect of recovery in such cases.

Efforts have continuously been made to reduce the arrears. All Heads of Circles/Districts have recently been addressed for taking urgent effective steps for the liquidation of old arrears. The position is being closely watched.

Number of Lay-Offs, Closures and Lock Outs

1423 SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) the number of lay-offs, closures and lock-outs taken place during 1975 in the country, and

(b) how many workers are involved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Demand of monkeys for research

1424. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether in future more monkeys will be needed for bio-medical laboratories world over;

(b) whether a cross breed variety of monkey can be developed for tables of laboratories, and

(c) whether any attempt by the Research has been made to create an alternative?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A K M ISHAQUE): (a) to (c) The need for more monkeys for Bio-medical research is not expected to increase significantly in future, since alternate suitable experimental models such as tissue culture techniques are being established and are available for experimentation. In addition, a smaller variety of monkey (marmoset) is being used as an appropriate model for many experiments.

Reported statement by President Ford alleging demise of Democracy in India

1425 SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether President Ford of the U.S.A. has characterised the present Indian situation as 'demise of democracy in India' and expressed hopes for a new Government to the liking of the U.S.A., and

(b) whether the Government of India have lodged any protest against this interference in India's internal affairs?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b) President Ford's reference to the recent developments in India was made at a Press Conference on 15th September, 1975. In a subsequent clarification on 19th September, the State Department said that the United States would continue to follow a policy of not making any public comments on the recent Indian political developments. During the talk between President Ford and the Foreign Minister in Washington in October, 1975, President Ford clarified that no offence was meant by his remarks and expressed the hope that the relations between the two countries would not be affected by what had been said. The United States wanted its relations with India broadened and strengthened.

Registration by Employment Exchanges

1426. SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Employment Exchanges in Delhi and New Delhi are not registering candidates for more than one category even though they possess various educational qualifications, trade certificates and other qualifications of technical or non-technical nature; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). Employment Exchanges in the Union Territory of Delhi are working on a functional basis. According to the existing practice candidates get themselves registered at

the Exchange in the trade for which they are suitable and qualified and for which they indicate preference. In case, however, any of them is also qualified for and interested in some trade/trades other than the one for which he is initially registered, his dummy card is prepared by that Exchange and sent either to the appropriate section of the same Exchange or to the Exchange which deals with that category of applicants and vacancies, so that he is duly considered against all such vacancies, for which he is suitable and qualified. Normally a candidate is eligible for registration for two/three trades.

Operational Communications Satellite over Atlantic

1427. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) whether India and three other countries have taken a decision to urge the International Satellite Organisation to provide an operational communication satellite above the Greenwich Meridian over the Atlantic; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) International Telecommunications Satellite Organisation (INTELSAT) has, however, taken a decision to locate a satellite at a nominal position of 359 degrees east longitude during 1976. This satellite would be a spare-in-orbit for other working satellites in the Atlantic Ocean region.

कैसरी दाल की खपत को रोकने के उपाय

1428. को अनेकर लिखें : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने की हुआ करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कैसरी दाल की खपत से एक विशेष प्रकार की बीमारी होती है जो देश के अधिकार भागों में कैली हुई है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो सरकार द्वारा कैसरी दाल की खपत रोकने तथा इस बीमारी को कंटलने में रोकने के लिये क्या उपाय किये गये हैं ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री ए. के. एम. इसहाक) :

(क) यदि कैसरी दाल काफी भाला में लम्बे अवधि तक खाई जाए तो शरीर के निचले अंगों को लकवा की बीमारी हो सकती है जिसे लेथीरस रूणता कहा जाता है। यह बीमारी उन्हीं कुछ राज्यों में है जहाँ कैसरी दाल को खाने के लिए बेचने पर प्रतिबन्ध नहीं लगा हुआ है।

(ख) खाद्य अपमिश्रण नियामन 1955 के नियम 44 के अन्तर्गत कैसरी दाल को खाने के लिए बेचने पर प्रतिबन्ध लगा दिया गया है जो उन तारीखों में लागू होगा जिन्हे राज्य सरकारे अधिसूचित करेंगी। मध्य प्रदेश, बिहार, पश्चिम बंगाल और गुजरात को छोटकर अन्य सभी राज्य सरकारों ने कैसरी दाल को खाने के लिए बेचने पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाते हुए अधिसूचनाएं जारी कर दी हैं। सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकारों को बता दिया गया है कि कैसरी दाल को उत्तराखण्ड (पाकाइलाल) में मिलते जूते एक ग्रासान तरीके में विषरहित किया

जा सकता है और उन्हें सलाह दी गई है कि इस तरीके का आम जनता में प्रचार करें। उन्हें यह भी सलाह दी गई है कि वे कैसरी दाल को विषरहित बनाने का काम और इसकी विक्री राज्य की एजेंसियों द्वारा किया जाए। कैसरी दाल को रेल से जाने लेजाने पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाने पर प्रश्न पर भी विचार किया जा रहा है।

Completion of Pennar Bridge on N. H. 7

1429 SHRI P ANTONY REDDI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state-

(a) when the bridge on the Pennar near Pamidi of Anantapur District on the National Highway 7 will be completed, and

(b) the reasons for delay?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) The bridge is likely to be completed by March, 1977 subject to availability of funds

(b) The delay in the completion of work has been due to the variation in the nature of soil strata in foundations and their levels necessitating elaborate testing and further borings, interruption to work in the river bed due to floods and delay on the part of the contractor.

Increase in Consumer Price Index Numbers for Industrial Workers

1430 SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) what are the reasons for increase in Consumer Price Index Number for industrial workers in Delhi, Kanpur, Calcutta, Howrah, Alleppey, Bombay, Jharia and some other centres, even after emergency was declared; and

(b) what measures the Ministry propose to reduce the consumer price index for industrial workers in coming months?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) The Consumer Price Index Number for Industrial Workers reflect changes in the level of retail prices of selected goods and services consumed by these workers in different centres. The All-India Index is an average of monthly indices of 50 industrially important centres. While indices for majority of these centres (including Kanpur, Alleppey, Delhi and Bombay) have fallen from June, 1975, the trend has been marked in respect of some centres (Hyderabad, Jharia, Sri-nagar, Amritsar, Asansol, Calcutta and Howrah) due to increase in the prices of certain items of consumption at these centres.

(b) Government is keeping a constant watch over the price situation and appropriate measures are taken as and when necessary to check any undue price rise of consumer articles.

Payment of Bonus by Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd. Kanpur

1431. **SHRI R. K. SINHA:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd. Kanpur has not paid bonus to its employees for the year 1974 so far;

(b) if so, the amount of bonus and when it was to be paid;

(c) the reasons for non payment of bonus to the employees; and

(d) the action taken to ensure immediate payment of bonus due to the employees?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) to (d). According to the information received from the State Labour

Commissioner, Swadeshi Cotton Mills Co. Ltd., Kanpur have not paid bonus for the accounting year 1974-75 payable by last November. The employers had sought on the 17th October, 1975 extension of time for payment of bonus. Their application was rejected on 31st December, 1975. The amount involved is about rupees eight lakhs. Action for prosecution of the management is being considered by the State Government who are the appropriate Government under the Act.

Talks between India and Egypt on Nuclear Cooperation

1432. **SHRI YAMUNA PRASAD MANDAL:** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has recently discussed with Egyptian Officials the possibility of nuclear cooperation between the two countries; and

(b) if so, outcome of the discussions?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

तंजानिया के साथ आर्थिक तथा तकनीकी समझौता

1433. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण परियाः क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 2 जनवरी, 1976 को भारत और तंजानिया के बीच संपाद आर्थिक तथा तकनीकी समझौते की मुद्र्य बाते क्या हैं?

विदेश मंत्रालय में उपसंचारी (जी विचिन पाल वास) : तकनीकी, आर्थिक एवं वैज्ञानिक सहयोग विषेयक भारत-तंजानिया सम्बन्ध आयोग की पहली बैठक 2 और 3 जनवरी 1976 को नई दिल्ली में हुई थी। इस विचार विषय के परिणामस्वरूप 3 जनवरी

1976 को एक सहमत कार्यक्रम पर हस्ताक्षर हुए थे तथा इनमे उबोध जिसमे लालू उद्योग भी शामिल है; कृषि एवं सिवार्द, विद्याल एवं प्रौद्योगिकी, रेलवे, सिविल विमानन, सिविल इंजीनियरी आदि के क्षेत्र में और अधिक सहयोग की व्यवस्था है। तंजानिया में विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में लगभग 150 भारतीय वैज्ञानिक प्रतिनियुक्त करने तथा भारत में विभिन्न विद्यों में लगभग 160 तंजानियाई तकनीशियनों को प्रशिक्षित करने के बारे में भी सहमति हो गयी है।

Bauxite deposits in Koraput District of Orissa

1434. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Orissa have sent a report to the Ministry regarding Bauxite deposits at Pottangi areas of the District Koraput, Orissa, for clearance of that project; and

(b) whether the Bauxite deposits will be exploited by a joint venture with foreign collaboration in the current financial year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b). Reports containing available data of bauxite deposits in Pottangi area of Orissa are being received from the Orissa Government, as well as from the Geological Survey of India, along with reports on bauxite deposits in adjoining areas of Andhra Pradesh, as part of the process to prove sufficient deposits to sustain the proposal and large East Coast Alumina project. The proving operations have been entrusted, with special allocation of central funds this year, to the Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd which is acting in collaboration with the Geological

Survey of India as well as field agencies of both the States. In the current financial year, the stage is unlikely to be reached for any decision as to the manner of exploiting these bauxite deposits whose size requires careful consideration, so, no view can either be taken whether any foreign collaboration would at all be necessary.

Amount sanctioned to Orissa for Construction of Bridges

1435. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry received any proposals from Government of Orissa for sanction of loan under the "Inter-state and economic importance" to construct the bridges in the backward Districts of the State; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned by the Ministry for the same?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) and (b) The proposal submitted by the Government of Orissa for loan assistance under the Central Aid Programme of State Roads of inter-State or Economic Importance in the 5th Five-Year Plan include a number of schemes covering both roads and bridges falling under the category of projects of inter-State importance and those intended to facilitate the economic development of the areas served by them. These proposals include, inter-alia, some bridges falling in the backward areas also. The Government of India have, however, not sanctioned till now any loan assistance for any scheme received from any State so far as the entire matter is in the consideration stage. For the same reason it is also not possible to indicate at this stage as to the extent to which any particular project or projects could be ex-

pected to be included in the list of schemes to be finally approved by the Government of India for loan assistance.

G. S. I. Survey of Hill Districts of Orissa

1436. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Survey of India have surveyed the Hill Districts of Orissa, particularly in Ganjam, Koraput, Kalahandi, Sundargarh to locate the mineral deposits;

(b) if so, the minerals identified and examined so far by the Department; and

(c) out of the feasible projects how many of them are with the private and public undertakings or joint collaborations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b). The more important deposits identified so far are of bauxite in Pottangi area of Koraput; copper, lead and zinc as an extension of the Sargipalli belt in Sundergarh; iron ore at Malangtoli and manganese ore in Koraput, Keonjhar and Sundargarh Districts.

The National Mineral Development Corporation is carrying out detailed investigations regarding Malangtoli iron ore deposit for the preparation of a techno-economic feasibility report. The Hindustan Zinc Limited, have prepared a report on the development of lead ore deposits in Sargipalli, which is being examined.

The bauxite deposits extend to areas in Andhra Pradesh as well. Detailed proving operations have been entrusted to the Mineral Exploration Corporation to undertake, in cooperation with the other field agencies.

(c) All the above-named projects are so far intended to be in the public sector.

Preservation of Mausoleum of Bahadur Shah in Burma

1437. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any measures for protection, preservation and showing honour to the Mausoleum of Bahadur Shah near Rangoon in Burma; and

(b) if so, the facts thereabout?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) and (b). The Mausoleum of Bahadur Shah Zafar is situated within the sovereign territory of Burma and is looked after by a local body known as "The Bahadur Shah Dargah Trust." Our information is that the Dargah is maintained in good condition. We are naturally interested in showing honour to the mortal remains of Bahadur Shah Zafar. Recently, Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation, paid his respects at the Dargah during his official visit to Rangoon in October, 1975. It has also been agreed in principle that an unofficial delegation sponsored by Bahadur Shah Zafar Memorial Society may visit Rangoon to pay homage at the Dargah as part of the 200th birth anniversary celebrations of Emperor Bahadur Shah Zafar.

Production of Steel during 1973, 1974 and 1975

1438. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of steel produced during the years 1973, 1974 and 1975;

(b) the extent of home consumption and export of such steel;

(c) variation of prices of steel during these years; and

(d) the target fixed for production of various steels during the year 1976?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) The total production of saleable steel from the integrated steel plants in 1973, 1974 and 1975 was 5,541, 4,700 and 5,497 million tonnes, respectively

(b) The domestic consumption of mild steel in 1973-74 and 1974-75 is estimated around 56 and 61 million tonnes, respectively. In 1975-76, it may be marginally lower than that in 1974-75.

36,652 tonnes of steel materials were exported in 1973-74 and 52,135 tonnes in 1974-75. The exports in 1975-76 may be around 5,22,000 tonnes

(c) The required information in respect of main categories of steel is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No LT-10277/76].

(d) The total production of saleable steel from the integrated steel plants in 1975-76 is estimated around 57 million tonnes.

Grant of Special Pay to Computers in Labour Bureau

1439 **SHRI VASANT SATHE** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 5869 on 10th April, 1975 regarding grant of special pay to computers in Labour Bureau and state when a decision in the matter is likely to be taken?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): The matter is still under examination

Amendment to Provident Fund Act

1440 **SHRI VASANT SATHE** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to amend the Provident Fund

Act to ensure protection to the workers and plug the loop-holes which are taken advantage of by the employers; and

(b) whether Government have received suggestions from the workers' organisations in this regard; and if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). The working of the Act is constantly under review and Government are aware of the fact that appropriate steps including the amendment of the Act should be taken to see that the workers get the maximum benefits possible. Suggestions for amendment of the Act are received from all interests concerned at different times and are given due consideration.

Technical Cooperation with Peru, Columbia and Chile

1441 **SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether an agreement has been arrived at with Peru, Columbia and Chilean Government recently about any financial or technical co-operation, and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) An Agreement between the Government of India and the Government of the Republic of Peru on Technical and Scientific Cooperation was signed in Lima on August 28, 1975.

(b) The Agreement provides for exchange of technical personnel for training in technical, scientific and other institutions, factories and production centres in each country; ex-

change of technical documentation and information, cooperation in scientific work between institutions in both countries, joint preparation of scientific and technical programme, analysis and approval of joint research projects, the results of which could be applied to various fields of economic activity and cooperation in consultancy services.

Periodical Review of Indo-Soviet Treaty and Simla Agreement

1442. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any review has been made of the implementation of Indo-Soviet Treaty and Simla Agreement on a periodical basis; and

(b) how many issues have been settled between India and Pakistan after Simla Agreement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS):

(a) In pursuance of the provisions of the Indo-Soviet Treaty of Peace, Friendship and Cooperation, the two sides are in constant touch with each other with a view to further strengthening Indo-Soviet friendship and cooperation in the mutual interest of both countries as well as promoting peace and stability in the world.

During the meetings held between India and Pakistan from time to time after the signing of the Simla Agreement, at the level of Foreign Ministers and Foreign Secretaries, the opportunity has been used for reviewing the progress in the implementation of the Simla Agreement.

(b) Some of the more important issues settled since the signing of the Simla Agreement are as follows:

(i) Delineation of the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir and completion of troop withdrawals from occupied territories along the border with Pakistan;

(ii) Bangladesh- India- Pakistan Tripartite Agreement and completion of the repatriation of Pakistan prisoners of war and civilian internees from India;

(iii) Agreements for the resumption of postal, tele-communication links and travel including exchange of pilgrim parties; resumption of trade including shipping services for transportation of cargoes between India and Pakistan.

Retrenchment of Industrial Workers

1443. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the total number of industrial workers retrenched in the country after the declaration of emergency?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Refusal by Workers to accept Bonus

1444. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of industrial workers in the country who refused to accept the bonus after the promulgation of Ordinance on Bonus?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): Government do not collect such information.

भव्य प्रदेश की शुगर बीमी मिलों द्वारा
बोनस न हिता जाता

1445. डा० लक्ष्मी भारतीय पार्टी :

क्या अब मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के उज्जैन जिले के भूहीदपुर स्थित गोविन्दराम सोही शुगर मिल्स और रत्नाम जिले के जावरा स्थित जावरा शुगर मिल्स द्वारा गत दो वर्षों में बोनस का शुगरतान न किए जाने के बारे में सरकार को कोई शिकायत मिली है ;

(ख) क्या इन मिलों द्वारा अमिकों की भविष्य निधि में की गई अनियमितताओं और दूसरे शुगर बेज बोर्ड (बीमी मजूरी बोर्ड) द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों के प्रत्युप अमिकों को लाभ न दिए जाने के बारे में भी शिकायत मिली है ; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कदम उठाए है ?

अब मंत्री (बी रघुनाथ रेड्डी) :

(क) यह मामला राज्य वार्षकेत में आसा है ।

(ख) और (ग) हाल में द्वितीय बीमी मजूरी बोर्ड की मिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित न करने के सबन्ध में कोई शिकायत प्राप्त नहीं हुई है । यह मामला राज्य कार्यक्रम में भी पड़ता है । जहाँ तक भविष्य निधि की देय राशियों का सबध है कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि प्राधिकारियों ने सूचित किया है कि :

(i) सूचना मिली है कि मैसर्स गोविन्द राम शुगर मिल्स, भूहीदपुर, एक छूट-न-प्राप्त प्रतिष्ठान, से सितम्बर, 1975 से नवम्बर, 1975 तक की अवधि के सबध में ह ० ०.१७ लाख रुपये । अभियोजन के लिए कारण बताओं नोटिस जारी किए गए हैं ।

(ii) मैसर्स जाथोरा शुगर मिल्से लिंगों जावोरा, एक छूट-न-प्राप्त प्रतिष्ठान से नवम्बर, 1975 के लिए ह ० ०.४४ लाख की राशि अपने व्यासी बोर्ड को प्रत्यारित नहीं की है । अभियोजन नोटिस जारी किए गए हैं ।

British Collaboration for manufacture of stronger equipment

1446. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to seek British collaboration for the manufacture of Stronger equipment; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fixation of Cadre Strength in P & T

1447. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to fix the cadre strength of all the cadres in the P & T particularly in Class I of T.E.S. and I.P.S.; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which the cadre strength would be finalised?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Unlicenced Radio/Transistor Sets in the Country

1448. SHRI DHAMANKAR:

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:

SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unlicenced radio/transistor sets operating in the country, and

(b) whether the Government have taken special steps to detect unlicensed

sets in the wake of emergency and result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) The number of unlicensed radio/transistor sets operating in the country, is not available.

(b) Special publicity and anti-evasion drives were organised throughout the country from August, 1975 onwards. As a result of this, about 1,70,000 unlicensed sets were detected and a sum of a little over Rs. 50 lakhs was collected as revenue.

Quick Mail Service in the Country

1449. SHRI DHAMANKAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have reviewed the working of Quick Mail Service;

(b) if so, the main features thereof; and

(c) what steps are being taken to extend the scheme to more areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) to (c). The service has been kept under review since its introduction on 15th April, 1975 and is being monitored through the posting of test letters regularly. It has been found that the scheme is by and large working satisfactorily.

The service is at present available in 27 State capitals and headquarters of the Union Territories besides 190 other cities and towns. The question of extension of the service to other places is reviewed from time to time.

वर्ष 1974-75 तथा 1975-76 के दौरान भारत एल्यूमिनियम कम्पनी का उत्पादन

1450. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय: क्या इस्पात और जान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत एल्यूमिनियम कम्पनी, कोरवा का वर्ष 1974-75 तथा 1975-76 का उत्पादन क्या रहा;

(ख) उत्पादित माल किलोदरों पर बेचा गया;

(ग) उत्पादित माल किन-किन देशों में बेचा गया; और

(घ) क्या जिस मूल्य पर विदेशों को माल बेचा गया उम्म मूल्य से अधिक मूल्य देश में ही मिल रहा था?

इस्पात और जान मंत्रालय में उपर्युक्ती (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) :

(क) भारत एल्यूमिनियम कम्पनी, कोरवा का वर्ष 1974-75 और 1975-76 का उत्पादन इस प्रकार है:—

	फैल्साइंड	एल्यूमिना	पिंड
	एल्यूमिना	पिंड	
1974-75	55,350	शून्य	टन
1975-76	55,970	10,676	टन
(दिसम्बर 1975 तक)			

(ख) से (घ). भारत एल्यूमिनियम कम्पनी ने रुम, इडोनेशिया, याईलैंड और स्पेन को एल्यूमिना का निर्यात किया। इन व्यापार सौदों के बारे में व्यौरे देना जल्द हित में नहीं है।

विदेशों को भेजी जाने वाली डाक की दरों में बुद्धि करना।

1451. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय: क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हाल ही में विदेशों को भेजी जाने वाली डाक दरों में बुद्धि की गई है?

संचार मंत्री (डा० शंकर बप्पाल शर्मा) : जी हां, तारीख 1-1-1976 से।

Konkan Passenger Steamer Service

1452. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state.

(a) what is the latest position regarding the fares of the Konkan passenger steamer service, as compared to the fares that existed prior to the take over of the service by Mogul Lines;

(b) what is the percentage rise in fares, and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to bring down the fares?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H M TRIVEDI): (a) to (c) The fares obtaining in the Konkan Passenger service prior to its being handed over to Mogul Line from 8th November, 1973 were as follows —

From Bombay for Deck Class

To (Port)	Rs
Janjira	4.45
Dabhol	7.00
Jaigad	8.70
Ratnagiri	8.70
Misakazi	10.45
Jaitapur	10.90
Vijaydurg	11.35
Devgad	13.20
Vengurla	15.70
Panaji	20.80

With a view to reducing losses that were being incurred on the operation of this service, passenger fares were increased in stages by a total of 124 per cent by 4th November, 1974. However the position was reviewed in 1975 and certain reductions effected in the fares with effect from 1st May, 1975. The present fares and their percentage increase over the fares before take over are indicated below —

From Bombay for Deck Class

To (Port)	Existing Fare	Percentage increase over fare before take over
Rs.		
Janjira	9.00	102.25
Dabhol	15.00	114.29
Jaigad	19.00	118.39
Ratnagiri	19.00	118.39
Misakazi	23.00	120.10
Jaitapur	24.00	120.18
Vijaydurg	25.00	120.26
Devgad	25.00	89.39
Vengurla	27.00	71.97
Panaji	35.00	68.27

Creation of Separate Postal and Tele-Communication Circle for Himachal Pradesh

1453 PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the request for the creation of a separate Postal and Tele-communication Circle for Himachal Pradesh has been examined by the Government, and

(b) if so, what decision has been taken by the Government?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b). It has been decided in principle to provide a separate Postal and Tele-communication Circle on a no cost basis for Himachal Pradesh with its Headquarter at Simla by bifurcating the existing North Western Circle. Further details are being worked out with the State Government who have been addressed in connection with provision of accommodation etc.

Parallel Committees of Hind Mazdoor Sabha

1454. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether after the declaration of Emergency, a group of members of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, a recognised Central Trade Union Organisation illegally reconstituted the Central body and elected new-office-bearers, and

(b) whether as a sequel to these developments two parallel committees of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, are functioning?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) (a) and (b) The Government of India, being aware that an internal dispute has arisen in the Hind Mazdoor Sabha regarding the position of the General Secretary, have been dealing with the President of Hind Mazdoor Sabha with regard to nomination of representatives of Hind Mazdoor Sabha on various Committees constituted by the Ministry of Labour and allied matters

सभ्य देशों के साथ समृद्धि यात्री सेवाएं

1455. श्री हुकम सभ्य सम्बन्ध में क्या नीबहन और परिबहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय किन-किन देशों तक भारत से समृद्धि यात्री सेवा है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार का विवार कुछ अन्य देशों के साथ यात्री सेवा को लागू करने का भी है ; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो किन-किन के साथ और कब तक ?

नीबहन और परिबहन संबंध में राज्य-वंशी (श्री एच० एम० श्रीदेवी) : (क)

अपेक्षित सुचना देने वाले विवरण सलग्न हैं।

(ख) नहीं, जी।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उत्तर।

विवरण

नीबहन कम्पनी का नाम

सेवा का नाम

सेवा के अन्तर्गत आने वाले देश

1. शिपिंग कारपोरेशन आर्ट इंडिया लि०

(i) इंडिया/ईस्ट कीनया / तंजानिया/ अफ़्रीका मोरिशस / सिल्वीज

(ii) डिया/वैस्ट ओमन / यू० ए० ई०/ एशिया (गल्क) कुवैत / बहराइन/ कतार

(iii) मद्रास/मलेशिया / मलेशिया / सिंगापुर सिंगापुर

(iv) ईंडिया/श्री लंका/ श्री लंका। (रामेश्वरम/तालाबमन्नर)

बोबहन कम्पनी का नाम	सेवा का नाम	सेवा के अन्तर्गत द्वारा देश
2 मुगल लाइन लि०	(i) पिलपिम / प्रेसेन्जर मॉविस (हज मौसम में) (ii) बैस्ट एशिया ग्रोवन / यू० ए० ई०/ गल्फ सेवा कनार / बहराइन/ सऊदी अरब/कुवैत (iii) बर्मा रिपैट्रि- ग्रेट सेवा (जब और जैसे आव- श्यकता हो)	सऊदी अरब
3 दामोदर बल्क कैरियर लि० (भाटकित जहाज द्वारा)	बबर्इ / बैस्ट मसकट/दुबाई/बहराइन/ एशिया (गल्फ) कुवैत / दोहा	

मालवाही और यात्री जहाजों की संख्या

1456. श्री दुक्कम चन्द कल्पवाय : क्या नीबहन और परिबहन मर्दी यह बताने की कृपा करें कि

(क) इस समय कितने मालवाही और यात्री जहाज कार्यरत हैं,

(ख) क्या भारतीय नीबहन नियम तथा सरकार ने अन्य देशों से मालवाही एवं यात्री जहाज किराये पर लिये हैं, और

(ग) यदि हा, तो ये किन-किन देशों से लिए गये हैं, कितने जहाज लिए गए हैं और कितने शर्तों पर लिए गए हैं?

नीबहन और परिबहन मवालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एच० एम० श्रीडेवी) : (क) 31-12-75 को भारतीय बेडे में यात्री माल जहाजों की संख्या निम्नलिखित है —

माल जहाज 314

यात्री जहाज 16.

(ख) और (ग) सरकार जहाज भाटकित नहीं करती। जहाज शिपिंग कम्पनियों द्वारा भाटकित किए जाते हैं। शिपिंग कारपोरेशन अफ इंडिया के पास इस समय तीन विदेशी जहाज भाटकित हैं, जिनका विवरण निम्नलिखित है —

क्रम संख्या	जहाज का नाम	देश	भाड़े में शर्तें
1 एम० बी० नेपून	यूनान	4-6-75 से 225 दिन की अवधि के लिए 1850 अमेरिकी डालर प्रतिदिन की दर से ।	

क्रम संख्या	जहाज का नाम	देश	भाड़े की राहे
2. एम० बी० फ्लूटे		पानामा .	144629 व० फु० की होंड क्षमता के लिए ० ५१ अमेरिकन डालर प्रति व० फु० प्रति माह की दर से १३-१२-७५ से लगभग ५ महीने
3. एम० बी० जूपिटर		यूनान .	समयोपर सहित २००० अमेरिकन डालर प्रात- दिन की दर से १४-९-७५ से १७५ दिनों की अवधि के लिए । ओवरेज प्रीमियम के तौर पर ५००० डालर के एक मुख्य के अलावा ।

दिल्ली में दुर्घटनाएं

1457. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय क्या
नीबहन और परिबहन मत्री यह बताने
की कृपा करेंगे कि ।

(क) दिल्ली में वर्ष १९७५ में
सड़क दुर्घटनाओं में किनसे व्यक्तियों की
मृत्यु हुई ।

(ख) कितने मामलों में सरकार ने
कानूनी कार्यवाही की, और

(ग) सरकार ने उत्तरोक्त वर्ष में
इन दुर्घटनाओं को प्रभावशाली ढग से
रोकने की दृष्टि से कौन-कौन से कदम
उठाये ?

