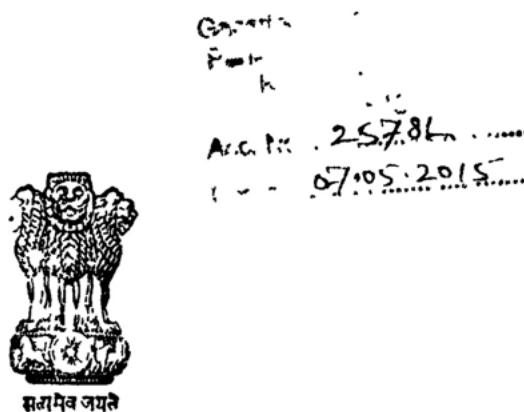


Second Series, Vol. XI—No. 9
20th February, 1958 (Thursday)

LOK SABHA DEBATES



(Vol. XI contains Nos. 1—10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

n. P. (INLAND)

THREE SHILLINGS (FOREIGN)

CONTENTS

	Column
Oral Answers to Questions—	
*Starred Questions Nos. 322 to 325, 327 to 334, 349, 335 to 338, 340, 341	1647-83
Short Notice Question No. 3	1683-85
Written Answers to Questions—	
Starred Questions Nos. 326, 339, 342 to 348 and 350 to 352 and 354 to 369	1685-1700
Unstarred Questions Nos. 392 to 442	1700-38
Mine Accident In Asansol Area	1728-29
Papers Laid on the Table	1729-30
Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions—	
Fourteenth Report	1730
Petition re : Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act and Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act	1729-30
Calling Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance—	
Spread of poisonous gas in Patel Nagar and adjoining localities in Delhi	1731-32
Correction of Answer to Starred Question No. 998	1732-33
Motion re : Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the Affairs of the Life Insurance Corporation	1734-73, 1774-1817
Shri Khadilkar	1735-46
Shri Feroze Gandhi	1746-59
Shri H.N. Mukerjee	1759-69
Shri A.K. Sen	1769-73
Pandit G.B. Pant	1774-84
Shri Asoka Mehta	1784-93
Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru	1793-1812
Personal Explanation by a Member	1773-74
Demands for Supplementary Grants, 1957-58	1817-51
Shri Naushir Bharucha	1821-27
Shri Dhanagar	1827-31
Shri Panigrahi	1831-38
Shri Bhakt Darshan	1838-49
Shri B.K. Gaekwad	1850
Half-an-hour discussion re : Indo-Pak Canal Waters Dispute	1851-68
Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha	1851-57
Shri Supakar	1857-58
Shri S.K. Patil	1858-68
Message from President	1869-70
Daily Digest	1871-76

*The sign + marked above a name indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

LOK SABHA DEBATES

1647

LOK SABHA

Thursday, 20th February 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Milk Boards

*322 **Shri Radha Raman** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether the Conference of State Ministers held at Srinagar in October last made any recommendation to set up Milk Boards in different parts of the country for regulating and improving milk supply,

(b) if so whether Government have taken any steps to implement this recommendation,

(c) if so the nature and extent of the steps, and

(d) what will be the strength and principal function of these Milk Boards?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M V Krishnappa) (a) and (b) Yes

(c) The State Governments and the Union Territory Administrations have been advised to set up a statutory Milk Board in each of the cities where a milk supply scheme is undertaken under the Second Plan

(d) Each Milk Board will include representatives of producers, distributors, consumers, municipality, health authorities and the State Governments. Its strength may vary according to local conditions

1648

The principal functions of a Milk Board will include preparation of a plan for development of milk supply, registration and licensing of producers, collectors, processors, distributors and other functionaries in the dairy trade, fixation of prices for producers, processors and consumers, quality control and propaganda, publicity and other extension work for stimulating the production and consumption of milk. Besides these planning, regulatory and supervisory functions, the Board may, if necessary, set up its own organisation for the procurement, processing and distribution of milk and manufacture and sale of milk products

Shri Radha Raman May I know whether the Government have set apart any fixed sum for the period of the Second Five Year Plan to be spent on improving the milk supply in different States in the form of subsidies under these milk boards or under my other schemes?

Shri M V Krishnappa There is a very substantial amount of Rs 20 crores nearly which has been set apart for the dairy development schemes all over the country

Shri D C Sharma I want to know if the Government has any idea of the milk products that will be made by these milk boards and what will be the agency for making these milk products?

Shri M V Krishnappa There are schemes to establish milk powder factories and also creameries. I need not tell the House the by-products of milk. All the by-products of milk will be prepared in these creameries and milk powder factories

Dr Ram Subhag Singh Is it true that production of milk has consider-

ably gone down in the country and it is going down every year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is not so; in fact the scheme is to improve the breed and thereby increase the milk yield in the country and we are going ahead with the scheme. I am sure the production of milk has not gone down; on the other hand, it is bound to go up.

Shri B. S. Murthy: May I know the powers of these boards to implement its own schemes and programmes.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They will have the powers which I have stated in my reply and they will have statutory powers to implement their schemes.

Shri V. P. Nayar: In view of the fact that certain States have an extraordinarily low per capita consumption of milk and milk products—in States like Kerala and Madras it is less than 2 ozs. per day as against 16 ozs. in Punjab—may I know whether in order to encourage milk boards in such States with such low per capita consumption of milk, the Government of India will make any special financial grants to such States?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: All these factors have been taken into consideration when the schemes have been formulated. For example, it starts with 16 ozs. in Punjab and goes down to 2 ozs. in Kerala. The capacity of each State to spend the money, the available dairy tract in the region, etc. have been taken into consideration when we formulated the scheme.

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether the increase in the production of milk in the country is keeping pace with the increase of the number of people in the country?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is not so. We have to admit that we are not keeping pace with the increase in population and the Plan envisages that more and more milk is provided for the people in the country.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: In view of the fact that milk, eggs and fish are more or less in the same category because they supply animal proteins does the Government of India have any co-ordinated scheme, so that they encourage the production of one or the other in different parts of the country to supply sufficient proteins to the people?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes, Sir; the hon. Member is quite correct in saying that milk, eggs and fish supply the necessary animal protein to the human body. As Dr. Nayar has stated, if the people of Kerala are getting only 2 ozs. of milk compared with 16 ozs. in Punjab, the Kerala people getting more fish which the Punjab people have been deprived of.

Assam Rail Link

+

*823. { Shri Barman:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether survey for the alternate Assam Rail Link has been completed so far;

(b) whether in addition to the route suggested by the Stabilisation Committee, any other route survey has been taken up; and

(c) the nature of the recommendation made by the administration?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No Sir. Survey is in progress.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Barman: May I know whether it is a fact that though recommended by the Stabilisation Committee, the Government have issued no instruction to the Chief Engineer in charge to survey that part of the alignment that is from Belakoba to Domohani?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I have just stated that the survey is actually in progress.

Shri Barman: My question is whether Government have advised the Chief Engineer in charge not to survey from Belakoba to Domohani? Is it a fact?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is not a fact.

Shri Barman: In view of the statement made on the 17th February this session by Shri Raj Bahadur, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications that in 1951 a plan was finalised for a bridge over Torsa five miles down the present N. H. alignment No. 31 and in 1953 the entire plan had to be abandoned, is it a fact that the Railway Ministry is going to commit the same mistake?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I am afraid the hon. Member is anticipating the result of the survey. Let the survey be completed and with the necessary date and statistics that will be collected, we will arrive at a decision.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if, with a view to having an effective service on the Assam link, the proposal of constructing a bridge across the Brahmaputra at Maniharighat would be considered and if so, when the construction work is going to begin?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The hon. Member knows that recently we have taken a decision to put a bridge between Pandu and Amingaon over the Brahmaputra.

Shri Hem Barua rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member says the other proposal is better. It is a suggestion for action. The question is put in the form of eliciting an answer. The answer is that they have decided to construct a bridge between Pandu and some other place. Each question is important.

Shri Barman: May I ask another supplementary?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Shri Barman: In part (b) of the question, I had asked:

“whether in addition to the route suggested by the Stabilisation Committee any other route survey has been taken up;”.

I want to know whether the route recommended by the Stabilisation Committee only is going to be surveyed or any alternative route is also going to be surveyed as was asked for by the Bengal and Assam Members in their representations.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Previously, quite independent of the recommendations of the Stabilisation Committee, certain surveys were carried out. One of them was from Mal to Binagudi, and a number of other surveys were also carried out from Dattagudi and Ramsahi towards Alipur Duar. As a result of the recommendations of the Stabilisation Committee, a fresh survey is going to be carried out.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Hem Barua: On a point of order. My name is also there on the question. Of course, I am not envying Shri Barman, but while he was allowed to ask as many as four supplementaries, I was allowed only one and brushed aside. I should be allowed to ask another supplementary.

Mr. Speaker: The name of the hon. Member who tabled it first is normally given preference; the others are added on; I need not add, but I have added them on. Hon. Members will also know that it is not one Member only that ought to exhaust all the questions. If the other hon. Member has already asked this question, the same question need not be repeated. We cannot exhaust any subject-matter in a question. I shall allow Shri Hem Barua to ask two supplementaries on another question. There must be some amount of adjustment.

Price Stabilisation Board

+

*324. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up Price Stabilisation Board to arrest the increase in price of foodgrains in the country; and

(b) if so, whether any action has been taken in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) and (b). The proposal is under consideration.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether the board will be constituted?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The proposal is still under consideration. As the hon. Member knows, the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee has recommended a high-power policy-making body for the formulation of the policy for price stabilisation generally, and it is a very serious and vital aspect to be considered. It is under consideration?

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know what the normal functions of the board would be, and whether it would perform any other functions besides price stabilisation?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, according to the recommendation of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee, this will be a board which will be a sort of high-level authority which is properly integrated into the machinery of decisions within Government on economic questions.

Shri Tyagi: Is it the intention of Government to resort to any statutory measures to come to a decision with regard to the price level or do they intend to control the economic forces to achieve the results?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): In fact, there

is already a statutory provision under the Essential Commodities Act, which invests Government with the power to statutorily fix the prices, but we have been primarily depending upon the economic factors, as the hon. Member has suggested.

Shri Tyagi: May I know the ceiling prices which Government have proposed, beyond which the prices will not be allowed to rise, and whether they are high enough to provide enough incentive to the farmers to produce more foodgrains?

Shri A. P. Jain: In certain areas, where we are doing the procurement, we have fixed ceiling prices. They vary from State to State. In fixing those prices, we take due account of the fact that they should not be unremunerative to the farmer.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether Government have worked out any production price for the foodgrains separately, and whether the price prevailing today is more than the production price?

Shri A. P. Jain: No. We have no firm figures of the cost of production of foodgrains. Some pilot experiments have been done, but it is difficult to say that they have given us any final result.

Shri Mohiuddin: May I know what would be the means by which the prices fixed by the Central Government will be enforced in the States in view of the experience that we now have that these prices that have been fixed by the Central Government are not properly being enforced?

Shri A. P. Jain: The law and order measure of the State Government is the proper measure to enforce the prices. We have to depend upon them. So far as the hint of the hon. Member is concerned, I am myself feeling concerned that the States are not enforcing the statutory price in the manner that they should do.

Poultry Development

+

*225. *Shri Barman:*

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the decisions taken at the three-day Conference in New Delhi of Poultry Development Officers of States, Union Territories and the Officers of the Central Ministry of Food and Agriculture, held on the 4th December, 1957 onwards; and

(b) the manner in which these will be implemented in the Union Territories?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) A statement showing the main recommendations of the Conference is placed on the table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No. 58.]

(b) Poultry Development Officers or Officers-in-charge of poultry development work in the Union Territories will implement the recommendations.

Shri Barman: One of the recommendations of the conference is:

"Adequate financial assistance in the form of loan to Harijans and others should be provided for starting poultry farming."

May I know the amount of loans that have been distributed specifically to Harijans for the purpose, and whether any attempt has been made to attract Harijans in the training institutions?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There is no specific amount fixed for loans for Harijans alone, but there is a considerable amount out of the Rs. 2½ crores that we are going to spend on poultry development in the country, and there is provision for lending money to the poultry farmers for starting poultries in the country; and most of it will go to the Harijans, because mostly, it is done by Harijans in the country.

Shri Barman: May I know the total amount, in terms of money, of import of poultry and eggs from East Pakistan, which has been stopped now, and whether Government are going to strengthen their attempts to increase poultry production in this country?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I think restrictions have now been placed on the import of eggs from East Pakistan, which I would welcome in the interests of poultry development in this country. About 2 million eggs or so per month were imported from West Pakistan in the season.

Shri B. S. Murthy: The Deputy Minister was pleased to state that most of the money must have gone into the hands of the Harijans. May I know whether this answer is based on facts or on surmises?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Poultry is not a profession which is generally taken to by all people in the country, and practically speaking, it is only the Harijans who have taken mostly to this, and there are also other people.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know the names of the Union Territories where these schemes are going to be implemented, and also the minimum amount of loan that is going to be paid to each farmer?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: They will get Rs. 500 each. There is a training course for these farmers. They get training for 15 days under one scheme and three months under another scheme. After the farmer is trained for three months, he will get Rs. 500 loan to start a poultry farm; he would not be given that amount in cash but he will be given only foundation stock and a small incubator and things like that.

Mr. V. P. Nayar: Are Government aware that the results of poultry farming as introduced in the community development blocks and the national extension service areas with imported fowls such as Black Minorca and White Leghorn are not encouraging, because the farmers have to feed the fowls at

a cost of Rs. 1½ per day all the 365 days in the year, while indigenous fowls can thrive without a single pie being spent on their food? Has this problem been specifically discussed?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The average number of eggs which an indigenous fowl can give is 53 in India, whereas a White Leghorn can give as many as 208 eggs in a year. Even if the cost of maintaining a White Leghorn is one hundred per cent more, still, the farmer is likely to get three hundred per cent more in the form of eggs.

रेलवे याची सुविधायें

+

श्री श्रीनारायण वास :
३२७०. श्री विं च० शुक्ल :

क्या रेलवे मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या तीसरे दर्जे के रेलवे यात्रियों की कठिनाइयों और असुविधाओं के अध्ययन के लिये रेलवे के उच्च पदाधिकारियों के छिपे बेष में घूमने की कोई प्रस्थापिता विचाराधीन है ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसका स्वरूप क्या है ?

रेलवे उपर्युक्ती (श्री शाहनवाज शाह) :
(क) इस तरह का एक सुसाव सरकार को मिला था, जिसे सब रेलों को भेज दिया गया है और उनसे कहा गया है कि, जैसा मुमकिन हो, इस पर कार्रवाई करें।

(ख) सुसाव यह है कि रेलवे के अफसर तीसरे दर्जे के छिपों में छिपकर सफर करें और देखें कि तीसरे दर्जे में लोग किन हालतों में सफर करते हैं और जहाँ कही जल्दी हो, उनकी कठिनाइयों को दूर करने के लिये सुसाव है।

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Has any of the Railways begun acting on the

suggestion? If so, which is the Rail-way?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, the Western Railway has started it. Some of its officers have started travelling in cognito.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Has any report as to the result of such observations made by such officials been made available to Government?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, they have submitted whatever their experiences were to the Railway concerned.

श्री भवत बहान : क्या कभी माननीय मंत्री जी और माननीय उप-मंत्री जी ने यह विचार किया है कि उन्हें भी बेष बदल कर यात्रियों की कठिनाइयों का अध्ययन करना चाहिये ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री अग्रवाल राम) : भेस बदल कर तो ऐसा नहीं किया है, क्योंकि डर है कि भेस बदलने पर वे पहचाने जायेंगे, लेकिन अमूल्य विना नोटिस के बे तीसरे दर्जे के कम्पार्टमेंट्स में जा कर देखा करते हैं कि लैंड्री और पानी की क्या हालत है और वहा ओवर-क्राउडिंग है या नहीं।

Indo-Norwegian Fishing Projects

*328. **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state what is the progress of the Indo-Norwegian fishing project at Neendakara?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): The progress so far achieved by the Indo-Norwegian Project set up in 1953 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 59.]

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Have any steps as suggested by the Norwegian people been taken to mechanise our fishing operations?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The object of the entire project is to bring about mechanisation of fishing and increase

the catch, and also the processing, preservation and marketing of fish. This also includes training our men in mechanised boat fishing.

Shri V. P. Nayar: From the statement, it is seen that the rupee expenditure on land, labour and material and other recurring costs are to be shared on a 50:50 basis between the Government of Kerala and the Government of India. In answer to a question on the 12th instant, the hon. Minister revealed that the monthly expenditure on petrol in this project is Rs. 4,000. May I know why, when the project is so small, with a few miles of radius, this amount is spent on petrol alone?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The hon. Member has tabled a series of questions for which we are giving replies. They relate to how much money has been spent on petrol, what are the pay bills etc. He will get all the details. If he feels that the amount of money that they are spending is more, then there is a committee to look after it. We will bring it to their notice and they will look into it.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That is not the point. It has already been answered on the 12th—I have not a copy of the answer with me. It is stated that Rs. 4,000 is the monthly expenditure. As I submitted, the project area is very small and most of it is inaccessible by car. They are coastal villages. Why should an expenditure of Rs. 4,000 be incurred on petrol alone?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There are nearly 25 Norwegian people. They have got a big hospital. They have got their wagons and I think they have 64 boats or so. In most cases, they have to make use of petrol for various vehicles.

Shri Dasappa: The hon. Deputy Minister has said that marketing is a necessary part of the whole scheme. How do they propose to transport this fish to the hinterland? Are they satisfied that there are adequate arrangements for refrigerated wagons etc. to transport them to the hinterland?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The transport problem has arisen just now, this year when they actually started catching fish in the high seas by mechanised boats. So they are thinking in terms of getting a refrigerated metre gauge wagon to transport fish from Quilon to the hinterland everyday.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Has any increase in catch been noticed on account of this project?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The main purpose of the scheme is to train fishermen in mechanised fishing and other mechanised operations coming under fisheries, such as catching, processing and other things. This project is able to catch nearly 105—105 tons in the course of four or five months.

Shri V. P. Nayar and Shri Kodiyan
rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is always asking questions on fishing.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is in our constituency. We may be allowed to ask a few more questions.

Mr. Speaker: Why did the hon. Member himself not table the question, leaving it to an hon. Member who does not even take fish? He will have many more opportunities of 'fishing'.

Foodgrains Enquiry Committee

+

Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
*329. Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Supakar:
Shri Sanganna:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 454 on the 25th November, 1957 and state whether recommendations of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee have been accepted?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): The recommendations are still under consideration.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Last time I think it was said that some recommendations had been accepted and some were in the course of being accepted. May I know how many recommendations have been accepted and how many are on the way to being accepted?

Shri A. M. Thomas: There are some major recommendations such as the constitution of a Price Stabilisation Board, about which an answer has already been given; there is a recommendation concerning the establishment of a foodgrains stabilisation organisation. Then they have recommended the necessity for having a reserve stock. We have accepted that in principle. Our idea is to build up a buffer stock of a million tons each of wheat and rice, although it may not be immediately possible to have a reserve stock of a million tons of rice. Then there are several regulatory measures recommended by the Committee. It would be a sort of via media between complete control and free trade. They relate to licensing of trade, which we have adopted, and running of fair price shops, cordons, zones etc. Our present policy generally follows the lines suggested by the Committee. They have recommended internal procurement. We are adopting that. They have also suggested certain improvements in the working of fair price shops, such as the introduction of modified ration scheme, identity cards etc. We have adopted that. Then they have recommended encouragement of...

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister wants to show that the Ministry is alert with respect to all these matters.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: When the hon. Member asked, how many recommendations have been accepted, I would have been immensely satisfied if the hon. Minister had said, say, 'four' and kept quiet. If it was asked, what were all the recommendations he could have made a statement.

Shri Ranga: May I know whether Government have begun to make any inquiries into the cost of cultivation and also the remunerative level of prices? Has at least a pilot inquiry been conducted in different States?

Shri A. M. Thomas: This question has often been answered on the floor of the House. An answer has just now been given by my senior colleague regarding studies conducted under certain pilot schemes. Apart from that, the House knows that the Foodgrains Inquiry Committee has recommended the price for the current season, and we have given due regard to that recommendation. We have also taken the basis of procurement prices in 1952-53 and the prices prevailing in the last two or three years. It is not a question of ignoring the cost of production. We have also taken....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I think there was a debate on this Report.

An Hon. Member: Yes (*Interruptions*).

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will kindly hear me. The recommendations contained in a Report may be many, and the time available to us would not be enough to ask questions on them. If any hon. Member wants to elicit further facts in regard to a particular recommendation he is interested in, let him table a question separately, and not by way of a supplementary here. The hon. Minister need not answer such questions. Generally, if the hon. Minister says 'All the recommendations have been accepted', I am satisfied. It is very wrong on the part of hon. Members to prevent the hon. Members who have tabled the question from asking questions. There is a tendency for hon. Members to take the help of some question tabled by some other hon. Member and then go on asking questions, without giving an opportunity to the others who have taken the trouble to table questions. Hereafter, I am not going to allow more than two supplementaries to a question. I find that there is a growing tendency to elbow out those hon. Members who

have taken the trouble to table questions here. Here one question is tabled by one hon. Member. That is his child. But another hon. Member takes it away.

Shri Supakar: May I know if a short-term method to meet the distress in scarcity areas has been adopted on the basis of the Foodgrains Enquiry Committee report; and, if so, what actual steps have been taken?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The Foodgrains Enquiry Committee did not make any recommendation about the situation arising of that kind. But, I may inform the hon. Member that we have taken every possible step, *viz.*, we have supplied foodgrains in sufficient quantity from the Central stocks; we have also sanctioned some money for the development of minor irrigation and intensive labour work with a view to provide purchasing power to the people.

Shri Sanganna: May I know what is the financial help given to the Orissa State according to the recommendation of the Committee?

Shri A. P. Jain: This Committee has not made any recommendation about giving financial aid to Orissa. But, of course, the team appointed by the Planning Commission visited the place and gave them some money for putting up minor irrigation works.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know by what time the proposal to have this Financial Stabilisation Board will be implemented?

Shri A. P. Jain: That is under inter-departmental examination and has reached quite an advanced stage.

Rail Link to Tripura

+

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
*330. { Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Dasaratha Deb:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of

India and Pakistan who met in Delhi in December, 1957, agreed to the construction of a railway line to Tripura through East Pakistan;

(b) if so, whether the plan for the construction of this line has been prepared; and

(c) when will the preliminary survey of the proposed line be undertaken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The meeting between the Indian and Pakistan representatives was held at Karachi in December, 1957 and it was agreed that the joint preliminary survey by Indian and Pakistan Railway Officials should be undertaken with a view to constructing railway sidings into Tripura.

(b) No Sir;

(c) Arrangements for the preliminary survey to be carried out jointly with the E. B. Railway (Pakistan) (authorities) have been made and the same is expected to be completed shortly.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Vajpayee, Shri Dasaratha Deb.

Before I give an opportunity to other Members, those hon. Members who have tabled the questions may get up and put questions.

Shri Vajpayee: I got up at the time of the former question. My name was there and not in this question.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will kindly look into it. His name is also there in question No. 330.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: May I know whether the Government is aware that the East Pakistan Railway, formerly known as the Assam Bengal Railway passes through the Union Territory of Tripura near Agartala airport; and, if so, whether the Government will consider the construction of a railway siding from that point when the matter is taken up?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: A team of Indian Railway Officers has proceeded to East Pakistan and it will survey various places. The main places that we have in view at present are the various railheads like Akhaura, Balla and one or two other places. After the survey is completed, we will know the complete details.

दिल्ली के गाबो में बिजली लगाना

†*३३१. श्री नवल प्रसाद कर क्या सिवाई और बिल्लू मनी यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली क्षेत्र के कितने गाबो में अब तक बिजली लगाई जा चुकी है,

(ख) १६५७-५८ में अब तक कितने गाबो में बिजली लगाने का विचार है, और

(ग) इस कार्य के लिये अब तक कितना सर्व किया गया है ?

सिवाई और बिल्लू मनी (श्री स० का० पाटिल) (क) ११ (द दिल्ली राज्य बिजली बोर्ड के क्षेत्र में और ३ नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका के क्षेत्र में)।

(ख) किसी में नहीं।

(ग) सरकार ने कोई सर्व नहीं किया है, किन्तु दिल्ली राज्य बिजली बोर्ड और नई दिल्ली नगरपालिका ने गाबो में बिजली देने की योजना पर अब तक ५.२ लाख रुपये खर्च किये हैं।

I am reading the English version also.

(a) 11 (8 in Delhi State Electricity Board area and 3 in New Delhi Municipal Committee area).

(b) Nil.

(c) No expenditure has been incurred by Government. An expenditure of Rs. 5.2 lakhs has, however, so far been incurred by the Delhi State Electricity Board and the New Delhi Municipal Committee on rural electrification.

श्री नवल प्रसाद : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में दिल्ली के कितने गाबो में बिजली लगानी तथा की गई है और उस पर कितना रुपया खर्च होगा और क्या उसी के अनुसार बिजली लगाने जा रही है ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल : हाँ बराबर सवाल जा रही है। पञ्चीस लाख रुपया योजना में मजूर है। पहली स्कीम जो है वह ६,६०,००० की है और पूसरी १५,४०,००० की और ये स्कीमे पांच बरस के प्रन्दर पूरी होगी और ५५ गाव हैं जिन में बिजली जायेगी।

श्री नवल प्रसाद कर क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि ये जो ५५ गाव हैं ये किस किस इलाके में हैं, किस किस पुलिस स्टेशन में ये आते हैं।

श्री स० का० पाटिल यह एक बहुत लम्बी लिस्ट है और इन सब का नाम ले कर, मैं समझता हूँ, सदन का समय लेना ठीक नहीं होगा।

Wagon Repair Workshop

+
*३३२ { Shrimati Ila Palchaudhuri:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal to set up a new wagon repair workshop on the Western Railway is under the consideration of the Government of India;

(b) if so, when a final decision is likely to be taken;

(c) where the workshop will be set up; and

(d) the total approximate expenditure which will be involved in this project?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, a Broad Gauge wagon repair workshop will be set up.

(b) The work has already been sanctioned.

(c) At Kotah.

(d) Rs. 2.10 crores approximately.

Shrimati Ila Palchaudhuri: May I know how many wagons this workshop is likely to have to tackle and what is the capacity we have at present for repairs, how many thousand wagons will be repaired at the moment and how many will be repaired by this construction?

Mr. Speaker: Four or five questions in the same one.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes; but I will answer them. This question refers to the repair of broadgauge wagons. At present, on the Western Railway, our repair capacity is 3107 wagons per annum. After the completion of this new workshop, the repair capacity at the end of the Second Plan period will be 8,844 wagons per annum.

Shrimati Ila Palchaudhuri: May I know how many wagons we are hoping to construct by the end of the Second Plan period?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The question actually does not arise. But, I can tell the hon. lady Member that by the end of the Second Plan period, we expect to have approximately 36,000 wagons per annum—broadgauge and metre gauge.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether the Government is going to construct a metre gauge wagon repairing workshop also?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We are not thinking of constructing any new metre gauge workshop on the Western Railway.

Shri Mohiuddin: May I know whether this workshop will also repair the over-age wagons by replacement of parts and other things,

which are now very large in number?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It will repair all sorts of wagons that come there for being repaired.

Railway Accidents

Shri M. L. Dwivedi:

Shri Radha Raman:

Shri Goray:

Shri Heda:

Shri Madhusudan Rao:

Shri Jhulan Sinha:

Shri Khadilkar:

Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Shri Sarju Pandey:

Shri T. K. Chaudhuri:

Shri Mohamed Imam:

Shri D. C. Sharma:

Shri Warior:

Shri Raghunath Singh:

Shri S. C. Samanta:

Pandit D. N. Tiwary:

Shri Hem Raj:

Shri Padam Dev:

Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Shri Hem Barua:

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:

Shri Tangamani:

Shri Pangarkar:

Shri K. B. Malaviya:

*338.

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the total number of serious accidents which occurred on Indian Railways during the period 1st November, 1957 to 31st January, 1958 (zone wise);

(b) the main causes of the accidents;

(c) the number among them which were suspected to be due to sabotage;

(d) the number of persons killed and injured separately for railwaymen and passengers;

(e) losses incurred in terms of Railway and passengers' properties;

(f) the total amount of compensation paid to the dependants of the victims and to the injured persons;

(g) the details about prosecutions launched and disciplinary action taken against staff and persons responsible for the accidents; and

(h) the effective measures devised against recurrence of such accidents?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Three serious accidents one each on the Central, Northern & South Eastern Railways.

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

[See Appendix II, annexure No. 60].

श्री मंसूद द्विवेदी : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो प्रबन्ध ग्रन्थ रेल एक्सीडेंट्स की रोकथाम के सम्बन्ध में रेलवे मन्त्रालय ने किये हैं, उसमें कितना और नया स्टाफ बढ़ाया गया है और प्रतिवर्ष कितना नया स्टाफ किया जायेगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : इसका जवाब देना तो मुश्किल है। जब भी कोई सीरियस एक्सीडेंट होता है तो उसकी जाव के लिये एक एन्कवायरी कमिशन या इन्कवायरी कमेटी बिठाई जाती है और जो सिफारिशें वह करती हैं उनको जहाँ तक हमारी ताकत में होता है, अगले मे लाने की कोशिश हम करते हैं। हाल ही मे एक फैमला यह किया गया है कि हम एक्सीडेंट्स की रोकथाम के लिये खास इस्पैक्टर्स और खास आफिसर्स हर एक रेलवे पर भिर्फ इसी काम के लिये मुकर्रर करे।

Mr. Speaker: I have ordered, I think, last night that there will be a discussion on the Railway Accident Inquiry Committee Report. Is it necessary to go into these details now?

Shri Tangamani: There is only one report which has come. There are 5 accidents mentioned here; but only one report is published.

Mr. Speaker: It was understood that all reports relating to accidents, whether they are major accidents or

minor, will always be brought before the House and be taken up in the House.

The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram): As we have said, there are certain accidents where police prosecution is going on and it is not possible to place these reports on the Table of the House. But the idea is to discuss the report of the Accident Inquiry Committee and the report has already been made available to the hon. Members.

Mr. Speaker: Cannot we take up these matters also there instead of taking up the time of the House on this question. This will stand over. I shall fix a day as early as possible.

