

Tuesday, May 23, 1972  
Jyaistha 2, 1894 (Saka)

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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA

Tuesday, May 23, 1972/  
Jyaishta 2, 1894 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven  
of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Obituary Reference

MR. SPEAKER : I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Braj Behari Mehrotra who passed away at Kanpur on the 21st May, 1972 at the age of 77.

The Braj Bihari Mehrotra was a member of the Third Lok Sabha during the years 1962—67 representing Bilhaur constituency of Uttar Pradesh. Earlier, he was a member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly during the years 1952—62. A very amiable person, he took active interest in scouting, welfare of Harijans and village uplift schemes.

We deeply mourn the loss of this friend and I am sure the House will join me in conveying our condolences to the bereaved family.

THE PRIME MINISTER, MINISTER OF ATOMIC ENERGY, MINISTER OF ELECTRONICS, MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI-MATI INDIRA GANDHI) : MR. Speaker, I associate myself with the sentiments you have expressed. We are all grieved to hear of the demise of Shri Braj Behari Mehrotra who was a member of Third Lok Sabha. Shri Mehrotra entered public life in the early twenties. Besides being active in party work, he was for long a member and also Vice-President of the Kanpur District Board. Later he was a member of the UP Legislative Assembly for ten years before coming to this House in 1962. He was

greatly interested in the scout movement, and also took a prominent part in the activities of the Kanpur Prohibition Board. He was also a writer in Hindi and published several books.

Please convey our sincere condolences to the members of the bereaved family.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : We are all grieved to hear of the sad demise of Shri Mehrotra. On behalf of my party and on my own behalf, I associate ourselves with the sentiments your goodself has expressed. Would you be kind enough to convey our condolences to the members of the bereaved family ?

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी (कानपुर) : अध्यक्ष जी, मेहरोत्रा जी से मेरा जातीय ताल्लुक बहुत ज्यादा था, और मैं जानता हूँ कि यह यहाँ पार्लियामेंट में आने से पहले काफी ऐसे मसले आये हैं जब मैं ने उन की सहायता ली थी। और 1962 के चुनाव में जब मैं शहर से चुनाव लड़ रहा था और वह बिल्लौर क्षेत्र से, यानी जिले से चुनाव लड़ रहे थे तो हालांकि हम लोग एक दूसरे के खिलाफ थे लेकिन फिर भी जब भी मुझ से मिलते थे को बार बार यही कहते थे कि राजनीतिक लड़ाई भले ही हो, लेकिन तुम अगर पार्लियामेंट के चुनाव में जीते तो मुझे रज न होगा। तो कितना विशाल हृदय उन का था।

अभी कुछ दिन पहले जब उन का इलाज चल रहा था, मैं उन से मिला था, बातचीत बहुत काम करते थे, लेकिन फिर भी उन्होंने ने कहा था कि अखबार में जब मैं पढ़ता हूँ लोक सभा की कार्यवाहियाँ तो मुझे खुशी होती है कि कानपुर की बात उस में सुनायी देती है।

अध्यक्ष जी, उन का एक बहुत विशाल हृदय था और अपने मुसालिफ़ीन को हमेशा

अपने दिल से लगा लेते थे। मैं समझना हूँ कानपुर के राजनीतिक जीवन में काफी बड़ा नुकसान हुआ है उन के चले जाने से, बालकृष्ण शर्मा नवीन की मृत्यु के बाद, प्यारे साल अग्र-वाल और नारायण प्रसाद भारोड़ा के बाद वह ऐसे व्यक्ति थे जिन की बात हर एक व्यक्ति सुना करता था।

मैं अपनी ओर से और अपने दल की ओर से श्रद्धांजलि अर्पित करता हूँ और मैं चाहता हूँ कि उन के दुखी परिवार को हमारी संवेदना आप भेज दें।

SHRI SEZHIYAN (Kumbakonam) : On behalf of my party, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you and the Leader of the House. Mr. Mehrotra was a Member of the Third Lok Sabha and he took a very keen interest in the uplift of the depressed and the backward communities of society. He was a very keen Parliamentarian and he endeared himself with all the others who were working here. Once again, I join in the sentiments expressed and I request you to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

श्री राम रतन शर्मा (बांदा) : श्री महरोत्रा के निधन से देश का एक महान चिन्तक उठ गया है। मैं अपनी पार्टी जनसंघ की तरफ से उनके शोक संतप्त परिवार को अपनी संवेदना आपके माध्यम से भेजना चाहता हूँ।

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : Sir, on behalf of my party, I associate myself with the sentiments expressed by you and the other hon. Members on the sad demise of Shri Braj Behari Mehrotra. It only reminds us of the futility of our political ambitions. I request you to convey our condolences to the bereaved family.

MR. SPEAKER : The House will rise for a short while to express its sense of sorrow.

*The Members then stood in silence for a short while.*

पुरानी रेलवे टिकटें (दक्षिण रेलवे) बेचने के बारे में लोगों की गिरफ्तारी

+

\*941. श्री शिवकुमार शास्त्री:

श्री बभूलाल चन्नाकर:

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दक्षिण रेलवे के सतर्कता विभाग ने रेलवे की प्रयुक्त पुरानी टिकटों की तारीखें और नम्बर बदल कर उन्हें फिर से बेचने के आरोप में कुछ व्यक्तियों को पकड़ा है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका संक्षिप्त व्योरा क्या है और इस संबंध में क्या साबधानी बरतने का निश्चय किया गया है ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIA) : (a) The Vigilance Branch of the Southern Railway has recently detected a case of re-use of old ticket. No one actually selling such used and redated tickets has, however, been apprehended so far.

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

#### *Statement*

The Vigilance Branch of Southern Railway received information that Motor Chassis Drivers who used to go from Tatanagar to Madras, Cochin and Bangalore with Motor Chassis, used old tickets for their return journey to Tatanagar by train. The Vigilance Branch of the Railway arranged a watch which ultimately resulted in the detection on 17.4.72 of one such driver travelling from Madras to Tatanagar by Madras-Tatanagar Express on the authority of a ticket that was issued from Cochin to Tatanagar sometime during February, 1972. While the user concerned was handed over to the GRP at Madras Central Station for prosecution, the person who would have sold such a ticket, has not been apprehended so far. The prosecution of the driver, who was apprehended for using old ticket, is in progress.

2. As regards preventive steps, frequent checks are being made by the Vigilance Branch to see whether the tickets are being nipped properly as per extant instructions. The ticket checking staff also watch the running number of the tickets and any ticket out of series is specially scrutinized and investigated. The checking staff also check up the dates of the tickets and scrutinize cases where the dates are not clearly legible. Checks at various levels are also prescribed and all possible preventive measures are taken to deal with mal-practices connected with the tickets.

श्री चन्दूलाल चन्द्रारकर: क्या मंत्री महोदय बनाने का प्रयत्न करेंगे कि आज कल खास कर के गर्मी के दिनों में रेल में यात्रा करने वालों की संख्या बहुत बढ़ी है इसलिये जिनके टिकट दिये जाते हैं अधिकांश टिकटें ट्रैबलिंग एजेंट्स को दे देने के कारण आम जनता के लिये टिकटों की कमी हो जाती है, और यह एजेंट्स लोग 15, 20 रु० प्रति टिकट पर अधिक लेते हैं। इस को रोकने के लिये, या उन को टिकट कम देने के सम्बन्ध में, जिस से जनता को सीधे टिकट मिल जायें और 15, 20 रु० अधिक प्रति टिकट उन को न देना पड़े, आप कोई उपाय करने की सोच रहे हैं ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: प्रश्न तो यूज्ड टिकटों के सम्बन्ध में है।

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : Sir, this question does not relate to the question put on the agenda, but I may say that the problem is known to me. Even this morning, I was discussing the problem with the appropriate officers of our Ministry. It is a very difficult job to do—detecting those people who make use of these tickets. We are trying to tackle this.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAR-KAR : The question of misuse of the railway tickets has also arisen. This has also arisen with regard to platform tickets. What is happening these days is that they do not punch them. The same platform tickets can be used so many times through the gatekeepers and others and again these tickets are resold.

Most probably the Government are losing in this. Everywhere this is happening. Will the Minister let me know whether this is going on, and whether the Government knows that the railway platform tickets are resold so many times ?

MR. SPEAKER : He has already replied to that question. Ask another question now. (*Interruptions*) I have not been able to know how this question is different from the other question which he put previously.

SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAR-KAR : The Minister is very keen that I should ask a question particularly with regard to the matter arising from the main question on the agenda. The Minister has told us that one person has been held . . .

MR. SPEAKER : The question says, "...after changing the dates and number thereof."

श्री चन्दूलाल चन्द्रारकर: इस में यह बतलाया गया है कि एक ही आदमी पकड़ा गया है। आज महाराष्ट्र और दूसरी जगहों पर टिकटों का इतना दुरुपयोग होता है जिस का ठिकाना नहीं है, और अभी तक एक ही व्यक्ति पकड़ा गया है, यह क्या रेलवे अथॉरिटीज की इनएफिशिएंसी नहीं है ? इतने अधिक आदमी इस का इस्तेमाल कर रहे हैं और एक ही आदमी अब तक पकड़ा गया है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: माननीय सदस्य तो जर्नेलिस्ट रहे हैं, उन को कम से कम अपनी बात को क्वेश्चन की शक्ल तो देनी चाहिये ? मंत्री महोदय बतलवें कि यह उन की इनएफिशिएंसी है या नहीं।

SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA : That is a matter of opinion ; I respect his opinion.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I should like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware that the villagers who cannot read the amounts shown in the ticket are generally cheated by such railway tickets, used given to them by some interested persons.

In small stations they are unable to get it verified. Has any arrangement been made to enable them to get it verified? I should like to know whether any arrangement will be made to see that the villagers are able to show their tickets verified through some official sources so that they are not cheated?

**SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA :** This question does not arise out of the question on the agenda.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE :** Fifty per cent arises out of it.

#### Misuse of Actual Users Licence

\*942. **SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the names and addresses of the firms which had wrongfully utilised the licences, during the year 1971, which they had obtained under the category of Actual Users ;

(b) the number and value of such licences ; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken against these firms ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) :** (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

During the year 1971, the total number of parties, which were punished under the Imports (Control) Order, 1955, by way of debarment, 393. Information as to how many of these were Actual User Licensees is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

The names of firms against which action is taken under Imports (Control) Order and Exports (Control) Order after investigation, are published in the Weekly Bulletin of Industrial Licences, Import Licences and Export Licences, copies of which are placed in the Lok Sabha Library.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE :** The statement refers to the total number of parties punished under the provisions of a particular order. I have asked the names and addresses of firms who have wrongfully utilised the licences. My submission is that these cases in which parties were punished may be cases relating to the period prior to 1971 and the statement is also silent about the value of licences involved.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** The names of firms against which action is taken have been published in the weekly bulletin and copies of them are available in Parliament Library. About 1,25,006 licences have been issued to the actual users and the number of prosecutions is about 900 ; it is less than one per cent.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE :** I am not insisting about the names. Part (b) of my question refers to the value of such licences which were misused.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** In the statement, if the Members look at it carefully, the figures have been given. About the value of such misused licences, I should like to collect the information and I shall place it on the Table of the House.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB GOTKHINDE :** These are important economic offences. Is it proposed to impose drastic and deterrent punishment in such cases ?

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** People are convicted upto two years imprisonment and fine and the minimum period in some cases is six months also.

श्री राम सहाय पांडे: जो वस्तुएँ आयात होती हैं उन में से बहुत सी ऐसी हैं जिन में बहुत ब्लैक मार्केट होती है, जैसे नाइलन यार्न वगैरह है। यह जानते हुए कि इन में बहुत ज्यादा ब्लैक मार्केटिंग होती है, आप कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था या एजेंसी स्थापित करने की बात सोच रहे हैं ताकि सारे का सारा प्रोविजन सरकार को मिले ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्रः माननीय सदस्य चाहते हैं कि सरकार ब्लैक मार्केटिंग करे। सरकार ब्लैक मार्केटिंग नहीं करेगी। प्रीमियम हम कैसे ले सकते हैं? यह हो सकता है कि हम कीमत बढ़ा दें। प्रीमियम लेने का तो मतलब है कि हम गैर-कानूनी काम करें। जो करते हैं वह पकड़े जाते हैं और सजा पाते हैं। हाँ कुछ छूट भी जाते हैं। (व्यवधान)

अध्यक्ष महोदयः मंत्री महोदय माने या न माने, आप ने अपनी इत्तला दे दी।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : According to the CBI Report for 1971, the number of cases relating to import and export which were pending at the beginning of the year was 188 and 84 fresh cases registered, making a total of 272. Will the minister kindly tell us how many out of such cases which have been taken to the court of law, are cases where the culprit has been actually punished and what is the extent of punishment?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : The extent of punishment I can say. The number of people punished and cases disposed of—that figure is not with me. 327 firms have been debarred. 300 have been put in abeyance. 600 people have been convicted, the conviction ranging from 6 months to two years.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Let him give a specific reply to my specific question. I had given the figures given by CBI for the year 1971.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: This is upto January 1971. As I said earlier, the total number of licences is 1,25,000. The number of parties debarred I have given. The number of cases suspended 65. Cases handed over to SPE for investigation will be 200. The number of cases in which prosecution has been launched will be about a little more than 200. Conviction secured 100 cases. *sub judice* in court about a little more than 100.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: He talked about January 1971. But I gave the figures given by CBI for 1971, i.e. 1st January, 1971

to 31st December, 1971. There is a lot of difference.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I have not got that figure with me.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Sir, this is why we fume. This is why we find it difficult to function in this House. This is why we protest. This is why scences are created in the House. Ministers do not come prepared and they are allowed to go scotfree. The Chair does not pull them up. These are our difficulties.

SHRI PILOO MODY: Part (a) of the question is very specific. The information required is "during the year 1971" and the Minister gets up and says he has no information!

SHRI L. N. MISHRA: I have given the figures for 1971. He wanted till 31st December, 1971. That information is given in the main answer that 393 people have been debarred. He wanted further details about the conviction etc., which are not with me at the moment.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Let it go on record that the minister has not come prepared, although he had 21 clear days' notice. The Chair is helpless. We are helpless. We cannot get any information.

MR. SPEAKER: I can suggest to the minister, let the information be laid on the Table of the House till the last day of 1971.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : If possible, I will get it even upto March.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Before the end of this session.

SHRI PILOO MODY: After that, the Table will be empty!

MR. SPEAKER: We will not allow it.

SHRI JAGANNATH RAO: The actual users' licences have been sold in the open market and it is one of the easy sources for generation of black money. To fight

this malpractice and to prevent the generation of blackmoney, has the government thought of importing these raw materials themselves either through MMTC or STC and distribute it to the actual users?

**SHRI PILOO MODY:** Or sell the licence in the open market.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA:** My hon. friend knows that most of these items are imported by the public sector organisations, either MMTC or STC, who distribute them to the actual users. But there have been cases where, even in this situation, some of the actual users have sold their licences or commodities. But their percentage is very low. The actual users who have been given import licences number 1,25,000 and the people found guilty number about 825 or so, who are being prosecuted. This is the latest information that I have with me. Most of the non-ferrous and scarce materials are imported through public sector organisations like MMTC or STC.

**SHRI PILOO MODY:** Is the government aware that out of Rs. 1,000 crores odd worth of import licences that they issue to the various licensees of the Government of India, the market value of these licences is something in the neighbourhood of Rs. 2,500 crores? This is the additional burden that the consumer has to pay for the licence issued by the Government. Why is it that the government does not consider a scheme for the import or issue of licence that they auction it in public so that those who are prepared to pay the full market

value of the licence will get them? This will take care of the black market in the matter of licence, this will take care of the irregular practices that take place because it will not be worth anybody's while to get a licence in the open market and then sell it in the market.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA:** This is one of the suggestions frequently made by one very important political party of this country. If we auction the licences, then the small people would not be able to get the licences. So, this suggestion cannot be accepted.

#### **Increase in Export of Non-Traditional Items**

\*943. **SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) the increase registered in the export of non-traditional items in the last three years;

(b) whether any target has been fixed for the export of non-traditional items in the Fourth Plan;

(c) if so, an outline thereof; and

(d) whether the target is likely to be achieved?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA):** (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

##### *(a) India's Exports of major non-traditional items*

*(Value in Rs. Lakhs)*

S. No.	Items	1968-69	'69-70	'70-71	%age change in 70-71 over 68-69	April-Nov. 70	April-Nov. 71	%age change in April-Nov. 71 over April-Nov. 70
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1.	Engineering goods	6742	8952	11647	+72.7	6664	7618	+14.3
(a)	Transport equipment	1640	1677	3095	+88.7	1737	1872	+ 78

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
(b) Non-electrical machinery	1395	2404	2808	+101.3	1683	1818	+ 8.0	
(c) Electrical Machinery	1328	1455	1608	+21.1	905	1355	+49.7	
(d) Metal Manufactures	2217	3210	3880	+75.0	2182	2358	+ 8.1	
2. Iron ore	8840	9462	11728	+32.7	7458	6239	-16.3	
3. Iron & Steel	7445	7716	7923	+ 6.4	5435	3050	-43.9	
4. Handicrafts	6903	7329	6986	+1.2	4741	5322	+12.2	
(a) Pearls, precious and semi-precious stones	4476	4388	4188	-6.4	2832	3304	+16.7	
(b) Handi made carpets	1145	1166	1057	-7.7	650	806	+24.0	
5. Leather & leather mfrs. (excl. hides & skins raw) incl. footwear of leather and canvas	8178	9055	8343	+2.0	5348	6346	+18.7	
6. Chemical and allied products	1751	2219	2936	+67.7	1726	1898	+10.0	
7. Fish and fish preparations	2217	3083	3128	+41.1	2151	2472	+14.9	
8. Sugar	1010	856	2757	+173.0	1489	2578	+73.1	
9. Wood, lumber and cork manufactures	495	784	762	+ 53.9	514	572	+11.3	
10. Mineral fuels, lubricants and related materials	1210	949	1258	+ 4.0	988	599	-39.4	
11. Rubber manufactures	471	493	705	+ 49.7	429	557	+29.8	
12. Paper & paperboard	514	488	541	+ 5.3	379	231	-39.1	
13. Plastic and plastic manufactures	287	515	498	+ 73.5	281	190	-32.4	
14. Ferro-manganese & ferro-alloys	448	959	1139	+154.2	701	229	-71.0	
15. Cotton apparel	333	548	8692	+158.8	521	777	+49.1	
16. Other cotton mfrs.	1433	1299	1709	+ 19.3	1067	993	- 6.9	
17. Fabrics of art silk & synthetic fibre and spunglass	350	359	524	+ 49.7	318	529	+66.3	
18. Silk fabrics handloom	375	524	383	+ 2.1	270	248	-8.1	
Total of above	49002	55590	63829	+30.2	40570	404448	- 0.3	
Grand Total of	135787	141328	153516	+13.1	99793	105232	+5.4	
Exports								
Non-traditional items as%age of total exports	36.1	39.3	41.6		40.6	38.4		

NOTE:—The export figures from November '70 onwards are based on the original copy of the shipping bill after an adjustment made for short and shut out shipments returns received during the period. As such, these are not comparable to the export figures for a period prior to Oct. '70 which were based on the finally passed shipping bills.



(b) and (c). Export targets for 1973-74 have been set in the Fourth Plan in respect of the following three major non-traditional items:—

Marine products : Rs. 48 Crores.

Iron ore : Rs. 155 crores.

Engineering goods  
including Metals. : Rs. 190 crores.

(d) Every endeavour is being made and will continue to be made achieve the targets.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Before I put the question, Sir, I will just draw your attention to a serious discrepancy in the figures given here, on the basis of which we are supposed to ask questions. The figures for the export of engineering goods are given in this statement for the years 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71. They are totally at variance with the figures given for the export of engineering goods in a statement in reply to Starred Question No. 947, four questions later. For example, in that statement for 1968-69 you have given Rs. 84.97 crores as the value of engineering goods whereas in this statement the value is Rs. 67.42 crores. For 1969-70 while that statement gives the figure of Rs. 106.50 crores, this statement gives the figure of Rs. 89.52 crores. I cannot understand how one is to proceed.

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** Nor does he.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** With regard to the figures given here, which may be equally unreliable for all I know, regarding iron ore this figure shows that there is a declining trend between 1970-71 by 16.3 per cent in the value of export of iron ore. I would like to know from him what is the reason for this decline. Is it because the Japanese, who are our main customers, are now reducing their demand from us, or is it for any other reason? Secondly, when the export target for 1973-74 for iron ore has been fixed at Rs. 155 crores, what is this based on? Is it based on sale to the Japanese at lower prices so that they will buy more, or is the Minister depending on some alternative sources to which he may be able to export in future?

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** About the discrepancy in the figure, while Shri Indrajit Gupta in Question No. 943 asks information for the whole of the engineering industry, Question No. 947 refers to sewing machines, bicycles etc. Therefore, this discrepancy is seen.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** If you look at the statement of Question No. 947 and see what is written there, it says, "the exports of engineering goods have been rising as will be seen from the export figures given below." The figures for sewing machines and bicycles are given separately. The first set of figures relate to the export of engineering goods.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** This is for bicycles and sewing machines. About iron ore exports, there was recession in the Japanese market last year and the recession continues. Our export of iron ore to Japan has come down considerably. We are exploring new markets. I am glad to inform the House that we have been able to get some buyers in Western Europe. Our iron ore was not sold to Western Europe till today. Recently, we have been able to get some buyers in Germany, Italy and France also. We are trying to negotiate with these countries. I hope, we will be able to reach upto the target as given in the Fourth Plan. Last year has been really a bad year so far as iron ore export is concerned because of the recession in the Japanese market.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** I think, you are not satisfied with the explanation given by the Minister.

**MR. SPEAKER :** It is a question of your satisfaction.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Your satisfaction, not mine. If you are satisfied, that is enough. He must not give misleading figures to the House. If there is a mistake, he can correct it. There is nothing wrong in owning a mistake.

My second question is this. In this list of non-traditional items, I do not find any

mention of cinema films which, I believe, are also non-traditional items. May I know from him whether it is a fact that the Indian Motion Pictures' Export Council has done good work in selling a large number of Indian films abroad, to various countries and getting quite good prices for them? If that is so, may I know why in the reply that he made to the debate on demands for grants of his Ministry, he said that the performance of the IMPEC has not been satisfactory. How does he reconcile these two things?

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** So far as the IMPEC is concerned, I said, it is not hundred per cent a Government organisation. There are private share-holders also. What I said was that we are having some difficulties and its performance has to be improved. There was a judgment of the High Court which prevented us from taking over the exports. I only said that there was scope for improvement. I am glad that Mr. Indrajit Gupta has given a good word to them. I have no complaint against the IMPEC. The whole organisation needs to be reorganised, put on a better footing and given more of capital and private share-holders have to go out of it.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Their exports have gone up now. I would like to know whether their exports have gone up in value.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** They have done a good job. The market for Indian films is very good in some countries, in Western Europe, in Soviet Union, in East European countries. Because of limitations, the IMPEC has not been able to meet the demand. That is why I said it needs to be re-organised. I have no complaint against the IMPEC.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** We thank, of course, the Minister for giving us wrong figures.

Will the hon. Minister kindly tell us what is the reaction to this in the context of his claim for higher exports?

"According to the survey made by GATT (International Trade, 1967) engineering

production in developing countries grew up more than 10 per cent for years between 1955 and 1966 but it still remains small in absolute volume and its share in the world total does not exceed 2 per cent."

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** He had raised the same kind of question when the debate on the demands of my Ministry were going on. I told him and I again tell him that instead of telling it to us, he should turn to the developed countries. Are we responsible? We have seen the proceedings of the UNCTAD as to how the developed countries have behaved. They have increased the tariffs; they have put in so many impediments, and all that. That is the main reason. There are barriers put by the big countries. That is the real difficulty. You must try to understand that The developed countries are coming in our way.

**SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATTIA :** After concluding an agreement with the USSR, will it be possible for us to export more non-traditional goods to USSR.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** The new provisions have got a wider scope for non-traditional items and also some of the new items on the import side.

**SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH :** I find from the statement that there has been a steep fall in the exports of silk fabrics and handlooms. Sir, handloom industry is one of our main industries in the country. May I know whether the Minister proposes to explore other markets where these handloom goods can be sold profitably so that lakhs of people who live on handlooms can be helped?

**MR. SPEAKER :** The question is about non-traditional items.

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** Silk exports have luckily improved this year. Last year was a bad year for silk exports when countries like USA reduced their imports. This year is luckily a better year for silk.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA :** I find from the Annexure that sugar exports from the year 1968 to 1971 have more than doubled.

Actually, it has increased by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  times. When there is acute shortfall of supply of sugar in the country resulting in soaring of prices of sugar, is it the policy of the Government to export more sugar to foreign countries to earn foreign exchange and keeping the country starved here and allowing the soaring of prices of sugar?

**SHRI L. N. MISHRA :** The export and import policy has to take this into account. If Prof. Guha carefully looked into the export policy resolution laid on the Table of the House last July, a time comes when the domestic consumption has to be curbed and exports effected. This is the economic policy of most of the developed countries.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Sir, you have said nothing about it. If you look into the two charts, they are palpably contradictory.

**MR. SPEAKER :** I will see it.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** They are absolutely contradictory. Please ask him to go through it and correct it as soon as possible.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Of course, I will personally look into them myself and later on, I will ask them.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** We are now asking questions. Which of the two statements we are to proceed with? 943 or 947?

**MR. SPEAKER :** Personally I am going to see into it.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** In any case, I shall table a privilege motion.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Shri Lalji Bhai—absent.

Shri Onkar Lai Berwa—absent

Shri Vayalar Ravi

Participation of Coir Board in International Fairs

\*945. **SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of International Fairs held since 1970 in which the Coir Board has participated and coir goods have been exhibited; and

(b) the total expenditure incurred thereon and the amount of orders for coir goods received at these Fairs?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) :** (a) During 1970-71 and 1971-72, the Coir Board participated in 41 Fairs abroad.

(b) A total amount of Rs. 61,749/- was spent thereon. Export Orders which resulted from Coir Board's participation in these Fairs cannot be precisely assessed as the Board's representatives are not sent to these Fairs.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** In reply the hon. Minister said that how much order received by the Coir Board cannot be precisely assessed and he also said that it is a matter of publicity. I would like to know from the Minister as to what steps they propose to take to increase exports of coir goods to foreign countries and what kind of publicity they are going to make. I would also like to know from the Minister whether there was any complaint received that the coir goods sent for display in these fairs were put somewhere in the corner. What steps will the Government take to make effective propaganda for coir goods?

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE :** Actually the Member is inspiring the answer.

**MR. SPEAKER :** It is both ways.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE :** We were not able to participate in these fairs in a big way because of budgetary limitations. The money at the disposal of Coir Board is not enough to go for these international fairs where expenditure is too large and this can very well be appreciated; all the same we make our presence felt there. We are exporting products; we are supporting it with pamphlets and attractive literature. In the Indian pavilion, regarding our exports, though we are facing competition from the synthetics our export figures are not discouraging. In fact it has gone up. This year's exports are

the highest ever recorded, Rs. 14.85 crores. Unless more money is available for the Coir Board's exhibition activities I don't think I will be able to go in for exports directly on behalf of the Coir Board in a big way.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** The Minister has given wrong information. There is the publication of Coir Board. The figure is given up to April 1971. That comes to Rs. 1 crore ; and for April 1972 the figure is given ; that comes to Rs. 89 lakhs and odd. He says the highest recorded is this much, but actually it has gone down. Let him see the figure for April, 1972. I don't know how he came to this conclusion. Is there any proposal to make for more publicity in the western countries to get more proposal to increase exports of Coir Board ? What is the orders for the Coir goods ? What is the propaganda that they are doing abroad ?

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE :** I am not sure where he is quoting from. I will give the figure quantitywise. The figure was 52,22,176 quantitywise. The realisation was Rs. 13,873 crores. For 1971-72 the figure is 5,24,091 and realisation of foreign exchange is Rs. 14,851 crores. This is latest figure regarding export.

**SHRI VAYALAR RAVI :** Quantity is less.

**SHRI A. C. GEORGE :** In 1971-72 it is 5,24,000 and in 1970-71 it is Rs. 5,22,000. That is Rs. 2,000 more. He asked about export to the western countries. The figure for last year was Rs. 98 lakhs out of which rupee payment involved was of the order of Rs. 12 lakhs. Free foreign exchange areas figure come to Rs. 87 lakhs. It can be appreciated that it is mostly from free foreign exchange area.

**Steps to Enforce Better Quality  
Control for Export-  
Oriented Engineer-  
ing Goods**

+

\*947. **SHRI NAWAL KISHORE  
SINHA :**  
**SHRI HARI SINGH :**

**Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE  
be pleased to state :**

(a) whether the export of Engineering goods especially Sewing machines and bicycles, has suffered because of poor quality of products ;

(b) whether Taiwan, Hongkong, Malaysia, Singapore and other South East Asian countries are gradually capturing the Indian Export Markets for these commodities ; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to enforce better quality control to see that their export does not decline ?

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) :** (a) to (c). Exports have not suffered due to any defect in quality. Changes in demand sometimes occur owing to design factors.

A statement giving the export value for past three years upto February 1972 is placed on the Table of the House.

*Statement*

(a) No, Sir.

Exports of engineering goods have been rising during the past few years as will be seen from the export figures given below :

1968—69	Rs. 84.97 crores
1969—70	Rs. 106.50 crores
1970—71	Rs. 116.59 crores
1971—72 (Apr.-Feb. 72)	Rs. 109.60 crores

Similarly, exports of bicycles and bicycle components have recorded appreciable increase. Export statistics for the last four years are as follows :

1968—69	Rs. 3.82 crores
1969—70	Rs. 4.67 crores
1970—71	Rs. 6.91 crores
1971—72 (Apr. Jan.)	Rs. 6.93 crores

Exports figures for sewing machines are as follows :

1968—69	Rs. 53.69 lakhs
1969—70	Rs. 85.64 lakhs
1970—71	Rs. 16.71 lakhs
1971—72 (Apr. Feb.)	Rs. 40.80 lakhs

The steep fall witnessed during 1970-71 was due to labour troubles resulting in stoppage of production for a considerable period in the factory of a major exporting firm and not due to poor quality of the products.

(b) International competition in the field of engineering goods exports is being met.

(c) To enforce better quality control, 58 important engineering items including sewing machines, bicycle and bicycle parts have so far been covered, under the compulsory quality control and pre-shipment inspection scheme. Such goods are allowed to be exported only on the basis of specifications recognised by the Government of India which include the buyers specifications subject to a minimum standard prescribed in this behalf.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA : I hope the Minister will remove the discrepancy which Mr. Indrajit Gupta raised.

MR. SPEAKER : You may examine it later and lay a statement before the House. This doubt should be cleared. There may be some reasons for the discrepancy, but since both Shri Indrajit Gupta and Shri Nawal Kishore Sinha are both eager, some statement should be laid on the Table of the House.

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : I shall do so.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA : Some one has said that the first Indian product creates a market, the second is shipped and the third destroys it.

In view of this, may I know from the hon. Minister the agency for enforcing compulsory quality control and pre-ship-

ment inspection scheme of the goods which I have asked for in this question ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : We have got an organisation wherein about 58 items including cycles and sewing machines and so on are tested before shipment so far as quality is concerned.

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA : The hon. Minister has claimed that in the face of international competition in the field, engineering goods exports is being met. With figures he has tried to prove that the exports have not suffered. But considering the fact that the demand in the international market must have also gone up during the last three years, will he tell us, provided the information is with him, what percentage of the goods to which I have referred in the main question was met by India in 1968-69 and in 1971-72 ?

May I also know whether he is proposing to give some financial concessions to the industries producing these goods particularly in the backward areas to boost up exports ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : So far as financial assistance is concerned, it has not been asked for by the exporting parties, whether by way of incentives or reimbursements or entitlements. We have been doing well in cycles and sewing machines, and we have been exporting them to a number of Middle East countries, and our cycles are going to the USA also. Sewing machines and cycles go to the Far East also. Till today, we have not found any difficulty so far as rise is concerned. Our prices are competitive and if we feel like that some encouragement or incentive has to be given to the exporters, we shall not hesitate to give them.

#### Cultivation of Rubber

\*949. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Centre has any scheme for cultivation of rubber in places other than the traditional rubber producing areas in the country ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). A scheme of commercial rubber plantation has been undertaken by the Department of Rehabilitation in Katchal Island in Andaman & Nicobar Group of Islands. A rubber Research-Cum-Development Station has also been established in Southern Andaman on 500 acres.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM : I want to know whether the Central Government has explored the possibilities in other parts of the country, apart from the Andamans ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : Since the question was strictly limited to the traditional rubber-producing areas, I had referred only to the Andamans. For the Fourth Plan period, the Government of India have a programme for planting rubber in a big way in 39,000 hectares. The split-up figures are as follows :

Kerala	49420 acres
Mysore	29650 acres
Andamans	11125 acres
Tamil Nadu	4940 acres
Assam, Tripura & Goa	1235 acres

The earlier figure in hectares is 96,365 acres.

श्री विष्णुसि मिश्र : क्या सरकार ने कोई एक्सपेरिमेंट किया है कि छोटा नागपुर के जेटों में, बाई बिहार में, रबर पैदा हो सकता है; यदि वहाँ पैदा हो सकता है, तो क्या सरकार वहाँ रबर बनाने का विचार कर रही है ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : I do not think that particular area will be climatically

suitable for rubber plantations, but all the same this suggestion can be further pursued.

SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : So far as research activities of the Rubber Board are concerned, they are lagging behind. May I know whether Government have any agreement with any advanced foreign countries regarding research activities in rubber ?

SHRI A. C. GEORGE : In the Rubber Board, we have a very prestigious research institute. The result of its work can be seen indirectly in the fact that the yield per hectare which was 448 kg. in 1965-66 became 653 kg. in 1970-71.

विदेशों के साथ भारत के व्यापार में कमी

\*952. श्री एस. सी. सामन्त :

श्री ईश्वर चौधरी :

क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या विदेशों के साथ भारत के व्यापार में कमी हुई है;

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) 1970-71 की तुलना में 1971-72 में विदेशों के साथ भारत के व्यापार में कितने प्रतिशत कमी हुई है ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L.N. MISHRA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : The hon. Minister has stated that there is no decline. What is the increase in exports and imports in 1970-71 and 1971-72 ?

SHRI L.N. MISHRA : As against Rs. 1400 crores earlier, the increase has been in the neighbourhood of Rs. 1600 crores.

SHRI S.C. SAMANTA: Has the trade gap been reduced, and if so, to what extent ?

SHRI L.N. MISHRA: Last year was a good year. From Rs. 473 crores, we reduced the trade gap to Rs. 90 crores. But this year we are perhaps not going to be that lucky.

सर्वोच्च न्यायालय और उच्च न्यायालय के वकीलों द्वारा ली जाने वाली फीस को सीमा निर्धारित करना

\*954. श्री विभूति मिश्र: क्या बिधि और न्याय मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सर्वोच्च न्यायालय और विभिन्न उच्च न्यायालयों के एडवोकेटों की फीस प्रतिदिन एक हजार रुपये से पांच हजार रुपये तक है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को पता है कि गरीब लोग न्याय पाने के लिये न्यायालयों में अपने मामलों की पैरवी करने हेतु इन वकीलों की सेवाएं प्राप्त करने के लिए फीस नहीं दे सकते हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार एडवोकेटों की फीस की कोई सीमा निर्धारित करने का है ?

बिधि और न्याय मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी): (क) जी हां। यह सच है कि उच्चतम न्यायालय और उच्च न्यायालयों के कुछ अधिवक्ताओं द्वारा ली जाने वाली 1000/- रु० प्रति दिन से भी अधिक होता है। कुछ मामलों में तो यह 5,000/- रु० तक पहुंच जाती है।

(ख) जी हां।

(ग) जी नहीं।

श्री विभूति मिश्र: आज-कल सीजिन का बड़ा जोर है और घरघर प्रापर्टी तथा लैंड

प्रापर्टी पर सीलिंग लगाने की बात कही जा रही है। सरकार ने कोर्ट्स और वकीलों को बताया है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि वह वकीलों की फीस पर सीलिंग क्यों नहीं लगती है।

श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी: इस सुझाव पर विचार किया जायेगा।

श्री विभूति मिश्र: हमारे संविधान में समाजिक न्याय, सोशल जस्टिस, की बात कही गई है। मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि इस पर विचार किया जायेगा। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जब लोग मर जायेंगे, क्या तब इस पर विचार किया जायेगा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि इस पर विचार किया जायेगा।

श्री विभूति मिश्र: मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि सरकार कब तक विचार करेगी—क्या जब लोग मर जायेंगे, तब विचार करेगी? क्या विचार करने की कोई अवधि, कोई तिथि, निश्चित की गई है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय: वकील और डाक्टर काबू में नहीं रहते हैं।—श्री वाजपेयी।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: क्या सरकार के सामने कोई ऐसा प्रस्ताव विचाराधीन है, जिस के अन्तर्गत गरीब लोगों को हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट में कामूनी सहायता दी जा सके और उन के मुकदमों की ठीक तरह से पैरवी हो सके?

श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी: यह मामला एडवोकेट्स (एमेंडमेंट) बिल के सम्बन्ध में एक जावंट कमेटी के सामने विचाराधीन है। उस के सामने प्रस्ताव धाये हैं, जिन पर विचार हो रहा है।

**SHRI S.M. BANERJEE:** Mr. Speaker, Sir, when the doctors were charging exorbitant fees in Calcutta, they got certain letters from the Naxalites, and they reduced their fees immediately. So, I would like to know from the hon. Minister—I do not want to use that method—whether he will possibly consider . . .

**MR. SPEAKER:** He has given a suggestion already.

**SHRI S.M. BANERJEE:** It is not a suggestion, Sir.

**MR. SPEAKER:** If somebody dies in this House you will be responsible !

**SHRI S.M. BANERJEE:** I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he will consider the question of having my meeting with the Bar Association. There are certain lawyers who are very generous. They take up cases without charging any money, though they normally charge Rs. 1,800 or so. I should like to know whether any meeting is possible to see that the fees are reduced to a reasonable limit.

श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी: हाई कोर्ट और सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने कोई फीस निश्चित नहीं की है। यह तो व्यक्ति वकील के साथ स्वयं तय करता है, इस लिये यह दो आदमियों के बीच का मुद्दा है।

It is a contract between two parties. By entering into a contract, the person agrees to pay a fixed amount, therefore, the Government cannot come into the picture.

**SHRI S.M. BANERJEE:** He has to pay through his nose. Justice is so dear in this country that it is impossible.

**SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH:** May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that there has been a large scale evasion of income-tax by such of those advocates who have been charging high fees and whether any such instance has been brought to the notice of the Government and, if so, what action have they taken ?

**SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY:** This question may be referred to the Finance Ministry.

**SHRI S. M. BANERJEE:** Nobody accepts cheque ; they want money in cash.

**SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI:** I 1957, in the Law Ministers' Conference, a decision was taken to give legal aid to the poor. In 1970, the Government of India made a provision in the Advocates Act...

**MR. SPEAKER:** The question has taken a different turn.

**SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI:** In 1957, in the Law Ministers' Conference...

**MR. SPEAKER:** Please come to the point.

**SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI:** I am coming to the point.

**MR. SPEAKER:** You have given the information yourself.

**SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI:** I was giving information to put my question.

**MR. SPEAKER:** That is wrong. According to the rules, you cannot make a suggestion or give information. You ask your question directly.

**SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI:** After 15 years, a decision was taken by the Government of India, and so far, it has not been implemented. The promise to give legal aid to the poor has not been fulfilled. What is the delay ? I want to know from the Government when the decision will be implemented.

**SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY:** Administration of justice is a State subject ; it is for the States to give legal aid to the poor, and not for the Centre.

**SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI:** Some directions can be given to the State Governments.



MR. SPEAKER : Order please. It may be asked in a different way. Next question.

**Doubts raised about Rural Electrification Project**

\*956. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a news-item published in the *Hindustan Standard* (Calcutta) dated the 24th April, 1972 under the title "Doubts raised about rural electrification project" ;

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

(c) the exact position in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Government of West Bengal have stated that they do not find any reason for the apprehensions in the news item. The West Bengal State Electricity Board is gearing up its activities to achieve the targets.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : A report was published in Calcutta press in which doubts have been expressed about the target set up for electrification of 10,000 villages by the end of 1973. In that connection, I want to know whether it is a fact that to fulfil the target, the West Bengal Electricity Board requires 10,000 metric tonnes of steel along with several thousands of wires and transformers and other apparatus, by 1973, and if so, whether the Government has assured the West Bengal Electricity Board for the supply of these necessary apparatus.

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : I have been in touch with the Chief Minister of West Bengal and have told him that all assistance will be given to the programme of pushing on with the rural electrification schemes. What appeared in the newspaper

is correct because in the first three years, we have done only in 845 villages as against a target of 10,000 villages. From April this year, they have stepped up the electrification programme and 250 villages were electrified; and if this rate of progress is kept up, perhaps 3,000 villages per year could be possible. It should be possible to reach the target, if not by 1973, at least by 1974 end.

SHRI SRMAR GUHA : They say that it will not be possible to fulfil the target by 1973. Is it a fact that the West Bengal Government wanted about Rs. 100 crores for completing the task of rural electrification. I want to know whether this scheme of rural electrification is going to be linked with connecting tubewells and shallow wells and also giving power supply to the small and medium industries in the rural areas ... (*Interruptions*).

DR. K. L. RAO : There have been some suggestions from the Government of West Bengal and both tubewells and shallow wells are supposed to be given connection.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Is it a fact that under the electrification supposed to have been done during the last month in West Bengal, only electric lines have been drawn up to the villages and no connection has been given to any of the private consumers in the villages ?

DR. K. L. RAO : I am not aware of that. Our definition of rural electrification is that it must be used either for light or for pump sets or small scale industries. Unless there is such use, we cannot classify that as an electrified village. The West Bengal Government have informed us that they have electrified about 230 villages in April ; I expect that they must have given power for such use.

भारत भाषे सम्प्रदान प्रतिनिधि मंडल के  
साथ व्यापार सम्बन्धी बातचीत

\*958. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या  
विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे  
कि :

(क) क्या अप्रैल के अन्तिम सप्ताह में उनके और अफगानिस्तान के व्यापारिक प्रतिनिधि मंडल के बीच कोई वार्ता हुई थी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम निकला ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

There have been talks between officials of India and Afghanistan with a view to explain the provisions of the Public Notice issued on March 20, 1972 in regard to imports from and exports to Afghanistan. During the discussions, certain difficulties were also brought to the attention of the officials constituting the Indian side. It has been agreed that these difficulties would be borne in mind when a new Public Notice is issued.

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय: मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूंगा कि जो कठिनाइयाँ बातचीत के दौरान बताई गई है, उन के फलस्वरूप क्या आप के निर्यात व्यापार में कुछ बाधाएँ उठ खड़ी हुई हैं ? यदि हां, तो उन बाधाओं को उन कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये आप ने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र: बातचीत चल रही है, अफगानिस्तान से फिर डिलीगेशन आया हुआ है। इस में कुछ दिक्कतें थीं, हम ने इस बात पर जोर दिया था कि वहां से जो चीजें आवें, वे एस. टी. सी. के जरिये अयें। अध्यक्ष जी, आप जानते हैं कि जो चीजें वहां से आती हैं, जैसे बादाम, पिस्ता या सूखे फल, उन की अफगानिस्तान की कीमत और यहां की कीमत में 10-12 गुना का अंतर होता है। इस को रोकने के लिये हम ने सोचा कि यदि एस. टी. सी. के जरिये चीजें लेंगे तो लोगों को सस्ते

दामों पर मिल सकेंगी। लेकिन यह अफगानिस्तान सरकार को मंजूर नहीं है।

हम आपस में बातचीत कर रहे हैं और कुछ दिनों में बात पक्की हो जायगी। लेकिन अभी इम्पोर्ट या एक्सपोर्ट रुका नहीं है, पुराने तरीके से चल रहा है।

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय: मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इस के कारण निर्यात व्यापार में कमी आई है ? यदि कमी आई है तो कितने प्रतिशत कमी हुई है ? जो बातचीत आप करने जा रहे हैं, वह कब तक समाप्त हो जायगी ?

श्री एल० एन० मिश्र: हमारी बातचीत हो चुकी है। आज वह विदेश मंत्री जो से मिलने-वाले हैं, शायद मिल चुके होंगे। आज बात तय हो जायगी।

SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATIA : In view of the fact that we have got very good trade and cultural relations with Afghanistan, will the hon. Minister tell us if there is any scheme of having joint ventures with the Afghanistan in Government Afghanistan ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : Perhaps there are some proposals of joint ventures in industries : but they are not with me at this stage.

#### Supply of Industrial Raw Material by U. S. S. R.

\*959. SHRI K. BALADHANDAY-UTHAM : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Soviet Union has agreed to help India meet its urgent industrial raw material shortages created by the suspension of US aid ; and

(b) if so, the items of raw material expected to be supplied by Soviet Union and the value thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISRA) : (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### Statement

(a) Certain urgent shortages in industrial raw materials created by the suspension of U. S. aid have been partially met by supplies from the Soviet Union.

(b) During 1972, U.S.S.R. is expected to supply to India *inter alia* Technical Diamonds, Kerosene, asbestos, sulphur, ferro-alloys, rolled steel products, zinc, nickel, copper and rolled copper products, platinum, palladium, chemicals including reagents and laboratory chemicals and insecticides such as DDT, Dye Intermediates, refractories, newsprint and drugs raw materials and intermediates. It is not in the public interest to disclose the values involved.

SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM : He has admitted that there are urgent shortages which have been partially met by U. S. S. R. Has any attempt been made to meet the shortage fully ?

SHRI L. N. MISHRA : There are a number of strategic and critical items, especially non-ferrous metals, which we were earlier getting from USA and USA Government has stopped the supply of those items. USSR has come to our aid and through them we have got our requirements.

SHRI K. BALADHANDAYUTHAM : The statement says that the shortage has been met partially by USSR. Is any attempt being made by Government to see that this shortage is met fully by USSR or other social countries ?

SHRI L. N. MISRA : There are other sources also. We have got our own indigenous source also. Whatever shortage was there, that has been met by USSR. At this stage, we do not want anything more. We have got an understanding that if we require more of these materials, especially critical materials, we will get them from USSR.

MR. SPEAKER : Next question, Shri Laskar. Absent.

The Question List is over. The Question Hour is over.

#### WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

निर्धारित समय में माल के गन्तव्य स्थान पर पहुंचने की गारंटी

\*944. श्री लालजी भाई:

श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा:

क्या रेल मंत्री यह जताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कुछ वस्तुओं पर पहले ही माल-भाड़े का भुगतान करने सम्बन्धी योजना के लागू किये जाने के पश्चात्, रेलवे का यह गारंटी देने का विचार है कि माल अपने गन्तव्य स्थान को एक निश्चित अवधि के अन्दर पहुंच जायेगा;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तया) : (क) जी नहीं, श्रीमन् । निविड दो स्टेशनों के बीच कुल पारगमन सेवा की एक पृथक परियोजना है जहां पारगमन समय की गारंटी दी जाती है ।

(ख) एक विवरण सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है ।

#### विवरण

“बुकिंग के समय भाड़े की अनिवार्य पूर्व-अदायगी” की जगह उसी दशा में लघायी जाती है जबकि उस वस्तु का स्वरूप बिस्फीटक या नश्य हो या उसका मूलभूत मूल्य कम हो । परे-धित्वी द्वारा सुपुर्वगी न लेने या गंतव्य स्टेशन पर परेक्षण के बहे रहने की हासल में रेलवे राकस्व की सम्भावित हानि से बचने के लिए

सतर्कता के उद्देश्य से ऐसा किया जाता है।  
 “दुत पारममन सेवा” के अन्तर्गत, जिसके लिए 5 प्रतिशत अतिरिक्त प्रभार लिया जाता है, बिशिष्ट दो स्टेशनों के बीच डोये जाने वाले यातायात को छोड़कर पारममन समय की गारंटी नहीं दी जाती। उन वस्तुओं पर, जिनके लिए भार की पूर्व-अदायगी अनिवार्य होती है, न तो किसी प्रकार का अतिरिक्त प्रभार लिया जाता है और न उनका संचलन बिशिष्ट दो स्टेशनों तक ही सीमित होता है।

#### Requirements of Tea Industry

\*946. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a Press Report appearing in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* (Calcutta) dated the 27th April, 1972, under the caption “The Industry Requirements highlighted” ; and

(b) if so, Governments reaction there-to ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of simplifying the system of giving rebate of excise duty on tea exports and expediting payment of this rebate is under constant review.

Higher excise duty is levied on high priced teas in order to distribute the tax burden equitably among different tea growing areas according to tax bearing capacity. This higher levy is however, compensated in the case of teas exported by grant of higher rebate related to price. It also serves to divert quality teas from domestic consumption to export. There is no evidence that higher levy of excise duty on quality teas induces producers to switch over to production of inferior teas.

#### Improvement in Quality of Instant Tea

\*948. SHRI B. K. DAS CHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the quality of instant tea produced in the country has been found to be not up to the mark and whether it is not instantly soluble in cold water for making iced tea ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to improve the quality ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Indian instant tea has been well received in the world market and demand is increasing. Cold water soluble instant tea is also produced in India and exported. The research on instant tea is undertaken under the aegis of the Tea Board on a continuing basis.

#### Reorganisation of S. T. C.

\*950. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO :  
 SHRI K. MALLANNA :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under the consideration of Government to re-organise the State Trading Corporation with a view to establishing an International Trade Corporation as the holding company with a number of subsidiaries ;

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

(c) the time by which the decision is likely to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) to (c). A Committee, named, State Trading Corporation Review Committee was set in 1968 to review trading techniques and methods of the State Trading Corporation and its organisational structure with a view to taking necessary steps for further strengthening and improving its operational efficiency. The Committee opined that the

world pattern of industrial management favoured a holding company and subsidiaries style of structure to centralise in the holding company top policies of sales, finance and personnel and certain services leaving the subsidiaries to administer the agreed policy without day to day intervention, but make them at the same time fully accountable for communicating results. The Committee also recommended that the STC may be converted into four smaller companies and all these companies should be subsidiaries of a new holding company, called the International Trading Corporation of India. The Government agreed with the recommendation in principle but observed that if the Corporation was able to identify a well defined sector or a particular Division, in which the nature, volume, and range of work may justify organisation into a subsidiary, specific proposals in this regard may be forwarded to the Ministry for further consideration.

A subsidiary named, Projects and Equipment Corporation has since been created. No other proposal has been made by the STC so far.

#### **Diversion of Sona River Waters to Madhya Pradesh**

\*951. SHRI K.M. MADHUKAR : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any representation from M.Ps. belonging to Bihar regarding the proposed diversion of waters of Sona River to Madhya Pradesh; and

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

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K.L. RAO) :** (a) and (b). The Madhya Pradesh Government have proposed the Bansagar Project on river Sona for acceptance by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the developmental plane of Madhya Pradesh.

The Government of Uttar Pradesh have been urging that the Bansagar Project is the

only source of irrigation to the famine stricken plateau areas in Mirzapur district and that the Bansagar Project proposed by the Madhya Pradesh Government should be modified to make provision of irrigation in this area also.

The Government of Bihar have protested against the Bansagar Project as proposed by the Government of Madhya Pradesh involving diversion of Sone waters to the Tons river in another basin, on the ground that it will affect the large irrigation system in Bihar from the Sone Lower down where the position of supplies is stated to be already critical. Similar representations have also been received from Members of Parliament from Bihar.