2297 LS.—4.

नीबहन और परिबहन मंत्रालय में
उपमंत्री (श्री दलबीर सिंह) (क)
६५७ व्यक्ति ।

(ब) अपराधियों के विरुद्ध ६५७
मामले दर्ज किए गए ।

(ग) दिल्ली प्रशासन ने बताया है
कि इन दुर्घटनाओं को इमारी ढग से रोकने
के लिए उन्होंने निम्नलिखित उपाय किए
हैं —

(i) सड़कों को चोड़ा करना, सड़क
चौराहों में सुधार पैदल-पथों और
साईकल पथों की व्यवस्था,
ऊपर नामों और अधोगामी रास्तों
का निर्देश और पद यात्रियों के
कई परियोजनाएं शुरू की गई ।

की जा रही है, ताकि यातायात भीड़ को कम किया जा सके और यातायात के प्रवाह में रुकावट न आ सके।

(ii) गाड़ी खड़ा करने के स्थानों के विकास के प्रस्ताव भी विचाराधीन है।

(iii) मरी बर्बों के सड़क प्रयोक्ताओं के लाभ के लिए दिल्ली यातायात पुलिस द्वारा सड़क सुरक्षा शिक्षा का प्रचार किया जा रहा है। यातायात पुलिस ने बहुत से स्कूलों में सड़क सुरक्षा शाखाओं का आयोजन किया है, जिन में केडटों को प्रारम्भिक यातायात नियन्त्रण तथा विभिन्न सड़क सुरक्षा नियमों के अनुपालन में प्रशिक्षित किया जाता है और यातायात अधिकारियों द्वारा छात्रों, शिक्षकों, गाड़ी चालकों आगे अन्य सड़क प्रयोक्ताओं को ध्यान्यान दिए जाने हैं, ताकि उनमें सड़क सुरक्षा की भावना भरी जा सके। इसके अनिवार्य, सड़क सुरक्षा अनुदेशों का जन मनोधिक यन्त्रों के जरिए प्रसार किया जाता है। सड़क सुरक्षा का प्रचार विज्ञापन पटलों, मिनेमा चित्रों, इश्तहार और छोटी-छोटी पुस्तकों प्रादि के वितरण द्वारा किया जाता है।

(iv) दिल्ली प्रशासन, दिल्ली ने एक विशेष सड़क सुरक्षा शिक्षा और प्रचार सेल की स्वीकृति दे दी है।

(v) यातायात पुलिस अधिकारी अपने अपने क्षेत्र में नियन्त्रण गति लाते रहते हैं और यातायात के मुगम

सुप्रवाह को सुनिश्चित करने के लिए विशेष लाये भी भारत हैं, और सहक अपराधियों को छोड़ देते हैं।

(vi) यातायात परिस्थितियों में सुधार के लिए विभिन्न प्रस्तावों पर विचार-विमर्श करने हेतु एक यातायात सलाहकार भार्तिका गठन किया गया है, जिसमें उपायूक्त अध्यक्ष हैं और यातायात पुलिस, दिल्ली नगर निगम, नई दिल्ली नगर पालिका, सार्वजनिक नियंत्रण विभाग दिल्ली विकास अधिकरण और अन्य सम्बन्धित संस्थाओं के प्रति-निधि सदस्य हैं।

Setting up of a Dredger Corporation

1458 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA WILL THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT BE PLEASED TO STATE

(a) whether the Dredger Corporation of India has been set up,

(b) the number of modern dredging vessels of different capacities at its disposal,

(c) whether it is proposed to hand over all dredging work at the major Indian ports to this Corporation; and

(d) if so, how the Corporation will acquire the expertise to deal with the unique dredging problems and peculiar characteristics of the River Hooghly?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI)

(a) It has been decided to set up a public sector undertaking to be named "Dredging Corporation of India Limited". Further follow-up action is being processed

(b) The Corporation, when set up, will to start with, have six dredgers at its disposal. Two more dredgers are on order.

(c) The main functions of the Corporation in the field of dredging will be as follows:

- (i) to take over the present fleet and associated equipment from the Central Dredging Organisation of the Ministry of Shipping and Transport and run them on commercial lines, so as to meet the capital dredging requirements in the country to the extent possible;
- (ii) to assist the Major Ports and minor Ports, whenever necessary, in meeting the maintenance dredging requirements and for this purpose, take over and/or manage the ports' own dredger fleet on such terms and conditions, as may be decided upon;
- (iii) to plan and execute integrated dredging assignments in accordance with the plan programmes for development of ports.

It would be seen from the above that it is not proposed to hand over maintenance dredging work at the Indian ports to the Corporation unless so necessitated by specific requirements of a port.

(d) There is no proposal at present to hand over the maintenance dredging requirements of Calcutta or Haldia to the proposed Corporation.

दिवंगत श्री मालत लाल चतुर्वेदी की समति में स्पारक डाक टिकट

1459 श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की हृषा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या अनेक व्यक्तियों एवं मंगठों ने सरकार से प्रसिद्ध साहित्यकार

दिवंगत श्री मालतलाल चतुर्वेदी की समति में स्पारक डाक टिकट जारी करने के लिए अनुरोध किया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

संचार मंत्री (डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा) :

(क) और (ख). माननीय सदस्य से यह यक्षाव 1970 में प्राप्त हुआ था, जिसे 19-10-70 को फिलैटली सलाहकार समिति के समक्ष रखा गया था। परन्तु समिति ने इसकी सिफारिश नहीं की थी। तथापि, इस प्रस्ताव पर फिर से विचार किया जा रहा है।

मध्य प्रदेश में सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्र

1460 श्री गंगा चरण दीक्षित : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की हृषा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में वर्ष 1975 में कितने सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्र खोले गये ;

(ख) क्या अनेक खंड मुख्यालय में एक-एक सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन केन्द्र है ?

संचार मंत्री (डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा) : (क) 38।

(ख) जी नहीं। 457 खण्ड मुख्यालयों में से 307 में पी० सी० औ० की व्यवस्था कर दी गई है। 75 और खंड मुख्यालयों में पी० सी० औ० खोलने की व्यवस्था दे दी गई है।

मध्य प्रदेश में टेलीफोन के लिये कानूनात्मक लिये पंजीकरण

1461 थी संचार वर्ष विभिन्नत : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की उपा करेगे कि

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में कितने आवेदको ने टेलीफोन के लिए कनेक्शन के लिए विसम्बर, 1975 तक विभाग में अपने नाम दर्ज कराए हैं, और

(ख) उन्हे नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन कद तक दिये जायेगे ?

संचार मंत्री (डा० शंकर दशल शर्मा) .

(क) और (ख). मध्य प्रदेश में विसम्बर 1975 तक अनिर्णीत पड़ी अर्जियों की संख्या इस प्रकार है —

थो० बाई० टी० गैर-थो० बाई० टी०

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एक्सचेज-कामता लाइन के साज-सामान और जमीदोज बेबुलों की कमी के कारण नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देने में विसम्ब हुआ है। उपलब्ध सीमित साधनों के अन्तर्गत टेलीफोन प्रणालियों का विस्तार करने के लिए लगातार प्रयास किए जा रहे हैं ताकि जहां तक सभव हो अधिक से अधिक बकाया माम प्रधानीय पूरी की जा सके। अगले तीन महीनों के भीतर लगभग 1800 नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दे दिए जाने की समावना है। एक्सचेज-कामता उपलब्ध होने पर ऐष आवेदकों को भी उत्तरोत्तर टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दे दिए जाएंगे।

Distribution of H.S.L. Fertilizers

1462 SHRI MADHORAM SHASTRI Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether any norms and qualifications were laid down by Hindustan Steel Limited, Calcutta, for appointing distributors for distribution of fertilizers, and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) and (b) The policy of Hindustan Steel Limited is to distribute their fertilizers through wholesale dealers which include Cooperatives, State Agro-industries Corporations and private parties having sound financial standing and adequate experience

H.S.L. Produced Fertilizers

1463 SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the total quantity of fertilizers produced by Hindustan Steel Ltd in 1975,

(b) the quantity sold through large business houses in preference to the educated unemployed, disabled army personnel or dependents of soldiers, and

(c) the reasons for selling the products of Hindustan Steel Limited, through Private Sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) The total quantity of fertilizers produced by Hindustan Steel Limited in 1975 was 3,46,900 tonnes

(b) and (c) The fertilizers are distributed through a number of agencies

including co-operatives, State marketing agencies and private parties having adequate financial standing and the requisite capacity to handle the distributorship effectively. No preference is being given to large business houses.

Rationalisation of Ports Charges

Q464. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has advised the Chiefs of major ports of India to balance their budgets and ensure that these ports function not as a utility service but on commercial lines; and

(b) if so, what will be the implications of this approach in terms of rationalisation of rates of various port charges and reduction in administrative expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) and (b): During the year 1975-76 the finances of major ports were comprehensively reviewed. This was necessitated by the increased liability on ports due to rise in establishment costs and substantial increases in debt charges, dredging costs and general increase in the cost of materials and operations. The rate structure has also been rationalised while tapping resources for additional revenue and taking the following into account —

(i) A relationship has been sought to be established between the costs of services (or facilities) and charges levied thereon.

(ii) Ports should have enough revenue for money to be set apart provision of some funds for development, replacement, rehabilitation and modernisation of assets.

(iii) Port Trust Boards while making the final recommendations had to take into account

the repercussions that any drastic changes in the existing pattern are likely to have on our overseas trade in general and the trade handled in the port, in particular.

Ports have also been asked to exercise stricter control on expenditure through management accounting and control methods and operate as service organisations with commercial efficiency.

Provident Fund Outstanding Against Sick Textile Units

1465. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount of provident fund arrears at the time of nationalisation of sick textile units;

(b) what are the latest available figures regarding these arrears; and

(c) when these arrears will be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): The Provident Fund authorities have reported as under:—

(a) and (b): A sum of Rs. 741.56 and Rs. 27.83 lakhs was due from the nationalised sick textile mills as on 31st October, 1975, for the pre-nationalisation and post-nationalisation period respectively.

(c) Every possible effort is being made to see that the dues are recovered as early as possible. As on 31st October, 1975, recovery certificates have been issued under Section 8 of the Employees Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 in 68 cases. Prosecutions under Section 14 of the Act have been initiated in 34 cases.

पटना से दोहरीबाट तक जल परिवहन सेवा
आरम्भ किया जावा

1466. श्री अंगिका प्रसाद :
क्या नीबहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या पटना से दोहरीबाट के बीच आरम्भ की जाने वाली जल परिवहन सेवा इस बीच आरम्भ हो गई है ?

नीबहन और परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एच० एच० त्रिवेदी) :
जी, नहीं।

Improvement of Public Transport in Delhi

1467. SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR : Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any concrete steps to improve and strengthen the Public Transport system in both old and new Delhi during the years 1974 and 1975;

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof; and

(c) whether the improvements, if any, have led to some efficiency and order in the public transport net work in Delhi and if so, whether the said improvements will be continued in Delhi?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) :

(a) Yes.

(b) The major steps taken to improve the D.T.C. services in the city are:

(i) Augmentation of services and re-structuring of routes under a new design system;

(ii) Construction of new depots to improve the maintenance of the fleet;

(iii) Operation of mini services under self employment scheme for the un-employed graduates;

(iv) Introduction of night services;

(v) Introduction of flat fare system;

(vi) Eradication of air pollution by taking measures to minimise buses emitting excessive smoke;

(vii) Enforcement of queue system at the important bus stops with the help of N.C.C., Police personnel and Volunteers of Youth Congress.

(viii) Plugging of leakage of revenue by intensifying checking system.

(ix) In order to contribute towards Government's concrete steps to improve and strengthen public Transport system in New Delhi, NDMC had introduced 20 city type buses (10 buses in year 1974-75 and 10 buses in year 1975-76) under DTC operational control.

(c) Yes.

पटना में टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों के लिए लम्बित आवेदन पत्र

1468. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पटना में टेलीफोन के लिए बहुत से टेलीफोन उपभोक्ताओं के आवेदन-पत्र लम्बित हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितने तथा कितने समय से; और

(ग) उन्हें टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दिये जाने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं?

संचार बंदी (डा० शंकर दत्ताल शर्मा) : 1-1-1976 को नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शनों के लिए अर्जियोंको श्रेणीबाट संख्या इस प्रकार है-

एकमवेत का नाम	प्रतीक्षा सूची
	ओ० वाई० टी० गैर ओ०वाई० टी०
(1) पटवा (मुख्य)	167 986
(2) गजेंद्र नगर	कुछ नहीं 593
(3) पटना सिटी	कुछ नहीं 102
(4) दानापुर	कुछ नहीं 73

नये टेलीफोन कनेक्शन के लिए सबसे प्रारंभी अर्जी पटना मूल्य एकमवेत में तारीख 3-6-72 में विचारात्रीन है।

(ग) एकमवेत-भ्रमना पर्याप्त न होने के कारण नए टेलीफोन कनेक्शन देने में विलम्ब हुआ था। यह भ्रमना बढ़ाई जा रही है। आशा है कि ओ० वाई० टी० श्रेणी में बकाया अर्जियों पर मार्च, 1976 के अन्त तक और गैर-ओ० वाई० टी० श्रेणी में मौजूदा अर्जियों पर 1976 के अन्त तक टेलीफोन कनेक्शन दे दिए जाएंगे।

(ब) यदि हाँ तो भरतार ने ग्राम्यों की मिकारिशों को पूरी तरह लागू किया जाना सुनिश्चित कराने के लिए क्या कार्बंवादी की है?

अम बंदी (श्री रघुनाथ रेड्डी) :
(क) और (घ). यह मामला राज्य के कार्यस्थल में आगा है। दिसम्बर, 1974 में बिहार सरकार से प्राप्त हुए एक पत्र में यह सूचित किया गया था कि बिहार जनन्म, पटना (सर्वलाइट और प्रदीप) ने श्रमवीक्षी पत्र तारों मध्यवी मध्यवी बोर्ड की मिकारिशों को कार्यनिवारण कर दिया था।

सर्वलाइट तथा प्रदीप समाचार पत्रों का प्रकाशन

1459. श्री रामबत्तार शास्त्री : क्या अम बंदी यह बताने की रुपां करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या 'सर्वलाइट' तथा 'प्रदीप' इन समाचार पत्रों के अम जीवी पत्रकारों तथा कमेंटरियों को पत्रकार मजूरी बोर्ड की सिफारिशों के अनुसार सुविधाएं प्रदान नहीं की रही हैं; और

चौथा द्वारा भारत विरोधी प्रचार

1470 श्री रामबत्तार शास्त्री : क्या विवेश मंत्री यह बताने की रुपां करेंगे कि

(क) क्या माध्योवादी चीन ने विछले कुछ महीनों में भारत विरोधी प्रचार तेज कर दिया है।

(ब) यदि हाँ, तो प्रचार का स्वरूप क्या है; और

(ग) अनर्गत प्रचार का प्रतिकार करने के लिए सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है?

विवेद मंत्रालय में उद्योगी (विधिविधान वाल) : (क) और (ख). अब हाल तक, चीन निरन्तर 'भारत-विगोद्धी प्रचार' करता रहा है। चीन के भारत-विगोद्धी प्रचार में शामिल है—भारत का सोवियत प्रभाव पड़ोसियों पर मारत के तथा कथिन 'विरामवादी' ममते वा ग्राहीय और मिक्रिम की शृणनीयों तथा आगात स्थिति की घोषणा की आलोचना करके हमारे आतंरिक मामलों में दखन। लेकिन पिछले महीने या उसके अग्रिम साल भारत-विगोद्धी प्रचार में कोई झूँझि नहीं मानूम हुई।

(ग) मरकार ठीक तथ्यों का गोरव पूर्ण तथा संयोगित ढंग से प्रस्तुत करके चीनी प्रचार का प्रत्यक्तर देखे की निरन्तर कोशिश करती है।

Reservation of Vacancies for Ex-Apprentices

1471 SHRI S M BANERJEE
SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Central Apprenticeship Council has made a proposal to the Government of India to make it obligatory for the industrial units to keep 50 per cent of the vacancies reserved for the ex-apprentices; and

(b) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b) No. The Central Apprenticeship Council at its meeting held on 31st July, 1975 considered the question but the consensus was not in favour of a statutory reservation of vacancies.

Accidents in Coalmines in First Shift

1472 SHRI N K SANGHI,

SHRI R. S. PANDEY.

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a study which reveals that 50 per cent of fatal coalmines accidents have occurred in the first shift in the past,

(b) if so, whether Government have tried to find out the factors that contribute to such occurrences mainly in the first shift, and

(c) the remedial measures now being proposed to check such disasters?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) (a) and (b) One of the findings of the study made by the Chief Inspector of Mines in India of accidents due to fall of roof and sides for the years 1973-74 is as follows—

"50 per cent fatal accidents occur in the first shift when concentration of inspection by higher officials is predominant. Naturally, responsibility for ensuring safe working place is given the least attention on the plea that the responsibility can be divided amongst a number of officials if any accident takes place."

(c) Several comprehensive suggestions have been made in the aforesaid Study. All Managing Directors and Senior officers of management have been addressed on the subject drawing their attention to the findings of the Study and Recommendations have been made for stricter compliance of the safety statute.

Elimination of Multi-Point Octroi Duty

1473. SHRI M. K. SANGHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state?

(a) whether Government have considered the desirability of eliminating multi-point octroi duty collections spread over the different States and introducing a single point central taxation with a view to providing unhindered road transport from one State to another; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b) The question of eliminating multi-point octroi duty collections spread over the different States by a single point taxation is under consideration. Meanwhile all the State Governments/Union Territories have also been requested to consider the possibility of adopting a unified checkposts system in their territory with modifications if any, to suit local conditions.

Ticketless Travel in D.T.C.

1474 SHRI N K SANGHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the Delhi Transport Corporation has initiated a drive against ticketless travel and bringing to book the conductors who cheated the corporation;

(b) if so, the outcome of the above move; and

(c) whether steps have also been taken to improve punctuality and frequency of the DTC buses?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The intensive checking drive launched by the Corporation for the last several months has considerably reduced the leakage of revenue by ticketless travel in the buses and is considered to be one of the factors which have contributed to increase in the earnings of the Corporation. It is, however, not possible to make an assessment of the exact impact of the drive in terms of revenue increase.

(c) Restructuring of routing system, strengthening of maintenance system and augmenting of the bus fleet are some of the major steps which have improved the punctuality and frequency of services.

Direct Telephone Connections from Gorakhpur to Lucknow or Delhi

1475 SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that Gorakhpur has no direct telephones with Lucknow or Delhi, and

(b) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) (a) Gorakhpur has direct telephone connections with both Lucknow and Delhi.

(b) Does not arise

Functioning of Telephone Exchanges of Dharendra (Anand Nagar), Nantnawala, Siswa, Barahalganj

1476. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that Telephone Exchanges of Dharendra (Anand Nagar), Nantnawala, Siswa, Barahalganj do not work properly with the result that consumers do not get trunk-calls; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to ameliorate the present situation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b). Working of Telephone Exchanges of Dharenda (Anand Nagar), Nantanawa, Siswa, Barahalganj was earlier affected adversely by frequent and prolonged power cuts. Since Emergency, electric supply position has improved and the exchanges are now working satisfactorily.

Trunk traffic from these SAXs was hampered by thefts of copper wire. The incidences of theft have come down since Emergency and this has resulted in increase in the percentage of effective trunk calls.

Special arrangements have been made for checking the exchanges daily by Fault Control Operators at Gorakhpur, who ring various numbers of different exchanges regularly. Immediate action is taken to rectify the faults noticed.

New Post, Telegraph and public Call Offices in West Bengal

1477. SHRI TUNA ORAON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state.

(a) the names of places where the post offices, public call's offices and telegraph offices were opened in 1974-1975 in West Bengal; and

(b) the names of places in West Bengal where such offices are proposed to be opened during 1975-76?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b). The information is placed on the table of the Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10278/76]

All India Young Women's Convention

1478. SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALLI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the demand made from the platform of All India Young Women's Convention held at Trivandrum in October, 1975 for 25 per cent reservation of jobs for women in all sectors of industries, educational institutions and all other service institutions; and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) No such recommendation/resolution has been received by the Government

(b) Does not arise.

Cost-benefit potential of road mileage vis-a-vis Railway Mileage

1479. SHRI P GANGADEB Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) what is the cost-benefit potential of the road mileage vis-a-vis the railway mileage which have been completed during the last three years in the State of Orissa; and

(b) the steps taken by Government to assist Orissa in respect of financial assistance to streamline the existing roadways during the Fifth Plan period?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) During the last three years construction of the rail link between Cuttack and Paradip, a distance of 84.31 kilo metres only has been completed in Orissa State at a cost of Rs. 10.85 crores. The return on the investment is 10.43 per cent (by the conventional methods). The details of road mileage completed in Orissa during the last three years and the cost benefit potential thereof is yet

to be received from the Government of Orissa. They will be furnished on receipt.

(b) Presumably, the Member is referring to the Orissa State Road Transport Corporation. This Corporation was incorporated in May, 1974. The Central Government (Railways) paid Rs. 53.52 lakhs to the Corporation during 1974-75 and 1975-76. The State Government have asked for Rs. 100 lakhs to be provided during 1976-77. A provision of Rs. 100 lakhs has been made for this Corporation in the Railway budget for 1976-77.

Sale of Marine Training ship 'Dufferin'

1480. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to sell marine training ship 'Dufferin' as scrap;

(b) whether the scheme sponsored by three associations of merchant marines to convert the ship into a museum was considered; and

(c) if so, the decision taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI)
(a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of the high capital expenditure (more than Rs. 3 crores) involved in the Project of beaching the ship and converting it into a Maritime Museum, the institutions were not able to proceed with the scheme and Government then decided to scrap T. S. 'Dufferin'.

Demand made by President of Medical Council of India regarding opening of additional Medical Colleges

1481. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken note of the demand made by the

President of the Medical Council of India that there should not be any further addition to the medical colleges for the present; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) The president of the Medical Council of India stated at the meeting of the Indian Medical Association at Bareilly in December, 1975, that there should be no further increase in the number of medical colleges in the country.

(b) The Government is also of the opinion that there should not be any increase in the number of medical colleges in the country and that at present the emphasis should be on consolidation rather than expansion of the Medical Education Programme.

Formation of separate Councils for Ayurvedas, Unani and Homoeopathy

1482. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to form separate councils for Ayurveda, Unani and Homoeopathy; and

(b) if so, whether these councils will ensure at least a modicum of uniformity and professional standards in the practitioners of these systems?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) There was a proposal under consideration to constitute six Central Councils one each for Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani, Yoga, Naturopathy and Homoeopathy; but on reconsideration it is proposed to set up six Boards, one each for the systems mentioned above.

(b) The modicum of uniformity and professional standards in the practitioners of Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani

systems is taken care of by the Central Council of Indian Medicine and that in the field of Homoeopathy by the Central Council of Homoeopathy.

Development of Roads in Tribal Areas

1483. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have proposed the plan and priority for the development of roads in the tribal areas;

(b) if so, whether the money earmarked for the same is in addition to the minimum needs programmes; and

(c) the amount proposed for the State of Orissa for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c). Roads have been assigned a position of priority in the scheme of development of tribal areas in the 5th Five Year Plan. But roads required to be taken up in tribal areas are normally intended to be developed by the States concerned as part of the State Plan Schemes like the Minimum Needs Programmes and other allied programmes. The draft Fifth Plan, however, does include a provision of Rs. 200 crores for Central assistance for development of tribal areas in the States which is in addition to the provisions available in State Plan Schemes like the Minimum Needs Programmes. The distribution of this amount of Rs. 200 crores is, however, to be made according to certain set criteria and norms like aiding marketing facilities, creating machinery for liberal credit facilities, etc. On this basis an amount of Rs. 86 lakhs and 292 lakhs has been allocated for the year 1974-75 and 1975-76 respectively to the Government of Orissa for taking up the following schemes:—

(1) Preparation of projects and initiation of necessary socio-economic surveys.

- (2) Re-organisation and strengthening of administrative structure.
- (3) Preparation of land records.
- (4) Setting up or strengthening credit-cum-marketing structure.
- (5) Debt-redemption schemes.
- (6) Preliminary works on plantation schemes.
- (7) Execution of minor irrigation schemes.

The sub-plan of Orissa for tribal development projects has not so far been finalised.

Manufacture of Stainless and Surgical Steel

1484. SHRI SHANKARRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to manufacture (i) stainless steel and (ii) surgical steel; and

(b) the salient features of achievements in this sphere so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) and (b): Stainless steel is presently manufactured in the country by the Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur, the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd., Bhadravati, and M/s. Mahindra Ugine Steel Co., Ltd., Bombay. The Alloy Steels Plant, Durgapur produce stainless steel in the form of flat as well as non-flat products, whereas the other two manufacturers are exclusively engaged in the production of non-flat products. A few other units are also licensed for the production of Cold Rolled Stainless Strips, based on imported hot rolled strips.

The total production of stainless and heat resistant steel, including surgical

steel, during the last three years has been as follows—

	(in tonnes)
1972-73	3,942
1973-74	6,898
1974-75	8,527

The actual production during April-September, 1975 was 4,783 tonnes and it is estimated that the total production during the current year may be about 9,500 tonnes. Separate data on the production of surgical steel are not available.

In order to bridge the gap between requirement and availability of stainless steel, a capacity of 70,000 tonnes of sheets/strips is being created at the Salem Steel Ltd., The unit is likely to be commissioned in the Sixth Plan period. With the commissioning of this unit and the expansion of Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd., and Mahindra Ugine Steel Co., the demand in respect of stainless steel within the country is likely to be met in full in most of the categories.

S.T.D. Services to State Capitals

1485. SHRI SHANKARRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) when all the State capitals will be joined to Delhi by S.T.D. service; and

(b) the names of State capitals which have been joined to Delhi by S.T.D. Service at present?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) It has been decided to connect progressively all State Capitals to Delhi by STD.

(b) The following State Capitals are connected to Delhi on STD at present:—

Capital	State
(1) Bombay	Maharashtra.
(2) Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh.
(3) Chandigarh	Punjab, Haryana & Union Territory of Chandigarh
(4) Jaipur	Rajasthan.
(5) Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh.
(6) Madras	Tamil Nadu.
(7) Patna	Bihar
(8) Simla	Himachal Pradesh.
(9) Srinagar	Jammu & Kashmir.

Loans and Subsidies to Bangladesh

1486. SHRI SHANKARRAO SAVANT: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the loans and subsidies given to Bangladesh so far during last three years and on what terms, and

(b) whether repayment has started in respect of any of these loans?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): (a) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10279/76.]

(b) Repayment has started in respect of only one loan, viz Rs. 8.1 crores credit granted in 1972 for the supply of 5,00,000 tons of crude oil.

Deaths due to Small-Pox

1487 SHRI SHANKERRAO SAVANT Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state how many cases and deaths occurred in India on account of small pox during 1973-74 and 1974-75 and till end of December, 1975?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A K M ISHAQUE) The required information is as follows

Year	Cases	Deaths
1973-74	1,09,060	17,354
1974-75	1,45,638	25,097
1974-75 (April and May 1975 only as the last case occurred on 24-5- 1975)	130	17

Inclusion of Ferry Service in Kerala under Centrally Sponsored Schemes

1488 SHRI C JANARDHANAN Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether Kerala Government have requested the Union Government to provide necessary additional funds for its "Augmentation of Ferry Service" Scheme by including this scheme under the centrally sponsored schemes in the Fifth Five Year Plan, and

(b) if so, Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H M TRIVEDI). (a) and (b) Yes Sir

The Government of Kerala has submitted a new scheme for being executed under the Fifth Plan for augmentation of ferry services in which it

is proposed to acquire 20 modernised boats for introducing services on some ten routes

As the above scheme was not originally included in the list of the Centrally Sponsored Schemes of the Draft Fifth Plan the State Government has been advised to indicate whether it will be possible to accommodate the cost of the new scheme within the cost of the schemes already included in the Fifth Plan. Currently as a policy decision only spill over schemes of the Fourth Plan are being executed and the new schemes included in the Draft Fifth Plan will be taken up if the resources position permits the same

Implementation of National Highways Programme in Kerala

1489 SHRI C JANARDHANAN Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether the progress in the implementation of the National Highways Programme in Kerala has slowed down due to the inadequacy of funds allocated by the Union Government and

(b) if so whether Government propose to allot additional funds during the current year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) With the comparative smaller allocations resulting from the current financial stringency, the progress in the implementation of the programme for the development of National Highways in almost all the States, including Kerala has no doubt slowed down to some extent though there is no specific report to this effect from the Kerala Government

(b) The original allocation of Rs 180.00 lakhs for development of National Highways in Kerala in 1975-76 has since been enhanced to Rs 190.00 lakhs

Telex Exchange Centres in Kerala

1490. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the cities and towns of Kerala which have telex exchange centres therein;

(b) whether more such centres are proposed to be opened in Kerala during the Fifth Five Year Plan period; and

(c) if so, the main features of the proposal?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) In Kerala, Telex Exchanges are working at five places viz. Alleppy, Calicut, Cochin (Ernakulam), Quilon and Trivandrum.