Shri Tangamani: In the statement laid we are given to understand that there were only three major accidents: one in November and two accidents in January. Am I to take it that there were no other serious accidents because there was an accident during the second week of January in the Southern Railway where the Dhanushkodi-bound express collided with the passenger train in the Tanjore railway station resulting in injuries to four persons including the local MLA? Is it not a serious accident?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The definition of a serious accident according to the Railways is an accident attended with death or grievous injury or loss to railway property over Rs. 20,000. This is not a serious accident.... (Interruptions.)

Mr. Speaker: Let the question stand over.

श्री मंसूद द्विवेदी : इस स्टेटमेंट मे यह नहीं बताया गया कि पैसेन्जर्स की कितनी सम्पत्ति की हानि हुई है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या सरकार वे इस का पता नहीं लगाया है या यह कुछ दिनों में मालूम हो जायेगा। अगर मालूम हो जायेगा तो क्या सदन के पाल पर यह सूचना रक्सी जायेगी ?

श्री अग्नीश्वर राम : आम तौर से ऐसा होता है कि जिन पैसेन्जर्स की क्षति

होती है, दे अगर रेलवे की बताते हैं तब हमें जानकारी होती है। वह जानकारी हमारे पास आ जायेगी तो हम सभा पट्ट पर रख देंगे।

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: May I request that question No 349 which is on a related subject be taken up along with Q. No. 334?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Jute

***334. Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has made any financial provision to the State of Orissa for helping the jute growers of Orissa;

(b) the quantity of low-grade Pakistani jute that India imports from Pakistan; and

(c) the quantity of low-grade jute produced in the jute-growing areas of West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) A grant of Rs 1,79,000/- and a loan of Rs. 86,818/- have been sanctioned to Orissa Government during 1957-58 for jute development work in the State.

(b) Variety-wise details of imports of raw jute from Pakistan prior to July, 1957 are not available. However, out of the total imports of about 3 lakh bales of jute from Pakistan during July-November, 1957, 2,30,000 bales were of cuttings and 70,000 bales of long jute.

(c) The quantity of bottom or low-grade jute produced in West Bengal is roughly assessed at 35% of the total annual production in the State. In Orissa the quantity of bottom and cross-bottom grades of jute during 1957-58 is estimated at 68.5% and 25% respectively. In Bihar, the production of the above grades of jute during 1955-56 was roughly 50% and 33%.

Jute Prices in Orissa

***349. Shri Surendranath Dwivedy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representations regarding difficulties of Orissa jute-growers in regard to the low-rate and also refusal of the traders to buy jute from them; and

(b) whether any steps have been taken to remove these difficulties?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The matter was brought to the notice of the Government by the Hon. Member himself.

(b) The main difficulty pointed out is in regard to the movement of jute from Orissa to the mill areas of Calcutta. The Railway Administration concerned are fully alive to the need for ensuring the maximum clearance of the outstanding traffic within the resources available, and are making every endeavour to achieve this objective.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether the Government has fixed any quota for increasing the acreage of jute-cultivation in the eastern region: West Bengal, Bihar and Orissa?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No specific quotas had been fixed. We are interested in getting larger quantities of jute production in the country. But I understand that our method is in increasing per acre yields rather than the acreage.

Shri Panigrahi: What are the special schemes of assistance which the Government is thinking of rendering to jute cultivators in this region?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We are making grants for the development of jute. We are giving some grants meant for expenditure on jute development staff, plant protection measures, rating tanks and subsidized distribution of jute seeds. In addition

the assistance given to the cultivators consists of giving them seed, drills, wheel-hoes, long-term loans in kind or implements on hire basis.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Besides the availability of railway wagons, may I know what steps has the Government taken to give higher rate for jute growers in Orissa?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: There is no particular scheme for giving any higher price but on the whole the prices prevailing are by no means low.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Is it not a fact that this year the growers were offered a much lower price than the market price and that was on account of the fact that buyers were not purchasing jute and a representation was made in this connection? May I know what steps have been taken to ensure the payment of market price to the jute growers?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We are trying to help as much as possible but this question of transport cannot be solved in a day. It is bound to take some time.

कौच जल-भण्डार परियोजना

+

*इडैट. { श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री स० च० सामन्त :
श्री दौ० च० शर्मा :
श्री रघुनाथ तिहार :

क्या सिवाई और चिट्ठू० चंद्री १६ दिसम्बर, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ११७३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में कौच जल-भण्डार परियोजना के सम्बन्ध में जांच पड़ताल के बारे में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है;

(ख) इस परियोजना पर कितना खर्च होने का अनुमान है; और

(ग) इस परियोजना का निर्माण-प्रारम्भ होने की सम्भावना है?

सिवाई और चिट्ठू० चंद्री (श्री स० चा० चाटिल) : (क) से (ग). जानकारी इकट्ठी की जा रही है और सदन की बेज पर रख दी जायेगी।

I shall read the English answer also.

(a) to (c): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस जल भण्डार योजना के बारे में उत्तर प्रदेश और पंजाब की सरकारों से भी कोई परामर्श लिया गया है और आया उन्होंने इस के बारे में अपनी कोई सम्मति प्रकट की है?

श्री स० चा० चाटिल : परामर्श तो जरूर किया गया है, लेकिन इस की रिपोर्ट अभी तक गवर्नरेट के पास आई नहीं है। वे लोग अभी तक सोच रहे हैं।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : श्रीमन्, क्या माननीय मंत्री जी के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि इस प्रस्तावित जल योजना के कारण, यानी जो कौच जल भण्डार योजना बनेगी उस के कारण, देहरादून जिले में डाक पत्थर स्थान पर यमुना पर जो बाध बन रहा है, और जिस पर कि लालो रुपया खर्च भी हो गया है उस को धक्का पहुँचने की आशंका है, इसलिये उसे रोक दिया गया है? क्या कोई ऐसी तरकीब नहीं हो सकती कि दोनों को मिला कर कोई योजना चलाई जाये जिस में कि पहले का रुपया बेकार न जाये?

श्री स० च० चाटिल : मैं तो इस सभा में पहले उत्तर दे चुका हूँ कि जब कौच योजना आयेगी तो पहली योजना निकम्भी हो जायेगी। इस लिये दूसरी योजना में जिस पर २ करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा खर्च हो रहा है, और जिस में करीब इतनी ही एलेक्ट्रिसिटी पैदा होने वाली है, कुछ रकावट नहीं है?

Mr. Speaker: Next question. I am not going to allow more than two questions for each hon. Member.

Rice Procurement Scheme

*336. **Shri P. G. Deb:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the Rice Procurement Scheme drawn up by the Central Government to meet the food shortage in the country;

(b) the type of Central aid for procurement of paddy to meet the demands of farmers for the next year's cultivation;

(c) whether the State Governments of Bihar and Orissa have asked the Centre for financial aid for the purchase of rice from stockists for adequate distribution to their food scarcity areas; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) Rice is being procured on Government of India account in Andhra Pradesh and Punjab.

The Government of Assam, Bengal, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh, Madras and Mysore and the Tripura and Manipur Administrations have also been permitted to procure rice-paddy in their respective areas.

(b) Schemes for the distribution of seeds are eligible under G.M.F. Rules, for a subsidy of Rs. 2 per maund. In the States which have to import seeds from outside an additional subsidy of 8 annas per maund on account of storage and transport charges is permissible. The subsidy is shared equally between the Centre and the States. The grant of short term loan is also permissible for the purchase of seed.

(c) and (d) Orissa Government have asked for financial assistance for procurement of rice and their request is under consideration. In Bihar no rice is proposed to be procured.

Shri P. G. Deb: May I know when the Government is going to decide to give adequate financial aid to Orissa

to meet the food scarcity prevalent this year?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The Orissa Government has asked for an interest-free loan of a crore of rupees. This is under the consideration of the Ministry of Finance now.

Shri Supakar: May I know when the Government of Orissa asked for this help or loan from the Centre?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I have not got the particular date before me.

Shri B. Das Gupta: May I know whether the procurement price in West Bengal is fixed by the Central Government or the State Government?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The procurement prices have been fixed in consultation with the State Government. The State Government has suggested some minor modifications and they are being considered.

Central Rice Committee

*337. **Shri Heda:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are appointing a Central Rice Committee;

(b) if so, what would be its sphere of activities; and

(c) its location and personnel for the first term?

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a). Yes, a Rice Committee has been appointed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

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

[See Appendix II, annexure No. 61].

Derailment of Coaches

+

Shri N. R. Munisamy:
 Shri S. M. Banerjee:
 *338. Shri Raghunath Singh:
 Shri Hem Raj:
 Shri Padam Dev:
 Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the reasons for the derailment of two rear coaches of the Grand Trunk Express on the 5th January, 1958 near Chintalpalli Railway Station;

(b) the number of passengers in those two coaches,

(c) the number of persons injured,

(d) when the train resumed its journey and what arrangements were made for transhipment of the passengers,

(e) how long it took to resume normal traffic, and

(f) the extent of loss of property caused to the Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The cause of the accident as determined by Senior Officers' Enquiry Committee, was that the wing and lead rails of the crossing of points No 15 at Chintalpalli were displaced laterally due to the failure of some track fastenings

The finding is, however, under examination of the Railway Administration

(b) Fifty four

(c) None

(d) The train left at 03 25 hours on the same day Passengers from the rear coaches were transhipped into the front 8 coaches of the train Subsequently, one III class Carriage was attached at Kazipet and two Upper Class coaches at Nagpur to the train

(e) Sixteen hours and five minutes for clearing the track and restoration of through running.

(f) Rs. 8,078.

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether during transhipment of the luggage of passengers from one coach to the other they have lost some of their luggage for which they want compensation to be paid and, if so, may I know how much they have claimed?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: It is to be expected that when a passenger moves from one compartment to another he will look after his luggage I think it is asking too much of the Railways to pay compensation

Shri N. R. Munisamy: May I know whether it is a fact that a Committee has suggested some remedy for the prevention of the recurrence of such derailments of coaches?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Sometime ago a Committee was appointed under one of our very capable officers known as the Isaac Letham Committee. That went specifically into this question of derailment and has made certain recommendations Those recommendations have been implemented

Shri Tangamani: In view of the fact that a week after this incident, that is, during the second week of January, two carriages of the Bhopal-Nagda passenger train derailed at Piplod-Bagla section, may I know whether the real cause of the recurrence of such accidents has been investigated, and whether there is any truth in the allegation that the vacuum brakes are not functioning properly?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan Derailments can take place due to various causes I may tell the hon House that during the course of the year we had very nearly over 3000 derailments It is not as though there is only one derailment There are hundreds and hundreds of trains moving and some wheels slip off the rails.

Shri Tangamani: As the hon. Deputy Minister himself admitted that there were something like 3000 derailments.

may I know whether the various causes for these derailments were investigated and any decision taken in the recent General Managers' Conference?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Yes, Sir. We go into the causes of derailments and try to remedy them, but in spite of that the derailments do take place.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Sir, I travelled on the same train now under discussion. May I know whether the derailment was due to the train not conforming to any speed regulation, and why prompt action was not taken by the officers when the derailment was reported to the nearest station?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Sir, I would like to correct my earlier reply and give more exact figures. There was a total of 1256 derailments in 1955-56 and 1331 derailments in 1956-57. One of the causes of derailments can be that when the train is moving at a curve and it is going at an excessive speed it slips off the rails leading to derailment.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I wanted to know why prompt action was not taken immediately.

Mr. Speaker: I have called the next question. There were 3000 derailments.

Shri B. S. Murthy: Here is a case where I travelled on the same train.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will have an opportunity on the Railway Budget.

Shri B. S. Murthy: I travelled on the same train, Sir, and I luckily escaped.

Mr. Speaker: I am glad. All these matters can be brought up on the Railway Budget. We will go to the next question.

Sugarcane

*240. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Central Government have sanctioned any

scheme to improve sugarcane crop and develop factory areas in Andhra during the Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Yes, Sir. The Scheme estimated to cost a total of Rs. 17.57 lakhs during the Second Five Year Plan period and designed to increase the per acreage yield of sugarcane and to improve its quality is in operation.

श्री भवसूदन रावः क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बता सकते कि यह तक सैकिंग फाइबर इंडियन में कितना काम हुआ है और कितना पैसा खर्च हुआ है ?

श्री भौमोदो बोंड कृष्णरावः : काम शुरू हुआ है । पिछले दो सालों में से पहले साल में स्टेट गवर्नरेंट ने ६४ हजार रुपया खर्च किया और इस साल में २ लाख ६२ हजार रुपया खर्च किया है ।

Shri Jadhav: What is the total acreage under sugarcane in Andhra Pradesh, and what is the average yield per acre?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The total acreage in Andhra Pradesh under sugarcane is 1,74,600, and the average per acre is about 29 tons now.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know whether any improvement has been made in the yield per acre of sugarcane?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The idea of this improvement scheme is to increase the per acre yield and the quality of sugarcane.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: I want to know whether there has been any achievement in the attempt to increase the average yield.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Certainly, it is going up; production is going up both of sugar and sugarcane.

Shri Heda: In view of the fact that large areas in different parts of Andhra Pradesh are giving a very good yield per acre, may I know what

further schemes are proposed to be taken up, or whether any new research station is coming up as a result of the expanded expenditure on research?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There will be four 'sugarcane liaison farms in Andhra Pradesh: one at Bobbili, one at Samalkot, one at Tanuku and one at Vayyur. After some time there will be one near Chittur also.

Choudhury Committee Report

+

*241. { Shri Paghunath Singh:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kodiyan:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:
Shri Warrior:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state what action has been taken to implement the recommendations made by the Choudhury Committee regarding the pay scales and allowances of labourers in major ports?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 62].

Shri A. K. Gopalan: Has the Government received any notice of strike from the All India Port and Dock Workers Federation saying that they will go on strike if the Choudhury Committee's recommendations are not implemented by March, 1958?

Shri Raj Bahadur: No notice of strike has been received by the Government.

Shri Tangamani: The Choudhury Committee's report was received long before 1957 and the Government had considered it in November. May I know why there is so much delay in implementing the recommendations contained in the Choudhury Committee's report pending the final award of the Second Pay Commission?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The final report was submitted on 1st September, 1957 —I am speaking from my memory.

The discussions with the unions were held at the highest level at Delhi and as a result thereof it was decided that such of the recommendations which impinge upon the terms of reference of the new Pay Commission should be held over until that Commission submits its report, and should be considered in the light of the new commissions recommendations as accepted by the Government. In regard to the rest of the recommendations discussions at the local Port Administration level are going on.

Shri A. K. Gopalan: When in the recommendations the Cochin Port is also included, may I know why it is that no negotiation is carried on between the Administrator and the Port Workers' Union?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The recognised Union in the Port of Cochin has been holding discussions with the Port Administrative Officer. Some of the recommendations have been implemented there and there is no delay so far as this question is concerned.

Shri Kodiyan: What are the recommendations that have been implemented in the Cochin Port area?

Shri Raj Bahadur: They are in regard to removing distinction between class III and class IV employees in the matter of leave and other privileges.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: May I know whether the Government are aware that satyagraha was conducted at the Cochin Port by the workers for getting some demands implemented, those demands which are not included in the Choudhury Committee's report, namely, the disparity between service conditions of class IV workers in Bombay Port and Cochin Port?

Shri Raj Bahadur: There was a demonstration by about 180 workers before the office of the Port Administration Officer. But I think everything is quiet now and discussions with the recognised unions are going on.

Shri Kodiyan: Apart from the recommendations of the second Pay Commission, why is the Government continuing to discriminate the Class IV employees in the Madras, Calcutta and Cochin ports as against their counterparts in Bombay?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question is not very clear. But I think it will suffice if I say that there are as many as 90 recommendations covering all the aspects of the terms and conditions of the port workers, and it would take time, for us to take final decisions about them. However, several meetings have been held between the Union representatives and the administration of the port concerned. So, I think we should allow them time to iron out the differences, if any.

—
12.00 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Foodgrain Prices

3. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price levels of foodgrains in different States have started showing a downward trend in recent weeks;

(b) what are the particular foodgrains whose price levels have fallen; and

(c) what is the position of food prices in the areas where crops had failed last year due to drought?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) Wheat, Rice, Bajra, Maize and Jowar.

(c) Satisfactory on the whole.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know what is the price of coarse and medium rice in Bihar and other scarcity-affected areas in the country?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The price level of coarse rice in Bihar has come down.

On the 31st January, it was Rs. 22-8-0 and then Rs. 22-4-0. At Jainagar, it is Rs. 22-8-0. At Jamshedpur, it is Rs. 22-4-0.

Shri Kasliwal: What is the percentage of the fall in prices of wheat in Rajasthan and Punjab?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In Rajasthan, the wheat prices have declined to Rs. 12 to Rs. 18 per maund. In Punjab, it is stable more or less at Rs. 14 to 15.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the total quantity of foodgrains moved to scarcity areas by the Union Government?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In scarcity areas, we have been moving quantities which are to the requirements of the particular areas concerned. Of course, we are not in a position to supply rice in adequate quantities. We are supplying wheat in adequate quantities.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarthy: What is the price of rice in December and January or in the first week of February in North Bengal and South Bengal?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In December, the price of coarse variety in Santinia, was Rs. 19. In Contai it was Rs. 18-12. In Belurghat it was Rs. 19-8-0. It was towards the end of December.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarthy: For January?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In January, it was Rs. 19-4-0, Rs. 19-8-0 and Rs. 19-8-0 respectively, for coarse varieties.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether during the last week, the price of foodgrains, especially of wheat and rice, was showing an upward tendency in Delhi?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, the price of rice was showing an upward tendency in Delhi and that was why we had included Delhi also in the Punjab zone.

Shri B. Das Gupta: What is the prevailing price of coarse and medium

rice in West Bengal now, and what is the procurement price in West Bengal?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I did not hear it.

Mr. Speaker: I am proceeding to the next item.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Irwin Hospital, New Delhi

***326. Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the average attendance per day of outdoor patients during 1957 at the Irwin Hospital, New Delhi; and

(b) the number of doctors to attend them?

The Minister of Health (Shri D. P. Karmarkar): (a) 1,596 per day.

(b) About 77 doctors.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में गेहूं

*336. श्री नक राम नागी : क्या जाति तथा कूदिय मंडी ३ दिसम्बर, १९५७ के तारीखित प्रदेश संस्था ७५४ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या हिमाचल प्रदेश को दिया गया ४० हजार मन गेहूं १४ रुपये प्रति मन या उससे अधिक भाव पर बेचा गया ;

(ख) अब तक कितना गेहूं बेचा गया ; और

(ग) क्या सरकार को विदित है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में कालानंद का उत्पादन कम होने के कारण उसे दिया गया गेहूं हिमाचल प्रदेश के लिये अपर्याप्त है ?

कालानंद और कूदिय उपनिषदी (श्री अ० म० आचल) : (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार को गेहूं १४ रुपये प्रति मन, अन्तर्राज्य स्थान रेल डिसीवरी पर बेचा था।

हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार ने इस गेहूं को रेल स्टेशन से वितरण स्थानों तक के विभिन्न भाड़ों को हिसाब में लगाकर भिन्न भिन्न भाव पर वितरण किया। १९५७ में मह भाव १५ रुपये से ३० रुपये प्रति मन तक रहे।

(ख) ३१-१२-१९५७ तक २६,३४६ मन गेहूं उचित मूल्य की दूकानों द्वारा बेचा गया।

(ग) इसी मास हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार ने ३०० टन गेहूं और मांगा था। यह मात्रा उनके लिये निश्चित कर दी गई है।

Rice in Orissa

***342. Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rice sent from the State of Orissa to the other States by the Government of India during the period of six months ending with the 31st January, 1958; and

(b) whether in sending out a huge quantity of rice from Orissa, the acute drought in Orissa during the 1957 monsoons was ignored?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) 26,600 tons from 1st August to 23rd November, 1957. Exports were stopped after 23rd November, 1957.

(b) As soon as reports of damage to rice crop in Orissa due to drought were received, export of rice was stopped.

Housing Cooperative Society

*343. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri Kodiyian:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have allotted 350 acres of

land in Delhi to the Housing Co-operative Society of the Ministry of Home Affairs; and

(b) if so, from whom was the land acquired and on what basis?

The Minister of Health (Shri D. P. Karmarkar): (a) There is no Society called Housing Co-operative Society of the Ministry of Home Affairs but there is one Government Servants' Co-operative House Building Society, Ltd., C/o, Ministry of Home Affairs. No land has yet been allotted to this Society by Government, but the matter is under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

बिहार में सिचाई की सुविधायें

*३४४. श्री अनिलदत्त तिहाँ : क्या सिचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) राज्य के सूखे वाले क्षेत्रों में सिचाई की सुविधायें देने के लिये बिहार सरकार को अब तक कितनी धन-राशि दी गई है; और

(ख) इस धन-राशि से सिचाई की किस प्रकार की सुविधायें दी जायेगी;

सिचाई और विद्युत् मंत्री (श्री स० का० पाटिल) : (क) 'सूखे वाले क्षेत्रों' के लिये स्थाइ सुधार के कार्यक्रम के अधीन बिहार सरकार को अब तक २२५.३८ लाख रुपये का क्रूरण स्वीकृत किया गया है।

(ख) इस कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत राज्य सरकार २२ योजनाओं का निष्पादन कर रही है जिन में से दो सिचाई योजनायें हैं और वाकी पानी की निकासी (झेंज) से सम्बन्धित हैं। आशा है कि पूरा होने पर ये दो सिचाई योजनायें १,०२,१०० एकड़ भूमि की सिचाई करेंगी। ये (१) कमला नहर और (२) विवेणी नहर विस्तार योजनायें हैं।

इन योजनाओं द्वारा क्षेत्रों की सिचाई, अप्प नहरों की तरह, नहरी जल बांगों से 'प्रबाहू' और 'उठाऊ' (फलो एवं लिफ्ट) दोनों तरीकों से की जायेगी।

जल निकास योजनाएं, उन क्षेत्रों से जो अब तक बरसात में पानी में डूबे रहते हैं, एक हुये बरसात। पानी के बहाव के लिए रस्ता खोल देगी और इस तरह उन क्षेत्रों को खेती योग्य बना देगी।

Right Bank Hospital at Nagarjunasagar Project

*३४५. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 956 on the 17th August, 1957 and state:

(a) when the construction of Right Bank Hospital will commence;

(b) when the same will be completed; and

(c) the estimated cost of this hospital?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Having regard to the amenities that will be made available in the Left Bank Hospital, the Nagarjunasagar Control Board decided in December, 1957 to drop the proposal for the construction of a hospital on the Right Bank. The dispensary, already in existence, on the Right Bank will, however, continue to function.

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

Defects in Buildings

*३४६. **Dr. Suahila Nayar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that RB2 type quarters built at Ajni (Nagpur) began leaking in the first monsoon;

(b) whether it is a fact that the roof of the third class waiting-hall at Nasik Road collapsed soon after its construction;

(c) whether the running room at Sholapur cracked within a few months of its construction;

(d) whether the copper-smith shop and offices built for foremen inside

Panel Workshop have cracked in a number of places during the first year of its construction; and

(e) if so, what action Government have taken to apportion the responsibility and bring the guilty to book?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The verandah of one of the quarters at Ajni (Nagpur) was found slightly leaking.

(b) The R.C.C. roof beams of the III class waiting hall at Nasik Road, had sagged and cracked in the centre after the removal of the shuttering during construction.

(c) Actually the columns of the verandah collapsed, which caused damage to the roof of the verandah.

(d) In copper-smith shop, certain cracks were noticed during construction which have since been repaired. No cracks have been reported in Foreman's office.

(e) Disciplinary action was taken against the Inspector of Works found responsible in case of items (b) and (c) and the contractors concerned were asked to make good the damages. No action was considered necessary in respect of items (a) and (d).

Central Fruit Products Advisory Committee

*347. **Shri Bali Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by Government to implement the recommendations of the Central Fruit Products Advisory Committee to start fruit preservation Industries in the Block Development areas; and

(b) whether Government are prepared to encourage and aid private enterprise in this regard?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) No recommendation has been made by Central Fruit Products Advisory Committee to start Fruit Preservation Industries in Block Development Areas.

(b) Steps have been taken to encourage and aid private enterprise in this industry through various development schemes under the Second Five Year Plan.

Integration of Curative and Preventive Branches of Health Administration

*348. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state whether Central Government and any of the State Governments have taken any steps to integrate the preventive and curative branches of Health Administration?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): The integration of the Offices of the Director General, Indian Medical Service and the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India into the Directorate General of Health Services was effected at the Centre, in August, 1947.

There is integration of the Medical and Public Health Departments in all States except in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, Madras and Mysore.

Fish Supply in Tripura

*350. **Shri Dasaratha Deb:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a great shortage of fish supply in Tripura due to absence of import from East Pakistan; and

(b) if so, whether steps are being taken to make Tripura self-sufficient in fish?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):

(a) Yes.

(b) The Second Five Year Plan provides for a sum of Rs. 4.60 lakhs for development of fisheries in Tripura. It is proposed to increase the area to 500 acres, to provide long

term loans and give technical training.

Money Orders

*251. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that after one year no claim is entertained for refund of the amount of non-delivered money orders;

(b) whether the period of correspondence is included in the one year margin; and

(c) number of such lapsed cases in Bihar during the years 1956 and 1957?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Hem Bahadur): (a) According to Section 44(2) of the Indian Post Office Act the amount shall not be claimable from the Government if the claim is not preferred within one year of the date of issue of the Money Order but in actual practice the department does entertain such claims where the credit of the money order is still outstanding and if the department is satisfied about the genuineness of the claim.

(b) No.

(c) In 273 cases in 1956 and 313 cases in 1957 in the Bihar Circle claims were preferred after expiry of one year.

Failure in Supply of Wagons

*252. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the failure in supplying wagons for the transport of processed stone materials from the West Bengal-Bihar quarry belt;

(b) whether it is a fact that a daily quota of 125 wagons agreed upon at

Pakur (Eastern Railway) has not been maintained; and

(c) whether steps are being taken to remedy the situation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Stone loading is being done from a number of points in the West Bengal-Bihar quarry belt. References have been received lately regarding the short supply of wagons at Pakur only.

(b) Yes.

(c) Yes.

Cycle Trolley

*254. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Railway Test and Research Centre, Lucknow, has prepared a cycle trolley; and

(b) if so, the annual saving that will accrue from its use as compared with the former one propelled by hand?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir, but these are still under service trials by the Railways.

(b) It is expected that the savings in the operational expenses per trolley will be about Rs. 1,200/- per year.

रेलवे में भव्यावार का जावला

*255. श्री योहन स्वाम्य : या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करें कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे के नियन्त्रक कर्मचारीवर्ग के कुछ पदाधिकारियों की कार्यवाहियों की, इस आरोप पर कि उन्होंने रेलवे किराये के तौर पर यात्रियों से वसूल की हुई बत राखि हड्डी सी, कोई जांच की जा रही है ; और

(क) ऐसी घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति को रोकने के लिये सरकार इस विषय में क्या कार्यवाही करने जा रही है?

रेप्लिक उत्तरवाची (बी आहमवाच चारों) :
(क) शीर (स). एक बयान सभा-पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [रेप्लिक उत्तरवाच चारों अनुवान संखा ६३]।

Integration of Gramdan and Community Projects

*356. { Shri Radha Raman:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Sanganna:
Shri Vajpayee:

Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that high level discussion between the Prime Minister, Minister of Home Affairs and other ministers and Gramdan workers including Shri Jayaprakash Narain were held at New Delhi in December last regarding integration of Gramdan and Community Projects;

(b) if so, the nature of these discussions and whether any decisions were taken;

(c) if so, the nature of these decisions; and

(d) whether those are being implemented or proposed to be implemented?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) Informal discussions were first held between representatives of the Sarva Seva Sangh and the Ministry of Community Development to which a few Development Commissioners were also called. As a result of these discussions a draft paper was prepared

which was considered at a high level meeting at the Prime Minister's residence.

(b) and (c). A note on Coordination of Gramdan and Community Development Movements emerging from the discussions is placed on the table of the House. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 64.]

(d) The decisions are being implemented.

Aid from U.S.A.

*357. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Anirudh Sinha:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have had any communication with the U.S. Government for getting aid for drought stricken areas from the U.S. President's Special Fund for this purpose; and

(b) if so, the response received in that regard?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). In discussing with the U.S. Authorities the different ways in which our requirements could be met, the possibility of making supplies from the funds available to the U.S. Administration under Title II of P.L. 480 in case adequate supplies could not be made in time under title I has also been discussed. The matter is under consideration by the U.S. Administration.

Poultry Farm at Bhubaneswar

*358. { Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Sanganna:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 249 on the 15th November, 1957 and state:

(a) whether work for setting up of the proposed Regional Poultry Farm at Bhubaneswar has started; and

(b) the estimated cost of this farm?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):
(a) Yes.

(b) Rupees nine lakhs spread over a period of three years.

रेलवे भ्रष्टाचार जांच समिति

*३५६. { जी भक्त दर्शन :
 जी स० च० सम्बन्ध :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री क्रमांक: ११ जुलाई, १९५७ भीर २० नवम्बर, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १७४ भीर भ्रष्टाचारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ४५७ के उत्तरों के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) रेलवे भ्रष्टाचार जांच समिति की सिफारिशों को कुशलता भीर तेजी से कार्यान्वित किये जाने पर निगरानी रखने के लिये क्या व्यवस्था की गई है ; भीर

(ल) अब तक की गई कार्यवाहियों के फलस्वरूप किस हद तक भ्रष्टाचार कम हुआ है ?

रेलवे उत्तरांशी (जी शाह नवाज जा) :

(क) अपने सतर्कता संगठन (Vigilance Organisation) के जरिये रेलवे बोर्ड इसकी निगरानी रखता है ।

(ल) अभी इसका अन्दाजा लगाना मुश्किल नहीं है ।

Delivery of Telegrams to Passengers on Trains

*360. **Shrimati Ila Falchoudhuri:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Scheme for delivery of urgent telegrams to passengers on trains has been approved by the Government of India; and

(b) if so the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) (i) Telegrams may be addressed and delivered to persons in trains. For this purpose, the sender must indicate in the address, in addition to the name of the addressee and the name of the Telegraph Office of destination:

(a) the name of the railway station at which the train stops;

(b) the number or the name of the train or, in the absence of this, the exact time of the arrival or departure of the train and the places of departure and destination.