Discussions on the project have been held with the three States and efforts continue to be made to evolve proposals which might be acceptable to all of them.

#### **Central Control of River Waters in the Country**

\*953. SHRI M.S. SIVA AMY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered any measures for the Central control of river waters in the country; and

(b) if so, the broad outline thereof and the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

**THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K.L. RAO) :** (a) and (b). With the growing importance of water in agricultural and economic development, need is being increasingly felt for planning and developing water resources with a regional and national perspective in place of prevailing restricted concept of use by basin States. The various aspects of the new approach including legal considerations, are being studied :

**Exports made by Indian Oxygen Ltd.**

\*955. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the volume of export made by Indian Oxygen Ltd. during the last three years; and

(b) the total amount of foreign exchange earned by the Company during the period ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics, Calcutta, which is the main source of statistics, does not maintain export statistics firm-wise.

**Damage Caused to Patratu Thermal Plant (Bihar)**

\*957. SHRI M.M. JOSEPH :  
SHRI VIKRAM MAHAJAN :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Patratu Thermal Plant (Bihar) was damaged last month;

(b) whether Government suspected sabotage in the plant to be the cause of the damage; and

(c) if so, the brief facts of the incident and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (DR. K. L. RAO) : (a) to (c). An explosion occurred in the boiler of one of the four 50 MW generating units on 11th April, 1972. Another explosion occurred in one of the two boilers of one 100 MW generating unit on the 17th April, 1972. The Bihar State Electricity Board does not suspect any sabotage as the cause for the explosions. However, a single member enquiry Committee was set up by the Bihar State Electricity Board to go into the cause of the explosions and

report. The report is not yet received.

**Prospects of Competing with Japan in Export of Sugar Mill Machinery and Power Station Equipments to South East Asian Countries.**

\*960. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is now in a position to compete with Japan in the matter of exporting sugar mill machinery and power station equipment to Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken in this direction and how far the Government have been successful ?

THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI L. N. MISHRA) : (a) and (b). India is a now entrant in the field of export of sugar mill machinery and power station equipments and naturally has to face competition from the established exporters like Japan. However, judging from the fact, that India has been able to secure orders for power station equipment, particularly from Malaysia as a result of participation in global tender, it may be safely concluded that India is able to meet the competition to some degree.

Measures taken in this regard are :

- i) Increased participation in global tenders by Indian exporters.
- ii) Indian offers for joint ventures.
- iii) Modification of credit terms to match the situations.
- iv) Overseas publicity of Indian products and Industrial capacity.
- v) Engineering Export Promotion Council's office at Singapore collects details of new projects

coming up in the region and disseminates them to Indian exporters.

- vi) A delegation sponsored by the Engineering Export Promotion Council has recently visited Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia to explore the possibilities of increasing Indian Exports to this region.

**Bihar Government Proposals for Railway Line Connection with Madhya Pradesh**

7034. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the broad outlines of the proposals received from Bihar Government in regard to laying of Railway lines connecting Barwadih Junction of Eastern Railway with a Station in Madhya Pradesh ; and

(b) the action taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). The construction of a rail link between Barwadih (in Bihar) and Sarnadih (in Madhya Pradesh) line was undertaken in 1947 but the work was stopped subsequently due to difficult ways and means position

and also because it transpired that the anticipated traffic would not materialise on the section. The construction of this line will again be considered when definite schemes about the development of the coal fields in the area become available.

**Merger of D. A. Benefits to Employees who Retired Between May to November, 1968**

7035. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4572 on the 13th July, 1971 regarding option for pension by Railway Employees and state the action Government propose to take for the employees who retired between 1st May, 1968 and 30th November, 1968 and were deprived of the benefit of merger of D. A. with pay ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : The scheme of treating a portion of D. A. as pay for certain purposes was given effect to from 1.12.1968 and it is not proposed to give further retrospective effect to it.

Railway servants who retired before 1.12.68 and who were in receipt of small pension plus an *ad hoc* increase thereto were granted a further *ad hoc* increase of Rs. 10/- per month with effect from 1.9.1969 as indicated below :—

I Amount of Pension	II Rate of ad-hoc increase in pension prior to 1.9.1969	III Rate of ad-hoc increase in pension from 1.9.69.
Pensions upto Rs. 30 p.m.	Rs. 5 p. m.	Rs. 15 p. m.
Pensions above Rs. 30 but not above Rs. 75 p. m.	Rs. 7.50 p. m.	Rs. 17.50 p. m.
Pensions above Rs. 75 but not above Rs. 200 p. m.	Rs. 10 p. m.	Rs. 20 p. m.
Pensions above Rs. 200 p. m.	Such ad-hoc increase as will bring the total pension to Rs. 210 p. m.	Such ad-hoc increase as will bring the total pension to Rs. 220 p.m.

**Decrease in Export of Iron-Ore  
from Goa**

7036. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news item in "The Hindu" dated the 26th April, 1972 under the caption "Japan may cut Goa ore import" ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The fear of air pollution and the recession in the steel industry referred to in the news item are unlikely to affect the exports of Goa iron ore to Japan in the immediate future.

**Amendment of Rules Importing T. V. Sets**

7037. SHRI MARTAND SINGH : will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have amended the rules for importing Television Sets ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the amended rules ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) The import of T. V. Sets was allowed in the past as gifts from relations living abroad but this concession was withdrawn with effect from 1.8.70. The import of T. V. Sets under baggage was also allowed but with the establishment of the manufacture of T. V. Sets in the country, imports were curtailed and now only those passengers can bring T. V. under their baggage whose stay abroad in one country is more than three months. The procedure for bringing T. V. Set under baggage has been laid down in Public Notice No. 20-ITC (PN)/72 dated 1.2.1972.

**Confirmation of Commercial Clerks in  
Northeast Frontier Railway**

7038. SHRI PANNA LAL BARUPAL : SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Commercial Clerks employed on Northeast Frontier Railway, separately in each grade and on each Division ;

(b) the total number of Commercial Clerks who are confirmed in their posts and who are still temporary, separately on each Division ; and

(c) whether the seniority lists and the confirmation lists of commercial clerks have been published by all the Divisions of Northeast Frontier Railway and if so, the dates on which they were published ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

**Parties who Submitted Tenders for Goods  
Handling Contract at Kanpur Central  
Goods-Shed**

7039. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of parties who submitted tenders on the 28th July, 1971 for goods handling contract at Kanpur Central Goods-Shed ;

(b) whether any negotiations were conducted after public opening of tenders to reduce rates and if so, the results thereof ; and

(c) whether at the time of negotiations, Proprietor of M/S. B. R. Mangal and Company, Kanpur, gave in writing to the Tender Committee that he was also the Secretary of Janta Labour Co-operative Society Limited ?



THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Two parties submitted tenders on 26th July 1971 (and not on 28th July, 1971) for goods handling contract at Kanpur Central Goods Shed.

(b) Yes. But the parties did not agree to reduce the rates.

(c) Yes.

Finalisation of Tenders for Goods handling contract at Kanpur Central Goods-shed, Jnhi including Fazalpur

7040. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHRY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether tenders for goods handling contract at Kanpur Central Goods-Shed, Jubi Transshipment including Fazalpur which were opened on the 25th November, 1971 in the office of the Divisional Superintendent Allahabad, have since been finalised ;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) the date by which the tenders are likely to be finalised ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No.

(b) and (c). The quotations tendered by the parties for goods handling contract at Kanpur Central Goods Shed, Jubi Transshipment including Fazalpur (and not Fazalpur) were found to be very high. Therefore fresh tenders are being called, which are expected to be finalised soon thereafter.

Shortage of Wagons for the Industry in Kerala

7041. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that the tile industry and agricultural implements Units in Kerala are severely affected by shortage of wagons ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to provide more wagons to these industries to enable them to tide over their present difficulties ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). No agricultural implements were offered for despatch for clearance in wagon loads.

Traffic in tiles qualifies for movement under the lowest priority class 'E'. Besides, movements are mostly for destinations reached via difficult routes. However, maximum available quota has been given for loading of tiles from different stations in Kerala and during the months from January to April, 1972, 2334 Broad Gauge and 93 Metre Gauge wagons were loaded.

Distribution of Raw Cashew Nuts

7042. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Union Deputy Minister of foreign trade has suggested to the Government of Kerala to distribute raw cashew nuts only to those factories which pay minimum wages to their workers ;

(b) if so, the salient features of the proposal and the reaction of the Kerala Government thereto ; and

(c) whether any list of employers paying minimum wages have been submitted by the Kerala Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). Distribution of imported raw cashew nuts is done by the Cashew Corporation of India. The Corporation has written to the Government of Kerala that it would cooperate to restrict the quota of such processing units as are

not paying minimum wages to cashew workers provided the State Government informed the names of the defaulting units to the Corporation. Government of Kerala in turn is understood to have written to the Central Trade Union Organisations for information regarding units which were not paying minimum wages. We are awaiting the final reply.

#### **Punjab's Contribution in Total Exports**

7043. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the contribution made by Punjab in the total exports of the country during the year 1971-72 ; and

(b) the names of the major commodities exported from Punjab during the period ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). State-wise statistics are not available.

#### **Financing of certain Projects in Iraq**

7044. SHRI DEVINDER SINGH GARCHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE : be pleased to state :

(a) whether India proposes to finance certain projects in Iraq under the Indo-Iraq Trade Agreement signed in New Delhi last September, and ratified recently ; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Under the Indo-Iraqi Trade Agreement, there is no provision for financing any project in Iraq from India. The two Governments are, however, discussing certain mutually beneficial projects which could in future become joint ventures in Iraq and India.

#### **Implementation of reservations decided for Handlooms**

7045. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 4635 on the 2nd May, 1972 regarding Monopoly of manufacturing Dhotis, Saris and towels to handlooms and state :

(a) the varieties of articles exclusively reserved for Handlooms ;

(b) the date on which this reservation was decided upon ;

(c) whether it is being implemented by all the States ; and

(d) if not the reasons therefor and Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The articles exclusively reserved for production (for internal consumption only) by handlooms and the dates from which the reservation came into force in respect of each of them are as follows :

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| (i) Piece dyed dhoties                             | 9th Nov., 1966.  |
| (ii) Lungies, sarongs & gamchas                    | 15th April, 1950 |
| (iii) Coloured sarees—<br>Yarn dyed or piece dyed. | 9th Nov., 1966.  |

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. However, violations in respect of coloured sarees have been reported. Certain powerloom owners in Maharashtra have obtained stay orders from courts against the enforcement of the reservation in favour of handlooms in respect of coloured sarees.

#### **Handlooms in Cooperative Field and outside Cooperative Field**

7046. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be

pleased to state the number of handlooms in the co-operative fold and outside the co-operative fold separately and State-wise ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : Information with regard to the number of handlooms outside the cooperative fold is not available. As regards the number of handlooms in the cooperative fold, the information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

मध्य प्रदेश के मन्दासौर, जाधौर और झलोटे

निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में मोहर लगे

मत-पत्रों का पाया जाना

7047. डा० लक्ष्मीन रायण पांडेय: क्या बिबि और न्याय मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश के मन्दासौर जिले में मन्दासौर निर्वाचन क्षेत्र और रतलाम जिले के जाधौर और झलोटे निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में पहले से मोहर लगे मत-पत्र पाये गये थे ;

(ख) क्या कुछ स्थानों पर वास्तविक संख्या से अधिक मत-पत्र पाये गये ; और

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

बिबि और न्याय मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री नीतिराज सिंह चौधरी) : (क) जी नहीं । मन्दासौर जिले के मन्दासौर निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के एक मतदान केन्द्र अर्थात् 64 कमला नेहरू बाल मंदिर में 250 मत-पत्रों पर मतदान के दिन फाउन्टेन पेन की स्याही के निशान पड़ गए थे । ये मतपत्र खूद कर दिए गए और इनकी जगह दूसरे ठमपन रख दिए गए ।

(ख) और (ग). 291 गरोठ विधान सभा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के एक मतदान केन्द्र अर्थात्

पिपलिया मिट्ठाघाह में जिसे 800 मत-पत्र दिए गए थे, गिनती करते समय यह पाया गया कि वहां मत पेटी में वास्तव में 428 मत पत्र थे जबकि प्रश्न 16 (मतपत्रों का हिसाब) के अनुसार पीठासीन अधिकारी द्वारा दिए गए मत पत्रों की संख्या 372 बताई गई थी । यह गलती पीठासीन अधिकारी द्वारा मत-पत्रों के हिसाब में गलत प्रविष्टियां करने के कारण हुई प्रतीत होती है । क्योंकि यह मामूली सी गलती थी, इसलिए कोई कार्यवाही करना आवश्यक नहीं समझ गया ।

Directive issued by Railway Board in regard to Levy of demurrage charges against handling Contractors

7048. SHRI ISHWAR CHAUDHARY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether on the basis of the accepted recommendations of the Commercial Committee in regard to levy of demurrage charges against handling contractors, the Railway Board issued directive to All Zonal Railways vide letter No. 59-TG 11/6/4 dated the 29th July, 1961 to make suitable amendments in all future new contracts and those coming up for renewal;

(b) if so, the names of the Zonal Railways who have made suitable amendments in all Agreements in view of Railway Board's directive to get the advantage of lower competitive rates in open tenders or otherwise;

(c) whether the directive had been violated by the Northern Railway Administration all these years; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to ensure compliance with the above directive by the Northern Railway Administration ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIA): (a). Yes.

(b) to (d) : Suitable amendments in the standard form of Agreement for goods and parcel handling have been made by all the Railways except the Northern Railway who have since taken action to provide for the necessary amendment in all future contracts including those coming up for renewal.

**Compensation claims paid by Railways**

7049. **SHRIMATI KRISHNA KUMARI** : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether over 60 per cent of the compensation claims paid by the Railways are due to damage on account of exposure when goods are transported in uncovered wagons; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to avoid huge losses on this account ?

रेलवे

पूर्वोत्तर

पूर्वोत्तर सीमा

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

पूर्वोत्तर तथा पूर्वोत्तर सीमान्त रेलवे में  
मजदूर यूनियन

7050. श्री जगन्मोहन प्रसाद यादव : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि पूर्वोत्तर और पूर्वोत्तर सीमान्त रेलवे पर कितनी मजदूर यूनियन काम कर रही है और उन में से कितनी यूनियनों को मान्यता मिली हुई है और उनका व्योरा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्ताया) : पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे और पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे से सम्बद्ध महा-प्रबन्धकों द्वारा इन रेलों पर कार्य कर रही निम्नलिखित टेबल यूनियनों को मान्यता प्रदान कर दी गयी है :

यूनियनों के नाम और अन्य विवरण

(1) एन. ई. रेलवे एम्प्लोयीज यूनियन (पी. आर. के. एस.)-नेशनल फेडरेशन आफ इंडियन रेलवे-मैन से सम्बद्ध ।

(2) एन. ई. रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन—ग्राल इंडिया रेलवेमैनस फेडरेशन से सम्बद्ध ।

(1) एन. एफ. रेलवे एम्प्लोयीज यूनियन—नेशनल फेडरेशन आफ इंडियन रेलवे-मैन से सम्बद्ध ।

(2) एन. एफ. रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन—ग्राल इंडिया रेलवेमैनस फेडरेशन से सम्बद्ध ।

जहाँ तक इन रेलों पर काम कर रही गैर मान्यता प्राप्त यू. नियों का सम्बन्ध है सरकार को सुनिश्चित जानकारी नहीं है ।

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे और पूर्वोत्तर सीमान्त रेलवे में  
नैमित्तिक श्रमिक

रेलवे में कितने नैमित्तिक श्रमिक कार्य करते हैं;  
और

7051. श्री जगन्मोहन प्रसाद यादव : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे और पूर्वोत्तर सीमान्त

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार इन श्रमिकों को नियमित रोजगार देने का है और यदि हाँ, तो कब तक ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया): (क)  
31-3-1971 की स्थिति:

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे	पूर्वोत्तर सीमा रेलवे
13,377	3,278

(ख) ऐसे सभी नैमित्तिक मजदूर, जो छः महीने की सेवा पूरी कर चुके हैं, छानबीन के बाद चौथे दर्जे के नियमित पदों में शामिल किये जाने के पात्र हैं।

#### Import of Newsprint from Bangladesh

7052. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether newsprint is now being imported from Bangladesh;

(b) if so, the quantum thereof; and

(c) the terms and conditions of this trade ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). A provision for Rs. 3 crores has been made in the Limited Payments Arrangement for import of newsprint and low grammage writing paper from Bangladesh. The State Trading Corporation of India has been designated as the agency to import newsprint under this arrangement.

#### Disruptions of Train Services in Khurda Road Division due to Demonstration by Students

7053. SHRI ARJUN SETHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether regular train services were recently disrupted due to demonstration by students in Khurda Road Division (South Eastern Railway) demanding shifting of Railway Headquarters of South Eastern Railway to Bhubaneswar ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government have taken to ensure the operation of regular train services in this division ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes, on 1-4-1972 only.

(b) Police rounded up demonstrators and arrested students including the President of M. S. College, Cuttack and cleared the track for movement of train services. Whenever such incidents of disruption of train services due to demonstration by students occur, suitable security arrangements by the Police and RPF are always made to restore normality.

#### Proposal for raising Retirement Age of High Court Judges

7054. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration for raising the retirement age of the Judges of High Courts; and

(b) if so, when the decision is expected to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM CHEMICALS (SHRI H. R. GOKHALE) : (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Power supply from Rihand Dam

7055. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the power supplied through Palamu District from Rihand Dam is being tackled at national level ; and

(b) if so, the broad outline thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL): (a) and (b). The Bihar State Electricity Board constituted by the Government of Bihar under the provisions of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, is charged with the general duty of promoting co-ordinated development of generation, supply and distribution of electricity within the state. Accordingly it is primarily the responsibility of the State Electricity Board of Bihar to provide power supply in Palamau district. There is no scheme or proposal of the Central Government to provide power supply in the district of Palamau or for arranging power supply from Rihand.

#### Import of Cars

7056. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :

SHRI V. MAYAVAN:

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for importing cars from abroad for use in the offices of the Central Government, State Governments and Public Sector Undertakings and its effect on the indigenous car industry ;

(b) the amount of foreign exchange spent on the import of cars during the last two years ; and

(c) whether Government have considered the question of using Indian cars instead and if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Import of high powered cars meant for long journeys, involving foreign exchange, has been allowed, on a limited scale for the specific purpose of tourist promotion which is an important source of foreign exchange earnings. Some imports of specialised types of jeeps and other vehicles, offered as gifts under specific aid agreements, have been allowed to Public Sector Undertakings/Projects, without involving foreign exchange. The indigenous car industry is not affected by these imports firstly because these are on a limited scale and secondly they are of such types which are not manufactured indigenously.

(b) Foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 12,79,747/- has been spent during last 2 years on import of cars for tourist promotion as referred to above.

(c) By and large Indian cars are invariably used in the Government Departments/ Public Sector Undertakings/Projects.

#### Take over of Prabha Mills at Viramgam

7057. SHRI P. M. MEHTA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have finalised the proposal for taking over the Prabha Mill at Viramgam in Gujarat ; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in taking over the mill and when the final decision in this regard is likely to be taken ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter is under consideration and it is not possible to state as to when the final decision is likely to be taken.

#### Application from Orissa Government for Jute Mill in Orissa

7058. SHRI D. K. PANDA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether any application for grant of licence for setting up a jute factory in Orissa has been received by Central Government through Government of Orissa ;

(b) if so, the salient feature of the proposal ; and

(c) Government's decision thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). An application from Shri Bishwanath Khaitan for licence under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act for setting up a

new jute mill at Charbatia (Cuttack District) for manufacture of sackings and twine has been received through the Orissa Government.

(c) No decision has yet been taken on the application.

#### Complaints received against Imported Raw Materials

7059. SHRI NARENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the nature of complaints received last year about the sub-standard quality and unduly high prices of imported raw materials, semi-processed goods and machines; and

(b) the measures taken to check the recurrence of such cases in the future trade agreements with foreign countries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b) About 70 per cent of raw materials, semi-processed goods and machinery is imported through State Trading Agencies and the remaining 30% is imported by the actual users themselves. In order to avoid complaints about quality and high prices of raw materials imported through the State Trading Agencies, these agencies have set up Consultative Committees of the actual users and the quality specifications, prices and delivery schedules of their raw materials are determined in consultation with them.

#### Export of Iron Ore by M.M.T.C.

7060. SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SINHA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Minerals and Metals Trading Corporation has contract with Japan and other countries for supply of iron ore with Fe content of 62 per cent and above;

(b) whether iron ore from the mines of Bihar contain Fe content varying from

58 per cent to 64 per cent; and

(c) whether any steps are proposed to be taken for blending the marginally lower grade ore with higher grade iron ore so as to get iron ore with an average Fe content of 62 per cent for export and, if so, the broad outlines thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir, but the Fe content of iron ore from the mines of Bihar normally analyses 60% and above.

(c) It is already the practice of mine owners/suppliers to blend ores so as to conform with the specifications indicated in the purchase contracts.

#### पूर्वी क्षेत्र में रेलवे का पुनर्गठन

7061. श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भारत तथा बंगला देश के बीच हाल ही में हुई मैत्री और सहयोग की दृष्टि से देश के पूर्वी भाग में रेल यातायात का पुनर्गठन करने सम्बन्धी कोई योजना विचाराधीन है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमान्तेय्या) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

#### Production of Natural Rubber

7062. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of natural rubber in the country will be able to meet the entire demand in the near future; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to fill the gap between supply and demand by increased production of synthetic rubber and by resort to new plantation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The production of natural rubber in the next two years will meet the demand of the rubber manufacturing industry. However, such demand is likely to go up when the additional licensed units go into production. Production of synthetic rubber in the proposed public sector unit will adequately cover the Fourth Plan demand for rubber.

कोटा, उदयपुर अजमेर और जयपुर रेलवे स्टेशनों पर टूटे हुए माल डिब्बों की नीलामी के समय उपस्थित  
• पाटियां

7064. श्री लाल जी भाई :  
श्री श्रींकार लाल बेरवा:

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत दो वर्षों में कोटा उदयपुर अजमेर और जयपुर रेलवे स्टेशनों पर हुई नीलामी में कितनी-कितनी पाटियों ने टूटे हुए माल डिब्बे खरीदे; और

(ख) माल डिब्बों की नीलामी से कितनी आय हुई ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क) एक सूची सभा पटक पर रखी है। [प्रश्नालय में रखा गया देखिये संख्या L -3028-72]

(ख) कोटा	10,98,431 रुपये
उदयपुर	कुछ नहीं।
अजमेर	18,18,220 रुपये
जयपुर	कुछ नहीं।

29,16,651 वर्ष

उदयपुर, कोटा और जयपुर के रेलवे  
अस्पतालों में दवाइयों  
का स्टॉक

7065. श्री लालजी भाई: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या राजस्थान के उदयपुर, कोटा और जयपुर स्थित रेलवे अस्पतालों में दवाइयों का समुचित स्टॉक नहीं रहता है जिसके परिणाम स्वरूप तृतीय और चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारियों को भारी कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ता है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उनकी कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क) उदयपुर, कोटा और जयपुर के रेलवे अस्पतालों में दवाइयों की कमी नहीं है। यदि देरी से सप्लाई किये जाने के कारण किसी सास दवा की कमी पड़ जाती है तो डाक्टर अपने अर्ध-कारों के अन्तर्गत इस दवा को स्थानीय बाजार से खरीद लेते हैं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

दक्षिण पूर्व रेलवे के कार्यालय को बिलासपुर से उड़ीसा से जाना

7066. श्री बन्धूलाल चन्दाकर: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उनका मंत्रालय दक्षिण-पूर्व रेलवे के उप-महाप्रबन्धक के कार्यालय को मध्य प्रदेश स्थिति बिलासपुर से हटा कर उड़ीसा में भुवनेश्वर प्रथम किसी अन्य स्थान पर ले जाना चाहता है; और



(ख) यदि हां, तो इसका क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया): (क) बिलासपुर में उप-महाप्रबन्धक का कोई कार्यालय नहीं है।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

तेयड़ा स्टेशन (पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे) के समीप समीप एक रेलगाड़ी के 15 बाल बच्चों का उलटना

7067. श्री महावीर सिंह शक्क्य : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) दिनांक 28 मार्च 1972 के नवभारत टाइम्स के अनुसार तेयड़ा रेलवे स्टेशन के समीप एक रेलगाड़ी के 15 बच्चे उल्ट गए; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनके क्या कारण थे तथा इसके परिणाम स्वरूप रेल विभाग को कितनी हानि हुई?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया): (क) यह दुर्घटना 25-3-72 को देवरा स्टेशन पर हुई।

(ख) यह दुर्घटना रेल कर्मचारियों की गलती के कारण हुई। अनुमान है कि रेल सम्पत्ति को लगभग 42,500 रु० की क्षति हुई।

#### **Holding up of Trains by Railway Staff**

7068 SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY:  
SHRI V. MAYAVAN :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have enquired into the incidents of holding up of trains by the Railway staff;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :  
(a) to (c). The information is being collected and the same will be laid on the table of the Sabha.

#### **Harijan Localities left out in Rural Electrification Programme**

7069. SHRI S. MURUGANANTHAM:  
Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received complaints that in some areas Harijan localities in villages were left out in the rural electrification programme,

(b) if so, the number of complaints received;

(c) whether any investigation has been made into these complaints; and

(d) if so, the findings thereof and the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B.N. KUREEL): (a) to (d). As it was observed that some Harijan bastis adjacent to already electrified villages were not electrified because of unremunerative loads in these areas and constraint of financial resources of the State Electricity Boards the Government of India have introduced since December, 1971, a Special Scheme for electrification of such Harijan Bastis. According to this Scheme, loan assistance at concessional terms is being provided through the Rural Electrification Corporation to the State Electricity Boards for electrification of such Harijan Bastis. The loan carries an interest of 4 per cent per annum and is to be repaid over a period of 15 years. The Corporation has so far sanctioned ten such schemes of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Mysore, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, West

Bengal and Uttar Pradesh envisaging loan assistance of Rs. 55.841 lakhs aiming provision of 9,167 street lights in 1,142 Harijan Bastis adjoining already electrified villages.

It is proposed to provide Rs. 5 crores for the electrification of about 20,000 such Harijan Bastis in the country by the end of the Fourth Plan. In respect of projects to be undertaken for the electrification of villages in future, all the State Electricity Boards have been advised to ensure that while electrifying the villages, adjacent Harijan Bastis should also be electrified.

#### Second Thermal Unit at Neyveli

7070. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN-THAM : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government has demanded the setting up of a second thermal unit at Neyveli ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). Government of Tamil Nadu have asked for further expansion of thermal power generation at Neyveli for utilising the lignite that would be available from the second mine cut. Government is examining the economics of this proposal.

#### India's help for Karnali Hydro-Electric Project in Nepal

7071. SHRI S. A. MURUGANAN-THAM :  
SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Nepal has sought India's help for the Karnali hydro-electric project in that country ;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of help asked for ; and

(c) the decision taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) to (c). So far, His Majesty's Government of Nepal has 'approached India only for an assurance that India would be willing to purchase a large bulk of power from the Karnali Hydro-Electric Project. India has agreed in principle.

#### Railway Stations opened in Bihar

7072. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number and names of Railway Stations opened in Bihar, District-wise, during the last two years ;

(b) whether Bihar Government had sent any proposals for opening new Railway Stations during the said period ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIA) : (a) The following five Railway Stations/train halts were opened in Bihar, District-wise during the last two years :

1. Delhi Dewanganj train halt (Purnea District)
2. Awapur train halt (Muzaffarpur District)
3. Uzna train halt (Darbhanga District)
4. Saraigarh station (Saharsa District)
5. Garhara train halt (Monghyr District)

(b) No proposals for opening of new railway stations were received from the

Government of Bihar during the said period.

(c) Does not arise.

**Requirement of Wagons for Stations on Garhwa Road-Chopan Section (Bihar)**

7073. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the requirement of wagons for Railway stations falling on Garhwa Road-Chopan Section and Garhwa Road and Ranchi Road of Gomoh-Barkakhana-Dehri-on-Sone Section of Eastern Railway during the last year ;

(b) the number of wagons allotted to big traders ; and

(c) the trader allotted the highest number of wagons together with the number of wagons allotted to him ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) The number of wagons indented by trade on Garhwa Road-Chopan section and Garhwa Road and Ranchi Road section of the Eastern Railway during the last financial year was 16,273 and 65,506 respectively. Of this, 11,412 and 37,245 wagons respectively were loaded.

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क)

वर्ष

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे में चुराये गये माल का मूल्य

1970 3,61,057 रुपये

1971 3,79,358 रुपये

(ख) वर्ष

पंजीकृत मामलों की संख्या

बरामद किये गये माल का मूल्य

1970

525

2,00,174 रुपये

1971

512

1,69,110 रुपये

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में 384 मामले इस समय न्यायालय के विचाराधीन हैं ।

(b) The number of wagons allotted to big traders on the two sections were 8,344 and 26,081 respectively.

(c) On the Garhwa Road-Chopan section, the cement factory of the Uttar Pradesh Government at Dalla received the highest number of wagons viz., 3,922. On the Garhwa Road and Ranchi Road section, M/s. Hindustan Aluminium Co. received the highest number of wagons viz., 12,539.

उत्तर-पूर्वी रेलवे में रेलवे के माल की चोरी

7074. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) गत दो वर्षों में उत्तर-पूर्वी रेलवे में रेलवे का कितने मूल्य का माल चोरी गया;

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में कितने मुकदमे रजिस्टर किये गये और कितने मूल्य का माल बरामद किया गया; और

(ग) इस समय कितने मामले न्यायालय के विचाराधीन हैं ?

दक्षिण रेलवे में बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वाले यात्री

7075. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय :

श्रीमती भार्गवी तनकप्यन :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1 जनवरी 1971 से अब तक दक्षिण रेलवे में बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वाले कितने यात्री पकड़े गये हैं;

(ख) सरकार ने उनसे जुर्माने के रूप में कितनी राशि वसूल की है; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में कितने व्यक्तियों को कारावास का दंड दिया गया है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तबा) : (क) 1-1-71 से 31-3-72 तक की अवधि के दौरान 2,63,812।

(ख) 25, 35, 380 रुपये

(ग) 22,002

पूर्व रेलवे में चोरी, हत्या, लूट-पाट और डकैती की घटनाएँ

7076. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत वर्ष में पूर्व रेलवे में चोरी, हत्या, लूट-पाट और डकैती की कितनी घटनाएँ हुईं;

(ख) इस घटनाओं में अनुमानतः यात्रियों की कितनी सम्पत्ति की हानि हुई;

(ग) भविष्य में ऐसी घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए सरकार का क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तबा) : (क)

वर्ष चोरियां हत्याएं लूट डकैतियां  
1971 771 6 25 19

(ख) 1,25,86,397 रुपये।

(ग) (i) अधिकांश यात्री गाड़ियों में सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस साथ साथ चलती हैं।

(ii) कुछ प्रभावित स्थानों पर सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस के उड़न दस्ते भी काम कर रहे हैं।

(iii) रेलों पर इस प्रकार के अपराधों का पता लगाने और रोकने के लिए राज्य सरकार तंत्र को सतर्क कर दिया गया है।

(iv) अपराधियों पर नजर रखने के लिए प्लेटफार्मों और यात्री हासों में सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस के सिपाही सादे कपड़ों में तैनात किये जाते हैं।

बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वाले लोगों के वसूल किया गया राजस्व

7077. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि 1971-72 के वित्तीय वर्ष में बिना टिकट यात्रा करने वाले लोगों से जुर्माने के रूप में कितना राजस्व वसूल किया गया ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तबा) :  
1,43,39,721 रुपये।

बिहार में डेहरी और खगौर के बीच रेलवे लाइन

7078. श्री ईश्वर श्रीवरी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार के डेहरी और छपरा के बीच रेलवे-लाइन बिछाने कि कोई योजना है;

(ख) इसके अतिरिक्त बिहार में रेलवे-लाइन बिछाने की और कौन-कौन सी योजनाएँ हैं; और

(ग) इन्हें कार्यान्वित करने में कितना व्यय होगा ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) और (ग). एक विवरण समा पटल पर रखा जाता है। [प्रश्नासत्र में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT-3029/72]

#### **Expenditure on Staff and Growth of Traffic**

7079. SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY :  
SHRI B. V. NAIK :

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be

pleased to state :

(a) whether the increase in the expenditure on staff on Railways has been disproportionate to the growth of traffic ; and

(b) if so, the expenditure on staff as compared to the growth of traffic during the last three years and the steps taken by Government to curtail the Working Expenses and improve operational efficiency ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). During the period 1968-69 to 1970-71, the total traffic units (net tonne kms. plus passenger kms.) increased by 5.8 per cent, but the number of staff increased by only 1.4 per cent. The staff expenditure, however, went up by 17.1 per cent. The following are the relevant figures :—

Year	No. of staff including Construction staff (000)	Index	Cost (Crores of Rs.)	Index	Traffic units net tonne kms. plus passenger kms. (millions)	Index
1968-69	1353	100	393.3	100	232,080	100
1969-70	1358	100.4	420.5	106.9	241,630	104.1
1970-71	1373	101.4	460.6	117.1	245,478	105.8

The increase in the expenditure on staff has necessarily to be viewed in the context of the revisions in Dearness Allowance, increase in Running Allowance, House Rent and Compensatory Allowances, grant of interim relief, etc., effected from time to time, the consequential increased rate of overtime allowance, annual increments, etc., most of which were beyond the Railways' control.

The more important measures adopted for effecting economy in expenditure and improvement in efficiency, are indicated below :—

- (i) For several years, a very strict policy has been followed in the creation of new posts and even in the filling up of vacancies. The objective was to limit the number of employees to the minimum required ;
- (ii) Improvement in efficiency and productivity of staff through rationalisation and incentive schemes ;
- (iii) Introduction of new techniques and improved methods of working ;

(iv) Economy in consumption of fuel, including avoidance of waste and thefts;

(v) Dieselisation and electrification wherever found necessary;

(vi) Closer inventory control so as to bring down stock holding to the minimum.

#### Direct Import of Raw Materials by Exporters

7080. SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to allow the exporters to make import of raw materials directly for transitional period in view of the worsening raw materials position; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### दिल्ली में ड्राई पोर्ट

7081. श्री बिभूति मिश्र: क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताते कि कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या दिल्ली को ड्राई पोर्ट घोषित कर दिया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो दिल्ली से विमान द्वारा कितने मूल्य का माल बाहर जाता है;

(ग) क्या दिल्ली से जो माल निर्यात के लिए बम्बई से बाहर जाता है, वहां पर उसकी सुरक्षा, वैकिंग आदि के लिए दिल्ली के व्यापारियों को अपने धातमी रखने पड़ते हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां तो क्या सरकार दिल्ली में ही इस माल के वैकिंग आदि की देख रेख के लिए कोई व्यवस्था करवे कि सोच रही है?

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री ए. सी. जार्ज): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) से (घ). प्रश्न के भाग (क) के उत्तर को देखते हुए प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

#### Formation of Co-operatives of Lawyers

7082. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news report appearing in the *Times of India* dated the 24th April, 1972 under the caption "Co-operatives of Lawyers suggested"; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI NITIRAJ SINGH CHAUDHARY):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The initiative for forming Lawyers' Co-operatives, as suggested by Mr. Justice Hegde, should come from the profession itself. Government as such does not come into the picture in this regard at any rate at this stage. As regards legal aid, the matter is under review and would be further considered by Government in the light of the deliberations of the Joint Committee on the Advocates (Amendment) Bill, 1970.

#### Looting of Gomoh-Dehri-on-Sone Passenger Train near Khori Station on Barkakhana-Dehri-on-Sone Loop Section (Eastern Railway)

7083. SHRI BIBHUTI MISHRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an armed gang of dacoits looted the passengers of the First Class Compartment of the Gomoh-Dehri-on-Sone passenger train near Khori Station on the Barkakhana-Dehri-on-Sone Loop section of the Eastern Railway;

(b) whether the two uniformed men of the Railway Protection Force were present

at the time of dacoity and did not take any action; and

(c) the steps being taken to prevent the recurrence of such incidents in future ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) Yes. This incident occurred in between Kajri and Rajhura Railway stations on 14.4.1972.

(b) Two Railway Protection Force officials who were travelling in the same train in another first class compartment of the same coach rushed to the victims on hearing their hue and cry after arrival of the train at Rajhura station. They along with the Government Railway Police constables who were escorting the train started enquiries and conducted search for the culprits.

(c) (i) Vigorous investigations are being made with a view to prosecute the 10 culprits involved and arrested in this case so that it will serve as a deterrent to the criminals who were not active in this area prior to the present case.

(ii) Escorting arrangement is already there and steps are being taken to make it more effective.

**पटना में रेलवे सेवा अभाव**

7084. श्री विनूति मिश्र: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने कि कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या रेलवे विभाग में लोको के लिये आवेदनपत्र देने वाले बिहार के उम्मीदवारों को रेलवे सेवा आयोग के सामने इन्टरव्यू के लिए इलाहाबाद अथवा कलकत्ता जाना पड़ता है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार का विचार बिहार के लोगों के लिए पटना में पुनः रेलवे सेवा आयोग स्थापित करने का है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया): (क) जी नहीं। बिहार राज्य में पटना और दानापुर, आमतौर पर कलकत्ता और इलाहाबाद के रेल सेवा आयोगों द्वारा ली जाने वाली लिखित परीक्षा/साक्षात्कार के केन्द्र हैं।

(ख) जी नहीं। बिहार राज्य के आवेदकों को अतिरिक्त सुविधा के लिए इलाहाबाद और कलकत्ता के रेल सेवा आयोग का एक शाखा कार्यालय दानापुर में पहले से ही कार्य कर रहा है।

**Separate Corporations for Commercial Crops**

7085. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal to start separate corporations for the purchase and sale of commercial crops like rubber, tea, coffee and cardamom; and

(b) if so, the broad features of the proposal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). There is no proposal for separate Corporations for sale and purchase of coffee, rubber and cardamom, though S.T.C. propose to trade in a more massive way in these commodities. Regarding tea, a public Sector Corporation under the name 'Tea Trading Corporation of India Limited' was registered on 21st December, 1971 at Calcutta.

The Corporation will attempt to market tea mainly in packs in India and abroad and it will engage in the trading and marketing of tea and thus help in diversification of the export product and increasing the overall foreign exchange realisation. Such marketing will be undertaken direct or through other agencies. Regular market research will be conducted for development of the product and markets. In course of

time, the Corporation will establish its blending and packaging units in India and abroad.

The Corporation will initially market India tea in consumer packs in certain selected countries in West Asia as well as in some other countries. It will also market certain specialised brands of tea such as Nilgiris, Assam and Darjeeling in sophisticated markets to cater to the needs of a selected clientele. The Corporation will determine its own plan of operation in furtherance of Indian exports of tea.

**Use of Condemned Tourist Coach for Carrying Tourists by M/S. Kundu Special of Calcutta**

7086. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a tourist coach No. CTT 1402 of Northern Railway was allowed to be hired by M/S. Kundu special of Calcutta and handed over to them at Mughal Sarai on the 24th September, 1971;

(b) whether the said coach was condemned and unfit for carrying passengers; and

(c) if so, the reasons for allowing its use for carrying tourist involving risk to their safety?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) Yes, but the tourist car was allotted to the party at Varanasi and not at Mughalsari.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

**Issue of Licence for Private Trade with Bangladesh**

7087. SHRI SRMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:

(a) whether licences for private Trade with Bangladesh have been issued; and

(b) if so, the number of licenses issued to people of West Bengal, Tripura, Meghalaya and Assam?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). In pursuance of Trade Agreement with the Government of Bangladesh, Public Notice No. 57 dated the 20th April, 1972 has been issued, containing the necessary provisions for trade with Bangladesh against the Limited Payments Arrangement in respect of specified commodities upto specified value limits. Some of these commodities will be allowed to be imported/exported by private traders. Upto 15th May, 1972, no applications for import/export licences were received.

**Tanks on Railway land for Fishing Purposes**

7088. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Railways possess a number of tanks adjacent to water filling stations;

(b) if so, the number of such tanks; and

(c) whether government propose to lease out such tanks for purposes of developing fisheries?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) Yes.

(b) 218.

(c) Instructions already exist for licensing of railway tanks suitable for Pisciculture with preference being given to Railwaymen Co-operative Societies and Fishermen Co-operative Societies.

**Legislation to Safeguard India's Export/Import Trade**

7089. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state:



(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration for bring forward legislation to safeguard India's export and import trade ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEOGRE) :** (a) There is already an Import & Export control Act 1947 to regulate import and export trade of the country. However, a proposal to amend the existing Act in order to make it more stringent is under consideration.

(b) The salient features of the proposed amendment is that in addition to the existing provision for prosecution against the offences committed under IMPEX Act, there will be departmental adjudication to impose fines with a view to take away unlawful gains made by the offenders.

**दिल्ली से ग्वालियर होकर बम्बई तक एक अतिरिक्त रेलगाड़ी चलाना**

7090. श्री कुलचन्द बार्मा :

डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने कि कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार दिल्ली से ग्वालियर होकर बम्बई तक एक अतिरिक्त सावारी गाड़ी चलाने का है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में कब तक अन्तिम निर्णय किये जाने की संभावना है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तबा) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

*Condonation of Break in Service of Employees of Diesel Loco Shed, Guntakal*

7091. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether orders have been issued for condoning the break in service imposed on the workers of Diesel Loco Shed, Guntakal for not working on 2nd and 3rd April, 1971; and

(b) if so, the gist of the orders issued ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**अप्रैल, 1972 के दौरान रेल दुर्घटनाएँ**

7092. श्री मूलचन्द बागा: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अप्रैल, 1972 में कितनी रेल दुर्घटनाएँ हुई;

(ख) क्या इन रेल दुर्घटनाओं के कारणों का पता लगाने के लिये जांच की गई है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उनके क्या परिणाम निकले ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तबा) : (क) अप्रैल, 1972 में भारत की सरकार रेलों में गाड़ियों की टक्कर, उनके पटरी से उतरने, सम-पार पर होने वाली दुर्घटनाएँ और गाड़ियों में भाग लगने की कोटियों में 80 गाड़ी दुर्घटनाएँ हुई ।

(ख) और (ग). इन तीस दुर्घटनाओं की जांच की गयी । 76 मामलों में, चिनके कारणों का पता लगा है, 33 दुर्घटनाएँ रेल कर्मचारियों की वजह से, 18 दुर्घटनाएँ रेल कर्मचारियों के अलावा अन्य व्यक्तियों की कार्य-बाधों से और 12 दुर्घटनाएँ रेल उपकरण की खराबी के कारण हुई । येय मामलों में एक दुर्घटना सोड़-कोड़ के कारण हुई और 8 आकस्मिक डंग की थीं चिनके लिए कोई उत्तरदायी नहीं बताया गया । 4 दुर्घटनाओं में कारणों का ठीक ठीक पता नहीं लगाया जा सका ।

**जस्ते का आयात तथा वितरण**

7093. डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय : क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 1970-71 में एम० एम० टी० सी० द्वारा कितने मूल्य के जस्ते (जिक) का आयात किया गया;

(ख) वर्ष 1969-70 की अपेक्षा यह कितने प्रतिशत कम अथवा अधिक था;

(ग) उक्त आयातित जस्ते का वितरण किन-किन फैक्ट्रियो अथवा कम्पनियो को किया गया?

(घ)

(घ) यह जस्ता इन वर्षों में कम्पनियों को किस भाव पर दिया गया और इसका बाजार-भाव उस समय कितना था; और

(ङ.) आयातित जस्ते के वितरण की पद्धति क्या है ?

विदेश व्यापार मन्त्रालय में उपबंधी (श्री ए. सी. जाधव) : (क) 1490.85 लाख रु० ।

(ख) 730 प्रतिशत ।

(ग) जस्ते का वितरण काफी बड़ी संख्या में बड़े और लघु स्तर के क्षेत्रों के एकको को किया गया था और इसमें जो समय और श्रम लगा वह प्राप्त परिणामों के अनुरूप नहीं होगा ।

अवधि	उच्च छेड़ जस्त के कनिष्ठ तथा चातु व्यापार निगम के प्रति मे० टन बिक्री मूल्य	प्रति मे० टन कुला बाजार मूल्य (तिमाही औसत)
(1969-70)		
अप्रैल-जून, 69	3154 रु.	3928 रु.
जुलाई-सित., 69	3210 रु.	4808 रु.
अक्तूबर-दिस., 69	3340 रु.	5379 रु.
जनवरी-मार्च, 70	3430 रु.	5614 रु.
(1970-71)		
अप्रैल-जून., 70	3220 रु.	5194 रु.
जुलाई-सित., 70	3170 रु.	5216 रु.
अक्तूबर-दिस., 70	3240 रु.	4998 रु.
जनवरी-मार्च, 71	3170 रु.	4596 रु.

(ङ.) निम्न जस्ते का बंटन, बंटन आदेशों के अनुसार पूर्णतः "पहले आये सो पहले पाये" के आधार पर करता है । बिक्री नोट, स्टॉक की उपलब्धता के अनुसार पूर्ण आबंटन अथवा यथापुंसाध आधार पर आबंटन के लिए वास्तविक प्रयोक्ताओं को सैद्धिक कम में जारी किए

जाते हैं । वास्तविक पूर्ति, वास्तविक प्रयोक्ताओं द्वारा भुगतान किये जाने और बिक्री नोट में अनुबद्ध अन्य औपचारिकताएं पूरी किये जाने के बाद निगम के बम्बई, कसकरा अथवा मद्रास के भण्डारों में से की जाती हैं ।

**टिकट चैकिंग स्टाफ एसोसिएशन  
का ज्ञापन**

7094. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश के जोन-वार टिकट चैकिंग स्टाफ की संख्या कितनी है ।

(ख) क्या सरकार टिकट चैकिंग स्टाफ को रनिंग भत्ता देती है जो निरन्तर चलती गाड़ियों पर रहते हैं ।

(ग) यदि हां, तो कितना भत्ता दिया जाता है; और

(घ) क्या टिकट चैकिंग स्टाफ एसोसियेशन ने इस सम्बन्ध में कोई ज्ञापन दिया है; यदि हां, तो इस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तेया) : (क)

रेलवे	जब टिकट परीक्षकों की स्वीकृत संख्या
मध्य	1045
पूर्व	1140
उत्तर	1382
पूर्वोत्तर	858
पूर्वोत्तर सीमा	428
दक्षिण	921
दक्षिण मध्य	716
दक्षिण पूर्व	892
पश्चिम	1061

(ख) जी नहीं । उन्हें नियमानुसार यात्रा करने/दैनिक भत्ते का भुगतान किया जाता है।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(घ) निकट भूतल में ऐसा कोई ज्ञापन नहीं मिला है । किन्तु इस विषय पर संयुक्त परामर्श तंत्र के विभागीय परिषद् में विचार-विमर्श हुआ था और उसमें मतभेद होने पर यह मामला विवाचक मंडल के सुपुर्द कर दिया गया जिसके निर्णय की प्रतीक्षा की जा रही है ।

**सोन जल विवाद हल करने के लिये  
कार्यवाही**

7095. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या सिन्हाई और बिछुत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बाणसागर परियोजना के संबंध में सोन जल विवाद हल करने के लिए बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश के मुख्य मंत्रियों की कोई बार्ता पिछले दिनों हुई थी; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसका क्या परिणाम रहा ?

सिन्हाई और बिछुत मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बंजाराय कुरील) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) ऐसे प्रस्ताव तैयार करने के प्रयास जारी हैं जो बिहार, मध्य प्रदेश और उत्तर प्रदेश तीनों राज्यों को मान्य हों ।

**Crisis in Mica Industry**

7096. SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state ;

(a) whether he has received memoranda from various institutions regarding crisis in mica industry ; and

(b) if so, the names thereof and the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The names of the institutions who have submitted memoranda regarding the export of mica are as follows :—

- (i) Mica Industry Association, Giridih.
- (ii) Bihar Mica Exporters Association, Giridih.
- (iii) Bihar & Orissa Mica Association, Giridih.
- (iv) Bihar Mica Association, Giridih.
- (v) Kodarma Mica Mining Association, Kodarma.
- (vi) The Chamber of Commerce, Gudur.
- (vii) Madras Mica Association, Gudur.

These institutions had brought the difficulties which had arisen in the export of mica on account of canalisation of mica through the M. M. T. C. to the notice of Government. The procedure for export of mica through the M. M. T. C. have since been simplified, the exports of mica have now started moving.

**Extension of Broad-Gauge Line From Miraj to Londha Via Gekak (South Central Railway)**

7097. SHRI JAGANNATHRAO JOSHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the extension of the broad-gauge line from Miraj to Londha (South Central Railway) is under active consideration ; and

(b) if so, whether the line will touch Gekak, an important town ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. MANUMANTHAIA) : (a) Updating of the earlier surveys for the conversion of the Miraj-Londha-Hospet-Murmu-

gao and Alnavar-Dandeli Metre Gauge sections to Broad gauge has been included in the Budget for 1972-73 and is being taken up shortly.

(b) As per the earlier survey the conversion would be along the existing route via Gokak Road Station.

केले के निर्यात व्यापार में कमी

7098. श्री जगन्नाथराव जोशी : क्या विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संयुक्त राष्ट्र के लाख तथा कृषि संगठन द्वारा किये गये सर्वेक्षण के अनुसार भारत के केले के निर्यात व्यापार में कमी हो गई है; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो कितनी ?

विदेश व्यापार मंत्रालय उपबन्धी (श्री ए० सी० जार्ज) : (क) और (ख). वर्ष 1969 की तुलना में वर्ष 1970 में केलों के निर्यात में थोड़ी गिरावट आई। तथापि 1971 में हमारा केलों का निर्यात फिर से बढ़ गया, जैसाकि निम्न आंकड़ों से स्पष्ट होगा :—

मात्रा में० टनों में

मात्रा	सूख हजार रुपये में	
	मात्रा	सूख
1969	7817	4041
1970	7085	3533
1971	7649	3382

(जनवरी-नवम्बर)

Recommendations of Shri Corcoran Regarding Indian Programmes

7099. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the services of Shri Corcoran was loaned under the U. N. Develop-

ment Programme to the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council of India ;

(b) whether he has made some recommendations to boost up the Export of Indian perfumes ; and

(c) if so, the main recommendation made by him ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The services of Shri Corcoran were loaned under the U. N. Development to the Basic Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Soaps Export Promotion Council and not to the Chemicals and Allied Products Export Promotion Council.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

#### *Perfumery.*

(a) It should be recognised that India can build on her traditions and skills to regain her position as a leading perfumery country, but there must be modernisation of the industry with scientific and technological innovations.

(b) The Industry should be encouraged to believe that its efforts are worth while. It should not be regarded as an irrelevant luxury industry with very low claims on national resources. Rebuilding India's perfumery industry on modern lines would be good for India's image abroad. Moreover perfumery of a spiritous kind, well packaged and presented, has not only good export prospects but is a valuable tourist item, which can bring in useful foreign exchange.

(c) It should be recognised that Perfumery is one of the fastest growing items of world trade ; and that to take advantage of this, scope should be given to larger firms to enter this field. Perfumery should not be confined as now to Small-Scale Industry.

(d) There are being opportunities to enlarge exports of perfumer Compounds (as intermediate products for end-product manufacturers of soaps, toiletries etc.), provided reasonable export incentives are given and Government finds a way of offering these without requiring perfume manufacturers to reveal details of formulations, something no perfumer will do the world over for strong emotional reasons. If a way out of this difficulty can be found, Indian exports of perfume compounds can be raised reasonably quickly towards the level of one crore Rupees, mainly to Asian and African Countries.