(b) and (c). During the Fifth Plan period, 50 line Telex Exchanges are proposed to be opened at Cannanore and Kottayam in 1976 and 1977-78 respectively.

Employment provided during Emergency

1491. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment exchanges in Delhi and other parts of the country has provided employment to various categories of unemployed persons during emergency;

(b) if so, the figures thereof;

(c) what is the ratio of employment provided during July to December, 1974; and

(d) what are total number of persons registered during July to December 1975 and how many of them have been employed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY): (a) and (b). The latest available information relates to the period ended 30th November, 1975. During 1st July to 30th November, 1975, 1.82 lakh job-seekers were placed in employment by

the Employment Exchanges in the country.

(c) The number of persons placed in employment by the Employment Exchanges during the corresponding period 1st July to 30th November, 1974 was 1.51 lakhs.

(d) Available information relates to the period 1st July to 30th November, 1975 which was as follows

Registered—25.34 lakhs.

Placed in employment.—1.82 lakhs.

This figure includes those registered earlier also. Separate information about the persons placed in employment out of those registered during this period is not available.

Increase in Employment in Organised Sector

1492. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether employment in the organised sector during 1961-73 increased from 120.9 lakhs to 188.2 lakhs at the rate of 3.8 per cent per year which is higher than the growth rate of population in the country according to February, 1975 issue of the Reserve Bank of India Bulletin, and

(b) if so, whether the growth rate for the private sector was only 2.7 per cent per year?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Construction of Roads in Backward Regions

1493. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING and TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether some criteria is laid down to provide funds or financial assistance for construction of roads in economically backward regions or Dis-

trict to bring them at par with target fixed or evaluated by the latest Road Congress, and

(b) if so, what are those and if not what is the other way to disburse it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) (a) and (b) Presumably, the Member is having in mind the 36th Annual Session of the Indian Roads Congress held at Hyderabad from the 3rd to 9th January, 1976. The Congress is a private body registered under the Societies Registration Act No XXI of 1860 and matters discussed by it at its Annual Sessions are considered by its Executive Committee and specific recommendations made to the Central and State Governments concerned wherever necessary. It is understood from the Indian Roads Congress Secretariat that their Executive Committee has yet to consider the various matters discussed at the 36th Annual Session of the Congress. The Government of India have therefore not yet received any communication from the Indian Roads Congress Secretariat regarding targets if any fixed or evaluated for road development at the aforesaid Session. In view of this, the question of examining the various issues raised by the Member does not arise.

Employment where none in Family is in service

1494 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state whether Government propose to issue directions to the Public Sector Private Sector and other employment agencies to fix priority in giving jobs to those candidates in whose family no body is in employment after obtaining an affidavit alongwith application in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI RAGHUNATHA REDDY) There is no such proposal at present.

G.S.I. Survey in Malabar Area

1495 SHRI C K CHANDRAPPAN Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the survey conducted by the Geological Survey of India in Kerala especially in Malabar area, to find out the deposits of iron ore, mercury etc has been completed;

(b) if so results of the survey so far made, and

(c) whether Government are proposing to set up any new industry based on these natural resources?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDWV PRASAD). (a) and (b) The Geological Survey of India has conducted already several surveys in different parts of Kerala, including the Malabar area and more such surveys are continuing. As a result of the work done so far, reserves of iron ore in Malabar area have been estimated at 80 million tonnes with an average iron ore content of about 35 per cent. Investigations for mercury have been conducted in Badagara but the results obtained are not promising. Besides a number other minerals like bauxite in Cannanore and Flux Grade limestone in Palghat have also been estimated.

(c) It is understood that the Govt of Kerala inter alia, propose to establish capacity for manufacture of Portland cement refractories etc.

New Telephone connection for Delhi

1496 SHRI P GANGADEB Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the total number of telephone connections that will be available for Delhi under the new expansion programme.

(b) the number of new connections and new exchanges which will be given and installed during the next twelve months; and

(c) the efforts which are being made to meet the total demand by the public?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b). During the next 12 months about 15,000 to 20,000 additional telephone connections would be made available in Delhi under the current expansion programme. These will be given from existing exchanges, on their expansion, and from the following new exchanges:—

Idgah II—10,000 lines capacity.

Janakpuri MAX II—400 lines capacity.

Hauz khas—2500 lines capacity.

Shaktinagar—1200 lines capacity.

Badli MAX II—200 lines capacity.

Janpath II—3000 lines capacity.

(c) Constant efforts are being made to instal more exchanges and expand the capacity of the existing ones, subject to availability of resources, so as to meet the growing demands.

Upgradation of ophthalmology Department of Medical College Darbhanga Bihar

1497. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state whether there is any proposal for

upgradation of ophthalmology department of D.M. College Darbhanga (Bihar) as a part of the National Plan for the prevention of Blindness; if so, facts thereabout and Government's reaction therein?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER FOR HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): No such proposal is under consideration of Government.

केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य सेवा योजना के अन्तर्गत डाक्टरों के पद और वेतनमान

1498. श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने की कृता वरेगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य सेवा योजना के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न प्रेडों में डाक्टरों के कितने पद हैं;

(ख) उनके वेतनमान क्या है; और

(ग) पदोन्नति के मानदण्ड क्या है?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री ए० के० एम इसहाक) :

(क) और (ख). केन्द्रीय सरकार स्वास्थ्य योजना के अन्तर्गत विभिन्न प्रेडों में डाक्टरों के पदों की संख्या और उनके वेतनमान इस प्रकार हैं—

पद नाम	पदों की संख्या	वेतनमान (संशोधन पूर्व)
1	2	3
I. एकार्यवाक्य		
1. के० स्वा० से० का सुपर टाइम प्रेड—I	3	रु० 1800-100-2000-125- 2250

	1	2	3
2. केंस्वांसे का सुपर टाइम घेड-II	7	रु 1300-60-1600-100-1800	
3. विशेषज्ञ घेड	49	रु 600-40-1000-रु 50-1300	
4. जी० डी० श्र० घेड-I	228	रु 450-30-660-रु 40-1100-50-1250	
5. जी० डी० श्र० घेड-II	521	रु 350-25-500-30-590-रु 30-30-830-35-900	
II. एक्ट चिकित्सा		(संशोधित)	
1. स्टाफ सर्जन (इन्टर)	2	रु 1300-50-1700	
2. जूनियर स्टाफ सर्जन (इन्टर)	2	रु 900-40-1100-रु 50-1400	
3. इन्टर सर्जन	12	रु 650-30-740-35-810-रु 35-880-40-1000-रु 40-40-1200	
III. स्वदेशी चिकित्सा पद्धति		(मशोधित)	
1. आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सक	22	रु 650-30-740-35-810-रु 35-880-40-1000-रु 40-40-1200	
2. होम्योपैथी चिकित्सक	16	— तदैव—	
3. यूनानी चिकित्सक	3	— तदैव—	
तीसरे बेतन आयोग की सिकाइशों पर आधारित केन्द्रीय सरकार राष्ट्रस्वयं योजना में एकोपेयिक पदों के सशाधित बेतनमान इस प्रदान है —			
सुपर टाइम घेड-I			
प्रथम स्तर	.	रु 2500-125/2-2750	
द्वितीय स्तर	.	रु 2250-125/2-2500	
विशेषज्ञ घेड-I	.	रु 1800-100-2000-125/2-2250	

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सुपरटाइम ग्रेड-II	.	.	रु० 1500-60-1800-100-2000
विशेषज्ञ ग्रेड-II	.	.	रु० 1100-60-1500-८० रु०-६० —1800
वरिष्ठ वर्ग १ का वेतनमान	.	.	रु० 1100-५०-1600
कनिष्ठ वर्ग १ का वेतनमान	.	.	रु० ७००-४०-९००-८० रु०-१० —1100-५०-1300.

(ग) इन पदों की पदोन्नति के मानदण्ड इस प्रकार हैं:—

एलोवेषिक

सुपरटाइम ग्रेड-I

सुपरटाइम ग्रेड-I के रिक्त पदों को विभागीय पदोन्नति ममिति की सिफारिश पर पदोन्नति द्वारा योग्यता के आधार पर भरा जायेगा और निम्नलिखित बातों पर भी उचित ध्यान दिया जायगा:—

(i) सुपरटाइम ग्रेड-II के पदों पर काम कर रहे ऐसे अधिकारियों की वरिष्ठता (मिनिअर्टी) जिनकी उक्त श्रेणी में ६ वर्ष से कम की सेवा न हो; और

(ii) भरे जाने वाले पद के लिए अपेक्षित अहंता और अनुभव।

सुपरटाइम ग्रेड-II

सुपरटाइम ग्रेड-II में 50% रिक्त पद निम्नलिखित अधिकारियों की २:३ के अनुसार में विभागीय पदोन्नति समिति की सिफारिश पर सब्वित अधिकारियों

की योग्यता और वरिष्ठता के आधार पर पदोन्नति द्वारा भरे जायेगे—

(i) ऐसे जनरल ड्यूटी अफसर ग्रेड-I जिनकी उक्त श्रेणी में १० वर्ष से कम की सेवा न हो, अथवा

(ii) ऐसे विशेषज्ञ ग्रेड अधिकारी जिनकी उक्त श्रेणी में ८ वर्ष से कम की सेवा न हो।

विशेषज्ञ ग्रेड: विशेषज्ञ ग्रेड में पदोन्नति द्वारा कोई भी पद नहीं भरा जाता है; ये सब सध लोक सेवा योग के माध्यम से सीधी भरनी द्वारा भरे जाने हैं।

जनरल ड्यूटी अफसर ग्रेड-I: जनरल ड्यूटी अफसर ग्रेड-I के पद जनरल ड्यूटी अफसर ग्रेड-II या इन पदों के समकक्ष पदों पर कार्य कर रहे ऐसे अधिकारियों की पदोन्नति द्वारा भरे जाते हैं जिनकी आपने ग्रेड में ५ वर्ष से कम की सेवा न हो।

जनरल ड्यूटी अफसर ग्रेड-II: जनरल ड्यूटी अफसर ग्रेड-II के सभी पद सध लोक सेवा योग के माध्यम से सीधी भरती द्वारा भरे जाते हैं।

व त विकास

स्टाफ संजन (दल्ल) के पद ऐसे जूनियर स्टाफ संजनमें (दल्ल) को पदोन्नति द्वारा भरे जाते हैं जिनकी ध्यान में प्रयोग की सेवा हो। ऐसा हो सकते पर ये पद संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के अधिये सीधी भरती द्वारा भरे जाते। जूनियर स्टाफ संजन (दल्ल) के 50% पद संघ लोक सेवा आयोग के अधिये रे जाते हैं और 50% ऐसे दल्ल संजनों को पदोन्नति द्वारा भरे जाते हैं जिनकी ध्यान में 3 वर्ष की सेवा हो।

स्वदेशी विकास पद्धति :

इन श्रेणियों (केटेग्रीज) में कोई उच्च पद नहीं है। इसलिये, फिलहाल इनमें पद्धति के कोई अवसर नहीं हैं।

Opening of new Post Offices and Public Call Offices in Bihar

1499. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the list of the new branch post offices opened or sanctioned during the last three years or pending consideration for sanction in the districts of Madhubani, Darbhanga, Samastipur and Sitamarhi in Bihar; and

(b) whether it is proposed to open public call office at Bisfi and Babu Barahi, both block headquarters in Madhubani district of Bihar and connect Shahrghat P.C.O. directly to Madhubani via Benipatti?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) The information is given below:—

District	P.Os. opened/ sanctioned during 1973 to 1975	Proposals under consideration
Madhubani	8	8
Darbhanga	2	18
Samastipur	3	5
Sitamarhi	16	3

(b) Proposal to open a Public Call Office at Babu Barahi has been approved. The proposal relating to Bisfi is under examination. Proposal to connect Shahrghat directly to Madhubani via Benipatti is not justified on the basis of existing traffic.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

श्री भानु सिंह भौता (बटिन्डा): अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल जब होम मिनिस्टर साहब एक सवाल का जवाब दे रहे थे तो उन्होंने कहा था कि देवास, मठव प्रदेश में जो ट्रांसमिटर पकड़े गये थे उन का सी० ग्राइ० ए० के साथ कोई ताल्लुक नहीं है। लेकिन आज अखबार में आया है कुछ कानूनी इंशियल पेपर्स जो सी० ग्राइ० ए० और अमरीकन एजेंड्स के पास से पकड़े गये हैं . . .

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आशी यह बात उठाने का समय नहीं है। You cannot raise it just now. It is not proper to raise it at this stage. A call-attention notice was given, but I have not accepted it. Yesterday, the House discussed it.

Papers to be laid on the Table.

18 Mar.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT OF DELHI URBAN ART COMMISSION, NEW DELHI FOR 1974-75

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAM-AIAH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Delhi Urban Art Commission, New Delhi, for the year 1974-75, under section 19 of the Delhi Urban Art Commission Act, 1974 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10283/76].

REVIEWS AND ANNUAL REPORTS OF INDO-BURMA PETROLEUM CO. LTD., CALCUTTA FOR 1974, INDIAN OIL CORPORATION LTD., BOMBAY FOR 1974-75, HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION LTD., BOMBAY FOR 1974, COCHIN REFINERIES LTD., FOR 1-9-73 TO 31-874, ENGINEERING INDIA LTD., NEW DELHI FOR 1974-75 AND LUBERZOL INDIA LTD., BOMBAY FOR 1974-75.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM (SHRI ZIAUR RAHMAN ANSARI): I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(1) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Indo-Burma Petroleum Company Limited, Calcutta, for the year ended 31st December, 1974.

(b) Annual Report of the Indo-Burma Petroleum Company Limited, Calcutta, for the year ended 31st December, 1974 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed

in Library. See No. LT-10284/76].

(ii) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year 1974-75.

(b) Annual Report of the Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year 1974-75 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10285/76].

(iii) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year ended 31st December, 1974.

(b) Annual Report of the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bombay, for the year ended 31st December, 1974 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10286/76].

(iv) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Cochin Refineries Limited, for the period 1st September, 1973 to 31st August, 1974.

(b) Annual Report of the Cochin Refineries Limited, for the period 1st September, 1973 to 31st August, 1974 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10287/76].

(v) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Engineers India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1974-75.

[Shri Ziaur Rahman Ansari]

- (b) Annual Report of the Engineers India Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1974-75 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10268/76].
- (vi) (a) Review by the Government on the working of the Lubrizol India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1974-75.
- (b) Annual Report of the Lubrizol India Limited, Bombay, for the year 1974-75 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10269/76].

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER MRTP ACT, 1969 AND REPORT OF PHILIPS INDIA LTD., BOMBAY, ANIL STARCH PRODUCTS LTD., AHMEDABAD, ATUL PRODUCTS LTD., AHMEDABAD, INDIA PISTONS LTD., MADRAS, BIRLA JUTE MFG. CO. LTD., CALCUTTA AND CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S ORDERS THEREON AND STATEMENTS FOR DELAY IN LAYING

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS (SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA): I beg to lay on the Table—

- (1) A copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (3) of section 67 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969:—
 - (i) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Recruitment of Members of Staff) Rules, 1974, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 173 in Gazette of India dated the 18th February, 1974.
 - (ii) The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission (Recruitment of Members of Staff) Amendment Rules, 1975, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 2585 in Gazette of India dated the 1st November, 1975. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10270/76].
- (2) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay laying the Notification mentioned at (1) (i) above.
- (3) (i) A copy each of the following Reports of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Commission under section 62 of the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969:—
 - (a) Report under section 22 (3) (b) of the said Act in the case of M/s. Philips India Limited, Bombay and the Order dated the 5th July, 1975 of the Central Government thereon.
 - (b) Report under section 22 (3) (b) of the said Act in the case of M/s. Anil Starch Products Limited, Ahmedabad and the Order dated the 9th January, 1976 of the Central Government thereon.
 - (c) Report under section 21 (3) (b) of the said Act in the case of M/s. Atul Products Limited, Ahmedabad and the Order dated the 31st October, 1975 of the Central Government thereon.
 - (d) Report under section 21 (3) (b) of the said Act in the case of M/s. India Pistons Limited, Madras

and the Order dated the 21st June, 1975 of the Central Government thereon.

(e) Report (Hindi version) under section 22(3)(b) of the said Act in the case of M/s. Birla Jute Manufacturing Company Limited, Calcutta and the Order dated the 3rd May, 1974 of the Central Government thereon.

(ii) Four statements (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Hindi versions of the Report and Orders of the Government thereon simultaneously, mentioned at (a), (b), (c) and (d) above. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10271/76].

CERTIFIED ACCOUNTS OF POST GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH, CHANDIGARH FOR 1973-74 WITH AUDIT REPORT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Certified Accounts (Hindi and English versions) of the Post-graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh, for the year 1973-74 together with the Audit Report thereon, under sub-section (4) of section 18 of the Post-graduate Institute of Medical Education and Research, Chandigarh Act, 1966. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10272/76].

FERTILIZER (CONTROL) AMENDMENT ORDER, 1976

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION (SHRI PRABHUDAS PATEL): I beg to lay on the Table

a copy of the Fertiliser (Control) Amendment Order, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G.S.R. 24(E) in Gazette of India dated the 14th January, 1976, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10273/76].

REVIEW AND ANNUAL REPORT OF BHARAT ALUMINIUM CO. LTD., NEW DELHI FOR 1974-75

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): I beg to lay on the table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(1) Review by the Government on the working of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited New Delhi, for the year 1974-75.

(2) Annual Report of the Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, New Delhi, for the year 1974-75 along with the Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10274/76].

ANNUAL REPORT OF INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH, NEW DELHI FOR 1974-75

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND IN THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE (SHRI D. P. YADAV): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Indian Council of Social Science Research, New Delhi, for the year 1974-75. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10275/76].

12.43 hrs.

Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code.

INDIAN PENAL CODE (AMENDMENT) BILL

(i) REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA (Brahma): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Joint Committee on the

(ii) EVIDENCE BEFORE JOINT COMMITTEE

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA: I beg to lay on the Table the record of evidence tendered before the Joint Committee on the Bill further to amend the Indian Penal Code.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE FROM THE Sittings OF THE HOUSE

MR. SPEAKER: The Committee on Absence of Members from the Sittings of the House in their Twenty-third Report have recommended that leave of absence be granted to the following twenty-one Members for the period indicated against each:

(1) Shri R. R. Sharma . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session.)

(2) Shri Mahadevpak Singh Shakya . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976. (Fifteenth Session).

(3) Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(4) Shri Hukam Chand Kachwai . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session).

(5) Shri Mukhtiar Singh Malik . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(6) Shri Bhagirath Bhanwar . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(7) Shri Madhu Limaye . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(8) Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(9) Dr. Laxminarayan Pandeya . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(10) Shrimati V. R. Scindia . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(11) Shri Rasiklal Parikh . . . 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(12) Shri Sharad Yadav . . . 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(13) Shri Motarji R. Desai . . . 5th August to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(14) Shri A. K. Gopalan . . . 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(15) Shri Madhu Dandavate 5th August to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(16) Shri Ram Dhan 5th August to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(17) Shri Shyamnandan Mishra 5th August to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(18) Shri Robin Sen 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(19) Shri Phool Chand Verma 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(20) Shri Jagannathrao Joshi 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

(21) Shri Piloo Mody 21st July to 7th August, 1975 (Fourteenth Session) and 5th January to 5th February, 1976 (Fifteenth Session).

12.04 hrs.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

HUNDRED AND EIGHTY-SEVENTH REPORT

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta-North-East): I beg to present the Hundred and eighty-seventh Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Chapter II of the Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General of Ind'a for the year 1972-73, Union Government (Civil) Revenue Receipts Volume II, Direct Taxes—Corporation Tax relating to the Department of Revenue and Insurance.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDER-TAKINGS

SEVENTY-SEVENTH REPORT AND MINUTES

SHRI K. NARAYANA RAO (Bobili): I beg to present the following Report and Minutes of the Committee on Public Undertakings:

(i) Seventy-seventh Report on Steel Authority of India Limited.

(ii) Minutes of the sittings of the Committee relating to the above Report.

12.05 hrs.

*And Prevention of
Publication of
Objectionable
Matter Bill—Contd.*

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE.:
DISAPPROVAL OF PREVENTION
OF PUBLICATION OF OBJECTION-
ABLE MATTER ORDINANCE MAT-
TER BILL—Contd.

MR. SPEAKER: Now, we continue with the discussion on Statutory Resolution regarding Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Ordinance and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill.

The time allotted was two hours; the time already taken is one hour thirty minutes; the balance is only thirty minutes. Shri H. N. Mukerjee to continue with his speech.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kangpur): Sir, this is a very important matter. We have tabled several amendments. We request that two hours more should be given for this.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): Sir, the total time allotted for

[Shri K. Raghu Ramaiah]

all the three Bills put together was six hours; this has already exceeded by half an hour, but that does not matter. There are some two-three hon. Members from the Opposition who have given their names and who want to speak. I have no objection to extend the time by half an hour and then call the motion for consideration because the clauses will take some time and the third reading will take some time. We are already short of time. The opposition Members who have given their names may be called and I have requested our Members not to insist. The time may be extended by half an hour.

MR. SPEAKER: I think, we will have another thirty minutes.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE (Calcutta—North-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, last night, I said only one sentence which was to the effect that we have seen a triple tragedy being enacted with the Government abolishing the Press Council—not a satisfactory proposition—then abolishing the protection to honest reporting of parliamentary proceedings and then pushing through this Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill—the most objectionable piece of legislation—and this triple tragedy is indeed something which I fear, we may have to mourn later on with some detriment to the interests of our country.

Sir, the Press Objectionable Matter Act was put forward as a combination of the 1931 Act under the infamous rule of the foreigner. The 1951 Act, which had been characterised by some Members of the Congress Party even as a black Act, and then with some special additions which my friend, the Minister's ingenuity has been able to formulate, the result is a Bill which as some of our friend said yesterday, goes against the grain of decency and democracy. I put it strongly, because we do not require in the year of grace 1976 legislation of this sort as a permanent feature of the Statute Book

when the country can very well go forward in a different way towards the achievement of the objectives which Government itself puts forward. The definition of 'objectionable matter' has been made that even legitimate trade union activity can be prevented, but I am not going to labour this point which has already been mentioned in some detail by our friends yesterday. But this provision about incitement by any person to interfere with the production, supply or distribution of food or other essential commodities or with essential services is obviously aimed at activity on the part of the trade unions and also to prevent publications of reports and comments on the struggles of workers. I know the Minister would say that that is not the intention. But we should judge the government only on the basis of what they have been doing so far and not merely by what they are professing to do. And I say this is because, confining myself to the subject under discussion, Government have told us that they were very serious about the Press Council's idea. They had adopted the Press Commission's recommendations and set it up and they had put into cold storage the Act, the Press Objectionable Matter Act which was there. They expected the Press Council to function in a responsible manner, but it did not do so therefore, they are getting rid of it and reviving the objectionable matter legislation. You will forgive me if I say that this is not a very honest way of proceeding. The Press Commission reported as far back as 1954 and in the Press Commission report there was a note by four Members, Acharya Narendra Deo, the late Shri Jaipal Singh whom we all knew so well in this House, Shri Chalapati Rao and Shri A. D. Mani who is functioning even now as a very capable journalist and they had recommended a whole package of ideas. They wanted elimination of the Press Objectionable Matters Act and they had asked for what they called 'a wide re-organization of the

functions' which would be defined for the Press. I am quoting from their words:

"In the wide re-organization which is being recommended and which we hope will be carried out, the relations between the Press, the Government and society should not be handicapped by the mistrust embodied in the legislation like the Press Objectionable Matter Act."

This was followed much later in 1971 in July when the Government, when Shrimati Nandini Satpathy was the Minister in charge, announced in Parliament its intention to curb the Press monopoly. In August 1971 the draft proposals were discussed by an informal group of Ministers among themselves. Now, shortly afterwards, a group of Indian editors, perhaps briefed by the Manila-based Press Foundation of Asia, went on a deputation to the Prime Minister and opposed the proposals, and heaven knows why, but we could guess the reasons. In November 1971, the Government announced a committee of Ministers to process the proposals for delinking the Press from industrial houses and diffusion of its ownership. Now Government made this brave proclamation about diffusion and delinking but in the result, we discovered that the newspaper proprietors kept up their campaign, a Bill which had been drafted, put on the agenda of the Lok Sabha in the monsoon session of 1972, mysteriously disappeared and was withdrawn overnight and now, inspite of the recommendation of the Fact-finding Committee on Newspaper Economics, the question of delinking and diffusion is not being tackled by the Government. On the contrary, big money interests in the newspapers are not being fought at all, while by repudiating the authority of the Working Journalists' own organization, by refusing them to have anything to do with the Press Council, by itself manning the Press Council in a manner

which meant its own demise, the Government has now come forward to say that the Press Council does not work, that 'our attempt to be liberal towards the Press and to have a re-organization of the relationship between Press, Government and society can now wait for ever', and in the meantime, the Press Council goes, the precious right of the Press to faithfully report the parliamentary proceedings goes and, under the name of objectionable matters, all kinds of things are being sought to be prevented from publication. This is by no means an upright way of proceeding.

Yesterday, my friend Shri Erasmo de Sequeira offered a bet which I do not know if my puritanic friend has taken up the bet but the newspapers today show how reporting of parliamentary proceedings is conducted. Our model of 'Satyameva Jayate' will become rather bad if Government proceeds in this direction at this rate.

In the definition of objectionable matters again we find—

"bring into hatred or contempt, or excite disaffection towards, the Government established by law in India or in any State thereof and thereby cause or tend to cause public disorder;"

This comes under the mischief of this Act. My friend Dr. Sharma is here. He is a jurist of some distinction. I do not know how this sort of a thing can go on.

Many years ago, there was a decision in the Supreme Court given by Justice Patanjali Sastri. He had tried to give an intellectual logic and put spirit therein. He, therefore, said that if relative minor breaches of peace of a purely local significance happen, then, they have to be treated very differently from those things which violate the security of the State. We are all with you. Mr. Shukla. We are with your colleagues if something

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

happens which affects the integrity of the State, which prejudices the effort of our people to reconstruct their life which is endangered by neo-fascism at home and abroad. We are willing to join hands with you but you are making it impossible for the people to come together in support of whatever policy you profess you wish to achieve but you are trying to penalise everything. Justice Patanjali Sastri had very correctly said: "We are of opinion that unless a law restricting freedom of speech and expression is directed solely against the undermining of the security of the State or the overthrow of it, such law cannot fall within the reservation under Clause 2 of Article 19 although the restrictions which it seeks to impose have been conceived generally in the interest of public order."

My submission is we can understand the paramount requirements of national Government. But in the name of public order, in the name of peace and prevention of disaffection, I am not going to permit to the extent of my capability, all this kind of legislation to go through without the strongest possible protests against it. I know also that Government would say, this is an emergent period when we are in need of a great deal of weaponry in order to put down hostile elements. But is this the way in which you proceed to put down the hostile elements? So, then, I do not know how the judiciary would continue to function and what would happen if things are brought before the court when the emergency is lifted. Some time or the other emergency will have to be lifted and this legislation, if put on the statute book, would come under the mischief of judicial withholding of sanction in regard to its legitimacy because it can only function for the interim period, otherwise it goes against the grain of decent political and other kinds of activities.