(ii) Telegrams to be delivered in trains are accepted only at the risk of the sender.

Training for Engineering Graduates in River Valley Projects

*361. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the names of the river valley projects which offer facilities for practical training to engineering graduates fresh from the Universities?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): The following major river valley projects offer facilities for practical training to fresh engineering graduates: —

1. Damodar Valley Corporation.
2. Bhakra Nangal.
3. Hirakud.
4. Nagarjunasagar.
5. Chambal.
6. Rihand.
7. Koyna.
8. Kosi.

Demands of National Federation of Posts and Telegraphs Employees

*362. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Naushir Bharucha:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a deputation on behalf of the National Federation of Posts and Telegraphs Employees' Union met him recently to discuss their grievances;

(b) if so, what are their demands; and

(c) whether Government have considered them?

*The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) A list of demands is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 65]

(c) Government have considered all demands put up except 16 demands which fall within the terms of reference of the Commission of Enquiry into the Pay and Allowances of Central Government employees.

Derailment of Carriages

*363. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that two carriages of the Bhopal-Nagda passenger train which left Ujjain at 11.30 A.M. on January 8, 1958 were derailed at Piploda Bagla near Nagda?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): There was no derailment; only the buffers of three coaches of 88 Up Bhopal-Nagda passenger train got interlocked with each other.

Victoria Terminus Station

*364. Dr. Sushila Nayar: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that approximately a sum of Rs. 50,000 have been spent to wash the stone walls of Victoria Terminus Station; and

(b) if so, the reasons for this expenditure?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). It is not a fact that a sum of Rs. 50,000/- has been spent only to wash the stone walls of Victoria Terminus Station. However, it is a fact that the outside stone surface of the main Administration Offices building of the Central Railway at Victoria Terminus was treated with a special chemical compound the cost of which was about Rs. 52,000. This expenditure was considered necessary to preserve the stone surface which deteriorates due to weathering action, specially as a result of vagaries of heavy monsoon, the Saline atmosphere of Bombay area.

Slaughter House in Delhi

*365. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have approved the opening of a big slaughter-house in Delhi;

(b) if so, its location; and

(c) the amount proposed to be spent on its construction?

The Minister of Health (Shri D. P. Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir, but the proposal for re-locating the present slaughter-house is under consideration.

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

Food Production

*366. { Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Shobha Ram:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the steps taken by Government to improve

food production in the country in the light of Ashok Mehta Foodgrains Enquiry Committee Report?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): The recommendations relating to food production have been examined individually and forwarded to the concerned State Governments, Central Ministries and Departments and are under their active consideration.

Hindustan Tibet Road

*367. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made during the year 1957-58 so far in the construction of the Hindustan Tibet Road (N.H. 22); and

(b) the amount that Government proposes to spend for the construction of this road?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 66.]

(b) The cost of works either already taken up or proposed to be taken up during the First and Second Five-Year Plans is Rs. 408.74 lakhs.

दिल्ली में असेंसिक हवाई अड्डा

* ६८. { श्री भक्त वर्णन :
श्री स० चं० सामन्त :
श्री दी० चं० शर्मा :

क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री २० नवम्बर, १९५७ के अतारांकित प्रश्न संक्ष्या ४३७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दिल्ली में एक नया असेंसिक हवाई अड्डा स्थापित करने के बारे में सीधे क्या निर्णय किया गया है?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य अंची (श्री हुमायूं कबीर) : आभी तक कोई फैसला नहीं किया गया।

All-India Institute of Medical Sciences

*369. **Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the medical students from the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences have no hospital for clinical teaching;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Safdarjung Hospital was taken over from the State Government with the specific object of serving as a nucleus for building up the All-India Medical Institute; and

(c) if so, the reasons for not using the Safdarjung Hospital for the purpose?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) It is a fact that the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences has no hospital of its own. Arrangements for clinical teaching of students have been made in the Safdarjung Hospital.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Though the Safdarjung Hospital was originally intended to form part of the Institute, it was later decided that the Institute should have its own 650 bedded hospital and Safdarjung Hospital utilised for the patients under the Contributory Health Service Scheme and the public. However, 60 beds in the Safdarjung Hospital have been made available to the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences at present for clinical teaching.

Fertilisers

392. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total quantity of fertilizers supplied by the Central Government to Orissa during 1955-56, 1956-57 and 1957-58 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas):
The required information is given below:

Name of Fertilisers	(All figures in tons)		
	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58 (upto 31.12.57)
Sulphate of Ammonia.	8,023	14,777	10,555
Ammonium Sulphate Nitrate	158	480	200
Urea	125	110	230
Calcium Ammonium Nitrate	—	—	1,030
Muriate of Potash	—	12	5
Superphosphate	198	120	80
Ammonium Chloride	—	10	15
Mixed Fertilisers	330	198	—
Dicalcium phosphate	—	20	—
 TOTAL	 8,834	 15,734	 12,115

गोदी कर्मचारी

३६३. श्री म० ला० हिवेदी : क्या परिवर्तन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बम्बई बन्दरगाह में मजदूरों के लिये जो ऐस एट योजना जारी की गई उसके कारण क्या कर्मचारियों और गोदी मजदूरों के बीच कोई विवाद उत्पन्न हो गया है ;

(ख) यदि हा, तो किन बातों पर आगड़ा है ; और

(ग) उन बातों को निपटाने के लिये क्या प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं ?

परिवर्तन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) से (ग) बम्बई पोर्ट ट्रस्ट और सम्बन्धित मजदूर सघ के बीच जो अनेक विवाद उठ खड़े हुए थे वे अदालती फैसलों या तीव्र समझौतों द्वारा तय कर दिये गये हैं। अनिवार्य मुद्दों की स्थिति का विवरण नीचे दिया गया है ।—

१. पीस-रेट कर्मचारियों के मामले में यह प्रयत्न कि क्या छुट्टियों के बेतन के

लिए "तनस्वाह" प्रौसतन संचित पीस-रेट पर दी जानी चाहिये—इसे श्रीद्योगिक न्यायालय में निर्णय के लिए पेश कर दिया गया है और उसके निर्णय की प्रतीक्षा है ।

२. पीस-रेट कर्मचारियों के बारे में उनकी यह मांग कि कुल पीस-रेट आमदानी को निवाहि-निधि और उपदान के हिसाब में अशादान के रूप में दिया जाय—इस पर विचार करना तब तक के लिए स्थगित कर दिया गया जब तक कि नया बेतन आयोग उन्ही के समकक्ष मरकारी कर्मचारियों को दिये जाने वाले निवृत्त लाभाश की स्थिरीकृति पेश नहीं कर देगा ।

बेतार के तार के लिए

३६४ श्री म० ला० हिवेदी : क्या परिवर्तन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बेतार के तार के कोन्डों को बताने के लिये अब तक किन-किन व्यक्तियों को शौकिया तथा प्रयोगात्मक लाइसेंस दिये गये हैं ?

(क) य लाइसेंस किस लिये दिये गये हैं; और

(ग) इन लाइसेंसों से सरकार को केतनी आय हुई?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य और (भी त्रिव्युक्त कर्त्ता) . (क) जिन्हे अमेचर और एक्सप्रीमेंटल लाइसेंस भजूर केये गये हैं उन व्यक्तियों और संस्थाओं की लेस्ट विवरण 'क' और 'ख' में पेश की जाती है। विविध परिविष्ट २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ६७]।

(ख) (१) अपने आप मीखने, अमेचर लोग अर्थात् बिना किसी आर्थिक लाभ के केवल व्यक्तिगत नि के लिये रेंटियो की प्रविधि में दिलचस्पी रखने वाले अविकृत व्यक्तियों द्वारा किये गये प्रविधिक अनुमताओं के लिये अतरसचार के लिये अमेचर लाइसेंस भजूर किये जाते हैं।

(२) एक्सप्रीमेंटल लाइसेंस उम केन्द्र को चलाने के लिए भजूर किया जाता है जिसमें विजान या प्रविधि के विकास करने के लिये भाल में ईंटजियान लहरे प्रदोग के लिए इस्तेमाल की जाती है। एक्सप्रीमेंटल लाइसेंस चार बगों में बाटा जा सकता है।

(अ) अविकरण दशाओं के अन्तर्गत शिक्षा अनुमतान और अनुदेशों के लिये साधारणतया प्रविधिक-मस्तिष्कों और वालेजों को दिया जाने वाला,

(ब) विकिरण दशाओं के अन्तर्गत अनुमतान और प्रशिक्षण कार्य के

लिये साधारणतया उच्चतर संस्थानों और अनुमत्यान केन्द्रों को दिया जाने वाला;

(स) विकिरण दशाओं के अन्तर्गत बेनार उपस्करों के परीक्षण के लिये इत्यादि एयरलाइन प्रयोगशालाओं, को दिया जाने वाला, और

(द) विकिरण दशा के अन्तर्गत रेडियो नियन्त्रित माडल नावों और हवाईजहाजों के चलाने के लिए दिया जाने वाला।

(ग) लाइसेंस फीस के रूप में ४२१५ ० वार्षिक (दोनों अमेचर और एक्स-प्रीमेंटल लाइसेंसों के निए १५ ८० प्रति लाइसेंस वर्षिक)।

काष्ठला बन्दरगाह के मजदूरों का कल्याण ३६५ और ३० लाठू द्विवदी क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मर्ता यह बताने की कृपा करें कि

(अ) क्या काष्ठला बन्दरगाह के गोदामों तथा गादियों के मजदूरों के कल्याण के लिये कोई योजना आरम्भ की गई है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो वह क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहो, तो वह कब प्रारम्भ की जायेगी तथा उसके अन्तर्गत क्या-क्या प्रबन्ध किये जायेंगे?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) (क) से (ग). अभी कोई काम शुरू नहीं किया गया है।

नीचे दी गई योजनाएं भजूर हो चुकी हैं और आशा है काम १६५८ में शुरू कर दिया जायेगा।

योजना का नाम

अनुमति व्यवस्था

काम प्रारम्भ करने की प्रत्याशित तिथि

केन्टान और विद्याम स्थलों की व्यवस्था।

२ २० लाख रुपये

मई, १६५८

विभाग के तटीय भजूरों के रहने के लिए क्वार्टर।

१ २६ लाख रुपये

मार्च, १६५८

सूरतगढ़ में कल्नीय भैकनाइज़ बार्मे

इ६६. श्री अ० ला० हिंदेवी : क्या तथा तथा कूचि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सूरतगढ़ में कल्नीय भैकनाइज़ बार्मे के लिये भवनों तथा सड़कों के निर्माण के सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ; और

(ख) क्या इस काम के लिये कोई अतिरिक्त कर्मचारी रखे जा रहे हैं ?

तथा तथा कूचि उदयमंत्री (श्री अ० ला० अमल) : (क) और (ख). एक विवरण नस्ती कर दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ६८]

क्र० २८ सम्बन्धी विज्ञप्तियाँ

इ६७. श्री अ० ला० हिंदेवी : क्या वार-वहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत अहु विज्ञान विभाग ने १९५६-५७ में किसानों के लाभ के लिये अहु सम्बन्धी कितनी विज्ञप्तियाँ प्रकाशित की ;

(ख) ये विज्ञप्तियाँ इस समय किन-किन भाषाओं में प्रकाशित की जाती हैं ;

(ग) इन विज्ञप्तियों की कितने व्यक्ति लारीदाते हैं और उनमें से किसानों की संख्या कितनी है ; और

(घ) इन विज्ञप्तियों का चन्दा क्या है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हुमायूं कबीर) : (क) बम्बई, मद्रास, कलकत्ता, नागपुर और दिल्ली के पांच रीजनल भीटीयोरोलोजीकल सेन्टरों से १८२५ बाकायदा किसानों का मौसमी बुलेटिन आरी किया गया ।

(ख) बुलेटिन रीजनल डली डेवर रिपोर्ट में शामिल की जाती है जो पांच रीजनल भीटीयोरोलोजीकल सेन्टरों से ज़ंदगी में जारी की जाती हैं । ये इन रीजनल सेन्टरों के आल इंडिया रेडियो स्टेशनों से १८ अलग-अलग स्थानीय भाषाओं से बाड़कास्ट भी की जाती हैं । इन्हें रीजन के अलबारों को अंग्रेजी और रीजनल भाषाओं में खापने के लिये भी दिया जाता है ।

(ग) उन गाहकों की संख्या जिन्ह यह बुलेटिन जरूरी प्रस तारों द्वारा भेजी जाती है इस समय ३० थी । इनमें किसानों की ठीक ठीक संख्या क्या थी यह मालूम नहीं ।

(घ) रीजनल डेली डेवर रिपोर्ट्स जिनमें किसानों की मौसमी बुलेटिन शामिल हैं गाहकों को दो रुपये की महीने की नाम-मात्र कामत पर दी जाती है प्रायः नन्हा करने पर गाहकों को बुलेटिन भी जरूरी प्रेन तार द्वारा १२ रुपये महीने के चन्दे पर मेज दिया जाता है ।

मानीटरिंग केन्द्र

इ६८. श्री अ० ला० हिंदेवी : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत में मानीटरिंग केन्द्रों की स्थापना में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री हुमायूं कबीर) : आवश्यक सूचना का विवरण-पत्र सभा की मेज पर रखा जाता है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ६६]

Level Crossing, Pachora Junction

399. Shri Naushir Bharucha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the level-crossing gate at Pachora Junction (East Khandesh) is too narrow;

(b) whether any representations have been received for widening the same; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir; a representation was received from the Chairman, Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee, Pachora in April 1957.

(c) It is proposed to widen the level crossing from 13'-6" to 24'-0". The plans have been prepared and Estimate is being finalised.

Railway Overbridge, Chalisgaon

400. Shri Naushir Bharucha: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for construction of an over-bridge near Chalisgaon (East Khandesh) Railway Station for vehicular traffic;

(b) if so, whether any plans and estimates have been prepared; and

(c) when the work is proposed to be taken in hand and when it is expected to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The case is still under correspondence with the Government of Bombay and Chalisgaon Municipality regarding finalization of the alignment, and acceptance of the terms and conditions.

Community Development and N.E.S. Blocks in Rajasthan

401. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) the total area of population covered under the Community Development and N.E.S. Schemes in Rajasthan at the end of First Five Year Plan period district-wise;

(b) the total amount spent by the Central Government on these; and

(c) the extent of area and population that will be covered at the end of Second Five Year Plan period?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) A statement is laid on the Table. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 70]

(b) Grant—Rs. 65.29 lakhs.

Loan—Rs. 77.44 lakhs.

(c) 90,000 square miles and one crore persons approximately. This is according to the revised programme which is now under consideration.

Fair Price Shops in Rajasthan

402. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of fair price shops, at present, in Rajasthan; and

(b) price at which foodgrains are being sold there?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) 105.

(b) Only wheat is being issued through the fair price shops in Rajasthan and the range of issue prices is from Rs. 14.50 to Rs. 15.50 per maund.

Growing Grapes in Delhi

403. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any experiment has been made for growing grapes in Delhi territory; and

(b) if so, whether the experiment has proved a success?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, experiments on cultivation of grapes in the Delhi territory are being conducted at the I.A.R.I.

(b) The results so far achieved are inconclusive and need confirmation. The experiments are still being carried out.

Extra Departmental Staff

404. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Transport and Communication, be pleased to state.

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the Extra Departmental Delivery Agent of Garh-rupasa Post Office in the district of Puri, Orissa, directly took part in election propaganda and political activities during the last general elections, and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Complaints to that effect were received by the Superintendent of Post Offices from only one person a member of one of the political parties

(b) The Superintendent of Post Offices had looked into the matter and given a reply to the person concerned

Private Railway Companies

405. Shri Surendranath Dwivedi:
Shri B. C. Mullick:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the names of Private Railway Companies in India,

(b) total mileage covered by them, and

(c) conditions under which Private Railway Companies are allowed to operate?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c) A statement is placed on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix II, annexure No 71]

Indian Roads Congress

406. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received the copies of the resolutions passed and decisions taken at the 22nd Annual Session of the Indian Roads Congress held in New Delhi recently,

(b) if so, the nature of the resolutions passed and decisions taken; and

(c) the action taken to implement them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir The resolutions of the Indian Roads Congress are forwarded to Government after they are considered by their Executive Committee in a subsequent meeting

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Export of Foodgrains

407. Shri D C Sharma: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the type and quantity of foodgrains exported to neighbouring countries during 1957-58 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): A statement giving the information for the period January to June 1957 was placed on the Table of the House in reply to Starred Question No 63 on the 12th November, 1957. During the months of July and August only 10 tons of rice were exported. Figures beyond August, 1957 are not yet available

Bhakra Nangal Project Administration

408. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) the quantity of water at present being sold by the Bhakra Nangal Project Administration to various industrial concerns in that area, and

(b) the rate at which it is being sold?

The Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Nil.

(b) Does not arise.

Appointment of Joint Directors of Extension

409. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have advised the State Governments to appoint Joint Directors of Extension; and

(b) if so, what functions are stipulated for them?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The joint meeting of the Advisory Board and the Governing Body of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research held on the 8th May, 1951 considered that although useful scientific research had been carried out in the various spheres of Agriculture and a great deal of extension work was being done in several States to bring the results of research to the farmer good progress could not be made towards the realisation of the Integrated Production Programme unless a country-wide Extension service was set up. The meeting, therefore, resolved that a full-time Director of Extension should be appointed to carry out the Extension schemes of the Council and to advise the State Governments, to foster the development of and to co-ordinate the Extension activities in the States. It was also recommended that at the State level, a Board of Extension should be set up in each State and there should be a whole-time officer ordinarily of the rank of Joint Director of Agriculture responsible for organising and conducting such activities in the State.

The Government of India advised the State Governments in May, 1951 to appoint Joint Dy. Directors of Extension in the States by entrusting the Agricultural Officer in charge of the G.M.F. work with the Extension

work in addition to his own duties and upgrading the post, if necessary. In States, where no such officer, to whom the extension work could be entrusted in addition to his duties, was available, it was suggested, that a new post for Extension work should be created.

Broadly speaking, the functions of the Joint Directors were to work as whole-time officers of the State Boards of Extension, responsible for organising and conducting extension activities in the State and to assist the farmers to avail of the results of scientific research carried out in various spheres of Agriculture including Animal Husbandry, Forestry and Fisheries.

Railway Saloons

**410. { Shri Morarka:
Shri Nathwani:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing.

(a) how often the Ministers have used the Railway saloons for their travelling during the years 1955, 1956 and 1957;

(b) the expenses incurred on each such journey; and

(c) the type of saloon used whether ordinary or air-conditioned?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). A statement furnishing the information required is attached. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 72]

Foreign Aid for Shipping

411. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has received any external assistance for acquiring ships or for the ship building industry since 1951; and

(b) if so, the amount thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Thefts in Kharagpur Railway Workshop

412. Shri Muhammed Elias: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of a big theft of railway properties which recently detected from the blacksmith shops at Kharagpur Railway Workshop;

(b) if so, the value of property stolen; and

(c) how many people have so far been found to be connected with this theft?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Unauthorised manufacture of hinges in the Smithy shop of Railway Workshop at Kharagpur was detected in August 1957 and Police investigation is proceeding to locate the extent of such manufacture and surreptitious removal from the workshop.

(b) The total amount involved can only be assessed on completion of the investigation.

(c) Two Railway employees have been so far found to be so connected and they are under suspension pending further investigation.

Cooperative Sugar Factories

413. Shri B. C. Mullick: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total capital invested in co-operative sugar factories in the country; and

(b) the assistance given by the various States to each of them?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The total capital invested in co-operative sugar factories as on 31st

July, 1957, was Rs. 1918.32 lakhs. This includes a loan of Rs. 1047.50 lakhs sanctioned by the Industrial Finance Corporation to co-operative sugar factories.

(b) State Governments have invested Rs. 347.58 lakhs in the share capital of the co-operative sugar factories.

A statement giving details of the information required under (a) and (b) is appended. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 73]

दाकघर भवन, छतरपुर, मध्य प्रदेश

४१४. श्री राज बहादुर मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में छतरपुर के डाकघर के वर्तमान भवन में स्थान की कमी के कारण क्या कोई नया भवन बनाने का विचार है,

(ख) यदि हा, तो यह भवन कब तक बन जायेगा ; और

(ग) इस भवन पर अनुमानत कितना व्यय होगा ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) जी हा।

(ख) और (ग) चूंकि इस प्रस्ताव के विषय में प्रारम्भिक जाच हो गयी है, अतः इस मम्बन्ध में अभी कुछ नहीं कहा जा सकता।

N.E.S. and Community Development Blocks in Delhi

415. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state:

(a) the number of National Extension Service Blocks and Community Development Blocks proposed to be opened in Delhi State during the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the total amount spent so far by the Government on these Blocks in the Delhi State?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) The rural area of the Delhi Territory is already fully covered with Blocks.

(b) Rs. 26.28 lakhs.

Commissioner for Food Production

416. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to appoint a whole-time Commissioner for Food Production in the country; and

(b) if so, whether any fresh scheme for augmenting food production in the country has also been prepared?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The Government of India have already decided to appoint an Agricultural Production Adviser.

(b) No fresh scheme as such has been prepared. The Food production schemes agreed to at the recent discussions with the State Governments will when implemented augment the food production.

Post Offices in Gurdaspur District of Punjab

417. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices in Gurdaspur District in Punjab State now functioning in private rented buildings;

(b) the rents paid by Government on the above post offices from 1950-51 to 1957-58 so far, year-wise;

(c) whether there was any proposal for the construction of buildings for the functioning of these post offices; and

(d) if so, how many are under construction and the amount so far spent?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 74]

Quarters for Post and Telegraphs Employees

418. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money spent on the construction of quarters for the staff of Posts and Telegraphs Department in 1957-58 so far;

(b) the money spent on the construction of quarters in Delhi Circle during the same period; and

(c) the budget provisions for the construction of such quarters?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में भेड़ पालन केन्द्र

४१६. श्री पद्म देव : क्या साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश में कितने भेड़ पालन केन्द्र हैं; और

(ल) इन केन्द्रों पर अब तक कितना कार्य हुआ है?

खाली तथा हृषि करमंडी (श्री अ० अ० वालस) : (क) और (ख) पूछी हुई जानकारी नीचे दी गई है —

फार्म का नाम	भेड़ों	खब तक अवधि
श्रीप श्रीडिंग फार्म तारादेवी (शिमले के पास)	१६०	६७,०००
श्रीप श्रीडिंग फार्म, सराहन (महाराष्ट्र जिला)	३००	१,२१,०००
कुल दो फार्म	४६०	२ १८,०००

आलू का व्यापार

४२० श्री पद्म देव क्या खाली तथा हृषि मन्त्री ११ सितम्बर १९५७ के ताराकित प्रश्न संस्था १६७३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश सहकारी विकास सच, लिमिटेड को आलू के व्यापार में कितनी हानि हुई है, और

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने क्षतिपूर्ति के तौर पर उसे कितनी सहायता दी?

खाली और हृषि उपमन्त्री (श्री अ० अ० वालस) (क) लगभग ६ लाख रुपये।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कोई सहायता नहीं दी है।

Prevention of Accidents

४२१. श्री ज्वाला सिंह: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a letter to the Editor published in the "Times of India" Bombay Edition dated the 4th December, 1957 under the caption "Train Accidents" offering suggestion for avoidance of accidents, and

(b) if so, whether the suggestion referred to in the letter is being examined by the Railway Experts as to its feasibility and effectiveness?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) : (a) Yes

(b) It has been examined and found to be technically impracticable

जायानी ढग से घान की खेती

४२२. { श्री लुशवर्कन गाय
श्री आची रेड्डी

क्या खाली तथा हृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) गत पाच वर्षों में प्रति वर्ष जायानी ढग ने घान की खेती किनन एकड़ भूमि में की गई,

(ख) उक्त प्रकार से खेती करने में घान का उत्पादन उपरांत पाच वर्षों में प्रति वर्ष किनना बढ़ा, और

(ग) उक्त प्रकार से घान की खेती के प्रचार पर इन पाच वर्षों में प्रति वर्ष किनना व्यय हुआ?

खाली और हृषि उपमन्त्री (श्री अ० अ० वालस) (क) से (ग), जानकारी का विवरण नहीं कर दिया गया है। [इसीपे परिचय २, अनुबन्ध संस्था ७५]

Price of Rice in Calcutta

423. Shri Sadhan Gupta: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to State:

(a) the wholesale and retail price of rice at Calcutta and other places in West Bengal as on 31st January 1958; and

(b) how these prices compare with those prevailing on the same date in each of the five preceding years?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). The statement attached gives the required information for the last week of January, 1958. [See Appendix II, annexure No. 76]

Utilisation of Railway Service

424. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state how many passengers utilised the railway services to visit the Indian National Congress Session held recently at Gauhati in Assam?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Approximately 74,000.

रतनाम-गोवरा सेक्षण ७२ रे नवे कर्मचारियों के नियुक्ति बाबर

४२५. श्री डाबर : क्या रे नवे मंत्री यह बताने की दृष्टा करेंगे कि :

(क) पश्चिम रेलवे के रतनाम-गोवरा सेक्षण के बीच जा दोहरी लाइन बनाने का कार्य चल रहा है उस मे नगे हुए कर्मचारियों के लिये इम सेक्षण के प्रत्येक स्टेशन पर बनाये गये ब्याटरों पर अब तक कुल कितना व्यय हुआ है ;

(ख) क्या ये बने हुए ब्याटर सम्बन्धित स्टेशन मास्टर को नहीं दिये गये हैं ; और

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इन ब्याटरों में इंजीनियरिंग विभाग के कर्मचारी बिना किराया दिये रहते हैं ?

रेलवे उन्नती (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :

(क) सिर्फ दोहद मे ३० यूनिट ग्रस्यायी

और टाइप I के १२० यूनिट ग्रस्यायी मकान बनाये गये हैं। इनकी अनुमानित लागत ५ '५१ लाख रुपये है।

(ख) ग्रस्यायी रूप से इन मकानों मे वे कर्मचारी रह रहे हैं जो दोहरी लाइन बनाने के काम के लिए रखे गये हैं। बाद मे जब दोहरी लाइन बनाने का काम पूरा हो जायेगा, तो ये मकान चालू लाइन के अधिकार से चले जायेंगे और इनमे ग्रस्यायी कर्मचारी रखे जायेंगे।

(ग) लाइन बनाने वाले कर्मचारियों से नियम के अनुसार किराया लिया जा रहा है।

मध्य प्रदेश मे टेलीफोन तथा तारधर

४२६. श्री डाबर : क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बताने की दृष्टा करेंगे कि :

(क) १६५८-५९ मे मध्य प्रदेश के ज्ञानपुरा, धार, रतलाम और उज्जैन जिले के किन-किन कस्बों मे टेलीफोन तथा तारधर खोले जायेंगे ; और

(ख) उपरोक्त जिलों के किन-किन कस्बों को प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय मे राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहुदुर) : (क) श्री (ख). इस सम्बन्ध मे एक विवरण पत्र संलग्न है। [देखिये नर्तिशास्त्र २, अनुबन्ध संख्या ७७]

फारेस्ट ट्रेनिंग कालेज, देहरादून

४२७. श्री डाबर : क्या खाली तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की दृष्टा करेंगे कि :

(क) देहरादून के फारेस्ट ट्रेनिंग कालेज मे रेंजर, डिस्ट्री रेंजर और डी० एफ० ओ० के प्रशिक्षण के लिये मध्य प्रदेश के कितने आदिवासी तथा हरिजन व्यक्ति हैं ; और

(ख) प्रशिक्षण की अवधि मे प्रशिक्षार्थियों के लंबे आदि की क्या व्यवस्था है ?

साथ तथा कृषि उपर्युक्ती (भी अ० अ० वामस) : (क)

आविषासी हरिजन

रेजर का कोसं कोई नहीं १

उप-रेजर का देहरादून मे ऐसा कोई कोसं नहीं है।

झ० एक० औ० कोई नहीं १
का कोसं

(ख) राज्य सरकार खर्च निम्न
मदो पर व्यय करती है —

रेजर का कोसं

(१) शिक्षार्थी के ७५. ६० मासिक का एक
वजीफा

(२) एम० आर० आई० को पूरे कोसं के लिए
दृश्यान फी देना ३००० रुपये

(३) सामान का मूल्य ६०० रुपये

(४) यात्रा का भत्ता ६०० रुपये

झ० एक० औ० का कोसं

(१) एफ० आर० आई० को दिये जाने के
लिए शिक्षार्थी को १५० रु० का
मासिक वजीफा।

(२) दो सालों के लिए दृश्यान
फीस . ७००० रुपये

(३) सामान का मूल्य. १४०० रुपये

(४) दो सालों के लिए यात्रा का
भत्ता . १६०० रुपये

सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर

४२६. श्री राष्ट्रेशाल व्यास : क्या परि-
वहन तथा संचार मंत्री ३ दिसम्बर, १९५७
के अतारांकित प्रस्तुत संक्षय १०१६ के उत्तर
के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि
भव्य प्रदेश के आलोट तथा भृहदीपुर नगरों में
टेलीफोन की सुविधा प्रदान करने के बारे में
अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-
मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : आवश्यक स्टोर
पर्याप्त मात्रा में जारी किया जा चुका है।
बाकी का सामान भी शीघ्र ही जटाया जा रहा
है। आशा है कि यह कार्य शीघ्र ही प्रारम्भ
कर दिया जायेगा।

सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर

४२८. श्री राष्ट्रेशाल व्यास क्या परि-
वहन तथा संचार मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा
करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि बदनावर
(भव्य प्रदेश) के नागरिकों में वहा एक
मार्वंजनिक टेलीफोन घर खोलने में पहले
टेलीफोन विभाग द्वारा किमी निश्चित आय
की गारटी मारी गई थी ;

(ख) यदि हा, ता क्या उन्होंने गारटी
दी थी, और

(ग) वहा मार्वंजनिक टेलीफोन घर
कब तक खोला जायेगा ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-
मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) से (ग).
बदनावर का सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन घर २६
जनवरी, १९५८ को बिना किमी गारटी के
खोल दिया गया है।

भव्य प्रदेश में गोशालाय

४३०. श्री राष्ट्रेशाल व्यास : क्या साथ
तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

गोवालाम्बों के विकास के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा १६५७-५८ में मध्य प्रदेश को अनुदान के रूप में कितनी राशि दी गई?