(e) Spiritous Perfumes, Colognes and Toiletries represent an even better opportunity for exports, provided the frustrations in obtaining industrial alcohol (and of a better quality) can be removed and taxation discriminating against the use of industrial alcohol can be changed, so as to allow the Indian manufacturer to develop skills in producing spiritous perfumery. The Revenue would not suffer because present restrictions have virtually prevented the manufacture of any spiritous perfumery at all, so that only minimum revenue accrues.

#### *Clerical Job done by Pharmacist*

7100. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether at Stations, where only one Doctor, one Pharmacist, one Dresser and one *Safaiwala* are posted, the clerical jobs such as preparation of salary bills, maintenance of leave accounts and other correspondence are to be done by Pharmacist ; and

(b) if so, whether any additional remuneration is paid to him for the additional work done by him ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIA) : (a) Yes, on some of the Zonal railways.

(b) No, as the work is negligible.

**Export of Bicycles through S.T.C.**

7101. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are bright prospects for export of bicycles; and

(b) if so, whether the export will be routed through the State Trading Corporation or independent organisation of bicycle manufacturers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) Exports of bicycles and parts have bright future as will be seen from the rising trend of exports during the last three years, given below .—

1969-70	Rs. 4.67 crores
1970-71	Rs. 6.91 „
1971-72 (estimated)	Rs. 8.50 „

(b) Exports of bicycles and bicycle components are not canalised- Individual exporters as well as State Trading Corporation are free to export these items.

**Assignments to Retired Judges of  
Supreme Court and High  
Courts**

7102. SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE : Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 395 on the 16th November, 1971 and state :

(a) in what manner and for what period the services of 36 retired Judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts and were utilized and how many of them were Judges of High Courts and how many of the Supreme Court;

(b) the number of retired judges of the Supreme Court and the High Courts who have been given appointments or assignments during the period from 1st Aug. 1971 to 31st March, 1972, separately;

(c) whether the retired judges utilised by Government for various assignments receive any allowances or emoluments in addition to their entitlements as retired judges; if so, the rate thereof, and

(d) what were the terms and conditions of their appointments ?

THE MINISTER OF LAW & JUSTICE AND PETROLEUM & CHEMICALS (SHRI H.R. GOKHALE) : (a) A statement giving the information is laid on the Tables of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—303/72*]. Out of the 36 retired Judges, 29 were Judges of High Courts and 7 were Judges of the Supreme Court.

(b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) and (d). The principles to be followed in fixing the terms of re-employment of retired Judges of the Supreme Court and High Courts have been laid down by Govt., a copy of which is laid on the Table of the House [*Placed in Library. See No. LT-3030/72*]. The terms of re employment of the 36 retired Judges were fixed generally in accordance with the principles referred to.

**Shifting of Headquarters and Railway  
Service Commission to Orissa  
(South Eastern Railway)**

7103. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Chief Minister of Orissa for the shifting of the Headquarters of the South Eastern Railway and Railway Public Service Commission to Orissa and whether the Chief Minister of Orissa had also met him in this connection;

(b) whether Government have also received the Resolution unanimously passed by the Orissa Legislative Assembly for the shifting of the Headquarters of South Eastern Railway from Calcutta to Orissa; and

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

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) After a thorough examination of the proposal, it has been decided not to shift the South Eastern Railway headquarters from Calcutta.

As regards shifting of Headquarters of the Railway Service Commission from Calcutta, no final decision has so far been taken.

कोटा स्टेशन पर फ्रॉटियर मेल तथा अन्य  
गाड़ियों का लेट होना

7104. श्री ओंकार लाल बेरवा: क्या रेल  
मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या इस महीने में कोटा स्टेशन  
(राजस्थान) पर फ्रॉटियर मेल व अन्य गाड़ियों  
को ग्यारह-ग्यारह घण्टे लेट होना पड़ा; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;  
और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार की क्या प्रति-  
क्रिया है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया): (क) जी  
हां। 14 अप्रैल, 1972 को 3 डाउन फ्रॉटियर  
मेल को 9 बजे 35 मिनट तक कोटा में रोक  
रखा गया और कुछ अन्य गाड़ियां भी 3 से 12  
बजे की अवधि तक रुकी रहीं।

(ख) इस का कारण शंटिंग के दौरान एक  
मजदूर के गाड़ी के नीचे आ जाने की वजह से  
कर्मचारियों द्वारा प्रवर्तन किया जाना था।

(ग) तीन अधिकारियों की एक समिति  
इस सम्बन्ध में जांच कर रही है।

Unsatisfactory Working of Steamer  
Gomti of Mahendra Ghat (North  
Eastern Railway)

7105. SHRI RAMSHEKHAR PRASAD  
SINGH : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS  
be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Steamer Gomti of Mahen-  
dra Ghat in North Eastern Railway was  
repaired sometime back :

(b) whether the steamer has again gone  
out of order and has been grounded for  
repairs ; and

(c) if so, the reasons for its break-  
down ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Tea growing in Nagaland,  
Manipur and Tripura

7106. SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : Will  
the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be  
pleased to state :

(a) the reasons for not vigorously  
pursuing the question of growing tea in the  
north-eastern States of Nagaland, Manipur  
and Tripura ; and

(b) whether the question of growing tea  
in Nagaland was taken up by the Tea Board  
with the State Government the 1963 but  
no decision has been taken so far, if so, the  
reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI  
A. C. GEORGE) : (a) The possibilities of  
growing tea in Nagaland and Manipur are  
being pursued with the concerned authorities  
by the Tea Board from 1963 onwards. As  
Tripura is already a tea growing area, the  
matter was not separately taken up with the  
State Government.

(b) The matter was pursued with the  
Nagaland Government. Recently in response  
to a letter from the Chairman, Tea Board,

the Nagaland Government have agreed to a discussion in Calcutta.

**Steps to check floods in Rapti,  
Ghaghra, Kuano Districts  
of Eastern U.P.**

7107. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to control the floods in rivers Rapti, Ghaghra and Kuano in the Eastern part of Uttar Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). In the draft plan of flood control formulated by the Uttar Pradesh Government in 1964, measures costing Rs. 53.8 crores had been proposed in Ghaghra basin including Rapti, Kuano and other tributaries. The proposals made consisted of the following works :—

(Rs. in crores.)

1. Marginal embankments.	14.0
2. Strengthening and re-modelling of marginal embankments.	5.0
3. Raising of villages.	7.4
4. Town protection, river improvement and anti-erosion works.	2.5
5. Flood detention reservoirs.	20.5
6. Drainage improvement and increasing waterways of bridges.	4.4
	53.8
	crores.

After examination of the proposals at the Centre, the State Government had been

requested to revise them taking into account the experience of floods in years subsequent to 1964. This revised plan has not been received from the State Government so far.

Pending the preparation of the revised Plan, works consisting of embankments, raising and strengthening of embankments, raising of villages and town protection works have been or are being carried out in the vulnerable areas.

**Conversion of Metre Gauge Bhatni-  
Manduadih line into Broad-  
Gauge**

7108. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to convert Bhatni-Manduadih railway line from Metre-Gauge to Broad gauge; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HARUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

**Indo-Nepal Discussion on Rapti-  
Jalkundi Project**

7109. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had any discussions with the Prime Minister of Nepal regarding Rapti-Jalkundi project ; and

(b) if so, the broad outline thereof and the decision arrived at ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b). During the recent visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal, there was only an informal discussion between him and the Union Minister of Irrigation and Power regarding river development projects of mutual interest to the two countries ; there was no specific



discussion regarding the Rapti-Jalkundi project.

***Alleged Corruption in making Reservations at Patna, Gaya, Dhanbad, Tatanagar Stations***

7110. SHRI R P YADAV : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS please to state

(a) whether Government are aware that at Patna, Gaya, Dhanbad and Tatanagar Railway Stations, the Reservation Clerks charge Rs. 10 extra for making reservation in III class sleepers in important trains,

(b) whether Parcel Clerks at Patna Junction and Patna City Stations also indulge in corrupt practices and give false information for booking of goods etc., and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to conduct confidential enquiries through Central Bureau of Investigation in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). No such cases have come to notice.

(c) Does not arise

***Under-Invoicing and Over-Invoicing by Mica-Traders***

7111. SHRI R P YADAV : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that some of the Mica-traders of Jhumritalaya and Giridih have been resorting to the malpractice of under invoicing and over-invoicing ;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry by C B I, has been made in this regard, and

(c) the action proposed to be taken against those indulging in the malpractice ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not Arise,

(c) Government has already fixed floor prices for export of various grades and qualities of mica and no export of mica can be made at prices lower than these prices. There is also compulsory pre-shipment inspection where export prices are checked with reference to quality of the mica intended for export. These steps prevent mica being under invoiced or over invoiced.

***Krishna Water Dispute***

7112. SHRI G Y KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have suggested to Andhra Pradesh, Mysore and other concerned States to settle the Krishna river waters dispute outside the tribunal, and

(b) whether any meeting has taken place in this regard and if so, the outcome thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B N KUREEL) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. The initiative for settlement of the Krishna river water disputes outside the Tribunal has to be taken by the States themselves. The Central Government would be glad to render such assistance as may be needed by them to arrive at an amicable settlement.

***New Trade and Transit Agreement with Nepal***

7113. SHRI G.Y. KRISHNAN : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state-

(a) whether any trade delegation from Nepal visited India after January, 1972, and

(b) if so, whether any new trade and transit agreement has been signed between India and Nepal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

#### Disparity in Consumption of Electricity

7114. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY:  
Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND  
POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the disparity in *per capita* consumption of electricity in different regions of the country has increased;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND  
POWER (SHRI B.N. KUREEL): (a) No,  
Sir. The *per capita* consumption in different States ranged from 0.1 to 2.2 times the all India average in 1960-61. This range has narrowed down to 0.25 to 1.8 of the average 1971-71.

(b) and (c). Though there is no increase in the disparity between several States, still there is vital difference in power availability. Proposals are under consideration to ensure adequacy in each of the States in the Fifth Plan.

#### Export of Gems and Jewellery

7115 SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:  
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE  
be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gems jewellery exported during 1971-72;

(b) the figures of export during the years 1969-70 and 1970-71; and

(c) the main buyers of these items?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI  
A.C. GEORGE): (a) and (b). Exports figures of gem and jewellery items are maintained on value basis and the exports of these items were as follows:

Value in Lakh of Rs.

1969-70	3734.81
1970-71	3747.49
1971-72 (April-February)	4117.64

(c) The main buyers of Indian Gem & Jewellery are Belgium, Hongkong, U.K., U.S.A. Japan, Switzerland, Germany, France, Netherlands, Singapore, Lebanon, Kuwait, Australia and Canada.

#### Import of Diamonds

7116. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI:  
Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE  
be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration to take over the import of diamonds;

(b) the quantity of diamonds imported annually; and

(c) the names of the countries from which imported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE  
(SHRI A.C. GEORGE): (a) The policy for import of diamonds is periodically revised. As per the import policy for 1971-72, ten per cent of the admissible replenishment against export of cut and polished diamonds was given in the form of a release order on the National Mineral Development Corporation, while for the balance a licence for direct import was given. During the current year this release order has been enhanced to 20% of entitlement.

(b) Import statistics of diamonds are compiled on value basis and not on quantity basis. The import during the last four years was as under:—

	(Rs. in lakhs)
1968-69	2318
1969-70	2205
1970-71	2009
1971-72 (upto Oct. 1971)	1072

(c) Diamonds are usually imported from International Companies located in U.K. and Belgium.

**Grant of Licences to Private Undertakings for Power Generation**

7117. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether in view of short supply of power, Government propose to grant licences to Private Undertakings for a period of twenty years to set up power generation plants on the clear understanding that the plants will be taken over on payment of book value after twenty years ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines of the proposal ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Experts in National Textile Corporation**

7118. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of non-officials well-versed in textile trade associated with the working of National Textile Corporation of India ; and

(b) the number of officials well-versed in textile trade working in the Corporation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Presumably the Hon'ble Member wants to have information in regard to persons well-versed in the textile industry. While 18 such persons are holding posts in the National Textile Corporation 19 non-officials are members of the Advisory

Committee or are associated with Interview Boards.

**Improvement in Sick Mills by N. T. C.**

7119. SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state the improvements made by the National Textile Corporation of India in the working of the sick mills ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : Of the 45 cotton textile mills, the management of which has been taken over by Government under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951, 14 mills are under the direct management of the National Textile Corporation as their Authorised Controller. The rest of the mills are being managed by the State Textile Corporations and individual Authorised Controllers under the overall supervision of the National Textile Corporation. Out of 26 mills, which have been under Government Management for more than a year, 23 mills have started showing profit according to the latest reports. The improvement in the working of the mills has been effected by providing funds for working capital, modernisation and rationalisation of labour besides supply of cotton on a no-profit-no-loss basis, strengthening of financial, technical and managerial staff and suggesting ways and means to improve their working.

**Export of Marble and Stone Idols**

7120. SHRI S. N. MISHRA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether new marble and stone idols are freely permitted to be exported to America and other foreign countries ; and

(b) the total amount of foreign exchange earned during the last two financial years by the export of the idols ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) New marble and stone idols, except obnoxious in nature,

are permitted freely to be exported to America and other foreign countries.

(b) No separate export statistics are maintained for marble and stone idols. However, they are covered under Sculptures and Stone work artware whose exports in 1969-70 and 1970-71 were Rs 9.86 lakhs and Rs. 8.23 lakhs respectively.

#### Expenditure on travel facilities to Railway Officials

7121. SHRI S. N. MISRA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the special facilities for travel allowed to the Officials of the Railways ,

(b) the cost of the facilities in terms of money in the last financial year , and

(c) the number of 1 class coaches hauled for the convenience of the Railway officials on the various Railways during the last financial year.

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) . (a) Railway officials are issued privilege passes for self, and their families.

(b) It has not been possible to calculate the money value of these facilities.

(c) No 1st class coach is attached for convenience of railway officials.

#### Liquidation of Jute and Jute Goods Buffer Stock Association

7122. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Indian Staff Association and the All India Trade Union Congress had made representations to Government regarding the liquidation of Jute and Jute Goods Buffer Stock Association and absorption of their staff by the Jute Corporation at Calcutta ; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) . (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The representation has been referred to the Jute Corporation for consideration.

#### Export of Rubber to G. D. R.

7123. SHRI VEKARIA : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state .

(a) whether the question of export of rubber to German Democratic Republic has been finalised ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) . (a) and (b). The export of rubber to German Democratic Republic is being actively explored.

खिड़किया रेलवे स्टेशन (मध्य रेलवे) पर  
उपरि पेंडल पुल का निर्माण

7124. श्री गंगाधरजी शिंदे : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या खिड़किया रेलवे स्टेशन (मध्य प्रदेश) पर एक उपरि पेंडल पुल बनाने का सरकार का विचार है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त पुल के कब तक बन जाने की सम्भावना है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तया) : क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

खड़का रेलवे स्टेशन (मध्य रेलवे) का  
विकास

7125. श्री गंगाधरजी शिंदे : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने मध्य रेलवे के खंडवा रेलवे स्टेशन के विकास के लिये कोई योजना बनाई है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया): (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

बुरहानपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर बम्बई के लिए टिकटों की बिक्री

7126. श्री गंगाधरण बीसित: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) बुरहानपुर रेलवे स्टेशन पर गत तीन महीनों में बम्बई के लिए प्रतिदिन औसतन कितने टिकट बिके; और

(ख) क्या प्रथम श्रेणी के टिकट भी बिकते हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया): (क) अप्रैल, 1972 को समाप्त होने वाली तिमाही में बुरहानपुर स्टेशन से बम्बई बी० टी० के लिए बेचे गये टिकटों की दैनिक औसत 17 है।

(ख) पहले दर्जे के टिकट भी उपलब्ध हैं लेकिन मांग में कमी-बेशी होने से कारण ये हर रोज नहीं बिकते।

मध्य प्रदेश में रेलवे स्टेशनों का पुनर्निर्माण

7127. श्री गंगाधरण बीसित: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि-

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में मध्य प्रदेश में कितने रेलवे स्टेशनों का पुनर्निर्माण किया गया; और

(ख) उन पर कुल कितनी धनराशि खर्च की गई ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया): (क) 34.

(ख) 24.88 लाख रुपये।

#### Faulty Power Lines in Capital

7128. SHRI SUKHDEO PRASAD VERMA :  
SHRI SHIV KUMAR SHASTRI :

Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that faulty power lines in the Capital have claimed several lives in the recent past ; and

(b) if so, the number of persons who died in the accidents and the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUBEEL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Since the beginning of the current fatal year, due to faulty lines, there was one accident. There was another fatal accident when one lineman was trying to tighten the consumer's connection to a live wire. The matter was investigated and appropriate corrective action is being taken by the authorities.

#### Demand of Coal by Railways

7129. SHRI NARSINGH NARAIN PANDEY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the present demand of coal by the Railways ; and

(b) the extent of fall in the demand of coal as a result of electrification of railway traction by the end of the Fourth Five Year Plan ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) Coal consumption on the Railways during 1972-73 is estimated at 14.5 million tonnes.

(b) According to the present indications there is likely to be a drop of 0.2 million tonnes in the coal consumption during 1973-74, the last year of the fourth plan as a result of reduction in the steam loco holdings on account of dieselisation and electrification.

**Proposal to Increase export of Iron Ore**

7130. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :  
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to increase the export of iron ore during the current year and if so, the broad outlines thereof ; and

(b) the quantity of iron ore expected to be exported during 1972-73 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEOGRE) : (a) Yes, Sir. Apart from persuading the foreign buyers to increase imports of Indian iron ore, steps are being taken to remove certain internal constraints in the mining, transport and port sectors.

(b) The quantity of iron ore expected to be exported during 1972-73 is about 22 million tonnes.

**Statutory Support Price of Raw Jute**

7131. SHRI P.M. MEHTA :  
SHRI SHRIKISHAN MODI :

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether he has written letter to the Chief Ministers of various States in regard to the Centre's intention to give a statutory basis for the minimum support price for raw jute from the coming season ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of State Governments thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI

L.N. MISHRA) : (a) I have addressed a letter to the Chief Ministers of West Bengal, Assam, Bihar, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Tripura in connection with the effective implementation of the price for jute for the 1972-73 season.

(b) The Chief Ministers of Assam and West Bengal have promised to extend full co-operation in this behalf. Replies from other States have not yet been received.

**Export Committee to Inquire into cause of Rising Cost of Irrigation Works**

7132. SHRI C. T. DHANDAPANI :  
Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have set up an expert committee to inquire into the reasons for rising cost of irrigation works in the country ; and

(b) if so, when the Committee is likely to submit its report ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) Yes.

(b) The Committee has been asked to submit its report by 30th June, 1972. It may, however require some more time to complete its work.

बड़ोक रेलवे स्टेशन (उत्तर रेलवे) पर  
भोजनालय के ठेकेदार की घोर  
किराये तथा लाइसेंस शुल्क  
की बकाया राशि

7133. श्री स्वामी ब्रह्मानन्द : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या 1 तथा 2 बाउर कालका मेल की बायलिया कार का ठेका जिस ठेकेदार को दिया गया था, उसकी घोर बड़ोक रेलवे स्टेशन के भोजनालय के किराये तथा लाइसेंस शुल्क के 22 हजार रुपये की राशि बकाया है ;

(ख) क्या 22,000 रुपये की इस राशि को बट्टे खाते में खाल दिया गया है; और

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क) से (ग). बड़ो क स्टेशन पर जलपान गृह का ठेका मेसर्स सन्तसिंह एण्ड कम्पनी के पास था। उन की घोर किराये और लाइसेंस शुल्क के रूप में 9,265.93 रुपये की राशि बकाया थी और उसे बसूल करने के प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं।

1 अप्र / 2 डाउन कालका मेल के भोबनालय का ठेका 1-5-1972 से मेसर्स आर० दारा एण्ड कम्पनी को दिया गया है न कि मेसर्स सन्तसिंह एण्ड कम्पनी को जिसके पास बड़ो क स्टेशन का ठेका था।

कालका स्टेशन पर चलाए जा रहे रेस्टोरेन्ट के ठेकेदार द्वारा आने ठेके पर दिया जाना

7134. श्री स्वामी सह्यानम्बजी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कालका स्टेशन पर चलाये जा रहे भोबनालय के बारे में उत्तरी रेलवे के कुछ अधिकारियों ने जांच की है और पता लगाया है कि जिस ठेकेदार को यह ठेका दिया गया था उसने यह ठेका एक अन्य व्यक्ति को दे रखा है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस मामले में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क) और (ख). कालका स्टेशन पर खानपान/बिस्किट के अन्य व्यक्तियों को दिये जाने के सम्बन्ध में 1965 में की गई धिकायत की जांच की गई थी, लेकिन यह प्रमाणित न हो सकी।

Export of Engineering goods to the South East Asian Countries

7135. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether according to the Engineering Export Promotion Council there is great scope for export of sugar mill machinery and power station equipment, including structural fabrication, instrumentation, transmission lines and cables, to the South East Asian countries; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) There is scope for export of Sugar mill machinery, Power station equipments including structural fabrications, instrumentation, transmission line towers and cables to South East Asian Countries.

(b) Indian exporters are regularly quoting against tender enquiries emanating from this region. Some orders have already been secured for transmission line towards electric cables, Power station structures, thermal boilers etc. These orders are under execution.

Engineering Export Promotion Council's office at Singapore collects details of Projects coming up in this area and disseminates information to prospective Indian exporters. A delegation sponsored by the Engineering Export Promotion Council has recently visited Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand to explore possibilities of increasing the exports of Indian engineering goods to this region.

Compilation of export statistics

7136. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the High Powered Committee presided over by Dr. B.S. Minhas, Member, Planning Commission, appointed to review the working of the office of D.G.C.I.

and S to make an assessment of the new method of compilation of export statistics, has submitted its report to the Government; and

(b) if so, the main findings and recommendations thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Railway Service Commission for North East Frontier Railway

7137. SHRI DINESH CHANDRA GOSWAMI : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any proposal to set up a Railway Service Commission for the Northeast Frontier Railway; and

(b) if so, when ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

संकेत तथा दूर संचार विभाग के दिल्ली क्षेत्र के सब-इंस्पेक्टर तथा अनुरक्षक (मेन्ट्रर) को बिचा गया प्रति-रिक्त कार्य

7138. श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या संकेत तथा दूर संचार विभाग में प्रत्येक वर्ग के कर्मचारियों को दिये जाने वाले कार्य के स्वरूप तथा मात्रा के बारे में रेलवे बोर्ड ने कोई अनुदेश दे रखे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो विभिन्न वर्गों के कर्मचारियों के कार्यों की मुख्य क्यरेखा क्या है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमंतैया) : (क) और (ख) विभिन्न और दूर संचार विभाग में

निरीक्षकों और सहायक निरीक्षकों और अनुरक्षकों के पदों के बेतनमान उन्हीं मानक बेतन मानों के ढांचे पर रखे गये हैं, जो कि रेलों के अन्य विभागों में इसी प्रकार के कर्मचारियों को दिये गये हैं। इन कर्मचारियों के पदों के विभिन्न ग्रेड उनके कार्यभार और जिम्मेवारी के आधार पर रखे गये हैं, अर्थात् उनके काम की किस्म और स्थान, उपस्कर की जटिलता और परिमाण मार्ग किलोमीटर के हिसाब से उनके अधिकार-क्षेत्र और सम्हाले जाने वाले यातायात की अधिकता आदि पर निर्भर है। इन कर्मचारियों की इयूटियों का मोटे तौर पर उल्लेख भारतीय रेल सिग्नल इंजीनियरिंग नियमावली के अध्याय XII से XIV तक में किया गया है।

संकेत तथा दूर संचार विभाग के कर्मचारियों के लिए सेवा की बेहतर शर्तें

7139. श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या रेल इन्स्पेक्टर कमेटी ने संकेत तथा दूर संचार विभाग के कर्मचारियों की दशा तथा प्रशिक्षण प्रबन्धों में सुधार द्वारा पदोन्नति के अवसर पर बेतनमानों की बढ़ाने के लिए भी सिफारिश की थी और क्या इस बारे में रेलवे अधिकारियों की एक समिति गठित की गई है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त समिति द्वारा क्या निर्णय लिए गये हैं और इन सिफारिशों को किस हद तक क्रियान्वित किया गया है; और

(ग) क्या बेतनमानों के बारे में समिति द्वारा की गई सिफारिशों से बेतन आयोग को सूचित कर दिया गया है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमंतैया) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) समिति की रिपोर्ट विचाराधीन है।



(ग) जी हाँ।

उत्तर रेलवे में सहायक स्टेशन मास्टर और  
गाड़ों की परीक्षा के परिणाम

7140. श्री पन्नालाल बाख्ताल : क्या रेल  
मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रेलवे सेवा आयोग (उत्तर रेलवे)  
द्वारा 14 फरवरी, 1971 को सहायक स्टेशन  
मास्टरों तथा गाड़ों के लिए ली गई परीक्षा के  
परिणाम अभी तक घोषित न किये जाने के क्या  
कारण हैं;

(ख) परिणामों को कब तक घोषित कर  
दिया जायेगा; और

(ग) परीक्षा में कुल कितने व्यक्ति बैठे थे  
और उनमें अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित  
बाह्य जातियों के कितने उम्मीदवार थे ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क) और  
(ख). लिखित परीक्षा और साक्षात्कार में  
अर्हताप्राप्त उम्मीदवारों को अभिरुचि की परख  
के लिए बुलाया गया था। पेनल को अन्तिम रूप  
दे दिया गया है और 12-5-1972 को रेलों को  
भेज दिया गया है।

(ग) लिखित परीक्षा में बैठने वाले उम्मीद-  
वारों की कुल संख्या 59401 थी जिसमें  
11957 अनुसूचित जाति और 338 अनुसूचित  
जनजाति के उम्मीदवार थे।

**Railway Officers entitled to Inspection  
Carriage Facility**

7141. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA :  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased  
to refer to the reply given to Unstarred  
Question No. 4776 on the 2nd May, 1972  
regarding use of Inspection Carriages by  
Chief Auditor, North Eastern Railway and  
state :

(a) whether it is customary or incumbent  
on the Railway Administration to provide

Railway Inspection Carriages for the tem-  
porary stay of Railway Officers visiting  
Delhi ;

(b) if so, the category of Railway Officers  
who are entitled to such a facility ;

(c) whether these Officers are allowed  
to draw full day's Daily Allowance for their  
halt in Delhi ; and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and  
(b). Inspection Carriages are provided for  
the temporary stay at Delhi for officers of  
Senior Scale and above provided such  
carriages are not required for inspection  
purposes during the relevant period.

(c) Yes.

(d) T.A./D.A. of Railway officers has  
been fixed taking into consideration the  
existing facilities provided to them while on  
tour.

**Report on accident between Hotar  
and Magrahat Railway  
Stations (Eastern  
Railway)**

7142. SHRI MADHURYA HAL-  
DAR : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be  
pleased to state :

(a) whether the Additional Commis-  
sioner, Railway Safety has submitted  
his report on the accident which  
occured on the 6th July, 1971 between  
Hotar and Magrahat Railway Stations  
(Sealdah Division);

(b) if so, the main findings of the  
report ;

(c) the amount paid as compensation to  
the injured and the members of the bereaved  
families ; and

(d) the loss suffered by Railways due to  
the said accident, and the steps taken  
against the persons responsible for the  
accident ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and

(b). The final report of the Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety is awaited. However, according to his provisional finding, the accident was due to the failure of railway staff.

(c) Out of 154 claims received so far, 70 cases have been finalised by the Ad-hoc Claims Commissioner. Payment has already been made in 61 of these cases amounting to Rs. 1,51,523/-; in 5 cases payment amounting Rs. 4,653 is being arranged; 4 cases were rejected. 84 cases are yet to be finalised.

In addition to the above, Rs. 15,100/ was paid as ex-gratia payment to the persons involved in the accident or to their relatives to meet their immediate needs.

A sum of Rs 57,000/- has been deposited with the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation as compensation due under Workmen's Compensation Act to the dependants of six railway employees who were killed on duty in this accident.

(d) The cost of damage to railway property has been estimated at approximately Rs. 3,89,300/-.

The defaulting employee has been placed under suspension and disciplinary action has been initiated.

**Removal of a statue of Buddha from  
Lallaguda Railway Grounds**

7144. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Buddha Statue was removed from Lallaguda Railway Grounds in Secunderabad ;

(b) whether in the railway premises there are Churches, Mosques and Temples ; and

(c) the reasons for refusing to reinstall the statue in spite of many representations to the South Central Railway ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a)  
Yes.

(b) There is one temple, one unauthorised mosque and one unauthorised Budha temple in the North Lallaguda Railway Colony.

(c) As the installation of Buddha statue was unauthorised and against Railway rules, the permission for reinstallation was not granted.

**Rural Electrification for Charda  
Dharmapur and Bhinga in  
District of Bahraich  
(U.P.)**

7145. SHRI B.R. SHUKLA : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) the number of villages electrified so far in Parganas Charda, Dharmapur and Bhinga in the district of Bahraich (Uttar Pradesh) under the Rural Electrification Programme; and

(b) the number of villages proposed to be electrified in the current year ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B.N. KUREEL) : (a) and (b) Charda and Dharmapur Parganas are situated in Nanpara Tehsil and Bhinga in Bahraich Tehsil of Bahraich District. 55 villages have been electrified in Nanpara Tehsil and 157 villages electrified in Bahraich Tehsil as on 31.3.1972. It is proposed to electrify 40 villages in Bahraich District during 1972-73.

The Rural Electrification Corporation which has been set up in the Central Sector since July, 1969, provides additive finances to the State Electricity Boards for implementation of their rural electrification Scheme. One scheme of rural electrification in Bahraich District of Uttar Pradesh involving loan assistance of Rs. 49.01 lakhs aiming electrification of 83 villages and 715 pumpsets is under consideration of the Corporation.

**Project Reports of Bhimkund and Rengali Projects in Orissa**

7146. **SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI**: Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Orissa Government have sent the Project Reports for Bhimkund and Rengali projects for flood control in Brahmani and Baitarani rivers,

(b) whether Central Government have issued sanction order of about 10 crores of rupees to Orissa Government for undertaking the projects, and

(c) if so, when the sanction was issued ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI BN KUREEL)** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) The State Government of Orissa were informed early in April, 1972 that the Government of India had agreed to provide special financial assistance in the last 2 years of the 4th Plan for the implementation of priority schemes namely, Rengali and Bhimkund dams and strengthening of existing embankments on Brahmani and Baitarani. The State Government had also been requested to finalise the projects, get them approved by the competent authority and furnish details of the programme of works and the expenditure during 1972-73 and 1973-74. The release of central assistance is to be made after the receipt of these details.

**Increase in price of Yarn**

7147. **SHRI M RAJANGAM** : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be please to state .

(a) whether as a result of abnormal increase in the price of various types of yarn, handloom industry is facing difficulties ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation ?

**THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE**

(**SHRI A. C. GEORGE**) : (a) and (b). Handloom weavers were affected adversely by the rise in prices of cotton yarn from the middle of 1970 onwards. Supplies of cotton yarn for meeting partially the requirements of the handloom sector at fixed prices were arranged, under the Yarn Pool Scheme, from February 1971, onwards. Also, due to the abundant cotton crop in 1971-72, the prices of cotton yarn have fallen in 1972 and are expected to attain normal levels within the next few months.

Prices of staple fibre yarn had also gone up. As a result of discussions Government had with the spinners, they have agreed to sell all their production at agreed prices in the open market in various states.

**New Railway Stations opened in Tamil Nadu**

7148. **SHRI M RAJANGAM** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the number and names of new Railway Stations which have been opened in Tamil Nadu during the last two years and which are proposed to be opened in the current financial year ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K HANUMANTHAIYA)** The following four railway stations/halts have been opened in Tamil Nadu during the last two years i.e. 1970-71 and 1971-72 —

- 1 Andampallam Halt
- 2 Marudalam Halt.
- 3 Tirumani Halt.
- 4 Pudupet Halt.

There are proposals to open the following stations/halts during the current year —

1. Station between St. Thomas Mount and Minambakkam stations.
2. Halt between Kadambattur and Manur stations

**All India Handloom Weavers' Convention held in Delhi**

7149. **SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH** :

**SHRI K. ESWARA REDDY**

Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the All Indian Handloom Weavers' Convention was held recently in Delhi ;

(b) whether the convention has apprised the Government of the various problems faced by the Handloom industry ; and

(c) the gist of demands put forward by the Convention and the steps proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*Placed in Library. See No. LT—3031/72.*]

Confirmation of Primary School teachers run by Northern Railway in Punjab

7150. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA : Will be Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Primary Schools being run by Northern Railway in Punjab region and the number of teachers working therein ;

(b) whether some of the teachers and Headmasters are still temporary and if so, their number city-wise, and since when they are temporary ; and

(c) whether any representation has been received from temporary teachers and if so, Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :

(a) No. of schools run by Northern Railway in Punjab region	Number of teachers therein
13	13

(b) Name of station	No. of teachers	Date from which temporary
Jullundur	1	25.7.70
Amritsar	1	9.3.72
Bhatinda	2	(12.8.59 13.12.59
Dhuri	1	23.9.59
Rajpura	1	9.2.66

(c) One representation was received from the teacher working at Rajpura. The reason why posts have not been made permanent and teachers confirmed is that it is proposed to hand over the schools to the Punjab Government.

तारों को देवनागरी लिपि में स्वीकार करने वाले रेलवे तारवर

7151. श्री बिबु कुमार शाल्मी : क्या रेल मंत्री यह कसौटी की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में रेलवे के ऐसे कितने तार घर हैं जहाँ जनता द्वारा भेजे जाने वाले तार स्वीकार किये जाते हैं; और

(ख) ऐसे कितने तारवर हैं जहाँ देवनागरी लिपि में तार भेजे जाने की व्यवस्था है और देव तारवरों में ऐसी ही व्यवस्था करने के लिए क्या प्रयत्न किया जा रहा है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क) 4649 रेलवे तारवर ।

(ख) (i) 188 रेलवे तारघर ।

(ii) शेष कई तारघरों में, जहाँ मांग की गयी है, देवनागरी में तार लेने के लिए इसी तरह का प्रबन्ध करने का विचार किया जा रहा है ।

**Observation of One-Man Export Committee on Compensation Claims on shortage of staff**

7152. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether One-Man Export Committee on Claims headed by Shri R.B. Lal vide para 5404 of Chapter 54 has observed that the record of Transit Parcels indicating Receipt and Despatch particulars are not maintained at several Junction points due to shortage of staff ;

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto ; and

(c) whether the number of Parcel Clerks has been increased at Agra Fort, Ajmer, Ahmedabad, Baroda, Bhavnagarpara, Surat, Rajkot, Jaipur, Mehsana, Viramgam, Palanpur, Ratlam, Godra, Indore and Kota Stations of the Western Railway and if so, the number of additional hands sanctioned ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) The statement made in para 5404 of the Report is as under—

"It has been brought to the notice of the Committee that records of 'transit parcels' indicating receipt and despatch particulars are not maintained at several junction points, like Delhi and Mughal-sarai and the usual explanation given is 'Shortage of Staff'."

(b) The zonal Railways have been asked to make a survey of the utilisation and sufficiency of staff at all the larger goods sheds, transshipment sheds, parcel offices and private sidings and to make such adjustments or

additional appointments as may be necessary.

(c) No.

**Closure of Tea centre in London**

7153. SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tea Board's Export Promotion Committee recommended immediate closure of tea centre in London in December, 1969 ;

(b) if so, the reasons advanced by the Committee for closing down the centre ; and

(c) the action taken to implement the decision for closure of tea centre, London and to avoid drainage of foreign exchange ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : (a) to (c). The Export Promotion Committee of the Tea Board felt that with a view to bringing down substantially the nett expenditure on Tea Centre London, it should be closed down and moved to another premises where it could be run more economically with lower rents and rates. The question of running the Tea Centre London on commercial basis has been under consideration since then. A decision is expected to be taken shortly.

**Measures to improve catering services on Railways**

7154. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are considering any measures other than the one regarding serving of pre-cooked and pre-packed food to passengers to improve catering services on the Railways ; and

(b) if so, the broad outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and (b). Except for the introduction of the

scheme for serving pre-cooked and pre-packed food to passengers and the measures which already being constantly taken like carrying out regular inspections, purchasing and supply of raw materials of good quality for the departmental catering establishments, imparting proper training to departmental catering staff and provision of hot cases to keep food hot, no other measures are under consideration at present.

#### Stopping imports of Arecanuts

7155. SHRI K. KODANDA RAMI REDDY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Arecanut growers of Mysore have asked the Centre to stop all imports of arecanut, and if so, the reasons given by them ; and

(b) the current home production of arecanut and the demand for the home consumption ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Arecanut growers have represented that in view of rise in domestic production and the consequent fall in price, imports should not be allowed. The domestic production of about 150,000 tonnes (estimated) is almost wholly consumed in the country.

#### Export quota for Tea allotted for India by F. A. O.

7156. SHRI B.K. DASCHOWDHURY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether India is a party to the *ad-hoc* arrangement made for regulating the volume of tea exports under the aegis of Food and Agriculture Organisations of the U.N. since 1970 ; and

(b) if so, the export quota allotted to India under the *ad-hoc* arrangement for 1970 and subsequent periods and actual exports made from India against the quota ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) The Joint Export Quota for India and Ceylon for black tea exports under the *ad-hoc* arrangement was 421 thousand tonnes during the year 1970 and 506 thousand tonnes during the 15 months period from 1st January, 1971 to 31st March, 1972. While the intention is that the Joint Export Quota is to be shared more or less on 50 : 50 basis by the two countries, the short fall in the exports of one country could be taken advantage of by the other country so as to keep the total tea exports from both the countries within the joint Export Quota. The actual exports of black tea from India are as follows :—

Period	Actual exports from India
1970	204,400 tonnes
Jan. 1971 - March, 1972 (15 months)	249,700 tonnes

#### Complaints of Official working in Tea centres abroad

7157. SHRI M. S. SIVASAMY : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) the profit and loss of the ten centres in foreign countries, countrywise ;

(b) whether any complaints have been received by Government against the officials working in the tea centres ; and

(c) if so, the nature of complaints received and the steps taken by Government against those officials ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) A statement is attached.

(b) and (c). A complaint was received against the locally recruited Accountant of London, Tea Centre. The Accountant absconded on 31.12.1971 after misappropriating a sum of pound sterling 1,741 over a period of time being sale proceeds of the Tea Centre. The case was immediately reported to the London Police Authorities and later on to special police establishment at Hyderabad (India) from where the person hailed.

*Statement*

The working profit/loss of the Tea Centres run by Tea Board in various countries is as under :—

	1969-70 Rs.	1970-71 Rs.	1971-72 Rs.
<i>United Kingdom</i>			
London Tea Centre	(—) 393,130	(—) 706,592	(—) 364,623 (A)
Edinburgh Tea Centre	(—) 138,059	(—) 30,429 (B)	
<i>Australia</i>			
Sydney Tea Centre	(—) 26,337	(—) 42,392	(—) 140,643
Malbourne Tea Centre	—	(—) 192,026	(—) 326,593
		(C)	—
<i>Arab Republic of Egypt</i>			
Cairo Tea Centre	(—) 11,552	(+) 64,797	(+) 34,105

**EXPLANATION**

(+) Working profit

(—) Working Loss.

(A) 10 months ending January, 1972.

(B) 4 months ending July, 1970 (Edinburgh Tea Centre was closed down in 1970).

(C) Tea Centre at Melbourne was opened in December, 1970 and Gross Loss refers to Four months ending March, 1971.

**Payment of arrears of Night Duty Allowance to Guards and Brakemen of Tinsukhia Division (Northeast Frontier Railway)**

7158. SHRI R. P. YADAV: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Board has revised the rate of Night Duty Allowance with effect from the 1st April, 1970;

(b) whether the arrear of night Duty Allowance due from 1st April, 1970 to 30th February, 1971 have not yet been paid to the Guards and Brakemen of Tinsukhia Division in Northeast Frontier Railway; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the action proposed to be taken in the matter?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS**  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Bills drawing arrears of Night Duty Allowance at revised rates have been prepared. Two of these bills have already been passed and payment made to staff. The remaining bills are under scrutiny and arrangements are being made to expedite payment.

**Examination of Trains in Alipurduar and Siliguri Stations (Northeast Frontier Railway)**

7159. SHRI ISHAQ SAMBHALI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the system of examination of trains ex-New Gauhati to Katihar North-

east Frontier Railway) at intermediate stations has been discontinued;

(b) whether Guards of Northeast Frontier Railway in their 10-Point memorandum submitted to him in August, 1971 stated that major accidents on that Railway were mainly due to the defects in the rolling stock; and

(c) whether the Railway authority propose to re-introduce the system of Train Examination enroute at Alipurduar Junction and Siliguri Junction in the interest of the safety of trains?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA): (a) Intermediate Examination continues to be undertaken at New Bongaigaon but has been discontinued at Alipurduar and Siliguri consequent to the introduction of intensive repairs at New Gauhati.

(b) Yes.

(c) Train examination at New Bongaigaon will be continued but examination at Alipurduar and Siliguri is not considered necessary.

नैरोगेज रेलवे लाइनों पर चलने वाली  
माल गाड़ियों और यात्री गाड़ियों  
के लिए इंजन

7160. श्रीमती वी. आर. सिंघिया : क्या  
रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में नैरोगेज रेलवे लाइनों पर  
चलने वाली माल गाड़ियों तथा यात्री गाड़ियों  
के इंजन की प्रत्येक-प्रत्येक संख्या कितनी है;

(ख) ये इंजन अधिकतम और न्यूनतम  
कितने समय से प्रयोग में लाये जा रहे हैं और  
ये कितने पुराने हैं; और

(ग) भारत में प्रतिवर्ष कितने इंजन बनाये  
जा रहे हैं और विदेशों से प्रतिवर्ष कितने इंजन  
का आयात किया जाता है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क)  
389 भाप रेल इंजन और 43 डीजल रेल  
इंजन। छोटी लाइन के रेल इंजनों को सवारी  
गाड़ियों और माल गाड़ियों के लिए प्रलग-प्रलग  
निर्धारित नहीं किया जाता।

(ख) चालू भाप रेल इंजनों की आयु 11  
ले लेकर 69 वर्ष तक भिन्न भिन्न है और  
डीजल रेल इंजनों की आयु 1 से लेकर 17  
वर्ष तक है। संहिता के अनुसार भाप रेल इंजनों  
की आयु 40 वर्ष और डीजल रेल इंजनों की  
30 वर्ष है।

(ग) चौथी योजना में की गयी व्यवस्था के  
अनुसार चित्तरंजन रेल इंजन कारखाने में 30  
डीजल रेल इंजनों के निर्माण की योजना है।  
10 रेल इंजनों का निर्माण हो चुका है और  
शेष 20 के निर्माण की योजना हाथ में है।

इस समय छोटी लाइन के रेल इंजनों का  
आयात नहीं किया जा रहा है।

ग्वालियर-भिड़ नैरोगेज रेलवे लाइन  
(मध्य रेलवे)

7161. श्रीमती वी. आर. सिंघिया : क्या  
रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अलाभकारी रेलवे लाइन सम्बन्धी  
समिति ने मध्य रेलवे के ग्वालियर-भिड़ नैरोगेज  
रेलवे लाइन के बारे में क्या सुझाव दिये हैं;  
और

(ख) उस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के. हनुमन्तैया) : (क)  
1969 की अलाभप्रद शाखा लाइन समिति ने  
ग्वालियर-भिड़ रेलवे लाइन के बारे में यह  
सिफारिश की थी कि रेल पथ में सुधार किया  
जाना चाहिए और शीघ्र ही चल स्टॉक का  
बढ़ाव किया जाना चाहिए।



(ख) रेल पथ में सुधार करने की दृष्टि से पुराने काटों और पार के बदलाव का काम निर्धारित कार्यक्रम के आधार पर शुरू किया गया है।

इस खण्ड पर छोटी लाइन के गतायु और अलाभप्रद चल-स्टाक को बदलने का काम चरणबद्ध रूप में शुरू किया गया है।

मध्य प्रदेश में माताटीला बांध से  
सिंचित भूमि का क्षेत्र

7162. श्रीमती बी. आर. सिन्धिया क्या सिंचाई और बिद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) माताटीला बांध से मध्य प्रदेश के कितने क्षेत्र में सिंचाई की जाएगी; और

(ख) इस बांध से मध्य प्रदेश के कितने क्षेत्र की सिंचाई के लिए पानी दिया जा रहा है और कम पानी दिए जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

सिंचाई और बिद्युत मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बंजनाथ कुरील) (क) और (ख). माताटीला बांध, मध्य प्रदेश में 1,10,000 एकड़ भूमि की सिंचाई करने के लिए बनाया गया है। मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि कमानगत क्षेत्र में सिंचाई का प्रबन्ध भी विकास हो रहा है और 1971-72 के दौरान, 52,800 एकड़ भूमि की सिंचाई की गई। उन्होंने बताया है कि यह किसी पानी की सप्लाई की कमी के

कारण नहीं है, बल्कि विकास में जो कमी रह गई है वह माइनरो और जलमार्गों की कमी, कुछ फास ड्रेनेज कार्यों की अपर्याप्त क्षमता और कुछ नहरों में गाद जमा होने के कारण है।

सिंध नदी (मध्य प्रदेश) पर बांध के  
निर्माण में प्रगति

7163. श्रीमती बी. आर. सिन्धिया क्या सिंचाई और बिद्युत मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि ग्वालियर डिवीजन (मध्य प्रदेश) में मगरीनी के निकट सिंध नदी पर बांध के निर्माण में अब तक हुई प्रगति का ब्योरा क्या है ?

सिंचाई और बिद्युत मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बंजनाथ कुरील) परियोजना की तकनीकी जांच लगभग पूर्ण हो गई है और इसके निकट भविष्य में मध्य प्रदेश की विकासात्मक योजनाओं में शामिल करने के लिए स्वीकृत होने की संभावना है।

#### Price of Coal

7165. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the rate at which coal is supplied to Railways by coal fields in West Bengal, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANIHAIYA): The required information is given in the attached statement.

#### Statement

COALFIELD	Grade of steam coal	(Figures in Rs.) Price per tonne as approved for supplies from 1-1-1972.
1	2	3
West Bengal & Bihar	Selected 'A'	41.10
	Selected 'B'	39.54
	Grade I	35.99
	Grade II	31.08

1	2	3
Madhya Pradesh	Selected	38.35
	Grade I	34.96
	Grade II	32.87

*Note :—*Additional price of 25 paise per tonne is payable for coals of Bengal & Bihar if the average loaded wagon despatches during 1972 is adjudged not satisfactory.

दिल्ली में नये रेलवे क्वार्टरों का निर्माण

श्रेणी III

श्रेणी IV

7166. श्री हुकम चन्द कछवाय : क्या

45

कोई नहीं ।

रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के बलिया और वाराणसी  
स्टेशनों के बीच डीजल-कार का चलना

(क) वर्ष 1971 तथा 1972 में दिल्ली क्षेत्र में कितने नये रेलवे क्वार्टरों का निर्माण हुआ है; और

7168. श्री चन्द्रिका प्रसाद : क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(ख) संकेत तथा दूर संचार विभाग के कर्मचारियों तथा अन्य विभागों के कर्मचारियों को कितने-कितने क्वार्टर आवंटित किये गए हैं ?

(क) पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के बलिया और वाराणसी स्टेशनों के बीच चलने वाली डीजल-कार अत्यधिक भार होने के कारण कितनी बार खराब हुई है; और

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया) : (क) नीचे लिखे वर्षों में बनाये गये मकानों की संख्या :

(ख) इस मामले में सरकार का विचार क्या उपाय करने का है ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया) : (क) एक बार भी नहीं ।

1970-71

श्रेणी III

श्रेणी IV

कोई नहीं

कोई नहीं

1971-72

श्रेणी III

श्रेणी IV

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(ख) 1970-71 और 1971-72 के दौरान सिगनल और दूर संचार विभाग के कर्मचारियों को आवंटित मकानों की संख्या :

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

गांव में सस्ती दरों पर बिजली की सप्लाई

7170. श्री झूलचन्द डागा : क्या सिंचाई और बिजल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार गांवों में सस्ती दर पर बिजली सप्लाई करने का प्रयास कर रही है;

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने वर्ष 1966-67 के पश्चात् तीन वर्ष तक बढ़ी हुई दरों का 50 प्रतिशत भार वहन करने का दायित्व लिया था; और

अन्य विभागों के कर्मचारियों को आवंटित मकानों की संख्या :

(ग) यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार ने यह योजना क्रियान्वित की है ?

1970-71

श्रेणी III

श्रेणी V

4

कोई नहीं

लिखाई और बिद्युत मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री बैजनाथ कुरील) : (क) से (ग). कुछ हद तक समरूपता की प्राप्ति के प्रयोजन से तथा खाद्यान्न के उत्पादन की गति तेज करने के हित में भारत सरकार ने कृषि-प्रयोजनों के लिए बिद्युत की दरें 12 पैसे प्रति यूनिट पर रूप में सीमित करने की एक स्कीम चालू की जिसमें 12 पैसे प्रति यूनिट से अधिक ऐसी दरों के लिए सरकारी सहायता दी जानी थी और इसका आधार यह था कि सरकारी सहायता को केन्द्र और संबंधित राज्य सरकारों के बीच बराबर-बराबर विभाजित किया जाना था। यह स्कीम 1-4-1966 से 31-3-1969 तक तीन वर्षों तक चालू रही। इस स्कीम के चालू किये जाने के समय असम, बिहार, गुजरात, मध्य प्रदेश, महाराष्ट्र, उड़ीसा (डीजल क्षेत्र) और उत्तर प्रदेश राज्यों में कृषि-प्रयोजनों के लिए ये दरें 12 पैसे प्रति यूनिट से अधिक थीं। केवल गुजरात और उत्तर प्रदेश राज्यों ने इस स्कीम में रुचि दिखाई। गुजरात ने सिर्फ स्कीम के प्रारंभ में सरकारी सहायता स्कीम का लाभ उठाया। उत्तर प्रदेश ने स्कीम अंतिम वर्ष (1968-69) में इसका लाभ उठाया।

**Extension of Railway Lines up to  
Manipur via Silchar**

7171. SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news item in 'The Assam Tribune' dated the 10th May, 1972 to the effect that the Chief Minister of Manipur has stated that the Central Government have accepted the proposal to extend railway lines up to Manipur via Silchar ; and

(b) if so, when the survey work will begin and how long it will take to finalise the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIA) : (a) and (b). Surveys are being taken up for a new line from Silchar to Jirighat (in Manipur). They will be completed and the reports submitted by about 31.3.1973,

**Survey for Harnessing Rivers for Electricity  
by Generation in Kerala**

7172. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN : Will the Minister of IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey for harnessing various rivers of Kerala for purpose of generation of electricity ;

(b) if so, the names of the places where electricity can be generated for commercial purposes indicating the quantum of electricity likely to be generated there ; and

(c) the number of places where generation of electricity has already started and the quantum of electricity being generated there ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : (a) Between 1952 to 1959, the Central Water and Power Commission conducted a preliminary country-wide hydro electric survey of the river basins in the country including those in Kerala on the basis of available topographical data. The Kerala State authorities are conducting detailed investigations at present.