I find also how in this definition there are blanket provisions which want everything to be done by the Government representatives and immunities are offered to all sorts of people, their dignitaries. But there must be some limit. It is given here—

"incite any person or any class or community of persons to commit murder, mischief or any other offence, or

are defamatory of the President of India, the Vice President of India, the Prime Minister or any other member of the Council of Ministers of the Union, the Speaker of the House of the People or the Governor of a State,"

I do not know to what a pass we have come in our public life. I cannot understand how this can be put into this legislation. My friend Mr. Shukla from the congress side also had some difficulty in stomaching this matter. How can we accept this? After all I am referring to something which was said in the House in 1956 when Feroze Gandhi's Bill was made into a law when he had quoted from that authority on libel and slander Blake Odgers and these are the words: "Whoever fills a public position renders himself open to public discussion. He must accept an attack as a necessary though unpleasant appendage to his office." He had quoted also that the 'public conduct of every public man is a matter of public concern.' I do not know if the President needs a very special shield. Who is ever going to unnecessarily malign the President or the Speaker or the Chairman of the House? Why do we think of these eventualities which would be so rare as to entitle you to have the generosity, the magnanimity, the good sense, the wisdom, to overlook or to take special steps on very extraordinary occasions? But in regard to a Prime Minister and Members of the Cabinet, Members of the Cabinet everywhere

in all the States belonging to different parties, juxtaposition of all sorts and conditions of men and women, where are we, at this rate, Sir? And to the Prime Minister herself I had occasion to tell publicly as well as in private that even as we support her for her basic policies there are many things which we just cannot support and we have to shout against her. So I cannot for the life of me understand how to shout against the policies of a public person as the Prime Minister of the country is to invite the anger of the law. I do not understand this. Are we saying good-bye to all that is done in normal political discussion? Anything could be misinterpreted when, I quote for example and I stand by every syllable of what I wrote in regard to the Prime Minister, I said for instance that the Prime Minister is entitled to have his followers but they should be men and not minions. I stand by that sort of statement and it is a civilised statement howsoever critical it might be. And I make a distinction in times of emergency like the present, when the future of the country is in jeopardy, what is necessary for the development of the country is entitled to have his followers but the people and what goes against the basic interests of the country, why should we be manacled in this fashion? I myself do write books and things from time to time. How the devil do I write a book on Parliament for instance? You and I Sir, have been in this House for quarter of a century or so and suppose we wish to write on Parliament, that would imply reflections which some people particularly of the censorious sort, who are now put up in order to operate these censor legislation, would interpret to be something against the interest of the country. So are we to be manacled, dumb-tied and all the rest of it? I am not going as far as it is in my power to say, I am not going to accept this without the strongest possible protest against it. Therefore, I feel, this is going a little too far. I find some of my friends are willing to

perhaps let off the Prime Minister and to have the Act on the other colleagues in the Cabinet or in the different States. Personally, Sir, I do not understand it because I do not feel so. I quoted Blake Odgers to show how a person in that kind of authority can take blows. I can give a blow and take it back, Sir, because, that is the essence of Parliamentary fighting. In public life, Sir, that always happens and if anybody makes a crude blackmailing attack—I am very distressed to hear of many blackmailing attacks, I am not sure against the Prime Minister, but against Members like Mr. Salve. I am very much distressed by these blackmailing things. But they recoil on the blackmailer. If the Prime Minister is badly maligned by anybody the malignity recoils on the malignee, if the Prime Minister is a big enough person to ignore it. But I do not know, Sir, because, now there is a different atmosphere. For Mr. Vidya Charan Shukla I have developed over the years a certain kind of personal feeling akin to affection. Even the other day he was opening an exhibition 'Last 10 years of Achievement' and there he happened to say, perhaps, only to applaud the work of the Prime Minister's regime that in the last ten years, India has achieved more. In the last one thousand years, so many things have happened.

There is a report in the Statesman. If he was misreported by the miserable scribes, I am not responsible. This is the atmosphere in which we are working and this lays down the norms which make it possible for the censor sitting upstairs or wherever he is functioning to look at this.

We have been gagged for ever and ever, what we say in the House never appears in the papers. And nobody will have the knowledge of what is happening here unless Mr. Shukla and the espionage people say something to the Home Ministry or do something about us. We get no compensation in Parliament. Our people don't even

(Shri H. N. Mukerjee.)

know what we say or what we do not say about it. What I wish to tell not only Mr. Shukla but also the Prime Minister, particularly, is this. It is no use merely appalceding what you are doing or what you are likely to do or what you are promising to do will not produce the rightful effect. Go to the cinema. Look at the films that you are showing. The Films Division will watch the titters and giggles which sometimes they try to hide. Even in Delhi the people are not non-conformists, they are lawabiding—most of them are Government servants. This is the sort of thing that you will find happening. Beware of this sort of thing. Have an upright propaganda, talk about the things which we wish to achieve and it is with the assistance of the people that we are going ahead. Yesterday, I said that revolution was a most authoritarian thing in the world. I am ready to accept any authoritarian restrictions provided some revolutionary changes are properly being put into effect. I am ready to concede that revolution. Revolution does not take place like this. I wish to add: as Bernard Shaw said that we are all impatient for the revolution. We are all cowards who wish the revolution to happen in as gentlemanly a manner as possible. We can also fight in as gentlemanly a manner as possible. Let us have the revolution in a gentlemanly manner where the people know that things are permitted freely. Let us make up our mind about war on those hostile elements who, under the cleak of so many pomposities are trying to pursue the neofascist line in alliance with certain foreign elements which the Prime Minister from time to time is trying to identify with the kind of courage and character which I am ready to applaud. I am ready to applaud whatever is being done basically for the good of the country. But, it seems to me that I am not going to submit to a hallelujah of whatever is being said from certain sources. That

will not deliver the goods, that will actually deter our people from going ahead in the right manner. Now that you are not in a mood and, perhaps the House is not in a mood, to give me greater indulgence I would just sum up by saying that this Government has passed these three pieces of legislation which they are putting on the statute book quite gratuitously and without provocation, I say that this is something which just should not be there, let us make sure that our people fight because they like to fight this grumbler's army, they know what they fight for and they love what they can. This is what we want to inject into the minds of our people. If we do that, then we need not be afraid of those hostile elements to whom you are giving importance beyond all proportion. And that is being done because of, what I said yesterday, guilty conscience on the part of government. Have a little more courage and confidence. Then alone with character, you can go on to mobilise the help of our people into our march towards a better India.

MR. SPEAKER: I would request you, Mr. Agarwal to be brief.

SHRI VIRENDRA AGARWAL (Moradabad): It was really a compliment when the Minister, Shri Shukla, described by speech yesterday as 'totally irrelevant'. The Minister practically failed to meet my arguments on merits and therefore, he had no other choice but to make a scandalous and objectionable remark. The moment I mentioned that corrupt ministers must be exposed, I found him baffled. I do have great respect and admiration for his character and integrity. But, his annoyance has convinced me that he has grave doubts about himself. I do not know why the Minister, Shri Shukla who is so fond of employing scandalous or objectionable remarks has been entrusted with piloting this Bill on Objectionable matters. It is rather a sad commentary on the functioning of this entire Government. Sir,

I am interested to make comparative study on the performance of the British Government in India with the achievements of the present rulers but I would like this House to know that the people in India are now in a mood to do so.

Jawahar Lal Nehru was really a democrat and I am sure that had he been alive today he would have employed still harsher language to condemn this Government and its measures. He had set certain high standards for himself and for every representative Government of the Indian people. It is rather unfortunate that his democratic spirit has disappeared altogether so soon.

Sir, the Prime Minister has been asking for an assurance from the Opposition to abjure violence. While we have always been opposed to violence and have condemned it whenever it has occurred anywhere in the country but a senior Congress member yesterday pleaded for Danda democracy in this country. In fact, it is the Opposition which should demand an assurance from the ruling party to abjure violence. This authoritarian attitude on the part of the rulers has translated the democracy into a despotic rule.

The Prime Minister should better initiate a dialogue for national reconciliation. The earlier she does, the better it would be. Any further delay would actually complicate the matters. Let all political and social workers be released and censorship be lifted so that all parties could sit around and discuss more important issues facing the nation today.

This particular Bill, I feel, is not only barbarous and abnoxious but also pernicious. I would simply like to ask four statements from the hon. Minister which are based on hard facts

from the Government reports which may not be palatable to the Government. I would like to know whether they are really objectionable matters or not. The first question I want to ask that. (1) the major achievement of the decade is that those living below the poverty line have shot up from 40 to 66 per cent; Secondly whether stagflation is largely responsible for growing unemployment in India. The number of these registered with employment exchanges has gone up from 81 to 96 lakhs during the first half of the emergency period; thirdly whether the unprecedented agricultural production has made the former wonder whether scientific farming really implies unremunerative prices for his produce; and fourthly whether it will enhance the prestige of this Government or cause dissatisfaction towards the Government if this House exposes the corrupt Ministers. These are the four statements which I have made and I would like to know whether they are objectionable matters or not. My impression is they have already been declared objectionable matters by the Centre. If this is the situation what shall we talk about in this country. You say there is democracy. Nothing is being done to curb the freedom. I think the hon. Minister has been doing nothing but misleading this house and hoodwinked the whole nation. Let us be very clear about it that now this nation is not allowed to talk anything about the poor and about those ideals for which we have been talking for centuries.

Sir, when there is a lot of talk about objectionable matter I simply want to ask the question if you do not allow certain things to appear in the press what does it result? Does it not result in rumours and whispering campaign? Can you really stop it? How are you going to stop it? There is underground publicity machinery today in the country working and I know that the Home Minister gives me material

[Shri Virendra Agarwal]

how are you going to stop it? No democratic country in the world has done this harm to press freedom what you have done; if you try to do that, I can only say that you are living in a fool's paradise. In this country there was a whispering campaign when the Emergency was proclaimed. Who does not know that there were rumours in Delhi that senior leaders like Shri Jagjivan Ram and Shri Y. B. Chavan were under house arrest? Who does not know that the country was talking that JP was dead? Even now we hear that Atal Bihari Vajpayee is suffering from paralysis and cancer. These are the rumours circulating in the country. If you do not allow facts to be stated, if you just call it objectional matter, I really do not know how you can say that democracy is alive in this country I really sympathise with the Government, not for its wisdom, but for its foolishness.

Regulation of the Press is synonymous with suppression of national aspirations. It cannot be said that the entire Press has lacked a sense of patriotism and responsibility. The Press Commission had reported: there is no doubt that large section of the Press in India is sober and responsible and does not indulge in what has been described as yellow journalism, there is however a small section of the Press which seeks to flourish on blackmail sensationalism and obscenity. The Powers which you have now acquired and the powers that you are using to encourage yellow journalism in the country but the sober and responsible Press has actually been curbed. This is the result of the powers that you have acquired. I want to ask you this question: where is responsible journalism today in the country. The circulation of all major dailies, whether you take the Indian Express or Hindi Hindustan or Patriot, has gone down because nobody is interested in reading newspapers. What

is there to be read? That is the real question. Similarly, the larged circulated Hindi weeklies in this country are carrying film stories; they have become film magazines; Dharma Yug and Septahik Hindustan are carrying short stories. Similarly, I want to tell you that the largest circulated Hindi daily of this country now carries Manoranjan Ank. This is the situation; This is the fate of Indian journalism today. It is all due to your doing, due to your powers which you are trying to misuse every day. Critical appreciation of the Government's policies has altogether disappeared. No one in the country is interested in reading newspapers

Vinobhaji extended his moral support to the Government for inculcating a sense of discipline but his moral support is no more available to this government and he has made it absolutely clear now that unless Emergency is withdrawn and censorship is removed and un'ess you release all political and social workers, this government has no moral authority, no moral support from him.

AN HON. MEMBER: He never said it.

SHRI VIRENDRA AGARWAL: You read the decision of the meeting of Acharyas which was convened by him.

Finally, I want to say a word about the merger of the four news agencies. I am told that it is being considered as a viable unit. But it has been brought about at the point of pistol.. (Interruptions) It is known; everybody knows about it. It was brought about within a period of 24 hours. What was the hurry? If it was a good thing, let it be done in a rational manner. I am not opposed to merger. But the point is that it should be done in such a way that everybody understands that it is a voluntary decision on the part of four news agencies to get together. I do not think monopoly agencies can really be

conducive to any democratic functioning in this country. I should plead with the rulers of the country to make a distinction between spiritual politics and debased politics. Spiritual politics is based on in sacrifice, compassion and *Manav Dharma* practised by Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru and the present debased politics of manipulations, hating and curbing Civil liberties is being practised by the present rulers and which can never be appreciated by the people of this country. The genius of the Indian people makes it absolutely clear that this country the people of this country will accept only that type of politics which is for the good of the people rather than for the good of the ruling clique.

Finally, Sir, I just want to say one couplet of Rahim. What Rahim has said applies to the present rulers. Let the Government learn something from this couplet.

रहिमन पानी राखिये, बिन पानी सब मून,
पानी गये न ऊबरे मोती मानुष चून।

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA (Aurangabad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to add my feeble voice to the voice of opposition and dissent expressed so powerfully by my learned friends Mr. Mukherjee and Shri Virendra Agarwal. Sir, the object of the bill is clearly contrary to the well-recognised concept of Free Press. I felt that the Government did not dispute the proposition that freedom of expression and individual liberty are *sine qua non* of democracy. Where freedom of expression dies or is extinguished democracy dies. But after listening to the speech of the hon. Minister, I have started feeling that they have got a different conception about democracy. My learned friend, Mr. Agarwal, has already referred to a certain statement made by a senior Member of the ruling party. Yesterday he said that this country

was not fit for a free society nor for democracy, as is understood generally, but a *danda* democracy.

(Interruptions)

The hon. Minister has said that he does not want any interference with the freedom of expression and the press either by Government or by capitalists. But he went on to say that during the last three or four years, the press has indulged in irresponsible writings. They have been giving prominence to news of sensational value or scandalmongering. Their (the Governments') grouse is that they have given more prominence to movement led by Shri Jayaprakash Narain and thereby created a situation when the Government was brought into disrepute and made unpopular and that is why he is bringing the measures to discipline the press. But what will be the combined effect of these bills? The combined effect will be to muzzle the press. You have already given a shock-treatment to the press. The press people are not in a position to publish even innocuous news emanating from the opposition side. They are being fed news from the ruling party or from the censor and the result is that the press has become regimented, a hand-made of the ruling party, a puppet press and a submissive press. It is not good for a healthy democracy.

Mr. Virendra Agarwal has read out the chit that was given to the press in India by the Indian Press Commission in 1964. More recently chit was also given to the Indian press by no less a person than Mr. Justice Ayyangar, the Chairman of the Press Council, in a TV discussion on 14th June, 1973. He said the following:

"Apart from a negligible fringe, the Indian Press was fair, sober and discharged creditably its role and function in a democracy as the watch-dog of public interests and objective communicator of information to the people."

[Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha]

This was the chit given by Mr. Justice Ayyangar. What did Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru say in 1950? Fortunately, it was not pre-Independence era and, therefore, my learned friend will not say that I am quoting from a statement of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru made prior to Independence and so it has no relevance. He declared while addressing the All India Newspapers Editors Conference in 1950: "I have no doubt that even if the Government dislike the liberties taken by the Press and considers them dangerous, it is wrong to interfere with the freedom of Press. I would rather have a completely free press with all the dangers involved in the wrong use of that freedom than a suppressed or a regulated press." What are you going to achieve by this measure? You may say that time has not stood still, as you said yesterday in regard to the other measure. But these are values which are immutable. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru had deep faith in democratic value and principles and it is largely because of his commitment that the plant of democracy flourished here during the last 25 years. And what are you going to do now? What will be its effect?

You have referred to 1951 Act. And you said that Rajaji had brought forward this Act. What did Rajaji say on that occasion? He said then that this was going to be a dead letter. Secondly, he said that it was an improvement on the 1931 Act. And thirdly, he said that the executive Government was not going to take any action. It was the judiciary which had been empowered. And in explaining the provisions of the Bill, he had said: "Any executive Government which had its own authority easily exercises it but when the executive Government has to go as a complainant to a court and submit to the decisions not only of a court but of the terrible jury which I am going to put into the jury

box in any of these and thereafter the High Court which is not always too kind to the executive Government, have power to review, no Executive Government will pass an order for prosecution without considering hundred times". This was provided in 1951 Act.

I am surprised at Shri B. R. Shukla's speech that there are sufficient safeguards in this Bill. What are those safeguards? A competent authority would be appointed by this Government who will be not below the rank of a Deputy Secretary of the Central Government or a District Magistrate in a State. He will have all the powers to take action which will go to the Central Government for confirmation or disapproval. The Competent authority is most cases will be acting at behest of the Central Government itself. He will then become both the prosecutor and judge together. What kind of safeguards can be expected from such provisions. This has to be seen. Can it inspire faith? Therefore, my objection is that the very salutary principle which was laid down even by Rajaji has been substituted by the provision that the executive Government armed with all the powers will exercise the power, rather hastily without waiting for the consequences. That is why I say, this measure will tend to muzzle the press completely.

If you look at the provisions of the Bill, you will find that these have been bodily lifted from the Indian Penal Code. Sub-clause 1 of clause 3 is from Section 124A of the Indian Penal Code. Sub-clause (iii) is 505; Sub-clause (iv) is 153-A; Sub-clause (v) is 505. They have been bodily lifted from the Indian Penal Code. The Government gone much further. The crowning act of all these is that you cannot publish any representations, words or signs which are defamatory of certain dignitaries. I can understand if the President and the Vice-President or the Speaker of

the House is insulated; but it is beyond my comprehension that in any democratic government, where there is a party system of Government, where the Opposition party has a right to change that government, the Prime Minister and the Ministers should be insulated from any criticism which can be construed as defamatory. This is something which passes my comprehension and cannot stand any test of scrutiny. What do Government want? Do they want that there should be no Opposition functioning here, otherwise we should have the right to criticise the Government and get our speeches reported. Or else, how are we going to educate the people about the deeds and misdeeds of this Government? Without getting our speeches published, without educating the people, we cannot reach the people. You have got the radio and the mass media of communication at your disposal Every day—day in and out,—you are speaking against the Opposition, maligning them and we have no means of countering it. The other day, the Prime Minister said that the elections may be postponed by a year, but may be held within a year. How are we going to fight the elections? How are we going to reply to the kind of calumny that you are heaping on the Opposition? Is it permissible in a democracy? Is it the kind of democracy that you are going to have? You are proclaiming to the world that India is still enjoying democratic rights and that it is a democracy. It all goes to the credit of Jawaharlal Nehru largely that India became the most populous democracy in the world. And that is now being throttled by you. All the rights and privileges given to the people are being taken away; and you say that these curbs are for the Emergency. But beyond the Emergency, these laws will be there. The hon. Minister said that the Press people should not enjoy more privileges than ordinary citizens. I for one do not know whether the Press people had asked for more privileges than ordinary citizens.

The Minister had said that they can also be prosecuted under the common law of the land. Then why do you have this special law? Even in 1951, it was hotly opposed by almost all sections of the House that no special law need be passed for dealing with delinquent Pressmen. There are ample powers in the Penal Code to deal with such people. And once you take power in your hands, it will in my opinion, sound the death-knell to whatever freedom the Press has been enjoying.

MR. SPEAKER: Kindly conclude.

SHRI SATYENDRA NARAYAN SINHA: Your charge or your grouse was that the Press was giving more publicity to the Opposition. But what was the actual position? You made a lot of fuss, a big bone about the fact that the Press people predicted that during the 1971 elections, the ruling party would not get the majority. Do you want to imply that the Press people are infallible, their forecasts cannot go wrong? What happened in Britain? The papers said that the Tories would lose; but the Tories won. In America it was about Roosevelt. All the time the Press people announced that Roosevelt would lose. Roosevelt won. So, they had predicted about Truman. This is not a crime, or so much of a lapse that should call for censor of their conduct warranting the imposition of curbs. But if you look to the survey carried out by the IENS about the news coverage given by newspapers about the 1971 elections, you will find the ruling party got the most and that of all the editorials written by them, the majority supported you. They were in your favour. The majority of the editorials told the voters that the ruling party was the only hope for stability. Still, you have this grouse that they were not with you. It is only when the JP movement gained momentum that the press had the courage to give prominence to his views. Until

[Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha]

then the opposition parties were almost blacked out. They were not getting due publicity. What is the position today after the emergency? Do you think the press will have the courage to give publicity to what we say in our constituencies against you? Would the press be in a position to publish what the Members of the opposition speak in this House? So, the result would be a regimented press and there would be no free expression of opinion. That is the kind of democracy that we are going to have. That is why I am asking this question; Are you not reversing the entire process and taking the country along the totalitarian path, which is against what Mahatma Gandhi and Jawaharlal Nehru stood for and fought for? That is why I oppose this Bill.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA): Sir, I am thankful to the hon. Members who have taken part in this debate. In spite of my explanation when I moved the motion for consideration of the Bill, there still seems to be some misgivings and some doubts in the minds of hon. Members. As some members have pointed out, particularly Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha who spoke before me, there are certain provisions in the law which already existed, and they have been incorporated in this law, though they have been adopted in a very restricted sense; not in a general sense where any action about anything written in the press could have been taken by anybody, including the lowest functionary of Government. Under this Act if any action has to be taken, it has to be taken by the competent authority, and that too after a report having been made by the reporting officer. These two safeguards that have been put in the Bill are to ensure that no light-hearted or frivolous action is taken against anybody who says things which are against the people in power or which go against

the Government established by law. The provisions have been made, giving the exceptions where all the legitimate criticism could take place.

Shri Satyendra Narayan Sinha, who is a lawyer himself, and many hon. Members who understand these matters, very well know the difference between defamation and criticism. When Shri Sinha was speaking. I was wondering how he is confusing between defamation and criticism. It is well-defined. Shri Sequeira would do well to refer to section 499, IPC. He will find that the definition which we have adopted is the same as in that section. Defamation arises when things are said which are false, and that too with *mala fide* intentions. Therefore, the intention of good faith is lacking in the case of defamation. The provisions of this law will come into operation only if you say things *mala fide*. If you say things which are true and you stand by them you will not come under the mischief of this Act. It cannot.

13 hrs.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Defamation has to be proved in a court of law, but here the district magistrate will decide whether the remark is defamatory or not.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: The matter will be only initiated by him. Then there are rules provided for appeal. An order can be passed, but the order can be set aside by a court of law. Hon. Members are talking without reading the provisions of the Bill.

This Bill provides that if an order is made in anticipation of publication, the aggrieved party can make an appeal the next day or within ten days, and that if the Central Government, who are the first appellate authority, do not decide the appeal, then it will be decided against the respondent, i.e., against the Central Government, and that if it is not decided

within seven days by the Government, the order will automatically lapse. So, there is no question of any harassment of the matter being kept pending for years and years.

In the case of an order after publication of the alleged matter, an appeal can be made the next day or within 30 days by the aggrieved party and if the Central Government does not decide it within 30 days, the order will lapse automatically. So, the Central Government cannot keep it pending. After that appeals have been provided to the High Court and the Supreme Court. So, the judicial process are not barred.

But I am unable to accept the criticism that barring objectionable matter is barring criticism. We have specifically provided that criticism which is not defamatory, i.e., which is not false or *mala fide*, can be made freely and completely. There is no bar to that as far as this particular Bill is concerned. Therefore, I would request hon. Members not to confuse between criticism and defamation because they are two completely different things. Whereas we allow full freedom for criticism, certainly lots of people would be interested in defaming those who are in a vulnerable position and who by the nature of their duties have to take decisions of far-reaching importance which hurt various vested interests. Such defamation has to be stopped because not only does it hurt the democratic and the elective process, but it also creates a feeling against democracy itself. We have seen in the past few years that whereas individuals were chosen for defamatory attack, the main target was democracy or the democratic process. The individuals do not matter, they may have been insignificant persons, but via the individuals the attack was mounted on the progressive and democratic things being done in this country. So, we have made this provision only against such attacks made with the ulterior motive of destroying the

very institution which we want to preserve in this country.

If the hon. Members had taken the trouble, they would have seen that we have bodily lifted these restrictions from article 19(2) of the Constitution.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: That has been suspended by a Presidential order.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Rights have been taken away, only restrictions remain.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I have said before that this is not going to be an emergency law. This law is going to remain even after the emergency is over.

Here I would like to say that the reasonable restrictions put in article 19(2), which have been upheld by the Supreme Court, relate to the sovereignty and integrity of India. They have been imposed in the interests of: (1) security of the State, (2) friendly relations with foreign States, (3) public order, (4) decency or morality and in relation to: (5) contempt of court, (6) defamation, and (7) incitement to an offence.

These are reasonable restrictions which have been put in the Constitution as reasonable restrictions which can be put on the rights enshrined in article 19 of the Constitution. In this Act, we have taken care to see that objectionable matters do not go beyond those reasonable restrictions that have been provided by the Constitution.

Regarding muzzling of the Press, explained yesterday at some length and Mr. Mukerjee knows about it that for a long time, we have been talking of code of ethics and code of conduct and what not. Let anybody take the trouble of picking up that draft codes which was proposed by the editors themselves and find out if it runs counter to what we are providing in

[Shri Vidya Charan Shukla]

the Act. They have suggested that certain things should not be done by the journalist and we have said the same thing here. The only thing is that this is said in law and there they wanted it to be voluntary. The only question could be why did you not let it be voluntary and why did you not want it to be enforced by law. This is the question on which we can have a debate whether there should be a law or whether it should be left to voluntary control. Our experience for the last 15 years is that voluntary control does not work, as far as politics is concerned. The newspapers certainly become gravely involved in politics as they should. Nobody can take objection to this involvement of the newspaper in politics because they are meant to educate public opinion about political thoughts and cross currents. But when they act under the pressure of monopoly houses, under the direction and orders of monopoly houses, then it becomes difficult.

Persons like Mr. Virendra Agarwal and other friends who were shouting in this House and were criticising about this Act, do not have a word to say against it. But these very people were doing nothing but shouting....
(Interruptions)

It was not a speech; it was only a shout I heard here. These very people come and mount an attack on the democratic system; they mount an attack on the values that we cherish in the democratic India. I heard criticism from the various Members, from the Opposition Members and from Members of our own Party. Nobody disputed that this was done in this country and was it not done. It was done in a motivated manner; it was done for attaining certain objectives, for creating disorder and chaos in the country.

These voluntary codes were all set aside. Nobody thought of those voluntary codes; nobody thought of those

codes that were evolved 15 years ago. About three years ago, an All India Newspapers' Editors Conference also suggested a voluntary code. Nobody cared about it. Now the Central Committee of Editors which consists of editors of the highest integrity and unimpeachable character has suggested a code, and I would request Mr. Sequeira or Prof. Mukherjee or Mr. Gupta or any other Member who is interested in finding out the real truth, to find out whether any of the provisions that we have made go contrary or beyond to that voluntary code of ethics that is being provided, that has been suggested by the editors themselves. If there is anything of that kind I am prepared to bring an amendment to this Act. Kindly look into it and let us find out whether we are transgressing the limit that have been suggested by the journalists themselves in the interest of free working of the Press. Kindly do not make criticism out of emotions and bring forward reasons here which are not really relevant to the Bill which is under consideration.

It is quite typical of Jan Sangh Members to say things and walk out of the House and not wait for the replies to be heard. Therefore, Mr. Virendra Agarwal like yesterday is absent from the House. I would like to tell him that it is really funny for us, when Jan Sangh Members quote Jawaharlal Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi and Vinoba Bhave; we cannot just take the matter seriously; when like devil they quote scriptures. Therefore, if Mr. Virendra Agarwal wants to be taken seriously, he should study the matters much better before he comes and speaks before this House, the national forum, rather than speaking some irrelevant things, walking out and not even having the courage to hear the reply to his criticism or whatever he said here.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: After you acquire the powers under this Bill, will the censorship remain?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I would like to tell him that this Bill has nothing to do with the censorship. That is a completely different thing. Censorship may stay or may go. As far as I can see, this measure is going to remain on the statute book because this measure is going to see that the monopoly press is not able to use itself as a lever to pressurise the leaders of the Government, the Ministers of the Government and the Government itself.

About the question of delinking, I may tell Mr. Mukerjee that we are committed to delinking newspapers from the monopoly houses...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: When are you going to do it?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Any amount of criticism about it is not going to deviate us from this path. It is a matter which will take a little time. Even about this measure that I have brought before the House, that has been done after a great deal of study. We spent about five months, studying various provisions, various reports, various memoranda and things which were submitted to us. Therefore, we have not done this in a light-hearted manner. In what manner, at what point of time, this can be done is still to be seen. As a matter of policy, we do feel that delinking is necessary and we will see how well this can be done.

Again, the hon. Member, Mr. Virendra Agarwal, made a statement which is typical of him and which is absolutely inaccurate and false. He said that the circulation of newspapers has gone down. Actually, the circulation of newspapers has gone up. The figures with the Registrar of Newspapers about the demand of newsprint for newspapers, etc., show that the circulation of newspapers has gone up. Here, the hon. Member comes and says

that the circulation of newspapers has gone down. What kind of credence can be given to such a criticism when it is made in such a light-hearted and irresponsible manner.