वार्षिक राशि द्विद उपलंब्धी (स्थि अ० अ० वार्षिक) ३६,००० रुपये।

P. & T. Staff of Coorg

431. Shri Vasudevan Nair: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from Posts and Telegraphs Staff of Coorg regarding "hill allowance" and other amenities, and

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

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes

(b) These are not justified and have not been sanctioned

Bridges and Roads in Orissa

432 Shri Surendranath Dwivedy. Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) the bridges and roads proposed to be constructed in Orissa during the Second Five Year Plan on behalf of the Government of India, and

(b) when the construction of bridges over Orissa rivers in order to connect National Highways between Cuttack and Chowduar and over the river Brahmani is likely to be undertaken?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) 7 major bridges, 21 minor bridges and about 71 miles of roads under the National Highway System are proposed to be constructed during the Second Plan period

(b) The bridges across the Mahanadi and the Burupā are proposed to

be taken up next year if funds permit. The bridge across the Brahmani will have to wait for sometime due to paucity of funds

V. M. Hospital, Agartala

433. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether V M Hospital of Agartala, Tripura is handicapped on account of the absence of a qualified surgeon, and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to post a surgeon there?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes

(b) Orders for the appointment of a qualified Surgeon as Superintendent, V M Hospital, Agartala, on a temporary basis till regular appointment through the Union Public Service Commission have recently been issued

Cholera in Tripura

434 Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of deaths from cholera in Tripura in 1957-58,

(b) the reasons for outbreak of cholera,

(c) whether it was mainly due to shortage of drinking water, and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to make adequate provision for drinking water?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) 185 deaths (upto the 25th January, 1958)

(b) There was no 'outbreak' but there were sporadic cases due generally to lack of proper environmental sanitation

(c) and (d) It cannot be said that the Cholera cases occurred mainly due to shortage of drinking water. As a

part of their general programme to improve environmental sanitation, the Tripura Administration have undertaken schemes for provision of safe drinking water for the Agartala Municipality. Safe drinking water supply scheme for the rural areas by sinking tube-wells and constructing masonry wells, partly brick-lined wells and ring-wells throughout the Territory, has also been undertaken. The Government of India have sanctioned a sum of Rs 4,54,700 for the implementation of Rural Water Supply Schemes of the Tripura Administration during 1957-58.

Non-payment to Sugarcane Growers

435. Shri T. K. Chaudhuri: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that the sugar-cane growers in the villages of the Murshidabad and Nadia districts of West Bengal, situated round about the sugar mills of the Rammugger Cane and Sugar Company Ltd. at Plassey, West Bengal, have failed to get any payment, for the last two months for sugar-cane sold and delivered to the latter in spite of several representations; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) It is not a fact that cane growers have failed to get any payment for the last two months for sugarcane sold to the Rammugger Cane and Sugar Company Ltd. Out of the total purchase of cane worth Rs 8,71,000 made during the last two months, Rs. 6,14,000 have already been paid by the said Company leaving a balance of Rs. 2,57,000 which will be cleared shortly.

(b) Does not arise.

Rabi Crop Estimates in Punjab

436. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be

pleased to state whether the estimate of Rabi crops in districts of Punjab has been sent to the Centre?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): No. Only preliminary estimate of area under rabi cereals (wheat and barley) and gram during the current year (1957-58) have been received for the State as a whole. Final estimates of area and production of these crops are scheduled to be received from the State by the end of May, 1958.

Accommodation for Posts and Telegraphs Employees

437. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of class III and class IV employees of Posts and Telegraphs Department who were allotted Government accommodation in Ambala and Ferozepur circles during 1956 and 1957; and

(b) the number of persons on the waiting lists upto date?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [See Appendix II, annexure No 78]

Pilferage on Railway Coaches

438. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state whether it is a fact that items such as fans, electric switches, electric bulbs, looking glasses and screws for hanging clothes are missing in the coaches running on the Eastern and North-Eastern Railways and they are not replaced and repaired before starting of the trains?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): These fittings are occasionally stolen or pilfered from the coaches on the run or at stations where the rakes of passengers trains are stabled. Every endeavour

is made to replace the deficiencies subject naturally to the availability of the material in question.

Post Office Building, Jaipur

439. Shri B C Mullick: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 231 on the 15th November, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the question of entrusting the work of construction of Jaipur Head Post Office building to State P.W.D. has since been finalised, and

(b) if so, when the construction of the building is to be started?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Not yet. The demand of the State P.W.D. for departmental charges of 19 per cent which is more than what is usually paid to the C.P.W.D., is under examination in consultation with the C.P.W.D. The question will be finalised after approaching Ministry of Work, Housing and Supply and also after obtaining release from ban on construction of buildings by the Ministry of Finance (Communications)

(b) Does not arise

Divisional Headquarters, S.E. Railway

440. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) which of the places have been proposed for locating Divisional Headquarters in the South Eastern Railway, and

(b) whether representations have been received by Government for the location of Divisional Office at Khurda Road in Orissa?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The Government have considered the matter carefully and have come to the conclusion that the introduction of the Divisional System on this Railway is

not justified at present. Regional Superintendents have been provided at certain District Headquarters, e.g., Bilaspur where operational considerations required the posting of a Senior Officer to co-ordinate the activities of various branches

(b) Yes, Sir

Selection of Scheduled Caste Candidates

441. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of applications received from the Scheduled Caste candidates for class III posts on the Northern Railway during the year 1956-57?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): 5,090

N.E.S. and Community Development Blocks in Punjab

442 Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to state the total amount sanctioned for Community Development and N.E.S. Blocks which have been sanctioned for the Punjab State for the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): According to the approved phasing of the programme, the estimated total cost of the Blocks allocable to Punjab during the Second Plan period, is Rs. 708 crores. A revision of the programme is however now under consideration

MINE ACCIDENT IN ASANSOL AREA

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): Sir, with a deep sense of sorrow, I have to report to the House the grim tragedy which occurred last night involving a heavy loss of life in two mines in Asansol area. According to the information available, an explosion occurred in Chimalkuri mine at about 9 P.M. last night. About 180 persons are reported to be missing.

1729 Papers laid on the Table 20 FEBRUARY 1958 Petition re Forward 1730
 Contracts (Regulation) Act
 and Securities Contracts
 (Regulation) Act

[Shri Nanda]

The accident in this mine has led to flooding in the Central Bhora mine in the immediate neighbourhood. It is feared that about 20 persons have been drowned as a result of the flooding. The Chief Inspector of Mines and his staff are on the spot. They have sealed the pits in the Chumakuri mine and installed pumps for dewatering the Bhora mine and are taking further steps as are required.

We are instructing the Chief Inspector of Mines to arrange for immediate relief and financial help for the distressed families of the miners who have lost their lives in the accident.

Government is also taking immediate steps to set up a Court of Inquiry presided over by a High Court Judge, to investigate the causes and circumstances attending the accident.

I am straightaway proceeding to the scene of the accident. Immediately on my return I shall lay before the House a full report regarding the accident and other aspects of the matter.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat) May I enquire one thing? Will the terms of reference for this inquiry also include the question of going into the entire question of the Coal Mines Safety Board?

Shri Nanda We shall frame appropriate terms of reference and we shall take that suggestion into consideration.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPORTS OF SHIPPING
 CORPORATIONS

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-Section (1) of Section 639 of the Companies Act, 1956, a copy of each of the following reports

- (1) Annual Report of the Eastern Shipping Corporation Limited along with the Audited Accounts for the year 1956-57. [Placed in Library. See No LT-538/58]
- (2) Annual Report of the Western Shipping Corporation (Private) Limited along with the Audited Accounts for the year 1956-57 [Placed in Library See No LT-539/58]

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

FOURTEENTH REPORT

Sardar Hukam Singh (Bhatinda) I beg to present the Fourteenth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

PETITION RE FORWARD CONTRACTS (REGULATION) ACT AND SECURITIES CONTRACTS (REGULATION) ACT

Secretary Sir, under Rule 167 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in Lok Sabha, I have to report that a petition as per statement laid on the Table has been received in respect of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, and the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956.

STATEMENT

Petition No	Be Subject	No of Signatories	District or Town	State
14	In respect of (i) The Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952, and (ii) The Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956	1	Delhi	Delhi

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER
OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCESPREAD OF POISONOUS GAS IN PATEL
NAGAR AND ADJOINING LOCALITIES
IN DELHI

Shri Assar (Ratnagiri): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Health to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

“Spread of poisonous gas in Patel Nagar and adjoining localities in Delhi.”

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar: On the night of 12th February, 1958, at about 8.45 P.M. the Medical Officer of Health, Delhi Municipal Committee, received telephonic information that some kind of gas had spread in Blocks 21 to 26 of West Patel Nagar and in East Patel Nagar, causing suffocation to residents. On receipt of this information, preliminary investigations were carried out immediately by the Medical Officer of Health and his staff, the Assistant Inspector of Explosives, and the Director of Health Services, Delhi, who visited the affected areas in East and West Patel Nagar and the industrial area on Najafgarh Road. They were there till past midnight and made enquiries from the different factories located there. It was understood that the smell of the gas was felt most in the area near the Military Colony of Anand Parbat and that the intensity of the smell was felt for about 15-20 minutes.

Next morning the Sulphur dioxide plant of the Delhi Cloth Mills was inspected by the Medical Officer of Health, along with the Inspector of Industries and Boilers of Delhi Administration. It was found that some repairs had been carried out in the gas pipes of the Plant on the 12th February, 1958. The workers who had carried out the repairs, however, showed complete ignorance about the incident of the 12th night, and no source of gas leakage could be locat-

ed. The matter has also been reported to the police for investigation.

Suitable measures to prevent the recurrence of such accidents will be taken on completion of the investigations by the local police and health authorities. In the mean time, close vigilance is being kept on the working of the factories in the area.

CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO
STARRED QUESTION NO. 998

The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): Sir, I beg to make the following statement. In reply to a supplementary question by Shri Dasappa on the 11th December, 1957, arising out of Starred Question No. 998 by Shri Daljit Singh regarding fruit preservers' licence fee, I had stated that “the average licence fee for manufacturers using low power comes to about Rs. 67 and for power up to 15 H.P. it is Rs. 485 and up to 25 H.P. it is Rs. 1,078 with surcharges. This is proposed to be revised. Rs. 67 is proposed to be brought down to Rs. 40 and Rs. 485 to Rs. 80 plus Rs. 80 and Rs. 1,078 to Rs. 230.”

As the figures quoted by me were the average figures per manufacturer and not the existing fees which Shri Dasappa evidently wanted to know, it is necessary to clarify the position.

The rest is not of very great importance. I might lay the rest of the statement on the Table of the House.

Portion of the Statement laid on the
Table

The licence fees which were then in force were:—

- (a) Rs. 40 in case of—
 - (i) Synthetic beverages, syrups and sharbats,
 - (ii) vinegar, whether brewed or synthetic,
 - (iii) pickles, and
 - (iv) dehydrated fruits and vegetables.

[Dr. P. S. Deshmukh]

(b) Rs. 80 in case of—

- (i) squashes, crushes, cordials, barley water, barreled juice and ready to serve beverages or any other beverages containing fruit juices or fruit pulps,
- (ii) jams, jellies and marmalades; and
- (iii) tomato products, ketchup and sauces;

(c) Rs. 160 in the case of preserves, candied and crystallised fruits and peels;

(d) Rs. 200 in the case of chutneys, and

(e) Rs. 250 in the case of—

- (i) canned and bottled fruits, juices and pulps,
- (ii) canned and bottled vegetables,
- (iii) frozen fruits and vegetables,
- (iv) aerated waters containing fruit juices or pulps, and
- (v) any other unspecified items relating to fruits or vegetables.

A decision has since been taken to revise these fees which will shortly be notified.

—
श्री लक्ष्मण राय (खेरो) : श्रीमान्, मैंने एक विदेशी व्यापार प्रदेश की सूची दी थी। मैं जानता नहीं कि उस की प्रत्याकाश आज किसी गा वल।

Mr. Speaker: I must look into the privilege notice. Then, if I give consent, I shall bring it before the House. I shall look into the case. It has just been handed over to me.

MOTION RE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE AFFAIRS OF THE LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the motion regarding the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the affairs of the Life Insurance Corporation of India. Out of 8 hours allotted to this motion, 5 hours and 41 minutes have already been availed of and 2 hours and 19 minutes now remain.

The list of Substitute Motions/Amendments moved on the 19th February, 1958 has already been circulated to Members on the same day.

I will call upon the Home Minister to reply to the debate. At what time shall I call the Home Minister?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): The final reply will be given by the Prime Minister at about two o'clock.

Mr. Speaker: How much time will the Prime Minister take?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Finance (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): About half an hour.

Mr Speaker: What about the Home Minister?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I want half an hour to 45 minutes.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): All the time is consumed by the opening speech of the Prime Minister and the replies by the Prime Minister and the Home Minister. So Private Members will not get an opportunity. Will you please extend the time?

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): It may be extended by one hour more.

Mr. Speaker: I have said I will call upon two more hon. Members today. I shall give them fifteen minutes each. Then I will call upon the Home Minister.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad (Nasik): May we know the names of the two members?

Mr. Speaker: When they get up, I will call them.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: There was a demand for the allotment of ten hours. We thought that within eight hours it will not be possible for all viewpoints to be represented. Some more members want to speak.

Mr. Speaker: We have considered all those aspects at the Business Advisory Committee. The report of that Committee was placed before the House and it has been accepted. So, I don't think there is any need to take it up again. Now, Mr. Khadikar.

Shri Khadikar (Ahmednagar): At the outset I would make a request. You were pleased to say that the leaders of groups would be given 20-25 minutes. I am speaking on behalf of a group.

Mr Speaker: Irrespective of whether the hon Member is a leader of a party or not, I will allow him only 15-20 minutes at the most.

Shri Khadikar: Mr. Speaker, now we have got a report, the findings as well as the evidence, before the House. Though, broadly speaking, we accept the findings so far as they relate to this deal. At the same time, I would like to suggest to this House that in order to understand the deeper implications of this affair they should try to understand or place a construction on the basis of the evidence how this deal came about and how it came to light later on, because this aspect is very important.

As we all know, in the course of the post-Independence period and immediately after that, when the best-managed foreign concerns, particularly the British concerns, were about to be transferred, there was literally a scramble in the market, and those who had amassed fortunes during the war period wanted to take possession of such concerns. Mundhra, who, as

has been stated, was an adventurer, a manipulator and speculator on the stock exchange, was trying to get hold of the best concerns possible, and in his adventure he had borrowed quite heavily from the State Bank. Therefore, all the heads of these banking institutions, as well as the Finance Secretary, they came together and, naturally, in order to save the bank, if possible to save Mr. Mundhra to establish himself (that was the secondary motive), they decided upon this deal. That is my construction, based on the evidence.

Therefore, though in the actual deal the first process started in Calcutta, and later on it was finished in Bombay, something had happened before that. The Governor of the Reserve Bank, the Chairman of the State Bank and the L.I.C. Chairman, though they met before this deal, it is surprising they never exchanged confidential information regarding this gentleman, who is quite a notorious figure in the stock exchange. At the same time, they collaborated to get him out of some difficulty. That point should not be missed while dealing with this matter.

At the same time, the other interests were also in the scramble to get possession of these foreign concerns for a song, because their eyes were not just on the balance sheets. We must understand the implications. All these foreign concerns had amassed secret reserves. Mr. Mundhra knew it, because he belonged to the same investing community. Therefore, when Mr. Mundhra happened to cross somebody's path, he decided that this is the best opportunity, not only to expose Mr. Mundhra—he wanted a double-barrelled attack—but also wanted to attack something else. One attack was on the whole financial machinery, but the main aim of the attack was against the nationalised insurance business of this country. Because, as we all know, though our Prime Minister had chosen a team of

[Shri Khadilkar]

Cabinet Ministers who are supposed to be there to implement the so-called socialist construction policies, many in the Cabinet and in the ranks of the Congress have never concealed their feeling regarding nationalisation.

They have not looked at it very kindly throughout, and when this conspiracy was being hatched, taking advantage of the Mundhra deal, they wanted to undermine the nationalisation effort in this country. All these people knew what was going to come.

I will tell you a funny story. You will be puzzled to hear it, especially when we have this team of socialist Cabinet Ministers. While coming back to Delhi, I met an astrologer. Before the final report was out, I was told some of the Cabinet Ministers consulted the astrologers. They were wanting to find out what would be their fate, in case this man goes out or that man comes in as a Cabinet Minister. This is a very strange state of affairs.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): What concern has my friend with the astrologer?

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): Give the name of the Minister.

Shri Khadilkar: Yesterday, the Prime Minister said that after the deal they have grown wiser. Let us see from their future conduct whether that wisdom would be reflected in the policies of the Government.

So far as this affair is concerned, I would humbly submit that the Mundhra Affair is being made use of by sections of vested interests who have close links with a section of the Congress Party, some elements in the Congress Party.

Some hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Khadilkar: So far as this nationalised insurance business is concerned, it is so, and there is evidence for it. Yesterday, my hon. friend from the Congress benches raised issue about the way the

inquiry was conducted. The Attorney General was supposed to place the whole case before the Commission in an objective manner. Going out of his way, our Attorney-General Shri Setalwad—and his antecedents are known, the Setalwad family controlled the Industrial and Prudential House of Insurance, it is a well known fact—he could not conceal his feeling, so he said, and naturally attacked, when he mentioned about the "backdoor nationalisation scheme". He was more interested in shifting the blame from the Principal Secretary to the Finance Minister.

Then comes on the scene, unfortunately for the Congress Benches, the ex-Governor of U.P., who is at large, now, Shri K. M. Munshi. It is a pity. Recently you have set down a policy regarding the working journalists. You send your Attorney-General to the Supreme Court to defend that policy, and in the same Court, the ex-Governor, who occupies a very respectable position in the Congress hierarchy goes there and attacks that policy. This is socialism and this is the faith to which the Prime Minister was referring when he said, while summing up his reply to the Debate on the President's Address, that energy and faith are necessary. Where is the faith in your ranks?

In this case, when Shri Munshi appeared, he wanted to shift the blame on the head of the Finance Minister. It is really fortunate for us, for it did not occur to the Portuguese Government of Salazar to approach this man who belongs to the honourable profession and to engage him in the Hague Court. Perhaps he would have accepted that brief.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The material before us is sufficiently big to engage us. Why should the hon. Member refer to the Hague Court and other places? I am not here to say one thing or the other. But let us not say anything against persons who

are not here. In the capacity of an advocate he did so. Very well. Therefore, so far as that matter is concerned, whoever has appeared, there are a good number of persons with respect to whom there have been remarks and findings in the report. Why should we drag in any other person there? Whether he is competent or not, if an objection was to be taken, it could have been taken before the Judge that he was incompetent.

Shri Khadilkar: I gave an analogy with reference to the conduct of a man who occupies a very high position.

Mr. Speaker: His conduct is not in question here, he is not one of the parties to this Mundhra business.

Shri Khadilkar: Of course, no open party.

Mr Speaker: It is not right to refer to that. It may be a question of decorum or of decency, I am not here called upon to express an opinion nor are we called upon to express an opinion on that matter whether it was right or not for him to accept the brief. That is not the subject matter before us. Let us address ourselves to the subject before us.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): The Minister in his statement did bring in the name of Shri Munshi and, according to the latest reports Shri Munshi does not seem to have very much enjoyed it. So we must have freedom to speak on this.

Mr. Speaker: When an hon Member says something, I cannot in anticipation of what he is going to say, shut it out. Therefore, he made a statement and went away. I would not allow a repetition of it.

Shri Khadilkar: I happened to belong once upon a time to this profession.

Mr Speaker: Leave it alone.

Shri Khadilkar: I left it long ago because I did not find it so honourable.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member must resume the subject-matter of the resolution.

Shri Khadilkar: So far as this enquiry is concerned, the more important aspect of it, namely, are we going to draw some lessons from it, that must be very seriously considered. Because, when we nationalised life insurance business and other undertakings, fortunately or unfortunately in this country it was taken for granted that all the major parties have accepted it and it therefore became a national policy. In the West for instance in Britain, there was a party issue and all the aspects of nationalisation in that country were thrashed out threadbare. But those who have faith or no faith, in nationalisation have for the sake of the party in power accepted it and in this affair what we find is that in a surreptitious manner they are trying to attack it.

Therefore, we will have to look to the nationalised insurance business as it is now being managed by the Life Insurance Corporation. What set-up was prepared to manage it? Were they people who had faith in nationalisation who were entrusted with this? Let us examine it. Even now, for instance, there is Shri Vaidhyanathan the Managing Director. All people know that he was closely associated with the Oriental Life Insurance Company controlled by that cotton king of Bombay Sir Purushottamdas Thakurdas and his company. We know that He used to operate on the market. We know it. Yesterday our friend Comrade Dange said that benami transactions in the insurance business were quite common. But all these big insurance houses used to employ the sons of Cabinet Ministers and used to get big posts for them. That was the position. When it was nationalised, all these people have not taken kindly to it. And they are supposed to run it.

A similar mistake was committed in Britain in the early stages of nation-

[Shri Khadilkar]

alisation by the Labour Party. The other day my hon. friend Shri Masani pleaded for autonomy of this Corporation. He was pleading for a cause which has been long exploded in Britain. It is an old theory which has been discarded; the Morrison theory has been discarded in Britain, and they have now grown wiser. Because, if this autonomy is preserved, later on it results in creating small empires which are managed by industrialists who belong to the other sector, I mean the big vested interests. This is the question there, and they have thought about the problem properly now. It is being debated how best to control nationalised undertakings properly—by crucially taking possession of it that is by acquiring controlling interests, or by taking full control of it. All these things are being discussed there. Therefore, I for one would not subscribe, if I were to draw a lesson from this, to the theory of Shri Masani.

Another suggestion that he made was a very novel one. He is a lawyer.

Shri Asoka Mehta (Muzaffarpur):
 He gave up practice

Shri Khadilkar: I am glad. When the Commission was appointed it was appointed to give a finding on particular issues mentioned in the terms of reference. Are we supposed to take it that it was appointed to lay down a policy as to how to manage nationalised undertakings? I fail to understand this. When some people made the plea that whatever opinion has been expressed at the end of the report, it should be accepted by this House, I think that was a most derogatory thing to suggest here. We are the people, this House is the forum, the supreme body in this land to lay down the policy as to what should be done and what should not be done. Any suggestion, any opinion expressed can be taken as a guide, but it is we who are to frame the policy and

implement it. Here, in this national Life Insurance Corporation, even now, as I said, five big companies who were operating in the field still dominate. They have the key positions. They have all the patronage, appointment, investment, and what not. Unfortunately, I must say, there is the Planning Commission. When nationalisation of this business was undertaken, immediately some plan ought to have been placed regarding appointments, regarding management and administration and regarding investments. Nothing was done. Till this Mundhra affair came to the forefront, no effort on these lines has ever been made and no steps taken.

If I were cynical, I would of course say like that great French political scientist who has stated recently in his book that in the modern States, whatever they are and their nature, a certain amount of nepotism, corruption and such other things form part of the State apparatus. But, unfortunately, I do not happen to be that type of cynic to look at these things with equanimity. Therefore, I would suggest, taking this into consideration as the House is seized of the matter, that we must try to understand the whole process of this affair and instead of avoiding the issue, fix the responsibility. If we fail in that effort, at least in the future, we shall see that this insurance business will be run in the interests of the country, in the interests of our socialist endeavour. That is the most important thing.

If we want to do it, we will have to find out how to do it. In such undertakings, the community has a vital interest. These undertakings, I mean the Corporations, are a sort of trustees. At the administrative level, at the industrial level, at the parliamentary level, there must be stricter control and the community must have a voice in it. As my hon. friend

Dr. A. Krishnaswami suggested yesterday this nationalisation of life insurance business was done rather in a hurry. Because of this we are in difficulties. If regional bodies were formed, and some local initiative was there, if people who have faith were taken into confidence and administration was handed over to them, I think that would have mobilised small savings and we would have got a greater trust of the common man in this undertaking. Even now, there is a suggestion in the report that a great businessman should be made the head.

In this affair, I would like to state very frankly this about the bureaucracy. I do realise it is an arm of the State and it has a definite function in our political machinery, a vital function. But, they are going with an impression that Ministers come and go, we are here. This is the impression all round. I know a small instance. I had an occasion to lead a deputation on behalf of the Poona Corporation. I went to meet the Minister. Unfortunately, the Minister was not so conversant with the English language. The Chief Secretary there who was present would not like to talk in the mother tongue. He started in English and we started in English. He felt embarrassed. The experience of those who happen to meet the Secretaries now-a-days in this democratic setup is their unconcealed joy of the permanent Secretaries. They feel: Oh! these people have come, all right, we will treat them with due respect, we are the people to make and unmake policy, what do they know. If we want to really build up democracy in this country and implement a policy of socialism, recognising their merit, recognising their essential services, we must not allow them to go with the impression that later on, time would come, we could make and unmake ministries. This is what happens. I would like to utter a word of caution in order to improve the business and put a little vigour into it.

In this affair, we have seen that the public has taken a very great interest. I do not think that that interest was in any way morbid. It was very healthy. Because, they felt, several demands were made, nothing was done, no inquiry was instituted, at any time, this time the Judge is there, and the people imagined that the whole Cabinet is in the dock and the people were the prosecutors. That sort of democratic sense or awakening was there. They watched the proceedings as nothing else was watched before in this country. We welcome it.

But, when we have sent this affair for an opinion, for a diagnosis to a man of Changla's calibre, eminence and integrity, we must also respect his judgment. I do expect it. As the doctors say, they send a small part of the diseased limb, what they call as section, for examination to a pathologist. As you know, he puts it under the microscope, applies some test and later on, gives his finding. But, at the same time, when the whole body politic is infected with a certain virus, we have got to find out some radical remedy to cure it. Therefore, in order to benefit by this experience which has given a good shock to the administrative apparatus of the State and the Cabinet, I have got a few suggestions to make and then I will conclude.

In this regard, there was a committee and Shri Gorwala has made some suggestions. In other countries where there is mature experience, there is a lot of literature about it. In particular, when we are discussing this matter, I would like to quote an authority on this for the benefit of the House. In his 'National Enterprise', Ernest Davis the author has rightly advocated that with the establishment of more public corporations, particularly in those industries of the greatest public interest and the vesting of great powers in the ministers, Parliament should exercise its control to an ever-increasing extent.

[Shri Khadilkar]

Members of Parliament are trustees of the public weal whose duty is to safeguard the interests of the public, to protect the public from the high-handed action of the executive. Parliament should therefore exercise continuous control over public corporations, for once their legislation is enacted, Ministers prefer Parliament to forget the check they hold over their administration. They like we should go to sleep, we should not be vigilant." That is the general approach of the administration. This has been brought to the forefront

As Justice Chagla has suggested in his report, I have to make some suggestions. I would suggest, as mentioned in an amendment which has been tabled and as Shri T. N. Singh suggested, a sort of scrutineer committee of this House with full authority. Because, nowadays, we have not got Standing Committees which used to exercise better power of vigilance previously, some Committee should be appointed. I have another suggestion to make. Instead of taking the business executive, I would suggest, in order to expand this business, services of some senior executive in the Postal department should be made available. Because, we can go to the people through the post offices and they have no business links and they have managed it very well. If we take a senior executive from the Postal department and associate him with the executive of this body, it will definitely benefit the corporation.

I have another suggestion to make. If an independent Actuary is placed in the executive, that would also benefit. The accounts have to be audited by the Auditor General. At that time when the act was passed, this suggestion was made. It should be implemented now in the light of these findings, if we think of making this nationalisation of life insurance more effective because it brings in resources to our hands. Those elements in the country who are out in

a surreptitious manner to subvert our effort should be avoided. Formerly, we thought of subversion with regard to the Communists. There are subverting elements who are interested in subversion on the other side also secretly working. So, we must be very careful about them. In order to avoid these dangers I would suggest that the whole Act should be modified and the policy should be clearly defined. As I said, instead of having such a huge corporation, if it is decentralised and regionalised, it will have greater mobilising capacity. In the end I would like to say that with this institution in the hands of the people and with the State Bank and the Reserve Bank, as I said in the beginning, we would be able to keep away all those who are interested in creating difficulties in our way, expand and construct our society as we are determined to do

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rai Bareli): Mr. Speaker, I hope I have said enough about the Life Insurance Corporation and these transactions. If I may say so, my part has been of the smallest. I say to you with all the sincerity of my heart that in endeavouring to investigate into the transactions of the Life Insurance Corporation, I have been guided by no other driving force than the public good of my country. This inquiry has no doubt been a painful ordeal, most painful for me; but, we have gone through this baptism of fire, as I will call it, and I think we have come out of it with our heads held high. I am proud of my Government; I am proud of my party and I think all of us, including the Opposition, should share that feeling with me.

An. Hon. Member: You are proud of the Opposition?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Are you not proud of the masses of the country?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Parliament has made itself felt; its prestige has risen high and I think collectively we have

demonstrated the terrific striking power of democracy I think this inquiry has had a tonic effect on the entire country and the administration. But let us see how others have viewed it.

The *Washington Post* in an editorial writes:

"India has just given an interesting demonstration of governmental responsibility to uphold public morality."

It goes on and ends by saying

"The example is pertinent to current events in Washington"

You see that it has had its effect not only in India but elsewhere too

I would like to pay my humble tribute to the Chief Justice of Bombay for the great work he has done. We are proud of him. I went to Bombay with doubts in my mind. I went in search of justice and I am satisfied that justice has been done.

I saw much in Bombay and I was much impressed by what I saw. What impressed me most was the complete absence of Members of the Opposition. It is very easy to speak in Parliament, but it is extremely difficult to repeat those things on oath. I wish my friend, Mr Dange, who has said many things, had taken the opportunity to travel to Bombay like we did. There was an open invitation, I immediately wrote to the Chairman and I sent a telegram. I went to Bombay to appear before him after his press communique. I wish Mr Dange had gone there, I wish he had proved all the things which he talked about yesterday.