(b) A statement giving the sites in Kerala where electricity can be produced, together with their firm power potential is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3032/72]

(c) A statement giving the places where generation of electricity has started together with the quantity of electricity produced therein is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3032/72]

**Incidents of Thefts, Murders, Loot and  
Dacoities on Southern Railway**

7173. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of thefts, murders, loot and dacoities on the Southern Railway during the last years : and

(b) the estimated loss of property suffered by passengers as a result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) :

(a) Year	Thefts	Murder	Loot- ing (Robbe- ries)	Dacoi- ties
1969	861	1	7	2
1970	678	2	6	—
1971	1082	1	8	1

  

(b) 1969	Rs. 4,41,804/-
1970	Rs. 3,40,953/-
1971	Rs. 5,18,604/-

**Expansion of Railway Office at  
Quilon (Kerala)**

7174. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI  
THANKAPPAN : Will the Minister of  
RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has formulated  
any scheme for expansion of the Railway  
office in Quilon in the State of Kerala ; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a) and  
(b) . An Executive Engineer's Office has  
been formed at Quilon in connection with  
the conversion of the M.G. Section from  
Ernakulam to Trivandrum into Broad Gauge.  
He is in charge of the conversion work between  
Quilon and Chengannacheri.

**Disposal of Rubber by S.T.C.  
from Kerala**

7175. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI  
THANKAPPAN : Will the Minister of

FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state the  
manner in which the rubber purchased by  
the State Trading Corporation in Kerala  
during 1971-72 has been disposed of ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE  
(SHRI A.C. GEORGE) : The State Trading  
Corporation entered the Rubber purchase  
operation in October, 1970. The  
position of rubber purchased in Kerala and  
its disposal during the year 1971-72 is  
given below :—

	(In Tonnes)
Stocks of rubber with S.T.C. at the end of 1970-71.	4,175
Purchase of rubber during 1971-72.	12,643
Total :	16,823
Disposal of rubber by sale of type and non- type manufacturers during 1971-72.	(—) 14,569

Stocks of rubber with  
S.T.C. as on 1.4.1971. 2,254

**Medium Irrigation Schemes for Kerala**

7176. SHRIMATI BHARGAVI  
THANKAPPAN : Will the Minister of  
IRRIGATION AND POWER be pleased to  
state :

(a) the number of medium irrigation  
schemes for the State of Kerala approved  
for implementation during 1972-73;

(b) the Central assistance sought there-  
for; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE  
MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND  
POWER (SHRI B.N. KUREEL) : (a) to  
(c) . The Government of Kerala have,

under construction, seven major Irrigation Projects at present. No Medium Irrigation Scheme is, at present, under implementation in the State.

The State Government are contemplating an outlay of Rs. 5.20 lakhs on the Irrigation Sector during 1972-73. Central assistance to State plans is in the form of block loans and grants not related to any individual head of development or project. The plan outlay for Kerala for 1972-73 is Rs. 64 crores out of which Central assistance is Rs. 3395 crores.

#### Use of Tea Board Vehicles by Chairman's Family

7177. SHRI R. P. YADAV : Will the Minister of FOREIGN TRADE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Tea Board's vehicles in Delhi are being used by the members of the family of the Chairman of the Board; and

(b) if so, whether they entitled to use the same as per rules framed by the Government ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A. C. GEORGE) : (a) and (b). The Chairman, Tea Board, while on tour to Delhi is entitled to use the Tea Board's vehicles in Delhi for private purposes. This would not preclude his family in case they are in Delhi while the Chairman is in Delhi, himself.

For use of the Tea Board's cars in Calcutta for private purposes, and in Delhi as above the Chairman is required to pay as per the Government rules. If the use of the car for non-official journeys exceeds 500 kilometres per month, additional payment is to be made according to rules.

स्टेशन मास्टर गाजियाबाद पर रेलवे

कर्मचारियों का हमला

7178. श्री शिवकुमार आर्यी :

श्री जगन्नाथ शर्मा :

क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे

कि :

(क) क्या कुछ रेलवे कर्मचारियों ने हाल ही में गाजियाबाद रेलवे स्टेशन के स्टेशन मास्टर पर हमला किया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो घटना का संक्षेप में ब्यौरा क्या है तथा इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं कि भविष्य में ऐसी घटनायें न हों ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री को. हनुमन्तैया) : (क) जी हां, यह घटना 20-4-1972 को हुई।

(ख) एक विवरण संलग्न है।

#### विवरण

संक्षेप में ब्यौरा इस प्रकार है कि 20-4-72 को लगभग 9-00 बजे बर्कंस यूनियन, गाजिबाद के कुछ सदस्यों ने अपने सचिव श्री राजिन्द्र सिंह के नेतृत्व में गाजियाबाद स्टेशन की इमारत पर कुछ इश्टिहार बिपका दिये जिस पर स्टेशन मास्टर श्री जमनाल खन्ना ने आपत्ति की और अपने पानी बाले और सफाई वाले की सहायता से उन्हें उतरवा दिया। इस पर बर्कंस यूनियन के सचिव और एक अन्य व्यक्ति श्री गुप्ता कोषित हो उठे और स्टेशन मास्टर के उनकी गरमा-गरमी हो गयी। श्री गुप्ता ने स्टेशन मास्टर को यह धमकी भी दी कि इसका परिणाम अच्छा नहीं होगा। स्टेशन मास्टर ने स्टेशन हाउस अफसर, सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस, गाजियाबाद के पास शिकायत लिखवा दी जिन्होंने 20-4-72 को 11-35 बजे रेल अधिनियम की धारा 120/121 के अधीन अपराध संख्या 79 के रूप में एक मामला दर्ज कर लिया।

2. शान को लगभग 17-45 बजे जब स्टेशन मास्टर दाईं कोर्रैज, गाजियाबाद के साथ माल गोदम जाते समय ऊपरी पुल से गुजर रहे थे तो बर्कंस यूनियन के सदस्यों ने उन्हें रोक लिया और यूनियन के सचिव और 6 अन्य

व्यक्तियों ने उन पर हमला कर दिया। स्टेशन मास्टर को हल्की चोटें भायीं। स्टेशन मास्टर ने सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस, गाजियाबाद में इसकी शिकायत लिखवा दी जिसने भारतीय दण्ड संहिता की धारा 147/332/323/307 और रेल अधिनियम की धारा 120-121 के अधीन 20-4-72 को एफ० आई० आर० सं० 80-ए० के० रूप में एक मामला दर्ज कर लिया। सात व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये हैं। ये वर्कर्स यूनियन के सदस्य हैं।

3. एक प्रत्यारोप यह है कि यूनियन के लोग स्टेशन मास्टर को एक जापन प्रस्तुत करना चाहते थे लेकिन स्टेशन मास्टर उत्तेजित हो उठे और उन्होंने पांच अज्ञात व्यक्तियों की सहायता से वर्कर्स यूनियन के सचिव श्री राजिन्दर सिंह और एक अन्य व्यक्ति श्री बजिन्दर सिंह पर हमला कर दिया। इस सम्बन्ध में स्टेशन मास्टर के विरुद्ध सरकारी रेलवे पुलिस गाजियाबाद ने 20-4-72 को रेल अधिनियम की धारा 120 और भारतीय दण्ड संहिता की धारा 323 के अधीन अपराध सं० 80 के रूप में एक मामला दर्ज किया है। स्टेशन मास्टर और श्री राजिन्दर सिंह दोनों को डाक्टर की परीक्षा और इलाज के लिए सिविल अस्पताल भेजा गया।

4. इन सभी मामलों की छान-बीन हो रही है। क्लीनर लोको शेड के श्री अमरवत सिंह नामक एक और रेल कर्मचारी को 5-5-72 को गिरफ्तार किया गया। सभी गिरफ्तार व्यक्तियों को अभी तक जमानत पर नहीं छोड़ा गया है और पहचान परेड 13-5-72 को होनी निर्दिष्ट हुई है।

**रेलवे में स्टेशन मास्टरों की पदोन्नति**

**7179. श्री सिधकुमार आस्त्री:**

**श्री कुलचन्द डागा:**

**क्या रेल अभी यह बातों की कृपा करे कि:**

(क) क्या सरकार का विचार स्टेशन मास्टरों की पदोन्नति के लिये कोई नये अवसर बनाने का है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं ?

रेल मंत्री (श्री के० हनुमन्तैया): (क) से (ख). स्टेशन मास्टर और सहायक स्टेशन मास्टरों को उनके ही संवर्ग में उच्चतर ग्रेड के पदों पर पदोन्नति देने के अलावा, उन्हें सेक्शन कंट्रोलर, यार्ड मास्टर, यातायात परिचासन निरीक्षक आदि पदों पर पदोन्नत करने के सम्बन्ध में विचार किया जाता है। रेलवे बोर्ड ने हाल ही में श्रमिक संगठनों के परामर्श से यह विनिश्चय किया है कि स्टेशन मास्टर सहायक स्टेशन मास्टर के 250-380 रुपये (अ० वे०) तक और इसके सहित ग्रेड वाले पदों को स्टेशन मास्टर सहायक स्टेशन मास्टरों के निम्नतर ग्रेड से पदोन्नति के लिए अलग से आरक्षित रखा जाये, लेकिन शर्त यह है कि 250-380 रुपये के ग्रेड में यातायात प्रशिक्षुओं की सीधी भर्ती निर्धारित प्रतिशत के अनुसार की जाती रहेगी।

**Petitions filed by Unions for Wage Board**

**7180. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:**  
Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether various Unions have filed petitions requesting Government to appoint a Wage Board to determine the wages of Railway employees ;

(b) whether Government intend to set up a Railway Wage Board ; and

(c) if so, when the Wage Board is likely to be set up and when it will start functioning ?

**THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS**  
(SHRI K. HANUMANTHAIYA) : (a)

There has been such a demand from different quarters.

(b) and (c). Railway employees are servant of the Central Government and therefore their wages are determined on the same basis as is adopted for all Central Government employees. It will not, therefore, be appropriate to have a separate wage board for Railway employees only.

रेलवे कर्मचारियों पर मासिक व्यय

7181. श्री झूलचन्द डागा. क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) इस समय भारतीय रेलों में कितने

कर्मचारी काम कर रहे हैं तथा 1951 में कितने काम कर रहे थे तथा कर्मचारियों की संख्या में वृद्धि की प्रतिशतता क्या है; और

(ख) उक्त अवधि में कर्मचारियों का व्यय कितना बढ़ा है ?

रेल मंत्री ( श्री के० हनुमन्तैया ) (क) से (ख). नवीनतम उपलब्ध सूचना वित्तीय वर्ष 1970-71 के सम्बन्ध में है। 1950-51 और 1970-71 के तुलनात्मक आंकड़े इस प्रकार हैं—

	1950-51	1970-71	1950-51 की तुलना में 1970-71 में हुई वृद्धियाँ
(1) कर्मचारियों की संख्या			
(31 मार्च को)	913,553	1,373,320	50.3%
(11) कुल खर्च			
(करोड़ रुपये में)	113.82	468.63	30.5%

12 hrs.

# PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY MEMBER

(Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, I have given notice under Rule 357.....

MR. SPEAKER : I have received it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Then you will allow me to make a personal explanation.

MR. SPEAKER : I have sent it to the Prime Minister. As soon as it comes.....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : This personal explanation should have nothing to do with the Prime Minister's secretariat, because the things I am going to narrate have been widely publicised in the country and it is high time I make a personal statement immediately.

MR. SPEAKER : Is it a personal explanation or is it under rule 377 ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : It is under rule 357, personal explanation.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : It has nothing to do with the Prime Minister.

MR. SPEAKER : At the end you say, "...I call upon the Prime Minister..." etc.

If it is under rule 377, it will go to her and then we will see.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I would not mention that. It is under rule 357. Let me have an opportunity to clarify the position, because certain things have been widely publicised. You will kindly extend that much courtesy to us.

MR. SPEAKER : If it is personal explanation, I can allow it. But if I go by this, I should not.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I would not mention that one.

Under Rule 357 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha.....

MR. SPEAKER : This is very confusing. If this is a personal explanation, before this last line, you have gone much beyond the personal explanation. In that case, I think I should send it to the Prime Minister and see to it later on.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) : The question is whether it warrants personal explanation or not. That is the only significant thing. The operative part of it is that the member's reputation is at stake and he wants to clear it.

MR. SPEAKER : I do not think I should hold it. Sometimes it is easy to read a very complicated book and exert less mental activity than this brief one sent by you. This is mixed up with so many things. It is so much complicated. I thought it is just a simple thing.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : I rise on a point of order, Sir.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : On 21.5.72 the hon. Prime Minister..... (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : Suppose another hon. Member interrupts you when you are speaking. Will you tolerate it ? Now a point of order is being raised and still he is going on.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : My point of order is that no debatable matter could be raised or brought forward under rule 357 and no debate shall be allowed. Is it or is it not a debatable matter ?

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : He must know the difference between debate and debatable matter.

MR. SPEAKER : No debate could follow this statement.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I will bow by your decision. Whenever I slip from the path of virtue, you can pull me up.

Under Rule 357 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha, I wish to make a personal explanation today as below:

On 21.5.1972 the Prime Minister Mrs. Indira Gandhi during her drought area visit mission in West Bengal addressed a gathering and it is reported:

"The Prime Minister referred to the allegations made by some parties that congress had taken money from industrialists for winning elections. She said it had been alleged that the Congress poster carrying a portrait of herself had been printed by well-known monopolist in a press in Calcutta.

Mrs. Gandhi said the documents produced in this connection were false. The photostat contained no real evidence. Her picture was superimposed and the letter allegedly written by the the press to the monopolist contained no signature. But the CPI (M) will spread the word that the Congress took money from the monopolist. She said 'I know that they also got money from business houses at the time of election and even other times.' It is true that some big business houses had got licences but these were issued to enable industries to develop in areas which did not have any."

(Statesman New Delhi dated 22.5.1972  
page 1)



[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

*Times of India*, New Delhi in its issue dated 22.5.1972 (Page 1) reported:

"Replying to critics who thought our progress was slow Mrs. Gandhi said we do not want to hasten and thereby commit mistakes. She referred to the election poster controversy to say that the allegation against the Congress had absolutely no basis at all. Capitalists provided funds for every party. They paid us. They also paid to Marxists. But we will never do anything which is unprincipled."

It is a matter of deep regret that even the Prime Minister did not hesitate to commit impropriety and a breach of privilege of the House by saying as above in a public meeting. Whilst I had by exercising my rights within Lok Sabha charged the ruling party of receiving donations from monopolists and in support produced photostat copies and I reckon, that is the most, one can do to prove the genuineness of it and guaranteed its authenticity by signing on the photostat which were handed over to the Chair as per his directions. Myself and other opposition leaders had requested you to ask the Government to place documented material in rebuttal of my allegations. But Government have not done anything beyond airily denying the authenticity.

\* \* \* \*

MR. SPEAKER: Anything which is not part of the personal explanation, I am sorry, I cannot allow it.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central): Is it a personal explanation? It goes much beyond that.

MR. SPEAKER: It is not a part of the personal explanation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: And about the licence she had talked about; in reply to a question (USQ 1466) it was said that during the period preceding the last election (i.e. 1971), 153 licences were issued to the 75 large monopoly houses against a figure of 47 for 1970. And as far as giving

licences for industries in backward areas are concerned in West Bengal during 1969 to 1971, out of 15 new licences granted, the share for backward district did not exceed two.

MR. SPEAKER: The portion, which is not a part of the personal explanation, I am sorry I do not allow it.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I regret to say and I want to point out, once again, that these are genuine allegations and I am willing to prove it (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER: Papers to be laid

SHRI S M BANERJEE (Kanpur): Since everything has gone on record, I would like to get your guidance to straighten the records. About the poster, this thing has been going on...

MR. SPEAKER: I am not going to allow it. Nothing will go on record. You are speaking without my permission. Papers to be laid

SHRI S M BANERJEE: \*\* (*Interruptions*).

12.12 hrs.

# PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORT, ETC. OF RUBBER BOARD AND COIR BOARD

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (SHRI A.C. GEORGE): I beg to lay on the Table:

- (i) (i) A copy of the Annual Report on the activities of the Rubber Board for the year 1970-71.
- (ii) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining the reasons for not laying the Hindi version of the above Report simultaneously

\*\*\*Expunged as ordered by the Chair.  
\*\*Not recorded.

[Placed in Library. See No. LT-3023/72]

(2) A copy each of the following Reports under sub-section (1) of section 19 of the Coir Industry Act, 1953 :—

- (i) Annual Report (Hindi version) on the activities of the Coir Board and the working of the Coir Industry Act, 1953 for the year 1969-70. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3024/72]
- (ii) Half-yearly Report (Hindi version) on the activities of the Coir Board and the working of the Coir Industry Act, 1953 for the period from 1st April, 1970 to 30th September, 1970. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3025/72]
- (hi) Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) on the activities of the Coir Board and the working of the Coir Industry Act, 1953 for the year 1970-71 [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3026/72]
- (iv) Half-yearly Report on the activities of the Coir Board and the working of the Coir Industry Act, 1953 for the period from 1st April, 1971 to 30th September 1971. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-3027-72]

12.13 hrs.

#### MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY : Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha :—

"I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Monday, the 15th May, 1972, adopted the following motion in regard to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit :—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that

the Rajya Sabha do elect two members to the Joint Committee on Offices of Profit in the vacancies caused by the retirement of Dr. (Mrs.) Mangladevi Talwar and Shri M.V. Bhadram from the membership of the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd April, 1972, and resolves that the House do proceed to elect, in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote, two members from among the members of the House to the said Joint Committee to fill the vacancies."

(2) I am further to inform the Lok Sabha that in pursuance of the above motion, the following members of the Rajya Sabha have been duly elected to the said Joint Committee :—

- 1 Shri Yogendra Sharma,
2. Shri Vithal Gadgil.

#### COMMITTEE ON PETITIONS

##### FOURTH REPORT

SHRI A.P. SHARMA (Buxar) : I beg to present the Fourth Report of the Committee on Petitions.

#### COMMITTEE ON ABSENCE OF MEMBERS FROM SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE

##### SIXTH REPORT

SHRI S.C. SAMANTA (Tautuk) : I beg to present the Sixth Report of the Committee on absence of Members from the Sittings of the House.

12.15 hrs.

#### UNTOUCHABILITY (OFFENCES) AMENDMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS BILL

MR. SPEAKER : We will now take up the consideration of the Untouchability

[Mr. Speaker]

(Offences) Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill. Prof Nural Hasan.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S NURUL HASAN) : Sir, I beg to move

"That the Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 and further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration "

This is a very brief Bill. The House will recall that the Parliament had passed the Untouchability Offences Act in 1955 to give effect to the pledges which had been given in the Constitution ..

12.16 hrs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY  
MEMBERS—*contd.*

SHRI R D BHANDARE (Bombay Central) : Sir, I am sorry to interrupt. I want to get a clear understanding from the Chair as to whether the later portion which was not a part of the personal explanation has been deleted.

MR SPEAKER : It was not a part of the personal explanation. That of course, is the rule.

SHRI R D BHANDARE : I want to know it from the Chair

MR SPEAKER : Anything which is in the nature of a personal explanation will be allowed. But anything which is extraneous will not be allowed. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI R D BHANDARE : I want to know whether it has been deleted from the record

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA (Begusarai) : You, Sir, must have looked into it before

MR SPEAKER : Yes, I had already said that this is not a part of the personal explanation. I made it very clear.

SHRI R. D BHANDARE : Has it been deleted from the record ?

SHRI P K DEO (Kalahandi) : There is nothing unparliamentary in it. Everything verbatim should go into the record.

MR SPEAKER : Anything which is not a part of the personal explanation will not form part of the record. I made it clear that the last two paragraphs are not part of the personal explanation. They will not be taken as personal explanation. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : A small clarification, Sir, If any Member of the Government maligns my Party, should I not defend my Party ? There is a definite allegation by the Prime Minister that the Marxists also got money. So, they have to explain it

MR SPEAKER : He can bring the allegation through a motion. Of course, you have asked for it. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : I didn't read out the last paragraph. That was not read. (*Interruptions*)

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE (Gwalior) : He referred to a reply to a question on the floor of the House. Can the reply given by the Government be expunged ?

SHRI K S CHAVDA (Patan) : It is not unparliamentary also.

MR SPEAKER : I make it very clear. If he wants it to be taken under Rule 377, then this will go to the Prime Minister. (*Interruptions*) No, I made it very clear that when you want a statement by the Prime Minister to the allegations, it will go to her, and no personal explanation. He said only personal explanation. So far as his statement is concerned, he said, 'No'. (*Interruptions*) It does not. Now, these two last parts are allegations...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : And about licence ?

MR. SPEAKER : They are allegations and if they are to be allegations, the part of the personal explanation will be allowed. But, so far as the other two are concerned, they will not form part of the record ...*(Interruptions)* I made it very clear in the beginning.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : May I make a submission with your permission ? The Prime Minister in this context had made a mention that the licences were given to those monopolists...*(Interruptions)*

MR. SPEAKER : Please sit down.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : You have called me...

SHRI R. S. PANDEY (Rajnandgaon) : You have made it very clear to the House that a certain portion has to be deleted. Now, on a thing which has been deleted, do you allow a discussion on it ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Because the Prime Minister made a mention.

MR. SPEAKER : You have mixed so many things.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : She has maligned me and my Party.

MR. SPEAKER : Your personal explanation is accepted, but, so far as allegations are concerned, they are already there.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Where ? Because the whole thing is an allegation. What can be done ?

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : Does an allegation against a Party also not reflect upon the Member ? If a particular Party got money, the Member has also been a beneficiary of that amount. That will have to be explained.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) : The reason why Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu was called upon to give a personal explanation is because the Prime Minister went all the way to Calcutta and made certain statements which make Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu and his

Party appear ridiculous in the public eye for statements he made on the floor of the House which he can be called upon to justify or substantiate or which can be refuted by the Government. Now, in offering a personal explanation, he has a right, therefore, not only to defend himself and his Party but to clearly delineate the issues involved why it was necessary for him to come forth with a personal explanation...*(Interruptions)* I don't understand why this particular hardship is being put on Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu...*(Interruptions)* when nothing is done to pull up the Prime Minister for having used this unorthodox method of trying to rebut what Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu said in Parliament.

MR. SPEAKER : I am sorry. I have made it very clear.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : What Mr. Piloo Mody said should also be deleted.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I have to follow your instructions. Sir, I take it that the Prime Minister is no more called upon to make any statement in regard to this explanation because it has not been asked for.

(2) The portion that follows "denying the authenticity" should all be expunged.

MR. SPEAKER : I made it very clear. I said that if you are treating them as allegations, they will be forwarded to the Prime Minister.

SHRI PILOO MODY : They are not allegations, but an explanation.

MR. SPEAKER : Kindly don't mix them. If it is a personal explanation, then, so, far as personal explanation is concerned, I have allowed it.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : The issues are interlinked.

MR. SPEAKER : So far as personal explanation is concerned...

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: इस में पर्सनल एक्सप्लेनेशन तो आखिर में ही आता है। पहले तो उन्होंने ने प्राइम मिनिस्टर को कीट किया है।

SHRI PILOO MODY : I am prepared to sit with you and correct the copy to see that nothing in the nature of allegation goes in. A blanket ruling out is not necessary ; it is not necessary to rule all of it out....

MR. SPEAKER : I have made it very clear.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : There will be no abuse of the proceedings of the House

SHRI PILOO MODY : The first part of it you can call as personal explanation and the second part an allegation.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU . The Press must have a clear direction. They cannot take cognisance unless there is a clear ruling here.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: अध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरा निवेदन कि यह मामला तब तक चलेगा जब तक आप इस पर चर्चा की इजाजत नहीं देंगे। हम ने 184 के अन्तर्गत मोशन दिया है। हम इस मामले पर बहस करना चाहते हैं। अगर आप इस में से बहस सब निकाल देंगे जो प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने कलकत्ते में कहा तो उस के अलावा पर्सनल एक्सप्लेनेशन में कुछ बचेगा ही नहीं। आप को हम को इस पर चर्चा करने की इजाजत देनी चाहिये।

श्री राज बहादुर: पर्सनल एक्सप्लेनेशन के बदले प्रीर एल्लिरेशन कर रहे हैं। (अव्यवधान) .

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: कलकत्ते के मैदान में उस को कहने की आवश्यकता नहीं थी। अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप प्रधान मंत्री को सदन में बुलवाइये। अगर उन में बाहस है तो बहस सदन का सामना करें। कलकत्ते के मैदान में विरोधी दलों पर आरोप लगाना प्रधान मंत्री

को शोभा नहीं देता। जो मामला सदन में उठाया जाता है उस का खंडन सदन में होना चाहिये। मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जब तक आप इस पर बाद विवाद की इजाजत नहीं देंगे तब तक यह शांत नहीं होगा। किसी न किसी रूप में यह मामला हर दम उठेगा।

MR. SPEAKER : This matter somehow comes up every day. You come prepared for it every day ; I also come prepared for it every day. This is going on for the last one week. Some issues are raised ; they are the same issues. Same type of answers are given. Everything is repeated. I made it clear in the beginning. I asked him about it ; he said, no allegations, only explanation. I asked him whether he wanted the Prime Minister to make a statement ; he said, no. About allegation, that is deleted. (Interruptions) Shri Piloo Mody has a big voice which submerges my voice. The very first day I said this. Don't get up abruptly without anything on the Agenda or without any intimation to me in advance. This has been going on since the last few days.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : Not without intimation.

MR. SPEAKER : Without Motion.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPADEE : There was the adjournment motion.

MR. SPEAKER : Adjournment motion cannot stand when facts are disputed.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPADEE : You did not ask them to make a statement. Let them state the facts.

MR. SPEAKER : I have no objection to fix some time....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Tomorrow.

SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA : We have demanded a discussion.

MR. SPEAKER : After full six day's repetition, let hon. Members kindly come forward with some motion. Let them not

get up abruptly and bring forward everything..

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** Here is the motion which I have already tabled.

**MR. SPEAKER :** The Business Advisory Committee should meet and find out time for it. I have no objection against it.

**SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA :** Please call an emergent meeting of the Business Advisory Committee.

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** A Daniel come to judgment !

**MR. SPEAKER :** I do not need this thumping. I know that the hon. Member may be ready with thumping now, but the next moment, he may be ready with what else I do not know. I know this.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** Let it be tomorrow.

**MR. SPEAKER :** The hon. Member knows the procedure. I cannot fix time. The Business Advisory Committee should meet and find out time.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** We can have a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee today.

**SHRI RAJ BAHADUR :** Government will have to bring forward a Bill for the amendment of the Constitution in regard to the matter about Kerala and that may also come up. There are other important measures also which may come up. So, it will be difficult to find time for this..

**SOME HON. MEMBERS :** Extend the session.

**SHRI RAJ BAHADUR :** We had promised the House that we would be bringing it forward during this session.

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** He may extend the session.

They do not want a discussion because they want to hide the heinous crimes which they are committing.

**SHRI RAJ BAHADUR :** We are not hiding anything. My hon. friends opposite are just concocting these things. The hon. Member's size and his voice cannot make that concoction a truth.

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** Let him not be afraid of this. After all, they have got their massive mandate. They can always go back to the people. (*Interruptions*)

**MR. SPEAKER :** Amongst all of us, I think the Speaker has the right to be listened to.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी: जहाँ तक साइज का सवाल है, बोई बहुत बड़ा फर्क नहीं है।

**MR. SPEAKER :** These gentlemen come to provoke the hon. Minister and they find it so easy to provoke him, and if he gets so easily provoked, then everything is lost.... The hon. Minister appears to get provoked so easily. Let him not be provoked so easily. Let him not lose his patience.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU :** You may be good enough to call a meeting of the Business Advisory Committee this afternoon.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :** Let it be tomorrow.

**MR. SPEAKER :** It may be tomorrow, any time that hon. Members like. For God's sake, let them save me from this headache.

श्री ज्योतिर्मय्य बोसु: पहली जून को हब सब मोग घर चले जायेंगे।

**MR. SPEAKER :** But we shall be coming back again afterwards.

श्री एल. एम. बनर्जी (कानपुर): अब तक हैड है सब तक एक तो रहेगा।

**MR. SPEAKER :** I accept Shri S. M. Banerjee's wise counsel.

12.28 hrs.

**UNTOUCHABILITY (OFFENCES)  
AMENDMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS  
PROVISION BILL—Contd.**

**PROF. S. NURUL HASAN :** I have already moved that the Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 and further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration.

This is a very simple but important Bill. The House would recall that in 1955, the Untouchability Offences Act was passed to give effect to the solemn declaration contained in the Constitution in article 17, according to which untouchability stood abolished. But inadequacies were felt in the existing Act and many hon. Members, in Parliament as well as others pointed out those inadequacies. The Government, therefore, decided to refer this matter as well as other matters to the Committee on Untouchability, Educational and Economic Development of Scheduled Castes, set up under the chairmanship of Shri Elayaperumal in 1965. The Elayaperumal Committee studied the problem of untouchability as well as the functioning or the working of the Untouchability Act, 1955 in detail, and made a number of recommendations. The purpose of those recommendations was to plug some of the existing loopholes and to make the penal provisions more stringent. Most of these recommendations have been accepted by Government.

There has been only one modification and I shall explain each of the major provisions of the Bill.

First of all is the question of amendment relating to the raising of the quantum of punishment under the Act. The second is making offences under the Act non-compoundable. Thirdly, bringing within the definition of 'place of public worship' privately-owned temples used as places of public worship and disqualifying persons convicted under the Act from contesting elections to the Central and State legislatures. Lastly, the utterances of public personalities justifying untouchability whether on historical or philosophical grounds are

also proposed to be brought within the purview of the law.

I am placing for the consideration of the House a small change Government have made in the Bill from the recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee. The Committee had recommended that in the case of the first offence, it should be punished by imprisonment of not less than 3 months but upto 6 months and also fine of not less than Rs. 50 but upto Rs. 200. While Government naturally agree that the punishment must be deterrent, it has been felt that if the punishment for the first offence is quite so deterrent, there may be a tendency on the part of courts to acquit the accused on the basis of some doubt or the other. Therefore, Government have proposed that in the case of the first offence the punishment may not be less than one month but upto six months—the maximum remains the same and the fine must be not less than Rs. 50, as was also recommended by the Committee, but upto Rs. 200, also in accordance with the Committee's recommendation. Hence the only difference is that in the case of the first offence, the minimum punishment recommended by the Committee as 3 months has been changed to 1 month in the Bill. I would like however to make it clear at the very beginning that Government do not wish to adopt any very rigid attitude in the matter and if it is the general feeling of the House that we should accept the Elayaperumal Committee's recommendation *in toto*, I would be prepared to do so.

I would request the House to give this matter expeditious consideration because the whole matter has been gone into in great detail by the Elayaperumal Committee. The report of the Committee was submitted in 1969 and for reasons best known to the House, it has not been possible for Government to bring forward legislation amending this very important Act. I move.

**MR. SPEAKER :** Motion moved :

"That the Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act 1955 and further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration."

\*SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER (Ausgram) Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to speak in Bengali

I, on behalf, of my party rise to support this Bill. Sir, we are going to celebrate the silver jubilee of our independence but the cases of offences of untouchability are very much prevalent even today. Untouchability has been proclaimed an offence in article 17 of the Constitution. In pursuance of the provisions of article 35 of the Constitution the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 was passed in this House. The Elayaperumal Committee was formed to study the offences committed under untouchability and to review the working of the Act. A discussion also had taken place in this House in 1970.

We speak of democracy, equality etc, but even today we find that about 8 crores of downtrodden people in our country are deprived of real freedom and equality. Even today we find that members of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the Adivasis are living as untouchables and like second class citizens and at many places they are treated worse than animals. It has been stated in this House many times that the members of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, the Harijans etc., are deprived of the fundamental rights that are available to other Indian citizens. In villages members of these communities are prohibited to draw water from the common ponds or wells. In many places like Kerala etc they are prohibited to worship in temples or places of public worship. It is not enough that the problem is left to be tackled by the Ministry of Education and Social Welfare alone. We will have to review this from different angles i.e. social, economic and political. All departments like Planning, Finance etc should be alive to this problem and then only there can be some betterment in the lot of these backward classes of people. Major portion of these 8 crores of downtrodden people are either landless labourers or share croppers or they work as industrial labour in the urban industrial areas. We have discussed in this House the sad incident where 30 adivasis were burnt alive in Purnea district of Bihar because they were involved in disputes over possession of land. This is the way how people of higher classes are committing atrocities on them. We have also discussed in this House the sale

of 'Adivasis girls and women in Orissa who are our sisters. This is regrettable condition of the so-called untouchables in our country. For this purpose mere legislation is not enough. We had already passed legislation against such offences as far back as 1955. But even today after 25 years of freedom and despite of all these legislations, untouchability is prevalent. The Elayaperumal Committee says, I quote, "The problem of untouchability is, therefore, inseparably linked up with the question of caste system and the social set up based on that. It is an indisputable fact that the caste system is the dominating social force in this country. Hence any attempt to remove untouchability without striking at the root of the caste system is simply to treat the outward symptoms of a disease or to draw a line on the surface of water. Untouchability cannot be abolished in this country unless the social order is changed by establishing new values, and for this purpose the values based on the Hindu religion must be changed first."

If further says "A clear realisation of this fact on the part of the people is the pre-condition for any steps towards a social reconstruction resulting in the removal of untouchability for Scheduled Castes in this country." Therefore Sir today we will have to go to the roots of this malady to solve this problem. Because we have not yet been able to eradicate the malady of untouchability in our country. Our prestige in the eyes of the outside world has suffered a blow. In the 'Patriot' newspaper of 11th September, 1971 it was published how the Harijans were treated in 'Hodal town' in Gurgaon. The news item says, 'The caste Hindus of Hodal town in Gurgaon district have been blocking all roads and streets leading to a Harijan locality in the town thus immobilising the residents completely for the last one month and have not been allowed to lodge a complaint with the authorities.'

Sir, the aggrieved people were not even allowed to lodge a complaint with the authorities." The Registrar General of India has carried out a survey to some extent but the Committee has gone to the extent of saying at page 46 they say: "However, the general impression which we gathered during our tours is that the figures, cannot be truly representative, which



[Shri C. K. Chandrapan] promoted the Committee to conduct a plot survey in one of the districts of UP." Therefore, Sir, this act should be given wide publicity to inform the people that practice of untouchability is an offence punishable under the law. Not only that, many officials in our police departments also are either ignorant or indifferent to this piece of legislation due to lack of sympathy and feelings for the backward classes of people. In that very report of the Committee it has been said, "I quote", "As regards the provisions of the Act, the figures are unsatisfactory. It is a matter of great regret that out of 30 only 2 police officials could tell something about the provisions of the act (the Untouchability Offences Act.)" This is the situation in which we find ourselves. We will have to examine the problem from economic, social and political points of view. The ruling party speak about ideals of Mahatma Gandhi but in his birth place, Gujarat, at places like Porbunder, Rajkot etc., untouchability is prevalent and people of lower castes are looked down upon. This evil is in existence in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Uttarpradesh, Tamil Nadu and various other States. I feel Sir, that more enactment of legislations is not adequate to counter and eradicate this evil. The people of higher castes should come forward to help its removal from the roots. There is need to create social consciousness among members of higher castes to tackle the problem. They should change their outlook otherwise this problem is not likely to be solved.

I would also like to recall, Sir, what Dr. Ambedkar, the author of our Constitution and a prominent leader of the people belonging to the Schedule Castes and other backward classes, said in 1936. He said, "Democracy is not merely a form of government. It is primarily a mode of associated living of conjoint communicated experience. It is essentially an attitude of respect and reverence towards fellowmen. Any objection to liberty? Few object to liberty in the sense of a right to face movement in the sense of a right to life and limb...Why not allow liberty to benefit by an effective and competent use of a person's power...? To object this kind of liberty is to perpetuate slavery. For slavery does not merely mean a legalised form of subjection. It means a state of society in which some men are

forced to accept from others the purposes which control their conduct."

Sir, even while supporting this Bill, I would like to refer to a news item that appeared in the Madras edition of the 'Hindu' dated 22.4.1972. It says, "Mr. O.P.D. Salappa complained that private educational institutions were not entertaining Scheduled cast students."

Sir, I only want to point out that Scheduled Caste students are prevented even from getting admission to schools in many parts of the country. Not only that Sir, an I.A.S. Scheduled Caste Officer at Jaipur was allotted a quater in an area habited by high caste people but he was not allowed to live there and was forced to shift to another residence in the Bhangi colony. This is the condition in which we are living. Sir, on the 16th February this year a news item appeared in the 'Hindu' (Madras edition). It says "There are 10 temples in Kasargot area in Cannanore district which are barred to Harijans." Therefore we see, Sir, that even now Harijans are debarred from entering and worshipping in temples in many places. It has also been seen at certain places that Harijan teachers though appointed by authorities were not allowed to conduct classes just because they were Harijans. They were relieved of their duties and were told not to come to the school but collect their pay when due. Sir, in section 7 of this amndent Bill it has been stated that "In section 8 of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, sub-section (1), after the words 'The Indian penal Code' the words, brackets and figures 'Or under the Untouchability Offences Act, 1956' shall be inserted."

MR. SPEAKER : He has taken double the time allotted to his party. He can take one or two minutes extra but not double the time. While speaking, once in a while he should look to the Chair as well.

SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Sir, here mention have been made about the dis-qualifications of candidate for election to the legislatures either of the Centre or the State. I will suggest Sir, that if a person is found guilty of offence under the Untouchability Act, he should be debarred from voting rights for a period of six years. His name should be removed from the

voters list for a period of six years. Our poet Tagore has said that 'he, whom you have left behind, is pulling you back and retarding your progress'. If such a big section of our population remain down-trodden and backward the entire nation will remain backward. It can never progress. It has been said that 'Man is the supreme and ultimate truth, there is nothing beyond Man'. In this spirit Sir I will appeal to all sections of people to come forward with open mind and help the cause of uplift of these down-trodden people. Those who have been denied human values and basic rights, nothing should be welcomed in our folds and all their rights should be restored to them. With these words, Sir, I conclude my speech.

\*SHRI P VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal) Mr Speaker Sir please allow me to speak in Telugu

MR SPEAKER Well I will give my ruling in Punjabi. I will speak to you in Punjabi.

SHRI P VENKATASUBBAIAH Sir the hon. Minister of Education has brought forward this Untouchability (Offences) Amendment and Miscellaneous Provisions Bill, 1972. When we discuss the subject pertaining to untouchability, we have to understand that there is a history behind this problem and that the future of millions of destitute peoples who have for ages been neglected by society and are outside the pale of society. For the emancipation of these unfortunate peoples the Father of the Nation devoted his life and energies and formulated many schemes. Instead of being called the low caste people or the cobblers of scoundrels, they have been christened as Harijans, children of God. Our history is replete with the heroic struggle launched on behalf of these people by various social welfare organisations and social workers. We cannot easily forget the historic Poona Fast undertaken by the Mahatma for securing to these unfortunate people social and economic justice. And we all know the memorable role played by Dr Ambedkar in this struggle. But what is tragic is that in spite of 25 years of our independence and in spite of the work of these great leaders in this behalf, this social inequality and injustice is still in our midst. We have heard

with shame of the incidents in Kanchikacherala in Andhra Pradesh and in other places like Gujarat and Maharashtra. Only a few cases come to our notice through the newspapers but there will be many more which are not reported about the atrocities committed against these poor unfortunate people. These incidents go to show how deep-seated is the prejudice against these so-called untouchables in our body politic. So the question we should ask ourselves is whether through legislation we can eradicate this deep-rooted malady. We assume that this prejudice is got evident in the cities. But as I said earlier this prejudice is in our blood. This is evident in our neglect of these people in the matter of allotment of house sites or even in the fundamental need of providing drinking water to them. On paper we have grandiose schemes for the betterment of their lot but for some reason we have so far not been able to translate these plans into tangible action. We have provided that adequate representation should be given to them on the Panchayat bodies, Zilla Parishads. But in point of fact, what is happening? The tenants of rich landlords or their stooges get elected to these bodies defeating the very purpose for which such reservations have been made for these backward classes. Because of the policy of the Government there is a suspicion in the minds of the people whether instead of eradicating this social evil we are perpetuating it. For instance you are allotting them house sites on the outskirts of the villages or towns leading to segregation of these low caste people from the so-called high caste people. By confining them to these specified areas you are shutting out the human and other channels of communication between these classes and the high caste people. Until you try to integrate these people socially with the other communities you will not wipe out the feeling of distinction between these two classes. And social justice will not be done by these unfortunate people. Till this integration takes place and till you secure to them a better status than now untouchability does not stand the ghost of a chance of being eradicated and your plans and programmes will not succeed.

In the matter of providing them educational opportunities and in the matter of their marriage also, the social consciousness should be aroused. There should be

\*The original speech was delivered in Telugu

fact come about a social revolution. Encourage inter-caste marriages with these people. Incentives like increased job opportunities for the persons contracting such marriages and for the off-spring of such union should be liberally offered. Sir, as matters stand now these people are discontented and disheartened. Even though reservation of jobs is there for them, people belonging to these classes are not appointed to these reserved posts on the plea that suitable and deserving persons of these communities are not forthcoming. Thus they are denied even the small percentage of opportunities provided to them. This is the bare fact. This is happening every day everywhere—be it in the Railways or other Government Departments. If this is how we are going to accept them as our social partners we can know how far we have progressed in our society.

There are so many social welfare organisations and Harijan Sevak Sanghs Govt. should encourage such social organisations. Not only in the public field but more so in the social field, the increasing need of non-official organisations is being felt and they should be encouraged by Government.

13 hrs.

Sir, 99% of our agricultural labour or landless labour are Harijans. So Government has to consider how best to improve the economic conditions of these people. They depend on the land they cultivate and in justice they should get all the surplus land that would be available after the ceilings of land are imposed. Otherwise there is the possibility of such lands being cornered by rich landlords. These landless Harijans will then be deprived of their rights and cheated out of their rights and due.

You may make the punishment for practising untouchability more and more stringent. But I would like to remind that this social scourge cannot be wished away by legislation only. Great leaders like Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Ambedkar have given their lives for the eradication of this social evil a stigma on the fair name of our country. If social justice is to be done by these people, there should be a sea-change not only socially but even in the attitude of the Govt,

In the matter of jobs, the Harijans should be posted as high officials like District Collectors. They should be provided jobs much more than the reserved quota for them. Then only there will be social transformation. Otherwise they would be deprived even of the rights guaranteed to them.

Sir, the progress of the plans and programmes meant for these backward classes has so far not been upto our expectations. Therefore, I request that a special committee should be appointed to go into the question of the implementation of these programmes and to identify the areas where there has been a shortfall in the targets. They should be empowered to evaluate the progress of these activities in each and every State.

With the problems of Harijans are closely connected those of the Adivasis in various parts of our country. These innocent people have also been neglected by us so far. As a result of this neglect, they have fallen a prey to the philosophy of violence. Whenever the neglected find that through democratic processes and constitutional methods they cannot enforce their rights, they enforce them through violent means. Government should therefore see that these people are weaned away from the path of violence by restoring to them their rights and opportunities.

In conclusion I would re-iterate that if we want to integrate these Harijans into the mainstream of our society if we want to provide them social, political and economic equality, all of us, the Government and social welfare organisations should work for them and towards this end. At least then we would have in part atoned for our past neglect of these Harijans, the children of God.

SHRI B. S. BHAURA (Bhatinda) :  
Please permit me to speak in Punjabi.

MR. SPEAKER : You have not given notice. If this continues, then, there must be arrangement for all languages. If you speak in Punjabi, only yourself and myself will understand.

श्री मान सिंह भौरा: स्पीकर साहब, मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ...

अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिन्होंने इंग्लिश में एम० ए० किया किया हुआ है, उन्होंने भी अपनी भाषा में बोलना शुरू कर दिया है, होना यह चाहिये कि या तो हिन्दी में बोलें या इंग्लिश में बोलें।

श्री इसहाक सम्मली (अमरोहा): स्पीकर साहब, मैं आप की थोड़ी सी तबज्बह चाहता हूँ। जहाँ चार साउथ की जुवानों का इन्तजाम किया गया है, मेहरबानी कर के बाकी जुवानों का भी इन्तजाम कर दीजिये। हर एक की स्वाहिदा होती है कि वह अपनी मादरी-जुवान पे बात करे और उस की यह स्वाहिदा पूरी होनी चाहिये।

شری اسحاق سنگھلی - (امروہا) سپیکر صاحب  
میں آپ کی تھوڑی سی توجہ چاہتا ہوں  
جہاں چار ساؤتھ کی زبانوں کا انتظام کیا گیا ہے  
مہربانی کر کے باقی زبانوں کا بھی انتظام کر دیجیے  
ایکسا می خواہیں ہوتی ہے کہ وہ اپنی مائری  
زبان میں بات کرے۔ اور اس کی یہ خواہش  
پوری ہونی چاہیے۔

अध्यक्ष महोदय: ये भी पंजाबी-नुमा ही बोलेंगे।

श्री इसहाक सम्मली: ये दोनों जुवानें तो बहुत करीब हैं।

شری اسحاق سنگھلی -  
تو بہت قریب ہیں۔  
بہر دونوں زبانیں

श्री मान सिंह भौरा: मैं भ्रज कर रहा था कि यह बिल बहुत पहले धाना चाहिये था।

मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा है कि इन्होंने कमेटी की सिफारिश में भी तबदीली कर दी है, सजा को घटा दिया है, मैं समझता हूँ कि यह तबदीली नहीं होनी चाहिये थी। जब यह बिल पहले बना था, उस वकन के हालात में और अब के हालात में बहुत फर्क है। हमें चाहिये था कि उसी वकत जब यह बिल बना था, उस को इम्प्लीमेंट करने के लिये कोई मशीनरी कायम करते, लेकिन अफमोम की बात है पिछले 25 सालों से हम देख रहे हैं कि हरिजन को उसी तरह से दुत्कारा जा रहा है, उसी तरह का मुलूक उस के साथ हो रहा है। इस लिये कि हम ने इस बीच बातें बहुत की हैं, लेकिन उस की इकानामिक कन्डी-शनज़ को सुधारने का जो काम होना चाहिये था, वह नहीं हुआ।

हमारे पास रिपोर्टें आती हैं—सारे हिन्दुस्तान में कोई भी ऐसा सूबा नहीं है जहाँ पर ऐसी बार-दाते न हुई हो। कहीं पर किसी को जला दिया गया, किसी को बलि दे दिया गया, किसी की बेइज्जती की गई। हमारे पंजाब में जिस वकत से खेत-मजदूरों और गरीब लोगों में एकता पैदा होनी शुरू हुई, उन्होंने महसूस किया कि उन के साथ अच्छा मुलूक हो, उसी समय से दूसरी तरफ़ जो नॅण्ड-लाईंस थे, जो बड़े लोग थे, उन्होंने उन को तंग करना शुरू कर दिया, तरह तरह के बाइ-कट पंजाब में हुए, उन को खेतों में नहीं जाने दिया जाता, घर से बाहर निकलने नहीं दिया जाता, जो शाह-राह है, पब्लिक प्लेसज़ हे, वहाँ, भी नहीं जाने दिया जाता—यह आप के सामने है।

पिछली दफ़ा आपने अखबारों में पढ़ा होगा तीन हरिजन लड़कियों को कुबों में फँक दिया गया। जब उस की रिपोर्ट हुई और हम ने भी वहाँ पर आवाज़ बुलन्द की कि इस की पड़ताल करें, तो नतीजा क्या निकला—जो एस० पी० पुलिस थे, उन्होंने रिपोर्ट दी कि तीनों लड़कियों ने ससाइड कर लिया है। क्या कोई मान सकता

[श्री भान सिंह भोरा]

है कि तीनों मजदूरिया इक्ट्ठी कू ए मे कूद गईं या तीनों ने सूमाइड कर लिया। एस०पी० वहा उन के साथ मिल कर ऐसी बातें करवाते हैं, पुलिस वाले उन लोगों के साथ हैं जो ऐसी कार्यवाहिया करते हैं। हमारे पास ऐसी मिसालें हैं, जहां पुलिस वालों ने रिपोर्ट तक नहीं लिखी। अगर वे पुलिस वालों के पास जाते हैं और कहते हैं कि इन के खिलाफ कैसे रजिस्टर होना चाहिये, तो पुलिस वाले बेस ही रजिस्टर नहीं करते, उल्टा शिकायत करने वाले को पीट देते हैं, तग करने हैं। हमारे यहाँ तो ऐसा भी भी चलना है कि जो शेडयूल्ड कास्ट के अफसर लोग हैं, पुलिस में हैं, वहाँ वे आई०जी० उन के साथ भी उम्मी तरह से ट्रीट करते हैं। सगरेर जिले का जो एस०पी० या पिछली दफा पब्लिक मे आई०जी० ने उम को इन्टीमिडेट किया। जहाँ इस तरह के अफसर मौजूद हों। मैं नहीं समझता कि आप ऐसा कानून बना कर इस को रोक सकेंगे। आप के पास लिस्ट होगी, पिछले 25 सालों में आप देखिये कितने कैसेज आप के इस कानून के तहत रजिस्टर हुए, कितनों को सजा मिली। शायद दो हजार में ज्यादा सारे हिन्दुस्तान में ऐसे केसेज नहीं होंगे। हर रोज अखबारों में आता है—कैसेज होते हैं, अगर रजिस्टर हो जाय तो परमू नहीं करते, पुलिसवाले उन के साथ मिल जाते हैं।

इस लिये जो बेमिक चीज है, उस को सब से पहले लेना चाहिए—जब तक आप उन की कन्डीशन को नहीं सुधारेंगे तब तक आप उन के अन्दर तबदीली नहीं लायेंगे, तब तक कुछ नहीं होगा। आज कल लैड रिफार्म की बातें हो रही हैं। हम ने देखा है कि जो जागीरदार हैं, उन्होंने भी अपनी एक नाबी क्रियेट कर ली है—उन लोगों के खिलाफ जो लैड रिफार्म के हक में हैं। वे अभी से हरिजन और लैड-लेस लोगों को तंग करने के प्लान बना रहे हैं और आप उन को रोक नहीं सकते। अगर पंजाब

जैसी हालत कायम रही तो मैं आप को बार्निंग देता हूँ कि हरिजनों की इस से भी ज्यादा बुरी हालत होगी और आप उस को रोक नहीं सकेंगे, क्योंकि वहाँ के लैड-साइंस, जिन के पास जमीन निकलती है, उन्होंने हरिजनों को अभी से तंग करना शुरू कर दिया है। क्योंकि जमीन किसको मिलनी है? चाहे आप दे या न दें, कोई थोड़ी बात भी बचे ता वे तंग करना शुरू कर देते हैं। यह जो कानून आप ला रहे हैं उसमें जमीन नहीं निकलेगी। लैडलेस हरिजन जो हैं उनके पास भी अगर जमीन हो जाये तो उनके सोशल स्टैंडर्स में फर्क पड़ जायेगा। आज उनका वायकाट इसीलिए होता है कि उनके पास कुछ है नहीं। वे कहते हैं कि आबो हमारे खेत में नेकिन अगर उनके पास भी जमीन हो तो वे क्यों जायें। इसी तरह से नोकर्गियों में भी कहीं पर उनका कोटा पूरा नहीं होता है। आपके जो अफिसर्स हैं उनका हरिजनों की तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं है। वे कभी नहीं चाहेंगे कि कोई हरिजन आकर उनका अफसर बने। उल्टे दफ्तरो में बैठकर वे लोग यह प्रचार करते हैं कि हरिजनों को सरकार इनना देती है। हरिजनों क्या मिलता है, हमको तो कुछ पता नहीं। हरिजनों को कानून कुछ भी नहीं देता है। हरिजनों के पास घर नहीं है। उनके पास कोई एजुकेशनल फॅसिलिटीज भी नहीं है। आप जो स्ट्राइपेन्ड देते हैं उसकी हालत यह है कि स्टूडेंट साल भर पढ़ता रहे तो जनवरी में आप उसको स्ट्राइपेन्ड देते हैं। फिर साल भर वह अपना खर्च कहा से चलाये? इसके अलावा 6 रुपये आप बसबी जमात के लिए देते हैं तो 6 रुपये में क्या होगा? आपने यह नहीं देखा कि महंगाई कितनी बढ़ गई है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय जो बिल है कुछ उस पर भी बोलिए।

श्री भान सिंह भोरा: इसीलिए मैं कहता हूँ कि इसमें सुधार होना चाहिए। आप भी कानून

बनाने जा रहे हैं उनका मैं ने समर्थन किया है क्योंकि यह कुछ अच्छी बात हो रही है लेकिन यह कानून कुछ नहीं करेगा जब तक कि इस पर प्रमल करने के लिए कमेटीज नहीं बनाते। मेरा सुझाव है कि स्टेट लेविज पर पोलिटिकल कमेटीज होनी चाहिए जोकि इसको इम्प्लीमेंट करवायें। जिस एरिया में वारदात हो, जहां कोई ऐसा केस हो जाये वहां जो पुलिस आफिसर हो उसको जिम्मेदार ठहराया जाना चाहिए वरना आप इसको चैक नहीं कर सकते हैं। मैं समझता हूं कमेटीज बनाकर इस कानून को इम्प्लीमेंट करवाना चाहिए।

इसके प्रलाभा मापने देखा होगा, बहुत सारी मिसालें हमारे सामने आती हैं कि लोकल तौर पर जो आफिसर्स हैं वह शेड्यूलड कस्ट्स के साथ नहीं होते हैं। आप मेन्टल लेविज पर कोई आठ पाटोंज पोलिटिकल पाटों बन द्ये जो समय समय पर देखें कि कोई कम्पेन्ट्स तो नहीं आती हैं। अगर कोई कम्पेन्ट्स आयें तो प्रान दि स्पाट जाकर उनको देख लिया जाये। मैं समझता हूं आप इस पर जरूर विचार करेंगे। जो आपने बिल बनाया है और जो इसमें कहा है कि पार्लमेन्ट के लिए नहीं लड़ेंगे तो जो नीचे नंग किया जाता है, पार्लमेन्ट में तो लड़ना ही नहीं है, हमें तो वही काम करना है इसलिए जरा उधर भी देखिए। पार्लमेन्ट और असेम्बली के लिए लड़ने वाले तो बहुत कम होंगे लेकिन नीचे जो तंग करते हैं, इन्टीमिडेट करते हैं उसकी तरफ भी आप देखिए और उसके लिए कोई कानून बनाइये। और प्रकराचार्य वगैरह जो प्रचार करते हैं उसके लिए भी कानून बनाइये। थिम्मा रेड्डी जो एक मिनिस्टर थे उन्होंने खुलकर खुलना किया लेकिन आज तक उस पर क्या हुआ है? इसको भी आप देख लीजिए। यह कानून अच्छा है लेकिन जब तक इसके इम्प्लीमेंटेशन के लिए आप कमेटीज नहीं बनायेंगे तब तक इसका इम्प्लीमेंटेशन नहीं हो सकेगा और न कोई फायदा हो सकेगा।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं आशा करता हूं कि इन बातों की तरफ भी ध्यान दिया जायेगा

श्री भूलबन्ध डागा (पाली) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, महारमा गांधी ने 28 मई, 1933 को कहा था अस्पृश्यता के साथ संग्राम एक धार्मिक संग्राम है। यह सामाजिक कलंक नहीं है। इससे लड़ना मेरा धर्म है। नुरुल हसन साहब ने केवल भ्रान्णु पोंछने के लिए एक बात कर दी है कि कम से कम इतना सजा दी जायेगी। ऐसा मान्य होता है सजा बढ़ कर ही हमने बहुत बड़ा कल्याण कर दिया है। जब राज्य सरकारों अपनी भूल को सुधार नहीं सकती है तो कभी कभी ऐक्ट में प्रमेन्मेंट कर देती है कि हमने सजा बढ़ा दी है, इससे लोगो में भय पैदा हो जायेगा। मैं समझता हूं इस प्रकार के कानून बनने से कोई लाभ नहीं होता है। अगर एक एक्ज्यूज्ड है, उससे एडमिशन कर लिया कि मैं ने यह गलती की है क्या फिर भी आप चाहते हैं कि उसको पूरी सजा दी जाये? एक आदमी कुसूर का एडमिशन कर लेता है, कहता है कि वह फर्स्ट आफेन्डर है लेकिन आप कहते हैं कि नहीं, आपको सजा एक महीने की मिलेगी। बिना कुछ कहे हुए, अनकडीशनली वह जज से कह रहा है कि मे एडमिट करता हूं, मुझे माफ करिए। आप कहते हैं।

"The judge should study the character and age of the offender, his early breeding, his education and environment, the circumstances under which he committed the offence, the object with which he committed it and other factors. The object of doing so is to acquaint the judge with the exact nature of the circumstances so that he may give a punishment which suits the circumstances".