About the values of press freedom, if he sees dispassionately and objectively the various provisions of the Bill, the way the values of press freedom were abused in the last so many years systematically, he will find that this Bill is aimed at preventing disabuse of the values of press freedom. This Bill is not going to take away the values of press freedom. If the values of press freedom consist in publishing falsehood calumny, obscene and scurrilous writings and personal malicious attacks on the national leaders, then those values of press freedom are being taken away. But if the values of press freedom are such as we understand them, as the nation understands them, they are not being taken away by the Bill which has been brought before this house.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE: Will the hon. Minister explain the delay in putting checks on big monopoly press? Also, will he explain about the fact that when the hon. Minister is trying to re-organise the news agencies, he is putting at the top of the new body, at control, the men from the *Hindu* and other newspapers which have been taking a stand in reporting as well as in editorial comment against the national objective? How can this sort of things co-exist together?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: We are not responsible for putting anybody at the top of a body that is being formed. The *Hindu* may be a big paper. But it is not a monopoly house paper. It is not connected with any monopoly house. If the four news agencies that are being merged together have asked Mr. Kastur to head the organisation, I do not think we can be blamed for that. It is a

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voluntary merger. You can yourself find out from those people. Whatever one may whisper, whatever kind of rumours might be spreading, I say, it is the employees themselves of these four news agencies who have passed the resolution for this merger. Then the Board of Directors met and they passed this merger. I don't think anybody is holding a pistol on the head. We have not been holding it; we only made our displeasure known to them, that we don't think that that these agencies are functioning in a proper way, that they are heavily subsidised by public funds but the way they were collecting and disseminating news was not really in the public interest but they were subserveing the interest of five newspapers which are controlled by the PTI and UNI. Five big houses, four of them controlled by monopoly houses are the owners of the PTI and UNI and they were singing to the tune of their masters and this was not in the national interest. Therefore, if the merger has taken place, it is a healthy development in Indian journalism. There is no delay as far as we are concerned; we are only proceeding cautiously, step by step, in this direction.

AN HON. MEMBER: Hastening slowly?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Hastening slowly, that is correct.

And this is being done after the greatest amount of consultation with the people who are affected and there is no muzzling of the Press because this provision will only allow the papers which are run on true journalistic lines to function properly and without fear of competition from yellow journalism which often put a paper with the right behaviour at a disadvantage. Those who indulge in sensational writing and scurrilous writing often get a higher circulation of papers while those who are sober and keep to the journalistic

values and who want to uphold the national principles of secularism, democracy and socialism are at a disadvantage. Now, with this kind of curbs on defamation, obscenity and various kinds of unwarranted writing, it would be possible for a healthy press to grow by itself and the district press and the regional press and the divisional press which used to indulge in all kinds of undesirable things would be contained, not because of political reasons but because we want that journalistic values and journalistic traditions must grow in a healthy fashion. And by going through the provisions of the Act the Hon. Members will find that this is not going to hurt the good traditions of the press, that it is not going to hurt the healthy traditions of the press, but on the other hand, it is going to promote them and it is going to hurt only those people who have been abusing the so-called freedom of the press which they have never respected.

With this explanation, I hope the Hon. Members who really feared that there was going to be a stranglehold of the press would be satisfied and those who are criticising it only for the sake of criticism will probably be able to give a second thought to this matter.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA (Marmagoa): I have been giving second thought to this matter by listening to everything that has been said by the Minister and the Hon. Members of the Congress Party and some of their friends and allies in the Opposition. Whatever I heard only seems to confirm the fear that I expressed yesterday or rather, the apprehension—because I don't have a fear of anything—that this is a black day for democracy in India. And like all unnatural things, this black day began at mid-day yesterday and is going to finish at about 4 o'clock today.

The Hon. Minister was yesterday speaking about safeguards, about all the safeguards put in the Bill. What are the safeguards that exist in this Bill? What is considered objectionable is so wide that you can literally fit into it almost anything you like. Even if the construction of the objectional matter is strict, the right to decide what is objectionable and what is not objectionable is given to the Deputy Secretary to Government or a District Magistrate acting under the very efficient control of the Hon Minister Mr. V. C. Shukla. Mr. Shukla was talking about Art. 19 and he was saying that nothing that was not there has been placed in the restrictions. We know that this country today is full of articles enshrined in the Constitution but unenforceable. I would like to say to Mr. Shukla and to Government on the floor of this House that the difference between 'reasonable restriction' as interpreted by the Supreme Court and 'reasonable restriction' as determined by an officer of the Government under the control of the very effective Minister is as much as the difference between democracy and fascist regime.

13.30 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

We all know that, at the time of consideration of MISA, we received assurance after assurance in this House; many provisions were quoted to us as safeguards while the Bill was being passed, but even before those provisions were removed, Member after Member of this House—Member after Member of the Opposition and also Members of the Congress Party—was arrested. Then, one by one, what had been quoted to us as safeguards were removed from the law—review and all sorts of things.

Now, look at the definition of 'Ministers'. It says 'anything which is defamatory of the President, the Vice

President, the Prime Minister or any other Member of the Council of Ministers of the Union'. If they require protection, why not the persons in the States? Are they not in public life? Do they not head their units? But this protection is only for them here. Are we not to suspect, in such circumstances, that what is being said is not what is meant?

This Bill, and the discussion in the House, has given another brilliant opportunity to the Government to prove its bonafides. My colleague, Mr. Chandrappan of the CPI. . . .

SHRI INDRAMIT GUPTA: How can he be your colleague?

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: I am a Member of Parliament and he is also a Member of Parliament....

SHRI INDRAMIT GUPTA: You paid him a compliment by describing him as an ally of the Government. We do not want to be described as your colleague.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: My colleague in Membership and a worthy opponent in politics, Mr. Chandrappan....

SHRI INDRAMIT GUPTA: Yes; be precise.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: . . . while speaking on this Bill said:

"Can we not incite a class to overthrow the other class? Yes; we will do that."

You talk of discipline, and he tells you on your face that he believes in incitement. I am not suggesting that the CPI be banned. I am a democrat; I do not believe in banning of political parties. But that is what this Government does. I am going to say to them that the only reason why they do not ban the CPI is, by leaning on it, they acquire the progressive image which they, otherwise, do

[Shri Erasmo De Sequeira]

not have. I hope, my friends in the CPI will eventually begin to get this message and get themselves out of the clutches of this Government that is carrying us towards autocracy....

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): And get into your clutches?

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: If you join me, I will carry you back towards democracy.

The hon. Minister was saying that this was a measure which would ensure the health of public life and journalism. Since we are talking in medical terms, what is happening today reminds me of a person who went to a medical college for five years, graduated, came out, set up a shop and instead of medicine started to practise butchery. We elected this Government to run a democracy, but they are carrying us fast into an autocracy.

According to Mr. Shukla, the ultimate responsibility and answerability of the Government is always there; so, whatever is done under this law, it is he and his Government who will be answerable to this House. That may be only upto the 18th March, 1976, because, on that day, you cease to be answerable to this House, and every one of us, at the end of our term, becomes answerable to the people.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Are you not answerable now?

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: I am not answerable now; the Government is. I become answerable at the end of my term.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I am learning new political theories.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: That is my view subject to a debate.

SHRI H. M. PATEL (Dhendhuka): He is pleading for the right to disagree.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: The hon. Minister was saying that defamation as defined has not been transgressed in this law. The fundamental difference is that defamation is to be ruled by a court. This law will be determined by the Government. That is the extent of our objection that Government wishes to make itself the judge; it seeks to turn the executive into a judicial institution.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Are the courts barred by this Bill?

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: Sir, as you know very well, an appeal lies to a court. In these things what really counts is how the law is implemented. In fact, by the time the thing gets to a court, the news will be stale. The news is stale even the next morning. The basic difference is that when the amalgamation of this takes place, the balance of democratic society is upset and may be eventually destroyed.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee, my respected senior colleague, with his richness of language, made a brilliant speech but I would like to submit to him that in supporting the emergency, the edifice that he built to begin with crumbled. Because minus this emergency, this Bill, this ordinance would never be before and in my view, minus Shri Chander Shekhar and Shri Ram Dhan, such a law would not get the support of even half the Congress Party. These are the circumstances in which we work.

The Government may feel that by passing of these laws and by acquiring all these powers, they show their strength; to me they only show their weakness, because a man who girdles himself with powers is a man afraid; a man who uses power for a purpose

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and for delivering goods is a man in action; a man surrounded by mobs is a person terribly afraid.

I can fully understand the fears of this Government. If they go to an election now, they would undoubtedly be in the opposition. As I was saying when I began, this is a black day it is a day when the majority of us in this House, and I speak this time for the majority that has been muzzled, would never like to see this. I submit that this ordinance should be disapproved; this Bill should not be passed and the people of this country should continue to be allowed to be full participants in this democracy and for that participation, an essential ingredient is uncontrolled information without Government intervention.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will now put the Statutory Resolution of Mr. Erasmo de Sequeira to vote. The question is:

"This House disapproves of the Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Ordinance, 1975 (Ordinance No. 28 of 1975) promulgated by the President on the 8th December, 1975."

Let the Lobbies be cleared.

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 9]

AYES [13.35 hrs.

Bade, Shri R. V.
Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Bhattacharyya, Shri Dinen
Bhattacharyya, Shri S. P.
Bhaura, Shri B. S.
Chandrappan, Shri C. K.
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
Chaudhuri, Shri Tridib

Deshpande, Shrimati Roza

Gupta, Shri Indrajit

Halder, Shri Madhurjya

Halder, Shri Krishna Chandra

Hazra, Shri Manoranjan

Joarder, Shri Dinesh

Kathamuthu, Shri M.

Koya, Shri Mohamed

Krishnan, Shri M. K.

*Lambodar, Shri Ballyar

Manjhi, Shri Bholu

Mavalankar, Shri P. G.

Modak, Shri Bijoy

Mukherjee, Shri H. N.

Mukherjee, Shri Saroj

Parmar, Shri Bhaljibhai

Patel, Shri H. M.

Patel, Kumari Maniban

Ram Hedao, Shri

Roy, Dr. Saradish

Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar

Saha, Shri Gadadhar

Sequeira, Shri Erasmo de

Shastri, Shri Shiv Kumar

Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan

Vijay Pal Singh, Shri

Yadav, Shri G. P.

NOES

Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed

Alagesan, Shri O. V.

Ambesh, Shri

Appalanaidu, Shri

Aziz Imam, Shri

Babunath Singh, Shri

Bajpai, Shri Vidya Dhar

Banamali Babu, Shri

Banera, Shri Hamendra Singh

Banerjee, Shrimati Mukul

*Wrongly voted for Ayes.

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Barman, Shri R. N.
 Barupal, Shri Panita Lal
 Bhagat, Shri H. K. L.
 Chakleshwar Singh, Shri
 Chandra Gowda, Shri D. B.
 Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal
 Chandrika Prasad, Shri
 Chaudhary, Shri Nitiraj Singh
 Chavan, Shrimati Premalalbai
 Daga, Shri M. C.
 Dalbir Singh, Shri
 Dalip Singh, Shri
 Darbara Singh, Shri
 Das, Shri Anadi Charan
 Das, Shri Dharnidhar
 Daschowdhury, Shri B. K.
 Dharanagaj Singh, Shri
 Dhillon, Dr. G. S.
 Dinesh Singh, Shri
 Dixit, Shri G. C.
 Doda, Shri Hiralal
 Gangadeb, Shri P.
 Garcha, Shri Devinder Singh
 Gavit, Shri T. H.
 Gill, Shri Mohinder Singh
 Godara, Shri Mani Ram
 Gogoi, Shri Tarun
 Gomango, Shri Giridhar
 Gopal, Shri K.
 Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chandra
 Gowda, Shri Pampan
 Hansda, Shri Subodh
 Ishaque, Shri A. K. M.
 Jaffer Sharief, Shri C. K.
 Jagjivan Ram, Shri
 Jamilurrahman, Shri Md.
 Jeyalakshmi, Shrimati V.
 Jha, Shri Chiranjib
 Kadam, Shri J. G.
 Kadannappalli, Shri Ramachandran
 Kakodkar, Shri Purushottam
 Kamakshaiah, Shri D.

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Kamble, Shri T. D.
 Kazi, Shrimati Shetha
 Kinder Lal, Shri
 Kisku, Shri A. K.
 Kotaki, Shri Liladhar
 Krishnam, Shri G. Y.
 Kureel, Shri B. N.
 Lakshminarayanan, Shri M. R.
 Laskar, Shri Nihar
 Latif Haque, Shri
 Mahajan, Shri Vikram
 Majhi, Shri Gejedhar
 Majhi, Shri Kumar
 Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain
 Mandal, Shri Yamuna Prasad
 Manher, Shri Bhagatram
 Maurya, Shri B. P.
 Mayathevar, Shri K.
 Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram
 Mishra, Shri G. S.
 Mishra, Shri Jagannath
 Medi, Shri Shrikishan
 Mohan Swarup, Shri
 Mohapatra, Shri Shyam Sunder
 Murmu, Shri Yogesh Chandra
 Negi, Shri Pratap Singh
 Nimbalkar, Shri
 Oraon, Shri Tuna
 Palodkar, Shri Manikrao
 Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain
 Pandey, Shri R. S.
 Pandit, Shri S. T.
 Pant, Shri K. C.
 Paokai Hackip, Shri
 Patel, Shri Arvind M.
 Patel, Shri Natwarlal
 Patel, Shri Prabhudas
 Patil, Shri C. A.
 Patil, Shri E. V. Vikhe
 Patil, Shri Krishnarao
 Patil, Shri T. A.

Peje, Shri S. J.
Pradhani, Shri K.
Purty, Shri M. S.
Raghu Ramalak, Shri K.
Rai, Shri S. K.
Rai, Shrimati Sahodrabai
Ram Singh Bhai, Shri
Ram Surat Prasad, Shri
Ranabahadur Singh, Shri
Rao, Shri K. Narayana
Rao, Shri M. S. Sanjeevi
Rao, Shri M. Satyanarayan
Rao, Shri P. Ankineedu Prasada
Rathia, Shri Umed Singh
Ravi, Shri Vayalar
Ray, Shrimati Maya
Reddy, Shri K. Ramakrishna
Reddy, Shri M. Ram Gopal
Reddy, Shri P. Ganga
Reddy, Shri P. V.
Reddy, Shri Sidram
Richhariya, Dr. Govind Das
Rohatgi, Shrimati Sushila
Roy, Shri Bishwanath
Saini, Shri Mulki Raj
Samanta, Shri S. C.
Sanghi, Shri N. K.
Sangliana, Shri
Sankata Prasad, Dr.
Sarkar, Shri Sakti Kumar
Sathe, Shri Vasant
Satpathy, Shri Devendra
Savitri Shyam, Shrimati
Sethi, Shri Arjun
Shambhu Nath, Shri
Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore
Sharma, Shri R. N.
Shashi Bhushan, Shri

Shastri, Shri Biswanarayan
Shastri, Shri Sheopujan
Shivnath Singh, Shri
Shukla, Shri B. R.
Shukla, Shri Vidya Charan
Sinha, Shri Dharam Bir
Sinha, Shri R. K.
Sohan Lal, Shri T.
Suryanarayana, Shri K.
Swaminathan, Shri R. V.
Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwar
Swaran Singh, Shri
Tarodekar, Shri V. B.
Tayyab Hussain, Shri
Tiwary, Shri D. N.
Tombi Singh, Shri N.
Tulsiram, Shri V.
Uikey, Shri M. G.
Virbhadra Singh, Shri
Yadav, Shri Karan Singh
Yadav, Shri R. P.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: (The result of the division is: Ayes—35;
Noes—152.

The motion was negatived.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): With the Ayes, you kindly add the number of MPs who are in jail.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY (Rajnandgaon): Bhattacharyyaji, you should go and convey that.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, please. I am awaiting your pleasure. I will now take up Mr. Banerjee's amendment.

*The following Members also recorded their votes for NOES:
Sarvashri Nawal Kishore Sharma and Balyiar Lambedkar.)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 4th March, 1976." (1)

Let the Lobbies be cleared.

The Lok Sabha divided:

AYES

Division No. 10] [13.37 hrs.

Bade, Shri R. V.
Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Bhattacharyya, Shri Dinen
Bhattacharyya, Shri S. P.
Bhaura, Shri B. S.
Chandrappan, Shri C. K.
Chaudhuri, Shri Tridib
Deshpande, Shrimati Roza
Gupta, Shri Indrajit
Halder, Shri Madhuryya
Halder, Shri Krishna Chandra
Hazra, Shri Manoranjan
Joarder, Shri Dinesh
Kathumuthu, Shri M
Krishnan, Shri M. K
Manjhi, Shri Bhola
Mavalankar, Shri P. G.
Modak, Shri Bijoy
Mukerjee, Shri H. N.
Mukherjee, Shri Saroj
Parmar, Shri Bhaljibhai
Patel, Shri H. M.
Ram Hedao, Shri
Roy, Dr. Saradish
Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar
Saha, Shri Gadakhar

NOES

Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed
Alagesan, Shri O. V.
Ambesh, Shri
Appalanaidu, Shri
Aziz Imam, Shri
Babunath Singh, Shri
Bajpai, Shri Vidya Dhar
Banamali Babu, Shri
Banera, Shri Hamendra Singh
Banerjee, Shrimati Mukul
Barman, Shri R. N.
Barupal, Shri Panna Lal
Bhagat, Shri H. K. L.
Chakleshwar Singh, Shri
Chandra Gowda, Shri D. B.
Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal
Chandrika Prasad, Shri
Chaudhary, Shri Nitraj Singh
Daga, Shri M. C.
Dalbir Singh, Shri
Dalip Singh, Shri
Darbara Singh, Shri
Das, Shri Angdi Charan
Das, Shri Dharnidhar
Daschowdhury, Shri B. K.
Dharamgaj Singh, Shri
Dhillon, Dr. G. S.
Dinesh Singh, Shri
Dixit, Shri G. C.
Doda, Shri Hirnalal

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of Publication of
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Gangadeb, Shri P.
Garcha, Shri Devinder Singh
Gavit, Shri T. H.
Gill, Shri Mohinder Singh
Godara, Shri Mani Ram
Gogoi, Shri Tarun
Gomango, Shri Giridhar
Gopal, Shri K.
Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chandra
Gowda, Shri Pampan
Hansda, Shri Subodh

Ishaque, Shri A. K. M.
Jaffar Sharief, Shri C. K.
Jagjivan Ram, Shri
Jamilurrahman, Shri Md.
Jeyalakshmi, Shrimati V.
Jha, Shri Charanjib

Kadam, Shri J. G.
Kadannappalli, Shri Ramachandran
Kakodkar, Shri Purushottam
Kamakshaiah, Shri D.
Kamble, Shri T. D.
Kaul, Shrimati Sheila
Kinder Lal, Shri
Kisku, Shri A. K.
Kotoki, Shri Liladhar
Krishnan, Shri G. Y.
Kureel, Shri B. N.
Lakshminarayanan, Shri M. R.
Lambodar Baliyar, Shri
Laskar, Shri Nihar
Lutfal Haque, Shri
Mahajan, Shri Vikram
Majhi, Shri Gajadhar
Majhi, Shri Kumar
Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain
Mandal, Shri Yamuna Prasad
Manhar, Shri Bhagatwam
Maurya, Shri B. P.
Mayathever, Shri K.

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Objectionable Matter Bill
Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram
Mishra, Shri G. S.
Mishra, Shri Jagannath
Modi, Shri Shrikishan
Mohan Swarup, Shri
Mohapatra, Shri Shyam Sunder
Murmu, Shri Yogesh Chandra
Negi, Shri Pratap Singh
Nimbalkar, Shri
Oraon, Shri Tuna
Palodkar, Shri Manikrao
Pandey, Shri Narsinh Narain
Pandey, Shri R. S.
Pandit, Shri S. T.
Pant, Shri K. C.
Paokai Haokip, Shri
Patel, Shri Arvind M.
Patel, Shri Natwarlal
Patel, Shri Prabhudas
Patil, Shri C. A.
Patil, Shri E. V. Vilhe
Patil, Shri Krishnarao
Patil, Shri T. A.
Peje, Shri S. L.
Pradhani, Shri K.
Purty, Shri M. S.
Raghu Ramaiah, Shri K.
Rai, Shri S. K.
Rai Shrimati Sahodrabai
Ram Singh Bhai, Shri
Ram Surat Prasad, Shri
Ranabahadur Singh, Shri
Rao, Shri K. Narayana
Rao, Shri M. S. Sanjeevi
Rao, Shri M. Satyanarayan
Rao, Shri P. Ankineedu Prasada
Rathia, Shri Umed Singh
Ravi, Shri Vayalar
Ray, Shrimati Maya
Reddy, Shri K. Ramakrishna
Reddy, Shri M. Ram Gopal

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Reddy, Shri P. Ganga
Reddy, Shri P. V.
Reddy, Shri Sidram
Richhariya, Dr. Govind Das
Rohatgi, Shrimati Sushila
Roy, Shri Bishwanath
Saini, Shri Mulki Raj
Samanta, Shri S. C.
Sanghi, Shri N. K.
Sangliana, Shri
Sankata Prasad, Dr.
Sarkar, Shri Sakti Kumar
Sathe, Shri Vasant
Satpathy, Shri Devendra
Savitri Shyam, Shrimati
Sethi, Shri Arjun
Shambhu Nath, Shri
Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore
Sharma, Shri R. N.
Sharma, Shri R. R.
Shashi Bhushan, Shri
Shastri, Shri Biswanarayan
Shastri, Shri Sheopujan
Shenoy, Shri P. R.
Shivnath Singh, Shri
Shukla, Shri B. R.
Shukla, Shri Vidya Charan
Sinha, Shri Dharam Bir
Sinha, Shri Nawal Kishore
Sinha, Shri R. K.
Sohan Lal, Shri T.
Suryanarayana, Shri K.
Swaminathan, Shri R. V.
Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwar
Swaran Singh, Shri
Tarodekar, Antu V. B.
Tayyab Hussain, Shri
Tiwary, Shri D. N.

~~by Non-acceptance of~~
~~objectionable matter Bill~~

Tombi Singh, Shri N.

Tulsiram, ~~Shri~~ V.

Ulkey, Shri M. G.

Virbhadra Singh, Shri

Yadav, Shri Kisan Singh

Yadav, Shri N. P.

Yadav, Shri R. P.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The result* of the division is: Ayes—22; Noes—154.

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide against the printing and publication of incitement to crime and other objectionable matter, be referred to a Select Committee consisting of 12 members, Namely:—Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri Dinen Bhattacharya, Shri Tridib Chaudhuri, Smt. Roza Vidyadhar Deshpande, Shri Indrajit Gupta, Shri H. N. Mukerjee, Shri Saroj Mukherjee, Shri Vayalar Ravi, Shri Vasant Sathe, Shri Shashi Bhushan, Shri Ramavtar Shastri, and Shri C. K. Chandrappan, with instructions to report by the 1st April, 1976." (12)

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill to provide against the printing and publication of incitement to crime and other objectionable matter, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

*The following Members also recorded their votes for 'NOES':

Shrimati Premakabai Chavhan and Shri V. B. Tarodekar.

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of Substitution of
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MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now we
take clause by clause consideration.

The question is:

"That clause 2 stand part of the
Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill

Clause 3—("Objectionable matter"
defined).

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I beg to
move:

Page 3.—

omit lines 16 to 18. (2)

Page 3, lines 33 and 34.—

omit "or any other member of
the Council of Ministers of the
Union" (5)

SHRI S M BANERJEE: I beg to
move:

Page 3, line 30.—

for "mischief or any other' sub-
stitute—

"assault or any other similar
violent" (8)

Page 3, line 35.—

omit "or the Governor of a
State" (10)

Page 3,—

after line 45, insert—

"Explanation IA—Any writing
published with a view to bring
about a democratic alternative to
the present Government shall not
be deemed to be objectionable
matter within the meaning of this
section." (11)

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA
(Serampore): I beg to move:

Page 3,—

for lines 13 to 15, substitute,—
"towards the State; or" (13)

Page 3, lines 19 and 20,—

omit "or the Forces charged
with the maintenance of public
order" (15)

Page 3, line 28,—

omit "or against the public tran-

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of Publication of
Objectionable Matter Bill
quility" (16)

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I beg to
move:

Page 3, line 29.—

omit "or any class" (17)

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: My am-
endment to clause 3 is for omitting
lines 18 to 18, i.e. that part of the de-
finition of "objectionable matter"
which reads as follows:—

"any words, signs or visible re-
presentations—which are likely to—

incite any person to interfere
with the production, supply or
distribution of food or other es-
sential commodities or with es-
sential services;"

I listened very carefully to Mr.
Shukla in this first place when he was
assuring us that the reasonable restric-
tions which are laid down in the Con-
stitution under 19(2) correspond to
exactly what has been incorporated in
this Bill. I beg to differ from him
because this is not one of the reason-
able restrictions which are laid down.
Secondly, as we have found from
experience, this particular power
which is being taken is already there
in a number of statutes, which are all
meant to deal with strikes of the
working class which Government may
consider to be illegal. You have the
Maintenance of Essential Supplies and
Commodities Act on the statute book.
I don't know whether the Minister is
aware because it does not come under
his jurisdiction. There is the Press
Act. You have the Industrial Dis-
putes Act which says clearly under
what circumstances strike can be de-
clared illegal. There is a procedure
how strike can be declared illegal,
how participants in the strike or how
those instigating others can be pun-
ished or penalised etc. There is
MISA. There is the DIR. There are half
a dozen statutes already in exist-
ence which are more than adequate to
deal with the situation, to deal with
strikes which the Government con-
siders to be against the interest of the
community etc whether we agree with

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

it or not is a different matter. What I am saying is that these statutes are already there. Why is this introduced here again? Whatever Mr. Shukla may say, I am aware of the fact that there may be occasions when some forces in the country would like to bring about some kind of dislocation or interruption of supplies or something like that. He said that these clauses are meant to deal with misbehaviour of monopoly press. I can assure him that these people who own the monopoly press, big captains of industry, are the last persons in the world who would come within the mischief of this clause, not in their capacity as owners of press but in their Industries. This clause will be used. I know it from experience, only to crush the right of workers to go on strike. If you have come to the conclusion that strikes of working class or trade union strikes are to be banned outright, then, say so. So far as I know, certain restrictions have been put under various statutes of course. But the right to strike has not been taken away and we are not going to be a party to take away the right to strike. But this law means that in respect of a perfectly legal, registered trade union, if, under certain circumstances, they decide to go on strike, that trade union is not to be allowed to publish a leaflet. If they want to support that call for strike, they would come immediately within the mischief of the clause. Is not the publication of leaflets a common practice which is done in all trade union activities? Therefore, this is a very dangerous clause in our opinion. There is no need for it at all here. In the other clause you talk about committing offence against the State or against public tranquillity or inciting persons to commit offence or mischief. If you really do not want to crush strikes, but deal with all these things, you can deal with such things by those

other clauses. This specific portion of this clause should be removed. It is not necessary at all when you have other laws which deal precisely with this kind of contingency. The Industrial Disputes Act is there. You have the Essential Supplies and Commodities Act. MISA is there; Defence of India Act and Rules are there; still you are not satisfied with that and even this you must bring in.

And, naturally, we have good ground for suspicion that these District Magistrates and Deputy Secretaries and the like of them who will administer these things will use these to suppress all publications by any trade union in the course of its legal activity and, therefore, we are opposed to it.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Sir, I support my hon. friend, Shri Gupta when he said that lines 15 to 18 should be omitted. He has advanced valuable arguments and forceful arguments as to why we demand omission of this clause.