It is very easy to talk in this Chamber Mr Speaker. For the first time in my life, I realised how difficult it is to speak on oath. For four hours and a quarter, I tendered my evidence before the Chairman of the Commission and I assure you that every second of those four hours and fifteen minutes my knees were shaking. I had to be careful about what I said before the Commission. I was really surprised, because I wish that

Mr Dange, who always jumps up now and then to say almost anything that he likes, had gone there and proved all those things. But the difficulty is that he was only writing letters. Yesterday Mr Dange gave a remarkable example of what a waste it is to have such inquiries as far as that section of the Opposition is concerned. Apparently he had not even read the report, he did not know who the Chairman was, who the Managing Director was, the amounts involved, and everything. I think my party had provided him with ample ammunition, but this Opposition does not even know how to use it.

An Hon. Member: We are not given a chance.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: In some quarters, people have questioned nationalisation. I say that this inquiry and all that has happened is a justification for nationalisation. Mr Masani mentioned 500 directors of insurance companies who looked after their affairs. Mr Masani forgot that the Life Insurance Corporation was dealing with 40 concerns with 400 directors in India. What did they do? What has happened to all those concerns—Jessops, Richardson and Cruddas, British India Corporation etc? What has happened to them? Is it not known to Mr Masani? I sometimes feel that some sections try to utilise these things for their own ends, just as it suits them. Some people justify it in one way others justify it in another way. But I would like to point out that we, the Members of this Parliament, are the shareholders of the public corporations. Can Mr Masani point out to me a single meeting of the shareholders of any company which has gone on and on and on like ours? Can he point out a single instance?

Shri M. R. Masani (Ranchi—East): Meetings of the Tata Iron and Steel Company normally go on till 10, 11 or even midnight starting at 2 sometimes.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I think TELCOs finish in 15 minutes.

[Shri Feroze Gandhi]

I do not think the shareholders of these companies have such terrific protection as Parliament has accorded to the policy-holders of the life Insurance Corporation

Of course, the press has devoted volumes of space to this inquiry. The press is part of the private sector, it belongs to the industrialists—a substantial part of it—and naturally this being the first inquiry of its kind against a public corporation, they also tried to make use of it

An Hon. Member And make some money also

Shri Feroze Gandhi. Probably make money also. They used the opportunity to publicise this, but just look at the attitude of this so-called independent and free press. There is a case going on in Delhi for the last two or three years, a very important case. In this case one of the ex-proprietors of a leading newspaper was also involved. Probably he is the main accused. Not a line about this case is published. There is not a word about it as to what is going on. Therefore if the press has devoted so much attention to this inquiry, I think we should try and understand the driving motive

Shri S A Dange (Bombay City—Central) Am I to understand that Shri Gandhi is repentant of having raised the subject in this House?

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty Yes

Shri Feroze Gandhi It was a bad day when the shadow of Mundhra fell on the Corporation, but one thing has to be understood, viz., that the genius, the knowledge, the complicated experience in both handling and mishandling money is acquired in several generations, and this was pitted against a 1½ year old baby

The Corporation has committed grave errors, acts of gross negligence, and I am happy that we are going to probe further into it, because it does require a further probe

Was the fact that there was something wrong with the Corporation and its set-up known to our Finance Minister, our ex-Finance Minister? Did he try at any stage to set things right, and if so, I think it is my duty to read out to you what he did. I am sorry I have to read out from a note which is marked "Top Secret", which was sent to Shri H M Patel on the 15th April, 1957 by the Finance Minister. It is necessary to realise and understand the implications of this date, 15th April was more or less round about the time when the first, second and third transactions had taken place with Shri Mundhra

The note to Shri Patel reads

Some Hon Members Will it be placed on the Table of the House?

Shri Feroze Gandhi Yes [Placed in Library See No LT-563/58]

Mr Speaker Is it the original?

Shri Feroze Gandhi Ye I will authenticate

Shri Nath Pati Some Members have some special sources of information

Shri Feroze Gandhi Yes

If I am not mistaken, this is already on the evidence but I am not quite sure. Now there is no secret. It reads

"I am very sorry to say that my visit to the Corporation and certain sections of the zonal office for two days has not left me with a feeling of satisfaction that things are all right

In the first place, the head office organisation wants a lot of brushing up. I found from the records which Kamath showed me about my directions to Rajagopalan more than two months ago, that apparently Rajagopalan had taken no action thereon. I would consider this to be a grave dereliction of duty. I am not sure

whether in the circumstances, Rajagopalan is suitable for continuing as Managing Director in the Corporation

On all accounts Vaidyanathan is of no use. He was never very good in the best of time. I suppose he is actually senile.

Vohra, the Executive Director, whom I dealt with in your presence, is perhaps a typical example of the efficiency of the Corporation.

B. K. Shah whom I met the next day said that he felt Vohra was no good in the New India Organisation....

—private sector,— New India. This is the Finance Minister's opinion about him. Shri Shah somehow passed him on; as Mundhra passed on the investment, Shah passed on his rotten men.

“He (Shah) said that he was glad to get rid of him. I do not know how many Vohras there are in the Corporation. Vohra has to go, and he will have to be the first casualty. I do not know the terms of his appointment, but this matter will have to be looked into.”

Then he goes on:

“My visit to the sections of the zonal office merely confirmed the impression that I got of the working of the headquarters organisation.

Mehta whom I met (the zonal manager) appeared to be somewhat above the average, but it looked as if he had no sense of organisation; neither his records, nor his statistics were uptodate.

The business last year was bad, though not as bad as it had been made out in the newspapers. It has dropped by Rs. 69 crores. The business in the first three months of 1957 is not particularly promising. Unless a big effort is

made, it is likely that we might be worse off in 1957 than we were in 1956.”

Lastly he said—and I think this would interest Shri Dange:

“There is no hope that the organisation will work properly as it is constituted at present. At least if discontent in various sectors, particularly of agents and to some extent amongst the staff is removed, things might move forward. I would like you to discuss the matter with me some time.”

This was sent to Shri Patel on the 15th April, and the last line says: “I hope you will discuss the matter with me.” Shri Patel is not an ordinary Secretary in the Finance Ministry. He is the Principal Secretary. What did he do with this? He ordered that the note should be filed, and it was filed. No action was taken.

On 9-9-57 the Finance Minister again sends a note to the Principal Secretary:

“I had indicated that I did not want that an extension should be given to Vaidyanathan. I also mentioned that Vohra's services as Director should be terminated. I now understand that Vaidyanathan has been given an extension for one year. I would like an explanation to be called for from the Life Insurance Corporation why the extension was given in spite of my specific instructions to the contrary.”

The Life Insurance Corporation never sent a reply to the Minister.

Shri Nath Pai: On a point of information.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Be calm.

Mr. Speaker: If there are any difficulties and doubts, the hon. Member will explain at the end of the speech.

Shri Nath Pai: How do you know my difficulty unless you hear me?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will note down on a note-paper; I will allow them.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: What does he want to know?

Shri Nath Pai: Yesterday the Prime Minister said we had some special sources of information. I want to know his source of information.

Mr. Speaker: This is not the way to proceed with debates in this House. Hon Member, Shri Nath Pai, is evidently new. What he ought to do is not to go on interrupting.

As soon as an hon. Member begins his speech some doubts may occur. As he goes on he may resolve the doubts himself, so that when he comes to the end there may be no doubts whatever. In the meanwhile, hon. Members might note down whatever occurs to them and if the doubts are not resolved wait until the speech is over and then put the questions. Not till then. Why should they not note down the points. I will allow them opportunities, if their doubts are serious.

13 hrs.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: If I were to reveal all the sources of my information this inquiry would never have been held. I cannot.

Mr. Speaker: It is not necessary to divulge the source of information. It has been repeatedly held in courts of law that even if a document is obtained by stealth, so long as it is genuine it is admissible in evidence.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I am placing it on the Table. This is the background. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-563/58]

These facts about the set-up of the Corporation were known to the Finance Minister. He tried, but I am not in a position to say why he did not succeed in putting them right. Mr. Patel at the time of the first note was not only the Principal Secretary of

the Ministry of Finance, but also the Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation. At the time of the second note he was the Principal Secretary and not the Chairman. At neither of the two stages did what the Minister wanted happen. On the one side the Corporation is autonomous; and when it suits the Principal Secretary it is not autonomous.

In the course of the evidence which was unfolded before the Commission (it began with me) on the official side, beginning with Mr. Vaidyanathan, Mr. Kamat, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, Mr. Patel and so on, it became evident that clarification was turning into confusion. At every stage it became obvious that the manner in which these transactions had been done was a wrong manner. Leave aside business principles, I don't think a single principle of any kind was followed in carrying through these investments. From the point of view of propriety also it has been held that it was not a proper thing to do.

But the most baffling thing that faced the Chairman, Chief Justice Chagla, the most baffling problem, was how Mr. Mundhra approached Mr. Patel on the 21st of June. He has not been able to solve it; that is where the Commission has failed. How did Mr. Mundhra come to know that Mr. Patel, or the Life Insurance Corporation, were interested in any way in the purchase of these shares. It was really a baffling problem. Witness after witness was asked, but nothing happened. Was there any talk, were there any negotiations? No. This was a terrific problem before the Chief Justice. And true it is that on the basis of the evidence before him he has come to these conclusions. He could have come to no other conclusion, no matter what anyone else has to say.

But, Sir, I would like the House to remember that every witness that appeared before the Commission has made his statement on oath; he has declared all that he has to say on oath. And what has come to my knowledge after the inquiry and a day or two

before the report, was that negotiations in connection with these purchases were almost completed in New Delhi. I would like to read out to you a telegram I do not think Mr. Pai would again ask me where I got it from. This is the photostat of a telegram sent from New Delhi on the 13th of June, 1957. It reads

"New Delhi

Haridasji
Care Osler co
Calcutta

Life Corporation prepared purchase Jessops and BIC ordinary at negotiated prices. Necessary instructions being issued from this end. Please phone Sodhani."

This is the photostat of the telegram which was sent from Delhi. There are important parts of this telegram which I would like to explain. The first thing is that the Life Insurance Corporation is prepared to purchase Mundhra shares. That is number one. The second is shares in Jessop and BIC and the variety of the shares ordinary. The third is at negotiated prices. That means that more or less it had been decided that prices would be decided upon not by what is prevailing in the market on the date of purchase, but the prices shall be a negotiated one. And the last part of it is instructions being issued from this end. This more or less finalises it.

Now, Sir, this is how far I am willing to go and not to disclose the rest. Government have decided to order an inquiry and investigate the matter and it would be unfair for me to say anything more about this. Shall I place this also on the Table?

Mr. Speaker: Who is Mr. Sodham?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I am very glad. This question came before the Commission also. Mr. Sodham is not the representative of Mr. Mundhra as is made out. He represents Jessop in Delhi and he was to be a witness. He was summoned to appear before the

Commission, but his health was not good, so he did not go. I shall place this also on the Table. [Placed in Library See No LT-563/58]

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will later on certify the photostat copy.

That is what I have to say about the matter as it stands today.

Now, I come to another aspect of this inquiry and that is the relationship between the Minister and his secretary. How is this to be determined? Quite a bit of the complications that have been arising in this inquiry have resulted because of what the Minister said and what the secretary understood it to be. More than six or seven months had passed, and it was difficult for either to recollect what actually they said, and that is understandable. There is one thing Shri T. T. Krishnamachari said that 'If the Life Insurance Corporation is interested they can look into it.' But he qualified that, and he said 'Be careful there are spurious shares of these companies in the market.' That was a warning which the Principal Secretary or those present there should have heeded. They should have woken up to the dangers and the alarm had been sounded. But, on the other hand what I have not been able to understand is that if Shri T. T. Krishnamachari knew that there were spurious shares why did he not stop the deal. Why did he not say, 'Stop now. You will not go ahead.' That is another aspect of the matter.

I would suggest that in future, any instructions given by the Minister to his secretary, in so far as these instructions concern investments or expenditure of huge sums of money, the practice should be introduced that it should be done in writing. I would like to quote something from Mr. Winston Churchill's *Second World War*. Vol. II. I hope Shri Nath Pai will not ask me where I got this. Mr. Churchill writes:

"I am a strong believer in transacting official business by the

[Mr Speaker]

written word No doubt, surveyed in the after-time, much that is set down from hour to hour under the impact of events may be lacking in proportion or may not come true I am willing to take my chance of that It is always better, except in the hierarchy of military discipline to express opinions and wishes rather than to give orders Still, written directives coming personally from the lawfully constituted head of the Government and Minister specially charged with defence counted to such an extent that, though not expressed as orders, they very often found their fruition in action

To make sure that my name was not used loosely, I had made during the crisis of July the following minute

'Let it be very clearly understood that all directions emanating from me are made in writing, or should be immediately afterwards confirmed in writing, and that I do not accept any responsibility for matters relating to national defence on which I am alleged to have given decisions, unless they are recorded in writing'

This is a very sound principle, and if it could be followed in war-time in Great Britain I see no reason why it cannot be followed in normal times in our own country

There is another aspect of this report, that is, the control of Parliament over the public sector and the public corporations The relationship that there should be between the public corporations and Parliament is a vast subject, and I hope that Government will give us some suitable opportunity to discuss it separately It is no use just saying a few words here and there, because it is a very important matter

I was listening to the statement made by the ex-Finance Minister, and he said something about tigers and man-eaters

Shri Tyagi: The hon Member is one of them.

Shri Ferose Gandhi: The Life Insurance Corporation is a child of ours; it is a child of Parliament And it reminds me of a story which I heard in a village, which I would like to tell you It is circumstances that determine the courage of a person. And that story was also about a tiger If a tiger attacks me, I might run away, I think I will run away But if the same tiger attacks my child, I will probably perish in the process of trying to save my child That is the difference which circumstances make to the courage of an individual In this case also, I would like to assure the ex-Finance Minister that we are quite capable of dealing with these man-eaters and as long as we have the tiger of Kumaon in the Home Ministry there is nothing to bother about We are safe in his hand and I think that as long as he is there and his watchful eye is kept on the country, we have nothing to worry about These man-eaters in the private sector Mr Speaker are vegetarian tigers

I was rather touched by what the Prime Minister said yesterday These two months have been a great strain There is no doubt that the strain has been, perhaps, the greatest on him I am sorry for that, because I realise my responsibility in this matter But I think, as he himself has said, good will come out of it If others have aged, I have aged too in these last few months This Life Insurance Corporation transaction has taken me eight months to complete from the time that Dr Ram Subhag Singh and myself started working in co-operation

I wish, on this occasion, our great leader Maulana Azad were here, because I want to read out an Urdu

22 JANUARY 1958 Report of the Commission 1750
of Inquiry into the
Affairs of the Life
Insurance Corporation

couplet which suits to this occasion. It reads like this:

जलिया था इलम, मगर बाज़े बयो भर आइ हैं,
कहे की बोट थोर कहाँ रंग जाइ हैं

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta-Central): I feel some difficulty in following the performance of the "Ellory Queen" of the Congress Party who has given us a speech, grave and gay at the same time, but his speech has shown very clearly that the 'mutiny in his mind', about which he spoke in December has been very nearly quenched I do not know what was his purpose in gratuitously attacking the Leader of the principal Party in opposition when he wanted to imply—and said it as much—that Shri Dange evaded giving evidence before the Commission. As a matter of fact, Shri Dange was very far from Bombay at that time and he sent a telegram to Mr. Justice Chagla requesting for a particular date when he could come and give evidence personally in Bombay, and if that was not suitable to Mr. Justice Chagla, then he might perhaps send a statement. Then the Judge wired back to him saying that his statement might be sent because—I expect—he was rather in a hurry to get on with the proceedings. But Shri Feroze Gandhi has chosen to disrupt a kind of a united effort which was beginning to be made in this House in order to secure a remedy of the situation which has been divulged by the proceedings before the Commission and the findings of Mr. Justice Chagla.

It is a pity, for there has been a plethora of scandals—jeep, fertiliser, sugar, prefabricated housing, cotton and Heaven knows what other and minor scandals, to which reference was made by Shri U. C. Patnaik yesterday—scandals which have a family likeness, with the latest in the series, LIC. It is a pity that those in the Congress Party who felt 'a mutiny in the mind', to quote Shri Feroze Gandhi's expression, do not feel today that they should join hands with the Opposition in asking for that kind of

probe which is wanted, not the sort of probe which is suggested in the Prime Minister's Resolution, but a probe which goes very much deeper and very much further.

We do not happen to have access to certain sources of information which Shri Feroze Gandhi appears to have. It is a pity.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

If we did have such access, perhaps things would have got hotted up. But Shri Feroze Gandhi has given the House certain documents, rightly or wrongly, true or false, correct or incorrect, we do not know; but those documents indicate very clearly that something is terribly wrong in the State of Denmark, and that, at any rate, the former Finance Minister, after what Shri Feroze Gandhi has said to the House, can hardly plead that he was unaware of the goings on in his Ministry.

I do not understand how Shri Feroze Gandhi can come and say today that perhaps the responsibility can be foisted on a particular individual. I do not care who it is; particular individuals might very well have to be punished very drastically; but I do not understand Shri Feroze Gandhi coming and saying that the responsibility should be sheered away from the Finance Minister altogether. That is something which we cannot stomach and that is why, we want that there is a real probe, a real investigation into the entire position, and we desire that that probe is conducted not in the usual manner of Government, not by having a departmental investigation, not by having a police case or two here and there, not by making a show by all kinds of devious means very well known to the bureaucracy of making documents vanish, but by the work of a parliamentary committee continuously in session. We might very well take a holiday from speech-making in this House and might very well concentrate on the job of looking after these autonomous corporations which will, necessarily, have to be set up, in per-

Motion re 20 JANUARY 1962 Report of the Commission
of Inquiry into the
Affairs of the Life
Insurance Corporation

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

—haps larger numbers in the course of our evolution to a socialist pattern of society.

Therefore, I say that the whole-some emotion which appeared in the mind of Shri Feroze Gandhi in December seems to have vanished. But I do wish that even at this late stage, there is an effort from all sides in this House to join hands together and ask for that kind of probe which alone can bring to light the facts which the country very badly wants to know.

It was a very good job that we had Mr. Justice Chagla as the Commission of Inquiry. It was a very good job too that the Attorney-General representing Government acted before the Inquiry in the way that he did. I wish to repeat what has been said before in this House that the Prime Minister made certain statements, perhaps with an inadvertence which he wanted to cover up in the course of his observations yesterday, but he still made certain statements about the Commission, particularly in his letter to the Former Finance Minister which, I say with respect, were lacking in propriety. What he said, and the way he said it, were both at fault. It is a pity, for the Prime Minister does not usually make that kind of mistake, but this time he did it.

I cannot—and I do not—mind the Prime Minister being very tender with his flock. He has to be very tender because the entire moral basis of his administration was shaken up and he had to proffer shelter under his wings for his erstwhile Finance Minister and for certain other people. But he had no call to be ungracious, to put it very mildly, to the eminent Judge who had investigated the LIC transaction. Judges—I say this particularly because you, Sir, are in the Chair at the moment—do not need encomia from the executive, but it is only right and proper that when a job of work is done so very well by a very eminent Judge of our country, the Prime Minister says so, acknowledges

it in those terms which come very easily to his lips.

When the Prime Minister spoke, one felt that Government, apprehensive of what Commissions of Inquiry might divulge, would be chary of having them in the future. He gave us yesterday a whole long quotation from the London Times. If that was read between the lines, the whole point seems to be that Commissions of Inquiry of the kind that we have had were undesirable. It is very unfortunate that the Prime Minister is thinking on those lines. More such investigations with the public keen and vigilant, as they were in Bombay, and the wrong-doer in fear and trembling, as I hope the wrong-doer will now continue to be,—that sort of thing is wanted if we do want our socialist progress to be at all a reality. But I have very grave doubts about Government's *bona fides* in regard to the construction of a socialist society.

On the whole, the recommendations of the Chagla Report are, to us, unexceptionable, but we make one large exception and that is in regard to Mr. Justice Chagla's apparent preference for private sector industrial personnel. Apart from that, what he recommends are right. As a matter of fact, what needs to be worked out is a scheme for a new cadre of workers in the public sector, workers imbued with a faith in the new socialist ideal, imbued with a new spirit and zeal of work. We cannot wish this kind of new personnel into existence in the course of a day. But then we shall have to make an effort.

We shall, of course, make many mistakes, and I am sure my hon. friend, Shri M. R. Masani, will delight in pointing out mistakes made by the public sector. But that is neither here nor there. The caravan will go on. The public sector must be made more public with the public participating at different levels, with public servants being more deserving of their name and Government must now

evoive ways and means of associating the public and in enlisting their co-operation at different levels of administration.

This is indeed a sea-change from the present bureaucratic trends, but it must be effected, and to this the Prime Minister, in particular, must apply his mind. There is no question of merely praising or maligning the present corps of civil servants. They have their points; but, by training and by tradition, they are largely unsuited to the tasks of today. A fair cross section of the topmost rungs of our civil servants, Patel, Kamat, Iengar, Bhattacharyya and Vaidyanathan, they have been tried and found wanting. The myth of their omniscience and indispensability has gone for ever. They have been all at fault, some more egregiously than others. Some drastic action is required and without delay, not only in regard to them but to the system of thought and action they represent.

The Prime Minister, yesterday, out of his way to single out the Governor of the Reserve Bank for all praise in this House. I had an occasion once to refer to the same official in very complimentary terms. I said he was a most excellent officer. But, I find here, in answer to a question in this House, the former Finance Minister said—unsatred question 2119 on the 20th December, that the Governor of the Reserve Bank, speaking before the International Industrial Development Conference at San Francisco had said that in India the private sector is playing a dominant role in our economy today and is bound to play a dominant role in future. This is the answer of the Finance Minister. This is the kind of person who believes in the private sector just as fervently as my hon. friend Shri Masani does and this is the kind of person who fell very easily into the trap laid by men like Mr. Mundhra. So, it is no good. It is rather gratuitous on the part of the Prime Minister to go out of his way and single out for praise a particular individual. It is neither here

nor there. It is no good praising or maligning in that fashion. The whole crowd of them have certain traditions, have certain training and, therefore, as a result of that, they are found wanting particularly at a time when the national funds are going to be utilised for purposes of national reconstruction in a socialist way.

I need not dilate how it is a very ugly picture that the Chagla Inquiry has unfolded. A sum of Rs. 1½ crores was parted with by the Corporation without apparently there being a single file in the Finance Department which would have such definite notings that the responsibility could be absolutely apportioned. Mr. Gandhi has referred to certain documents; but the line of investigation which they seem to indicate ought to be pursued and the unseemly hurry that took place over that transaction is something which we cannot forget. The utter disregard of responsibility in regard to public funds, the unusually friendly relations with which Shri Mundhra treated very high up officers, all this is rather sickening.

I wish also to say that the former Finance Minister, also an actor in the drama before and after the Inquiry, did not come off at all well. I know that you do not hit a man when he is down; but, we are not having a medieval tournament; we are having a discussion on a political matter. It is a pity that his friends did not realise that his stewardship of finance has been wrong, that he has lost what he chooses to call his position of strength, for certain very good reasons which it is not for me at the present moment to discuss. I believe he lost grip over himself when he gratuitously alleged that Mr. Justice Chagla had based his findings about him on surmises and that the constitutional responsibility for the unrepudiated actions of the subordinates had not been established. That was a fantastic statement to make. I am sure the former Finance Minister is very well-up as far as his constitutional law is concerned.

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

On one point again I would like to emphasise, where there is complete unanimity in this House and in the country. Mr. Justice Chagla has said it, the Attorney-General has said it. Now, Government says it and we have said it too very often and it is this, that more facts must be dug out. We have not got anything like a full picture of things and those other facts have got to be dug out and, particularly, by the instrumentality of what I have suggested, a Parliamentary Committee or committees in permanent session in order to go into these matters.

For example the Company Law Administration has been so immobile and almost corrupt, I should say, if the allegations which come to us can be given any credence. Why should cases be instituted in late 1957, after the LIC discussion here, when facts about them were known in 1955? What is the explanation to the acquisition of sterling companies by Mundhra and, particularly, by the alleged utilisation of moneys to the credit of certain princely States which were in London and which were negotiated by Mundhra and his friends including some very high-up people in our administration? How is it that the arrears of income-tax go up in the course of 9 months from Rs. 180 crores to Rs. 208 crores? How is it that millionaires in whose houses in Calcutta, for example, lumps of gold are found secreted under flower pots after a police search, have played hosts to Ministers and they go off scotfree? How is it that this sort of thing happens? How is it that public undertakings like the Hindustan Shipyard seethes with inefficiency and corruption? The Prime Minister has told us yesterday, he disapproves of insinuations and gossip. I dare say he does not disapprove of Mr. Feroze Gandhi doing certain things. If he does not, in that case, I do not see he should be so particular in his disapproval of lobby seething with rumours and things of certain sorts. We hear

these reports; we hear these allegations; things are sent to us; sometimes anonymous statements are sent to us. We cannot go before a court of law and say on oath that we can vouch for the truth of those allegations. Those allegations can only be investigated by governmental apparatus. But, my experience in this House for the last 6 years is that when we push all these allegations to the Ministry concerned, they are pushed down in the waste paper basket; and that is exactly what happens all over the place. It remains a fact that we have to make sure that insinuations and charges are really correct. We have to make every effort in order to piece and sift the evidence, if there is any, in regard to these insinuations and charges.

We cannot forget—and we have a responsibility not only to this House but also to the country—that reports have appeared in the papers about Mundhra's contacts with very senior Ministers. May be the reports are completely wrong; but the reports are there. They may be have been innocent contacts. The Home Minister may have met Mr. Mundhra some time ago in an innocent fashion. There may have been very innocent contacts; but, at the moment, and very rightly, in this country whatever relationship smacks even remotely of the Mundhra taint is suspect. That is why I want to make a reference to a matter which gives me no pleasure at all. I wish to refer to a matter which already has been mentioned by my friend Shri Dange; and, that is, the Union Law Minister's association with Mundhra.

It has been mentioned in this House—though the papers mercifully did not report it for some good reason and this was commented upon by Vigal, the weekly organ of the PSP (Acharya Kripalani—No.). There is an impression in Government circles and, I have a feeling that perhaps the Prime Minister thinks so, that the Union Law Minister was only in his

professional capacity, as a barrister, legal adviser to Mundhra. I wish later on, if it is necessary, the Union Law Minister makes a statement in regard to this. But, it appears that he was a great deal more

Yesterday, Shri Dange quoted from the report of Jessop and Company's balance sheet and that sort of thing that he was a director and, in the period of his directorship, when he was a director, certain doubtful transactions with Richardson and Cruddas which have been maligned during the course of the investigation by Mr Justice Chagla, were entered into. I have a great deal more material in regard to the Union Law Minister, but, I do not propose to put them here. But, it is very necessary that something is done to find out the real fact about it. I make no allegation against Mr Sen whom I have known for many years. He is, as everybody knows a very capable and likeable person. But, in the public mind there is a presumption which must be rebutted that his association with Mundhra and his position in Government are an unworthy juxtaposition of things.

The former Finance Minister defending the public sector in his last statement warned against certain powerful interests which he had said, had got him as their first victim. Now, we ought to find it out. He made a pose of injured innocence. But, there should be some investigation in regard to this matter.

I wish to refer also to the question of autonomy of statutory corporations. I need not take much time because public corporations have come into favour on account of the promise they give of fulfilment of a social purpose without the handicap of bureaucratic rigidity, and, therefore, control by Government of the public corporation is an axiomatic proposition. There can be no get away from that. Mr Masani of course does not like that. But I was very interested to find that he wrote in the Life magazine of America on

the 25th of November 1957 an article in which he referred to the proceedings in our Select Committee. And there he says

"Great sense of realism was displayed by the Finance Minister in regard to the position of foreign investors in India. He went out of his way to accept amendments in the Select Committee designed to facilitate the interests of the foreign investor, even to the extent of discriminating against the Indian investor and I am glad to say that the entire Committee supported him in this move."

I am sorry Mr Masani is not here. He makes a statement and says certain things happened in the Parliamentary Committee. This is entirely an unwarrantable way of doing things. But it suggests how he has a weakness for the private sector in such a heightened fashion that he naturally comes forward and emphasises the autonomy of the statutory corporations to the detriment of Government's control over these matters.

Mr Deputy-Speaker The hon Member's time is up.

Shri H N Mukerjee I shall conclude in a minute, Sir. I conclude by saying that if the British Government finds it necessary to have a Radcliffe Committee to study the constitution of the Bank of England, how much more in a socialist pattern of society is it necessary for us for Parliament to study and regulate the LIC, the State Bank, the Reserve Bank, the steel corporations and similar bodies. I would like also to say what I said at the beginning, namely, that the members of the Congress Party and the Opposition have joined hands together to expose and demand rectification of the improprieties and malpractices of the LIC. Let not Congress Members in their regret for the jolt which the Government has had now lag behind in following it up effectively in the public interest so that we shall find that the Chagla Inquiry which has been an education for the public would also lead to such resolutions as would

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

really bring about popular control of our social structure of our economy and therefore, we can advance, if at all we wish to do so, in the direction of the socialist pattern of society. That, therefore, is the appeal which even at this late stage, I shall make to the members of the Congress Party, even though I have a suspicion that they are not going to support the amendments which we are sponsoring. Those amendments are exactly in line with the attitude displayed by my friends, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh and Shri Feroze Gandhi when he felt that mutiny in his mind.

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I had no intention to take any part in this debate. But since my very esteemed friend, Prof. Mukerjee wanted me to make a statement, I thought it would be discourtesy not to do so.

He has said that I was the legal adviser of Mr. Mundhra, and that I was a director of the Jessops. Therefore it is necessary and the House is entitled to a statement from me on those two points.

So far as H. D. Mundhra is concerned, I do not think he ever had any legal adviser in Calcutta. I do not think there was any case against him in the Calcutta High Court. I have not appeared in any case. His father, Mr. Gopaldas Mundhra, who owned certain bazars in Calcutta—I had appeared for him in 3-4 cases in the Calcutta High Court. It was all reported in the Law Reports. Some were in 1949 and some in 1950.

The first time that I saw this gentleman, Mr. H. D. Mundhra, was in the year, 1954. I think, when in a Delhi suit, a Commission was issued to the Small Cause Court, I examined certain witnesses including his father. Mr. Mundhra himself was examined by a different Court. It was a suit on breach of contract filed by a Delhi contractor. I had appeared on behalf of his father to examine him before the Commission. So far as he is con-

cerned, he was examined by a very dear friend of mine, a fellow barrister, who did not belong to the Congress. He belongs to the party which is not certainly Congress. That was the first time that I saw him.