तो मैं इसके पक्ष में नहीं हूं। मैं इसपक्ष में हूं कि चाहे आप मैजिस्ट्रेट सजा दो साल कर दीजिए लेकिन यह नहीं होना चाहिए कि तुम को एक महीने से कम सजा नहीं मिलेगी।

श्री आर० डी० भंडारे (बम्बई मध्य). यह सोशल अफेन्स के बारे में है।

श्री भूलचन्द डागा अगर कोई व्यक्ति पहली बार गलती करता है तो भी आप कहते हैं कि उसको एक महीने से कम की सजा नहीं दी जायेगी। मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर कोई अफेन्स करता है और उसका एडमिशन कर रहा है तो फिर आप सारे सर्कम्सटोसेज को देखकर क्या करेंगे। आप कहते हैं कि यह कम्पलसरी है एक है, एक महीने की सजा मिलनी चाहिए।

श्री के० एस० खावडा (पाटना) जब खून होता है तो क्या होता है ?

श्री भूलचन्द डागा उसमें भी सर्कम्सटोसेज देखी जाती है। किसी केस में फाँसी की सजा होती है और किसी में लाइफ इम्प्रजनेमेन्ट होता है। कहीं पर 302 का 304 बन जाना है। मेरा कहना है कि आप मैनडेट्री प्राबिजन क्यों बनाते हैं। सामाजिक सुधार के मामले में हमको भावना को देखना है। इस देश में तरह तरह के धर्म, तरह तरह के रीति रिवाज और कड़िया हैं। इस देश में क्या ऐसा कानून जो आप बनाना चाहते हैं उससे सुधार आ जायेगा ? आपका मकसद क्या है ? मैं समझता हूँ इस मामले में गरीबी सबसे बड़ा पाप है। पैसे वाले को सभी पूछते हैं। आठकल सारी कीमत पैसे की ही है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, हमेशा ही ऐसा रहा है।

श्री भूलचन्द डागा, जब आप गरीबी मिटा नहीं सकते...

श्री टी० सोहन लाल (करीलबाग): किसी हरिजन के घर में ब्राह्मणी बर्तन नहीं माँज सकती चाहे पाँच सौ रुपए ही क्यों न दिए जायें। ... (व्यवधान) ...

श्री भूलचन्द डागा अध्यक्ष महोदय, जिसने सरकारी अफसर है वे, जो चौथी क्लास के कर्मचारी है हजारों लाखों की सख्या में, उनसे आज भी अपने घरों में काम लेते हैं। मैं कई बार कह चुका हूँ क्या ऐसा कानून आप बना सकते हैं जिसके अन्तर्गत वे बड़े बड़े सरकारी अधिकारी या मन्त्रिगण अपने घरों में सिवाय अनुसूचित जाति के लोगों को और किसी को नहीं रखेंगे और उनमें ही काम लेंगे ? आप ऐसा मैनडेटरी प्रोजेक्शन बनाइये जो वास्तव में एक क्रान्तिकारी कदम होगा। जो गरीब आदमी है, जिस को आप अस्पृश्य कहते हैं मैं ने हमेशा कहा है कि जो कनेक्शन है आई० ए० एस० अधिकारी है वह अपने घरों में काम करने के लिये अनुसूचित जातियों के लड़कों को छोड़ कर दूसरी जाती के लोगों को ही रखें लेकिन ऐसा नहीं करेंगे। जो टीकाधारी अधिकारी है उन के घरों में जो चतुर्थ श्रेणी के कर्मचारी है वह सवर्ण ही होते हैं। इस बारे में आप कोई भी क्रान्तिकारी कदम नहीं उठा सके हैं। यह जो बिल आप लाये है इस के लिये कल अखबारों में आ जायगा कि मंत्री महोदय ने एक बड़ा क्रान्तिकारी कदम उठाया है सजा बड़ा कर। लेकिन इससे वह काम नहीं होगा तो आप करना चाहते हैं। आप बताइये कि पहले जितने आफेन्स हुए हैं उन में कितनों को सजा हुई और जिन को सजायें हुई हैं क्या उन के बारे में हाई कोर्ट या सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अपने किसी भी जजमेंट में यह कहा है कि सजा बढ़ाने से लाभ होगा ? मेरा कहना है कि सुधार का जो कदम है वह कानून से नहीं हो सकता है।

मुझ से पहले बक्ता ने भी कहा था कि आप जीवन में सुधार लाने के लिये सक्ती से काम लेना चाहते हैं। आप का यह ध्यान है कि अगर किसी को रिफॉर्स करना है तो उस के लिये कड़ी सजा होनी चाहिये। मैं इस पक्ष का



नहीं हूँ। मेरा कहना है कि उस के लिये ध्राप का एक चुनाव होना चाहिये। लेकिन नहीं, ध्राप कहते हैं कि सुधार के लिये सजा जरूरी है। यह गलत तरीका है। सजा अगर आप को बेनी ही है तो ब्लैक मार्केटिंग्स, मम-गलर्स और रिश्-वत लेने वालों को सजा दीजिये। आप ने यहां कह दिया कि अगर कोई गुनाह करता है तो उस को कड़ी सजा दी जायेगी। जब कि दुनिया की पद्धति यह है कि पहले ओफेंस में आदमी को छोड़ा जाता है, किसी आदमी को सजा देने के पहले उसको सुधारने का मौका दिया जाता है। लेकिन यहां ध्राप ने मैनडेटरी प्रोबेशन बना दिया है कि एक महीने में कम की सजा नहीं होगी। मेरा कहना है कि मैक्सिमम पनिशमेंट ध्राप कितना ही रखें, लेकिन डिस्क्रिशन जज पर छोड़ दें। वह चाहे तो एक दिन की सजा दे दे, या एक रुपया या एक पाई का जुर्माना कर दे। अगर एक पैसे का भी जुर्माना हुआ है तो वह भी पनिशमेंट हो है। लेकिन ऐसा न कर के ध्राप ने पनिशमेंट को भी अपने अधिकार में ले लिया है। पनिशमेंट कितना हो यह काम ध्राप जज पर छोड़ दीजिये। आई० पी० सी० में कही यह नहीं लिखा है कि 323 में दो साल तक सजा होगी। लेकिन 323 के मुकदमों में एक दिन से ज्यादा हो यह कही नहीं है। If it is one day, it may be extended up to two इसलिये मैं ने इस बात को रखा कि सुधार के मामले में आप का जो मनोवैज्ञानिक तरीका है वह तरीका सही नहीं है।

सब से बड़ी बात तो यह है कि ध्राप गरीबी को समाप्त करने के लिये मजबूत कदम उठाइये। आपने बहुत सा पैसा योजनाओं में इन के लिये खर्चा है। और इसलिये जो सुधार करना चाहते हैं वह सुधार होता नहीं है। इसलिये मेरी राय में जिस को आप क्रान्तिकारी कदम कहते हैं वह क्रान्तिकारी नहीं है। मैं इस को क्रान्तिकारी कानून कहने के लिये तैयार नहीं हूँ।

एक माननीय सदस्य: कितना टाइम बीर है ?

MR. SPEAKER : Nine or 10 minutes for each at the most. Sometimes Members grab some time and the next Member has to suffer because of that.

\*SHRI J. M. GOWDER (Nilgiris): Hon. Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to say a few words on the Untouchability (Offences) Amendment and Miscellaneous Provision Bill, 1972 on behalf of my party, the Dravide Munnetra Kazhagam.

Sir, the provisions of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 are sought to be amended through this Bill. In spite of the fact that this amending Bill has been brought before this House after a lapse of so many years, still there are many lacunae and loopholes in the statute that are to be removed and plugged. In the legislation formulated by the Government which swear solemnly by the establishment of a secular state in the country you find the word 'religion'. Is this in consonance with the professions of the ruling party? This is what you come across in the original Act :

"Whoever on the ground of "untouchability" prevents any person—

- (a) from entering any place or public worship which is open to other persons professing the same religion or belonging to the same religious denomination or any section thereof...

If untouchability is practised in respect or a person professing the same religion or belonging to the same religious denomination or any section thereof by a section belonging to that religion, then there is penal provision under this Act. I am sure, Sir, you will agree with me that in a secular State the people belonging to different religions should have the freedom to worship wherever they want. For example, if a section of Hindu religious faith prevents another section from entering a place of public worship on the ground that that section belongs to scheduled caste, then the penal provision is attracted, as the practice



of untouchability is an offence. If you extend this a little further, what happens if non-Christians or non muslims are prevented from entering the place of public worship of Christians and Muslims? This is not an offence. Only when such discrimination is practised with the express sanction of laws, the efficacious penal provisions for eradication of untouchability lose their intrinsic value. I have advanced this argument to show that if the Government are keen to have the word 'religion' in such a legislation, then naturally there cannot be any possibility of having a secular state in the country. You will agree with me that religion is the bed rock of casteism and bigotry that are bedevilling the entire country. Unless 'religion' is deprived of its legal backing you cannot successfully implement any legislation for the removal of untouchability.

I have no hesitation in saying that the Government are to be blamed for the perpetuation of untouchability in the country because they do not seem to plug the loopholes in the Act. These loopholes are the breeding ground for the practice of untouchability in the country. To whichever religious faith a place of public worship may belong, there should not be any practice of untouchability and here there is no need for mentioning 'religion' in the Act.

13 27 hrs

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I am proud to say that the Tamil Nadu Government are occupying a premier place in the country so far as removal of untouchability is concerned. That is because the Government of Tamil Nadu have taken certain pioneering steps in this direction. For centuries the people belonging to a particular community could alone become the priests in the temples. This profession had been the exclusive prerogative of a certain section of the society. Now, the D M K Government has passed an Act under which anyone can become the *archaka* (priest) in a temple. Even a harijan can hope to become an *archaka* in a temple. You will agree with me, Sir, that this laudable legislation is worthy of emulation by

other States and in fact the Central Government should give a lead in this direction. During the five year period of administration the D M K Government have enacted such progressive measures. Now the Congress Party is in power at the Centre and also in most of the States. I do not think it will be impossible for the ruling party to enact such meaningful and progressive measures throughout the country. Similarly, in the matter of inter caste marriages to which a reference was made by the speakers who preceded me, the Government of Tamil Nadu are awarding Gold Medals. The people contracting inter caste marriages with Harijan community are given incentives and encouragement. I wonder why other State Government should not take the cue from the Tamil Nadu Government for the removal of untouchability. The Central Government seem to be concentrating all their energies in political manipulations and in political expediences. The ruling party is more interested in winning elections and in toppling the Opposition Governments in the States than in implementing the Acts for the removal of untouchability and in encouraging inter caste marriages with Harijan community. I would like to ask which of the Central Ministers is giving serious thought to remove untouchability and to provide ways and means for the upliftment of scheduled castes.

During 1968 the number of untouchability offences was 203. There were only 203 offences when the number of scheduled caste people is about 11 crores. Out of this, in 35 cases there was conviction and there was acquittal in 52 cases. In 39 cases, reconciliation was reached outside the court. 77 cases were reported to be pending. From this it is clear as to how many cases of offences are brought to the notice of the authorities. Firstly, the Harijan against whom this offence has been committed has no courage to approach a court. Secondly, he has no money to spend on such a case. Thirdly, after contesting a case against a caste Hindu, how is he going to live in the midst of a community predominated by caste Hindus after the case is disposed of in his favour? The very fact that the scheduled castes are economically at the lowest rung of our society is resulting in the perpetuation of untouchability in our country. Even if a Central Minister belongs to the

scheduled caste, he is not known by that factor. The power that is vested in him makes him known better throughout the country. Only when the economic status of the Harijans and the Scheduled castes is improved, these people will gain respect in the society. I would like to know what concrete steps have been taken for their economic upliftment. The father of our nation, Mahatma Gandhi, two and half decades ago gave the clarion call to the nation that untouchability should be done with immediately. What has been done by the Government to translate his vision into action? I am sorry to repeat that the energies of the Government are getting dissipated in other directions, but not in the removal of untouchability.

I commend this amending Bill which seeks to enhance the punishment. But, what steps have been taken to give free legal aid to the Harijans who are the target of such offences? It is common knowledge that these people have no resources to fight in a court of law. Unless they are given free legal aid, how are they going to take advantage of the provisions of this Act? If the Government want to implement this Act vigorously, there must be a provision in this very Act, giving free legal aid to the Harijans and the Scheduled Castes, who are the harassed victims of other sections of our society. The Elayaperumal Committee has made many valuable suggestions. The hon. Minister himself stated that though this Committee had recommended three months of imprisonment the Government have brought it down to one month in this amending Bill, as if the practice of untouchability is coming to an end in our country.

I regret to point out that this Act has not yet been made available in regional languages. The police, the magistrates and the revenue officers are not fully acquainted with the provisions of this Act. They are the people to implement this Act. I would like to suggest that in the syllabus of the training schools for Police, for Magistrates and for Revenue Officers, the Untouchability Offences Act should get a prominent place so that the concerned people get an intimate knowledge about the provisions.

You know, Sir, that it is impossible for the Harijans to go to a First-Class Magistrate's court situated far away from their place. They have neither conveyance facility nor they have money to spend on such visits. I would suggest that mobile courts should be established throughout the country for the purpose of implementing this Act vigorously. I would also like to point out that adequate protection should be given to the people belonging to scheduled caste and harijan community, who take courage in their hands to report such offences committed by caste-Hindus. I would also stress the need for raising the standard of living of these people, which will ensure them a place of honour in our society and not the place of exploitation. The Government cannot eradicate untouchability solely with the assistance of this Act providing punishment.

I came across a report that in Chandigarh there are separate dharamshalas and cremation grounds for scheduled caste people. While they are alive they are ill-treated, harassed and victimised. But after their death also, they should be burnt or buried in a separate cremation ground. I would like to know why this kind of a thing should not be made an offence under this Act. I would ask of the Minister as to what action has been taken by the Government against the people like Puri Shankracharya who want to perpetuate untouchability in the country.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: This is provided for in the Bill by which such things will be taken care of.

SHRI J. M. GOWDER: What happened to the case against Puri Shankracharya? Before I conclude, I would appeal to the hon. Minister that the lacunae and the loopholes in the legislation meant for the removal of untouchability are removed. This kind of amending Bill should not be taken advantage of by the ruling party to get the votes of scheduled caste people. The provisions of the Bill should be implemented mainly in the interest of removing untouchability and in the interest of uplifting the economic interests of people belonging to scheduled castes.

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह (शुभू) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं इस अमेरिंग विधेयक का समर्थन करता हूँ। अस्पृश्यता किसी भी समाज के लिए कलंक है। हमारा देश अनेक जातियों का समूह है, अनेक धर्मों और बर्गों का समूह है। हमारे यहां अस्पृश्यता सदियों से रहती आई है। उसका एक खास कारण वह वर्ण-व्यवस्था भी थी जिसे हमारे पूर्वजों ने कायम किया था। यदि हम अस्पृश्यता का निवारण करना चाहते हैं और अछूतों को उठाना चाहते हैं तो हमें अतीत की तरफ भी देखना पड़ेगा और उस वर्ण-व्यवस्था को खत्म करना पड़ेगा। वर्ण-व्यवस्था और जाति-व्यवस्था यह दो ही चीजें हैं जो इस बीमारी की जड़ हैं।

हम देखते हैं कि हमारे यहां चार वर्ण हैं। चारों वर्णों में से जो चौथा वर्ण है उसके लोगों को हम अछूत मानते हैं।

श्री आर. डी. मंडारे आप सब शूद्र हैं।

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह इन चार वर्णों में से जो शूद्र थे उनकी हम अनटचबल मानते आये हैं। एक समय ऐसा था जब हम शूद्रों को बिल्कुल अपवित्र मानते थे। समाज के दूसरे तीन वर्ण के लोग अपने ऊपर उनकी छाया भी नहीं पड़ने देते हैं। लेकिन शूद्रों में भी कुछ जानिया ऐसी थीं जिनकी एकान्तिक कठिनाई कुछ ठीक हो गई और दूसरे वर्ण के लोग उनके कुछ निकट जाने लगे। उन लोगों का छूना उनका निषिद्ध नहीं था जितना पहले था। यह तो हुई वर्ण व्यवस्था की बात। अब जरा जाति-व्यवस्था की तरफ देखिये।

आज स्वर्ण लोगो में ही शूद्र को न छूने की बीमारी है, वह कहना सही नहीं है। हम देखते हैं कि आज अछूत अछूत को ही छूना ठीक नहीं समझता। आज एक लटिक रेहगड़ को छूना पसन्द नहीं करता, रेहगड़ चमार को छूना पसन्द

नहीं करता, चमार भंगो को छूना पसन्द नहीं करता। यह किसी एक वर्ग में ही नहीं है।

श्री आर. डी. मंडारे. कारण क्या है? पानी ऊपर से नीचे आता है।

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह. इसलिए मैं कहता हूँ कि इस जड़ को खत्म करना होगा। वर्ण व्यवस्था को खत्म करना होगा, जातीयता को खत्म करना होगा। जाति प्रथा जब तक खत्म नहीं होगी तब तक हम बीमारी से हम प्रसित रहेंगे। ड्रास्टिक चेज हमें लाना होगा। बहुत बड़े पैमाने पर और सही ढंग से अगर हम करना चाहें तो आज हम बहुत कुछ कर सकत हैं। सर्विसिस में हमने रिजर्वेशन रखा है। शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट और ट्राइब्स आदि के लिए हमने व्यवस्था की है। हम दूसरा प्रावधान भी रख सकते हैं। ऐसे प्रावधान भी हम रख सकते हैं कि जो भी सर्विस में आएगा उसको अछूत की लडकी के साथ शादी करनी पड़ेगी। इसको यदि आप करेंगे तो सर्विस में से तो कम से कम आप इसको मिटा देंगे ..

एक माननीय सदस्य वाजपेयी जी अभी बेंचलर हैं।

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह ट्रास्टिक चेज आपको साने पड़ेंगे।

अछूतों की जो बीमारी है, वह इकोनोमिक भी है। बेंचर्ड क्लासिस, शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स, शैड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के जो लोग हैं उनकी माली हालत अच्छी नहीं है। आपने इसके लिए प्रयत्न तो बहुत किए हैं लेकिन जितना आप उनकी रिश्तियों को सुधारना चाहते थे उतना सुधार नहीं पाए हैं। मैं कोई आक्षेप करना नहीं चाहता, किसी के सम्मान पर चोट करना नहीं चाहता। यहां इस सदन में सभी प्रकार के माननीय सदस्य हैं। उनमें कोई भेदभाव नहीं है, हम सभी यहां एक साथ बैठ कर चाय पीते हैं, पानी पीते हैं, एक दूसरे के

घर जाते हैं, वे हमारे घर आते हैं और हम उनके घर जाते हैं लेकिन अब हम इस फील्ड से बाहर जाते हैं, उनके बीच जाते हैं जिनकी माली हालत अच्छी नहीं है, हरिजन के घर जाते हैं जिसका घर गन्दा है, परिवार गंदा रहना है मजबूरी के कारण, वहाँ यह दृश्य हम को देखने को नहीं मिलता है। इस वास्ते जब तक आप उनकी इकोनॉमिक हालत को नहीं सुधारेंगे तब तक यह काम ठीक नहीं होगा। मैं मानता हूँ कि शूद्र कहलाने में हमें दुख नहीं है, गर्व होना चाहिये। कुछ लोगों का जमीन पर अधिकार हो गया या वे सविम में चने गए जिसकी वजह से उनकी माली हालत अच्छी हो गई और वे दूसरे लोगों से हिलने मिलने लग गए। लेकिन जो दूसरे पिछड़े हुए लोग हैं, उनकी माली हालत आप सुधारें। तभी आपको इस बीमारी से छुटकारा मिल सकेगा। इसी वास्ते मैंने इंटरकास्ट मैरिज का सुझाव दिया है। अछूत ही इस बीमारी से ग्रसित हो, ऐसी बात नहीं है। आज जात बिरादरी चलती है। जब शादी ब्याह की बात चलती है तो जाट जाट के घर में शादी करने जाता है, ब्राह्मण ब्राह्मण के घर में, बनिया बनिये के घर में।

जब तक इस तरह की व्यवस्था रहेगी तब तक अस्पृश्यता की जो समस्या है इसका निवारण नहीं हो सकेगा। इस वास्ते इधर आपको ध्यान देना चाहिये। लिबरल लाज आपको बनाने चाहिये ताकि एक जाति दूसरी जाति के सम्पर्क में आए। ऐसा आपने किया तो इस मामले से हम कुछ सुधार कर सकेंगे।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Have you read the Bill ?

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH : Yes, Sir. I have read it. I have gone through it thoroughly.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are talking of inter-caste marriage and thinks like that.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH : I am going to the root cause

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What you say is something different from what is provided in the Bill,

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह . अनटचेबिलिटी आप मिटाना चाहते हैं। इसके वास्ते आपने ज्यादा कड़ी सजा का प्रावधान किया है, जुमनि की सजा का प्रावधान किया है। मैं मानता हूँ कि सजा से कुछ परसेटें, एक दो परसेट यह बीज एक सक्ती है लेकिन सजा रख देने मात्र से आप अनटचेबिलिटी को मिटाना चाहे तो आज तक न यह मिटी है और न ही आगे मिट सकेगी। आप अछूतों को अधिकार दे रहे हैं पूजा के स्थान पर जाने का अगर वह पूजा का स्थान किसी प्राइवेट भ्रादमी का भी है लेकिन जहाँ आम आदमी जाता है। क्या इससे हम अछूत को मिटा सकेंगे ? सजा आपने सख्त की है। लेकिन केवल सजा मात्र से जो हमारा उद्देश्य है वह प्राप्त नहीं हो सकता है। अस्पृश्यता के जो दूसरे कारण हैं उन कारणों में आपको जाना होगा और उनको भी आपको मिटाना होगा। केवल सख्त कानून बना देने से समस्या हल नहीं होगी। इस वास्ते आपको इसके रूट काज में जाना पड़ेगा। आपने सजा और जुमनि का जो सख्त प्रावधान रखा है उसका मैं स्वागत करता हूँ। लेकिन आपको देखना होगा कि आज में पहले भी कानून बनाए गये थे और तब आपने कितने इस प्रकार के लोगों को सजा दिलाई। अछूत वर्ग के लोग इतने पिछड़े हुए हैं कि दूसरे लोगों के मुकाबले में वे खड़े नहीं हो सकते हैं, अदालतों में उनका मुकाबला नहीं कर सकते हैं, अदालतों में जा नहीं सकते हैं, दूसरे लोग इनसे धृणा करते हैं, इनके साथ दुर्व्यवहार करते हैं। ये लोग उनसे डरते हैं...

श्री राम रतन शर्मा (बादा) : यह काय-निजेबल आफेंस है।

श्री शिवनाथ सिंह : यह ठीक है। कम्पा-उंडेबल भी आप इनको नहीं रखेंगे। लेकिन आप देखें कि कम्पाउंड करने के हजारों तरीके हुआ करते हैं और इनको हमें मर्डर तक के केसिस में देखा है। इस वास्ते मैं समझता हूँ कि आपको समाज की व्यवस्था को बदलना होगा। ऐसा करके ही आप कानून बना कर बड़ा परिवर्तन ला सकेंगे। सरकार इस स्थिति में है और वह इसको भी कर सकती है। वह बड़े बड़े कदम उठाकर वर्ण व्यवस्था को, जाति व्यवस्था को, छुआछूत की बीमारी को मिटा सकती है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह इस ओर ध्यान दे।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करता हूँ।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (ग्वालियर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह बिल इस बात का सबूत है कि पिछले 22 सालों में छुआछूत को समाप्त करने के हमारे प्रयत्न विफल हुए हैं और आज आवश्यकता इस बात की पड़ गई है कि इस बारे में जो कानून है उसे हम और कड़ा बनाएं। 1950 में जब हमारा संविधान बना तो उसके अनुच्छेद 17 में हमने घोषणा की थी इसके बारे में और उनको मैं उद्घाटन करना चाहता हूँ। हमने यह घोषणा की थी :

अस्पृश्यता का अन्त किया जाता है और उसका किसी भी रूप में आचरण विषिद्ध किया जाता है। अस्पृश्यता से उपजी किसी नियोग्यता को लागू करना अपराध होगा जो विधि के अनुसार दंडनीय होगा।

संविधान के निर्माताओं ने छुआछूत को समाप्त घोषित कर दिया लेकिन घोषणा मात्र से छुआछूत समाप्त नहीं हुई। उसकी समाप्ति के लिए कानून भी बनाया गया। लेकिन आज वह कानून भी अपर्याप्त दिखाई देता है। मंत्री

महोदय से मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक जो कानून था उसके अन्तर्गत सारे देश में पिछले वर्षों में कितने लोगों के खिलाफ छुआछूत का आचरण करने के अपराध को ले कर मुकदमे चले, कितने लोग ऐसे हैं जिन को उन मुकदमों में सजा हुई? क्या यह सच नहीं है कि इस तरह के मुकदमों को अदालतों में साबित करना बहुत मुश्किल होता है? अस्पृश्यता एक दंडनीय अपराध है। पुलिस को किमी शिकायत की प्रतिज्ञा करने की आवश्यकता नहीं है। पुलिस स्वयं हस्तक्षेप कर सकती है। लेकिन जिस पुलिस को हस्तक्षेप करना है उस पुलिस में भी छुआछूत पर विश्वास करने वाले लोग रहते हैं, जिन अदालतों में ये मुकदमे जाते हैं वहां भी न्याय करने वाले ऐसे व्यक्ति मौजूद हैं जिनके संस्कारों में अस्पृश्यता घुली हुई है। यही कारण है कि कानून इस बुराई का निर्मूलन नहीं कर सका। आप कानून के अन्तर्गत सजा को कड़ा करें, इससे किसी का विरोध नहीं हो सकता है। मैं नहीं समझता हूँ कि इलायपेकूमल कमेटी ने जो सिफारिश की थी उसमें किसी तरह की रद्दो बदल की आवश्यकता थी। अगर कड़ाई कर रहे हैं तो उसका और भी कड़ा करें। लेकिन केवल कानून बना कर अगर हम यह समझें कि हमने अस्पृश्यता समाप्त कर दी तो यह हमारी गलती होगी। अस्पृश्यता एक पाप है। सैकड़ों साल से इस पाप का हम प्रायश्चित्त कर रहे हैं। लेकिन अभी तक यह पाप समाप्त नहीं हुआ है। कुछ अंशों में छुआछूत अमरीका में भी प्रचलित है। यह रंगभेद से भी अधिक गिरी हुई चीज है। रंगभेद में आदमी का रंग देखकर, उसकी चमड़ी का रंग देखकर भेदभाव किया जाता है लेकिन यहां तो सब एक ही रंग के हैं, एक ही रूप के हैं, सबकी रंगों में एक ही रक्त बहता है, फिर भी जन्म के आधार पर भेदभाव करना मानवता के खिलाफ है, यह भारतीय दर्शन के खिलाफ है, हमारे धर्म के भी खिलाफ है।

मैं उनसे सहमत नहीं हूँ जो यह कहते हैं कि अस्पृश्यता वर्ण व्यवस्था है। वैदिक काल में जन्म के आधार पर वर्ण व्यवस्था नहीं थी। एक बाप के अनेक बेटे अलग अलग वर्ण के होते थे, लेकिन एक ही घर में रहते थे, एक साथ भोजन करते थे, उनमें विवाह आदि हुआ करते थे। लेकिन आगे जा कर इसमें बुराई आ गई और उस बुराई का निमूलन आवश्यक है। आज जन्म के आधार पर या किसी और भी आधार पर वर्ण व्यवस्था की आवश्यकता नहीं है। इस अब सब एक वर्ण के है। वास्ते कानून बनाने के साथ साथ एक सामाजिक क्रान्ति की आवश्यकता है। जिस क्रान्ति का प्रवाह 1947 तक बहता रहा उसका स्वाधीनता के बाद प्रवाह थम गया। स्वामी दयानन्द सरस्वती ने, महात्मा गांधी ने, डाक्टर बाबा साहब अम्बेडकर ने एक जागरण पैदा किया। लोगों को भूकशोरा, उनकी अन्तश्चेतना में एक बगावत की चिंगारी भरी कि वर्तमान व्यवस्था को बदलना चाहिए, कोई छोटा बड़ा नहीं माना जाना चाहिए। लेकिन एक बार आजादी आ गई, तो हमने सोचा कि कानून बना कर सब काम हो जायेगा और सामाजिक जागरण की दिशा में आगे बढ़ने की हमारी गति थम गई।

मेरा निवेदन है कि सदन यह कानून पास करे, लेकिन अस्पृश्यता के उन्मूलन के लिए सामाजिक स्तर पर एक राष्ट्रव्यापी अभियान चलाया जाना चाहिए। आप जानते हैं कि आज भी विद्यालयों में हरिजन बंधुओं को टाट-पट्टी पर नहीं बैठने दिया जाता है, बे गावों में खप्पल पहनकर नहीं चल सकते, शादी-विवाह में थोड़े पर नहीं बैठ सकते, उनकी महिलायें अलंकार धारण नहीं कर सकती, यहाँ तक कि केन्द्रीय सचिवालय में भी हरिजन कर्मचारियों के लिए अलग सुराही रखी गई है और अभी तक उस व्यवस्था को समाप्त करने का कोई

प्रयत्न नहीं किया गया है। प्रतिदिन खबरें आती हैं कि हरिजन महिलाओं को नंगा करके बाजार में उनका जलूस निकाला जाता है। पूना के पास हरिजन बंधुओं का बहिष्कार किया जाता है। मिट्यूल्ड काम्ट्स कमिशनर की रिपोर्ट इस तरह के उदाहरणों से भरी हुई है। इन सब घटनाओं को समाज के मानस को भूकभोरना चाहिए और कानून के साथ-साथ गैर-राजनैतिक स्तर पर एक राष्ट्रव्यापी अभियान शुरू करने की आवश्यकता है।

मैं एक सुझाव देकर समाप्त करना हूँ। जो नेशनल इन्टिग्रेशन कौंसिल बनी हुई है, वह अभी तक केवल साम्प्रदायिकता के सवाल में उलझी हुई है। वह उसका निपटारा करे, लेकिन मेरा निवेदन है कि नेशनल इन्टिग्रेशन कौंसिल की एक विशेष बैठक परिगणित जातियों और जनजातियों के सवालों पर विचार करने के लिए होनी चाहिए और सभी दलों के सहयोग से देश भर में एक अभियान शुरू किया जाना चाहिए। हम यह लक्ष्य निर्धारित करें कि पांच साल के बाद एक ऐसा भारत बने, जिसमें छुआछूत के लिए कोई स्थान न हो। इस विषय में एक सीमा-रेखा तय करना आवश्यक है। हम परिस्थिति भी बदलें और मनःस्थिति भी बदले। हम केवल कानून से यह काम नहीं कर सकते। इसके साथ सामाजिक जागरण आवश्यक है। मगर मंत्री महोदय अपने भाषण में सामाजिक जागरण की आवश्यकता का उल्लेख तक नहीं करते हैं। इस सदन में सदस्यों की उपस्थिति भी इस बात का प्रमाण नहीं है कि यह मामला बहुत गम्भीर है। यह विषय ऐसा है कि प्रधानमंत्री को सदन में मौजूद रहना चाहिए था और यह आश्वासन देना चाहिए था कि...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He is yet to make a speech.

**SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :**  
The hon. Minister did make a speech while moving the Bill for consideration. He could have said many things. I will wait for his speech.

**श्री राम सहाय पांडे (राजनंद गांव) :**  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, श्री वाजपेयी के सारगर्भित भाषण से ऐसा लगता है कि सामाजिक क्रान्ति अब बहुत दूर नहीं है। आज हम बहुत आसानी से एहसास कर सकते हैं कि जिन कुंटाओं और प्रथाओं से हमारा देश ग्रसित रहा है, वे आज के दिन नहीं चल सकती हैं। जीवन के व्यवहार में, धार्मिक और सिद्धांत में, लोकतंत्र की छाया के नीचे मानव मात्र बराबर है। “न मानुषात् श्रेष्ठतरो हि लोके” वेद भी कहता है कि संसार में मनुष्यता से महान् कुछ नहीं है—मनुष्य मात्र में सब बराबर हैं। यदि धर्म से हमने शिक्षा लेनी हो, तो धर्म संबोधित करता है : “संगच्छध्वम् संवपच्छ्वम् सर्वो मनांसि जानिताम्”—हम सब एक साथ चलें, एक-साथ विचार करें और अपने आपको एक मनःस्थिति से सोचने-समझने की प्रक्रिया में गूँथ दें।

हमारी स्वतंत्रता के पच्चीस वर्ष होने जा रहे हैं और हम अपनी स्वतंत्रता की रजत-जयंती मनाने जा रहे हैं। हमारे लोकतंत्र के मस्तक पर जो कलंक लगा है, जो कालिमा लगी है, हमें उसे धोना है। जीवन में राजनीति ही सब कुछ नहीं है। अगर लोकतंत्र के विकास जन-मानस मुखरित हो रहा हो, यदि उस की कुंटाएँ और बुराईया हो रही हों, यदि एक स्वच्छ धवल गंगाजल के समान समाज निर्मित हो रहा हो, तो वह स्तुत्य है। लेकिन अगर हम इस सम्बन्ध में कानून की शरण लें और समाज को संबोधित करके कहें कि जो व्यक्ति असुस्थता के अपराध में पकड़ा जायेगा, उसको कम से कम यह सजा होगी और अधिक से अधिक यह सजा होगी, तो यह यथेष्ट नहीं है। मानवता निर्माण में, नई व्यवस्थाओं और परम्पराओं के

सृजन में कानून का दर्जा बहुत कम है और आत्म-चेतना का प्रभाव अधिक है। मैं समझता हूँ कि आर्थिक दृष्टि से भी समाज प्रभावित होता है। लेकिन अभी माननीय सदस्य ने यह ठीक ही कहा है कि क्या वर्ण-व्यवस्था की कुंटाओं के रहते हुए किसी ऊँची जाति के व्यक्ति का निचली जाति के व्यक्ति के साथ कोई सांस्कृतिक सम्बन्ध हो सकता है, क्या उन में विवाह इत्यादि सम्बन्ध हो सकते हैं। नहीं हो सकते हैं।

श्री वाजपेयी ने अभी स्वामी दयानन्द और बापू का नाम लिया। महात्मा गांधी ने एक दिन अपनी प्रार्थना में कहा कि मैं सबसे निचले समाज को सबसे ज्यादा आदर देने की प्रवृत्ति से वहाँ तक प्रभावित हुआ हूँ कि यदि मुझे जन्मदाता पूछें—सम्भवतः ईश्वर की ओर उन का इशारा था—कि मैं वहाँ जन्म लेना चाहता हूँ, तो मैं स्पष्ट कहूँगा कि मेरा जन्म किसी भगी परिवार में हो। उनका यह कथन समाज के सबसे निचले परिवार को आदर देने की भावना का परिचायक था। बाबा साहेब अम्बेदेकर ने भी समाज के सबसे पीड़ित वर्ग को ऊँचा उठाने के लिए अपने जीवन की आहुति दी। उन्होंने हिन्दू कोड बनाया, ताकि हमारे समाज में समता हो, वैचारिक वैषम्य दूर हो और जातिगत घृणा समाप्त हो।

हम शरीर में छोटें या बड़े हो सकते हैं। श्री वाजपेयी बड़े स्वस्थ हैं। कोई अन्य दुर्बल हो सकता है। इस भेद का कोई इलाज नहीं है। लेकिन मन और विचार तो बराबर हैं और उनको बराबरी का दर्जा दिया जाना चाहिए। कोई बड़ा सुन्दर है और कोई कम सुन्दर है। जो कम सुन्दर है, वह मेक-अप कर सकता है। समाज के कुछ वर्गों के लिए सामाजिक मेक-अप की आवश्यकता है। हमें कानून से, सामाजिकता से, धार्मिकता से और आर्थिक व्यवस्था से उन लोगों के जीवन को ऊँचा उठाना है।

मैं एक दो सुझाव देना चाहता हूँ। हमारे यहाँ चार वर्ण हैं : पहले ब्राह्मण, दूसरे क्षत्रिय, तीसरे वैश्य और चौथे शूद्र। शूद्र को सबसे ऊपर कर दिया जाये, उसको पहला स्थान दिया जाये। जहाँ तक वैश्यों का सम्बन्ध है, मुझे मालूम नहीं कि उनका क्या स्थान होना चाहिए, क्योंकि उनमें से बहुत से व्यापार में गड़बड़ करते हैं। तीसरा स्थान होना चाहिए क्षत्रिय का और इस वर्ण-व्यवस्था में सबसे नीचे ब्राह्मण को रखना चाहिए; तब उमका एहसास होगा कि—

14 hrs.

MR. DEPUTY-SPLAKER : Would you like these as amendments to the Bill ?

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : I wanted to enlighten the House how the society is to be adjusted.

तब उसे पता चलेगा कि सामाजिक न्याय क्या होता है।

निचली जाति का कोई व्यक्ति चाहे कितना ही धनी हो, क्या किसी ऊपर के वर्ण के व्यक्ति से उस का सांस्कृतिक सम्बन्ध हो सकता है ? नहीं हो सकता है। मैं मध्य प्रदेश से आता हूँ। मैं जानता कि वहाँ क्या स्थिति है। वहाँ पर आदिवासी 33 प्रतिशत हैं। उन को अधिक और सामाजिक दृष्टि से इतना पिछड़ा रखा गया है, उन का इतना शोषण किया है, पुरोहितों और पंडितों कया वाच वाच कर हरिजनों और आदिवासियों में इतनी मानसिक कुंठाये भर दी हैं कि उन में इनफीरियोरिटी कामप्लेक्स पैदा हो गया है। इस को दूर करना चाहिए। अगर कुएं पर कोई ऊंचे वर्ण का व्यक्ति पानी सींचता हो, तो दूसरे निचले वर्ण के लोग वहाँ से पानी नहीं ले सकते हैं। और कुएं अलग अलग हैं। तो इस सामाजिक असमानता में एक आत्मीय चेतना का

प्रादुर्भाव होना चाहिए। कानून के द्वारा सजा आप दें लेकिन सजा ही यथेष्ट नहीं है। सजा एक प्रक्रिया है जो एक भय का प्रादुर्भाव जरूर समाज में पैदा करती है। लेकिन जब तक कए आत्मा चेतना, एक ममत्व और स्नेह की भावना और जीवन की वह तमाम अनुभूतियाँ जिन से हम जीते हैं, जिनसे हम जीना चाहते हैं। हम को एकता और समानता के एक सूत्र में नहीं बांधेंगी तब तक यह जीज नहीं हो सकती। इसलिए बराबरी की दृष्टि से, समानता की दृष्टि से, मानवता की पूजा करते हुए, हमारे समाज में आज कोई छोटा न हो, बड़ा न हो, यह परमावश्यक है। धन्यवाद।

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA (Patan) : I rise to support the amending Bill before the House. The Elayaperumal Committee submitted its report in January, 1969. The Minister has come forward before the House today with this amending Bill. That shows that Government is not serious in case of removal of untouchability. Otherwise Government would have come much earlier because 4 years have passed. When the preaching of any reform fails, the law takes the place of preaching. In case of removal of untouchability, when the preachings of saints and great men like Mahatma Gandhi and Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar did not remove untouchability to a considerable extent, then, Sir, Article 17 was provided in the Constitution and our Indian Parliament has passed the Untouchability Offences Act of 1955. But, Sir, I am sorry to say that there is wide gap between the legislation and the implementation.

Today the scheduled castes people in the villages are not allowed to fetch water from the same common well in the village. In the same way they are not allowed to worship God together with caste hindus in the same village. Even the barbers and the washermen do not serve them in the villages. This is the position, Sir, even after 25 years of our independence.

Now the circumstances are more favourable than they were when Mahatma Gandhiji and Dr. Ambedkar tried their level best to remove untouchability.



[Shri K. S. Chavda]

Still, Sir, the Government of India and the State Governments are not serious to remove untouchability lock stock and barrel. Otherwise it would have been removed by now.

The figure of murders of schedule castes people during the years 1967, 1968 and 1969 were 1112 for the whole country.

Out of them, nearly 556 murders were from Madhya Pradesh and U. P. A Harijan girl was burnt in 1970 in Madhya Pradesh. When the question was raised by me on the floor of the Rajya Sabha, the Prime Minister promised to make a statement regarding that case. But she never made a statement though she was and uptill now is the Minister of Home Affairs and if this is the position regarding the Prime Minister, naturally, Sir, the State Chief Ministers will follow the same thing and do nothing to improve the condition of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. This portfolio of the removal of untouchability and amelioration of the condition of the scheduled castes should be in the hands of the Chief Ministers in the States and in the case of the Centre it should be with the Prime Minister. Then only something can be done with regard to the removal of untouchability.

श्री ज्यातिमंत्र बसु (डायमंड हारवर) :  
प्राइम मिनिस्टर कुछ भी नहीं करेगी ।

श्री के० एस० चावड़ा : प्राइम मिनिस्टर  
जो भी करती हैं उसका बहुत ज्यादा असर  
पड़ता है । वह जो कुछ भी करेगी उसका  
ज्यादा असर पड़ेगा ।

If she takes keen interest, then things can be improved. The Prime Minister held about a month back a meeting for the development of her constituency, namely Rae Bareilly, and all the Ministers were invited for that meeting, but only the Minister for social welfare was not invited. For the development of her own district, she has taken so much interest....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member has made a reference to it. That should be enough. Let him not divert his attention from the Bill,

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : I am not diverting my attention. The whole thing is only the Minister for Social Welfare....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Untouchables are being bypassed by many other matters. Let him now come to the main thing.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : The main thing is that if the head of the whole nation takes the initiative, then something can be done.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him not go off the main subject to Rae Bareilly.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : At that meeting she said that she wanted to make Rae Bareilly a model district. That is why I say that she should take this up first, namely the removal untouchability.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : That is relevant....

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Here is the press report which mentions the names of all the Ministers who were present....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let him not go into the details of all that. He is going away very far from the main subject. He has made a reference to that and that should be enough.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : The main subject is the removal of untouchability, and I am coming to that also. If she takes the initiative, then something could be done. All the Ministers, Central and State were present there, but only the Minister for Social Welfare was not present....

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF IRRIGATION AND POWER (SHRI B. N. KUREEL) : No Minister was invited. The Ministers went on their own.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : Shri Om Mehta, Shri H. N. Bahuguna....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Then hon. Member has already made the suggestion

that it will be most effective if the Prime Minister herself takes over this responsibility. That is very relevant and very pertinent and I have allowed it. But beyond that, if he goes off and goes into the details of what happened in Rae Bareilly, then he will be going very far away from the subject, and the poor untouchables whom he is trying to defend would be the sufferers.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : She wants to make Rae Bareilly a model district. I was submitting that in the case of removal of untouchability also she should take up that responsibility. My point was that....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have allowed that and that is quite relevant....

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : But the Deputy Minister says that no Minister was invited to that meeting. I should say something in reply to it and say that all the Ministers were invited....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I do not allow it.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : That is quite relevant.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member has made the point. If he wants to go into the details and deflect the entire discussion into something else....

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : But the Deputy Minister says that I am wrong. Should I not say something in reply and save my position ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Rae Bareilly is not untouchability. Now, the hon. Member should conclude. I am calling the next Member.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : This is unfair. She says that Rae Bareilly should be made a model for the whole nation. Should I not refer to that and say that untouchability should be removed ?....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : He has made that point and I have allowed him.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : The Deputy Minister said that no Minister had been invited. That is why I am quoting from the report....

SHRI SHAHSI BHUSHAN (South Delhi) ! The hon. Member should be made a model Member of Parliament.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : If I would have been in charge, there would not have been any untouchability at all.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have a feeling, and I do not know how really concerned Members are for those whom some people consider untouchables....

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : If even you, Sir, fail to understand what I say, I do not know what to do.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The hon. Member has made his point and it is a pertinent point, and I think he should be satisfied with that.

Now, the hon. Member should conclude.  
Shri B. R. Shukla.

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA (Bahraich) : The real point of the controversy has been missed by many Members who have participated in the debate. The question is not whether untouchability is a curse and whether it should be abolished or not. When we adopted the Constitution, we made a provision that untouchability in any shape or form shall not be tolerated or practised in this country. In pursuance of the constitutional directive, the Untouchability Offences Act, 1955 was passed. The question which this Bill raises for discussion is whether the punishment already provided for under the Parent Act should be enhanced so as to meet the situation.

The question is whether when we bring an amendment for enhancement of the punishment or for providing a minimum rigorous imprisonment for an act which amounts to an offence under the Act, we have made out any case or not. Only if the existing penal provisions in the Act are inadequate amendment becomes necessary.

[Shri B. K. Shukla]

The real point to consider is whether the punishment of fine or imprisonment upto six months has been inadequate to remove untouchability. For that we have to see how many cases have gone to courts and how many persons have been really prosecuted and convicted, and in spite of the conviction and light punishment under the parent Act, those very persons have persisted in repetition of the offence. Only then it would be necessary to make a change. But if the implementation of the provisions of the Parent Act has been insufficient, there is no question of bringing an amendment Bill.

The principle of punishment is based on three grounds, retributive, reformative and deterrent. As for retributive punishment, if a person has beaten another person, instead of the person who has been beaten taking to private vengeance against the wrong-doer, he seeks the assistance of the court which awards the punishment. This should be settled through the agency of the court of law. Then there is reformative punishment and deterrent punishment. Deterrent punishment is punishment of such a nature as to strike terror in the hearts of potential wrong-doers and prevent them from committing the offence. I would submit that the punishment provided under the Untouchability (Offences) Act is neither the retributive type nor of the deterrent type but by its very nature it is of the reformative type. A very distinguished jurist, Mr. Salmonds in his famous book on Jurisprudence has said that law lags behind public opinion, as public opinion lags behind truth.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : How does he define this Bill ?

SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : I am saying there is no case made out by Government for bringing a bill of this type for making the punishment which should be minimum of one month imprisonment in the case of first offence, then adding another term for the second offence and adding a further term for the third offence. It means we are encroaching upon the discretion of judges because after a judge has come to the conclusion that a certain person has committed an offence for which he should be punished, what should be the quantum of

punishment should be left to the discretion of the judge who decides it taking into account a variety of reason. Therefore, my submission is that Bill is uncalled for. The punishment is already there ; to amend it is now uncalled for. The Bill says in the case of first offence under the Act, there should be a punishment of rigorous imprisonment of not less than one month. Such type of provisions do not improve the matter. I will give an illustration.

There are two other enactments in this country where the minimum imprisonment has been provided for. One is the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act where the compulsory punishment is not less than six months imprisonment and a fine of about Rs. 1,000. The very fact that the minimum punishment of six months has been provided has gone a long way for the wrong-doers to defeat the provisions of the law by adopting corrupt methods, because they know that once they are convicted, no mercy would be shown and therefore they must go to the police officer and the food inspector and see that that is not allowed. Under the Gambling Act also, the minimum punishment is six months rigorous imprisonment if a certain place or a certain house is used for gambling. That provision has not been very successful.