Yesterday I read the old Ordinance in 1931 when a similar clause was brought in by the then Government which was ruling us. This is the same with an exception of a few changes that have been brought now. It has not been contested by the hon. Minister when we said that. If this is meant to curb the activities of the jute press or the monopoly press, how to do that. As ably put forward by my hon. friend Shri Indrajit Gupta, Shri K. K. Birla and G. D. Birla may be owning monopoly presses. They are actually owning the jute industry and the textile industry. Therefore, this will be a sharp instrument in their hands to crush the genuine trade union activities of the workers. That is our fear. And that is why we have demanded the deletion of this clause. When this act was passed, there was a railway strike that took place. This was used against the workers when the railway

strike took place. Thousands of workers were arrested and thousands were beaten; they were put behind the bar and their families were dragged and many of the workers even committed suicide. Naturally, when there is the Maintenance of Essential Commodities Act that is there; when there is the D.I.R. or the MISA, why this is necessary at all. I do not know that. My fear is this. Though the hon. Minister has assured us that it will not be used against the genuine trade union workers yet it will be used against them only. After all everybody cannot follow what the INTUC does. After the Bonus Ordinance passed by the House becomes law, people will still agitate throughout the country. After all, strike is a genuine democratic right of a worker. The hon. Minister may or may not agree with us. Our experience however is that such legislation can help the monopolists only to crush the workers. Therefore I moved my amendment No. 8 that for the word 'mischief or any other' substitute 'assault or any other similar violent'. The term 'any other offence' is a very vague term. Everything can come under that. If I call you as not impartial, even that will be an offence. If somebody has committed a murder, that is an offence. I can understand that. If it is a assault, that is an offence. This also I can understand. If there is a violence or if somebody or if some press or newspapers create an atmosphere of violence, I can understand that too. But 'any other' is not being defined at all. That is why I want omission of this. Then after line 45, I want an explanation. I want the omission of the words 'or any other member of the Council of Ministers of the Union' and the words 'or the Governor of a State'. I do not know why you want these to be provided here. Sir, when the Prime Minister is moving throughout the country and some people are criticising her and some are applauding her and she is a politician she should be ready to have brickbats and bouquet. Do

you think we are only meant for that and you, Deputy Speaker, be excluded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I welcome criticism.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Because you welcome it, that is why you are excluded.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think controversy teaches a person.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I hope your advice will be followed by the President, the Prime Minister and the Vice President. We do not want to give them protection. Then there are governors. There was a CBI report against Mr. Kanungo who was a governor. There are Mr. Sukhadia and Mr. Satya Narayan Sinha. They are not above suspicion. Should we not criticise them? Then there are cabinet ministers, state ministers and deputy ministers. Now, we do not have Parliamentary Secretaries otherwise they would also have been mentioned. Sir, I tell you people will laugh at us. I want the hon. Minister to apply his mind.

Now, Sir, in Explanation IA I want to add:

"Any writing, published with a view to bring about a democratic alternative to the present Government shall not be deemed to be objectionable matter within the meaning of this section"

As some hon. Member has just now said even the election manifesto of my party may come under the mischief of this. The manifesto of my party may call for a change in the Government and they may say why the hell you want to change the Government. In that case let there be a permanent Parliament, no elections and nothing of the sort. Only the wives or children of those who die will take over. What is the use of having parliamentary elections. Supposing I

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

have issued a statement to the Press, I expect the Press to come out with editorials. I am against the press barons who have exploited the workers and the journalists but I am not against the people who take an impartial attitude. Are we going to ban them? I plead that my amendment to the Explanation be accepted by the hon. Minister.

Now, Sir, a word about my amendment No. 17. I want the omission of the words 'or any class'. Sir, I assure you in public and secretly that we will definitely incite a class. We are against the class which exploits the human beings. There will be fight in this country between exploiters and exploited. In Hindi we call it.

पैसा बहाने वालों और पसंता बहाने वालों की लड़ाई होगी।

This cannot stop. No Bill can stop it. As long as Birla's income is Rs. 20 lacs or 30 lacs a day and those who are serving him get eight annas a day there will be a class. Even Gandhiji said but I will not quote Gandhiji.

I do not want to quote anybody who is not a Member of the House. What is the use of quoting Gandhiji whom we had forgotten. That should be omitted. We are definite that parliamentary democracy is there, we want to see that parliamentary democracy exists in this country, we are all for it and we are committed to it. But in case, we see that the toiling masses are exploited by the other class, we shall definitely annihilate that class, because the working class of the world have nothing to lose by the change but a world to win. That is the manifesto that has brought the red flag in our hands. With that flag we shall move to create a classless society in the world.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: I have moved amendment No. 13. I request you to kindly look into it. They are mixing up things; that is the trick

they are playing. They try to mix up government with the state. Is it not a party system of government here? Every party, every individual has got the right to criticise the government, including the Prime Minister and the Council of Ministers. Here a blanket ban is being imposed by this Bill. They say: hatred or contempt or exciting disaffection towards the government established by law in India. What do they mean by the word 'government'. Do they mean that we have no right to criticise the minister who may be indulging in some corrupt practices. If this Bill is passed, I cannot, because he is part of the government. Why do they take to this method of misleading our people. It is not that Mr. Shukla does not know the distinction between the state and the government. What is his explanation? I know in his reply he will fumble and say that he does not mean it. Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri S. M. Banerjee have explained the position and I fully share their views. At the same time I want to add what is happening today. No union which belongs to CITU or any opposition party is allowed to print even a leaflet announcing any state of affairs or mere description of the demands of the workers. Press will not accept it and is not accepting it unless the censor okays it. This is happening every day. The other day I was in a factory a big foreign company—Dunlop Company Ltd., a multi-national company. For the last ten years the workers were getting their bonus in the month of January at the rate of 20 per cent. This year taking advantage of the grand philosophy spread by the hon. Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi after the promulgation of the Ordinance, the company is refusing to pay bonus which the workers were getting for the last ten years. We have no right to issue a leaflet that we demand it. If we do that, the workers are liable under his Bill also to be arrested and prosecuted. Not only the

printer and publisher; if Dinen Bhattacharyya is president of the union and lends his name, he will also be brought under this Bill and he will be convicted.

14.00 hrs.

Sir, this is the position. I would like to mention another important matter in this connection. Once C.I.T.U. wanted to bring out a leaflet as to how a monopolist company was making a huge profit. But the Censor Officer said that we should not publish these things except that we could bring out only the crux of the point and he said, "you could mention only profit and not 'huge'." This is the kind of censor prevailing after Ordinance. The other point that has been mentioned by Mr. Indrajit Gupta and Mr. Banerjee is that apart, we would be facing practical difficulties with regard to this Bill, because we have already got Acts like Industrial Disputes Act, Essential Commodities Act, etc. Thousands of our trade unionists and workers are already suffering in jail, who have been arrested under MISA or D.I.R. Sir, you will be astonished to know that in your State, in the Fertiliser Unit at Namrun, some trade union leaders have been arrested under MISA. Sir, do you know what has happened there? Some INTUC people had gone to the workers and asked them to join the INTUC. But the workers did not do so. Sir, thereupon three union leaders of the same Unit were arrested by the police and they have been detained under M.I.S.A. since then.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER You have already mentioned these points.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Sir, you kindly look into the Bill. Under Clause 3 sub-para (iii) is stated as follows;

"(iii) seduce any member of the Armed Forces or the Forces charged with the maintenance of public order"

May I know what is the definition of 'public order'? In 1971 when Shrimati Indira Gandhi was ruling West Bengal through the Governor, at that time armed personnel were sent to West Bengal who conducted combing operations throughout the State and arrested hundreds of people. This created a terror in the area. Now, you are adding here the words 'maintenance of public order'. Why did the army personnel are used for maintaining law and order when police force are already there? Why the army was given the charge of public order. Now the army is sent whenever there is agitation even for economic change and in West Bengal the army was brought when there was a democratic Government. Hence I have asked that "public order" should not be there. Then, I come to amendment No. 16;

Page 3, line 28,—

omit "or against the public tranquillity"

For any damn thing, you may bring a man under its perview. So, I have asked that this should be deleted.

Another point is that you cannot speak against the Prime Minister and her colleagues in the Council of Ministers. Are they all 'supermen'? Cannot they commit any crime? They day in and day out, do something which to me or to anybody seem to be a corrupt practice. Have I got no right to bring it to the notice of the public? Our Government is a party system of Government or a totalitarian system, one party rule. Don't hoodwink the people like your 'Garibi Hatao' programme.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I only wanted to point out to Amendment No. 5 that this provision, in my opinion, should not be extended to other Members of the Council of Ministers. Why did I say so? Yesterday, when we were discussing the Press

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

(Parliamentary Proceedings Immunity) (Repeal of Act) Bill, Mr. Shukla met our argument by saying that the immunity which is enjoyed in this House by Members should not be enjoyed by editors, publishers and other people and they should like any other common citizen, have the courage to face, if necessary, any defamation suit. On the same argument, I am asking, if any member of the Council of Ministers is really defamed by any publication, why should he also not like any other common citizen, resort to defamation proceedings against that publication. He is free to do that. In this particular case, even a Deputy Minister of this Government must be given protection. Why? Why should he be put on such a high pedestal? Even if the Prime Minister is protected which is a matter of debate and controversy, why should every single member of this Council of Ministers, including every Deputy Minister, Minister of State, Cabinet Minister—all be given protection? (Interruptions) If they are defamed, let them, like any other citizen in this country, file a defamation suit against that publication. Mr. Shukla may please tell me what is the logic in this that the Deputy Minister in the Council of Ministers in the Union Government is given this protection, but the Chief Minister in the State is not given this protection. So, according to you, you have a list of priorities, under that, simply by virtue of belonging to the Council of Ministers at New Delhi, even though you are a deputy minister, your status is *ipso facto, ex-officio* so much higher than that of a Chief Minister of a big State, that he need not be protected against this defamation, but everybody here must be protected. Why? May I know what is the logic behind this? Your law must have some logic in it also. Therefore, my amendment is that the words "any other members of the Council of Ministers of the Union" must be omitted from here. Let them be courageous enough; if any editor or

publisher defames them—well, if he has really committed defamation, he will really get into trouble let the Minister haul him up in the court and let him file a defamation suit and let the man be properly convicted. I think it is absolutely something which is repugnant and ridiculous. It will make this Council of Ministers a laughing stock in the country.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, before I reply to the debate on these amendments, may I have your indulgence to move an amendment which seeks to correct the printing mistake in Clause 3? At page 3, line 22, after "Force," we want to insert the word "or". And at page 3, line 35, after "A States;"....(Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Page 3, clause 3, at line 22, after "Force," you want to insert the word "or". But "or" is already there. (Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: There are two "Force" there. So, the second "Force". (Interruptions)

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order. I have allowed this as a very special case, because....order, please, Just a minute.

SHRI S. M BANERJEE Yesterday when I was late only by two minutes—and you know that I went to the hospital—you, in your wisdom and in a sense of impartiality, said "I am not going to permit you. You have lost the opportunity" I remind you, Sir, I asked you "Are you going to do the same thing to the Minister?". You said: "Yes" (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order, order. I thoroughly accept what Mr. Banerjee has said. Please; order order. Of course I do accept that position and it is also correct that today, out of oversight or weakness, I had deviated from the commitment that I

made yesterday; but I thought that since this is going to be a very crucial clause—and I listened to the Members very attentively—if the Government would respond to their submissions, it would be in the interests of clause 3 and of the House.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: To which submission, did you hope that they would respond?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: They have come forward with certain amendments at the last minute; and just a little while ago, the officer at the Table came to me and consulted me. I could have been mechanical and said; "I cannot allow this because the stage was over."

But I thought that when they are coming at the last moment, they might be doing so in response to the submissions that members have made from this side of the House. I myself am not quite aware of what they are; that is, why I am struggling with them and asking where is this "force" and that sort of thing. I thought that in the larger interests of the discussion, in the larger interests of this clause, even if the Government comes at the last moment, in response to certain submissions you have made, it is my duty to allow them. That is why I have allowed them. I am telling you why I have deviated from my earlier commitment.

Now I can do this only with the permission of the House. I cannot do it of my own; I cannot break my own commitment. But I will also say this, that in case this is allowed, Shri Ramavata Shastri has given notice of some amendments, which I did not allow him to move. In all fairness, I will have to allow him also.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I beg to move:

Page 3, line 22,—

after "Force;" insert "or" (26)

Page 3, line 35,—

after "a State;" insert "or". (27)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI
 (Patna): I beg to move:

Page 3, line 30,—

omit "or any other offence" (18)

Page 3, lines 33 and 34,—

omit "the Prime Minister or any other member of the Council of Ministers" of the Union" (19)

उपायक जी, मैंने अपने संशोधन नं० 14 में मांग की है कि लाइन 16 से 18 तक हटा दी जाए, जिस में यह बात कही गई है :

"incite any person to interfere with the production, supply or distribution of food or other essential commodities or with essential services; or"

यह बहुत ही आपत्तिजनक है और खास तौर से भजदूरों : दोनों में भी काम करते हैं, वे इस धारा को कभी स्वीकार नहीं कर सकते क्योंकि अगर भजदूर अपनी जायज मांगो के लिए भी लड़ाई करें, जायज मांगो के लिए हडसाल भी करती पड़ती है और करनी पड़ती, तो ऐसी स्थिति में आप कह देंगे कि यह आपत्तिजनक बात है और आप उन के खिलाफ कार्यवाही करें। आप को भालूम है कि पिछले दिनों भंहगाई बहुत ज्यादा आ गई थी और बहुत सो जगहें भी तक नहीं मिलती थीं और ऐसी स्थिति आगे भी आ सकती है लेकिन अगर उस के खिलाफ भजदूर आन्दोलन करें, मुनाफाकारी के खिलाफ भजदूर आन्दोलन करें, तो इस धारा के अन्तर्गत कोई न कोई बात कह कर आप उन्हें दंडित करने की कोशिश करेंगे। इसलिये मेरा कहना यह है कि इस धारा की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं थी। अगर भाषा के नाम पर या धर्म के नाम पर केवल बोलते हैं, तो बात समझ में आ सकती है लेकिन इस धारा के अन्तर्गत तमाम किसान, भजदूर और जनता के अन्दर काम करने वालों के अधिकारों को नियंत्रित करने की चेष्टा की गई है और

(की समाचार भारत)

उसे संकार नहीं किया जा सकता। इस में प्रधान मंत्री के से बार सही तक है। ग्राम प्रिस्टिर वह भी बातें कहते हैं, जो लोग बहुत भी अत्यं बोलते हैं जिन्हें हम सही नहीं समझ सकते थे। बहुत बहुत नहीं इनका और आगे भी नहीं समझते। अब कहाँ बोलस की लडाई होगी तो क्या होगा? प्रधान मंत्री बोलस के खिलाफ अगर बोल देंगी या आप बोल देंगे और हम उसका विरोध करेंगे और कहेंगे कि यह मजदूर विरोधी कदम है तो हमारी बात को छोड़नी नहीं और अगर छोड़नी तो कानून की गिरफत में ले आएंगे और सजा करवा देंगे। आपको इस बीच को राष्ट्रपति और स्पीकर तक ही छोड़ना चाहिये, प्रधान मंत्री और दूसरे मंत्रियों को यह इजाजत नहीं मिलनी चाहिये कि वे आलोचना से बच जाएं, उनके खिलाफ कोई बात न कही जाए और कही जाए तो अखबार बाले उसको न छापें और अगर भापते हैं तो उनके खिलाफ कानूनी कार्रवाई की जाये। इससे तो कोई अनतात्त्विक आंदोलन नहीं चल सकेगा, मजदूर आन्दोलन नहीं चल सकेगा, जायज आलोचना भी लोग नहीं कर सकेंगे। आपको यदि होंगा कि इमरजेंसी जब लगाई गई थी तब प्रधान मंत्री ने जो पहला भाषण दिया था रेडियो पर उस में उन्होंने कहा था कि अब राष्ट्रीयकरण की बात आगे नहीं होगी। अब आप ही बताएं कि क्या हम इसका समर्थन कर सकते हैं। अगर इस सवाल पर विरोध प्रधान मंत्री का किया जाएगा तो आप कहेंगे कि आपने तो अपराध किया है और आपकी बात छोड़नी नहीं और अगर किसी ने छाप दी, हिस्सी अखबार ने उसको छाप दिया तो उसके ऊपर आपकी तस्वार लटकेगी,

उसका नस्त आप लाइंगे। एह खाले हम यह भी यह कोई उत्तर में उसी अवसरपक्ष उत्तरों के विवरण है, अखबार आलोचना के खिलाफ है, जोनी के लोगों के खिलाफ है, जिन को बात आप करते हैं। यह सब कहते हैं कि जनियो जिनी चाहिये, बालव अवसरा बदलाये चाहिये, नई अवसरा आनी चाहिये और नई अवसरा लाने वालों के ऊपर इन बारों से हमने आप करेंगे। इस बास्ते में इन संकेतों के हात इसका खिलाफ लगता है। फिर एनी अदर आफेंस का क्या भावलव है? इसको आप दिकाइन कीजिये और अगर नहीं करते हैं तो इसके निकाल दीजिये। इससे तो आप तुछ न तुछ ऊपर से लगा देंगे, उलटा सीधा करके बलव सही करके लगा देंगे और उसको दंकित कर देंगे। यह ठीक नहीं है। एनी अदर आफेंस भी नहीं रहना चाहिये।

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:
While moving this Bill for consideration yesterday I had taken care to explain that this was not going to be used and that it cannot be used against the legitimate rights of the workers or the trade union movement.

A specific point has been raised by Shri Gupta and Shri Banerjee, and now Shri Shastri has also expressed a similar fear. May I say that I am aware of the various statutes which govern the essential services etc.? Here, the simple explanation is that this cannot be invoked unless a commodity or service is declared to be essential, and in any case a strike concerning that is illegal. So, it is not that this will be applicable to the trade union movement.

Shri Shastri gave the example of collection of levy. If there is something which disrupts the collection of

levy, grain being an essential commodity, it should definitely be possible and it will be necessary for the Government to see that there is no hindrance in the collection of levy or in the movement of that essential commodity. In any case, if there is incitement to a thing which is illegal, that has to be prevented. So, this is the limited purpose of this particular clause and so, if the hon. Members feel that this is going to be against any legitimate trade union activity, I respectfully submit that that is not correct. Only in such cases where a commodity or service has been declared as essential can this be used. Unless this clause is invoked, it will not come in the way of normal trade union activity.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What is there to prevent its being invoked by any official?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: It is all defined in the Essential Commodities Act as to what can be declared as an essential commodity or service. And unless a commodity or service is so defined or declared, this clause cannot be invoked for any other normal activity of the trade movement.

I forgot to mention the other point made by Prof. Mukherjee. It is quite significant that followers of P.M. should be men and not minion. Now, would it constitute a criticism actionable under this Act or would it be a criticism which will be taken as bona-fide. Clearly such criticism will be taken as a bona-fide criticism and not a criticism which will be brought within any provision of this Act. This kind of thing can easily be said and should be said in the case of somebody.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Who will decide it?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: The decision was to be made by the people all over the country, but the

responsibility of the decision will be accepted by us. It is possible for a country like ours to take or centralise the power of decision on one particular person or on two particular persons. Therefore, we have put this power of decision at a fairly high level, not like the powers under Dist earlier which could be delegated even to the Naib Tehsildar level. Here, it cannot go beyond the level specified.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Ultimately the court will decide.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: In case the decision of the competent authority or the reporting officer or the first appellate authority is disputed, the court will decide whether the action was right or wrong. Therefore, all legitimate criticism which does not amount to defamation under Section 499 of the IPC will be free and I am sure that the hon. Members who are speaking are not interested in protecting defamatory speeches, and that clause can be invoked in the court of law and that can be used.

Another thing which Mr. Chandrappan was pleased to mention yesterday was that even under this election manifestos will not be passed. I have not yet come across any election manifesto that could be objectionable under any provision of this Act. If the election manifesto of any party says that the Government has committed the following wrongs and therefore this Government should be removed, that is perfectly a legitimate action.

SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN (Tellicherry): I meant disaffection towards the Government.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Not necessarily. This is a legal term which is defined by the Court or by various institutions. It is not a dictionary meaning of the disaffection that I am referring, it is the legal meaning

[Shri Vidya Charan Shukla]

of disaffection which has been defined by the court and which does not really include the critical speeches, etc. If you see the first proviso and the second proviso of this Act where we have defined objectionable matters, you will find that all these things are allowed which you seek to include in the election manifesto.

(Interruptions)

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: He should tell us what should be given and what should not be given.

(Interruptions)

It will be censored, I am sure.....

(Interruptions)

Will the censor officer censor it? I hope....

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Your hope is not....

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I can assure that the election manifesto will not be censored.

(Interruptions)

Recently, elections were held in the Gujarat State for the Municipal Corporation and the District panchayats. For that election, various election manifestos were issued and none of them was censored—neither the manifesto of the Ruling Morcha nor our own.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Is that by grace?

(Interruptions)

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Under the law, if it has contained anything prejudicial to the law, then, of course, that would have been censored. But since it did not contain

anything, and any normal election manifesto will not contain any such matter, therefore this kind of fear that election manifesto would be censored is not well-founded. And even the example given by Mr. Chandrappan gives me an opportunity to clarify this matter that this kind of legitimate political activities of the Opposition will not be affected by any provision of this law.

About public order, Mr. Dinen Bhattacharyya was asking me to define "public order". Public order is well-defined. So, I do not have to take the time of the House on that.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: Where is it defined?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: It is defined in various case laws.

Then, Mr. Indrajit Gupta was rather exercised about the protection which has been given to the various office holders. He has moved an amendment which says:

omit "or any other member of the Council of Ministers of the Union."

He does not object to keeping the words:

"are defamatory of the President of India, the Vice-President of India, the Prime Minister, the Speaker of the House of the People or the Governor of a State;"

I would be willing to accept the amendment and omit these words, "any other member of the Council of Ministers of the Union".

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Including the Prime Minister?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I would clarify what I am willing to accept. There is amendment No. 5 moved by Shri Indrajit Gupta. It says:

Page 3, lines 33 and 34

omit "or any other member of the Council of Ministers of the Union."

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAM-AIAH): The word "or" must remain.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: The word "or" will remain. The word "or" is necessary for the continuation of the sentence.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: You have accepted Mr. Indrajit Gupta's amendment. Why not you accept another amendment of mine, Amendment No. 10, that is, to omit "or the Governor of a State"?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I have made our position clear with regard to these amendments. I hope, the hon. Members will find it satisfactory.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Why have you left out the Chief Ministers of the States?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I want to clearly state that we have not included the Chief Ministers or the Ministers of the States because the State Legislatures are competent to enact a legislation of this kind if they so think fit. We did not want to do this. If the State Legislatures want to give this kind of immunity ...

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Why have you included State Governor?

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA. The State Governor is not under that ambit. If the State Legislatures in their wisdom want to enact a law of this kind, they can do so. We did not want to do that. We do not want to enact anything like that for the State Council of Ministers. It is for the State Legislatures to do if they want.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: About my amendment, regarding the

distinction between the State and the Government, you have mixed up the both.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Your views are before the House; my views are before the House. It is for the House to decide.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: There is Amendment No. 5 to Clause 3 moved by Shri Indrajit Gupta.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: My amendment is that the word 'or' should be retained so that the continuity of the sentence is maintained.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I think I should put this amendment first to the House with this modification that the word 'or' should not be included in the words to be deleted.

Now, the question is:

omit "any other member of the Council of Ministers of the Union". (5, as modified).

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Then, there are two other amendments moved by Shri Shukla which, I presume will be accepted. Therefore, I will put them to the House.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: I want to speak on it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: No, speaking is over.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: This is moving an amendment and I want to speak on it.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Has he no right to speak?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Not on the amendment.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: At the proper stage, the amendment was not there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I don't understand all this confusion. Will you kindly sit down?

SHRI INDRAMIT GUPTA: This has been brought verbally by him later on.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I don't understand it; we have had so much discussion.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: On a non-existent amendment?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Will you kindly listen to me for two minutes? We had a discussion on this. When the Minister sought my permission to move these amendments, I allowed him and I gave the reason. Mr. Banerjee pointed to the observation I made yesterday that after the stage is over I would not allow anybody, and I own that here, tactically I made a mistake, and then I took the consent of the House; they agreed and I went out of the way and allowed Shri Ramavtar Shastri also to move his amendment and to speak. Now the speaking stage is over and we have reached the stage of putting the amendments to the House. I hope I have made myself clear.

Now, the question is:

Page 3, line 22,—
after "Force;"
insert "or" (26)

Page 3, line 35,—
"after "a State;"
insert "or" (27)

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now the rest of the amendments. Does any Hon. Member want particular amendments to be put specifically?

SHRI INDRAMIT GUPTA: Yes, amendment No. 2.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA: Also Nos. 13 and 14.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: So these amendments are to be put separately.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 2 to Clause 3, moved by Shri Indrajit Gupta, to the vote of the House. The question is:

"Page 3,—

omit lines 16 to 18." (2)

Let the lobby be cleared.

The Lok Sabha divided:

Division No. 11] [14 46 hrs.

AYES

Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Bhattacharyya, Shri Dinen
Bhattacharyya, Shri S. P.
Bhaura, Shri B. S.
Chandrappan, Shri C. K.
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
*Chaudhuri, Shri Tridib
Chowhan, Shri Bharat Singh
Deshpande, Shrimati Roza
Gowder, Shri J. Matha
Gupta, Shri Indrajit
Halder, Shri Madhuryya
Halder, Shri Krishna Candra
Hazra, Shri Manoranjan
Joarder, Shri Dinesh
Kathamuthu, Shri M.
Krishnam, Shri M. K.
Kiruttinan, Shri Tha

*He voted by mistake from a wrong seat and later informed the Speaker accordingly.

217	Res. and Prevention MAGNA 9, 1907 (SAKA) Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill	218	Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill
	"Madhukar", Shri K. M.		Chhotey Lal, Shri
	Mavalankar, Shri P. G.		Daga, Shri M. C.
	Modak, Shri Bijoy		Dalbir Singh, Shri
	Mukerjee, Shri H. N.		Darbara Singh, Shri
	Mukherjee, Shri Saroj		Das, Shri Anadi Charan
	Parmar, Shri Bhaijibhai		Dasappa, Shri Tulsidas
	Patel, Kumari Maniben		Daschowdhury, Shri B. K.
	Patel, Shri H. M		Dharanagaj Singh, Shri
	Roy, Dr. Saradish		Dhillon, Dr. G. S.
	Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar		Dixit, Shri G. C.
	Saha, Shri Gadadhar		Dwivedi, Shri Nageshwar
	*Shastri, Shri Rameyata		Engti, Shri Biren
	Shastri, Shri Shiv Kumar		Ganesh, Shri K. R.
	Singh, Shri D. N.		Garcha, Shri Devinder Singh
	Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan		Gautam, Shri C. D.
	Vijay Pal Singh, Shri		Gavit, Shri T. H.
	Yadav, Shri Shiv Shanker Prasad		Gill, Shri Mohinder Singh
	NOES		
	Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed		Godara, Shri Mani Ram
	Ambesh, Shri		Gomango, Shri Giridhar
	Ansari, Shri Ziaur Rahman		Gopal, Shri K.
	Appalanaidu, Shri		Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chandra
	Arvind Netam, Shri		Gowda, Shri Pampan
	Austin, Dr. Henry		Hansda, Shri Subodh
	Babunath Singh, Shri		Hari Singh, Shri
	Bajpai, Shri Vidya Dhar		Jamilurrahman, Shri Md.
	Balakrishniah, Shri T.		Jeyalakshmi, Shrimati V.
	Banamali Babu, Shri		Jha, Shri Chiranjih
	Banera, Shri Hamendra Singh		Kadam, Shri J. G.
	Banerjee, Shrimati Mukul		Kader, Shri S. A.
	Barman, Shri R. N.		Kahandole, Shri Z. M.
	Barupal, Shri Panna Lal		Kakodkar, Shri Purushottam
	Basumatari, Shri D.		Kamakshaiah, Shri D.
	Bhagat, Shri H. K. L.		Kamble, Shri T. D.
	Bhattacharyya, Shri Chapalendu		Kapur, Shri Sat Pal
	Chakleshwar Singh, Shri		Kavde, Shri B. R.
	Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal		Kinder Lal, Shri
	Chandrika Prasad, Shri		Kisku, Shri A. K.
	Chaudhary, Shri Nitiraj Singh		Kotoki, Shri Liladhar
	Chavan, Shrimati Premalabai		Kureel, Shri B. N.
			Lakshminarayanan, Shri M. R.

*He voted by mistake from a wrong seat and later informed the Speaker accordingly.