The next time I saw him was in 1956 when there was a very serious strike in Jessops. The work was stopped and the local Government was concerned in the matter. They did not want the labour strike to continue. I was consulted in the matter. Though there was no case going on, I intervened myself and tried to do my best to settle this strike. I am happy to say that the strike was settled to the satisfaction of the labourers and I received congratulations in writing from some labour unions.

Immediately after that, it was conveyed to me that it was Dr. Roy's desire that a Bengali who was well-known in public life should be associated with Jessops Company as a director so that there may not be such future strikes. I was approached sometime in July or August 1956 whether I was willing to do so and I told them that I could only say so after I had discussed the matter with Dr. Roy. After discussing the matter with Dr. Roy I agreed and I was elected a director in August 1956. I do not think there were more than 3-4 meetings of the board that I could attend and immediately after I became a Minister, I resigned. I can only say this.

One thing I can claim credit for is that immediately after I joined, I helped the board of directors to declare a bonus of 5½ months for the labourers. This is the only thing that I took direct part in. I could not take direct part.....(Interruptions.)

An Hon. Member: The workers forced the management.

Shri A. K. Sen: I am glad they forced me. I am always glad to be forced by workers. I did not consider it blameworthy nor is it discreditable for the workers to force. They can persuade; they need not force. In this

case there was no question of force because before the matter went to them, there was this bonus declared. This, in short, is the history of the association that Prof Mukerjee wanted me to explain.

The next time as a Minister I had anything to do with any of Mundhra matters was sometime in September or October last year. I think there was a case going on against either this Mundhra or some company, I think Oslers—filed by the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies in which the Public Prosecutor in the Court of the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta was engaged on behalf of the Central Government. I received a letter from the Public Prosecutor. I think he was defended by a fellow Barrister who certainly does not belong to the Congress. I received a letter from the Public Prosecutor stating that it had become extremely difficult for him to carry on this heavy prosecution singlehanded and that in spite of his repeated requests the Government was not giving him a junior. He said that the volume of evidence was heavy and there were many witnesses and over and above his ordinary duties as a regular Public Prosecutor he was not able to do justice to this case. The letter is on the file. I do not exactly remember the date. If I knew I was going to make a statement, I would have verified it. But I remember it was during the Puja—sometime in September or October.

I called my Secretary and asked him to see that a junior was immediately briefed to assist the Public Prosecutor so that the prosecution might be conducted properly and it is due to my recommendation, I can say, that a junior was briefed to assist the Public Prosecutor in the conduct of the case. This was the first and last thing that I was ever called upon to do in relation to any matter concerning the Mundhras and I do not think that I did anything which is against my duty or against the principles or traditions which a Minister should follow or try to uphold.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): What about the flying to England in the middle of elections?

Shri A. K. Sen: That was before my ministership, I suppose, and not as a Minister I have gone to England many many times before that I was there when you were there. (Interruptions)

Now, Sir, that is the position, and I hope the matter has been explained as well as I can. And, if there has been any worry in the mind of anyone I hope my effort has succeeded in dispelling it.

I wanted to say one thing more, and that is very important. You will remember, Sir, that on the 4th September for the first time the question relating to this transaction was raised in the House. I was in Calcutta in the first week of October. During the poojas in Calcutta the local pooja committee hold meetings to inaugurate the great festival, which is such a common feature in Bengal life. I had addressed several meetings. At that time a civil disobedience movement was launched by some of the parties in opposition on the question of food. I think in one or two places I said that if I were convinced that a civil disobedience movement was going to raise our food production I would be one of the first to join. I saw in the papers one or two days later that a public pooja committee meeting was held in the House of Mundhra which is called 'Tagore Castle'—it belonged to Raja Prodosh Kumar Tagore—in which several leaders of the Communist Party were present. Notably Mr Bankim Mukerjee, Deputy Leader of the Communist Party in the West Bengal Assembly, was present as I believe the guest in chief. I read in the papers a report that I was attacked there because of my speech made earlier in Calcutta regarding the civil disobedience movement on the question of food. These associations are really fortuitous.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Does the hon. Minister say that Mr Mundhra was present there?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: He has made an allegation, Sir, let us be clear about it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. These are statements that are being made by Members in their own turn. There is no cross-examination here. We may or may not accept the statement, but we have to listen to it.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I wanted to know whether it was in the house which belonged to Mundhra or in the presence of Mundhra

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He only saw it in the papers

Shri A. K Sen: They were welcomed by one of the Mundhras. It is quite an innocent thing, it has not actually any motive. I was not invited there. I cannot say who else was present.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker. The hon Home Minister

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G B Pant): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir,

Shri H. N. Mukerjee May I beg for a clarification Sir? The Union Law Minister has made certain statements in regard to his relationship or otherwise with Mundhra. Some of us do happen to have some material sent to us about the truth of which we cannot exactly vouch because we have no personal knowledge. Would you give us some facility to have this kind of material which comes to us sifted, verified and examined by some kind of a parliamentary agency?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Not in this debate at least

PERSONAL EXPLANATION BY A MEMBER

Shri Thanu Pillai (Tirunelveli): Sir, I have just seen a copy of the un-corrected report of my speech which I made yesterday in the House. In page 2128, paragraph 3, I regret to say there is a completely wrong impression created of what I, in fact, said. There

was you know, Sir, a lot of interruption and confusion. I never attributed any statement to the Prime Minister. I really wished to submit to the Prime Minister remarks made by others and by myself. I have sent to the Lok Sabha office the correct version. As, however, a wrong impression is likely to get abroad, and it affects our leader and revered Prime Minister, I felt I should, with your permission, make this clarification on the floor of the House, and also apologise to the House and to the Prime Minister in case any wrong impression has been created.

MOTION RE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO THE AFFAIRS OF LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION —contd

Pandit G. B. Pant: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I intend to make only a short speech and not to take much time of the House. I am really sad that one of our esteemed colleagues of keen intellect, outstanding ability and mental gour should be absent from the House, and the country should have been deprived of his services. It is difficult for me to say more in this connection. I do not intend to go into minute details or to comment on the report of the Commission. I should, however, like to express my gratitude for Chief Justice Chagla who was persuaded by me to accept this embarrassing responsibility.

Sir, the questions which are under consideration today do not, in my view, admit of any party or partisan approach. My regret is that, in spite of the solemn character of an occasion like this, some of the speakers have gone out of their way to make insidious innuendoes which would tend to besmirch the reputation of men in public life. We have listened to some of the speeches and we are really surprised that hon. Members should have either readily accepted what reaches them or, still more, that they should repeat them here.

However, Sir, so far as this present Report is concerned, the operative

part of it is embodied in the motion which has been moved by the Prime Minister. The Finance Minister has already resigned. The merits of the case do not call for any further consideration. The Government has condemned the methods that were adopted in this Mundhra deal in unqualified terms; it was bad, it was improper, it was irregular, it was in contravention of the rules framed and prescribed for the purpose. So, as far as that goes, there is no difference of opinion.

So far as the other matters go, they have already been included in the motion as I just said. After this I had thought that it would be possible for all of us to concentrate on the issues which have arisen out of this report. I was surprised when I heard some of the remarks. Some Members seemed to take credit for this report. I agree that this entire episode, beginning from the questions put by Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, who was at that time the Secretary of the Congress Party, to this day....

14 hrs.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram):
No, Sir; not Secretary at that time.

Pandit G. B. Pant: Just, I think, a few weeks before that,—and to this moment, when this report is under discussion, will be treated as a landmark in the growth of the strength and vitality of democracy in our country. And it is, I think, a matter for which we can give credit always to the Members of the Congress Party and to nobody else. They have been vigilant not only as observers in the affairs of the country but when they have felt that there was something wrong, whether in the administration or in the handling of public affairs, they have risen above party affiliations and given priority to the country over party. That is what we have noticed with a certain degree of gratification.

There are very few instances, I think, in political history where the members of a party have themselves gone out of the way to criticise the

acts of omissions of Government and to demand an enquiry and a probe, and members have done so not only in this case, in this disreputable deal, as I am prepared to call it, but it is again the crusader sitting there, belonging to the Congress Party, who also raised the question pertaining to Dalmia concerns in this House.

It was he who also brought before this House some of the aspects of Telco organisation or firm. So, it is something which must assure the people of the country that the Congress Party is watchful.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Then why is there no quorum in the House if it is watchful?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is for all the Members.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I was saying that it is, I think, a matter of some assurance for the future that the members of the party have at least in a measure, however small it may be, caught the spirit of integrity of the Prime Minister and they bothered not over petty things where the interests of the country were at stake.

Yesterday, I listened to the speech of Shri Dange. Well, I listened to him with rapt attention. In fact, his homely method of presentation attracts one's attention and it is sustained all the time he speaks. But I was somewhat perplexed when I was listening to him. Ultimately I found the key to his speech in the last few words that he uttered. While concluding, he gave a quotation from an old man who, he said, had been buried in the grave a hundred years ago. That is the difficulty with him. He is always obsessed by what the man to whom he referred said a hundred years ago. He thinks that nothing has happened during these hundred years, that the gospel remains unaffected, that what was said a hundred years ago should guide him today not only in matters of principle but also while we are examining the details of a report by a Commission of Inquiry. It is something very queer. That explains to some

[Pandit G. B. Pant]

extent why he is not able to examine these questions in a dispassionate and detached way. His angle of vision is coloured by this thought of obsession. His own being is steeped in it. I do not complain about it. But the judgment of a man like that in matters of this kind cannot carry much weight.

Shri S. A. Dange: Why do you take so much energy to fight that man a hundred years after, every day and every now and then?

Pandit G. B. Pant: It is because some people take some trouble in making reference to that man after a hundred years.

Shri S. A. Dange: No. Because his philosophy rules half the world.

Pandit G. B. Pant: So, you think it is necessary to be guided by that man in every matter, whether it could possibly have been within the imagination of that man or anyone in anyway who was sitting with him then.

But anyway, I think that is a matter over which perhaps we can to some extent postpone the discussion to some other occasion. But Shri Dange raised other things. He is always thinking of scandals. He mentioned the jeep scandal. He mentioned the fertiliser scandal. Well, there may have been or there might not have been a very thorough enquiry into a matter, but if the decision arrived at does not agree with his own pre-conceived notions or if those making the enquiry do not condemn the Government, then he will not accept those findings. He will again repeat the word 'scandal' even though the truth may have been fully established and may have been fully accepted by this House. In the circumstances, it is difficult to try to convince a mind of that type by any rational approach.

In the course of the speeches, I submit that in many cases the question of economic policy has been raised, although the Prime Minister had made it clear, here as well as outside, that

this inquiry has nothing to do with the economic policy of the Government. Of course, it would not be possible to do it in an inquiry of that kind. The Commission was only asked to look into the merits of this particular case, and it has done so as well as it could in the light of the material that it could collect. So the question of policy does hardly arise, so far as this particular episode is concerned. Neither the public sector, nor the private sector, can congratulate itself on this very regrettable affair.

The officers and those who were connected with the public sector cannot feel happy over what has happened. On the other hand, the private sector cannot but feel sorry that the man—I would not use any harsh expression—who was responsible for this sort of dirty speculation was a leading member, associated and connected with many important concerns. So, we need not condemn one or the other.

May I know if there are no complaints like those in Russia? May I know if men in charge of undertakings and otherwise connected with the administration of public sector there have not been repeatedly chastised for doing the wrong thing. So, this is not the monopoly of any particular sector. There is need for vigilance everywhere. In fact, the difference is only this. In a democratic country the failings are not suppressed or concealed. They become the subject of inquiry, so that others may learn a lesson. In a totalitarian country they are kept hidden. In fact, the faults of leading men can be mentioned only after their death, and not during their life-time. So, I am not surprised that there should be this sort of concentration on this aspect of the matter, which to me seems to be hardly relevant.

Then it was indicated that the Congress Party or the Government is in-

terested in boosting the private sector and in transferring resources to them. I do not know if hon. Members have such short memory that they have to be reminded about the measures taken by Government only recently. Well, do Wealth-tax and Expenditure-tax obtain in any other country in the world? Have we thereby taken measures to boost the private sector? The estate duty, bonus tax and other similar measures prove that Government has no tenderness for any particular class. And what does the legislation that has been undertaken in this House during the last two-three years point to?

Now, I would like to remind hon. Members about the manifesto of the Communist Party.

Shri Narayananakutty Menon (Mukundapuram): What is the bonus tax?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The manifesto..

Shri Narayananakutty Menon: Of which country?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The manifesto of the Communist Party, issued at the time of the general elections in India, says:

"The Communist Party recognizes that in the present stage of our development, patriotic-minded Indian capitalists..."

An Hon. Member: Who? Mundhra?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Mundhra, we all condemn. But, is the condemnation confined to Mundhra alone? Insinuations had been made during the discussion that we had been helping the capitalists. Was not the remark made here that they all should be shot, shot non-violently, if not violently?

Shri Narayananakutty Menon: Man-eaters.

Pandit G. B. Pant: The manifesto says:

"The Communist Party recognizes that in the present stage of

our development, patriotic-minded Indian capitalists..."

I imagine that the term is not to be restricted to those of Communist persuasion.

"..Patriotic-minded Indian capitalists can make an important contribution towards the economic development of our country. The party desires that Indian industries should be protected against foreign competition, that all legitimate rights of the capitalists should be ensured and that their active co-operation should be secured for implementation of the plan of national reconstruction."

I will now give you two quotations from the speeches of the Chief Minister of Kerala. He has stated that:

"a rapid development of industries, both heavy and small, and of the agricultural potentialities of India demanded that the industrialists, peasants and the working classes should be united together with the Government and the public."

He assured the industrialists on behalf of the Government and on behalf of the party that the utmost would be done to create the proper atmosphere, and appealed to them to give their all-out support and co-operation to the Government. On another occasion, he appealed to the Indian industrialists to invest their capital in Kerala. He also stated:

"Foreign capital should be invited on terms slightly more profitable to the foreign investors than might be extended to the indigenous investors."

He said:

"Foreign concerns should be nationalised only when the country as a whole had decided to do so, and that too only after the payment of full compensation."

Shri Braj Raj Singh: You are equal partners.

Shri S. A. Dange: I just want to know whether handing over this Rs. 2 crores to Mundhra is an illustration of that policy.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: A reply is now being given to the charge that the Congress or the Government is boosting up private capitalists.

Pandit G. B. Pant: What I have said about Mundhra has not caught Mr. Dange's ears.

Well, I stand for a policy of co-operation between the private and public sectors. I stand for co-operative endeavour on the part of all those who can contribute towards the prosperity of the country and who can be helpful in building its economy and its industry: so far as I am concerned, there need be no doubt about it.

Shri S. A. Dange: We agree.

Pandit G. B. Pant: We all want to augment the public sector, to make the utmost use of the resources that can be made available for raising the public sector to as high a level as we can. But we also realize that the private sector has to function, and if it has to function then the blacksheep has to be treated as blacksheep but every sheep in the fold should not be treated as black. So far as general remarks on the problem are concerned, I think the election manifesto of the Communist Party of India does not need any further elucidation from me.

Sir, I think that the Report of the Commission, apart from the issues arising directly out of the Mundhra deal, has also referred to other matters. Well, about the merits of this particular deal I have expressed my views, and the Government has done so. But it might perhaps be relevant to mention that the Life Insurance Corporation is an autonomous orga-

nisation. Government was not directly in charge of its affairs, and if any one ever approved of any principle, it did not thereby follow that all the details were to be worked out by him or that the procedure prescribed by law was not to be followed in this connection.

I would refer to the various opinions, diverse and in many cases inconsistent, about the attitude that we should adopt towards public corporations. Some of the hon. Members seem to be of the opinion that Parliament should have almost complete control, while others have expressed a view that these corporations should be given sufficient freedom to function as they consider proper, subject to the laws passed by Parliament. So this is a delicate question, it is a complex problem. It has to be so handled that there may be no undue interference with the working of the corporations and, on the other hand, Parliament may have all reasonable opportunities for seeing that the corporations function in a satisfactory way.

I also think, Sir, that we will have to give considerable thought to the procedure that should govern such Commissions. The difficulty that has arisen in this country was faced even in U.K. where in recent years there have been four Commissions of Inquiry. The first one, as hon. Members may remember, concerned Mr Thomas, about the budget leakage. And in that, observations were made that some procedure should be prescribed. Thereafter, there was another inquiry, in 1944 or thereabout, and in that too the difficulty was felt. Now the procedure that prevails in U.K. is a well established one: that is, the Solicitor of the Treasury collects all the evidence, some police officers even are placed at his disposal, and then he presents the case. In such inquiries there is no accused, there is no one who is asked to defend himself. The Commission is only concerned with the discovery and establishment of

truth, and the full truth. So, when there have been difficulties like this in a country like England, we are not surprised if we, who had occasion to hold such an inquiry for the first time now, find that we should have a clear-out code for the guidance of such Commissions.

There has been some reference to ministerial responsibility. Well, that is again a question which has been discussed again and again in England and even in the case of some of these inquiries I think it is difficult to say anything very definitely about it. But I would like it to be generally a rule that except where a Minister can be shown to be altogether free from blame and not at all responsible for any act or omission which is open to objection or criticism, he should assume responsibility. I think in this matter a little strictness would be better than leniency. But we will have to examine the question with great care.

I think there is only one other matter which also deserves to be considered. We all know that our administration, whatever, its defects or its achievements, is being conducted by civil servants. We have enlarged the field of our activity. We have taken charge of many institutions. And on the whole they have worked well and satisfactorily. For this they deserve credit. So, let not a single instance of mistake or of calculated misconduct—about it I cannot say anything—vitiate our approach towards the deserving class of civil servants in our country. They can hold their own against public services in any other country. Let them not lose their confidence in Parliament. Let them know that even though some of them may sometimes be found guilty, on the whole Parliament recognises their merit and expects that they will continue to serve the country with loyalty, zeal and energy as they have been doing so far.

Sir, the leader of the Praja Socialist Party made certain remarks. I do not want to go deeply into them. He said the Finance Minister had said that he was allergic to him; and this may have perhaps produced some reactions in him too. That is but human. But he said that he had got some funds for his election from the Congress. I can say here authoritatively that the Finance Minister did not get any assistance from the provincial or the central Congress organisation.

An Hon. Member: Not even posters from the central organisation?

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi): On a point of explanation. I said, "might have got".

Pandit G. B. Pant: If that is so, I have nothing more to say. The able leader will be pleased to learn that the position is not as bad as he imagined.

Acharya Kripalani: May I explain again? I saw no harm when he described the capitalists as man-eaters; I said some portion of the flesh of the victims might have gone to Congress coffers and might have also gone into the election campaign of the Finance Minister. I was criticising what he called the man-eaters that some of them are found in the ranks of the Congress.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I do not think that the Finance Minister ever intended to say that every capitalist is a man-eater. There may be, as there are man-eaters among tigers, but their number is small. So, there may be man-eaters among the capitalists too. But any way, that is hardly a matter for any discussion. I close with this reference to man-eaters.

Shri Asoka Mehta: At the outset, I would like to pay my tribute to Mr. Chagla and the Attorney-General. They approached the inquiry with the feeling that the truth has to be discovered and the chips may fall where they may. It is only by such

[Shri Asoka Mehta.] an approach that in a matter of this kind we can hope to reach the truth. I do not enjoy muck-ranking, though I believe there are occasions when muck has to be raked and removed, but I believe that this has to be done without gloating or glee.

The Prime Minister knows, or ought to know, that there are many in this House who would be very unhappy if this august body ever degenerates into a school for scandal. We are interested in discovering the weak-spots in our administrative edifice but we shall not be guilty of tearing down the edifice that we are trying to build brick by brick. We have only recently dropped our financial pilot and the revelations in the inquiry have shaken up the administration. At such a time, I would like personally to function with considerable restraint and responsibility. I was sorry that my old friend, Mr. Dange, at a time like this scattered wide acids of disbelief, because just now we should do nothing which would destroy the roots of faith. If it is bad to assassinate the character of individuals, it is equally bad to assassinate the character of institutions. I personally like to be guided by the immemorial practice of the man with the hoe, the deathless symbol of this ancient land, who is in the habit of using even the rotted matter as compost to gather gold harvest for tomorrow. Here there is something that has come about of which none of us is happy about but we have got to draw from them lessons of vital significance for tomorrow.

Before I turn to those lessons, before I place some observations that I have to make, may I point out that this inquiry has revealed amazing incompetence in high quarters and baffling credulity? Mr. Kamat was asked by the Commission as to what were his responsibilities. He said he looks after the organisation of the Corporation and the expansion of business. He said it was the responsibility of Mr. Vaidyanathan

to look after the investment side. Mr. Vaidyanathan was asked as to how he managed the investments and his reply was absolutely stunning. Asked whether he kept himself informed about the financial position of the various business magnates, Mr. Vaidyanathan said, "Investment is not my main job in the L. I. C. It is only 40 per cent. of my work." I do not know how much work, how much time the Prime Minister devotes to the Finance portfolio that he has taken up. I am sure it cannot be 40 per cent. of his work. If he turns round and tells us, "I do not know about the finances of our country; it is only so much per cent. of my work", where are we? That is the reason why my party has tabled an amendment. Later on it was Shri Feroze Gandhi who made the revelation that the former Finance Minister has put on record that Mr. Vaidyanathan is a senile person and a few other adjectives were used. This is the gentleman who has been investing in 1500 and odd joint-stock companies in the country. Rs 11 crores worth of investments have been made after the Life Insurance Corporation was set up. What are those investments? We would like them to be looked into. I am not demanding a judicial inquiry, but I am surely demanding that it should be an independent inquiry. If one bad egg has been discovered in the basket, I do not suggest that the whole basket is bad, but there may be other bad eggs in the basket. Must we wait for Mr. Feroze Gandhi further to uncover some unpleasant facts and then go into them? I suggest that here is an occasion when all the investments need to be gone into thoroughly. Let the Prime Minister institute an independent inquiry and place before the House in due time an exhaustive report, so that we may rest assured that the investments that we have made are sound and that in the basket there was only one rotten egg and that has been picked out.

As I told you, one comes across baffling credulity. When Mr. Iengar was appointed the Chairman of the

Sir ~ Bank of India, he was perturbed and . ry rightly about the advances, the large advances, that were made by the bank to the British India Corporation One of the first things he did was to go to Kanpur personally He went and stayed with Mr Christie, a former member of the Indian Civil Service and the managing director of the B I C Mr Christie assured Mr Iengar that so long as he was the managing director of the B I C, he would not permit Mr Mundhra to do any hanky-panky—these were the very words Mr Iengar used in his evidence—with the finances of the Corporation Mr Iengar returned to Bom bay and said, "I have the fullest of confidence in the moral integrity of Mr Christie" What happens? In this very inquiry, Mr Gowardhanas Bhagwandas, one of the witnesses—I believe he is a broker from Bombay—in the course of his evidence says that in the Directors' Report for 1956 for the B I C the Directors have said that Rs 60 lakhs or Rs 65 lakhs were taken by Mr Mundhra to be invested in some shares and the scrips were not available with the B I C The Directors' report of the B I C for 1956 shows that Rs 12½ lakhs were given as a loan at the instance of Mr Mundhra to one of his relatives What was Mr Christie doing at that time? Mr Christie, I do not know him I am sure he is an honourable man But, are officers occupying the highest positions in the country to function on the basis of the school tie and indulge in this kind of baffling credulity? Mr Christie's assurance was not honoured Mr Christie could not prevent Mr Mundhra from playing hanky-panky with the finances of the B I C Therefore, may I appeal to the Prime Minister not to throw the priceless mantle of h's protection round people who may be innocent but who are either incompetent or so credulous that it requires to go into the matter thoroughly I have no desire to involve anybody But, in a matter of this kind, we cannot permit, any one to have chips on his shoulder We can not permit, where the finances of the

country are concerned, to get concerned about the susceptibilities of individuals

I have read carefully not once, not twice, but three times what the Attorney General had to say in the court Thank God, we have in the Attorney-General a man of the highest intellectual ability combined with inflexible moral courage I would beg of the Prime Minister to go very very carefully though what he has said to the court, and discuss with him, because it is possible for him to do so With a sense of responsibility and with all humility I say that if one goes through his address to the court, one has an impression an inescapable impression, that some of our senior official indulge not only in suppression but suggestion

I am as much interested in maintaining the integrity of the civil service I am one with the Treasury Bench in saying that the services should remain beyond any question of cavil But, where a person of the status and responsibility of the Attorney-General has made certain observations, they need to be gone into I would like once again to repeat that I would not like the Prime Minister to throw his mantle of protection round anybody

Then, again, it is not a question of public servants alone What about Mr Chaturvedi? Let us look at Mr Chaturvedi Not only he is a Member of the Investment Advisory Committee he is also a member of the Company Law Advisory Commission He is the Chairman of the Calcutta Stock Exchange | He occupies a unique position Did he make use of his position to see that the finances and resources of the Life Insurance Corporation are properly safeguarded?

14.43 hrs.

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

Mr Mundhra, I believe, has been arrested for issuing duplicate share

[Shri Asoka Mehta]

I have been told in Calcutta and Bombay that he has indulged not only in duplicate shares, but in quintuplicate shares. I have been told that for the last 18 months this has been going round. What enquiries did the Calcutta Stock Exchange make into this?

I do not want that there should be any war between the public sector and the private sector. It would be a tragedy for this country if we indulge in or start a warfare like this. May I appeal to my hon. friend Shri S. A. Dange and his colleagues that if they want as we want that the private sector should develop faith in the public sector; we are in duty bound to extend goodwill to the private sector so long as it functions within the four corners of the Plan and our policy. There cannot be one way traffic. We cannot go about, as I say, assassinating the character of any institution in our country. We are not entitled to demand merely that they shall appreciate what we are doing, but we shall keep on badgering them all the time. We want to demand of them the highest standard. I shall come to that in a minute. We are entitled to ask the highest standards when we are willing to extend to them goodwill that we under the Plan and our policy have pledged. Therefore, I would like to point out that Mr. Chaturvedi also should be asked to offer an explanation. Government has nominated him to high positions. He is the President of the Calcutta Stock Exchange. The whole thing needs to be looked into, not in one place, but at many places.

I would just like to invite your attention to the fact that this Mundhra deal was not the only largest single investment made by the L. I. C. It was not the only deal that was directly negotiated. It was not the only deal in which rules and normal prudence were thrown to the winds. Out of the total investment of Rs. 11 crores in equities made by the L. I. C. in hundred of concerns, 1½ crores or nearly 11 per cent. of all the invest-

ments were made in six concerns. Not only that. The most disturbing point is that the limit that we have laid down that the investment shall not exceed 30 per cent. even that limit was exceeded in the case of the B. I. C. and Richardson and Cruddas. I would appeal to the Prime Minister to tell us at a later date as to how Mr. Mundhra became the blue-eyed boy of the L. I. C.

I do not accept the theory that there was any crisis in the market. I do not accept the theory that there was any drag or load of Mundhra shares. Having said that, I would like to point out that the biggest desideratum was the absence of a clear-cut investment policy. The former Finance Minister is a friend of mine. I have supported him because he was right in his very unpopular taxation proposals whether he was levying an additional excise duty on cloth or when he came forward with a Budget that most hon. Members of this House disapproved of. Even then, whether in this House or outside, I rallied to his support because I thought he was right. He never elaborated an investment policy and there he was woefully wrong. He developed, he enunciated this theory of blue chips. He said it was not a directive; it was not even a policy.

I suggest that one of the main reasons why we have bungled and fumbled is because we had no clear-cut policy. I suggest that when the Prime Minister himself has taken over this onerous portfolio, when we have played the ace of trumps, it is time when we should enunciate formally and properly an adequate investment policy. In that, there should be four criteria. First, I believe that it is the business of the Life Insurance Corporation to support the market on certain occasions in a fairly careful manner. Because, please realise, Rs. 67 crores are invested in shares in 1500 different concerns. Week after week, we shall be investing Rs. 50 lakhs or more. We cannot permit the

market, to collapse. We cannot go about saying, stock exchange, after all who are they, they are bears and bulls. I am tired of this zoological expressions being thrown about, lions, dogs, tigers. Here is a mechanism which we have deliberately set up. This House not only permits that institution to function. It is our responsibility to see that it functions well. At the same time, we have to see to it that so long as we permit them to function, we do not throw a spanner into the wheel.

Mr. Chagla downwards, everybody says, these are trust moneys. These are the funds, hard earnings of those who have taken out insurance policies. May I remind all concerned that under the Life Insurance Corporation Act, unless I am making a terrible mistake, the Government of India has given absolute guarantee to all these funds? Therefore, in the last analysis these are over funds, the funds of the country. Therefore, these funds have to be used not in one way or another. They have got to be used for the purpose of helping our economy in the most effective manner. And it is the business of the Government, with whatever assistance the Government is pleased to receive from this side of the House, to draw up an adequate investment policy

The second important thing that I would like to say about it is that we must realise that the Life Insurance Corporation has got to supply the long-term corporate funds. In the U.S.A 90 per cent. of the long-term corporate funds come from the life insurance business, and 70 per cent. of those funds are through private placements and they are custom-tailored. In India, too, if we want the private sector to continue within the framework of the Plan, funds will have to be made available, again according to rules, according to the laws that have been made, but if that is not done, we will be guilty of permitting the private sector to function but strangling and choking it.

Thirdly, I believe that through these investments the L. I. C. can function as the watch-dog of the shareholders. It should become the most powerful share holders' organisation anywhere in the world. It should see to it that the different concerns function efficiently and properly, and wherever anything goes wrong things are set right, because it will have chunks of shares in different joint stock companies in the country.

Lastly, the fourth criterion that needs to be kept before us is that we should not permit concentration of power and concentration of control. Shri Munshi in the course of his address pointed out that in the letter received by the Reserve Bank from Shri Raman, Shri Raman had pointed out that big business houses, giants like Tatas and Birlas were interested in buying up Jessops and other concerns of Mundhra. That must not be permitted to happen. There again, the L. I. C. has to have a proper policy, and to draw up that policy is the business of the Government.