So, my submission is that this amendment should not be allowed to be passed, although being a Member of the party which is ruling, I shall only support it, but because it is a radical and social measure, I have ventured to put forth my point of view.

श्री शिवशंकर प्रसाद यादव (खगरिया):  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हमारे प्राचीन धर्म के अनुसार  
वेदों में एक श्रुति है—

ब्राह्मणो अस्यः मुखं मासीत्  
बाहु राजस्यो कृतः उरु तवस्य  
यद्वैश्वं पदभ्यां शूद्रो भजयतः

हमारी श्रुतियों के निर्माता ने इस सम्पूर्ण  
समाज को एक अनुष्ठान के रूप में मान लिया  
था। उस समाज का विर ब्राह्मण को माना था,

क्योंकि सिर में ही पाचो ज्ञानेन्द्रिया है, इस लिये सिर के बराबर उन लोगो को माना था, जिन के पास ज्ञान है उन को ब्राह्मण सजा दी थी। उस के बाद भुजाग्रो से ताकत होती है, रक्षा करने की शक्ति होती है, इस लिये भुजाग्रो को राजनी माना था, अर्थात् क्षत्रिय माना था। वैश्य पेट को माना था, क्योंकि जो कुछ भी हम भोजन करते हैं, वह पेट में जाता है और पेट में जा कर रस तैयार हो कर उस से सम्पूर्ण शरीर का पालन पोषण होता है। उस के बाद पद्म्याम शूद्रो अजायत—अर्थात् इस दोनो पैरो को शूद्र से तुलना की थी। यह उम समय कहा गया था जिस समय समाज की नियमित रूप से व्यवस्था करने के लिये, जन्म के अनुसार नहीं, बल्कि मनुष्य के गुण के अनुसार चार भागो में विभक्त किया गया था। लेकिन पीछे चल कर इस व्यवस्था में बुराई आई—चाहे ज्ञान से परिपूर्ण कोई ब्राह्मण हो या न हो, किसी ब्राह्मण वर्ग में पैदा हुआ व्यक्ति ही ब्राह्मण कहलाने लगा उस के बाद में बहुत सी जातियाँ और उपजातियाँ बनीं ..

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER You have only two minutes and you have started a philosophical matter

श्री शशि भूषण इस बिल पर बहस के वक्त जनसभ का कोई मेम्बर नजर नहीं आ रहा है।

श्री के० एस० बाबुबा जनसभ वाले अभी बोल कर गये हैं, आप उस वक्त यहाँ नहीं थे।

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER Mr Vajpayee supported it

श्री शशि भूषण लेकिन इस वक्त कोई नहीं है।

श्री शिव शंकर प्रसाद यादव: मैं कह रहा था कि फिर अनेको जातियाँ और उपजातियाँ बनीं और अत्याचार शुरू हुए। इन हरिजनों के साथ आज हमारे देश में सैकड़ों वर्षों से अत्याचार होते रहे हैं, इस का शिकार मैं भी हो चुका हूँ। यद्यपि मैं हरिजन नहीं हूँ लेकिन हरिजनों

के लिये सघर्ष करने की वजह से मुझे दो वर्ष के लिये समाज से बहिष्कृत रहना पड़ा, क्योंकि हमारे गांव में—मैं अपने ही गांव की बात कह रहा हूँ—ऐसी व्यवस्था थी कि बेचारे चमारो को, तथा डोमो को बिल्कुल अलग रहना पड़ता था। उनके पीने के पानी के लिये कोई कुँआ नहीं था, वे बेचारे घड़े लेकर आत में, खड़े रहते थे और जो लोग उच्च वर्ग के कहलाते हैं, वे लोग पानी भर कर ले जाते थे, लेकिन ये लोग खुद उस कुएँ में पानी नहीं ले सकते थे। ये लोग उन उच्च वर्ग के लागो में प्रार्थना करते रहते थे कि हम को भी पाँदे दो। इस तरह की व्यवस्था थी। इसी के विरोध में सघर्ष करने पर हमारे समाज ने हम का दो वर्षों तक समाज से बहिष्कृत कर दिया था। यह 1928 की बात है और आप का यह कानून 1955 में बना, लेकिन इस कानून के बनने के बाद भी अभी तक उस व्यवस्था में कोई खास सुधार नहीं हुआ है। इस लिये मेरा सुझाव है कि इस कानून को केवल कानून बना कर ही न छोड़ दिया जाय। पहले सामाजिक स्तर पर इस तरह का वातावरण तैयार किया जाये जिसमें हम इन अछूतों का जो आज तक अपने को अस्पृश्य और छाटा समझते रहे हैं, उस चीज की समाप्ति करे। इस कानून के द्वारा जो सजा बढाई गई है, अभी मरने पूर्व-वक्ता ने ठीक कहा कि जो पहले से सजा थी उसके मुताबिक भी कुछ नहीं तो इसको बढा देने से भी कोई खास लाभ नहीं है। इस लिए अभी हमको ऐसा वातावरण तैयार करने की जरूरत है।

SHRI B S MURPHY (Amalapuram)  
I am unable to understand why this Bill has been brought forward in this way. Earlier, the provision was that punishment might extend upto six months Now it says, one month onwards and the fine is Rs 550. Is this an indication that untouchability is almost abolished in India? Is it true? It is not true. Why should we misguide ourselves and our people and the world? Every speaker here today was at pains to show how untouchability was on the increase. Just now Mr Vajpayee said that in one of the central offices in Delhi the Scheduled Castes were not allowed to take water from the common pot. Scheduled Caste officers coming to Delhi are not given houses. I need not say how many persons have been murdered.

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER You were yourself in charge of this matter when you were a Minister

SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN (South Delhi) How many houses did you give them when you were in charge of that portfolio ?

SHRI B S MURTHY Generally speakers do not inconvenience other speakers. You have taken the liberty and I shall take the same liberty. When I was the Minister in charge of housing, I saw to it that at least five per cent of the houses were reserved for Scheduled Castes.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER I wanted this to come from you.

SHRI B S MURTHY I was able to manage to do that and the Government accepted that suggestion. I am not speaking about what I did or did not.

It is not a fact that untouchability is on the decline, on the other hand it is on the ascendancy. In Andhra a youngman was burnt alive in day light. In Rajasthan

SHRI P K DEO (Kalahandi) In your party's Government, in Kanchikacherla,

SHRI B S MURTHY Is the Swatantra Party better ? Are you supporting it ?

SHRI P K DEO I am not supporting it.

SHRI B S MURTHY It is a serious matter. Nearly eighty per cent of the Members in this House are absent. I am requesting those who are present to look upon the Harijans as human beings. It is very bad. He quoted the Kanchikarla case. What difference does it make if it was under the Congress Government, or the Communist Government or the Swatantra Government ? Crime is a crime. Even if he is a Maharaja, I do not bother.

SHRI P K DEO He should have resigned from the party.

SHRI B S MURTHY He does not understand how it touches the chords of our hearts. After 25 years of Independence, these are happening. He is talking

of Kanchikarla happening under the Congress Government. What has he done ? What have you done in the Swatantra Government in Orissa ? Have you not been encouraging scheduled Tribes girls to be sold ? Shame on you.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE What is happening ?

SHRI B S MURTHY Nothing is happening. We go to philosophy and say *karma*. I am glad Mr Vajpayee is supporting urgent measures to remove untouchability lock, stock and barrel.

This is a Bill which will beguile the world. I do not know why Prof Nurul Hasan has brought it. Untouchability is not on the decline. Has any trouble been taken to see how far the legislation so far available has benefited the scheduled castes ? No. We have been requesting several times that a high level commission may be appointed to go into the whole matter as to what legislation is available at the Centre and what legislation is available at the States to improve the conditions of scheduled castes and tribes and find out what reforms are necessary to be made.

In the statement of objects and reasons, it is said that the Elayaperumal Committee made certain recommendations and based on that, this Bill has been brought. I am afraid there are a number of very important suggestions of the Elayaperumal Committee and all of them have been forgotten. I am not for any enhancement punishment but when you are bringing a legislation, do not beguile the people. We had said, six months, but today it is only one month. Originally we said, Rs 500 but today it is only Rs 50 to begin with. Whom are you deceiving ? This is very bad. Some times State Governments come and tell the Centre, "We do not have money." When the Department of the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was under the Home Ministry and when Mr Pant was there as Home Minister, he always appealed to the State Ministers that this is a very important thing. Is not removal of untouchability a nation building process ? Can all the other people have their own way without the willing consent and cooperation of 10 crores of Harijans ? We have seen how 7-1/2 crores of people in

Bangladesh have revolted and broken off the chains from their hands and formed an independent and sovereign State of Bangla Desh. Do you think scheduled castes numbering 8 or 10 crores will always remain like this? Is it not because of this ill-treatment by caste Hindus that the movement of Bangladesh was originally started? Who were these Bangladesh people? Were they not 200 years ago Hindus? Was it not because of the people? Were they not 200 years ago Hindus? Was it not because of the ill-treatment and harassment by the Calcutta babus that they embraced Islam? Do you want the scheduled castes in India to follow the same thing? Beware! I am giving you a warning. During the last 25 years, you had spent crores and crores on others. Did you not spend crores of money on Bangladesh? I want more money to be given to Bangladesh, because they were originally my cousins.

But don't try to deceive the country by bringing in a legislation like this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What shall we do with the Bill now?

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : You have asked me that. I will also give a reply.

If the Government wants to pass it because it has brought in, I shall give my vote. But my heart will not be there; the heart of the millions of people will not be there. Because nothing adequate has been done. You come out and say that untouchability is on the decline and, therefore, not six months, you make it one month, and, not Rs 500, you make it Rs. 50. Any person who violates the law can give Rs. 50 every time.

I am anxious to say that the question will not be ended with this legislation. The question is much more serious, much more difficult. I appeal to the Prime Minister to bring to bear her dynamism in solving this problem. She has solved many problems. She is going to solve many other problems. But of all these problems of the removal of untouchability lock, stock and barrel, is the one which will benefit India for ever and ever.

I am sorry I did not want to say anything against the Maharaja of Kalahandi. With these words, I commend this legislation to be accepted by the House. I would also request the Minister in-charge to bring forward another legislation which will be more beneficial to the sufferers, to the victims of religious oppression.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara) : Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome the Bill without any reservations unlike my esteemed previous speaker. But in the process, I would like to find out and take a sort of balance-sheet about what has been done regarding the existing provisions in the Removal of Untouchability Act.

There is a previous provision, trying to remove untouchability from access to shops, public restaurants, etc. I think, that has been a part success and a part failure. Coming to the use of utensils, it is a total failure. Then, about occupation, trade or business, legally, it may not come into question but still it is a failure. The use or access to rivers, streams, wells, tanks, water taps, etc.—it is a major failure. As regards the enjoyment of benefit under the charitable trusts. I have no information as to how far it has been successful. Coming to the use or access to public conveyance, I would not say it is a failure. The public conveyance is always permitted. Then about the use of dharamshalas, of course, the dharamshalas, in these days, are principally occupied by the under-privileged sections of society. Then I come to the question of access to religious premises. I myself feel that we are not trying to bring in anything in this section of our society which is God-fearing, by giving it such a high sort of pedestal, by making an access to the temples, as though it is the biggest thing in life. I do not think going to a temple or a church or a mosque is a very important thing at all. I think the less we have of this godliness or religious superstition, particularly among the weaker sections of the society and the under privileged, the better for this section of society, if we want to improve them.

Then I come to the hierarchical nature of the Hindu society, even though it may hurt the sentiments of some of the people in the Hindu society. The first jolt that was given to the hierarchical system of Hindu society, or the negative system of society,

[Shri B. V. Naik]

was really given by the assault of Islam and the Mohammedans about a thousand years ago. After the recovery, because of the protected existence under the British, the Hindu system never had a challenge to its life. Unless we want to see that this system, this hierarchical system, this exploited system is going to be given another rude jolt we will have to take adequate steps. I hope it will not be a jolt by communism or a jolt by Mao. In spite of the effort of Mahatma Gandhi, we have not been able to do anything substantial about the removal of untouchability or the ill treatment of Harijans. So, unless you want Mao's thoughts to come, you should better take adequate steps to see that the existing system is removed lock, stock and barrel, root and branch.

AN HON. MEMBLR : How is Mao relevant here ?

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Mao will come if we do not take care of the society ourselves. At least, his thoughts will come. But there is time for us to change before that.

In regard to this emancipation, instead of letting these people to enter into conventional temples, I would urge upon the Minister of Education.....

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Say something about the Bill.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : I will do that at the very sag end.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is not much time.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : We have a Harijan culture. We have a sort of super-imposed culture. In my constituency there is the cock fight and fowl sacrifice. In the course of years we have not found it possible to give stimulation to this sort of culture which is there. If we are in a position to make these people worship their own type of god, I think we will be able to make them understand.

I am not speaking in the DMK terms, but in regard to the emancipated Harijans

I would like to put in a word of caution. The emancipation of our down-trodden or weaker section of society invariably leads to the limitation of those sections which does not really liberate them. In the circumstances, if we have to make a frontal attack on the Harijan problem, or for that sake take the entire two-thirds or half of the population, social emancipation will have to be there.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I always thought of you as one of those new intellectually gifted Members of Parliament. Why not give some examples of relevance also ?

SHRI B. V. NAIK : I was coming to that. Social emancipation depends on economic emancipation. As far as the details of this Bill are concerned, they are perfectly all right.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So, You support the Bill.

SHRI B. V. NAIK : Economic emancipation will mean for the next 5 to 10 years actual reduction, if not *status quo*, in regard to the real income of the organised section of society. I would, therefore, suggest that we have to do a certain amount of basic thinking in regard to the welfare of the weaker sections of our society, call them by any other name, and that will mean something deeper, much more radical than what has been given in this Bill, which I welcome for the time being.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We started this debate at 12.28 and four hours have been allotted. So, we should conclude by 4.28 p. m. and take up the discussion on the drought situation in West Bengal at 4.30 p. m. How much time would the hon. Minister take ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : About 20 minutes.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : So, I will call him at 4 O'clock. I have got with me some names from the Congress Party. I think I will be able to accommodate all of them if they try to be brief.

श्री टी० सोहन लाल (कोटाबाग):  
 उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो बिल प्रयास है इसका समर्थन तो करना ही पड़ेगा, मगर इसके अन्दर जो एक चीज दी गई है, उसकी ओर मैं मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। इसके अन्दर वह क्लिपरली आया है कि अधिक मामला भी साथ में है। उस सम्बन्ध में मैं कुछ सरकारी अफसरों के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ। सरकारी अफसरों के लिए इस बिल में कुछ भी नहीं कहा गया है। जो लोग नियुक्ति करने हैं उन के मन में नियुक्ति करने समय यह भेदभाव आ जाता है कि यह शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट केम्पिडेंट है, तो उसको अन-पूटबिल कर देने हैं और इन तरह में जब वे अच्छे में अच्छे योग्य व्यक्तियों को भी हटा देते हैं तो वह एक घृणा की भावना है। क्या इस के बारे में आप ने दो शब्द भी इस बिल में लिखे हैं? तो मैं चाहूँगा कि वह चीज भी इस के अन्दर होनी चाहिए कि ऐसे अफसर जो सरकार की तन्हाह पाते हैं और सरकार के कानून को तोड़ते हैं तो उन को आप क्या सजा देना चाहते हैं। सब से पहले आप उन के बारे में सोचिये।

मैं उदाहरण के तौर पर आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि एक फर्स्ट क्लाम इजीनियर था और उसकी पर्सनेलिटी बड़ी अच्छी थी। जब वह इन्टरव्यू पर गया और जो इन्टरव्यू लेने वाले अधिकारी थे उन के सामने यह आया कि वह शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट का है तो उन्होंने फौरन उसको अनसूटेबिल कर दिया और कह दिया कि आप काबिल नहीं हैं। यह बात उस के साथ कई बार हुई। तब मैं ने उस से कहा कि भाई अब आप यह कालम में नहीं भरिये कि आप शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट हैं और जब उस ने ऐसा किया तो मैं आप को यकीनन कहता हूँ कि उसे फौरन नौकरी मिल गई और आज वह डिप्टी चीफ इंजीनियर है। क्या यह भेदभाव नहीं है? क्या यह चीज उन के दिमाग के अन्दर नहीं है?

जो गवर्नमेंट ने कंटा दिया है कि 17-1/2 परसेन्ट या 13-1/2 परसेन्ट आप को पूरा करना है, अगर इसकी पूरी इन्क्वायरी कराई जाए, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि 5 और 7 परसेन्ट के बीच में ही शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के लोग जितने जाने हैं और इस में ज्यादा नहीं लिखे जाते हैं। क्या यह गुनाह नहीं है? क्या उन के साथ यह भेदभाव नहीं है? जब वे क्वालिफिकेशन पूरी करते हैं, जिस योग्यता को आप मांगते हैं, उसको वे पूरी करने में मय मानो में, तो क्या डिक्लिचाइट है? निरुक्त पट्टी चीज उन के दिमागों के अन्दर है कि ये शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट हैं, इसलिए ये नालायक हैं। बड़े बड़े कामों में हमने यह देखा है कि जब यह चीज सामने आती है कि यह शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट है, तो उसको नहीं लिया जाता है।

एक उदाहरण और मैं आप को बतलाना चाहता हूँ। एक लड़का जोधपुर का था, जिस बेचारे ने दस दफा इन्टरव्यू दिया और दस दफा उसको यह कह कर के कन्डम कर दिया कि तुम तो काबिल नहीं हो। उस लड़के को जब यह चीज बतलाई गई कि वह शैड्यूल्ड कास्ट के कालम में कुछ न भरे, तो वह सेलक्ट हो गया। और खुद मेरे अपने लड़के के साथ ऐसा हुआ जब मैंने उसको यह कहा कि श्रीमान् जी यह मा भरिये, तो वह भी सेलक्ट हो गया। ये तीन चीजें बिल्कुल मेरी नालिज में हैं, जिनकी बिना पर मैं कह सकता हूँ कि जान बूझ कर भेदभाव किया जाता है। क्या वे गुनाह नहीं करते हैं? क्या उस के लिए आप कुछ नहीं करना चाहते हैं? ऐसे अफसरों के लिए जो सरकार की तन्हाह खाते हैं और सरकार के कानून को तोड़ते हैं, उन के लिए आप क्या करेंगे, यह बात आप अपने भाषण में बताएं जिससे मैं समझ सकूँ कि आप कुछ करने जा रहे हैं, वरना नहीं तो इस तरह के कानून से कुछ नहीं बनेगा। राजस्थान के अन्दर सैकड़ों मकान जला दिये गये हैं और



[श्री टी. सोहन लाल]

जब उन आदमियों के नाम बतलाये गये और कोर्ट के अन्दर उन के केस गये, तो कोर्ट ने उन तमाम आदमियों को छोड़ दिया। जब उस मामले में लिखा-पडी की गई और वहां के चीफ मिनिस्टर को कहा गया, तो उन्होंने अपनी मजबूरी ज़ाहिर करदी और यह कह दिया कि भई क्या करें पुलिस में भी इन के आवसी है और अदालतों में भी इन के आदमी है। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, ऐसी हालत में क्या सरकार सचमुच में इस वर्ग का भला चाहती है। अगर सचमुच में इस वर्ग का भला चाहती है तो मैं समझता हूं कि ऐसी पोस्टो के ऊपर इन लोगों को रखा जाए। मैं आप को बनवाना चाहता हूं कि इससे पहले भी यह था कि कोई छुआछूत के मामले की रफ्त दर्ज करना चाहता था तो थाने के अन्दर रफ्त दर्ज नहीं होती है। अब तो यह हालत हो गई है कि पूसा के अन्दर, सरकारी दफ्तर के अन्दर एक अफसर के पास एक लड़का चपरासी था। जब उस को यह पता लगा कि चपरासी लड़का चमार जाति का है तो उस ने कहा कि यह शुद्ध चमार ही रह गया था मेरे लिये पानी भरने के लिए। वही पर एक दूसरा लड़का हरिजन खड़ा हुआ था, जिस के बारे में यह पता नहीं था कि वह भी शैड्यूल कास्ट का है, उसने ले कर मुराई फोड़ दी और कहा कि अब दूसरी जानि वाले से पानी मंगाओ। इस के लिए उस लड़के को जितना परेशान किया गया वह मुझे पता है और बड़ी काशिशों के बावजूद भी वह आज मारा मारा फिर रहा है। तो क्या यह भेदभाव नहीं है ?

श्री शशि भूषण: उम अफसर का नाम दीजिए।

श्री टी० सोहन लाल: अफसर का नाम दिया है, मगर उस से बनता क्या है। मैं आप को लेटर दिखा सकता हूं। तो मैं यह कहना चाहता

हूं कि पहले सरकार अपने काम करने वालों के लिए कानून बनाए जो सरकार का बाल बाल खा रहे हैं। दूसरी जगह की बात तो छोड़ दीजिए, हमें उन से गुरेज नहीं है। अगर उन में से कोई मुझे चमार कहता है तो कोई बात नहीं है। मगर जो सरकारी अधिकारी बैठे हुए हैं, जो सब से पहले भेदभाव कर रहे हैं, क्या उन के लिए सरकार कानून बनाएगी और क्या इस बलाब को हटवायगी कि जो यह "अनसुटेबिल" लिखा है। यह "अनसुटेबिल" शब्द बड़ा खतरनाक है। जितनी भी क्वालिफिकेशन सरकार मूकरी करती है किसी पोस्ट के लिए, उस के मुताबिक आप ले। अगर आप बी. ए. मांगते हैं तो आप बी. ए. लें जिए, अगर एम. ए. मांगते हैं तो एम. ए. लीजिए। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि एम. ए. की जगह आप दसवी पास ही लीजिए।

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Reservation of vacancies is different from offences.

श्री टी० सोहन लाल: अगर सही मानो मैं आप इन का भला चाहते हैं, तो सख्त से सख्त कदम उठाने ही पड़ेंगे।

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central) : I rise to support this measure on a single ground. I draw your attention and the attention of the House including my hon. friend, Shri B. S. Murthy, to Explanation II. It says :

"A person shall be deemed to incite or encourage another person to practise 'untouchability', if he justifies, whether on historical, philosophical or religious grounds, the practice, by such other person, of 'untouchability'."

The measure which has been incorporated in Explanation II is a welcome measure. But, I don't know to what extent in India, either the Police or the Magistracy or the Judges would interpret the meaning of this Explanation II.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : And the past experience.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : Experience—we have gone through these processes. I need not repeat our experience.

I am, therefore, drawing the attention to the speech made by my great friend and my admirer, Shri Vajpayee.....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : He is admiring you.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : Even if he does not, at least as a social hypocrite I must say that he admires me as I do. He says, unwittingly perhaps, that the *Chaturvarna* had no origin either in the *Shastras* or in the *Vedas*. Forgetting that he is a Brahmin, as he is, there is *purusha Sukta* in the *Vedas* which is the origin of *Chaturvarna* followed by *Pauchavarua*. Now, if the word is uttered and justified on the ground whether of historical, philosophical or religious grounds then it is made an offence under this piece of legislation. I do not know what the meaning will be, what the connotation will be, what the interpretation will be, of this explanation.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : To justify untouchability on any historical ground—that is made an offence, but history cannot be made an offence.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I hope you are not a lawyer...

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I have studied law.

SHRI R. V. BADE (Khargone) : It is not in *purushasuktha*, it is in *manusmruthi* only.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let us leave it to the courts of law for interpretation.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I wonder when my learned friends show their ignorance.

SHRI R. V. BADE : It is not in *Purushasuktha*; *panchama varna* is not there.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I need not go to the extent of saying more. You are a great pandit, but ignorant of these simple matters.

I hope Mr. Vajpayee agrees with me....

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : I am not a great pandit.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : That much I know.

Therefor, Sir, reading of the explanation raises a number of questions. A number of questions arise in my mind.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : In support or in opposition ?

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : As I told you, this is a new innovation ; I welcome it. I welcome it because this is a new innovation for the first time to be found in a piece of legislation.

My children are taking their education in the schools. I happened to read their books. The books to be taught to them say, Dr. Ambedkar is a chamar. They never mention that he was the Constitution-maker. Now, writing of these things does what ? Does it encourage or discourage ?

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE (Rajapur) : Burn the books.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : Professor Dandavate, it is not a new thing that you are suggesting ; we have been saying so for ages together.

PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE : I also suggest, burn the scriptures which stand for inequality.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I hope that courts of law, the political parties, the leaders, etc. will try to understand the meaning and the significance to carry on propaganda, to prepare for change of mind of the Indian people, so that they may change their attitude. I hope on the basis of this Explanation. Two, we shall recast our

[Shri R. D. Bhandare]

educational system so that the educational system will be the instrument of reconstruction of the Indian society. I hope this aspect of social changes will be emphasised duly and made a part and parcel of the programme of every party and every public man. We have to see whether power is shared by the classes for whose benefit this explanation is there. I do not know what interpretation will be given to this explanation. . . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let them interpret it. We are not here to interpret it.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : We are making a legislation, and I am quite aware of the consequences of the legislation. If an occasion arises to put an interpretation on the pieces of the legislation. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Let the occasion arise.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : When I am a legislator, why should I allow that occasion to arise ? At the time of the legislation, I must foresee the danger which is lurking. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : If he were opposing the Bill, I would have understood it. But when he is supporting it, why should he go into all those things ?

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I wonder, when we are trying to understand the clause, the meaning and the connotation and when doubts are raised and questions and problems are raised, you interpret that either I must oppose the Bill *in toto* or I must accept it as it is and sit quite. We have to benefit from the experience cited by a number of friends. We suffer in experience and we become wiser by experience, and we never take any word at its own face value because we know that hypocrisy of the best form has been used in the choice of words for ages together in this country. Therefore, the question of interpretation arises. But, as I said, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee will certainly carry on the propaganda in view of what I have said and instruct his own people to try to give the correct interpretation. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There are other Members also to speak. Now, the hon. Member should conclude.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : What is your suggestion, Sir ?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I think he has supported the Bill with eyes and mind open. Let the hon. Member now conclude.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I doubt whether a proper interpretation. . .

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : What about the hon. Member's own party ?

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I have joined the Congress Party and I shall try to emphasis and try to persuade. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I would request the hon. Member that if he wants to enlighten Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, he can do so outside. He can fix up some time and give him proper tuition.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I can quite understand if you say that my time is up.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Yes.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : You should have said that first.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have rung the bell so many times.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : No, you have always been telling me. . .

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : I have been ringing the bell so many times.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE : I beg your pardon, if I appear to be rude to you. You have always been telling me to instruct these people. and, therefore, I wanted to give the interpretation. You should have told me earlier if my time was up.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : His time is up. Now, let the hon. Member sit down. Shri M. Ram Gopal Reddy.

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी (निजामाबाद):  
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह जो बिल लाया गया है उसके सम्बन्ध में मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि न तो ओरिजिनल ऐक्ट की जरूरत है और न इस संशोधन विधेयक की। जो यह कहा जा रहा है कि वेद की वजह से छूतछात हो रहा है या शास्त्र की वजह से उसके बारे में मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या जो लोग छूतछात आबजर्व करते हैं वह वेद या शास्त्र पढ़े हुए हैं? मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि आज जो छूतछात का भेद भाव है उसकी पूरी वजह एकानामिक कंड़िशनस हैं। अगर आज हमारे बाबू जगजीवनराम खाने के लिए बुलाएँ तो सारे ब्राह्मण, मारवाड़ी और जैन हाथ जोड़कर उनके साथ खाने के लिये खड़े हो जायेंगे। तब फिर यह छूतछात कहा हो रहा है? क्या अगर हरिजन एम० पी० अपने यहां लोगों को बुलायें तो हम उनके यहां जाकर खाना नहीं खायेंगे।

श्री अम्बेश (फिरोजाबाद): गलत बात है, कोई खाना नहीं खायेंगे?

श्री एम. रामगोपाल रेड्डी: आपके पास नहीं खाते होंगे, मेरे पास खायेंगे। (स्वस्थान)

मैं कहूंगा कि जब तक उन लोगों की एकानामिक कंड़िशनस ठीक नहीं होंगी उस वक्त तक आप चाहे जो भी कानून बनायें, सब फेल होंगे। आप प्राहिबिशन के लिये कोई भी कानून बनायें, वह फेल हो जायेगा। पहले यह सोचना चाहिए कि उन लोगों की इकानोमिक कन्डीशन को सुधारने के लिए क्या किया जाना चाहिए। जो एम० एल० एज० और एम० पी० रिजर्व्ड सीट्स से चुनकर आये हैं, वे ऊंची कम्युनिटीज से मिल गये हैं और वे अपने मकान आदि बना चुके हैं। आज छुआछूत किसके साथ हो रही है? जिन गरीब आदमियों के पास खाने के लिये भी नहीं है, उनके साथ छुआछूत की जा रही है। इसके अलावा पोलिटिकल रीजन्स

से छुआछूत की जा रही है। जैसे तामिलनाडु में श्री० एम० के० गवर्नमेंट के मातहत ब्राह्मण अछूत हैं। आज उनको एडमिशन और नौकरी नहीं मिलती है। यह छुआछूत पोलिटिकल आइडियालोजी की वजह से हो रहा है।

15 hrs.

SHRI SUBRAVELU (Mayuram): The Mayor of Madras is a Brahmin and belongs to the DMK.

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी: अगर गवर्नमेंट ने बैंकवर्ध क्लासिज़ और शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट्स तथा शिड्यूल्ड ट्राइब्स के इकानोमिक अपलिफ्ट के कार्यक्रम की नेकनीयती से इम्प्लीमेंट किया, तो छुआछूत खत्म हो जायेगी। जब किसी आदमी की माली हालत अच्छी हो जाती है, तो वह खुद-ब-खुद ऊपर उठ जाता है। कानून बनाने से कुछ नहीं होगा।

इस बिल में कहा गया है कि जो आदमी छुआछूत आबजर्व करता है, उसको सज़ा दी जायेगी। लेकिन आज होता यह है कि एक पूरी की पूरी कम्युनिटी किसी दूसरी कम्युनिटी से घृणा करती है और उसके साथ छुआछूत बरतती है। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या एक आदमी को सज़ा दी जायेगी या पूरी कम्युनिटी को। इस बिल में पूरी कम्युनिटी को सज़ा देने की कोई गुंजायश नहीं रखी गई है। जो कम्युनिटी हरिजनों के साथ छुआछूत करती है, अगर उसको प्रासीक्यूट करके सज़ा दी जाये, तो कुछ फायदा हो सकता है। छुआछूत आबजर्व करने पर सिर्फ एक आदमी को सज़ा देने से कुछ होने वाला नहीं है।

समाज में यह जो मैलेडी है, उसकी वजह लोगों का इकानोमिक डिप्रेशन है। इसलिए कांग्रेस की तरफ से इस बारे में कुछ कोशिश की जा रही है। अगर इन लोगों को अभी

[श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी]

और नौकरी मिलनी है, उनको पढ़ने-लिखने की फैसिलिटी दी जाती है, तो वे ऊपर उठ जायेंगे और बाकी समाज में घुल-मिल जायेंगे।

पुलिस को सख्त इंस्ट्रक्शन् दी जाये कि हरिजनो के साथ जो ज्यादती हो रही है, उसको रोका जाये और उनको हर तरह से प्रोटेक्शन दी जाये। आर्दन्ता जो लैंड रिफार्म्स आयेये, उनमें हरिजनो पर बहन अत्याचार होमे की आशका हे। उनको गोजेसन मिलने में बहुत दिक्कत होती है। अगर गवर्नमेन्ट फर्म विल से हरिजनो को प्रोटेक्शन देना चाहती है, तो वह पुलिस को हिदायत दे कि अगर हरिजन कोई कम्प्लेंट करने हे, तो उनकी पूरी मदद की जाये और उनको प्रोटेक्शन दी जाये।

मेरी अमेम्बली कांस्टीट्यून्सी में हरिजनो पर बहुत जुल्म किया जा रहा था। ब्रह्मानन्द मिनिस्ट्री के जमाने में मैंने पुलिस की क्राइम ब्रांच में उसकी एन्क्वायरी कराई। पुलिस की यह रिपोर्ट थी कि तेलगाना में उन पर बहुत जुल्म किये गये और उनके साथ बड़ा अन्याय किया गया और कोई यह बल्पना भी नहीं कर सकता है कि एक इन्डिपेंडेंट बन्दी में लोगो के साथ ऐसा ट्रीटमेंट किया जा सकता है।

यह बहुत जरूरी है कि गवर्नमेन्ट की मशीनरी को यह हिदायत दी जाये कि कानूनों को पूरी तरह इम्प्लीमेंट किया जाये। जो कानून अभी तक बनाये गये हैं, उनको पूरी तरह लागू किया जाना चाहिए, लेकिन अभी तक ऐसा नहीं किया गया है। यह एक स्टेट सबजेक्ट है और सब स्टेट्स को इस तरफ पूरा ध्यान देना चाहिए।

कांस्टीट्यूशन के मुताबिक प्रेजिडेंट के पास सिविल्ल्ड काम्न्स कमिशनर की जो रिपोर्ट जाती है, वह बहुत बेग और मरग होती है। उसमें हरिजनो की हालत और समस्याओ के बारे में

डीटेल्ड रटडी होनी चाहिए। कमिशनर की रिपोर्ट पर पार्लियामेंट में पूरी रिसर्केशन होनी चाहिए। तब हाउस के सामने हरिजनो के पूरे हालात आयेंगे, देश का बाताबरण बद-लेगा और उन लोगो की हालत सुधरेगी। जब तक उनकी हालत नहीं सुधरती है, तब तक हमारे मुंह पर यह काला घन्ना बना रहेगा।

आज यह जो डीबेड हो रही है, कल न्यूज-पेपर्स में वह छपेगी और दुनिया के लोगो के मन पर यह प्रभाव पड़ेगा कि हिन्दुस्तान में बहुत बुरी हालत है।

श्री शशि भूषण सारी दुनिया को इस का पता है।

श्री एम० रामगोपाल रेड्डी : लेकिन जब पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बरो की तरफ में ये बातें कही जाती है, तो यह खबर कनफर्म्ड हो जाती है। हम लोगो को इस बारे में शर्म आनी चाहिए। गवर्नमेन्ट को जल्द से जल्द जरूरी कदम उठाने चाहिए। मिनिस्टर साहब बहुत तजुबकार और इफेक्टिव आदमी है। अगर वह मुनासिब स्टेप्स उठायेगे तो यह प्राबलम जल्दी हल हो जायेगी और हमारे देश का यह कलंक मिट जायेगा।

श्री साधू राम (फिल्लौर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, अनटचेबिलिटी हमारे देश की एक बहुत बड़ी बीमारी है। गवर्नमेन्ट इसको हटाने के लिए कानून बनाती है, लेकिन वह कानून से नहीं हटेगी। वह तो आम लोगो के बिलो-दिमाग बदलने से हटेगी, जिसके लिये गुरु नानक, महात्मा गांधी और दूसरे सन्त संन्यासियों ने कोशिश की थी। गवर्नमेन्ट जो कानून बनाती है, वे काफी सख्त नहीं होते हैं, जिसकी वजह से कोई केस नहीं बनता है और किसी को सजा नहीं होती है। इसलिए इन कानूनों का कोई असर नहीं होता है। इसलिए यह जरूरी है कि अनटचेबिलिटी को खत्म करने के लिए कानून को ज्यादा से ज्यादा सख्त कानून बनाया जाये।

इसके अलावा अनटचेबिलिटी को दूर करने के लिए आल इंडिया रेडियो और गवर्नमेंट की दूसरी प्रापेगेन्डा मशीनरी के जरिये प्रचार किया जाये। आखिर जात-पात और छुआछूत को परमात्मा ने नहीं बनाया है। वे तो लोगो की बनाई हुई चीजें हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि हिन्दू धर्म एक बहुत अच्छा धर्म है, लेकिन वर्णाश्रम बनाकर उसने वह जात-पात और छुआछूत की बीमारी पैदा कर दी है। हमारे जनसंघी भाई और दूसरे हिन्दू भाई वर्णाश्रम और शूद्र की परिभाषा में विश्वास करने हैं। पीछे पुरी के शंकराचार्य ने कहा था कि मैं जातपात को मानता हूँ। बनारस में जो काफ़रेंस हुई थी, उसका उद्घाटन करने के लिए डा. वर्णसिंह गये थे, जो इस गवर्नमेंट के मिनिस्टर हैं। इन फक्कानो के लिए गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से लाखों रुपये दिये जाते हैं, जो इस किस्म के ख्यालात का प्रचार करते हैं। आदमी और आदमी में भेदभाव करना। शास्त्रों की बुनियादी बात है। जब तक इस बुनियादी बात को खत्म नहीं किया जायेगा, तब तक अनटचेबिलिटी खत्म नहीं होगी। एक तो यह इलाज है। दूसरा इलाज यह है कि जिनको अछूत कहा जाता है, वे उठकर खड़े हो जायें और अपने साथ भेदभाव करने वालों और अनटचेबिलिटी बरतने वालों को कुछ सजा दें।

इस कानून में कहा गया है कि किसी को जातपात की बुनियाद पर किसी धर्मशाला वगैरह में जाने से नहीं रोका जा सकता है। एक आदमी किसी शहर में गया और कुछ लोगो से पूछा कि मैं रात कहां गुजार सकता हूँ। उन्होंने कहा कि फलां धर्मशाला चले जाओ। वह आदमी एक धर्मशाला में गया और कहा कि मैं गरीब आदमी हूँ, मैं एक रात के लिए रहना चाहता हूँ। धर्मशाला में उसे कह दिया गया कि जाओ, यहां जगह नहीं है। उसने वापिस आकर उन लोगों को कहा कि मैं धर्मशाला

गया था, लेकिन वहां तो साला ही साला था, वहां धर्म था ही नहीं।

जिन शास्त्रों में वर्णाश्रम बनाये गये हैं और शूद्र की परिभाषा दी गई है, जब तक उनको रैन नहीं किया जाता है, तब तक इस देश से छुआछात की बीमारी खत्म नहीं हो सकती है। ये गतन बाने परमात्मा ने नहीं बनाई है, बल्कि खुद लोगो ने बनाई है। हिन्दू, सिक्ख, मुस्लिम और जैन वगैरह धर्म ईश्वर ने नहीं बनाये हैं। ईश्वर ने तो इन्सान बनाया है। जब आदमी माता के गर्भ में पैदा होता है, तो वह हिन्दू, मुसलमान या सिक्ख नहीं होता है और वही उसकी कोई जान होती है। वह तो बाद में धर्म और जातपात के डायरे बनाता है।

छुआछूत का दूर करना सिर्फ़ उन लोगो का ही फर्ज नहीं है, जो अनटचेबल कहलाते हैं और जिन के साथ अनटचेबिलिटी, बरती जाती है। छुआछूत हमारे देश और हिन्दू धर्म के माथे पर एक बड़ा भाग बलक है। इस लिए सारे देश के लोगो का यह फर्ज है कि वे प्रायश्चित्त करें और इस बीमानी को अपने दिलों-दिमाग से निकालें। कानूनों में अब कुछ बनने वाला नहीं है। कानून तो बनते हैं लेकिन वे सुचारु रूप में लागू नहीं हो पाते हैं। इम्प्लीमेंटेशन कौन कराएँ? ये मिनिस्टर कराएँगे जिन को खुद भी पता नहीं है कि अनटचेबिलिटी क्या है? डेमोक्रेसी में यह काम इस तरह से चलने वाला नहीं है। अनटचेबिलिटी को आफेंस बना दिया, थोड़ी गज़ा बढ़ा दी या कम कर दी इस से क्या फर्क पड़ेगा? जब तक लोगो के दिल और दिमाग नहीं बदले जायें तब तक इस का कोई असर दही होगा। छुआछूत करने वालों को सख्त सजा देनी चाहिए, साथ साथ गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से इस का और ज्यादा प्रचार करना चाहिए। जो गवर्नमेंट में काम करने वाले आदमी हैं उन के खिलाफ ऐसी शिकायत

आ जाय तो उन को सर्बिस से निकाल देना चाहिए। ऐसी कोई तजवीजें पेश हों तो अनट-चेबिलिटी को हटाने का इरादा बन सकता है। तुलसी दास के रामायण से वर्ण-व्यवस्था पैदा की गई और उसी के लिए लाखों रुपया हमारी सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट बे रही है। मेरा ख्याल है उस का उद्घाटन करने प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहिया चर्चा गई। तो न मिनिस्टर्स को पता है न उन को पता है कि वहा क्या हो रहा है? इसलिए मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि अनटचेबिलिटी को खत्म करने के लिए परमात्मा की जो सही देन है उस के लिए प्रचार करना गवर्नमेंट का फर्ज है और जो ऊंची जाति कहलाने वाले हैं उन का ज्यादा फर्ज है। कानून को और ज्यादा सक्ती से इम्प्लीमेंट करना चाहिए और वे लोग जो इस वक्त अनटचेबिल कहला रहे हैं, जिन को लोग कुत्तों और बिल्लियों से भी नीचा समझते हैं उन में भी यह भावना पैदा होनी चाहिए और इस के बाद इस को हटाने की कोशिश करें तब यह हटेगी नहीं तो नहीं हटेगी।

श्री शक्ति भूषण (दिल्ली दक्षिण): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस बिल का मे हृदय से स्वागत और समर्थन करता हूँ। यह जो सामाजिक विषमता हमारे देश में रही और यह जो हरिजन और ब्राह्मण कहलाने शुरू हुए, इस का कारण यह है कि सामंतवादी व्यवस्था में हरिजन और ब्राह्मणों को परिभाषा बनाई गई और शोषण के अलावा और कोई दूसरा उस का मतलब नहीं। आज पूंजीवादी व्यवस्था में भी हरिजन बनाए रखना पुराने सामंतवादी बिचार रखने वालों के लिए जरूरी है। जो उन के प्रवक्ता हैं पूंजीपतियों के और सामंतवादियों के वह चाहे गुरु कहलाते हों, चाहे गोलवलकर कहलाते हों, वह कहते हैं कि हरिजनों को ईश्वर ने बनाया। किताबों में लिखा और अलबारों में ब्यान दे दिया। तो यह जो सामाजिक विषमता है जब तक इस को हम दूर नहीं करते, सामाजिक क्रांति नहीं लाते

तब तक यह चीज दूर नहीं होने वाली है। हमारे एक साथी ने कहा कि माओ हिन्दुस्तान आ जाय। माओ तो समाजवाद का सब से बड़ा दुश्मन है। देश में सिवाय समाजवाद के और कोई तरीका नहीं है जिस से कि वह व्यवस्था हम समाप्त कर सकें और इसी दिशा में हम आगे बढ़ रहे हैं। अगर हमारे देश की संस्कृति को देखा जाय तो बाल्मीकि, व्यास और कबीर इन तीन महापुरुषों को उस में से निकाल दिया जाय तो भारत की संस्कृति कुछ नहीं है। लेकिन तीनों सवर्ण नहीं थे। बाल्मीकि सवर्ण नहीं थे तो उन की पूजा नहीं होती, उन की बनाई हुई महाभारत और उन के बनाए हुए पात्रों की पूजा होती है। व्यास, संकर वर्ण थे तो उनकी पूजा नहीं होती उनकी बनाई हुई महाभारत, और उनके बनाये हुए पात्रों की पूजा होती है। कबीर जैसे महापुरुष जिस ने हिन्दुस्तान में रहस्यवाद और सूफीवाद को एक नया रूप दिया, जिस ने एक नई संस्कृति पैदा की, लेकिन क्यों कि वह सवर्ण नहीं थे इसलिए आज उन की पूजा नहीं होती, उन के किताबों की पूजा होती है। अपने देश में हम ने सब से बड़ा आध्यात्मिक पाप किया है, मानसिक पाप किया है कि इन तीनों महापुरुषों को भेज दिया इस्ट में और उन के बनाए हुए ग्रन्थों और पात्रों की पूजा कर रहे हैं। हम ने इटैलेक्चुअरस की पूजा नहीं की, उन बनाई हुई पुस्तकों की पूजा की। इसीलिए यह व्यवस्था दूर नहीं हुई तो हम चाहेंगे कि इस दिशा में कदम उठाया जाय और जो हमारे देश की संस्कृति के प्रतीक हैं उन को ऊपर उठाया जाय। भारत में हम से कहा जाता है कि आप इंडियन हैं। एक बिदेशी आया, वास्काडिगामा वह हमें इंडियन कह गया तो हमारे देश के लोग अपने आप को इंडियन कहने लगे। अपनी नेशनलिटी इंडियन बताने लगे। कोई सिकंदर आया, उस ने सिंध नदी के किनारे बसा देखा, हिन्दू कह दिया तो हम हिन्दू कहलाने लगे, अपने आप को हिन्दू कहने लगे। क्या हम

अपने देश में अपने देश का नाम भी अपना नहीं रख सकते ? विदेशियों के बताए हुए नामों पर अपने देश में धर्म बनाने लग गए ? कहां बंदों में और स्मृतियों में हिन्दू का जिक्र है ? लेकिन आज हिन्दू धर्म, हिन्दू राष्ट्र एक विदेशी बता गया इंडियन नेशनलिटी जो कि एक विदेशी बता गया... (शुक्लबाबु)... हां, भार्य है। लेकिन हिन्दू राष्ट्र, राष्ट्रीय स्पर्धसेवक संघ, सब से बड़े हिन्दुओं के ठेकेदार ये लोग बने फिरते हैं जो नाम कि एक विदेशी ने रखा है। इसलिए हमें पूरी अपनी संस्कृति पर फिर से विचार करना है, इतिहास को दोबारा रचना है। शिक्षा में मौलिक परिवर्तन लाना है, क्रान्तिकारी परिवर्तन लाना है, समाजवाद की दिशा में जाना है, राष्ट्रीयकरण करना है इस के अलावा और कोई इस का हल नहीं है। आप किसी को सजा देंगे फाइन बह दे सकता है, इस में सजा कम दी गई है। जो हिन्दुस्तान में किसी को अछूत कहते हैं, मैं समझता हूं उसे सजा तो दूर रही, उस की नागरिकता छीन लेनी चाहिए। उसे कोई अधिकार नहीं है कि किसी को नीचा समझे और अपने को ऊंचा समझे। लेकिन पूंजीवादी व्यवस्था में विषमता रहेगी तो यह चीज भी चलेगी। इसलिए जो भी प्रगतिशील संस्थाओं के लोग हैं उन्हें बटकर इस का मुकाबला करना चाहिए। अभी सीलिंग आ रही है अर्बन प्रापर्टी पर और रूरल प्रापर्टी पर भी आ रही है। गांवों में गरीबों पर, हरिजनों पर जुल्म होंगे। इसलिए हम लोगों को मजबूती के साथ इस को इम्प्लीमेंट करना चाहिए। और कोई दूसरा तरीका नहीं है। मैं इस बिंदु का समर्थन करता हूं और स्वागत करता हूं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Shri C. M. Stephen.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN (Muvattupuzha): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support this Bill. But even while supporting that, there are certain questions occurring to my mind which I would like to spell out for the consideration of the House and of the hon.

Minister who is piloting this Bill. This amending Bill has got two novel features; one is that the imprisonment is made compulsory and the other is, Explanation 2 to Sub-section (2) of Section 7. This Explanation 2, I am afraid, may not cover the field which, probably, my friend Mr. Bhandare was having in view. Explanation 2 can apply only to a case in which a particular person is hauled up for an offence and it is shown that with respect to that particular person an abetment is proved, in the sense that he has justified the offence on historical or religious or whatever grounds. But there is an other clause which the hon. Minister should have thought about bringing within the ambit of this legislation. That is what my friend from the DMK Benches mentioned during his speech Propaganda is going on unrelated to any particular offence from high places justifying untouchability on the grounds mentioned out in Explanation 2. No particular offence is committed, but campaign is going on, that untouchability is good for historical reasons, religious reasons and so many other reasons, whether that is not an offence and whether that could not be counted as an abetment deserves to be considered. Explanation 2 as framed would not cover that case and I feel, Sir, in view of certain campaigns taking place in the name of Shankaracharya or some other high dignitaries, these amendments should have provided for bringing that too under punitive coverage. This is a lacuna which should have been filled up and unless that is filled up, Sir, in fighting a social malady like this, we will not be making any headway. Ban that campaign to create an impression that the nation treats untouchability as a great crime. Even as a treasonable speech is treated as something condemnable, so also the campaign in this direction should be treated as heinous and penal. That is the point I wanted to make.

With regard to enhancement of punishment, there are two-three questions arising.

The first question is, why has this enhancement become necessary? After all, the statistics spelt out by the report of the Commission show that in 1968, the total cases challanned was 203, conviction 35, acquittal 39 and compromise 52. If in a



large country like India the aberrations amount to only 203 cases, is there a case for enhancement of punishment and bring in special legislation or is it that the cases have not been adequately dealt with? Certainly the latter *i.e.* the reason. All cases have not been picked up and prosecutions have not been launched. Severe punishment has not been given. Therefore, society or administrative machinery has not been geared up to face the challenge with regard to this social malady. As an Indian, I feel like bowing my head in shame that in the 25th year of our independence, this Parliament has got to consider a legislation suggesting enhancement of punishment for untouchability, *i.e.* for Treating a human being as untouchables.

When the Constitution was passed, it was contemplated that reservation will be necessary only for 10 years. But it was further extended. Now we say enhancement of punishment is necessary. That is to say, in this vital respect, we have not made any advance at all. The schedule to the Parent Act contains a number of Acts which have been repealed under the repealing provision of that Act. This covers a long period, from 1946. Nevertheless, this malady remains. Are you going to fight it by enhancing punishment? I am all out to support enhancement of punishment, but what made this legislation necessary? Have you got statistics to show that although the cases were proved, the judiciary has not been awarding the punishment? That is the case here. That is the case with respect to labour legislation or any legislation seeking to protect the weak and unprotected. The judiciary gives a punishment which is only formal, although the law says imprisonment or fine or both. Whereas with respect to section 323 of the I.P.C. although law says this or that and yet the magistracy does impose a punishment of imprisonment, when it comes to untouchability, the most heinous thing you can have which has been specifically spelt out as such by incorporation in the Constitution, the judiciary refuses to give the punishment of imprisonment. Is that not the statistics? If that is so, what is to be our concept about our judiciary? Are they keeping pace with the revolution we want to accomplish? I am pinpointing the source. The internal infra-structure of

society has not been recast in such a manner as to face this malady. For that, a real change in the infra-structure is necessary.

During the period of Mahatma Gandhi, much more, work was done in terms of Harijan welfare than in all these 25 years after independence. He did not have any law Government to support him. He had the entire religion against him. But nevertheless, by a process of social revolution which he carried out like a hurricane from one end of the country to the other, this problem was tackled and the Harijan felt more secure during Mahatma Gandhi's time under his benign protection than now. But with this legislation, that revolutionary urge has gone. No political party is taking it up in that spirit. Nobody is approaching the problem in the spirit of explanation of the sins our forefathers committed against these masses of people. Unless that spirit comes in, this problem cannot be solved. Certainly, so far as this legislation is concerned; its value is that of a symbolic declaration that the whole country is behind anybody who attempts to carry it out.