219	Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill	JANUARY 29, 1976	Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill	220
	Lambodar Ballyar, Shri		Ram Surat Prasad, Shri	
	Lutful Haque, Shri		Ranabahadur Singh, Shri	
	Mahajan, Shri Vikram		Rao, Shrimati B. Radhabai A.	
	Majhi, Shri Kumar		Rao, Shri K. Narayana	
	Malhotra, Shri Inder J.		Rao, Shri M. Satyanarayan	
	Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain		Rao, Shri P. Ankineedu Prasada	
	Mandal, Shri Yamuna Prasad		Rathia, Shri Umed Singh	
	Manhar, Shri Bhagatram		Ray, Shrimati Maya	
	Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram		Reddy, Shri K. Ramakrishna	
	Mishra, Shri G. S.		Reddy, Shri P. Ganga	
	Mishra, Shri Jagannath		Reddy, Shri Sidram	
	Modi, Shri Shrikishan		Richhariya, Dr. Govind Das	
	Mohapatra, Shri Shyam Sunder		Saini, Shri Mulki Raj	
	Mohsin, Shri F. H.		Samanta, Shri S. C.	
	Munsi, Shri Priya Ranjan Das		Sanghi, Shri N. K.	
	Murmu, Shri Yogesh Chandra		Sankata Prasad, Dr.	
	Negi, Shri Pratap Singh		Sarkar, Shri Sakti Kumar	
	Oraon, Shri Kartik		Sathe, Shri Vasant	
	Oraon, Shri Tuna		Satpathy, Shri Devendra	
	Palodkar, Shri Manikrao		Savitri Shyam, Shrimati	
	Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain		Sayeed, Shri P. M.	
	Pandey, Shri R. S.		Sethi, Shri Arjun	
	Pandit, Shri S. T.		Shailani, Shri Chandra	
	Paokai Haokip, Shri		Shankaranand, Shri B.	
	Patel, Shri Arvind M.		Sharma, Shri Nawal Kishore	
	Patel, Shri Natwarlal		Shastri, Shri Biswanarayan	
	Patel, Shri Prabhudas		Shastri, Shri Sheopujan	
	Patil, Shri E. V. Vikhe		Shetty, Shri K. K.	
	Patil, Shri Krishnarao		Shivnath Singh, Shri	
	Patil, Shri T. A.		Shukla, Shri B. R.	
	Patnaik, Shri Banamali		Shukla, Shri Vidya Charan	
	Peje, Shri S. L.		Sinha, Shri Dharam Bir	
	Pradhani, Shri K.		Sinha, Shri R. K.	
	Raghu Ramaiah, Shri K.		Sohan Lal, Shri T.	
	Rai, Shri S. K.		Sokhi, Sardar Swaran Singh	
	Rai Shrimati Sahodrabai		Suryanarayana, Shri K.	
	Ram, Shri Tulmohan		Swaminathan, Shri R. V.	
	Ram Dayal, Shri		Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwar	
			Tayyab Hussain, Shri	
			Tiwari, Shri Chandra Bhal Mani	

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of Publication of
Objectionable Matter Bill 222
of Publication of
Objectionable Matter Bill

Tiwary, Shri D. N.
Tombi Singh, Shri N.
Tulsiram, Shri V.
Uikey, Shri M. G.
Vikal, Shri Ram Candra
Yadav, Shri Chandrajit
Yadav, Shri Karan Singh
Yadav, Shri R. P.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The result* of the division is: Ayes 35; Noes 148.

The motion was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 11 to Clause 3, moved by Shri S. M. Banerjee, to the vote of the House.

Amendment No. 11 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I shall now put Amendment No. 13, moved by Shri Dinen Bhattacharyya, to the vote of the House. The question is:

"Page 3,—

for lines 13 to 15, substitute,—

"towards the State; or" (13)

The Lok Sabha divided

AYES

Division No. 12] 14.49 hrs.

Banerjee, Shri S. M.
Bhattacharyya, Shri Dinen
Bhattacharyya, Shri S. P.
Bhaura, Shri B. S.
Chandrappan, Shri C. K.
Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
Chaudhuri, Shri Tridib
Chowhan, Shri Bharat Singh

Deshpande, Shrimati Roza
Gowder, Shri J. Matha
Gupta, Shri Indrajit
Halder, Shri Madhuruya
Haider, Shri Krishna Chandra

Hazra, Shri Manoranjan

Joarder, Shri Dinesh

Kathamuthu, Shri M.

Krishnan, Shri M. K.

Kiruttinan, Shri Tha

"Madhukar", Shri K. M.

Mavalankar, Shri P. G.

Modak, Shri Bijoy

Mukherjee, Shri H. N.

Mukherjee, Shri Saroj

Nayak, Shri Baksi

Parmar, Shri Bhaljibhai

Patel, Kumari Maniben

Patel, Shri H. M.

Roy, Dr Saradish

Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar

Saha, Shri Gadadhar

Shastri, Shri Ramavtar

Shastri, Shri Shiv Kumar

Singh, Shri D. N.

Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan

Vijay Pal Singh, Shri

Yadav, Shri Shiv Shankar Prasad

NOES

Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed
Ambesh, Shri
Ansari, Shri Ziaur Rahman
Appalaiaudu, Shri
Arvind Netam, Shri
Austin, Dr. Henry

*Shri Dharnidhar Das also recorded his vote for 'NOES.'

223 Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill **JANUARY 20, 1976** **224 Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill**

Babunath Singh, Shri	Jeyalakshmi, Shrimati V.
Bajpai, Shri Vidya Dhar	Jha, Shri Chiranjib
Balakrishniah, Shri T.	Kadam, Shri J. G.
Banamali Babu, Shri	Kader, Shri S. A.
Banera, Shri Hamendra Singh	Kahandole, Shri Z. M.
Banerjee, Shrimati Mukul	Kakodkar, Shri Purushottam
Barman, Shri R. N.	Kamakshaiah, Shri D.
Barupal, Shri Panna Lal	Kamble, Shri T. D.
Basumatari, Shri D	Kapur, Shri Sat Pal
Bhagat, Shri H. K. L	Kavde, Shri B. R.
Bhattacharyya, Shri Chapalendu	Kinder Lal, Shri
Chakleshwar Singh, Shri	Kisku, Shri A. K.
Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal	Kotoki, Shri Liladhar
Chandrika Prasad, Shri	Kureel, Shri B. N.
Chaudhary, Shri Nitiraj Singh	Lakshminarayanan, Shri M. R.
Chhotey Lal, Shri	Lambodar Baliyar, Shri
Daga, Shri M. C.	Lutfal Haque, Shri
Dalbir Singh, Shri	Mahajan, Shri Vikram
Darbara Singh, Shri	Majhi, Shri Kumer
Das, Shri Anadi Charan	Malhotra, Shri Inder J.
Das, Shri Dharnidhar	Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain
Dasappa, Shri Tulsidas	Mandal, Shri Yamuna Prasad
Dharamgaj, Singh, Shri	Manhar, Shri Bhagatram
Dhillon, Dr G S	Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram
Dixit, Shri G C.	Mishra, Shri G. S.
Dwivedi, Shri Nageshwar	Mishra, Shri Jagannath
Engti, Shri Biren	Modi, Shri Shrikishan
Ganesh, Shri K R	Mohapatra, Shri Shyam Sunder
Garcha, Shri Devinder Singh	Mohsin, Shri F H
Gautam, Shri C D	Munsi, Shri Priya Ranjan Das
Gavit, Shri T. H	Murmu, Shri Yogesh Chandra
Gill, Shri Mohinder Singh	Negi, Shri Pratap Singh
Godara, Shri Mani Ram	Oraon, Shri Kartik
Gomango, Shri Girdhar	Oraon, Shri Tuna
Gopal, Shri K.	Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain
Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chandra	Pandey, Shri R. S.
Gowda, Shri Pampan	Pandit, Shri S T
Hansda, Shri Subodh	Paokai Haokip, Shri
Hari Singh, Shri	Patel, Shri Arvind M.
Jamilurrahman, Shri Md.	

225	Res. and Prevention MAGHA 9, 1887 (SAKA) Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill	226	Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill
	Patel, Shri Natwarlal		Shetty, Shri K. K.
	Patel, Shri Prabhudas		Shivnath Singh, Shri
	Patil, Shri E. V. Vikhe		Shukla, Shri B. R.
	Patil, Shri Krishnarao		Shukla, Shri Vidya Charan
	Patil, Shri T. A.		Sinha, Shri Dharam Bir
	Patnaik, Shri Banamali		Sinha, Shri R. K.
	Peje, Shri S. L.		Sohan Lal, Shri T.
	Pradhani, Shri K.		Sokhi, Sardar Swaran Singh
	Raghu Ramaiah, Shri K.		Suryanarayana, Shri K.
	Rai Shrimati Sahodraben		Swaminathan, Shri R. V.
	Ram, Shri Tulsoman		Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwar
	Ram Dayal, Shri		Tayyab Hussain, Shri
	Ram Surat Prasad, Shri		Tiwari, Shri Chandra Bhal Mani
	Ranabahadur Singh, Shri		Tiwary, Shri D. N.
	Rao, Shrimati B. Radhabai A.		Tombi Singh Shri N.
	Rao, Shri K. Narayana		Tulsiram, Shri V.
	Rao, Shri M. Satyanarayana		Uikey, Shri M. G.
	Rao, Shri P. Ankineedu Prasada		Yadav, Shri Chandrajit
	Rathia, Shri Umed Singh		Yadav, Shri Karan Singh
	Ray, Shrimati Maya		Yadav, Shri R. P.
	Reddy, Shri K. Ramakrishna		MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The result* of the division is: Ayes 36; Noes 141.
	Reddy, Shri P. Ganga		
	Reddy, Shri Sidram		
	Richhariya, Dr. Govind Das		
	Saini, Shri Mulki Raj		
	Samanta, Shri S. C.		
	Sankata Prasad, Dr.		
	Sarkar, Shri Sakti Kumar		
	Sathe, Shri Vasant		
	Satpathy, Shri Devendra		
	Savitri Shyam, Shrimati		
	Sethi, Shri Arjun		
	Shailani, Shri Chandra		
	Shankaranand, Shri B.		
	Shastri, Shri Biswanarayan		
	Shastri, Shri Sheopujan		

*The following Members also recorded their votes for 'NOES':

Sarvhshri P. M. Sayeed, Nawal Kishore Sharma, Ram Chandra Vikal and S. K. Rai
2297 LS—8.

Clause 3, as amended, was added to
the Bill

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Clauses
4 to 7—no amendments. The question
is—

"That clauses 4 to 7 stand part of
the Bill."

The motion was adopted

Clauses 4 to 7 were added to the Bill

Clause 8—(Power to control Pre-
judicial Publications.)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I
beg to move:

Page 5, line 44—

for "twenty-one" substitute
"thirty" (20)

उपाध्यक्ष जी, आपका ज्ञाने के अपराध में अगर सरकार या इस के अधिकारी किसी सम्बाद पत्र के मालिकार्प्रेस के सालिक, सम्पादक और प्रकाशक से जमानत लेवा करेंगे, नई जमानत या पुरानी जमानत जब्त हो जाने के बाद दोबारा जमानत भागें, तो इस के लिये यह प्रावधान रखा गया है कि 21 दिन के अन्दर उन्हे जमानत की राशि जमा कर देकी जाए। इस के लिये 21 दिन का समय निर्धारित किया गया है। मेरे सम्बोधन का आशय है कि आप 21 दिन की जमा 30 दिन कर दीजिये, एक महीना कर दीजिये, ताकि अगर छोटे छोटे दोबारावाले कानून की गिरफ्त में आ जाय और उन्हे जमानत वीराशि जमा करना पड़े, जहाँ वे अखबार के मालिक हों, सम्पादक हों या प्रकाशक हों, जिस से भी जमानत भागी जाए, तो उन को 2 ब्यैट समय मिलना चाहिये ताकि वे पैमे का बन्दोबस्त कर सकें। यदि आप 9 दिन और ज्यादा बढ़ा देंगे, 21 से 30 दिन कर देंगे तो इस से आसान नहीं टट पड़ेगा, बल्कि दूसरी तरफ इस से गर्वी या आर्थिक रूप में बमजौर समाचार-

पत्र को, प्रेस को, यह जीकर विल जारी कि वह पैसे की व्यवस्था कर सके।

मैंने एक महीने की बात इस लिये भी की है आगे बाले दिनों में आप भर्व लैंड सोलिंग विल पर विचार करें। उस से भी कुछ तरह इस की व्यवस्था है कि इस का मालिक उतने दिनों के प्रत्यक्ष दिनों दाखिल नहीं करेगा तो उस के खिलाफ कार्यवाही की जारी- उस से आप ने 30 दिन का समय लिया है। जब आप दूसरे कानूनों में 30 दिन की व्यवस्था रखते हैं तो फिर आप को इस में 30 दिन की व्यवस्था रखने में क्या शर्तरात्र है। इसलिये मैं भी महोदय से निवेदन करता चाहता हूँ कि आगे भी कहीं सेरे संशोधन है जो इसी तरह के हैं इसलिये एक बार ही निवेदन करता चाहता हूँ, जहाँ जहाँ भी 21 दिन कि छिक है वहा 30 दिन का जिक्र कर दीजिये ताकि सब को फायदा हो जो भी समाचार पत्र मिलाने वाले हैं, वहाँ सम्पादक हों, प्रकाशक हों या प्रेस के मालिक हों, सब को सहनियत हो। मैं यह बड़े प्रैस वाला को बात नहीं कर रहा हूँ, बल्कि छोटे छोटे जो बहुत सारे पत्र, पत्रिकाएं हैं, दैनिक, पार्श्विक साप्ताहिक या मासिक, उन सब को यह सुविधा मिलेगी। इसलिये बेरा निवेदन है कि आप छोटे की बात करते हैं तो छोटों की बात मान लीजिये।

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA.
May I say that this makes no difference to a person whether the time for giving security is 21 days or 30 days, 21 days is, in my opinion, absolutely sufficient and, therefore, this amendment is not acceptable to me... (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Order
please. Mr. Ramavtar Shastri, why
don't you allow me to do my duty
now? The difficulty is that he is both

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of Publication of
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a Ram and an Avatar and on the top
of it a Shastri. Now, the question is

Now, I will put amendment No. 20
to clause 8 to vote.

Amendment No 20 was put and
negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the
question is:

"That clause 8 stand part of the
Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 8 was added to the Bill.

Clause 8- (Power to forfeit security
or demand further security from
Presses.)

SRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I
beg to move:

Page 6, line 11,—
for "twenty-one" substitute
"thirty". (21)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will
put the amendment to vote.

Amendment No 21 was put and
negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER Now, the
question is:

"That clause 9 stand part of the
Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 9 was added to the Bill.

Clause 10 was added to the Bill.

Clause 11- (Power to demand security
from publishers of newspapers and
news-sheets in certain cases.)

SRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I
beg to move:

Page 6, line 47,—
for "twenty-one" substitute
"thirty". (22)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will
put his amendment to vote.

Amendment No. 22 was put and
negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The
question is:

"That clause 11 stand part of the
Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 11 was added to the Bill—

Clause 12—(Power to forfeit security
or demand further security from
publishers of newspapers and news-
sheets.)

SRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I
beg to move:

Page 7, lines 11 and 12,—
for "twenty-one" substitute
"thirty". (23)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will
now put the amendment of Shri Rama-
vatar Shastri to vote.

Amendment No. 23 was put and
negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The
question is:

"That clause 12 stand part of the
Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 12 was added to the Bill.

Clause 13 was added to the Bill.

Clause 14—(Power to demand security
from editors of newspapers and news-
sheets in certain cases.)

SRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I
beg to move:

Page 8, line 6,—
for "twenty-one" substitute
"thirty". (24)

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MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will now put amendment No. 24 of Shri Ramavtar Shastri to vote.

Amendment No. 24 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the question is:

"That clause 14 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 14 was added to the Bill.

Clause 15- (Power to forfeit security or demand further security from editors of newspapers and news-sheets.)

SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: I beg to move:

Page 8, lines 21 and 22,—
for "twenty-one" substitute
"thirty". (25)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I will put amendment No. 25 of Shri Ramavtar Shastri to vote.

Amendment No. 25 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Now, the question is:

"That clause 15 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 15 was added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That Clauses 16 to 41, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 16 to 41, Clause 1, the Enacting Formula, and the Title, were added to the Bill.

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

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MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill, as amended be passed."

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, free expression of opinion is the life-blood of any free and healthy democracy. Genuine democracy thrives on the free flow of opinions and even conflicting opinions. The democrats, who fought for India's freedom, because of their deep seated convictions, incorporated into our Constitution under Article 19, the seven freedoms. These were headed by Article 19(1)(a)—Freedom of Speech and Expression. I am sad to say that the Minister has now come forward under the cloak of internal emergency in the country and in the Parliament to suppress and eliminate these seven freedoms—the leader of which I said just now is the Freedom of Speech and Expression.

John Stuart Mill, in the 19th Century, in his memorable classic "On Liberty", wrote about the value of Freedom of Speech and Expression. I quote:

"Persons of genius are, and are always likely to be, a small minority; but in order to have them, it is necessary to preserve the soil in which they grow. Genius can only breathe freely atmosphere of freedom. Genius should be allowed to unfold itself freely both in thought and in practice".

(interruptions)

I am sorry my friend does not understand what John Stuart Mill says, he is incapable of it and that is why he is interrupting. I do not want to reply to such a useless interruption.

Now, Sir, the ideas of John Stuart Mill on liberty have been writ large on the pages of our Constitution. They are further strengthened by an equally powerful statement on the subject

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from no less a person than a very eminent Jurist of the United States of America—Justice Holmes. Justice Holmes says:

"If there is any principle of the Constitution that more imperatively calls for attention than any other, it is the principle of free thought, not free thought for those who agree with us, but freedom for the thought that we hate."

So, this has been the philosophy of men like John Stuart Mill and Justice Holmes and that philosophy has been written in our Constitution. But I am sorry to find that Mr. Shukla and the Government in their wisdom thought it fit to bring forward this Bill and thereby make nonsense of Freedom of Speech and Freedom of Expression.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla says that this is democracy. I do not accept it. But, assuming for the sake of argument that it is so, then I maintain that it is the fundamental right of every citizen to know everything about public affairs and the citizen has a further right to be informed about various public issues in a democracy. The objection, therefore, is that this Bill restricts the rightful scope of free press. Look at the Minister's own statement. I have no time to go into the details at this stage. I am on the principle of the Bill. If you look at the statement of the Minister, Sir, you will find in the last paragraph as under:

"The main purpose of the Ordinance was to prevent the use of the Press for encouragement of violence, sedition and other offences and for the publication of obscene or scurrilous matter and the definition of "objectionable matter as" been strictly confined to his purpose."

15 hrs.

When he says violence scurrilous matter, etc. I am with him 100 per cent. because we want to change the Government through legitimate means.

Election is a legitimate means for that. One of the eminent British historians, Sir John Seeley, has said that "A General Election is a kind of peaceful Revolution." But that peaceful revolution takes place only when there is an atmosphere of free thought and discussion and free expression of views. If what I say here cannot be understood and read and re-read and pondered over by millions of my countrymen, then how am I going to contribute to the revolution, peaceful revolution, which has to be brought through the ballot box in the general elections? Therefore, regarding violence, obscene matters etc. I do agree with him, that we should not do anything which will encourage these things. But regarding disaffection, it is a dangerous and misleading phrase. He may say all dissent is objectionable and therefore it should be destroyed. The Minister said that he is not using the word in the dictionary sense but in its legal connotation as provided by case law. By taking excuse of this term 'disaffection', he is introducing so many new things into this Bill. This is my point of objection. I will not go into the details my esteemed friend Prof. Hirsh Mukerjee and other hon. Members have argued on this point. On page 3, the 'objectionable matter' is mentioned. 'Objectinable matter' is mentioned as 'exciting disaffection'. He says he is using 'disaffection' not in the dictionary meaning, but as a legal term. But then I wish to ask him one thing in all humility and in all earnestness. Even if one takes the legal meaning of the word disaffection and the case law which has been built round this word throughout the democratic world, then, can the Minister come and say that these new things could be incorporated in this Bill, as is being done here? I ask: Which will be less than or more than disaffection? What he is doing in this Bill is this. Under the excuse of disaffection, he is putting a number of other things. In a democracy, there has to be legitimate expression

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar]

of views, no matter whether one is in a majority or in a minority, even a minority of one! He has the right to express his views. But by this term "disaffection", he has taken advantage of this term—Government are now—to introducing a number of other things which are not at all called for.

Then, again, look at what the Minister says. 'Bring into hatred or contempt, or excite disaffection towards the Government established by law in India or in any State thereof.' Now I ask, since the Bill is going to be passed in a few minutes, as I am sure it will be, what is the position in a State like Gujarat where there is functioning a popularly elected Government at the time of recent Assembly Elections? You may not like it, I may not like some of its points and, policies, but that is not the point. The Minister comes there—to Ahmedabad and elsewhere in Gujarat—personally, and his ministerial colleagues also come in and go from there, talking against the legitimate Government in Gujarat. The new Minister, our former Speaker, Dr. Dhillon, also came to Ahmedabad recently, although he did not make a political speech there. All of them are doing exactly what he wants us not to do against the Central Government! The Bill says clearly, 'Government established by law in India or in any State thereof.' If it is not right to remove Government at the Central level, how is it right to remove the State Government which is legally established through election in Gujarat or in Tamilnadu or wherever it may be? I am speaking irrespective of party politics. I am making points on the consideration of the definition which the Minister himself had given. Moreover, regarding the Explanation No 1 in the Bill, on page 3, who is to decide? Where is the guarantee that this will be im-

plemented honestly by various officers at the level of Deputy Secretaries, Magistrates, etc.? Who is to define objectionable things and sedition?

Six, we have lived in this country, in this century, where two eminently tall people lived, not to talk of other equally great people, but I am talking of the two tallest leaders—Lokamanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Mahatma Gandhi. A person like me at this comparatively young age has had the rare privilege of knowing, talking, and writing personally to Mahatma Gandhi. They are particularly to be mentioned when I am talking about the freedom of the press. I had, of course, not the privilege of seeing Lokamanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, but I have had the privilege of reading innumerable articles by him in his Marathi language newspaper *Kesari* and in the English language paper *The Maratha*, both of which he founded and edited. The British Government said that what he was writing in *Kesari* and *The Maratha* was seditious and he was sentenced to life imprisonment. I remember reading his historic words, spoken at that time. He said to the court something like this: 'Although the jury here has pronounced me as guilty, I maintain that there is a higher jury sitting above, in whose court I am completely innocent.'

Why do you want, I ask my hon. friend the Minister, us to remember those bad old days of the British regime—and the same bad old days are now being repeated under the cloak of "internal emergency," and under the umbrella of excessive powers for Government! The Government having once acquired vast powers is now unwilling to give it up. It wants more powers. The point is that the Government—in fact any Government on the earth—wants more and more powers, because it has

tasted vast powers. They want more and more powers of course, but how can the free citizens in a democracy allow this to happen? Mahatma Gandhi always used to make a distinction between opposing the Government and opposing the State. Lokmanya Tilak did the same. Opposing the Government is not to be equated with opposing the State. Sedition is a right, if it means opposing the Government. If opposing the Government is called 'sedition', then I would, in all humility, say that it is a legitimate democratic right of a citizen to perform the duty of opposing the Government of the day, if that Government needs to be opposed. I myself have been a writer and columnist in several newspapers. I have been editing three journals—the Gujarati Weekly "NIRIKSHAK", the Hindi monthly "Rashtra Veena" and the Gujarati monthly "Abhyas". I had to stop the monthly "Abhyas" because I could not afford the deficit. But my friends and I are continuing to edit the other two. We never write in a violent way; we never write in demagogic terms. Democracy does not mean demagogery. Democracy does not mean inciting or exciting people. So even if you put in some things by way of objectionable matter in the Bill, we shall never be completely thwarted, because we write with a sense of freedom and responsibility.

By this measure, the Press is being restrained and strangulated and cornered from all sides. This does not augur well for the Government and for our democratic republic. I would end with one last quotation as it is very relevant to what I say and it is extremely eloquent. Sir, the Press is being gagged and strangulated from all sides. Why should this happen, especially when the Government, particularly, the Prime Minister herself referred to the Bicentenary of American Independence

in July this year and she even paid compliments to the American people, while speaking by way of reply to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address on 9th January in our House? This was what Mr. Thomas Jefferson, the great President, had to say—and we all know how he contributed substantially and significantly to the drafting of the Declaration of Independence of the United States—about the value of the free Press. Thomas Jefferson, in his First Inaugural Address as President of the United States had this to say and I quote:

"If there be any among us who would wish to dissolve this Union or to change its republican form, let them stand undisturbed as monuments of the safety with which error of opinion may be tolerated where reason is left free to combat it."

Therefore, my conclusion is this: The freedom of the Press is being curbed by this Government by this measure. May I say that by this Bill, Government are destroying the Free Press? Dissent and non-conformism are sought to be punished, nay eliminated by this Bill. This is the danger, and therefore, my opposition to it. Let me, then, conclude by urging that a Free Press stands, like a rock, as one of the surest and mightiest interpreters between the Government and the people. To allow it to be fettered and finished is to fetter and finish ourselves!

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it is another sad day that the Parliament of Free India is taking away one of the remnants of the freedom which the people of the country had. We are including in our statute book another lawless law and infamous act—one of the most anti-democratic methods which this Government has evolved. Sir, this measure along with

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others is a clear indication that this Government is really afraid of—what they are really afraid of—is the freedom of the people; they do not want free people in this country. That is why they have taken away their freedom of personal liberty; they have taken away their freedom of speech; they have taken away the freedom to form an association, they have taken away the freedom to assemble in peaceful ways. Now, in the name of the so-called stopping of disaffection, they are taking away the last freedom of expression, through which only the people of this country can be educated.

Sir, this Government will go down in history as having been responsible for liquidating the cherished principles of democratic rights and democratic norms.

Sir, having not been satisfied with this, they are now taking away the rights of the people of the country under Art. 19. And their fundamental rights are not exercisable now; they have taken away the right to equality. Article 14 has been taken away. Article 21 has been taken away. I can be detained without any protection. Only last week this House had passed another infamous law called MISA. Who are the targets? The targets are the common people and the workers. The workers cannot go on strike. They cannot claim additional bonus. They cannot ask for subsistence living wage and if they do so and you declare some services as essential services then their voice is completely throttled. What are we told: We are told that this is the only way the common people of this country can be dealt with, that is, to apply the *danda*. Solemnly it is said on the floor of the House. We know that you are utilising it liberally. This is the way this Government wants to behave. If the people are with you—as you try to portray—then why are you afraid of the people. Why do you

want them to be slaves? It is because you are not sure of the people support; that is why you want muzzled people. I submit that this measure is nothing but an attempt to denude the people of their rights and to create and continue a feeling of terrorisation and fear psychosis in the minds of the people. If you open your mouth you are liable to be detained under MISA. If you write something which is not palatable to the establishment then also you are liable to be sent to jail, the press is liable to be seized and penalty is liable to be imposed.

Sir, whenever people want to exercise their minimal rights of freedom they are being abused of supposedly indulging into licence. Sir, not a single illustration has been given as to the issues which had been raised on the floor of the House which were not properly raised. If we try to expose a corrupt Minister or a corrupt official or a corrupt Member of Parliament you say it is character assassination. If we want to say that moneys have been taken from the State Bank of India vaults without any explanation that is character assassination. Pondicherry licence scandal is a character assassination. Wonderful. Whenever there is a pitfall or whenever the Government is not functioning properly or the executive does not behave properly or whenever the Ministers are not able to account for their actions and whenever we try to project the same in the House for proper explanation and enquiry and investigation you ascribe to it political motives and say that it is character assassination. Once I find and genuinely believe for good reasons that Mr. X is a corrupt person and if I say that, have I any right to say that? Where shall I go for investigation and adjudication. Parliament is not appointing committees. Let parliamentary committees be appointed. What is to be done? It is very easy to say and to castigate any demand for any reasonable investigation and any attempt to make proper exposure to

characterise them as character assassination. If 'A' says somebody is doing something wrongful which you do not like then you say the press is indulging into objectionable behaviour.

Sir, they are trying to create a privileged class in this country purportedly to be in the name of the people of this country. They are creating a privileged class. The President of India, the Vice-President of India, the Prime Minister of India and the Speaker of the House of the People and the Council of Ministers is thought to be above all laws. Probably they could not swallow it too much and much longer. They are being put above the law. Their elections cannot be challenged. They are being put on a higher pedestal than the ordinary citizen of the country. Afterall they are holding elective posts and they have to account themselves to the people of this country. Are you not creating vested interests? Another constitutional amendments has been made that a person who has ever been the Prime Minister will never be guilty of any crime. The other House has passed it.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul):
Guilty of any crime?

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
This is your law. You do not know, Mr. Salve. This is the attempt which is being made. That person will not be guilty of any crime. The crime will be washed away.

This Government is creating a privileged class. The result is very simple, because the Congress President says that one individual is the country today. This is the necessary concept, consequence of that concept which you are adumbrating over the country. You equate somebody with the country. This will necessarily follow it because he or she cannot be touched. Just to give some company, you are bringing in the President, the Vice-President and the Speaker. This is the position which has arisen.

I submit this Bill is nothing but an attempt to direct regimentation and create hegemony of a particular ruling party over this country. No safeguard has been given. Mr. Shukla was speaking of safeguards. In respect of certain orders only, appeal is provided to a court of law. By that time, the mischief will have been done.