I am sorry my time is up because I wanted to say a few things about this autonomy. If you will permit me just two minutes, I would like to invite attention to just one or two points.

I believe this question of autonomy cannot be decided in any kind of arbitrary manner. In England, as you know, for the Select Committee there, all the powers that are enjoyed under different statutes setting up public corporations were listed together, and there are 200 powers that the Minister enjoys. These 200 powers have been listed under six major heads by Mr. McKenzie who is one of the outstanding authorities on the subject. These powers have to be exercised in a different manner in the case of different corporations. No hard and fast rule can be laid down. It is absurd to say whether there should be complete control or complete decontrol; no controversy can be carried on in that

[Shri Asoka Mehta.]

framework. Similarly, there can be no controversy saying here is absolute autonomy, and here is absolute dependence. The whole spectrum has got to be worked out, and may I suggest again that the Prime Minister may appoint a competent team to look into this matter thoroughly, so that we may be able to have before us a fairly well thought out picture?

There are 38 corporations of different sizes functioning under the Central Government, there are 44 corporations of different sizes functioning under the State Governments, and Rs. 280 crores of Government funds have been invested in these corporations. It is our responsibility to see it that these corporations functions properly, but if they are to function properly, here again it is necessary that we may out our course properly.

What is needed in this country is not just courage, but clarity too, and I hope and trust that out of this enquiry, out of this heart-searching which we have all gone through—it will not be something like bread and circuses; it will not be throwing some Christians to the lions for the satisfaction of the hungry multitude—we shall emerge with a desire to function more courageously and with a determination to impart to our administration the clarity that it has lacked on many occasions.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have arrived almost at the end of this rather unique debate, or rather a debate on a rather unusual matter. I feel, and I think that perhaps most Members of this House will feel, that in spite of much that caused us pain in this connection, it is a good thing that we have had this debate, a full and frank debate in this House where many aspects of this question have been thrashed out. It is good for this House, of course, and good for the country.

We have heard many types of speeches. We have just heard a very eloquent one. I have neither the capacity nor the desire to be eloquent at this stage. So, I propose just to refer to certain aspects of this question which have arisen.

To begin with, I think it is rather confusing if, in considering this particular matter, as my colleague the Home Minister pointed out, we bring in Karl Marx or others. I almost expected some other Member of the Opposition, not of course a Member of Shri Dange's party but some other Member, to bring in the *Bhrigu Samhita* and tell us what the *Bhrigu Samhita* things ought to be done on the occasion. I do not mean to say that both of them stand on a par, but the approach to this question in this way does mean that we are not considering this question at all, but that our minds are full of other ideas, good or not so good, and they have no room for any freshness of outlook.

Shri Dange referred to the power of finance capital and the rest. Of course, finance capital has power. What exactly in this context he was driving at was not clear to me. Apart from considering this particular matter, were we considering some basic and radical change in our economic set-up? Or, was he trying to hint that so long as this country has the misfortune not to accept his views entirely, so long everything will be wrong?

However, I do not propose to enter into this question, but if I may say so, I entirely agree with what Shri Asoka Mehta just said about this House not being converted into a school for scandal, and insinuation being made not only about capitalists and others, but, as I believe was done by Shri Dange, about Ministers, officials and others carrying on *benami* transactions. I do not know what Shri Dange had in mind. If he had in mind any such thing, I shall be

greatful if privately or publicly he will tell us to enquire into them, but it does not help much by throwing about these innuendoes and vague charges.

There are one or two matters I should like to deal with before I go into some specific points that have arisen. One is this. Many hon. Members have pointed out that Mundhra is a bad man and was known to be a bad man by members of the Government, by members of the Corporation, by other people; when they knew it, why this deal? I cannot answer that question fully, but I shall endeavour to answer it partly. I cannot answer it fully because, as I said in my opening remarks, so far as this particular matter is concerned, this Mundhra deal of the L.I.C., it contains so many factors which are totally incomprehensible to me. I just do not understand how some of the developments took place. So, I cannot answer it in that way. That is why I have ventured to put forward a resolution, the first part of which states very clearly that we agree with the finding of Mr. Justice Chagla that this whole deal was highly improper etc.

15 hrs.

That apart, the question does arise about Mr. Mundhra and some Ministers and others knowing about him. Mr. Mundhra, I understand, has had some connection with a vast number of companies. Are we to avoid having deals in those companies, because Mr. Mundhra has a share in them or a dominant share? That is a difficult proposition to take to. Shri Asoka Mehta just said—I am not sure of the figure—that the Life Insurance Corporation has investments in fifteen hundred companies. Maybe; it is a large number of companies for India especially. And I should be surprised if, quite apart from this deal, Mr. Mundhra does not overlap with these fifteen hundred companies in many places.

So, my point is that the fact that Mr. Mundhra was known to be an undesirable character cannot prevent us from dealing with companies in which he has shares, even these in which he has a dominant share, provided always that the fact of Mr. Mundhra being there puts us in enquiry, cautions us, and makes us doubly careful. I admit, of course, that in this particular matter, these various elements are lacking. That is why the trouble has arisen. Suppose that in this particular case, two or three factors do not come in. There are others too, but I am mentioning two or three special ones. One was the price factor in regard to some of the shares—I forget which; perhaps of Oslers & others—which is amazing, for which I have found no explanation.

Suppose in fact that in Jessops, in Richardson and Cruddas, or even in the B.I.C., shares were taken by the Life Insurance Corporation at a suitable price. Well, some people may have liked the transaction or not, but there was nothing obviously wrong in doing that. The wrongness comes in because of other factors, and the wrongness comes in because when they were dealing with Mr. Mundhra they ought to have been much more careful in seeing to it.

Now, take these companies like Jessops, Richardson and Cruddas, and the B.I.C. They are very well-known manufacturing concerns, some of the biggest in India. Shri S. A. Dange suggested that we should take over Jessops, that the State should control it. A very good suggestion. Whether we take it over now or later or what we do is another matter; I am not committing myself to taking it over; but it is a suggestion worthy of examination.

Now, I put it to you that it may occur to people that because Jessops, and Richardson and Cruddas's are very important manufacturing concerns in India, important in themselves, big and important because they

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

are doing work for the Five Year Plan, for our iron and steel factories and all that, therefore, it is a good thing, first, negatively to see that they do not go to pieces, and secondly, positively, to get progressively more control over them. 'Nationalise them', you say. True, one can nationalise them. According to our policy, if we nationalise the whole thing, we have to pay compensation for it, and the compensation for these companies will be pretty heavy. Another way of gradually getting that done is to acquire a majority control over the shares, and in this way achieve what you are aiming at. Therefore, the idea of buying shares in companies like Jessops is obviously attractive. Forget the stock exchange, and the market operations and all that. Here is a solid thing. There is no doubt about it. It is not in the air. It is a solid thing doing good work. It is something which is an asset to the country. Therefore, to get shares in such companies is obviously an attractive proposition, provided the price paid is right, and other things are examined.

Therefore, I should like this House not to mix up two things, the badness or whatever may be considered in regard to Mr. Mundhra that he is a totally unreliable person, a person to be suspected. True, let us admit that in dealing in companies which happen to be connected with him today, because he has bought up a large number of shares, speculated and all that,—although we have to think of the companies, not of Mr. Mundhra, yet in buying them, we have to think of Mr. Mundhra and have to be doubly careful. I admit that.

Now, much has been said about policy or about the lack of a policy of investment. I agree very largely, but not entirely. I may say that there is no such absolute lack, as has been hinted at, although I should have liked that to be much more definite and precise. In fact, if I may say so,

there was growing consideration of this problem, and gradually it was taking shape. People have said, some hon. Members have said that section 27A should have been applied, should be applied and all that.

In fact, there is an amendment on the part of Shri M. R. Masani, Shri Jaipal Singh and another Member about bodily lifting the principles enunciated in Mr. Chagla's report and adopting them. We have said, as you will remember, that we propose to give earnest consideration to them. They said, why this waste of time, we do not trust you. Shri M. R. Masani said, we do not trust this Government, we must adopt them here and now. If this was the way in which Shri M. R. Masani used to carry on his businesses, he would have got into great trouble; and I do not know if this is the way he applies to his political business. That is why he goes wrong so often.

Look at those seven principles. Some are obviously right. Some may not be so obviously right. The first is:

"That Government should not interfere with the working of autonomous statutory corporations; that if they wish to interfere they should not shirk the responsibility of giving directions in writing."

Well, perfectly correct. But as Shri Asoka Mehta said or somebody else said, what is Government's part in these autonomous corporations? Dr. Krishnaswami dealt with this matter at some length yesterday and pointed out that while it is admitted by everybody obviously that investments must be made in good solid shares—admitted—one fact is completely left out of this approach, for instance, these principles that are laid down. And Dr. Krishnaswami pointed out—although I have no doubt that other Members are fully aware of that—that the L.I.C. becomes merely by virtue of its bigness of

investment a market leader—I am using his phrase; I do not understand these words quite fully—and thereby can affect the market this way or that way.

You cannot ignore this fact that large chunks of money come from the L.I.C. for investment, Rs. 40 crores a year. Think of that. I do not know what the figures is, perhaps Rs. 50 lakhs a week. You have to have a policy for that, not merely the policy of good shares; that, of course, is there. But whatever you do has an influence on the market. What are you going to do? You may encourage certain tendencies or discourage them.

Therefore, a certain policy is essential, and that policy cannot be laid down by any investment committee. Only Government and Parliament can lay it down. It is obvious. The investment committee will probably follow it.

I stated yesterday that the then Finance Minister, Shri C. D. Deshmukh, stated at that time that it would be Government's function to say what the policy was. This matter of the nature of investment came up and it was decided then. Now, Shri Masani would, no doubt, like that Government should have nothing to do with it. Full autonomy! So that certain eminent businessmen may have large funds, with no interference, at their disposal.

Shri M. R. Masani: Will the hon. Prime Minister will yield for a moment? May I point out that what I said was quite the reverse? I pointed out that, after Shri C. D. Deshmukh gave the assurance that policy would be laid down, Government had not as of today laid down a general policy of investment which I would welcome. The Prime Minister is wide of the mark.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I read the first principle in this Report, which I say is completely acceptable, that Government should not interfere,

subject always, of course, to the whole basic policy and other things being put before Parliament whenever necessary.

Take the second item:

"That Chairman of Corporations like the L.I.C., which has to deal with investments in a large way, should be appointed from persons who have business and financial experience and who are familiar with the ways of the Stock Exchange".

Shri Ranga (Tenali): There is something about the tenure of office also.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I regret I cannot immediately say that I agree with this. In fact, I have grave doubts about the Chairman always being a gentleman of the Stock Exchange. How am I to be called upon immediately to agree to all this? I am pointing out—I am not saying 'yes' or 'no'—that this deserves further consideration. I admit of course that the Chairman of such an organisation should be a man of ability, integrity and experience, if we can find him as much as we can. But to limit that to people from the Stock Exchange seems to me perhaps not a very proper way of looking at it.

Then again take the third:

"If the executive officers of the Corporation are to be appointed from the Civil Services, it should be impressed upon them that they owe a duty and loyalty to the Corporation that they should not permit themselves to be influenced by senior officials of Government or surrender their judgment to them. If they feel that they are bound to obey the orders of these officials, they must insist on these orders being in writing".

I completely agree. In fact, if I may say so with all respect, it simply means that people should be told that

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

they must behave properly and not badly. It comes to that, really. I accept it. But to say that officers who are appointed must behave with integrity of course and not be swept away by somebody else, is quite different.

There is another question. I quite agree that if any instructions are given to them by Government, and if they are oral instructions, they should be put in writing. But I should like to point out one thing. Whether they are Ministers or Secretaries or anybody else dealing day to day with corporations and other things, they function not as a kind of rival parties instructing each other or quarrelling with each other. They discuss matters. Ideas are thrown out. The ideas are acceptable or not acceptable. One does not issue instructions.

Suppose a Secretary or even Minister is discussing this with the Chairman of the Corporation. He says: 'What do you think of this? I think it will be a good idea.' This is not a firm instruction. Now, the other person, if he has got any guts, if he thinks it is wrong, should say, 'No, I do not think it is a good idea' and advance arguments. Either something is decided between the two or, if the Minister wants to impose his will against the other, he must give it in writing, if it is a matter of policy. But the Chairman or Managing Director, whoever it is, is certainly responsible and must be made responsible completely for doing something against his will, if he does it merely on some kind of oral indication which he does not approve of.

I think Shri Feroze Gandhi read out something from Mr. Churchill's writings. It is very difficult in this complicated world of ours, with an enormous amount of work, always to insist on communicating with each other by notes and writings. In fact, we complain—this House complains—so much about this business of tremendous noting in our Secretariat.

I have suggested to them—for heaven's sake, stop writing so much, meet together and discuss and settle it, instead of files going round and round and round.

If you do that—I think we should do it—there is a risk of misunderstanding. One takes that risk. One has to. Take an extreme example of war. Do you expect every Colonel or General to be writing long letters to particular officers? You have to take a risk. The risk may involve your defeat in war, but you certainly, without doubt, are going to be defeated if you carry on the war with long correspondence.

So that these matters are not capable of rigidity. The broad principle is there, and must be there. In our set-up, the Minister is responsible, constructively responsible, for any matter of policy. Even if he does not happen to have personal knowledge of it, he is responsible, except, may be, in some very special case. If he knows about the principle, then of course he is also responsible. It does not make much difference. The difference comes in or may come in in regard not to responsibility—that kind of constructive or other responsibility—but in regard to the *bona fides* or *mala fides*. That is a separate thing entirely which, of course, is a factual matter to be determined on the facts.

Then the fourth principle is:

"The funds of the Life Insurance Corporation should only be used for the benefit of the policy-holders and not for any extraneous purpose. If they are to be used for any extraneous purpose, that purpose must be the larger interest of the country. The public is entitled to an assurance from Government to this effect."

I could gladly and consciously give that assurance here and now. We can put it down on paper in black and white. It is obvious. The funds

are always and surely for the benefit of policyholders.

As regards the other thing they say, that if they are to be used, it must be in the national interest. There is no 'if' about it. It will always be used in the national interest. As I just now pointed out, you cannot help that. When you are dealing with such large sums of money, whatever you do affects the national interest, affects your Plan, affects your economy and this and that, so that you cannot ignore that. The moment you come out of that relatively small private company and become this monolithic organisation, inevitably all kinds of responsibilities come over you, which the private company did not have. Even in the case of the private company, which was tied hand and foot as to the methods of its investments. 50 per cent in government paper, 25 per cent in government-approved companies, they permitted, if I remember rightly, 15 per cent to speculate, and throw away if they liked—the words are mine, not in the Act. They were allowed to do what they liked with 15 per cent, and they did. The speculated 15 per cent in the hope of getting more or losing it.

I am prepared to accept this, but always laying stress that you cannot simply deal with a monolithic State organisation like this in the same way.

Pandit Govind Malaviya (Sultanpur): Even about that 15 per cent, there were very strict rules.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Now, I just mentioned the word 'monolithic'. I am not expressing an opinion, but some hon Members have said that it might have been desirable or might be desirable in the future for this huge organisation to be split up to three or four. It is a matter which may be considered. If that is more advantageous, it should be done. We should not hesitate to do it.

The fifth point is that 'in a parliamentary form of government, Parliament must be taken into confidence by the Ministers at the earliest stage....' Perfectly of course.

The sixth is 'that the Minister must take full responsibility for the acts of his subordinates. He cannot be permitted to say his subordinates did not reflect his policy or acted contrary to his wishes or directions'. This, again, is broadly correct. But I am not quite clear in my mind whether it is 100 per cent correct. But, broadly it is correct, as I have said. So far as the present instance is concerned, the Minister did take the responsibility and he is no longer a Minister. It is a proposition which he can consider later.

And lastly, ..

Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch. Castes): In view of the fact that there is an amendment which has been moved, may I request the Leader of the House to enlighten us as to what his own reactions are in regard not merely to the question of one Minister's responsibility, as he is not in office at the present moment, but about the entire Cabinet being responsible. I am not thinking of this instance as such but it arises out of what we are trying to appreciate.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Surely, the answer to my hon friend is very simple. It would always depend on the circumstances of the case. In each case the circumstances vary. I can imagine the whole Cabinet resigning. (Interruption). An honest Government should immediately move as circumstances require.

Now, that may be applied I may inform the House that one of the first acts of this new Corporation when it met was to pass a resolution—I won't read the whole of it—it is 5 pages—which was really to apply section 27A as modified here and there. There are pages and pages of it. I will just read the first paragraph:

"The Corporation shall invest out of its controlled funds at least 25 per cent in Government securities, a further sum equal to not less than 25 per cent in govern-

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

ment securities or other approved securities and the balance in any of the approved investments specified in sub-section (2) of section 27A or subject to the limitations" etc.

Then, there is a very long list of the type of securities so that, in fact, although Government did not apply section 27A, the Corporation itself laid it down that it should apply with some modifications.

You will say, and very rightly say, what about this deal. That was our trouble. Their own rules were not applied in this matter, in this particular deal that we are discussing. But, apart from this, as a matter of fact, they did make those very rules. The whole thing cannot apply.

For instance, in section 27A, it is laid down, I think, that they should not take shares in any company, equity shares, more than 15 per cent. I do not personally see why they should not. However, the idea was that no insurance company should attempt to control an undertaking.

Now, since all these companies were merged into one, the result was that that 15 per cent went by the board, because many insurance companies had shares in some other company so that the 15 per cent became 25 or 30 in the possession of the Life Insurance Corporation. Section 27A could not apply at the beginning because of this. Apart from that, I am not for a moment clear why our Life Insurance Corporation should be prevented from having more than 15 per cent shares in a company, if it is a good company. For instance, if we want more shares in Jessops to control it, why should we not take more shares and control it? The whole policy does not apply so that to say that section 27A, as it is, should be made to apply is not, I think, very logical. But, of course, section 27A as modified properly can apply. It should be clearly laid down how it should apply. Or what that rule should be is a different matter.

We propose naturally—Members have suggested and we shall gladly carry out their wishes in this matter—to draw out a policy governing investments. It cannot be, naturally, a very rigid policy, because there must be some latitude left. We propose to draw it and place it before the House for them to know it. If the House so wishes, they can discuss it; they can take a little time on it. It is not necessary for the House to discuss the safety part of it. That is an admitted factor; but the other, the policy part of it is a matter which can be discussed.

May I just say one word which does not fit in with my argument, but I should like to make it clear. Just a little before I spoke and my colleague the Home Minister spoke, Shri Thanu Pillai made a statement. That is all right. But, I was not aware of what he said yesterday; I did not hear that. When I saw a rough transcript of it, I was surprised and distressed—I may be permitted to say distressed because somehow or other my name was entangled in it without the least justification. And, I should like to say—I do not know how he has corrected it—that the original draft was, so far as I am concerned, not correct at all.

In that connection, I should like to say that—though I previously expressed my approval of Mr. Justice Chagla's services, I would regret very much saying anything directly or indirectly in criticism of Mr. Justice Chagla.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur): That should be expunged.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Further, I would regret also in this House criticisms of the Attorney-General, of what he said or what he did not. For various reasons it is not right for us to criticise people in their absence, people who are trying to do their duty competently and all that.

Acharya Kripalani was very uncharitable to me in one matter. I am sorry he is not here. He referred, I am told, to the fact that the present Governor of the Reserve Bank was, at one time, my Principal Private Secretary and, therefore, I was showing favour to him. Many people in the Government today have been associated with me; most of the senior officials have been associated. I have been here a very long time, 10½ years now; and, naturally, I form some opinion of them, when I come into intimate contact with them as colleagues, as persons one works with. But, to suggest that I want to shelter or favour somebody because he was my Principal Private Secretary 7 years ago, is, I repeat, not very charitable to me. (*Interruptions.*)

I mentioned the name of the Governor of the Reserve Bank for a variety of reasons. There are many others. I can mention independently. I mentioned that name particularly because we were discussing Mr. Justice Chagla's report.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Another good Oxonian.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That was his point, the hon. Member's point. I admit; I have never denied that people who have been to Oxford at some time also have some virtue.

Dr. P. Subbarayan (Tiruchengode): What about the other place?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Here is Mr. Justice Chagla's report which we are discussing. There is no mention of him except in one place—in the narrative form that he was also present somewhere. No other mention; no criticism indeed. So far as this matter is concerned, there is nothing at any stage, so far as I am aware, involving him at all in it. As the matter has been mentioned, when Mr. Iengar thinking that, perhaps, his conduct might come into this inquiry, wanted some lawyer to be present there, Justice Chagla told him that he did not come into the picture at all and that he was not going to deal

with that matter. It is unfortunate that his name is brought in simply without any reason; it is not quite fair. I cannot understand. I have said that those officials who have been intimately concerned with this come in the second part of the Resolution that I have ventured to place before this House. Even their conduct, I submit, should be enquired into in the proper way. We cannot enquire into it. We cannot go into that matter because it will not be fair and they will not be able to answer. We in Parliament make statements about others. This is not fair; this is not a very happy way of proceeding.

My friend Mr. Masani referred to most of our corporations and said that the autonomy of corporations had introduced a myth. I do not know how far it is correct. It may be partly true in the sense that they have not got complete autonomy. I should like them to have as much autonomy as possible. I would like the House to remember that we are starting new corporations from day to day and frankly nobody in the Government, certainly not in the business world or in our services, has too much experience of this type of work. Good men can do good work wherever they are placed if they have the training for it. We are going in for huge industrial undertakings of all kinds of things. In the beginning period we have sometimes felt that we should help the corporation. What might be called interference might also be looked upon as help to an infant organisation.

Take this L.I.C. itself. It has been in existence now for a year and a half. It is not a long time; it is a relatively short period. Huge and complicated things come up. Are we to leave them completely at a loose end when these big problems come? We felt that we should not.

I entirely agree that it is a wrong policy, for the same person to be the Secretary and also Chairman of the Corporation. I think every one of my colleagues in the Cabinet agrees with

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

that. We have tried to avoid it. Yet, somehow, under pressure of circumstances, we have agreed: for 3 or 4 or 6 months, let us have this arrangement. I accept that this is wrong in principle but the sheer difficulty of finding a suitable man immediately who could take charge had to be faced and we had to put a competent man there. I entirely agree that we should not do so in the future.

I need not say much about the amendment moved by Mr. Jaipal Singh and Mr. Masani because it deals with these principles which I have already referred to. I am surprised that they are not accepting what I have said. In fact, we agree that there should be these principles. We are going to examine them. It might be that there might be more than five or six; there may be other things also. Then, we shall place them before the House. We do not want to do anything without the knowledge of this House in this matter.

Prof. Ranga referred to Industrial and Economic Service. I mentioned yesterday about this. The Planning Commission broached this matter about training up a specialised cadre of managers more or less. But apart from this, we have decided to have—not in this connection, but independently of this—two separate services. One is the service of economists and another—a separate one—of statisticians. This matter was delayed for many months because there was an argument whether there should be one joint statistical and economic service or two separate ones. Ultimately we have come to the decision that we should have two separate ones. Otherwise statistics became rather ignored. Now, that has been decided.

This House has been indulgent to us normally, almost always. We are all very grateful to it. But I am sure the House realises the enormous burden of work that falls on the Minis-

ters. If I may mention a small matter, the other day during the course of this inquiry, I read in the newspaper a report. Suddenly there was some reference to me and some note I had written and which was produced. I had forgotten and I had no recollection of any note. I said: "What is this? When did I write a note about Mr. Mundhra? Mundhra has never come into my ken really." Vaguely I have heard about him. What is this thing? I asked. I had it hunted for from the files of the officers and then it came. Of course it was my note. When I saw it I reckoned. But, if I had been suddenly asked whether I had written a note about Mr. Mundhra, I would have said: 'No'. I had completely forgotten about it. It came with hundreds of papers. I read it as I read a number of things and I forgot and I went on to something else.

People perhaps do not consider how these things happen. If I were asked about this and if I had said: 'I do not remember', I am a liar! I think that people sometimes not only do not remember things but people try to forget things so that they are not cluttering up their minds with all kinds of petty details.

I think Prof. Mukerjee complained of a speech that the Governor of the Reserve Bank delivered at San Francisco. I have got the speech before me but I read it long ago when it came to me. I would rather say that my recollection is that I liked it. He complained because apparently the Governor speaking in San Francisco to a large number of American capitalists said something about the importance of the private sector in India...

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Dominant role.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I do not know. I am told that he used a word...

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I interrupt him, Sir? The exact sentence is:

"In fact, the private sector is playing a dominant role in the Indian economy today and is bound to play a dominant role in future."

I am quoting the answer to unstarred question No. 2119 dated the 20th December, 1957.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: As a matter of fact, there is no doubt that quantitatively it is dominant even now. If you include all the land in India, it is terribly dominant. It is in the private sector—all the land, cottage industries, etc.

Even apart from that, this matter has been really dealt with by my colleague, the Home Minister. We must know exactly where we are. We have laid down a certain policy for ourselves, for the development, for the Five Year Plans, etc. It is on the basis of that policy that there is a public sector and the private sector—a public sector that is growing and that is meant to occupy progressively all the strategic points in our economy.

Now, we may err here and there. If we have a public sector and also a private sector it means not that we allow reluctantly the private sector to continue and try to harass it all the time. There is no point in it. It is far better to abolish it completely. But if we have it, we should encourage it and help it within the limitations laid down for it. It is pertinent not only for the Governor of the Reserve Bank or for me but for any one of us to say that we want to encourage and we will encourage the private sector of course subject to the limitations and the Plan that we have made. We want trade and commerce with other countries: the United States, England, Soviet Union and so on. We want to increase our trade and commerce with these countries. We want to increase

our trade and commerce with the Soviet Union but it is of a different type. It may be barter, because conditions are different. We are doing this with every country.

I submit, Sir, that the resolution I have put forward before this House covers the important points that have arisen, and I trust that the House will accept it.

Acharya Kripalani: Sir, I was not present here just now when the Prime Minister referred to my remarks. I can assure the Prime Minister that there was an interruption and this remark came up. It has no significance, and I am sorry for it.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I am very grateful to the hon. Member. I do not think he thought about it. Accidental things do happen.

Mr. Speaker: We shall now take up the amendments and substitute motions. I shall put substitute motion No. 16 in the end. A number of amendments have been tabled to this substitute motion, and independently there are one or two substitute motions also. I shall put the amendments to this substitute motion of the Government first, then the substitute motion of the Government, or in the amended form if it is amended, and then if any others have not been covered I shall put that portion which has not been covered. Out of the amendments tabled, numbers 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 are amendments to the substitute motion No. 16. I would like hon. Members to indicate which of the amendments they would like me to put to the House.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: Numbers 18 and 24 may be put.

Shri Jaipal Singh: Sir, in view of the fact that the Prime Minister has today defined his reactions to my amendment and accepted 6, 7 and 8 of the principles laid down there, may I have the permission of the Chair and the House to withdraw my amendment No. 20?

The amendment was, by leave,
withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put
amendment No. 24 to the vote of the
House. The question is:

That in the substitute motion moved
by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru—

after part (3), add:

"and recommends—

(a) that Government should
institute a further inquiry into

all investments made by the Life
Insurance Corporation since its
inception; and

— (b) that a Standing Parliamen-
tary Committee should be set up
to supervise the workings of
autonomous Corporations and
State Undertakings."

The Lok Sabha divided Ayes 60;
Noes 203.

Division No. 3]

AYES

[15:48 hrs.