This can be done, as has been suggested by the Commission, only by self assertion and self realisation on the part of the people of the Scheduled Castes themselves. I am saying this from my experience. Wherever the agricultural labourers; mostly of the Scheduled Castes, are organized and are coming forward to fight for their rights, nobody dreams of untouchability so far as they are concerned because they have got the strength and they go ahead. I say this from my experience in my State. Wherever agricultural labour is organised, it is not under any complex and nobody else is under any complex because he is aware of his rights. If these persons are to be rehabilitated, let there be enhancement of the punishment. I am not questioning that but unless you give him the place of power in the governmental machinery, in your secretariat, in your judiciary, in your first class cadre, unless you give him the place of power, he will not come to his own. Where you attempt to give him the place of power, so many obstacles are coming: Chapter 10 of the Commission's report is revealing enough about the gulf between your promises and what they are getting.

Not that the Scheduled Caste people are not qualified to get, but so many things are coming up to keep them away. Scheduled Caste graduates float about without employment.

But it is said that qualified persons are not available. Let them organize themselves, and that will be the solution.

I view this legislation as a welcome measure only in one respect, that this is a re-avowal, re-pledging of the Indian nation on the 25th Anniversary of Indian Freedom, declaring to the whole world that we are pledged to the end that we are to achieve; nothing more than that. And it will have a salutary effect if the Scheduled Caste people themselves and the political parties who are behind them take up the challenge and go ahead in a revolutionary spirit in which Mahatma Gandhi addressed himself to the task. Otherwise, socialism will be a farcry; and we will be deluding ourselves and deluding the people.

With these words, I support this legislation.

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA (Khammam) : In this country from times immemorial, Harijans and women have been the worst sufferers at the hands of the society ....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : There is no provision for women in this Bill.

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : We are also untouchables.

Puri Sankaracharya does not allow women to touch his feet.

There was a time when Harijans were not allowed to go with chappals in the streets where Brahmins lived and they were also not allowed to use umbrella. Also the woman, when the husband died, was to have her head shaven, and she was not allowed to eat more than once. Even now, so many things are happening. (*Interruptions*) The same conditions still exist. I am bringing this to the notice of the House because the House should be aware of the social conditions of Harijans, and along with Harijans also of women....

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola) : You want them also to be added in the Bill.

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : I am saying this, so that at a later date another Bill like this for women may also be brought forward.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The country is headed by a woman.

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : Once she heads the country, she is not a woman, she is a man. In fact, she is the only man. That is what has been said. It has been said that in this country there has been only one man.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : If she calls herself a man, who is woman (*Interruptions*)

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : All of us are women.

Some hon. member was reminding the House about what had happened in Kanchi Kacherla and other places. At Kanchi Kacherla, a Harijan boy was burnt, and the then Minister went to the length of supporting the incident.

I am glad to inform the House that the Minister is no more a Minister and he is no more in our party. I think such a person who has such views does not deserve to be in our party. I am glad he is outside our party.

There was also an instance, which I know, where a Harijan boy went to a hotel because he was feeling hungry. It is not something which we see in some cinemas or read in some stories. But these things do happen in our society. The boy went to the hotel and ate something and since he was not able to pay the money, he was tied and his hands were burnt. There was also another instance where a child, just because she sat on a mat, in U.P., that child was taken and thrown into a well. These are not old stories; these are recent things, that had happened. I am glad that our Government intend taking some stringent measures through this Bill.

So many people mentioned about socialism and more socialism. I am one with

[Shrimati T. Lakshmi Kanthamma]

Mr. Shashi Bhushan and other Members that mere removal of economic disparities will not solve the problem. Socialism and more socialism is the only panacea for these economic ills. Yes, we go and touch the feet of Babu Jagjivan Ram. On the other day when Mr. Sanjivayya died...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Is touching the feet socialism ?

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : It depends on the status you give to a woman or a Harijan or to the backward classes, whoever it is.

I am glad at least in our Andhra Cabinet, there are four Harijans in the Ministry and a number of backward class people also. There was a time when giving a Ministership to a Harijan was considered as though it was a favour being done to the community. But now, the country has started moving in a different direction. Now, we want to give them importance so that they will take their place in their own right. They are a force now. There is a story that the great Hanuman did not know his strength unless somebody reminded him that he was so powerful. So also, these sections. We know what a great force women are because of the equal vote they have along with men and they could now shape the destinies of a country. So also the Harijans and other poorer sections. When we talk of backward classes, it is not that all are backward. There may be a few—one or two rich people among the backward classes. But, there are only two classes now, the rich and the poor.

There was a discussion about Vedas and Upanishads. According to the Shastras, a Brahmin is one who has the knowledge of Brahman. Brahman is the supreme origin. According to me, Avadutam who is a Harijan is Brahmin and Puri Sankaracharya is an Achut. A person is a Brahmin by attainment and not by birth. The great Viswamitra had to struggle to attain that Brahminhood.

I will give one more suggestion and I will conclude my speech. This is about the inter-cast marriages. There should be a provision wherein you give priority or preference to a person who marries a Harijan girl or Harijan boy.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : In Government jobs ?

SHRIMATI T. LAKSHMIKANTHAMMA : Government can do this much. (*Interruptions*). There are only a few classes of people who believe in this. The general upsurge among the masses is against all these social evils.

I will now give an example and I will conclude. In Tirupati, as an experiment, we gave a seat to a Harijan, who was a Christian student leader. All orthodox people came and said 'How did you give a seat?'. Big people came and complained to the Prime Minister. But ultimately, that boy won by a 15,000 majority. That means the country is not thinking on these lines. The people also are not thinking on these lines. It is only a few classes, and among those few classes, only a few individuals who are thinking like this. They are getting extinct, I am sure. There is a peaceful revolution coming up and these forces that are coming in the way, will be wiped out.

श्री अम्बेश (फिरोज़ाबाद) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह देश का दुर्भाग्य है और साथ में राजनीतिज्ञों और समाजसुधारकों का दुर्भाग्य है कि मात्र 25 साल की स्वतन्त्रता के बाद भी हम को इस बिल को सुधारने की आवश्यकता पड़ी। मैं नहीं समझ सका कि इस बिल को इस तरह से रखने से भी कुछ ज्यादा फायदा हो सकेगा। यह अनन्वेषिणीटी एक बड़ा जघन्य अपराध है, इसके लिए इतनी कम सजा रखना, मैं समझना हूँ या तो किसी को अधिक आर्थिक क्षति हो या समाज में उसके प्रति इस प्रकार का व्यवहार हो तभी वह उसकी बदलने के लिए तैयार होगा, उससे पहले नहीं होगा। मैं इसके पीछे एक सबसे बड़ी भावना समझता हूँ, लोग कहते हैं कि आर्थिक दृष्टि में यह सब चीजें हैं लेकिन मैं इसको आर्थिक दृष्टि से नहीं मानता बल्कि मैं इसको सामाजिक दृष्टि से ही मानता हूँ और इसका सबसे बड़ा दोषी धर्म है। जबतक हम हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर जो धर्म की पुस्तकें हैं जिनके अन्दर धर्म के नाम पर वर्ण व्यवस्था

कहिए या ऊंच-नीच कहिए यह भावनायें रहेंगी, हम जब तक उन पुस्तकों के लिए कोई बिल नहीं लायेंगे या उस अंशों के लिए बिल नहीं लायेंगे तब तक मैं नहीं समझता कि हम अनटचेबिलिटी के लिए कुछ कर सकेंगे। इस से मैं मंत्री जी से चाहूंगा कि जहां उन्होंने एक्सप्लेनेशन टू रखा है वहां पर उन पुस्तकों के लिए जो कि इन बातों को सिखलाती है, टीच करती हैं, मनुष्य मनुष्य में भेद करती है, ऊंच नीच को सिखलाती है, कोई प्राविजन रख दें। जब तक इसके लिए हम कोई प्राविजन नहीं रखेंगे मेरा ऐसा विश्वास है कि हम इस चीज को दूर नहीं कर सकेंगे। जो बच्चा पैदा होता है, पढ़ता है उस के संस्कार रामचरितमानस रामायण पढ़ने से बनते हैं। यह सरकार जो लाखों रुपये देती है, मुश्किल यह है कि उन ग्रंथों के लिए दिया जाये तो कोई बात नहीं है जिन से कि समाज के अन्दर सुधार की बात पैदा हो बल्कि हम उन ग्रंथों को प्रोत्साहन देते हैं जो कि मनुष्य-मनुष्य के अन्दर ऊंच नीच की भावना को प्रेरित करते हैं।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, 25 साल में यदि हमने रिजर्वेशन के आधार पर जो बात कही थी उसको पूरा कर देते तो अनटचेबिलिटी बहुत अंशों में दूर हो जाती। दूसरे रूप में यदि पुलिस में और मिलिट्री के अन्दर 18 प्रतिशत लोगों को भर्ती कर लेते तो मेरा विश्वास है कि गांवों में जिस समय ये लोग इंसपेक्टर या सन-इंसपेक्टर होते तो लोग उनको मानते और उनसे डरते क्योंकि आज किसी भी जिले में थोड्डयुल्ड कास्ट का कोई अधिकारी चला जाता है, कलक्टर होता है, एस०पी० होता है या सब इंसपेक्टर ही होता है तो हम देखते हैं कि वहां का रबैया ही बदल जाता है। तो सबसे बड़ी बात यह है कि इन 25 सालों में, जितना हमने उनको रिजर्वेशन में देने का वायदा किया था

वह भी नह नहीं दिया है। इस प्रकार हमने अनटचेबिलिटी को प्रोत्साहन ही दिया है।

हां, एक बात जरूर हुई इन 25 सालों से कि इनके नाम बहुत बदले लेकिन तसल्ली नहीं हुई। हमने कभी हरिजन नाम रखा, कभी कुछ रखा, इनके नाम संस्कार जरूर हुए। हो सकता है कुछ लोगों को तसल्ली मिले, वे सोचते हों कि इनके इस प्रकार नाम बदलने से सांवना झिलेगी लेकिन मैं समझता हूं यह एक भ्रांति ही थी जो पैदा की गई। बातें बहुत सी हैं कहने को। हमने इस समाज का यदि सुधार नहीं किया, अनटचेबिलिटी के लिए कुछ नहीं सोचा तो हो सकता है किसी न किसी दिन यह ज्वाला मुखी बनकर इस प्रकार फूट और इस देश की क्या हालत कर दे यह सोचने की बात है। मनुष्य मनुष्य के साथ जो अमानुषिक व्यवहार किया जाता है उसकी मिसालें शायद संसार में भी न मिलें। हो सकता है यहां पर रंगभेद की वजह से कुछ इस प्रकार की बातें हो लेकिन यहां पर रंगभेद की बात नहीं है। यहां पर कोई किसी को देखकर पहचान नहीं सकता। यहां पर जानने के बाद ही इस प्रकार का दुर्व्यवहार किया जाता है। तो मैं चाहूंगा कि शिक्षा मंत्री जी उन टीचिंग बुक्स के बारे में कुछ एड करें। मैं समझता हूं अगर हमने एड नहीं किया, उसकी पूर्ति नहीं की, एक्सप्लेनेशन टू में अगर वह एड नहीं किया तो मैं समझता हूं कि वह अधूरा रहेगा। बार बार आप इस को अमेंड करने नहीं जा रहे हैं इसलिए कम से कम यह अवश्य इस के अन्दर कर दें आपने मुझे समय दिया इसके लिये धन्यवाद।

जी बसंत साठे (अकोला) : उपाध्यक्ष जी, मैं इस बिल का हृदय से स्वागत करता हूं इसलिये कि यह एक कदम हम फिर से आगे उठा रहे हैं। मेरा इस समर्थन में इतना ही निवेदन है कि हमारी सारी संस्कृति वहां से शुरू हुई उस

[श्री बसंत साठे]

को यदि हम ठीक नहीं करते हैं तो हम जातिवाद को खत्म नहीं कर पायेंगे। शुरूबात में हमारे सारे भारतीय समाज में धक्का आये, हूण आये, हमने उनको अपना लिया। आर्य शब्द का अर्थ है प्रकाशमान। तो वह शब्द का मूल जो अर्थ था वह भूल गये, और जब से वर्णाश्रम व्यवस्था के बाटर टाइट कम्पार्टमेंट्स में फस गये वहाँ से हमारे सारे भारतीय समाज का वर्तमान स्वरूप शुरू हुआ। गीता में आप देखेंगे कि जहाँ वर्णाश्रम की बात दोहरायी जाती है वहाँ कहा गया है

चातुर्वर्ण्यम् मया सृष्टम्, गुणकर्म विभागप जन्म जाति विभागप नहीं कहा है। इसलिये जाति के आधार पर वर्णाश्रम और समाज को बाट देना, जन्म के आधार पर, यह तो आप की संस्कृति में भी नहीं है। यह कहा से आप लाये ?

आज किसी का लड़का तथाकथित कुल में पैदा हुआ ऐसा कहा जाय, और वह चमार की दुकान में बैठ जाय, बाटा की दुकान में काम करने लगे, तो उसे चमार क्यों नहीं कहा जाता ? धन्ने के मुताबिक सारी जानिया बनी थी, तो आज धन्ने के मुताबिक अपनी जाति कहने को तैयार है क्या ? नहीं तैयार है। जाति पैदावार से पहचानी जाती है। यह कहा जाता है कि मरने के बाद भी जो जाति नहीं, वह जाति है। क्यों कि संस्कार उसके तथाकथित जाति के मुताबिक होंगे। तो जब तक जाति व्यवस्था नहीं खत्म करते जड़ से जैसा मेरे मित्र ने कहा कि नाम देने में क्या होगा, चाहे हरिजन कह दीजिये, या गुरुजन कह दीजिये, उस से कोई फर्क नहीं होने वाला है। आप जड़ ही से इस बात को खत्म कीजिये। आप बिल में ऐसा कहिये कि जो कोई अपनी जाति का नाम कही भी डालेगा वह सजा का पात्र होगा। क्यों कि मानव जाति से बढ़ कर और कोई

जाति नहीं है। मानव को इतना ही काफी है। और उससे ऊँचा दूसरा स्थान कोई नहीं हो सकता है।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, किसी भी जाति का नाम लेना और जाति के आधार पर भेदभाव करना यह मानवता के विरुद्ध है। और इसलिये हमारी घटना के विरुद्ध भी होना चाहिये। इस दृष्टि से यह बिल होना चाहिये। मैं इतना ही कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह जाति व्यवस्था जड़ समेत समाज में सजब तक नहीं निकालेंगे तब तक यह बुराई समाप्त नहीं होगी। किसी भी आदमी को यह अधिकार नहीं है, यह गुनाह मानना चाहिये कि वह यह लिखे कि मैं फलानी-फलानी जाति में पैदा हुआ हूँ। कही भी, चाहे नौकरी हो, चाहे स्कूल हो, बालेज हो, कोई भी सामाजिक स्थान हो, सब जगह केवल मानव धर्म बनाना चाहिये, और दूसरा कोई धर्म नहीं हो सकता। मानव जाति स ऊँची और कोई जाति नहीं हो सकती है। और उसके बाद भी अगर कोई अपनी जाति निश्चता है तो वह गुनाहगार है। यह जब तक बड़ी बदलेगा तब इस बीमारी को नहीं हटा सकेंगे।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का स्वागत करता हूँ।

15 43 hrs.

[SHRI K. N. TIWARI—in the Chair]

PROF S NURUL HASAN : I am extremely grateful to the hon Members for having given their whole-hearted support to this Bill

श्री सम्भूनाथ (सैदपुर) : श्रीमन्, मेरा प्वाइंट ऑफ ऑर्डर है। यह इतना अहम बिल है कि हम लोग यह समझते थे कि इस पर बहुत चिरोली बहस होगी, और इस प्रतीक्षा में थे कि इस में अम्बेडकर देंगे। लेकिन यह ऐसे मौके पर आया जब कि हम लोग इसको अच्छी तरह

ये स्टडी भी नहीं कर पाये । मैं यह चाहूंगा कि मंत्री महोदय इस की ग्रहमियत को देखते हुए, चूंकि यह 20 प्रतिशत पौपुलेशन पर बायरेक्टली असर डालने वाला है, और भावनाओं से भी इसका गहरा सम्बन्ध है, इसलिये इन सब बातों को देखते हुए मैं अनुरोध करूंगा कि इस बिल को जोइन्ट सेलेक्ट कमेटी में भेज दिया जाय ताकि गम्भीरता के साथ इस पर विचार किया जाय चाहे कुछ समय थोड़ा अधिक और भले ही लग जाय। गंभीरता से विचार करके, जो इस में लूपहोल्स हैं उन को हटा कर इस को लाया जाय तो शायद समाज का कोढ़ दूर हो सके ।

**सभापति महोदय :** इस में कोई पौइंट आफ् आर्डर नहीं है । न इस में कोई अमेंडमेंट है ।

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur) : The Speaker said that he is going to call the Minister at 4 p.m. I am not seeking to speak. I have only a suggestion. Because the second reading of the Bill may come up tomorrow at 4.30 we have another discussion, what I am suggesting is that many good amendments were suggested by hon. Members but they could not send them because abruptly this Bill came. So...

MR. CHAIRMAN : No please.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Are you going to pass this Bill today ?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yes, Sir.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : After all, there are so many Members who have spoken...

DR. KAILAS (Bombay South) : It would be better if it is sent to the Select Committee.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : We may have the second reading of the Bill tomorrow.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : The Deputy Speaker said that the Minister will reply at 4 pm.

**डा. कैलाश :** मंत्री जी बोलें, लेकिन हमारी बात मान लें कि इस को सेलेक्ट कमेटी को भेजा जाय ।

**सभापति महोदय :** हम नियम को ताक पर रख कर कैसे डील कर पायेंगे ? जो आप ने कहा है वह मंत्री जी ने सुन लिया है । अब आप उन को सुनिये ।

**श्री एस० एस० बनर्जी :** भूब कौन करेगा । अमेंडमेंट करने का टाइम नहीं है, बिल सकुलेंट नहीं हुआ है ।

**श्री चन्द्र शैलानी (हाथरस) :** उपाध्यक्ष महोदय ने कहा था कि मंत्री जी चार बजे बोलेंगे । लेकिन पौने चार बजे से ही बोल रहे हैं । इसलिये मैं चाहूंगा कि थोड़ा समय बढ़ा दिया जाय ।

**सभापति महोदय :** यह बिल 13 तारीख को इंट्रोड्यूस हो चुका है । इसलिये जो प्रोजेक्चर है वह अब चलने दीजिये ।

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : The time was fixed by the Deputy Speaker for his reply.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I know what the Deputy Speaker said and what he has told me and how I should conduct the House. Now, please take your seat.

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SOCIAL WELFARE AND CULTURE (PROF. S. NURUL HASAN) : So far as this particular measure is concerned, it is limited in character. It is not a measure which would by itself lead to eradication of untouchability. Hon. Members from all sections of the House have rightly pointed out that to eradicate the real malady something else is needed. We need a social revolution. We need a basic change in our outlook. It is necessary that social and political workers should mobilise the masses of our people to arouse their conscience against this canker of untouchability. I

[Prof. S. Nurul Hasan]

think there cannot be any difference of opinion on this. The way all sections of this House have expressed themselves on this issue of untouchability is a proof (if any proof is needed at this stage) that the people of India will not tolerate untouchability. Even though it may be practised to our utter shame and disgust, the people of the nation as a whole will not tolerate and and if the people as a whole will not tolerate it, then, it becomes the duty of all of us, particularly of the Government to take all such measures which are necessary for the eradication of untouchability.

Sir, various measures have been proposed; many measures have already been undertaken; many more are likely to be undertaken in the future the net effect of all of which would be to undermine the whole indiological, social and economic basis of the society which tolerates and engenders untouchability. I will not go into the details of all those measures.

I would only make one very brief reference to Education. I am deeply conscious of my responsibility in the sphere of education, to ensure that the education system does not contribute in any way to the concept of untouchability, but on the other hand, to see that effective measures are taken to see that those who have had the benefit of education reject outright the concept of untouchability and the social and ideological basis of this particular attitude.

श्रीमती सहोदरा बाई राय (सागर): मुझे मौका नहीं दिया गया, इसलिए मैं बाहर जा रही हूँ।

*Shrimati Sahodra Bai Rai then left the House.*

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : I am only too painfully conscious also of the various incidents that have taken place against the Harijans. I am also conscious of the fact that as land legislation is going to be enacted in various States and changes of land relationships are in the offing, social tensions have increased and as a result of these social tensions attempts have been made to use violence against the

Harijans. It is the duty of all political parties and all social organisations to ensure that Harijans are protected but the duty of the Government is even more than that of the social workers and of the political leaders. It is with this aim in view that the Government considered it necessary to bring forward this long-delayed measure before the House, a measure, which, as I said before, is based on the well-considered recommendations of the very high-powered committee, namely, the Elayaperumal Committee. It would have been easy for me to say that let us refer it to yet another committee. Then, the Fifth Lok Sabha's term would be over and again a measure would come, and again the society would undergo a change, and again there would be a Bill and again there would be a demand and yet another Select Committee. I feel that even if we find that there are certain gaps or certain loopholes, we should point out those things; I heard with rapt attention all the agreements that were advanced in the House, and on the basis of the arguments, I am seeking your indulgence to move some amendments myself. But I would beg of hon. Members not to postpone this further, because a postponement at this stage when these tensions are increasing is likely to create more complications than it would solve.

A reference was made quite rightly by almost all hon. Members to the machinery for implementation. I am conscious again of the fact that our machinery is not what all of us would like it to be. But Governments have been conscious—I am referring to the State Governments—of the need to enforce properly and adequately this Act. I myself addressed a letter in February to all the State Governments in which I made a special plea that the Collectors and District Superintendents of Police be held personally responsible to ensure adequate protection to Harijans against any kind of discrimination arising out of untouchability and that they should take prompt action *suo motu* in all instances where the practice of untouchability comes to their notice. The State Governments should take a note of the work done by the Collectors and the District Superintendents of Police in connection with the protection and welfare of Harijans, Adibasis and other

backward classes and that special notice should be taken in connection with their annual confidential reports. A further request was made that the presidents of district panchayats be asked to take prompt action against taluk and village panchayats which were found to be discriminating against the Harijans in their jurisdiction.

SHRI K. S. CHAVDA : What is the response from the State Governments ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Some State Governments have started taking energetic action. The Government of the State from which the hon. Member comes has taken very important decisions in this respect, and I am happy to state that.

I would like to draw the attention of the House to another measure which the Government of India have taken. We have requested the Chief Secretaries to the State Governments and drawn their attention to this particular Bill and we have also said that the State Governments may consider the need to make provisions similar to the provision that is sought to be made here in the Representation of the People Act, that is to say, debarring anyone from seeking election to zila parishad or village panchayat, who has been convicted of the offence of untouchability.

16 hrs.

I am also extremely gratified that hon. members have made a special reference to this very significant Explanation No. 2 which has been inserted here, that is to say, any person who justifies whether on historical, philosophical or religious grounds the practice of untouchability will be deemed to have incited or encouraged another person to practise untouchability. This is a very important point added. After this, I would only submit that we should not go in for banning of books. As a teacher, I am a little worried when books are sought to be banned. I want ideology to be met with ideology. Books written in a given set of historical circumstances may have a totality of values which may be valid for the time, but parts of those books may not be valid today. Therefore, if every historical work

is to be subjected to censorship by each subsequent generation, perhaps it would not be possible for us even to understand the proper development of society in any given age. Hence by evaluating a historical work, let us see what was the total contribution of that work in a given society at a given moment of time.

SHRI B. S. MURTHY : Are you prescribing them as textbooks ?

श्री स्वामी ब्रह्मानन्दजी (हमीरपुर) : जो ग्रन्थ भेदभाव डालते हैं उनको नहीं रोकेंगे तो कैसे काम चलेगा ? ...अगर वह ग्रन्थ निकाले नहीं जायेंगे तो समाज बदल नहीं सकता ।

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : At the same time, it will be very difficult for us to ignore the feeling reflected in this House that in the matter of textbooks meant for schools, we have to be very careful about what sense of values we wish to inculcate. That was why I started my very speech by saying that in the educational system we will have to take measures to ensure that the values we inculcate in the new generation are not values which will tolerate this canker of untouchability.

Reference was made to the number of cases registered with the police and actual convictions obtained. I have with me the figures right from the beginning. I am particularly happy at the decline in the number of cases registered with the police. I am told these figures are incomplete, but even so, I think they do reflect a trend that the number of cases registered by the police, even though these are cognisable offences, is not on the increase, even though reports are that these offences are being committed on a fairly wide scale. In 1968, 214 cases were registered; 184 were challaned; 19 were convicted; 28 were acquitted; 53 were compounded, and 84 were pending.

SHRI C. M. STEPHEN : Any information about the nature of convictions ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : If you just bear with me for a few seconds, I will be coming to it. In 1969, the cases registered with the police were 251; challaned



[Shri S. Nurul Hasan]

207; convicted 28; acquitted 13; compounded 46; pending 120. In 1970, cases registered, 203; challaned 168; convicted 15; acquitted 14; compounded 83, pending 56. You will see from the percentage of cases compounded why it has been necessary for us to come forward with this Bill.

Another point which has been raised and quite correctly raised is that what has been the attitude of the presiding magistrates when convictions were done. Sir, the Elayaperumal Committee studied 70 cases, of which 23 ended in conviction; out of these 23 cases, 17 cases, resulted in fine only. The amount of fine ranged up to Rs. 25 in 12 cases and between Rs. 25 and Rs. 100 in five cases, and of the two cases which ended in imprisonment, in one case the imprisonment was for only one week and in another case only up to the rising of the court. Therefore, it was necessary for the Government to take due note of the very valuable recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee and to bring forward this particular piece of legislation.

Sir, in my introductory speech, I had made a reference to the fact that the Government had deviated in one respect from the recommendations of the Elayaperumal Committee, and that was that we should take the view that if for the first offence the minimum punishment is one month instead of three months, then perhaps there would not be so many acquittals, but as I had thought from the speeches that I heard here, I gathered that hon. Members would prefer that the minimum punishment which has been prescribed should not be lowered. I am, therefore, going to crave your indulgence that the minimum punishment recommended by the Elayaperumal Committee, of three months plus Rs. 50 as fine should be incorporated in this Bill.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Are you going to move an amendment ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Yes.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : When are you going to move it ? The Bill is going to be passed today. (*Interruptions*) If the Government are moving an amendment, why not allow us also to move amendments?

MR. CHAIRMAN : Let the Minister finish his speech.

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : There have been many other suggestions which I am sure the Government will benefit from by accepting them. For example, one suggestion was that the provisions of the Bill should be properly publicised and brought to the notice of the various authorities.

श्री टी. सोहनलाल : इस हाउस में माननीय सदस्यों ने जो भावना व्यक्त की है उस को देखते हुए क्या आप इसको सेनेट कमेटी में भेजने के बारे में नहीं सोच सकते ?

PROF. S. NURUL HASAN : Then the question about free legal aid to the Harijans was raised.

This is a cognizable offence and Harijans do not have to fight the case themselves; it is for the police to take up the case and fight it. My hon. friend Shri Vajpayee made a specific reference to an incident about separate surahi being kept in the Central Secretariat. It is a serious matter and I would beg of him to let me know further details. We must take up this matter seriously and take strong action... (*Interruptions*) My hon. friend was having some discussion and did not probably hear what I said; otherwise he would not have raised this matter. I have already said that it should be our special responsibility to fight against the concept of untouchability through educational institutions. I commend the Bill to the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is :

"That the Bill to amend the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955 and further to amend the Representation of the People Act, 1951, be taken into consideration."

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJ BAHADUR) : Sir, before you put it to the vote of the House, I want to make one submission. There is a strong feeling in the House and we have to take note of it, that the Bill requires further consideration; there is a sugges-

tion to refer it to the Select Committee. If you could permit us to have sometime and postpone this Bill till tomorrow, I shall be grateful.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The Bill was circulated on 13.4.1972 and there was enough time for Members and also to Mr. Banerjee who has become very prominent in projecting the Bill. I shall take care to send amendments.

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : I was not here.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Yet there was enough time; it would have been proper for them to send amendments and suggestions... (Interruptions)

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : I want to say something; you have cast an aspersion on me.

MR. CHAIRMAN : If the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs wants, he can move a motion formally and I shall take the sense of the House.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I move :

"That the debate on the Bill be adjourned".

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : सभापति महोदय, मोशन क्या है ? क्या मोशन यह है कि चर्चा रोक दी जाये ? किस लिये रोक दी जाये ? क्या सभी सदस्यों ने इस विवाद में भाग नहीं लिया है ? क्या मंत्री महोदय यह मान रहे हैं कि इस विषयक को जायंट कमेटी में भेज दिया जाये ? अगर हां, तब तो इस को माना जा सकता है। इस समय चर्चा रोकने का क्या मतलब है ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : Even for the consideration of the motion to refer the Bill to a Joint Committee, time is needed... (Interruptions)

MR. CHAIRMAN : First let me dispose of Mr. Vajpayee's point. According to rule

109 at any stage of a Bill under discussion in the House, a motion that the debate on the Bill be adjourned may be moved with the consent of the Speaker.

I am giving my consent.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I mentioned rule 109 myself and I have formally moved.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : एजानमेंट किस लिए ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : It is a matter which deeply affects the psychological satisfaction and actual satisfaction of our friends belonging to the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. We must not do anything in a hurry which leaves a feeling in their mind that we are rushing with the Bill. I am not really happy with the adjournment, but I would rather like to take an uncomfortable step for us but I would not like that they should go with the impression that we are rushing with it without giving them the fullest opportunity to discuss it. You are quite right in saying that it was circulated on 13.4.72.

MR. CHAIRMAN : As Mr. Vajpayee pertinently asked, what is the purpose for which the adjournment is being sought ?

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : The purpose is to consider whether this Bill could not be referred to a Joint Select Committee.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I think this is the opinion of the House also. The question is:

"That the debate on the Bill be adjourned".

*The motion was adopted.*

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I am extremely happy that it has been adjourned. I have given a motion which I sent to you saying that it should be referred to a Select Committee, the names of which are to be announced by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. It is already with you. As you

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

know, Sir, amendments are moved upto 3 P. M. Now it is 4.20. I would request you to allow us as a special case to move amendments upto 5.30 or 6 P. M.

MR. CHAIRMAN : You can give amendments till 5 P. M.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : (Diamand Harbour) : On a point of order, Sir. You have not only been misled by the Table but you have been equally misled by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs. His actions are unparliamentary. The rules are very clear on the subject. Rule 74 clearly says that when a Bill is introduced, the motion can be moved that it be referred to a Joint Committee. Now, has anybody under rule 74 formally moved a motion with the intention of sending the Bill to a Joint Committee ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I have moved it.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Before my friend Mr. Banerjee, my friend from this side, Shri Shambunath, also made that request..

SHRI S.M. BANERJEE : He mentioned it, but I moved.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Your motion is not in order.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : When a Bill is introduced, at any subsequent occasion the member in charge may make one of the following motions in regard to the Bill, and one of them is reference to the Select Committee of the House. I can move it even now.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : But he is not in charge of the Bill.

SHRI RAJ BAHADUR : I do not know whether Shri Jyotirmoy Basu is more parliamentary or the chair is more parliamentary.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : As far as the chair is concerned, the powers are quite well-defined. Rule 89 says that the Speaker may, if he thinks fit, postpone the consideration of the clause, not the Bill. As far as rule 74 is concerned....

MR. CHAIRMAN : Kindly read rule 109.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am referring to the rule relating to reference to Select Committee, and that is rule 74.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Rule 75 (2) (b) says :

"If the member in charge moves that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee of the House, or a Joint Committee of the Houses with the concurrence of the Council, any member may move as an amendment that the Bill be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses with the concurrence of the Council or a Select Committee, as the case may be, or that the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by a date to be specified in the motion."

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : सभापति जी, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यह सेलेक्ट कमेटी में कब भेजा जा रहा है ? इसे सेलेक्ट कमेटी में जाना है तो कब तक जाना है ? कल जायेगा या अगले सेशन में जायेगा ?

सभापति महोदय : कल जायेगा ?

16.22 hrs.

# DISCUSSION RE : DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN WEST BENGAL

MR. CHAIRMAN : We will now take up the discussion of the drought conditions in West Bengal.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, when I am raising this discussion on the drought situation in West Bengal, the sun is blazing furiously over that land and I see in my mind's eye millions of people thronging round the few remaining tanks and tube wells in the rural areas for a bucketful of water and waiting there from morning till dusk and many of

them have to come back without even one tumblful of water. Today in most of the districts of West Bengal, particularly in the districts of Malda, Purulia, Bankura, Midnapur and others, the situation has become so terrible that most of the streams tanks and tube-wells are drying up. There is no water and people every where are crying for water with tears in their eyes. The Prime Minister during her recent visit to the drought affected areas of West Bengal was somewhat moved by this acute scarcity of water and she had also to accept that the drought situation in West Bengal has become extremely terrible.

In recent memory West Bengal has had not witnessed such a terrible situation, such an unprecedented drought situation that has overwhelmed the whole people of West Bengal, particularly some of the districts I have already mentioned. The Delhi press is usually very responsive and sympathetic to West Bengal issues and problems but, unfortunately, I do not know what happened, this time even scanty report on the serious situation of West Bengal drought did not appear in the Delhi press.

Perhaps, the responsibility for this is not of the Delhi press only but the responsibility lies squarely with the Government of West Bengal. Even when Mr. P. C. Sen and some of the leaders of the Congress organisation, at least whose personal integrity is well known in West Bengal, started walking in different drought affected areas, making appeal after appeal to the Government to take prompt and immediate steps. If the Government could do nothing else, at least they could have provided some water in the rural areas. The Government of West Bengal did not care to take note of it in time.

When we were issuing statements, writing letters to the Chief Minister, they did not care even to reply. But some how or other, when the report came to the Prime Minister and the Prime Minister made an air-dash, and when this report came to the West Bengal Government, suddenly, the West Bengal Government became aware of the gravity of this situation. A day before, the West Bengal Government did not believe the report of the Sub-Divisional Officers and the District Magistrates regarding

drought problems. In the last 15 to 20 days, the report of the Sub-Divisional Officers the District Magistrates were coming to the Writers' Building. But they did not care. Just to create an impression in the mind of their high-boss, the Prime Minister of India, when she was going to make an air-dash to the drought-affected areas, suddenly, the Writers Building, the Ministers there, became very much aware of the seriousness of the situation developing in West Bengal and they immediately asked all the Ministers to make a on the spot enquiry of different districts. In one day, they went to different districts and came back. Again just to create an impression, not on the people of West Bengal but on somebody else, they had their Cabinet meeting, a very-late-night Cabinet meeting and then, coming out of that Cabinet meeting, the Chief Minister of West Bengal made a dramatic announcement to the press. He said it in Bengali, saying: "I have given an order late at night to tackle the problem of the drought situation in West Bengal on a war footing."

I am happy that at least even at a late hour, they have become aware of it; they have given up their sluggish mentality in dealing with the serious situation of drought in West Bengal.

As I said, the situation has become so terrible there that there is no water. Almost all the streams, tanks and tubewells have dried up. Most of the tubewells are out of operation. Not only so. Most of the *aus* crop has been lost. The Government has given the figure. I do not know to what is the extent of the loss of crops. They have said that it has been lost to the tune of Rs. 36 crores. I do not know what will be the exact amount.

There is another serious thing and that is that jute—this is time of jute production—is also lost to the extent of Rs. 44 crores. I do not know. If the Government's figure is correct. It may be more or it may be less, Only they can say.

When we are talking of land ceiling, when we are talking of land reforms, innumerable reports of distress sale of land by agriculturists in different districts of West Bengal are coming in. That means, just for

[Shri Samar Guha]

a morsel of food or a bucketful of water, the agriculturists are being compelled to give up their own means of livelihood, a few pieces of their lands. This distress sale of land is going on. It has come in the press, in West Bengal, that in many tribal areas, again, out of a sense of desperation, an acute helplessness, many of the tribal people in the form of groups have tried to seize paddy from others.

16.30 hrs.

[SHRI R. D. BHANDARE *in the Chair*]

These things are growing and will grow because the starvation situation is fast leading to a near-famine condition in West Bengal.

Again, Sir, you will realise what the scarcity of drinking water means. Unless the problem of scarcity of drinking water is tackled expeditiously, there is every possibility of a large scale outbreak of epidemic of gastro enteritis.

Then, mango is the only cash crop in these two districts of Malda and West Dinajpur. The whole of their economy depends on this. . .

AN HON. MEMBER : Murshidabad also.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Yes ; in these three districts of Malda, West Dinajpur and Murshidabad. This time mango is completely finished ; no mango at all. That means, the whole of the economy of those areas—Malda, West Dinajpur and Murshidabad—will be crushed. The silk plantation, the mulberry plantation in Malda and Murshidabad areas, is completely blazed out, completely lost. That will also seriously affect the economy of one block of the district that was depending on the silk production of the area. This is the situation—tragic as it is.

Our truncated State of West Bengal, since independence, unfortunately, has not been able to come out of the orbit of crisis. There have been crises after crises—some crises due to natural calamities and some crises due to political calamities—coming in turns or simultaneously. The ill-fated people of West Bengal have been facing tragedies of crises, economic and political for the last 25 years.

Before I deal with the other aspects, the concrete and practical aspects, I want to know from the Government whether the Central Government and the State Government—because there is no way to differentiate between the Central Government and the State Government ; they belong to the same political fraternity, an absolute political fraternity ; there are no different responsibilities ; the Government is really one ; there are only two different facades—, to meet this unprecedented situation, this terrible situation, that has been created in West Bengal as a result of continued drought, whether the Central Government and also its counter-part in the State—not counter-part actually, its ancillary in the State—are really seriously desirous, of tackling this problem, then here and now West Bengal should be declared as a drought area. The Minister may ask, even the Chief Minister of West Bengal may ask, what is the good of declaring it a drought area ; they may say that the Centre is giving money and they are trying to do everything. But, Sir, there is an obligation. As soon as this is declared as a drought area, so far as the question of finding funds for dealing with the situation is concerned, it will become the mutual obligation of the Centre and the State. Secondly, as it happened in the case of Bihar drought, as soon as you declare it a drought area, it will create a national, and to a certain extent international, awareness about the seriousness of the situation there. Thirdly, it will create a sense of urgency, not only at the Central level but also at the State level, that the whole problem has to be tackled expeditiously. If Shri Siddhartha Shankar Ray wants to take the things seriously, if he wants to tackle the whole problem on a war footing, then West Bengal should be declared as a drought area. Then and then only, it will mean that they are serious of tackling the whole problem on a war footing. Therefore, I demand the first prerequisite for dealing with the drought situation in West Bengal is to declare it as a drought-affected area.

Secondly, I hope at least during this crisis of natural calamity when the whole people of West Bengal are involved in a terrible situation, at least I should expect that the men who belong to the ruling community, those who are controlling the

administration, should have at least that mental outlook, I should say, courage and vision also, to rise above Party considerations. I think they should invite the co-operation of all political Parties, not only Political Parties, of social organisations and all other organizations and humanitarian bodies to deal with the situation. I am sorry to say that there is not an iota of any initiative on the part of the West Bengal Government to request or invite the other political Parties or other organizations to co-operate with the Government to deal with the situation.

It has become the business of the Ministers and the MLAs. You will be astonished to know that when crores of rupees are going to be spent, there is instruction issued at all levels, even at the Block level, Sub-divisional level and at the level of the Districts that no test relief scheme and no G.R. scheme and no tube-well project will be sanctioned without the approval of the local MLA, that means now the Congress MLAs. That is the approach. Not only that, there is another interesting thing. Now, in the midst of this calamity and in the midst of all this horror of the people, they are trying to take advantage of the suffering of the people and trying to create an image of the Congress and you know it has been said by the Government that the worst affected districts are Purulia, Midnapore, Bankura, Birbhum, Malda and other areas are also by and large affected. But there is a report in the Press. What is that report? That is of the Minister rushing back from their constituencies after a hurried survey of the scarcity situation there. What is the decision they have taken? They have taken a decision that they will set up 35 tube wells in 335 blocks. What does that mean? It means that they have developed an arithmetic of average of their own. That means that there is no question of giving priority to worst affected areas. But each Minister and each MLA are competing with the other just to get the benefit of relief to their constituencies. That benefit may come from the Centre. That benefit may come from the State Government also. Just to make equal distribution for all the districts. Why? So that all MLAs and Ministers and several other people may get something for their constituencies.

Sir, there is a spirit of suspicion in our mind. Are you serious? If they had been

serious, this averaging—35 tube wells for each Block should not be there. There should have been such variation—more for the affected areas and less for the less affected areas. But, that is not so. Not only that, from the Writers Building, from the Government side; some information was given to the Press that already some tube wells have been set up in the Purulia area. Immediately a contradiction came from the Chatra Parishad. They have made a public statement where they said that it is wrong. It came in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. It also came in the *Hindustan Standard*, that no tube wells have been set up there (*Interruptions*) My dear young friend, it will be very painful for me to pick up any controversy with you. I want to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to this fact. Let there be not too much publicity without doing anything. The Government has to do concrete, tangible work, instead of making some flamboyant statements to the press, to build the image of some political leader here or there or in some other place.

There is another interesting report. One Minister coming from Nadia district made some interesting press statement in the Writers Building. He said, "In Nadia district we have given order for setting up of 2,000 tube wells." What does it mean? Nadia district is affected, but certainly not as much affected as the others. If they sink 2,000 tubewells in Nadia district, that means, in other districts also it will be 2,000 and on an average total will be 30,000 tubewells for 15 districts. But, Sir, there is a contradiction in the statement of the hon. Minister, Shri Fakruddin Ali Ahmed in the Rajya Sabha. He said, West Bengal will sink 4,000 tube wells. Shri Siddhartha Shankar Ray said in the statement earlier that they have given instruction for immediate sinking of 12,000 tube wells. Why there is this contradiction? How does these things tally?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : Nothing prevents the State Government from taking up larger programme. There is no contradiction in what the Chief Minister of West Bengal and the hon. Minister of Agriculture said.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA** There should not be any flamboyant statement. One Minister says, there are going to be 2,000 tubewells in one district. That means, 30,000 will be new tube wells for whole of West Bengal. There is the statement of the Chief Minister that 12,000 tube wells are going to be sunk there. I don't want anybody to take any political advantage out of the situation. Let us all rise above political or party considerations and tackle this issue as a united people.

The need of the hour is to supply drinking water. Tube wells will take time. What will happen immediately within 15 days or 20 days? Government should immediately requisition as many jeeps and lorries as they can so that they may supply drinking water immediately to these areas where the scarcity is more.

**MR. CHAIRMAN** Please conclude. Your time is exhausted. You have been given 20 minutes out of 2 hours for this discussion.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA** I am concluding. This should be done immediately. We may tackle the immediate problem by doing this. In Barabazar area the tube wells are going into the black-market. Some effective measures should be taken up so that tube-well apparatus do not go underground. Test relief work should not be done haphazardly, it should be properly coordinated, with the local developmental works.

**MR. CHAIRMAN** You can send all your suggestions to the Minister.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA** We don't get the time. Only a few minutes more, Sir.

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** (Diamond Harbour). It was my motion, but because of some peculiar rule, I have been made No. 2 in the list.

**SHRI SAMAR GUHA** I want to warn Government that unless advance preparations are made to protect the *aman* crop

in the next season, the whole economy of rural West Bengal will be shattered. The immediate requirement is that there should be remission of land revenue, at least suspension, if not remission of the agricultural loans and fertiliser loans, there should also be advance preparations as regards seeds distribution and also the giving of fertiliser and other loans to the cultivators.

As regards jute about Rs. 44 crores worth of jute is lost and therefore, the price of jute will shoot up. It is time that the jute growers and cultivators should get a fair price for their produce and should have a proper share in this rise in price.

As regards distribution of food, government relief should be given to the people of the drought-affected areas in large number. Grual kitchens should be opened larger numbers, and their management should be entrusted to non-official organisations like the Marwari Relief Society, the Ramakrishna Mission etc. Large scale fair price shops should be opened in all drought-affected areas and cheap canteens should also be opened, and voluntary organisations should be invited to provide milk to the children and also distribute 'Bulgar' food to them.

I conclude with the observation with which I started, namely that West Bengal should be declared as a drought area and the whole problem should be tackled not in any partisan spirit, but I would again urge that committees should be formed at all levels, from the State level to the block level consisting of members from all parties so that the problem could be tackled by the people as a whole and not in any partisan way.

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI** (Calcutta South). Really speaking, the situation in West Bengal as a result of the recent drought is a very painful one. Immediately after the elections on 11th March, 1972, a progressive democratic Government under the leadership of the Congress Party was installed in West Bengal. That Govt. started reopening the closed industries, re-employing more than 50,000 members of the working classes, restoring peace in the educational campus, in the industrial belt and in the agricultural field, re-thinking a



new plan for West Bengal to revitalise West Bengal and make it Bengal of gold. Unfortunately in this hour we are facing a new crisis the crisis of drought.

Just a little while ago, Shri Samar Guha was explaining the drought situation in West Bengal. If only he had taken the risk of losing his allowances in Parliament for ten days and visited these places he could have placed before you a better picture of the drought situation in West Bengal.

SHRI SAMAR GUHA I had been there.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI This drought has not been caused by the political parties or at the motivation of the Government but is only due to natural causes. When the Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi paid a visit to Calcutta in connection with some other office she curtailed two or three of her important engagements and rushed to Bankura and Midnapur and she assured the Government as also the people of West Bengal that all assistance would be given to them to fight the drought. The Ministers of the West Bengal Government right from Cabinet rank to other ranks are marching into the districts to bring about the chief concerns of the districts in order to rely to the Government the actual requirements. You will be glad to know that there is no question of political parties here. The common people and even the students in the colleges and universities are all co-operating with Government in the programme for installation of tube wells or digging of tube wells and digging of ponds and reconstruction of ponds here and there. But the crisis is so acute that immediate relief cannot come immediately.

But we have every confidence that we shall be able to succeed in meeting this crisis. We need some financial assistance, for the purpose and we are quite confident and hopeful that the Central Government would assist us as much as they could. It has been stated in the press that about Rs 40 crores would be needed for the purpose. I personally feel that it will be much more than that. The problem which we are seeing in West Bengal now is that

the money earmarked for other developmental works is being spent on fighting the drought. So the actual assistance for agricultural development should be given from the Centre so that immediately after relief work in the drought areas is over, we can devote our energies to the scheduled programme of agricultural development in rural areas.

Prof Guha repeatedly said that all the political parties were not invited. This is not correct. The Chief Minister had invited all the people, particularly the major parties. Prof Guha is a learned man and I respect him as my teacher; he was also invited by the Chief Minister as a citizen but we cannot invite him as a party man because he has no party in Bengal.

SHRI PILOO MODY (Godhra) These days one-man parties are enough.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI I would like to draw attention to the condition of the poor peasants in Bankura, Purulia and Birbhum. I have seen with my own eyes during my personal visits the distressed condition of the peasants. Poor boys from peasant families have been rushing to the cities to bring water. We will be happy to know that some six or seven days before city boys from Calcutta, Bishampur, Karganj and Singur have been voluntarily co-operating in taking water by lorries for supply to the distress areas.

Immediately after relief work is over, two or three specific things have to be done. First free fertiliser and free seeds required by the poor peasants should be supplied to them. This cannot be done by the State Government alone. Central assistance is needed in this respect. Then the poor peasants in the drought-affected area should be given free medical assistance. This is a State subject, but the Central Government should provide the financial wherewithal for giving this assistance. For the Bangladesh refugees, the Central Government had purchased so many things in Tripura, Bengal and Assam like tents, tubewells etc. Immediately, it should be ascertained how much of it was lost and how much is in our possession. Whatever



[Shri Priya Ranjan Das Munsi]

materials are available should be diverted for the relief of drought-stricken people so that this may be an additional relief to them.

I do not like to dwell more on this subject. It is unfortunate that drought has seriously affected the people. Otherwise, Bengal was marching progressively in all fields. The Rural Water supply Minister, Shri Sattar, himself had promised to provide within a month tubewells and other things to ensure a rural water supply scheme. But as Prof. Guha might have told you, in certain parts the bureaucratic red tape is delaying work. Now Ministers have been deployed there. We must also remember that for the last four years Bengal administration and some officials were under the pressure of a certain rule. They are not able to break themselves free from the old tradition. So it is the duty of all progressive parties to join to other and participate in this endeavour to put more pressure on the administration, gear up the machinery so that they ultimately do their duty by the people in dire need.

With these words, I hope that the relief measures undertaken will succeed in alleviating the distress. The Centre has assured us help. I do not like to put more pressure on them. The Prime Minister herself has promised in clear terms that whatever help needed by the State Government would be given to mitigate the distress of the people.

Because I have seen with my own eyes the situation in Bankura and Midnapore. I think Prof. Guha should have congratulated the Prime Minister in his speech, because in spite of her preoccupation, she had to curtail many things and she personally paid attention and talked to the Chief Minister at night. She called on the Chief Minister and the Ministers of the Cabinet and certain other people also do discuss how we can fight the issue. I am quite confident that immediately when the Parliament session is over on the 31st of this month, we shall find in the newspapers that effective drought measures have been

taken up vigorously by the Government and that the drought situation is met like a challenge of war.

**PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE** (Rajapur): Sir, one clarification from the hon. Member. I do not want to speak. He said that nobody was invited to that Committee, from the Socialist Party, because the Socialist Party does not exist in West Bengal. I want to know from him if in Goa there was any calamity, and an all-party committee was to be formed, because from Goa proper not a single legislator has been elected from the Congress Party would he like the Congress Party to be excluded from such a Committee?

**SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI**: I was not mentioning it in that light. But Prof. Guha was telling us very clearly that he was always invited. Unfortunately, Mr. Dandavate has got no followers in West Bengal, absolutely. He should encourage Mr. Guha to raise his party in West Bengal. What can Mr. Dandavate do there? (*Interruptions*).

**SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU** (Diamond Harbour): Sir, I have heard with rapt attention the dialogue of a mutual admiration society here. One called the other a great man. Let us forget about it for the time being.

I come to the subject. The magnitude of the miseries that are prevalent in West Bengal now is astounding. I quote from a Calcutta paper which says that there has been a loss of the Aus crop to the tune of about three lakh tonnes and worth about Rs. 36 crores; jute, about 1.5 million bales worth about Rs. 30 crores, and standing Baro crop, about 1,08,000 tonnes worth about Rs. 15 crores. The Baro variety is cultivated in a total area of about 1,45,000 acres.

Out of the population of a little over four crores in West Bengal, to our mind, about a crore and a half, that is, more than a third of the total population are vitally affected, and the traditional areas of Bankura, Purulia, Midnapore, Malda and

Birbhum are the worst affected. Last year they were the worst affected from floods. This year, they are the sufferers from drought.

There had been numerous starvation deaths; in Midnapore alone, six died of starvation. That has come out in all the papers. In a place in Midnapore, in Uttarbhil, a muslim family died of starvation, and how pathetic is the narration of the people of the Uttarbhil village, most of whom are agricultural labourers, when they talked about Gulame Katuru Saifuddin who had seven children? As long as they could, they fed Gulame and her seven children. Last year, there was a storm which demolished their hovel, and the local young men, although most of them were unemployed, gave her shelter and food. It was a different story this year. On one Sunday in April, there was no food, and these seven children found their mother dead in the morning. How pathetic it is?

It has all happened due to lack of rainfall. I agree. It is Nature. But during the last 25 years, the Congress has held power at the Centre, controlling all the fiscal and developmental measures, and for the last 25 years in West Bengal also—25 years minus 22 months—the Congress has held power.