With regard to orders made under Chapter II, is there any safeguard? I am being solemnly told to take an appeal against an order made by a Deputy Secretary to the Central Government. Against Chapter II, there is no protection at all. Only an appeal has been provided....

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA:
Safeguard is provided.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
There is only an appeal from an order made under sec. 18. Section 18 is in Chapter III. I shall go to the Central Government, the apostle of fairness and justice, this is the Central Government which brings these laws.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Grounds will always be justiciable.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
We know of grounds, Mr. Salve.

This is nothing but another infamous legislation. The DIR is there. Mr. Shukla owes an explanation to the country. Why, in spite of the DIR which has been liberally used, are you having this legislation? Why do you want this permanent piece of legislation? Why are you not satisfied with suspending article 19? Why are you not satisfied with DIR which is being applied indiscriminately? We know it because in Tripura two newspapers were banned. They were asked to give a huge amount as security. They are small newspapers. Within two days came an order for banning the newspapers. The press was taken over by the Government. The court could intervene only because no ground had been given.

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I want to tell this Government that they are afraid of the people, they are afraid of any scrutiny of their action, they want to put themselves above the law, they do not want scrutiny by the people, they do not want scrutiny by the press, they do not want scrutiny by the court. They think they are above the law, infallible.

I submit even at this stage this Government should consider....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have had enough time.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: ...whether they should proceed with this infamous Bill. They have all the powers under the sun. But they want further powers to oppress the people.

श्री भूल बहू छागा (पाली) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं एक बात बड़ी विनम्रता पूर्वक कहना चाहता हूँ और वह यह है कि आप कानून किसी अच्छी भावना को जे कर बनाते हैं। लेकिन उस का उपयोग कैसे होता है इस बात का आपको ध्यान रखना होगा। एक बात श्रीर कहना चाहता हूँ। वडे दार्शनिकों ने कहा है —

निन्दक नियरे राखिए आगन कुटी छवाय।
विन पानी साबुन दिना निर्मल करे सुधाय॥

मैं समझ नहीं सका, सबल विरोध है: विना कभी कभी लोकतंत्र को खतरा रखता है। कभी कभी कुछ बातें कहने का लोग हक रखते हैं तो वह कोई ऐसी बात नहीं है। हाँ, आप को अच्छा नहीं लगता हो, लेकिन विवेकानन्द ने एक बात कही थी कि मैं बहु हूँ, मैं निर्भीक हूँ। आदमी को एक बात नहीं भूलनी चाहिए कि मैं निर्भीक हूँ, मैं बहु हूँ, मूल भी आपनी बात कहने का अधिकार है। मैं यह नहीं कहना चाहता

किए थाएं तो आपको विनाम्रता में लाने ले। मेरी नम्र प्रार्थना है कि आप आपनारों के बांद लोग लोटके निकलते हैं। लक्ष्यावार यह जनता की आवाज है भीर यह जो आपने लोटके निकल करते हैं अमर उस में आवाजेश्वरोदय कोई बात हो अहं तो आप क्या करें? क्या एडीटर्स की, सम्पादक की जो लिटर लिखे जाते हैं वह प्रकाशित नहीं होने।

तारे पर्वी में इसके लिये एक कालम होता है जिसके जरिए से लोग आपनी आवाज उठा सकते हैं। तो उसके लिए क्या होगा? इसी तरह से काट्टन निकलते हैं जैसे मिल बेट पर मजदूर नारा लगा रहे हैं— जोर जुर्म की टक्कर में हड्डाल हमारा नारा है। शुक्ला जी कहते हैं कि इस विन का इस्लामियेशन बड़े प्रचले दुंग से किया जायेगा लेकिन डिस्ट्रिक्ट मैजिस्ट्रेट या हिन्दी सेकेटरी जो भी होंगे वह जुड़ौशियल आगितसं नहीं है। जो पहले एक था उसमें एन जज का प्रेविजन था जब आप इन नारों को एकसर्साइज करने जा रहे हैं तो मैं आपसे प्रार्थना करूँगा कि यहां पर भी जुड़ौशियल आफिसर्स होने चाहिए। अगर डिस्ट्रिक्ट सेकेटरी या डिस्ट्रिक्ट मैजिस्ट्रेट की जगह अगर डिस्ट्रिक्ट जज को यह पावर देते हैं तो ज्यादा अच्छा रहेगा।

श्री एस. एम. बनकी (कानपुर): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं जानता हूँ आज चार बजे बीटिंग रिट्रीट के लिए सदर्मयों को जाना है लेकिन मैं यहां पर आपकी बीटिंग रिट्रीट देख रहा हूँ। मैं सिर्फ यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मेरे मुश्किल दोस्त, शुक्ला जी जिन्होंने इस बिल को पायलट किया है, यह बिल पास होने जा रहा है, लालू तो यह हो ही जायेगा, इस्लामियेशन भी होगा लेकिन कुछ चीजे वह अभी भी सोच ले। उहोंने यह अस्तोरेस दिया है कि द्रेड यूनियन के आद्योतन पर कोई कूठारोधात नहीं होगा। अभी मेरे मुश्किल

दोस्त डाना साहब, जो भावण देकर चले गए हैं, उन्होंने कहा था कि मिल गैटपर मजदूर नारा लिखते हैं तो आखिर उस का क्या होगा। वह नारा देते हैं—जोर जुस्क की टक्कर में हडताल हमारा नारा है। यह लोग कहते हैं—जो दे न सके रोजी रोटी, वह सरकार निकम्मी है। सिफं दो चार नारे जयप्रकाश नारायण ने दे दिए थे या किसी ने दे दिए थे तो वकिंग क्लास ने सारे देश में उनकी मुख्यालिफत की। राइट रिएक्शनरी फोर्सेज ने कहीं भी कोई नारा दिया हो वकिंग क्लासेज ने, कन्या-कुमारी से लेकर कश्मीर तक कभी भी उसका समयन नहीं किया। इस देश में वकिंग क्लास की प्रोप्रेसिव फोर्म हमेशा रही है और आगे भी रहेगी। लेकिन इसका मिला उनको क्या मिला? भीमा में संज्ञ शब्द और वह अपनी बात कही वह नहीं सकते। ग्राण इस चीज का पापम कैजिंग लेकिन कभी ऐसा नहीं कि वह बृमणे करे। हमने कहा था गवर्नर माहबूब वो आप हठा दीजिये। लेकिन आपने कौसिल आफ गिनिस्टर्स को हटा दिया, बहुत खूंशी बीं बात है और उसमें लिए आपको बदाई, लेकिन वहा पर कम से कम आप गवर्नर माहबूब को भी निकाल देते। जे नियामी शतरज १ पिटे हुए मोहरे हैं उनको आप गवर्नर बना कर भेज देते हैं। (ठाक्करान) तो मैं कह रहा था पिटे हुए मोहरों को आप क्यों प्रोटेक्शन दे रहे हैं।

आखिर मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि हम देखेंगे किस तरह से इसको लाग़ किया जाएगा। मैं दोबारा इसकी मुख्यालिफत करना हूं। आप अखबार की सेसर्वाइप का देखें, कल आप मीजूद थे जब अच्छेशनेविल मैटर्स बाले बिल पर

यहाँ दिस्कशन हो रहा था लेकिन आज टाइम्स आण इंडिया में छ्या है :

"Mr. S. M. Benerjee, CPI, supported the bill"

मुझह से शाम तक उस का विरोध करते हुए थक गया और यहाँ पर लिख दिया गया है कि मैंने सपोर्ट किया है। अब इस में सैन्सर की गलती है या प्रेस की गलती है—किस को दोबी कहूं? ...

श्री शशि भूषण (दक्षिण दिल्ली) : सपोर्ट कर रहे थे—दिल से, जुबान से विरोध कर रहे थे।

श्री एस० एस० बनजी : इस लिए मैं अजं करना चाहना हूं—इन्हों चीजों की बजह से मैं इस का विरोध करना हूं।

SHRI VIDYA CHARAN SHUKLA: Sir, most of the hon. Members who took part in the third reading of this Bill have repeated their earlier points and Shri Mavalankar need not have quoted all these eminent scholars of the West to buttress his argument because we could have taken his argument on his merit without such quotations that he made. I want to say clearly that no Constitutional guarantee is being taken away by this bill. If it is like this, the courts will strike down the rule. So, why bother about it? I am saying that we have taken care and I have repeated it that whatever provisions have been put in this Bill are well within the reasonable restrictions that have been provided in the Constitution under Article 19(2). Therefore, it is for you to reign whether under Article 19 all 7 rights are taken away. I could not understand it because you know this procedure very well. But ultimately to decide whether we are taking away the freedom guaranteed under the

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[Shri. Vidya Charen Shukla]

'Constitution or not it is to be decided by the Courts and not by the Government. Sir in his anxiety, the way he was mentioning I was really surprised, he was talking about the disaffection. Here the clause clearly says as follows:

"3 (i) bring into hatred or contempt, or excite disaffection towards, the Government established by law in India or in any State thereof and thereby caused or tend to cause public disorder;"

If anybody creates or exercised disaffection which causes to or tends to cause public disorder only then it comes under the mischief of this Act. Otherwise not. You might create any amount of disaffection which does not tend to or does not cause any public disorder, then it does not come under the mischief of this Act. This is clearly stated. The hon. Member is a balanced individual and he normally takes independent line and I thought that he would see clearly this clause. This theory of disaffection is only limited to the extent where the disaffection leads to public disorder. Otherwise not. Otherwise any amount of disaffection you create is not covered by this Bill.

Shri Somnath Chatterjee and others mentioned about the free press. I have already said that this does not impose any more restrictions on the press. That has been given voluntarily by the editors, journalists and eminent journalists who are as jealous of the freedom of the press as you and me and they have all suggested the same curbs on the press as had been enumerated. The only difference is that they wanted it voluntarily and we are putting it in a statute. There is no difference. I have already replied to all other points. Therefore I would, commend this bill be accepted by this House.

JANUARY 29, 1976 Res. and Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matter Bill

248 MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended be passed".

The Lok Sabha divided:

AYES

Division No. 13

15.36 hrs.

Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed

Ambesh, Shri

Ansari, Shri Ziaur Rahman

Appalanaidu, Shri

Arvind Netam, Shri

Austin, Dr. Henry

Babunath Singh, Shri

Balakrishniah, Shri T.

Banamali Babu, Shri

Banerjee, Shrimati Mukul

Barman, Shri R. N.

Barupal, Shri Panna Lal

Basappa, Shri K.

Bhagat, Shri H. K. L.

Bhattacharyya, Shri Chapalendu

Brahmanandji, Shri Swami

Chakleshwar Singh, Shri

Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal

Chandrika Prasad, Shri

Chaudhary, Shri Nitraj Singh

Chavan, Shrimati Premalabai

Chhotey Lal, Shri

Chhutten Lal, Shri

Daga, Shri M. C.

Dalbir Singh, Shri

Darbara Singh, Shri

Das, Shri Anadi Charan

Das, Shri Dharmidhar

Dharamgaj Singh, Shri

Dhillon, Dr. G. S.

Dixit, Shri G. C.

Doda, Shri Hir Lal

Dwivedi, Shri Nageshwar

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	Gaekwad, Shri Fatesinghrao.	Mohsin, Shri F. H.
	Ganesh, Shri K. R.	Murmu, Shri Yogesh Chandra.
	Gangadeb, Shri P.	Negi, Shri Pratap Singh
	Garcha, Shri Devinder Singh	Oraon, Shri Kartik
	Gavit, Shri T. H.	Oraon, Shri Tuna.
	Godara, Shri Mani Ram	Palodkar, Shri Manikrao
	Gomango, Shri Giridhar	Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain
	Gopal, Shri K.	Pandey, Shri R. S.
	Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chandra	Pandit, Shri S. T.
	Gowda Shri Pampan	Paokai Haokip, Shri
	Hari Singh, Shri	Parasher, Prof. Narain Chand
	Jamilurrahman, Shri Md.	Patil, Shri C. A.
	Jeyalakshmi, Shrimati V.	Patil, Shri E. V. Vikhe
	Jha, Shri Chiranjib	Patil, Shri Krishnarao
	Kahandole, Shri Z. M.	Patnaik, Shri Banamali
	Kamakshaiah, Shri D.	Patnaik, Shri J. B.
	Kamble, Shri T. D.	Peje, Shri S. L.
	Kapur, Shri Sat Pal	Pradhani, Shri K.
	Kaul, Shrimati Sheila	Raghu Ramaiah, Shri K.
	Kavde, Shri B. R.	Rai, Shri S. K
	Kinder Lal, Shri	Rai, Shrimati Sahodrakai
	Kisku, Shri A. K.	Ram, Shri Tulmohan
	Kotoki, Shri Liladhar	Ram Dayal, Shri
	Kureel, Shri B. N.	Ram Singh Bhai, Shri
	Lakshminarayanan, Shri M R	Ranabahadur Singh, Shri
	Lambodar Balyar, Shri	Rao, Shri Jagannath
	Mahajan, Shri Vikram	Rao, Shri K. Narayana
	Maharaj Singh, Shri	Rao, Shri M. Satyanarayan
	Majhi, Shri Kumar	Rao, Shri Pattabhi Rama
	Malhotra, Shri Inder J.	Rathia Shri Umed Singh
	Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain	Ravi, Shri Vayalar
	Mandal, Shri Yamuna Prasad	Ray, Shrimati Maya
	Manhar, Shri Bhagatram	Reddi, Shri P. Antony
	Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram	Reddi, Shri K. Ramakrishna
	Mishra, Shri G. S.	Reddy, Shri M. Ram Gopal
	Mishra, Shri Jagannath	Reddy, Shri P. Ganga
		Reddy, Shri Sidram
		Richhariya, Dr. Govind Das
		Roy, Shri Bishwanath

Saini, Shri Mulki Raj
 Salve, Shri N. K. P.
 Samanta, Shri S. C.
 Sanghi, Shri N. K.
 Sankata Prasad, Dr.
 Sarkar, Shri Sakti Kumar
 Sathe, Shri Vasant
 Satpathy, Shri Devendra
 Sayeed, Shri P. M.
 Sethi, Shri Arjun
 Shailani, Shri Chandra
 Shankaranand, Shri B.
 Sharma, Shri Madhoram
 Shashi Bhushan, Shri
 Shastri, Shri Bishwanarayan
 Shastri, Shri Sheopujan
 Shetty, Shri K. K.
 Shivnath Singh, Shri
 Shukla, Shri B. R.
 Shukla, Shri Vidya Charan
 Sinha, Shri Dharam Bir
 Sinha, Shri Nawal Kishore
 Sohan Lal, Shri T.
 Sokhi, Sardar Swaran Singh
 Suryanarayana, Shri K.
 Swaminathan, Shri R. V.
 Tarodekar, Shri V. B.
 Tayyab Hussain, Shri
 Tiwari, Shri Chandra Bhal Mani
 Tiwari, Shri R. G.
 Tombi Singh, Shri N.
 Tulsiram, Shri V.
 Ukey, Shri M. G.
 Unnikrishnan, Shri K. P.
 Verma, Shri Sukhdeo Prasad
 Vikal, Shri Ram Chandra
 Yadav, Shri Karan Singh
 Yadav, Shri R. P.

Banerjee, Shri S. M.
 Bhattacharyya, Shri Dinen
 Bhattacharyya, Shri S. P.
 Chandrappan, Shri C. K.
 Chatterjee, Shri Somnath
 Chowhan, Shri Bharat Singh
 Deshpande, Shrimati Roza
 Gowder, Shri J. Matha
 Gupta, Shri Indrajit
 Halder, Shri Krishna Chandra
 Hazra, Shri Manoranjan
 Joarder, Shri Dinesh
 Kathamuthu, Shri M.
 Krishnan, Shri M. K.
 Kiruttinan, Shri Tha
 Mavalankar, Shri P. G.
 Modak, Shri Bijoy
 Mukherjee, Shri Saroj
 Parmar, Shri Bhaljibhai
 Patel, Kumari Maniben
 Patel, Shri H. M.
 *Rao, Shrimati B. Radhabai A.
 Roy, Dr. Saradish
 Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar
 Saha, Shri Gadadhar
 Shastri, Shri Ramavtar
 Singh, Shri D. N.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The result** of the division is: Ayes 146; Noes 27.

The motion was adopted.

*Wrongly voted for 'NOES'.

**The following Members also recorded their votes for 'AYES':

Shri C. D. Gautam, Shrimati Savitri

Shyam, Shri Nawal Kishore
 Sharma and Shrimati B. Radhabai
 A. Rao.

15.30 hrs.

STATEMENT RE. COMPENSATION FOR PROPERTIES OF INDIAN NATIONALS IN UGANDA

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Our good friend, Shri Bipin Pal Das, the Deputy Minister for External Affairs, had just returned from Uganda where he met President Idi Amin and received on behalf of the Indian oustees a cheque for U.S. \$1, 627,114 cents 60. He wants to make a statement in the House, but as time is limited, I would ask him to lay it on the Table of the House.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI BIPINPAL DAS): I beg to lay the statement on the Table.

Statement

In response to a letter from the President of Uganda to our Prime Minister inviting a delegation to discuss the question of compensation for properties left behind by Indian nationals in Uganda in 1972, an official delegation from India led by Shri J. S. Mehta was sent to Kampala in October, 1975.

The relevant Ugandan Decrees, enunciating the principles of compensation had precluded individual claimants from dealing directly with the Ugandan Government; instead it was stipulated that the claims as filed could only be discussed with the Governments of the nationals concerned. In the spirit of the Ugandan laws and decrees the Indian delegation jointly with the Ugandan Valuation Committee scrutinised in detail the claims and finally reached an understanding on the quantum of compensation payable to the Indian nationals. In respect of certain items figuring in the claims the question of payment, restoration or reimbursement was left to be pursued through

diplomatic channels or established procedures. These items, *inter alia*, include shareholdings in companies not wholly owned by Indian nationals, gratuity, salaries, refunds of dues from Government or parastatal organisations, claims regarding baggage, insurance and freight, restoration of the contents left in safe deposit vaults, lockers etc. The items examined by the two delegations were, *inter alia*, buildings, plant and machinery, Uganda Government stocks, claims against Ugandan insurance policies, social security funds and blocked bank accounts.

After thorough joint examination of the claims, the two delegations agreed that a sum of U. Shillings 13,415,414/16 may be paid to the Government of India for disbursement to the claimants.

Subsequent to the return of the Indian delegation, our Government approved the agreement reached. At the invitation of the Uganda Government, I visited Kampala from 23rd to 26th January during which I participated in the Ugandan National Day Celebrations. On the 24th January, following my brief discussion with the Uganda Valuation Committee, the President, Field Marshal Idi Amin, received me formally and handed over a cheque for US dollar 1,627,114-cents 60, the equivalent of the agreed amount. Notwithstanding the fact that some items remain to be pursued subsequently, the amount now received represents a mutually satisfactory settlement for compensation for the assets already enumerated left behind by Indian nationals.

May I add that in his conversation with me, President Amin expressed not only satisfaction at this settlement but also his admiration for our Prime Minister and warm appreciation of the role which India has played in support of Africa and as a founder member of the Non-aligned Movement. In turn, I conveyed to him our appreciation of

[Sri Bipin Pal Das]

the spirit in which this settlement was reached and shared the hope that friendly relations and economic co-operation between our two countries can be developed further.

15.39 hrs.

**MOTOR VEHICLES (AMENDMENT)
BILL**

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING
AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHIL-
LON) I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have pleasure in moving that the Motor Vehicles (Amendment) Bill, 1976, which has been passed by Rajya Sabha after full consideration on 19-1-76, may be taken into consideration.

15.36 hrs.

[SHRI VASANT SATHE in the Chair]

As you are all aware, one of the measures included in the 20-Point Economic Programme is the removal of constraints on the movement of vehicles and the introduction, for this purpose, of a Scheme of National Permits. At present, the operation of goods vehicles (trucks) between two or more States is governed by agreements among the concerned States. Several administrative and procedural requirements (such as obtaining counter-signatures on permits, payment of taxes, etc.) are involved in operating vehicles on routes covering two or more States. In order to reduce the inconvenience, on this account, a Scheme of Inter-State Regional Permits popularly called Zonal Permits was initiated about ten years

ago. Four such Zonal Schemes have already been introduced. The fifth one has also been finalised and it is expected to be put into operation shortly. Under these Schemes 200 public carriers of each State within a Zone are authorised to ply in the other States in that Zone on the basis of payment of taxes for the Home State and a composite fee of Rs. 700/- per annum (in lieu of taxes) in respect of the other States. The composite fee is also paid in the home State. The procedural requirements have been further simplified in the National Permit Scheme, which envisages the issue of 5300 permits for goods vehicles by the various States and Union Territories. A national permit holder will have to choose a minimum of four other contiguous States for operation excluding the Home State. He can choose more if he wishes and if his business demands such a course. An authorisation will be required to permit the operator of a vehicle covered by a national permit to use his vehicle in the other States. A fixed fee of Rs. 500/- per annum is to be paid for the authorisation irrespective of the number of States chosen for operation. The States have agreed as in the case of Zonal Permits, the Motor Vehicles tax payable by the National Permit holder to States other than the home State will be limited to Rs. 700/- only. This is a great advantage, considering the usual rate of M.V. tax for trucks which stands at about Rs. 5000/-.

The scheme was finalised after consultation with representatives of Road Transport Operators, State Governments and Union Administrations. The points of view expressed by them have been taken into account to the extent possible. As the implementation of the Scheme required amendment of the M.V. Act, 1939, and as the matter was urgent, the M.V. (Amendment) Ordinance was promulgated on 28-9-75. The M.V.

(National Permit) Rules, 1975, were also published on 17th December, 1975, after giving opportunity to all persons likely to be affected to make suggestions and representations and after considering these suggestions, etc. The stage is now set for the grant of these permits.

In order to avoid concentration of permits, the Scheme envisages that no national permit will be issued to an individual owner if he already holds three or more valid national or inter-State permits. The ceiling has been fixed at seven in the case of a Company which expression includes all bodies corporate.

To meet the social purpose enshrined in the Ordinance, guidelines have been circulated to the State Governments for the grant of national permits. The main consideration for the grant of the permits will be that only such applicants as are likely to contribute to the movement of goods between the States in the interest of the public should be given permits. Normally, upto 50 per cent of the national permits would be granted to those already holding inter-State permits, upto 25 per cent to those holding inter-State permits and the remaining 25 per cent. to new entrepreneurs including ex-Army personnel holding valid civilian licences and unemployed drivers.

You will be glad to know that West Bengal has selected 244 applicants for grant of permits and have already sent offers to 230 parties.

Some other States have also processed. The remaining States are expected to invite applications shortly. It is possible that the bulk of the national permits may be issued by February-March, 1976.

The National Transport Permit Scheme is proposed to be reviewed after one year and the number of permits will be increased, if necessary. It was considered desirable to make

a modest beginning and that is why a ceiling of 5300 permits has been fixed, for the present. The incidence of taxation on the operators under the National Permit Scheme will also be much less than what they would have to bear if the vehicles are to operate on the basis of payment of taxes in all the States. The National Permit Scheme, when it is fully implemented, is expected to help in development of the country's economy by speeding up the movement of goods on long-distance routes. The Scheme will, therefore, serve the interest of the public in a big way.

The Bill, which is now before you, seeks to replace the Ordinance promulgated on 26th September, 1975. It is a non-controversial measure. Now, Sir, I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI DINESH JOARDER (MALDA): After a long debate on the previous bill, which was termed by many of us as a black bill, viz. the Prevention of Publication of Objectionable Matters Bill, we have become shocked and mentally perturbed. Anyway, we are glad that our new Minister, Dr. Dhillon has brought forward this bill concerning the national permit for motor vehicles involving national interests in this matter.

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH): If it is so, compared to the last Bill why can't you pass it without a discussion?

SHRI DINESH JOARDER: We have to draw the Minister's attention to certain important matters also concerning Road Transport. This Bill is a very small measure, and is only an amendment to Section 83 of the Motor Vehicles Act—in comparison to the

[Shri Dinesh Joshi]

problems involving this transport organization. It is a very big system, I mean this road transport system, and it is almost parallel to the railway services in our country. It is so big that the mileage covered by the road transport is much higher than what is covered by the Railways. About 9 lakh miles or roughly 14 lakh kilometers except of the roads covered by the road transport system. More than 14 lakhs of people are engaged in this system or organisation. According to one journal published by the Automobile Industries:

"The road transport system accounts for over 30 per cent of the goods and about 50 per cent of the passenger traffic of the country and carrying in terms of value over 60 per cent of the export cargo moved to the ports, apart from providing employment to 9 million people and contributing Rs. 1,900 crores or so per annum to the national exchequer."

This is such a vast organisation. But the people engaged in the road transport system are mostly workers, labourers, people coming from the low income group, people from the lower strata of society. Only a few people who have invested large sums in big companies are getting some benefits in the form of profits whereas 95 per cent of the people engaged in this industry are being exploited everyday, be they the drivers, assistants or garrage workers. They are being deprived of the remuneration, just remuneration and wages for their labours every day.

Before going into the working conditions of the labour, I want to say that there is no comprehensive and systematic planning or a good organisation for the road transport system. The railways have a coordinated system all over the country. They have the zonal railways, the Railway Board, the Railway Ministry and so on. But, so far as the road transport is concerned, there is no comprehensive or integrated planning for its develop-

ment. It is being controlled by the regional Road Transport Authority, the Transport Authority of the State, now the Zonal Transport Authority and, lastly, by the Ministry of Shipping and Transport. The multiplicity of authorities over the road transport system creates chaos and confusion. There is no uniformity in the matter of imposition of taxation. There are check-posts and tax-posts in different parts of the country. Even inter-State permits are being contrplied by the check-posts and vehicles are not permitted to move according to their requirements. Unless you remove all these obstacles and impediments, you cannot improve the services provided by the road transport organisation. They are carrying goods from one part of the country to another which are essential for the existence of the people living in distant and remote parts. These vehicles are moving every day to places where there are no railways, carrying the daily necessities of the people. So, we want a comprehensive, intensive and co-ordinated plan to improve the conditions of service in this road transport system, so that it can properly serve the people at large, in the villages and in the cities.

As I have already stated, there are as many as four to five lakhs of heavy vehicles and also several lakhs of small and medium size vehicles operating in this road transport system but the condition of the roads is so bad that these vehicles cannot continue for a long period, and the owner-drives having two or three trucks or lorries, or even small companies with a limited capital investment owning eight or ten trucks, cannot maintain their vehicles for more than three or four years. The cost of fuel, petroleum, diesel, gear oil, motor parts, tyres, etc., is so high that they are forced to carry goods beyond the permitted capacity, as they cannot earn a profit unless they do it, and the result is that they have to pay to each check post and police post some money for easy passage and in that way corrupt practices come in. Further,

because of such over-loading, there are accidents every day leading to the death of drivers pedestrains, etc.

So, we have no objection to the introduction of this national permit, but unless these basic questions are attended to, you will not be able to solve the problem. This national permit is only going to benefit a limited number of privileged people owning a large number of vehicles which they can ply between distant cities like Delhi and Calcutta or Delhi and Madras, but what about the lakhs of people who own only one, two or three trucks and ply within a district or between two districts or between two or three States only? We expected something more from you, Mr. Dhillon because you were Minister in Punjab and were holding the same portfolio also. You have got a lot of experience.

In the current budget, what we see is that all over India, we are having 14 lakh kms. of road and you are maintaining bridges, culverts and constructing new roads.

We are having a total of 55 National Highways. Out of them, 44 are fully constructed and 11 are under construction. In comparison to the vastness of our country, the number is very small. According to the length of the road that we have, in the current budget,

only Rs. 16 crores have been sanctioned for the maintenance, development and extension of the road facilities in the country. In my State, we are having 3 or 4 National Highways and they have become so dilapidated with the result that every day so many accidents take places on these roads and motor vehicles cannot move. National Highway No. 34 which runs from Calcutta to Siliguri via Farakka, is worst amongst all of them.

MR CHAIRMAN: You can continue tomorrow.

I propose to adjourn the House now to enable Members to witness Beating the Retreat. Before doing so, I may remind Members that tomorrow at 11 A.M. two minutes silence will be observed by the House in memory of those who gave their lives in the struggle for India's freedom. The Speaker will take the Chair a little before 11 A.M.. You are also requested to come a little earlier and the House now stands adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 10.59 A.M.

16 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Fifty-nine minutes past Ten of the Clock on Friday, January 30, 1976/Magha 10, 1897 (Saka).