Let us see, however, what they have been able to do. The share of West Bengal in the rural works programme is as follows. This is in reply to a question of mine—4454, of 1st May, 1972, which says—outlay sanctioned for 1970-71, 1971-72 assistance, disbursement actual expenditure, etc, Andhra Pradesh, Rs. 2.84 crores; Gujarat, Rs. 3.30 crores; Maharashtra, Rs. 1.32 crores; Mysore, Rs. 1.81 crores; Rajasthan, Rs. 2.22 crores. For West Bengal the figure is Rs. 0.34 crores wonderful, it tops the list. Now, I come to the actual expenditure. Andhra Pradesh Rs. 3.90 crores, Maharashtra Rs. 4.23 crores (total for a few years) and West Bengal, Rs. 0.10 crores. Take another issue the agricultural refinancing corporation, whose job it is to encourage minor irrigation to fight drought, water scarcity or scarcity for drinking water. Let us see the wonderful performance of the two Governments functioning together. The statement here shows the total number of schemes, total financial

assistance and the total commitment of the corporation, and the number of schemes fully implemented. The figure for Andhra is 74, for Gujarat 39, for Haryana 17, for Maharashtra 38, for Mysore 85, for Punjab 29 and for West Bengal 06. This is what you have been able to do in 25 years and yet they are waxing eloquent.

17 hrs.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY  
(Nizamabad): Hear, hear.

MR. CHAIRMAN: None should say 'hear hear' in this House.

SHRI M. RAM GOPAL REDDY:  
Sorry Sir.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: Mr. Reddy is a good man in bad company.

SHRI PILOO MODY: What is wrong in it? Prof. Ranga did it 20 times a day and I follow my teacher, not yours.

SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE  
(Gwalior): What about 'shame, shame' then?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I come to small irrigation projects. Here is a statement showing additional area benefited by minor irrigation works in lakh hectares during 1968-69 to 1970-71. I shall give one or two figures: for Bihar, 3.25; for Gujarat 2.36, for Maharashtra 3.44 that is your State, for Punjab 3.09 for U.P. 14.43 and for West Bengal 1.53. Again, it tops the list. This is what you have been able to do in 25 years.

I shall now quote from the report of the national water supply and sanitation schemes. It says:

"The environmental hygienic committee estimated that roughly 60.6 per cent of the urban towns in India had water supplies which served 61.5 per cent of the total population or 48.5 per cent of

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

the urban population. Supplies were designed to give two to forty gallons of water per head per day. In all 23 cities and 12 other towns were partially served. Although a decade has passed, those conditions do not seem to have changed significantly". That is the position and still you are waxing eloquent.

I come to the annual plan. Mr. Subramaniam is here and I am very fortunate that he would hear these things and try to see himself in front of a mirror. It says "despite increasing attention paid by the State and Central Governments, greater effort is necessary. It is estimated that out of a total of 5.67 lakhs of villages do not lose sight of the figure of the problem villages. 90,656 villages have scarcity of drinking water, they have no assured sources of drinking water within a distance of one mile or fifty feet below ground level. 43,467 villages lie in Chhota Nagpur area. 3,184 villages are in guinea worm infested area, 24,778 villages with other health problems due to excessive chloride and salinity. They have miserably failed; they have miserably neglected and they have created more regional imbalances in the matter of growth in the rural areas than anybody else could have possibly done.

I want to say one more thing. The development of irrigation potential and its utilisation. From 1950-51 to 1965-66 the ultimate potential created and utilisation of potential created in regard to surface water, major, medium and minor is 63, 45 and 15. The ground water utilisation is 22. The tapping had been far below, of what they could have done. I only want to say that the drought that is taking a heavy toll in West Bengal in terms of life, money and the peoples' living conditions is not really man-made. But the man could have easily prevented it, had he been serious about it during the last 25 years and tried to bluff the country. I want to say that now they should go through the process of purification; they should come forward with a heavy hand in the sense that they should come out liberally and they should do remission of land revenue free ration should be provided and all other relief measures should be taken and after all

this performance of West Bengal in the matter of rural growth, rural water supply, rural irrigation, the State should be declared as a backward State and all the benefits that are due to a backward State should be given to West Bengal. Thank you.

MR CHAIRMAN : Shri Subodh Hansda

SHRI SUBODH HANSDA (Midnapore)  
Mr. Chairman, Sir, while opening the debate, Shri Samar Guha has given a very eloquent speech and have accused the Government of West Bengal for not taking proper care regarding the drought conditions. But he should know that the Government of West Bengal has already taken care of the situation and they have completely exhausted the budget and have asked the Government of India for nearly Rs. 4 crores and I think he should take note of this and I think he is not the only public representative of this House who has taken care of this situation, but there are other Members also who have already taken notice of this and they have asked the Government to take proper care of the situation.

Sir, this drought is undoubtedly an unprecedented drought and this has affected the large areas, particularly, border areas of West Bengal, i.e., near the Chhota Nagpur Plateau. I had been to these places and I have seen all tanks and ponds have dried up. The tubewells and the wells that have been sunk, have also dried up and the people are running from one place to another to get a bucket of water. People have to run two or three miles to get water for drinking purposes. It is a very serious situation that has arisen and I think the Government have taken notice of this and the Government have ordered to sink tube-wells in all these areas.

This problem is very acute in the Tribal areas. As you know most of the Tribal villages are scattered villages and 60% of the villages are only covered by tubewells and wells and the remaining 30 to 40% are not yet to be covered by this programme. All

these people are very badly affected and I think the Government will take care of these villages and special machinery should be set-up for this purpose to see that they could be provided with tubewells or drinking water facilities

Sir, of course, Government have tried its best to provide them with the drinking water facilities, but with the limited funds they have not been able to complete the whole scheme. In that respect, I would request the Centre to come forward so that the Government of West Bengal can dig wells and put up more tubewells in those villages. On the one side, people are not getting drinking water, on the other side, cattle wealth in thousands are facing starvation and they are not getting pond water to drink. Most of the fields are dried up, except for one or two green fields here and there. The reports are that if there is no rain, a very serious situation will develop

West Bengal entered into the green revolution a few years ago and the area of cultivation has been doubled this year. But unfortunately due to drought, most of the paddy has dried up. All standing crops are now dried up. We have lost the most important paddy—the *boro* paddy. We have also lost the jute crop and the *aus* paddy. By this process, West Bengal is losing nearly Rs 80 crores. Last year we had very heavy floods. This year we are having drought. These two things have created a very serious situation. Prices are going up. Rice was selling at Re 1 last month; now it has gone up by 50 per cent. If we are to tackle the situation and save people from starvation, Government should open cheap ration shops throughout the State. In ration shops, there is a classification—A Class, B Class, C Class, and D Class. In these circumstances, I do not think there should be any classification for distribution of rations. There are very limited number of ration shops in the whole State. I request that more ration shops should be opened

and all the people in the entire State should be covered

Apart from loss of crops, in the *motusil* areas, people have no work and they have started starving. Government is trying to give some help through T R schemes, but the Government funds are already exhausted. The Prime Minister made a dash to Midnapore, Purulia and Bankura and she has seen with her own eyes how people are eating herb seed and *mohua* flowers. This is a serious situation. Unless Government comes forward to create jobs or open some relief works, 60 per cent of the total population might go on starvation.

17 14 hrs

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY in the Chair]

The situation is very serious and Government should take it very seriously. The West Bengal Government has deputed its ministers to all the districts to look after the works taken up by the Government. It has been calculated that to save West Bengal from this situation, West Bengal requires more than Rs 40 crores. I am sure the Central Government will comply with this request and give more money for taking up development works. In such a situation, the Government has taken up a number of T R schemes, but all these schemes have not had any far-reaching effect. Schemes like irrigation, roads, deep tube wells, etc. which have a far-reaching effect should be taken up there. I hope the Government will think over this matter.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much time does the Minister like to have?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P SHINDE) : Twenty minutes.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore)

Mr Chairman, this drought is yet another major calamity which has afflicted this unfortunate State of West Bengal. I do not wish to go into the detailed description of the misery of the people in the affected districts—there are plenty of accounts appearing every day in the daily press—but it is certainly an ironical thing that many of the areas in my State, which were claiming to be centres of the Green Revolution, have been turned by this drought into barren red soil. And this once proves once again, if I may say so with all respect and all deference, to scientists, technologists, agricultural experts and Ministers, this does reveal once again how precarious still is the base of this Green Revolution and how far we are still dependent on the vagaries of the monsoon and on the weather God. Some of these districts themselves were making good progress obviously under the techniques of the Green Revolution. But if one goes through and sees what is happening there, the economy is shattered and there is the greatest ruin in at least six districts of that State. The accounts which have appeared in the press are harrowing and I do not wish to dwell on them much.

The scarcity of drinking water is not something which is new in the villages. It not only a question of remote rural areas. I hope the Minister is aware of the fact that there are village areas within 8 or 10 miles of Calcutta city where village women have to walk six miles from their homes to fetch drinking water. During the recent elections I have seen in one area, which falls within the area which is called the industrial suburb of greater Calcutta, where there are some villages on the fringes, that women have to walk every day four or five miles from their homes to get drinking water. This is the condition so near such a big metropolis that this is the degree of neglect which has been there for years together. I am not blaming any party; there is no point in it now. I am would say that the city dwellers like me and

you are responsible for it, in the long run, all our energies and our attention and everything has been given mainly to improving the lot of city people. But I think it is a shame that within six miles of Calcutta city women have to walk five miles to fetch drinking water. Neither the Congress Government, nor the UF Government nor any other government has been able to solve this problem.

The conditions in these half a dozen districts are infinitely worse. There are pictures published in the press which you may have seen. In Purulia district in the railway junction where water is stored for the exclusive use of the locomotive engine boilers, that water is being carried away by the people in pots on their heads. As there is no other water available anywhere, and this has led to some sort of fracas also between the loco staff and the public. The staff say 'this water is meant for the engine' and the people say 'where are we to collect water if we do not take this water?' This is going on every day.

Now it is said that 17,000 tubewells are out of order. These 17,000 tubewells have not gone out of order overnight. That is common sense. Here also when we have good rainfall, when there is sufficient natural water supply, nobody bothers to check up and see what is the condition of these tubewells. Now, when an acute drought condition has come, it is suddenly discovered that 17,000 tubewells are not in working order. If I may say so, the tubewells racket, if I may call it a racket, has become quite a big scandal in the rural countryside of West Bengal. Many people are involved in this, including contractors, who are known to use sub standard material including rusty old pipes in the construction of these tubewells and they have not been sunk to the minimum depth required to get water. Now it is found that most of these tubewells which are out of order just were not sunk deep enough and so they could not reach the water level. We talk a lot about bureaucracy. I was in Calcutta the other day. I was horrified to hear that the rules and regulations of the Government is such that, unless the Sub-Assistant Engineer gives his sanction and certifies, no tubewell can be sunk anywhere. Some material is being sent

to the distressed areas. Some transport is being commandeered and some drilling rigs and some machinery are being sent. I was told that in places like Midnapore and Bankura, this material is lying at site. It is not being used because the Sub-Assistant Engineer's sanction is not forthcoming or the man is not available. There are not enough people of this category. This is a strange thing. This is a small matter, but it is holding up even the construction of new tube wells. The mere fact I do not know how Mr. Piloo Mody is familiar with these areas—that so many Ministers are running round, while it is certainly welcome I think, it is also a sad commentary on the state of the actual administration. It should not require it. For sinking of tube wells, it should not be necessary that all the Ministers and Deputy Ministers should go running round in the districts. One of the reasons is that the basic administrative apparatus and the procedures are really not at all commensurate to tackle this kind of situation.

Here, there is a report in a Calcutta newspaper which says as follows. I will just quote a few lines. This is from the *Hindustan Standard* of yesterday.

"Human misery has been aggravated by the wanton negligence of the Rural Water supply division of the Public Health Engineering Department entrusted with the job of sinking wells. Most of the wells are without water as they were far short of the requisite depth. MLAs in some areas of Bankura district have even complained that the local people had been hood-winked by the Department and most of the wells were crumbling down."

"When material is being collected to be sent to these areas for digging of new tube wells, cement is extremely in short supply".

Cement, of course, might have been cornered by some of Mr. Piloo Mody's friends, perhaps.

**SHRI PILOO MODY :** We have no friends in Calcutta. They are only your friends.

**SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :** Trucks are not available. I would like to know what has happened to all the trucks both indigenous and foreign, which were brought here a few months ago and mobilised in Calcutta and round-about at the time of transporting the Bangla Desh refugees and relief supplies for the refugee camps. I do not know where all these trucks have gone. Obviously, they cannot be used for purposes of Bangla Desh refugees. Why cannot they be commandeered? "Some people" this is what the paper goes on to say, "in the South Eastern Railways are making capital out of this human tragedy demanding Rs. 400 for the sanction of a wagon carrying cement to the scarcity areas".

I am just mentioning these points because this has to be looked into. After all, Railways is a central subject and whatever decisions are taken either here or by the Government of West Bengal, the point is that whether the implementation will be carried out properly or not? Whether this bureaucracy and these bureaucratic officials and procedures are not going to act as an impediment to the relief work to be carried out on a war footing. This is the phrase which is being used often that everything should be done on a war footing.

I just want to make a few suggestions. The extent of gratuitous relief, test relief that has been announced so far, is estimated to be of the extent of 2.5 per cent. This we consider to be hopelessly inadequate and the level should be raised to cover at least 10 per cent of the people who are affected. I think, this I should say in all honesty that when similar drought conditions had overtaken some districts, three or four years ago, when the U. F. Ministry was in power, it is a fact that they have sanctioned an adequate level of relief to cover 10 per cent. But just now, upto the present, the State Government has only sanctioned 2.5 per cent. Perhaps, it is because they are waiting to get more assurances from the Centre on the quantum of assistance that will be forthcoming. I do not know.

Now that a Central team has probably already gone there to make an on-the-spot assessment.—I do not know whether it has already gone or is proposing to go—in any

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

case I hope the Central Government will not be at all hesitant or miserly in coming forward with its assistance and will not use its formula about matching grant. The State has got very slender resources. A State which is being faced in successive years with floods and Bangladesh crisis and now with drought may not be able to form its own resources mobilise a very large amount of funds for this purpose. If that is to be used as a yardstick for matching grant the total amount that becomes available may be absolutely inadequate to cope up with the crisis. I hope the Central Government will rise above redtapism of procedures and really come forward to give generous assistance on the scale on which it is required and estimated by the State Government.

Other hon. Members have already said that it should be declared a drought area. That, I think, is essential. The army is already being used on a limited scale to provide transport and to transport materials to certain areas. If necessary it will have to be done on a bigger scale if other transport is not available.

Of course, the revision of land revenue and so on and coordinating the relief work in such a way that it is not meant only for a short term purpose but can be dovetailed into a long term scheme of irrigation and so on should be taken up.

What I mean is that though it is the primary responsibility of the State Government, the Central Government must be interested to see that whatever money is provided is used to the most advantageous purpose and is invested in such a way that it will not only be put to the best purpose but will also help long-term needs. Therefore, I suggest that there should be some sort of a joint team of Central Government and State Government representatives which will work the whole thing out on an emergency basis and carry it out on a war footing.

We were told the other day, here, that a cell of the Home Ministry which is located in West Bengal is not meant only for purposes of doing police duties but that, actually, it combines in itself all the functions which may be necessary for the development and stability of West Bengal. If that is so, at this moment, when there is such a

dire crisis in the State, that cell of the Home Ministry can also be mobilised for this purpose so that you are kept properly informed and you can be in a position to assist the situation very quickly and without any delay in giving generous assistance on the scale on which it is required.

Finally, I would only once again make a plea that although the administration there belongs to the State Government, the Centre will please try to at least supervise and impress upon them that this kind of administrative structure, when some sub Assistant Engineer becomes the deciding factor, is not there. I find, in one place, a suggestion has been made to the Government that more sub Assistant Engineers should be recruited. According to the rules, without his sanction, no tubewell can be sunk anywhere. So, something must be done.

Then, there are serious allegations made in the press about the behaviour of certain railway officials or about the Rural Water Supply Division of the Public Health Engineering Department and these should be looked into and stern steps should be taken to see that no bureaucratic red tape stands in the way of bringing succour to the suffering people of West Bengal.

\*SHRI S. N. SINGH DEO (Bankura)

Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for the opportunity you have given to me to speak on drought situation that is prevailing in the State of West Bengal. The State of West Bengal is passing through a dreadful situation and the people there are experiencing a lot of hardship for the drought conditions. It is not possible for the State Government to tackle the situation all by themselves and it can only be done if the Central Government comes forward to give adequate assistance to the State in the matter. I would therefore request the Government through you, Sir, that the team of experts which the Government is contemplating to send to the State should be sent at an early date and the Government should also ensure that relief and other assistance made available to the State Government for this purpose is adequate to meet the situation and all these things reach the State in time.

\*The original speech was delivered in Bengali.



Many hon. Members have already spoken about the drought situation in West Bengal in general and therefore I would like to say something particularly about the situation prevailing in Purulia, Bankura and Midnapore districts and the sad plight of the people there. Sir, the entire region is suffering from water scarcity. The ponds, well etc., have all dried up and people have to trek miles after miles to fetch water. The water level has gone down and even when fresh wells are dug water is not available and the sufferings of the people have aggravated immensely for want of drinking water. The cultivators too have suffered a lot for want of water. The standing crop particularly the Boro paddy has dried up in the field, Jute and other crops have met with similar fate. Sir, the time at my disposal being very limited, I would not be able to dilate on the plights of the people further. The Government have undertaken test relief and gratuitous relief work and they have also undertaken other measures to deal with the situation but I think that it is not adequate. The hon. Prime Minister has personally visited Purulia, Bankura and Midnapore districts and she has seen for herself the plight of the people and heard from them their agonies and grievances. The time being very short, I would like to make some suggestions through you, Sir. The three districts of Purulia, Bankura and Midnapur have a number of small rivers and rivulets and if *bunds* are constructed over these rivers, then we can have reservoirs there which can supply water to all the three districts both for the purpose of drinking as also for cultivation throughout the whole year. Secondly we have to augment the supply of electricity to these rural areas and once the electricity is available, we would be able to divert water from one place to another according to the needs of the different regions and also it would help improve the State of agriculture of these regions. Thirdly the people of these regions are very poor and therefore, I would urge upon the Government to set up small, medium and large scale industries in Purulia, Bankura and Midnapur so that it may offer some permanent source of employment to the people and with these words, Sir, I conclude my speech.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY**  
(Cooch-Bihar) : Hon. Members have illus-

trated their viewpoints regarding the drought situation in West Bengal. But, before I say a few words, I would like to say the mover of the resolution explained the drought situation in West Bengal in a fashion to suit his political ends than to give the real benefits to the affected and the drought-stricken people of West Bengal. He has gone so far even to criticise the present West Bengal Government, a Government which has been taking so much of trouble for the last few weeks to go round the country side and to see to what extent the help could be given to these drought-stricken people. *..(Interruptions)* well, you should have read the paper properly. Even when the Ministers are taking their responsibilities, shouldering their responsibilities and sitting just at their desks at the dead of night taking decisions and instructing the officials to carry out the measures, they are criticised. Sir this is not the occasion to criticise. This is the occasion to see as to how we will be in a position to minimise this human misery.

Before I go to make any other suggestions and to put it to the Government on that line firstly, I would request the Government to have a proper inquiry into the causes of this drought and why? Like wise in a rotational manner, why we get this drought situation from time to time? It has been well expressed in the news paper that few years ago there was a similar situation. Sometimes drought and sometimes floods and in a rotational manner we people become effected almost each and every year. Sometimes it is political pressure and sometimes it is political interference and sometimes by social interference and sometimes by natural interference. So it is indeed a fact that this situation has been taking place as a matter of rotation only because we have not taken in the past so much of care as how to avert such situations. It has, already been stated in the various papers that the prime reasons for this major drought situation in West Bengal are that the hydrological science has not been consulted, and hydrological science has not been given any quarter.

Now, the Central Government has already instructed the State Government to have a sort of hybrid paddy cultivation and the hon. Minister expressed his hope that



[Shri B K Das Chowdhury]

the rate at which it has been progressing in the matter of this hybrid variety of paddy cultivation in the near future West Bengal will become a surplus State in respect of paddy and rice

It has been stated by certain scientists, those who are working in this line and growing these now that these hybrid varieties of paddy that are being sown in West Bengal require huge amount of underground water and this has been stated as one of the reasons for this drought. If it is really so if on a proper inquiry you come to this conclusion that this is one of the reasons as to why we find that even in a standard depth well we do not have this water and in a tube well of a standard depth of 200 or 300 water is not available, then it means the underground water seems to have receded far and far below So, I would request the Government to consider that aspect also and see if it is a fact that only because West Bengal is just trying to have the variety of hybrid cultivation in respect of paddy and wheat that this underground water level has been going down and down in course of time

In the matter of drought situation, almost all the Districts of West Bengal, have been affected. No doubt, in West Bengal we have enough water. But what do we find? In one portion we find there is drought condition and in another portion we find flood. Even in one district there is drought and flood condition, for example, in Cooch Behar District one particular Sub-Division Makhliganj is badly affected as badly as Midnapore, Purulia Bankura Nadia and other Districts. In some other Districts of North Bengal also, though we have reports that there had been some showers and showers to such an extent that it rained incessantly for 2-3 days together. Even then we have noticed in the press statement that in certain areas is a drought condition. I would urge upon this Government to consider this matter, what really are the reasons for this drought. If we feel some alacrity we can certainly do it, but if we feel ourselves that we have nothing to do only because it is a natural problem, we will not be able to solve the problem. Today, with the help of the technological advance and the scientific development, we are in a position to control such natural

phenomenon to our benefit as far as possible

In the matter of relief I would urge this Government to see to what extent this relief can be given to the State Government. Not only relief should be given. It should be declared on a war footing. The State Government machinery must be given all assistance and if necessary some of the officials and engineers of the Centre may go and help the State machinery to ensure that all relief works taken thereby get implemented as early as possible.

Last point, Sir, Because of this drought, no doubt there is a huge loss which has not yet been accounted for, may be Rs 80 crores or Rs 100 crores or Rs 150 crores. And the poor people, the people in the countryside the rural people, those who depend upon agricultural production, for one season have been completely dried up and nothing is left in their hands. I want to know whether these people will be given fertilisers, whether these people will be given improved seeds, free of cost, so that in the coming season they may have some form of benefit to cultivate their products and manage their own affairs.

With these words, Sir, I request once again that the Centre should think it very seriously and take up all measures to see that all those measures are implemented as early as possible. Thank you.

**SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI** (Bhubaneswar) I am one with the friends from West Bengal who have spoken about the present drought situation there and the sufferings of the people and I support the demand that our friends have made to meet the present difficult situation in West Bengal. Midnapore is in the border of our State. The sufferings of the people are well-known. There are various suggestion that hon. Members have made before the hon. Minister that the Government should provide immediate gratuitous relief and take steps for sinking of tube wells and provide drinking water to these villages. These are, I hope, immediate measures which can be taken in hand at once. I am happy that the West Bengal Government has taken up this problem now very seriously and they have invited the attention of the Prime

Minister and the Government of India to the need for quick and immediate relief, to give as much help as possible to meet the unprecedented crisis. There is also the same difficult situation in Orissa.

The hon. Minister has made a statement about 3 or 4 days ago in this House about drought conditions in West Bengal, Orissa, Rajasthan and part of Bihar. Millions of people are suffering like this. In Orissa for the last 8 months there is no rain. There is the Khurda Notified Area Council, where there is a population of 10,000 and for the last 15 days there is no water at all. All the sources of water in the villages of Orissa have dried up; even water flowing in the river has dried up. Even tanks have dried up. There is no rain for all these days. It is a terrible problem. In the Khurda Notified Area, the wells have dried up. There is no piped water supply arrangements. At least four to five tankers could have been made available for bringing drinking water from other places and supplying to the people. Due to this scarcity of water about 7 to 8 people have now died there because of gastroenteritis and other reasons and this is a very serious problem. Wherever drought conditions prevail, the minimum you should do, is that you should provide immediate drinking water to the people affected. This is something about which the Government should really get worried and do something about it; I can go a little further and say that the Govt. should be ashamed of it. After all these years, after so many schemes and so much of investment that we have made we have been able to supply even drinking water to millions of people, with the result that they do not have even drinking water if the rain fails. I think that this is a very serious matter.

The Government of India are sending a team to West Bengal. So far as Orissa is concerned, I think that the second team which went there visited only the cyclone-affected areas. So far as the drought-affected areas of Orissa are concerned, the State Government has already written to the Centre to send a team, and I think that the same team which visits West Bengal could also visit Orissa and see these drought-affected areas where the people do not get any water to drink and where the villagers are without

any work because there is no rain and the agricultural operations cannot start.

This is the position in the area bordering Midnapur and also the Puri district, and in fact all over the State the same situation is prevailing. First, there were floods, then there was cyclone and then there was drought. It is really a chronic disease which is afflicting the State.

I would submit that this requires a co-ordinated effort from on the Planning Commission, the Minister of Agriculture and the other Ministers concerned. In spite of the planning that we are doing in the Irrigation Ministry and the planning in the Agriculture Ministry and in the Planning Commission for the last twenty-five years, how is it only 15 to 20 per cent of the population has been touched so far as drinking water supply and irrigation are concerned? Why should there not be a co-ordinated effort in order to find out how much money is required to be invested so that at least in the next two or three years, we shall have solved this problem of drinking water supply in all the villages. Out of five lakh villages, I am told that there are still about 96,000 villages which are without drinking water supply. What efforts are being made to provide the people in those villages with drinking water? Rs. 20 to 30 crores should be invested here and now for this purpose. Since the Planning Minister is here. I would like to ask why this should not be taken up as a challenge so that in the next two or three years we shall have solved this first and rudimentary problem. Let us not talk of socialism and other things, but let us resolve to provide drinking water to these 96,000 villages which are at present devoid of it.

It is a very serious situation which we are facing. I congratulate my hon. friends from West Bengal who have raised this discussion and brought to the notice of the House the sufferings of the people of West Bengal on account of drought as also the sufferings of the people of the other drought-affected States. I hope the Planning Minister, the Minister of Food and Agriculture will try to see and find a way out to solve this immediate problem before the country.

**SHRI SHYAM SUNDER MOHAPATRA (Balasore):** I come from the border area of West Bengal and Orissa and I know the sad plight of the people of Midnapur district. It is a matter of great regret that after so many years of DVC, we are still seeing the suffering of the people of the Burdwan district. When Mr. Voordvin, the American engineer planned the DVC, he thought that by the right bank main canal which came from the Durgapur barrage, atleast 10 lakhs acres of land would be irrigated and for all times to come, flood and drought would no more be a menace to the people of Burdwan. It is unfortunate that in 1972 the people of Burdwan are still in distress.

While speaking about Midnapur, and about the North Balasore area adjoining Midnapur, I would like to bring to the notice of the Planning Minister who is fortunately here that there was a plan for having a multipurpose project over the Subarnarekha river. Dr. K. L. Rao thought that there might be a DVC like plan as far as this river was concerned, so that we could have dams, reservoirs and canals which would irrigate lands and for a long time to come, the people will no more be under the distress of famine and drought. Unfortunately, if the Government of India do not move forward, this programme will not be included in the Fifth Five Year Plan.

The other day, I was talking to Dr. K. L. Rao and he said that investigation was in progress as far as the Government of Bihar and the Government of Orissa were concerned. If that comes into being, there would be a big reservoir near Midnapur district and there will be canals to irrigate lands not only in Midnapur but also those in North Balasore and probably drought will no more be a nightmare for the people of Midnapur district.

All of us thought that during the Gandhi Jayanti Centenary year, every village in India would have at least drinking water facilities. If at the end of May, 1972, there are villages, thousands of them, in India where the people do not get drinking water and they have to depend upon small ponds, it is a matter of shame not only for us, the Members of Lok Sabha but for all the people outside as well.

To fight the menace of drought or flood, commission after commission has a sat and gone into the matter. They have said that there should be deep tubewells and shallow tubewells sunk and there should be medium type of irrigation works and so on. If Government take up these schemes on a war footing and spend a sizeable chunk of money on them, in a few years with co-ordinated effort between the Central and State Governments, we could have water supply ensured to every village in the country.

Here I wish to bring one thing to notice, to which Shri Indrajit Gupta also referred. The contractors engaged for boring the tubewells do not do their work properly with the result that after a few months or a year, the tubewells go out of order and again the same amount of money has to be spent on them. In this way a few crores of rupees are lost. I would request the Planning Minister and the Agriculture Minister to caution State Governments that they should either do it departmentally or have strict vigilance on the contractors engaged to do this work and the bills should not be paid unless the wells are checked and certified by the engineers.

Today it is not only Bengal which is in distress. The distress of Bengal has focussed the attention to the situation in the entire country. There is famine condition in Poona where 2029 villages have been hit. In Orissa, more than 10 million people are drought-affected. In Bihar, which is your area, large tracts of land are drought-stricken. So it is the duty of the Minister concerned to take it up at the national level so that it can be tackled on that basis. This menace should be tackled on a war footing so that it does not descend upon us again all of a sudden. If this is done, during the Fifth Plan period we could have our planning in such a way that flood, cyclone or drought constitute no more a menace to the people of India.

**श्री राधारत्न शर्मा (बांदा):** सभापति महोदय, हमी मेरे मित्र श्री दासचौधरी जी ने इस विषय पर बोलते हुए पश्चिमी बंगाल की राज्य सरकार की तारीफ की कि वह सूखे की स्थिति का मुकाबला करने के लिए काफी दीर्घ-दूर कर

रही है, प्रयत्न कर रही है। वास्तव में राज्य सरकार का जो प्रयास है, उसकी प्रशंसा की जानी चाहिए। लेकिन क्या यह सही नहीं है कि यह सूखा पहली बार नहीं पड़ा है—चाहे बंगाल हो या देश के अन्य भाग हों, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्र सरकार और राज्य सरकारों ने अभी तक क्या किया ? क्या इस के लिये कोई इफेक्टिव, अन्तर्राज्यव्यापी योजना नहीं बनाई जा सकती थी ताकि हम इस तरह के आये-दिन के सूखे, अकाल और भुखमरी का सामना किया जा सकता और उसके लिये कोई उचित कदम उठाये जाते। देश में अन्न के भण्डार भरे हुए हैं, लेकिन देश के आदमी भूखे मरें, देश के अन्दर भूख से मृत्यु हो—इस से अधिक शर्म की बात कोई नहीं हो सकती। मैं सरकार से जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभी तक इस तरह कोई इफेक्टिव कदम क्यों नहीं उठाये गये और क्यों ऐसी योजना नहीं बनाई गई—पिछले 25 सालों में देश के अन्दर—ताकि अकाल, भुखमरी और सूखे की बातें न हो।

बंगाल के बारे में बहुत कुछ कहा गया है—मिदनापुर, पुरलिया, वीरभूमि और बांकुड़ा में जो सूखे की स्थिति है, उसके बारे में तमाम माननीय सदस्यों ने काफी बातें कहीं हैं, इस लिये पुनः उनका उल्लेख करके मैं सदन का ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता, लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ बंगाल के साथ साथ उड़ीसा, बिहार और कुछ उत्तर प्रदेश के भागों से भी सूखे की स्थिति है और वह गम्भीर रूप धारण किये हुए है। उड़ीसा में अभी पहले साइक्लोन आये थे और उसके बाद ड्राउट आ गया। उस में केन्द्र सरकार ने जो मदद की है, जितना रुपया प्रांतीय सरकारों ने मांगा था, उस से बहुत कम मात्रा में मदद केन्द्र सरकार ने दी है। उससे कोई फायदा नहीं पहुंचा है। एक बात में कहना चाहूंगा कि ड्राउट, अकाल, इन सब के लिए योजना बनती है, केन्द्र से जो

रुपया दिया जाता है उसका राजनीतिक कारणों से उपयोग नहीं होना चाहिए। केन्द्र को भी देखना चाहिए और राज्य सरकारों को भी ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि जिन क्षेत्रों में अधिक आवश्यकता है वहां पर पहले दिया जाये। राजनीतिक कारणों से उसका दुरुपयोग नहीं दिया जाना चाहिए। उत्तर प्रदेश के कुछ जिलों में, खासकर बुंदेलखंड में बादा जिले में एक पाठा इलाका है उसमें करीब करीब 50 गावों में पीने के पानी की समस्या लगातार सैकड़ों वर्षों से चली आ रही है। उसकी ओर कभी केन्द्रीय सरकार का ध्यान गया था, उन्होंने एक योजना भी बनाई थी लेकिन उसमें कोई कारगर सफलता नहीं मिली। अब भी वहां के लोगो को 5-6 मील दूर पीने के पानी के लिये जाना पड़ता है। इस लू लपट और सूखे के कारण पचासो मृत्युएं हर साल वहां होती है। तो मैं केन्द्र का ध्यान इस ओर दिलाना चाहता हूँ और आग्रह करता हूँ भन्नी जी से कि सम्पूर्ण देश के लिए, कम से कम सूखे, अकाल और भुखमरी से आदमियों की जानें न जायें, इसके लिए अच्छा प्रयत्न करें और कोई योजना इसके लिए बनायें।

श्री नवल किशोर शर्मा (दोसा) : सभापति जी, पश्चिम बंगाल में सूखे की स्थिति भयंकर है। इस संदर्भ में जो विचार पश्चिम बंगाल के बारे में व्यक्त किए गए उनसे मैं सहानुभूति रखता हूँ लेकिन मैं निवेदन करना चाहूंगा कि मेरा अपना राज्य तो इस बीमारी से हमेशा ही पीड़ित रहा है। पिछले सात सालों से राजस्थान में हर वर्ष अकाल पड़ता है और इस वर्ष भी 26 जिलों में से 10 जिलों में अकाल है। राजस्थान के लिए अकाल एक बड़ा भारी बोझ बन गया है। राजस्थान की सरकार के ऊपर साढ़े छः सौ करोड़ का ऋण है। हालत यह है कि हर साल 14 करोड़ का ब्याज भुक्त है इस ऋण को चुकाने के लिए चाहिए। राजस्थान राजनीतिक कारणों से पिछड़ा हुआ प्रांत रहा है

[श्री नवल किशोर]

और अब उस पर अकाल के कारण खेती का बोझ और पड़ता है। हमारे देश में अकाल में कभी सूखे की स्थिति, कभी फ्लड्स की स्थिति और कभी साइक्लोन की स्थिति बनी रहती है और उसके कारण राज्य सरकारों पर बड़ा बोझ पड़ जाता है जोकि राज्य सरकारों के साधनों के बाहर रहता है। यहाँ पर अभी प्लानिंग मिनिस्टर थे वे चले गए लेकिन मैं कृषि मन्त्री जी से निवेदन करूँगा कि यह समस्या इस देश की परमानेंट समस्या है और इसका कोई परमानेंट हल ढूँढना चाहिये। ऐसे सभी खेती के लिए आप देश के स्तर पर एक खास तौर का प्लान किट कीजिए और केन्द्र यह अपनी जिम्मेवारी ले कि ऐसे सभी आवश्यक खर्च जो होते हैं उनकी पूर्ति केन्द्र द्वारा की जायेगी। राज्यों के साधन सीमित हैं और राज्यों के साधन सीमित होने की स्थिति में यह बड़ा मुश्किल होता है कि ऐसी दैवी आपदाओं के लिए भी वहाँ की राज्य सरकारें प्रबन्ध करें। मैं निवेदन करना चाहूँगा कि राजस्थान में अकाल के कारण भयंकर स्थिति है। उस इलाके के लोग अपने को नेग्लेक्टेड महसूस करते हैं क्योंकि विकास के नाम पर वहाँ कोई खर्च नहीं किया जा सकता। आज राजस्थान की सरकार बिबालिया सरकार बन गई है और लोगो में भाग होने लगी है कि राजस्थान का विभाजन होना चाहिए। यह दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण बात है और मैं इसका विरोध करता हूँ। मैं यह निवेदन करूँगा कि आप राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर इसका इलाज कीजिए एक राष्ट्रीय कोष की स्थापना कीजिए और उसके जरिए से, जितने भी खर्च हो चाहे अकाल के, चाहे साइक्लोन के चाहे फ्लड्स के उन को आप बर्दाश्त कीजिए। यही मेरा सरकार से निवेदन है।

इस शब्दों के साथ मैं इसका अनुमोदन करता हूँ।

18 hrs

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) सभापति जी, माननीय सदस्यो न बगाल, उड़ीसा और कई दूसरे प्रान्तों में जो अकाल की स्थिति है, या सूखे की स्थिति है उसके बारे में बताया है। मैं बिहार के बारे में एक, दो बातें बताना चाहता हूँ। सभी लोगों को भालूम होगा कि पिछले कई महीनों से यह चर्चा बिहार के अखबारों में और दूसरे प्रान्तों के अखबारों में भी आ रही है कि वहाँ एक लाख से ज्यादा आदिवासी सन्थाल परगना जिले में महीनों से अकाल के शिकार हैं और इस बात को वहाँ के डिप्टी कमिश्नर तक ने स्वीकार किया है, और उन्होंने वहाँ जाकर निरीक्षण भी किया है। वैसे तो अखबारों में यह बात भी आयी है कि कुछ लोगों की मृत्यु हुई है हालांकि बिहार सरकार ने इसको नहीं माना है। लेकिन मरा भी आ दाज है कि इस इलाके में अकाल की स्थिति से कुछ मृत्युएँ हुई हैं।

कल 22 तारीख के बिहार के अखबार में पढ़ा उत्तर बिहार के कई जिलों में और दक्षिण बिहार के कई जिलों में अकाल की स्थिति होती जा रही है। और अभी भी खेतों में जो गरया धान लगा हुआ है उसको पराबे के लिये न नहर से पानी मिल रहा है, न ट्यूब वेल से पानी मिल रहा है। धान सूख रहा है। तो इस तरह से कई जिलों में स्थिति बड़ी ही गम्भीर है। इस तरफ भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

माननीय शर्मा जी ने ठीक ही कहा कि प्राकृतिक आपदा के मौके पर जो विकल्प जनता के सामने आये उसकी जवाबदेही भारत सरकार को तैयानी चाहिये क्योंकि राज्यों की वित्तीय स्थिति अच्छी नहीं होती।

साथ ही मैं यह भी कहना चाहूँगा कि बिहार में अकाल की यह स्थिति दो है ही, बाब के अखबारों में देखा कि संपूर्ण बिहार में 234 आदमी लू से मर गये। क्यों? क्योंकि पानी की कमी है। वर्षा भी नहीं हो रही है, पानी

भी लोगों को पीने को नहीं मिल रहा है। बिहार के तमाम जिलों में आप चले जाइये, देहात में या शहर में सर्वत्र पानी के लिये हाहाकार है। शहरों के बारे में बार बार कहा गया। पटना, जमशेदपुर, धनबाद, मुजफ्फरपुर, गया, तमाम बड़े-बड़े शहरों में पानी की समुचित व्यवस्था नहीं है। देहातों में पानी की व्यवस्था नहीं है जिसकी वजह से भी लू से लोग मर रहे हैं। तो मैं चाहूंगा कि इस तरफ भी सरकार का ध्यान जाना चाहिये ताकि लोगों को पीने का पानी ठिकाने से मिले और वे अपने प्राणों की रक्षा कर सकें। यह स्थिति बड़े पैमाने पर हमारे सूबे में है। इन दो बातों की तरफ मैं आपका ध्यान खींचना चाहता हूँ, और मुझे उम्मीद है कि बिहार सरकार को आप इन दोनों कामों के लिये ज्यादा से ज्यादा मदद देंगे।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE) : I am thankful to you and the hon. Members for raising a discussion on the West Bengal drought situation. Taking advantage of this, naturally, a number of hon. Members have referred to the situation prevailing in Orissa Bihar and Rajasthan. Our country is so vast and it is in the tropical region with agro-climatic conditions and features of the tropical region. From year to year these conditions have repeated in some part of our country and I think we have so much experience now of facing such situations. Despite a number of difficulties, with the co-operation of the State Governments, the Centre does play an important role in providing relief to the affected areas. During the last one year the Central Government provided assistance by way of drought relief and loans to the tune of Rs. 150 crores to meet the requirements of various State Governments. I have no doubt that however serious the situation might be, in co-operation with the West Bengal Government, we shall succeed in providing relief to the suffering people. Naturally when drought conditions develop, human suffering is so much. I myself come from an area

which is drought-prone with a rainfall below 16 to 17" and I know how serious the human suffering is. Large chunks of our population have no means of sustenance except agriculture. So, when there is drought, the first casualty is agriculture and vulnerable sections like landless labour suffer particularly more.

Hon. members know how sincerely Government of India attends to these problems. For instance, all of us know how busy our Prime Minister is. Despite her preoccupations, she took the first opportunity to visit some of these areas. That shows the approach of the Government and our leadership to human suffering in any part of India. Therefore, however difficult the situation may be, I have no doubt that we shall be in a position to find ways and means to fight it.

I must congratulate the West Bengal Government. Some colleagues have been a little harsh. They criticised that the ministers are going here and there. If ministers do not visit the areas, they say, the ministers do not care for the people's sufferings. If the ministers visit those areas, then also they are criticised. This is not fair. I am very glad that the political leadership in West Bengal, particularly the Chief Minister, are so alive to the problems of the people that no sooner the situation developed than they rushed to those areas. They have used the words "war footing". I have no doubt they are very serious. That is why they are taking all measures, to which I shall come a little latter.

West Bengal has been a really unfortunate part of our country. Last year this State suffered from floods. My ministry took up a very large and ambitious programme of summer paddy to see that the suffering is minimised. I am glad this programme has gone so well that as against 4 lakh acres of summer paddy last year, this year, we had almost a programme of 7-1/2 to 8 lakh acres. The State Government has reported that about 1.45 lakh acres of paddy has suffered as a result of this drought. Still it means that 5 to 6 lakh acres of summer paddy will be there, which is substantial as compared to 4 lakh acres last

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year. This has been possible because of a number of steps taken by the State Government to provide irrigation facilities, etc.

Mr. Daschowdhury is a very knowledgeable person and he knows the situation there. He asked, is it a fact that high-yielding programme is leading to over-exploitation of underground water resources and is it not likely to cause some serious harm to agricultural economy as a whole? I would like to dispel his fears. Normally in April and May, there is a rainfall of 10 to 12"—pre-monsoon showers—in West Bengal. But this year they practically failed, except some showers in North Bengal and in some other parts. These showers are particularly important in West Bengal for the jute sowing and *aus* paddy cultivation. So, this dry spell has not only created drinking water problem but also affected jute and *aus* paddy cultivation. I apprehend that jute production is likely to be very seriously affected as a result of this. But to conclude from this that exploitation of the underground water resources is likely to create some difficulties because of the high-yielding varieties is not correct. In fact, West Bengal is one of the region having very rich water wealth. This is really an underground gold mine. In fact, if somebody has to criticise us for some of our failures in the past, it should be for the inadequate exploitation of underground resources of water. Of course, there is always need for regulating the exploitation of underground water resources judiciously. But in Bengal because of recharging of the water on account of the rainfall and Ganges flowing in a particular way, even if the programme is taken up on a very large scale for years to come there will be no shortage. Here I must congratulate the West Bengal Government for having announced that they would like to sink about 12,000 more tubewells as a part of the drought relief programme for the development of agriculture. In fact, a few days earlier when I was in West Bengal I saw some of the summer paddy programmes and I myself suggested that next year the programmes should be extended from 8 lakhs to 15 lakhs acres. Though this is a very ambitious programme, I have no doubt in my mind that with the drive with which the West Bengal Government have started functioning, they will be in a position to put a substantial portion of this programme

into practice and implement them, and this would make a great contribution to the rural economy of West Bengal. I would only plead with Shri Daschowdhury that he need not have any fear about the underground resources of water.

My hon. friend, Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu is not here. He always tries to exaggerate matters. He again made a statement of starvation deaths. We have tried to find out information from the State Government. Of course, in this country poverty is rampant and people are under-fed even in normal conditions. So, I am not referring to that aspect of the problem.

**SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :** The State Government has denied that.

**SHRI ANNASAHAB P. SHINDE :** Yes, the State Government has categorically denied any starvation deaths. In fact, the condition in the country today is such that starvation death in any part of the country on account of the non-availability of foodgrains cannot just happen. In fact, the food position is so comfortable as it has never been in the past.

Hon. Members would be happy to know that we have reached a very record stock position of foodgrains of 9 million tonnes. In fact, the problems are the other way, how to find an outlet for these foodgrains. I have tried to ascertain the position in West Bengal and I find that actually the food which is stored in the godowns is to the tune of almost 5-1/2 lakhs to 6 lakhs tonnes of rice and wheat. Therefore, I do not anticipate any dislocation of supplies of foodgrains.

West Bengal is one of the States where there is an elaborate network of fair price shops and the State Government is reviewing the position from time to time. At present about 15,000 and a few hundred fair price shops are operating in the rural areas. If there is any need to open a few hundred more fair price shops in the rural areas, I have no doubt in my mind that the West Bengal Government will take the necessary steps. I would also like to assure the Chief Minister of West Bengal on the floor of the House that whatever is the require-



ment of foodgrains would be adequately met and there would not be any difficulty, so far as the supply of foodgrains to West Bengal is concerned, or any part of the country for the matter of that.

Shri Indrajit Gupta is not present here. He made a statement about the really precarious base of our agriculture. He stressed how the agricultural economy comes into difficulties because of the drought conditions. As I have said, the jute production is likely to be affected very much the way the sowing programme is going on in West Bengal. At the moment there are 92,000 tubewells, most of which have come recently. The West Bengal Government is trying to have 12,000 more. With this programme, along with the rural electrification which the West Bengal Government wishes to push ahead, I have no doubt in my mind that in the years to come West Bengal will have a very large acreage of summer paddy and jute crop.

Hon. Members from West Bengal will be in a position to understand and appreciate the economy of jute, which is always in difficulties, because whenever there is a failure of rain in April-May, the jute-sowing is adversely affected and violent fluctuations in jute prices takes place. If such a large number of tubewells will come into existence and one or two irrigations are made available for jute sowings, I think this violent fluctuation can be eliminated and some stability in jute production can be achieved. Both my Ministry and the West Bengal Government are proceeding on these lines and I have no doubt in my mind that the West Bengal Agriculture Ministry is doing whatever is necessary and so there will not be any uncertainty in the agricultural economy in the years to come. In the past, the exploitation of the underground water, though the potential was there, was not done adequately. Therefore, the base of agricultural economy in West Bengal was very weak. But as a result of this drought, I think, this is an opportunity for us—it is not a good thing; it is an unfortunate development—and we will use it not only to provide relief but also to see that a very sound basis is provided for the development of agricultural economy for West Bengal.

Then, some hon. Members suggested why not have some permanent programmes for providing relief to drought-prone areas. The hon. Members may be aware that, for the first time, such a programme has been taken over for the country as a whole and, during the Fourth Plan, Rs. 100 crores have been provided to provide employment and to create productive assets, particularly in the drought-prone area so that the necessary protection is available against drought and the failure of rains, etc. For this, 54 districts have been selected and some areas of two districts of West Bengal have also been selected and about Rs. 3 crores and odd have been sanctioned for this programme. It is a part of the nation-wide scheme. West Bengal also finds a place in the list. This programme was taken up for the first time in the Fourth Plan and this programme will be enlarged very much in the Fifth Plan. A very sound basis will be provided. I cannot anticipate that there will not be any difficulty. It will be rash on my part if I say there will be no difficulty in future. The programme which will be taken up in these areas can substantially provide relief and protection to drought-prone areas in such parts of the country.

As far as West Bengal Government is concerned, you see how quick they have been to take up measure. For instance, the State Government has placed funds and foodgrains worth Rs. 1.95 crores for test relief works. Another sum of Rs. 93.45 lakhs has been sanctioned for gratuitous relief. The CARE is undertaking a scheme for works programme costing about Rs. 1 crore. The State Government has sanctioned Rs. 93.45 lakhs exclusively for distribution to the old and infirm persons. Orders have been issued for the execution of one test relief scheme in each Anchal.

A number of hon. Members made a reference to the drinking water facility. Now, whenever a drought situation develops, firstly, the agriculture suffers and, secondly, the drinking water become scarce. A sum of Rs. 1.95 crores has been made available to the Health Department of the State by the West Bengal Government to see that drinking water facility is made available to a very large number of villages. Besides that, 200 big water tankers have been supplied for carrying water.



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The Central Government Health Department has deputed two officers immediately to look into the problems of drinking water scarcity. As far as West Bengal villages are concerned, I have no doubt in my mind that as soon as they come back, they will submit a report to the Health Department and necessary steps will be taken.

As far as the Central assistance is concerned, may I submit that West Bengal relief operations will not be allowed to suffer for lack of funds? As I said, we are aware of the difficulties of the people. This is a Government which would like to respond to the sufferings of the people and see that no bureaucratic or administrative weaknesses are allowed to come in the way of providing relief. A large number of Ministers are touring various parts of West Bengal. They would like to see that no administrative draw-backs come in the way of providing relief. The West Bengal Government has already approached the Centre for providing financial assistance. We have found that at the moment, the ways and means position of West Bengal Government is not difficult and is quite satisfactory. As the House knows, there is a set pattern of providing relief. According to the Finance Commission's report, about Rs. 2.61 crores have to be provided as an inbuilt provision to provide relief to drought areas in the West Bengal Government's budget. That provision is there. Therefore, the West Bengal Government has gone ahead with providing the necessary relief. The West Bengal Government has requested the Centre to depute a Central team. Normally, as soon as drought situation develops, the State Government reports to us and we depute a Central team. I would like to repeat that the very purpose of deputing a Central team is to avoid red tape and delay. The representatives of all Ministries—the Planning Commission, Finance, Agriculture and Health—go there; they consult the State Governments, see the situation and recommend ceilings. Once those ceilings are accepted, normally Government proceeds on that basis.

Actually, one of the officers of the Planning Commission, Mr. Agarwal, has proceeded to West Bengal today morning for studying the drought conditions. The Central team is being constituted; the other mem-

bers are expected to join very shortly. Let me again repeat that in deputing the Central team there would not be any delay, any red-tape. As soon as the Central team goes there and reports back to us, we shall be taking steps to provide the necessary Central assistance. Meanwhile, I would like to assure the West Bengal Government that, as soon as they find that the amount which is available in their budget is spent—we would not like to give the excuse that the Central team has not yet finalised its report and therefore we cannot give money—we are prepared to see that the necessary funds are provided to the West Bengal Government even if the Central team takes some time, a week or two, to finalise its report. I do not think, there will be any difficulty in taking the vigorous measures which have been planned by the West Bengal Government, in providing relief. The relief that will be provided will be gratuitous relief—relief for drinking water, relief by way of providing employment to people because that is the most important thing. Even if foodgrains are there, what will you do? Necessary employment should be provided. I am glad that the West Bengal Government have taken up the programme of sinking tubewells. It would not only provide employment but will create permanent productive assets. The whole approach appears to be so sound. Despite all the difficulties, the way in which the West Bengal Government is trying to assert itself, assert its authority, in providing relief, I have no doubt in my mind that this calamity will later on be considered to have afforded a good opportunity for development just as it did in Bihar. Mr. Ramavatar Shastri may be knowing that the drought situation in Bihar in 1966-67 was very grave; it was a very difficult situation at that time, but it afforded a brilliant opportunity for taking up large scale development programmes on agriculture. The tempo of minor irrigation development in Bihar was so much in 1966-67 as a result of the drought there. I hope, the same thing will happen here also and large scale programmes will be implemented by the West Bengal Government with the full support and financial assistance from the Centre.

I do not think that I should take more time of the House. Let me assure all the Members again that in any part of the

country, wherever there are problems, we will see that necessary measures are taken and the human suffering is minimised to the extent possible.

adjourned to meet again tomorrow at 11.00 a.m.

18 25 hrs.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The House stands

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven  
of the Clock on Wednesday, May  
24, 1972/Jyaishta 3. 1894 (Saka).*

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