Asrar, Shri	Goray, Shri
Banerjee, Shri Pramathanath	Gounder, Shri Shanmugas
Barus, Shri Hem	Imam, Shri Mohamed
Bhanji Deo, Shri	Jadhav, Shri
Bharucha, Shri Naushur	Jaipal Singh, Shri
Braj Raj Singh, Shri	Katti, Shri D A
Chakravarthy, Shrimati Renu	Khadilkar, Shri
Dange, Shri S A	Kodiyani, Shri
Das Gupta, Shri B	Kumaran, Shri
Dasaratha Deb, Shri	Kumbhar, Shri
Deb, Shri P G	Kunhan, Shri
Deo, Shri P K	Majhi, Shri R C
Dhanagar, Shri	Manav, Shri
Dige, Shri	Massani, Shri M R
Dwivedy, Shri Surendranath	Matera, Shri
Eliaz, Shri Muhammed	Matin, Qazi
Gaukwd, Shri B K	Menon, Shri Narayananankutty
Ghosal, Shri	Mohan Swarup, Shri
Ghose, Shri Bimal	Mukerjee, Shri H N
Gopalan, Shri A K	Mullik, Shri B C

Nair, Shri Vesudevan
Nath Pai, Shri
Nayar, Shri V P
Pangrahi, Shri
Parvathi Krishnan, Shrimati
Patil, Shri Balasaheb
Patil, Shri Nana
Prodhan, Shri B C
Punnoose, Shri
Rai, Shri Khushwaqt
Rarendra Singh, Shri
Ram Ganb, Shri,
Raman, Shri
Salunke, Shri Balasaheb
Singh Shri L Achaw
Siva Raj, Shri
Sugandhi, Shri
Supakar, Shri
Verma, Shri Ramji
Warior, Shri

NOES

Abdul Lateef Shri	Bhogi Bhai, Shri
Abdur Rahman, Molvi	Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri
Abdur Rashid, Bakhwu	Chandra Shanker Shri
Achali Singh, Seth	Chavda, Shri
Achar, Shri	Chettiar, Shri R Ramenathan
Agadi, Shri	Damani, Shri
Apt Singh, Shri	Damari, Shri
Ambalam, Shri Subbiah	Das, Shri K K
Anurudh Singh, Shri	Das, Shri N T
Arumugham, Shri R S	Das, Shri Ramdhan
Bagdi, Shri	Das, Shri Shree Narayan
Balakrishnan, Shri	Dassappa, Shri
Banerjee, Shri S K	Datar, Shri
Banerji, Shri P B	Desai, Shri Morarji
Bangali Thakur, Shri	Deshmukh, Dr P S
Barman, Shri	Dinesh Singh, Shri
Baruvel, Shri P L	Dube, Shri Mulchand
Basappa, Shri	Dubash, Shri
Basumatir, Shri	Dwivedi, Shri M L
Bhagat, Shri B R	Eliyaperumal, Shri
Bhakt Darshan, Shri	Gackwad, Shri Patesinghrao

Ganapathy, Shri
Gandhi, Shri Feroze
Gandhi, Shri M M
Ganga Devi, Shrimati
Ghosh, Shri M K
Gohokar, Dr
Gounder, Shri Doraiswami
Gounder, Shri K Periaswami
Govind Das, Seth
Haizarnavis, Shri
Handa, Shri Subodh
Hathi, Shri
Hazarika, Shri J N
Heda, Shri
Hukam Singh, Sardar
Jam, Shri A P
Jangde, Shri
Jogendri Sen, Shri
Joshi, Shri A C
Jyotiash, Pandit J P.
Kalika Singh, Shri

Kanengo, Shri	Naidu, Shri Govindaraju	Sankarapendian, Shri
Karmarker, Shri	Nair, Shri C K	Sarhadi, Shri Ajit Singh
Kashwal, Shri	Naldurgher, Shri	Satish Chandra, Shri
Kedarkar, Shri C M	Nanjappa, Shri	Satyabhama Devi, Shrimati
Keskar, Dr	Narayanasamy, Shri R	Sen, Shri A K
Khan, Shri Sadeth Ali	Neskar, Shri P S	Servai, Shri Varavanan
Khwaaja, Shri Jamal	Nayar, Dr Sushila	Shah, Shri Manabendra
Kotek, Shri Lileshwar	Nehru, Shri Jawaharlal	Shah, Shri Manubhai
Kottukapally, Shri	Nehru, Shrimati Uma	Shankarayya, Shri
Krishna, Shri M R	Onkar Lal, Shri	Sharma, Pandit K C
Krishna Chandra, Shri	Oza, Shri	Sharma, Shri D C
Krishnappa, Shri M V	Padam Dev, Shri	Sharma, Shri R C
Kureel, Shri B N	Palaniandy, Shri	Shastry, Shri Lal Bahadur
Lachhi Ram, Shri	Pande, Shri C D	Shobha Ram, Shri
Lahiri, Shri	Parmar, Shri Deen Bandhu	Siddah, Shri
Laxmi Bai, Shrimati	Patel, Shri Rajeshwar	Singh, Shri D N
Medhusudan Rao	Patel, Sushri Maniben	Singh, Shri H P
Mafida Ahmed, Shrimati	Patil, Shri S K	Singh, Shri M N
Mattu, Shri N B	Pattabhi Ramam, Shri	Singh, Shri T N
Majithia, Sardar	Pillsi, Shri Thanu	Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan
Malaviya, Pandit Govind	Prabhakar, Shri Naval	Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan
Malaviya, Shri K D	Radha Ramam, Shri	Sinha, Shrimati Tarkeshwar
Malviya, Shri Moula	Raghuramaiah, Shri	Sinhasan Singh, Shri
Mandal, Dr Pashupati	Raj Bahadur, Shri	Sonawane, Shri
Maniyangadan, Shri	Ram Krishan, Shri	Subbarayan, Dr P
Mathur, Shri Harish Chandra	Ram Saran, Shri	Subramanyam, Shri T
Mathur, Shri M D	Ram Subhag Singh,	Suleim, Shrimati Maunoona
Mehdi, Shri S A	Ramakrishnan, Shri P R	Swaran Singh, Sardar
Mehta, Shri B G	Ramanand Shastry, Swami	Tahur, Shri Mohammed
Mehta, Shri J R	Ramaswami, Shri S V	Tantia, Shri Rameshwar
Mehta, Shrimati Krishna	Ramaswamy, Shri K S	Tanq, Shri A M
Menon, Shri Krishna	Ranbir Singh, Ch	Thomas, Shri A M
Minimata, Shrimati	Rane, Shri	Tiwari, Pandit Babu Lal
Mishra, Shri Bibhutti	Ranga, Shri	Tiwari, Shri R S
Misra, Shri L N	Rangarao, Shri	Tiwary, Pandit D N
Misra, Shri M P	Rao, Shri Hanumanth	Tripathi, Shri V D
Misra, Shri S N	Rao, Shri Jagannatha	Uike, Shri
Misra, Shri B D	Raut, Shri Bholu	Upadhyay, Pandit Munshwar Dutt
Misra, Shri R D	Reddy, Shri K C	Upadhyaya, Shri Shiva Dutt
Misra, Shri R R	Roy, Shri Bishwanath	Varma, Shri B B
Mohammed, Akbar Shah	Rungbung Suus, Shri	Varma, Shri M I
Mohiuddin, Shri	Sadhu Ram, Shri	Varma, Shri R K
Morarks, Shri	Sahodrabai, Shrimati	Vishwanath Prasad, Shri
Munusamy, Shri N R	Sahu, Shri Rameshwar	Vyas, Shri R C
Murmu, Shri Pauka	Samantsahar, Dr	Vyas, Shri Radhakishan
Murthy, Shri B S	Sambandam, Shri	Wasnik Shri Balkrushna
Mussafir, Giani G S	Sanganna, Shri	J N

The motion was negative

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put amendment No 18 to vote. The question is

That in the substitute motion moved by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru—

in lines 4 and 5 for "approves of the statement made on behalf of Government" substitute "is of opinion".

The motion was negative

All the other amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: I shall now put substitute motion No 16 to the vote of the House. The question is—

That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely—

"This House, having considered the Report of the Commission of Inquiry into the affairs of the

[Mr. Speaker]

Life Insurance Corporation of India, approves of the statement made on behalf of Government that:

(1) Government accept the Commission's findings to the effect that the transaction resulting in the purchase of shares of the six companies was not entered into in accordance with business principles and was also opposed to propriety on several grounds;

(2) Government propose to initiate appropriate proceedings, on the basis of the findings of the Commission, in respect of the Officers responsible for putting through the transaction;

(3) Government propose to examine carefully the principles recommended by the Commission for adoption by Government and the Corporation."

The motion was adopted.

Mr. Speaker: All the other substitute motions are barred. The House will now take up the next item of business.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS—1957-58

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion on the Demands for Supplementary Grants 1957-58. Out of 4 hours allotted for discussion and voting on the demands, 30 minutes have already been availed of and 3 hours and 30 minutes now remain.

All the demands and the cut motions moved on the 18th February, 1958, a list of which has already been circulated to Members on the same day, are before the House.

I have since received notice of some other cut motions. They will also be moved subject to their being otherwise admissible.

The following are the cut motions: 13, 19, 22, 26, 36, 40, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 52, 53, 59 and 62. These may also be moved.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): Because the debate has been carried over, other cut motions may also be moved.

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed all the cut motions.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I want a list now.

Mr. Speaker: There is also a limit to this kind of indulgence.

Shri V. P. Nayar: It is not our fault.

Mr. Speaker: It is not my fault either. The hon. Member might have tabled them as other hon. Members have done.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I do not want to table them now. The list has come and the numbers have come in the list.

Mr. Speaker: If he does not table a new cut motion but only wants to give the numbers, that may be done. Shri Naushir Bharucha will continue his speech

Shri Assar (Ratnagiri): I beg to move:

Excess expenditure on the development of khadi industries and expansion of Ambar Charkha programme.

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,18,06,000 in respect of industries be reduced to Re. 1.

Over-estimated expenditure on Peking Exhibition and purchasing of exhibits.

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 13,38,000 in respect of Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry be reduced by Rs. 100".

Over-estimated expense on foreign dignitaries

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,40,000 in respect of External Affairs be reduced by Rs. 100."

Imports of foodgrains under P.L. 480 and subsidising distribution

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,52,17,000 in respect of Miscellaneous Departments and other Expenditure under the Ministry of Food and Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to provide farms

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,20,00,000 in respect of Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to purchase sufficient stock of foodgrains to maintain reserve stock

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 38,48,00,000 in respect of Purchase of Foodgrains be reduced by Rs. 100."

Unsatisfactory procurement policy in Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 38,48,00,000 in respect of Purchase of Foodgrains be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to meet problems of displaced persons

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100."

Working of the Dandakaranya Scheme and the need to rehabilitate the displaced hill tribes in that area due to stoppage of shifting cultivation on the hill slopes of Kalahandi and Koraput districts in Orissa

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100."

Increasing estimates of three steel plants, Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel be reduced by Rs. 100."

Slow progress of construction of the steel plant at Rourkela

Shri P. K. Deo: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel be reduced by Rs. 100."

Rehabilitation and employment of the persons displaced by the Rourkela steel plant and the new townships

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure in maintaining working of Telegraph and Telephone in Bombay State

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,00,00,000 in respect of Capital Outlay on Indian Posts and Telegraphs (Not met from Revenue) be reduced by Rs. 100."

[**Shri Assar**].

Slow progress in construction of National Highways

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,50,00,000 in respect of Capital Outlay on Roads be reduced by Rs. 100."

Defective organisation of the Dandakanya development scheme

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100".

Working of Similar schemes under the Ministry

Shri V. P. Nayar: I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in respect of Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100".

Mr. Speaker: All these cut motions are before the House.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Only a few minutes ago, the hon. the Home Minister was telling us that the Congress Party was extremely watchful of the interests of the country and it is rather surprising that this watchful flock is gradually disappearing and I am sure by the time I finish probably there might not be a quorum in the House again.

The other day, I was referring to the fact that in these supplementary grants, the Government is asking the House to sanction something to the tune of Rs. 21 crores of extra money. I was referring to the demand made by the Government for Rs. 23 lakhs under External Affairs because there was an excessive expenditure on the visits of foreign dignitaries. I pointed out that it is rather surprising that at a time when everybody is bent upon economy of all types, we find that the Government wants to spend Rs. 23 lakhs on visits of foreign dignitaries.

15.53 hrs.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** in the Chair.]

I pointed out that because of economy we could not get an extra copy of the speech when we wanted. I do not think there is a quorum in the House. The watchful flock is all in the canteen now.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will have the House counted. Yes, now there is quorum.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I was saying that in these days of economy, even hon. Members are denied the barest necessities, such as an extra copy of their speech. At this time, the House is asked to sanction Rs. 23 lakhs on the visit of foreign dignitaries. I may add that at the time when His Majesty the King of Afghanistan was presented with an Address, arrangements were so haphazard and things were so mismanaged that the M.Ps who were invited were made to stand on the lawn and the traffic regulation was so chaotic that subsequently they were pushed about in the crowd. That was rather an unusual experience for M.Ps who were invited. Where M.Ps are asked to sanction sums like Rs. 23 lakhs, the Ministry concerned should look into it. I hope they will do so.

The second point that I desire to make is about the Defence Ministry where we find that Rs. 6.77 crores and Rs. 1.23 crores are required for replacement of obsolescent equipment and stores. I have been repeatedly asking the hon. Defence Minister to take us into confidence. I do not desire to know from him how many anti-aircraft guns he possesses, etc.

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): I cannot hear what he is saying.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I point out the hon. Defence Minister that we have been asking for Rs. 6.77 crores and Rs. 1.23 crores for replacement of obsolescent stores and equipment. I am asking him whether it is too much for the House to ask whether he would

take the House into confidence as to the nature of the equipment.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): There is no quorum in the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The quorum bell may be rung. Now, there is quorum. The hon. Member may continue his speech.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I was asking the hon. Defence Minister whether it would be too much to tell the House on what type of equipment we are spending this amount. In view of the very changed technique of both attack and defence, we want to know whether we are not spending this amount in replacing our obsolescent equipment by less obsolescent equipment which would be equally useless. I am not asking the Defence Minister to tell us how many anti-aircraft guns we have got or how many first-line fighter interceptor aircraft we have got. I am not asking that. But surely the House is entitled to be taken into confidence with regard to the changed pattern of expenditure on defence in view of the very great scientific advancement that has taken place. I want to know whether we were not spending to equip ourselves for fighting the last war.

Further, there is another demand for Rs. 3 crores. I am very much surprised that the whole Mundhra affair did not cost us more than Rs. 40 lakhs. When we are discussing crores of rupees more than what was lost in that affair, we do not get even a quorum. That is also one of the phenomena of democracy.

The Deputy-Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Quorum mania.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: There is the demand for Rs. 3 crores under the Food Ministry. They say that they require this on account of the trading losses on purchase of foodgrains transferred from capital outside the revenue account. The proposal is to write back the loss of Rs. 30 crores over a period of 10 years. Frankly, I have not understood the proposal. I should like to know from the Government exactly what they propose to do. What

is the period of years over which this amount of Rs. 30 crores has been incurred? They want to write it back retrospectively for ten years. I have not been able to understand this point of view. I would like to know from the hon. Minister of Food the facts, and he should make this position clear.

16 hrs.

Then again, provision has been made for the Indian Bureau of Mines. This Bureau of Mines is a very important institution. In the note under this Demand, it is stated:

"The Indian Bureau of Mines is responsible for ensuring the systematic development of mineral resources of the country and their conservation by:

- (i) introducing scientific methods for exploration and exploitation;
- (ii) elimination of avoidable waste during mining and processing;
- (iii) upgrading of marginal and sub-marginal ores by ore-dressing and beneficication;
- (iv) collection of mineral statistics and other relevant data;
- (v) dissemination of mineral and mining information; and
- (vi) maintenance of liaison between the mining industry and the Government and also between the producers and consumers of minerals to promote the utilisation of indigenous materials."

What is the amount we are asked to spend on that—Rs. 28 lakhs. In a huge sub-continent like India, where mining and exploration of ores must be put on scientific and systematic basis, all that is spent on this is Rs. 28 lakhs. The total amount allotted in the whole of the Second Plan is Rs. 2 crores. In drilling one oil well, people say, they have to spend over a crore of rupees. So, I desire to point out the absurdly inadequate provision made by the Government in respect of an institution which is expected to play a very fundamental part in extracting our mineral resources.

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

I next come to the Indian Posts and Telegraphs Department. They want a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,20,00,000. I want to ask this House whether hon. Members have not experienced difficulty in getting the requisite denominations in the matter of postage stamps and postal forms. This House adopted a particular tariff with regard to letters, book-posts and so on nearly ten months ago. But even today it is difficult to get envelopes of the denomination of 15 nP; it is difficult to get stamps of the denomination of 8 nP. It is impossible to get a form for a registered acknowledgment in so many of the post offices. In most places, even labels of Express Delivery are not available.

I ask, does the hon. Minister understand that when we have to affix three postage stamps in place of one, it does not merely add to the labour of those people who use these postage stamps, but it means 200 per cent. more in the cost of production, cost of paper and labour, and still we have been compelled to do it for the last ten months.

I ask, what has the Posts and Telegraphs Department been doing all these months? Then they say: effect economy. How to effect economy? May I know why postage stamps of the denomination of 8 nP have not been so far placed on the post offices for sale? These are the ways in which economies are being effected! The value of paper used for stamps runs into lakhs of rupees. It is no use trying to economise by denying to an hon. Member an extra copy of his speech. That takes us nowhere. If paper is to be economised, here is a place where you can save lakhs of rupees, and Government has been negligent over this aspect. Then it comes for an additional demand of Rs. 1,20,00,000. I hope Government will look into it. This is nothing but incompetence and maladministration.

Then I come to the question of provision for procurement of foodstuffs

and other additional commodities for tribal areas. Rs. 16 lakhs has been allotted for that, out of which we shall get Rs. 14 lakhs back from the sale proceeds of foodgrains in the tribal areas. It means that the subsidy of Rs. 2 lakhs would, in the course of one year, amount to Rs. 6 lakhs, because this subsidy is for three or four months this year. In this area so much expenditure is being incurred in maintaining the police force. In Naga Hills-Tuensang area Rs. 56 lakhs have been allotted only for police force. But what is the amount to be spent on foodgrains? Rs. 6 lakhs. This is a disproportion which Government has got to bear in mind, and something must be done about it.

Then, on pages 64-65 there is a supplementary demand of Rs. 38 crores for purchase of foodgrains. Here I desire to discuss the unsatisfactory position of our foodgrain reserves. A few days back I was under the impression that we definitely have more than one million tons of foodgrains by way of reserves, and I said that it was very inadequate. But now I find that it is only round about 850,000 tons to 900,000 tons. So, I say again that Government will have to pay proper attention to building up a substantial reserve. I think it is disastrous for a country to have anything short of two million tons by way of foodgrain reserves for facing very acute crisis. In the months of April-May we shall be encountering very near famine conditions in various parts of the country, and to have a small reserve is nothing but the height of carelessness. It is a matter which affects the lives of millions of people and I hope the hon. Minister will give us a correct answer.

Lastly, I come to the increasing estimates in the case of steel works, where the revised estimates are going on. With regard to the three steel works, which form part of the core of the plan, about which we are proud, and the hon. Prime Minister is particularly proud, we were told on 18th

February in reply to a question that the estimates of foreign exchange content of the total cost of the three steel plants are: Rourkela Rs. 122 crores, Bhilai Rs. 79 crores and Durgapur Rs. 90 crores, which means that the ultimate estimates have been revised to such an extent that the original estimates are nowhere.

Government try to catch hold of petty things to effect economy in administration. But, crores of rupees are going away here and there is nobody to question. Why is it that repeatedly the estimates for the three steel plants are being revised, I want to know? When is going to be the final revision of it, so that we can be sure that the steel plants will cost so much and nothing more?

Surely none can say that it is nobody's interest to apply a brake to this upward revision of estimates, it is nobody's business to question why is it that we are having these inflated estimates time after time as if this country has got unfathomable resources which it can pour out, because they happen to be steel plants and because they form part of the core of the Plan or the hard core of the Plan, by whatever name they choose to call them.

As I said, the supplementary demands are for nearly Rs. 21 crores. Actually, they are more in the sense that part of the money is found from already allocated funds. Even then I submit, while asking for nearly Rs. 21 crores more, before the House sanctions this, we are entitled to have a clear explanation from the Government on the various points which I have raised.

बी अनंगर (मैनपुरी) उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं डिमांड नम्बर २, जिस के अन्तर्गत आदी और हथकरवे के विकास के सम्बन्ध में १,१६,०६,००० रुपये की रकम रखी गई है, के विषय में अपने विचार प्रकट करने के लिये लड़ा हुआ हूँ। यह प्रकरण हमारे देश के लिए बहुत ही चर्ची

है, लेकिन इस पर जितना ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये, उतना नहीं दिया जाता है। मैं तो यह समझता हूँ कि जो रकम इस के लिये रखी गई है, वह बहुत ही थोड़ी है और इस के सम्बन्ध में हमारे बजट का बहुत सा रुपया स्वीकार होना चाहिये था। लेकिन जो कुछ थोड़ा सा रुपया इन में प्रोपोज़ कर है, वह भी, मैं भी समझता हूँ, अच्छी तरह मे प्रयोग में नहीं लाया जाता है।

जहाँ तक इसमें आरगनाइजेशन का सम्बन्ध है, उत्तर प्रदेश के करीब करीब हर एक जिले में डायरेक्टर आफ डिस्ट्रिक्ट इंडस्ट्रीज रखे गए हैं। उन के सम्बन्ध में मुझे यह कहना है कि ये लोग स्वयं टैकनीशियन नहीं होते हैं। उत्तर प्रदेश में जितने भी अवृत्त डायरेक्टर आफ डिस्ट्रिक्ट इंडस्ट्रीज एपायरेंट हुए हैं, वे सब के सब लेमेन हैं और उन में से कोई भी टैकनीशियन नहीं है और इस लिये बजाय कार्टेज इंडस्ट्रीज दें; कार्ज को स्पोर्ट करने दें; वे उन को डिसिकरेज करते हैं। इटावा जिले में बिस्टर सेठ डायरेक्टर आफ डिस्ट्रिक्ट इंडस्ट्रीज है और जिला मैनपुरी में इसी ओहदे पर एक सज्जन, श्री गुप्ता, काम करते हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में एक बड़ी घटनाएँ चीज़ वह है कि उप्राव, कानपुर और द्रुसरी जगहों पर भी मैं ने ज्यादातर गुप्ता, सेठ, कपूर और मेहरोत्रा लोग ही इन पदों पर देखे हैं। एक विशेष बात की बजह से मुझे इस बारे में ज्यादा लोजबीन करनी पड़ी, तो मालूम पड़ा कि करीब करीब एक ही जात से सम्बन्ध रखने वाले लोग ही इन पदों पर लगे हुए हैं। इटावा में एक प्लास्टिक ट्रेनिंग सेन्टर चल रहा है। उस के सम्बन्ध में वहाँ पर मशीनों की सप्लाई हुई और वे मशीनें डिफ्रेक्टिव थीं। कानपुर के, जो कि उत्तर प्रदेश के लिये कार्वेज इंडस्ट्रीज का सेन्टर है, सप्लाई विभाग में जो उच्चाधिकारी थे, वे लोग ही इस के लिये जिम्मेदार हैं। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि गृह-उद्योग विभाग के जो उच्चाधिकारी

[बी बगर]

कारी हैं, उन से सम्बन्धित लोग, उन के रिप्रेसेंटेव और जात-विरादी के लोग ही ज्यादातर इन महकमों में एपार्टमेंट्स प्राप्त हैं। उच्चाधिकारियों के आदमी होने के नाते ये लोग बजाय गृह-उद्योग विभाग को प्रोत्साहित करने के उस को निष्पत्ता दिया जाता है। इस तरफ हमारी सरकार का विशेष ध्यान जाना चाहिये।

हथकरघे और सादी के विकास के कार्य में पार्टी के आधार पर पक्षपात भी बहुत ज्यादा चल रहा है। मैं ने अपनी पार्टी और पल्लिक के बहुत से लोगों की तरफ से यह चाहा कि इटावा और मेनपुरी विला में अम्बर चर्खों के ग्रालग ग्रालग सेन्टर लूमें, लेकिन आफिसर साहबान पर कांग्रेस पार्टी की तरफ से कुछ ऐसा दबाव ढाला जाता है कि इस तरफ कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है। हमारी सरकार को इस तरफ भी बहुत ध्यान देना चाहिए, ताकि एक विशेष पार्टी और उस पार्टी से सम्बन्धित और उन के नवदीकी लोग ही गृह-उद्योग विभाग से कायदा न उठायें।

इस सम्बन्ध में मुझे एक बात और कहनी है और वह यह है कि सादी और चर्खों का पुराना सम्बन्ध कुछ विशेष प्रकार के लोगों और जातियों से रहा है। केवल सादी और चर्खों की बात नहीं है। और भी जिन्हें गृह-उद्योग है, बहुत दिनों से उन का सम्बन्ध कुछ जातियों से और कुछ लोगों से चला आ रहा है, लेकिन अब देखा यह जाता है कि जब से यह गृह-उद्योग विभाग कायम हुआ है, तब से ही उन लोगों को मदद नहीं दी जा रही है, जो कि पहले से इस काम को करते आ रहे हैं और उन को ऐसे कामों में शिरकत करने के लिये प्रोत्साहित नहीं किया जाता है। इस के बजाय होता यह है कि जो लोग किसी पार्टी विशेष से सम्बन्धित हैं, या जो चलते-नुरखे लोग हैं, या जिन का सम्बन्ध किसी न किसी तरह से सरकार आफिसरान से या कांग्रेस पार्टी

से है, उन्हीं लोगों से सम्बन्धित लोग ही इससे लाभान्वित होते हैं। मैं यह राय देना चाहता हूं कि सरकार को इस तरफ ध्यान देने की ज़रूरत है कि वह गृह-उद्योगों को प्रोत्साहन दे, लेकिन इसके साथ ही साथ जो लोग बहुत पुराने जमाने से इन पेशों में लगे चले आ रहे हैं, उन्हीं लोगों को क्यों न इस में शामिल करके प्रोत्साहित किया जाय। वे देश की उम्रति में और गृह-उद्योगों के प्रोत्साहन में ज्यादा सहायक और हितकर सिद्ध हो सकते हैं।

जैसा कि मैं ने पहले कहा है, जो रकम आदी इंडस्ट्रीज और हैन्डलूम के लिये रखी गई है, वह बहुत ही बोडी है। आगे के बजट में इसके लिए ज्यादा रकम रखनी चाहिये। आरिजनल बजट में इस के लिये २४,६३,३६,००० रु० रखे गए थे। अगर इस रकम को इस से बीचुनी और इससे भी ज्यादा कर दिया जाय, तो कोई नुकसान नहीं है, क्योंकि यह देश के विकास के लिये बहुत ज़रूरी है।

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं एक और बात कहूँगा। देश में जो बड़े बड़े कल-कारखाने चल रहे हैं, उन में बड़े बड़े पूँजीपतियों की पूँजी लगी हुई है। इस लिये देश की गरीब जनता, किसान मजदूर और दूसरे छोटे छोटे पेशों में काम करने वाले लोगों को, जो कि वास्तव में देश की सभी तरह की मिलियत को पैदा करते हैं और जो देश के धन को बढ़ाते हैं, ज्यादा हिस्सा दिया जाना चाहिये। वास्तव में ये गृह-उद्योग तभी तरकी कर सकते हैं, जब सरकार यह नीति अपनाएँ कि जो बड़े कल-कारखाने हैं, उनको और खूब लेजी के साथ प्रोत्साहित न करें और उस लेजी के साथ न करें जिस लेजी के साथ कि आप भव कर रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूं कि इनके बारे में या तो सरकार वही व्यू अलत्यार करे जो उसने जमीदारी एवालिशन के बारे में किया है यानी उनको जब्त कर ले या फिर एक दम उसको नैशनलाइज़ कर दे। मैं समझता हूं कि किसी न किसी

जापल में उनको जब्त करने का एक डेफिनिट एवेक्टमेंट सरकार को करता चाहिये । उनको नैशनलाइज करने से जो फायदा हो वह गह-उद्योगों में लगाया जाना चाहिये और इनको प्रोन्साहित किया जाना चाहिये ।

मैं सरकार की उस नीति को अवश्य प्रसन्न करता हूँ जिस के द्वारा उसने कल कारखानों के कपड़े पर एक टैक्स लगाया है और जो रुपया इस तरह से बसूल होता है, उसको वह खादी आदि पर खंच करती है । मेरा स्थान है कि एक पंसा को गज का यह कर है । यह अच्छी बात है । लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि इतना टैक्स ही काफी नहीं है । सरकार को चाहिये कि वह ज्यादा से ज्यादा कल कारखानों पर टैक्स लगाये और उसमें द्वारा जो रुपया सरकार को मिले वह उम रुपये का उपयोग गृह उद्योगों को बढ़ावा देने में करे ।

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): Sir, I rise to speak on my Cut Motion No. 32 to the Demand of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.

In this connection I would like to refer to the report submitted by the Sivaraman Committee which was appointed by the Planning Commission and which went on a tour of Orissa to see the scarcity conditions in that State. This Sivaraman Committee was kind enough to submit a report of sixty-five lines so far as scarcity conditions in Orissa are concerned. And the Committee met the Chief Engineer of the Hirakud Project and made a wonderful discovery as a result of discussions with the Chief Engineer. When the Chief Engineer told them that 1.5 lakh acres of land have been brought under irrigation from the Hirakud canals in the district of Sambalpur, it gave them satisfaction that this additional 1.5 lakh acres of land brought under irrigation from the Hirakud canals might have helped in producing more food crops in Orissa. And this is really what usually happens when civil servants and Ministers and some higher-ups who rule here in Delhi, go on an

investigating tour to Orissa. This I think is because of the peaceful traditions of the people of Orissa, because they do not know how to welcome these people with black flags or brick-bats. Of course, henceforward we will try to welcome them in the languages they understand.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Why not you organise some?

Shri Panigrahi: From your inspiration we will organise. Of course, you do not give us any inspiration.

This Sivaraman Committee reported that this 1.5 lakh acres was in the district of Sambalpur and water was released from Hirakud reserves. And our Food Minister, Shri Jain also, without examining this report, paraded those observations on the floor of this house.

When this question came up in the State Assembly of Orissa, the surprising part of the story is that the revenue authorities in the State are not in a position to locate this 1.5 lakh acres of irrigated land which has been brought under cultivation from Hirakud canals. I would rather suggest that the Food Minister might again send Shri Sivaraman on a pleasure trip to Orissa to help the State Government to locate this 1.5 lakh acres of land which has been brought under irrigation from the Hirakud canals.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member, I believe, is speaking on Demand No. 67 and on his Cut Motions Nos. 31 and 32?

Shri Panigrahi: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But I am afraid there is no Demand like the one to which the hon. Member is referring.

Shri Panigrahi: There is about the Hirakud Control Board.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The only things I find here are:

- (i) The Indian delegation to the U.S.A. for talks on Canal Water dispute.

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker].

- (ii) The terms of appointment of the Legal Adviser to the Delegation.
- (iii) Visit of delegations from the World Bank and the Government of Pakistan.
- (iv) Additional expenditure on travelling allowance incurred by the representatives of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power.
- (v) Additional dearness allowance of Rs. 5 granted to Central Government employees.

These are all the items.

Shri Panigrahi: With regard to the Cont. of Boards....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Which is the item here?

Shri Panigrahi: It is:

"Additional expenditure on travelling allowance incurred by the representatives of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power on the Control Boards on various Multipurpose River Schemes due to increased activities account for an increase of Rs. 13,600."

The Hirakud Control Board controls the project. This expenditure is incurred.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is not strictly relevant.

Shri Panigrahi: The fourth item.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have that before me. Travelling allowance of the Irrigation department on Control Boards on various Multipurpose River Schemes—Hirakud is not there.

Shri Panigrahi: There is reference to Control Board. The Hirakud Controlling Board is controlling the project.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It only says, travelling allowance.

Shri Panigrahi: Why did they travel without looking into where the 1.5 acres of land are?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may refer to it. The hon. Member may say what he wants.

Shri Panigrahi: I may refer to cut motion No. 31. It refers to the retrenchment of a large number of skilled and unskilled workers engaged in the construction of the Hirakud project.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Under travelling allowances you would not tack that.

Shri Panigrahi: Passing reference I am making. I am not discussing that. We were given an answer in this House that nearly 3000... .

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): He is not moving 32 then

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is out of order.

Shri Panigrahi: We were told that proper arrangements would be made to provide employment to 3000 skilled labourers who were employed in the construction of the project I hope the hon. Minister would tell us at least how many of these people have been employed since then out of the 3000 skilled labourers.

I now refer to cut motion No. 35 It refers to the Demand for Mines. I would like to submit that although Orissa possesses rich mineral deposits like iron, manganese, vanadium and various other mineral resources, no proper steps have been taken so far as the collection of the mineral statistics of the State are concerned. Also no substantial step is taken in upgrading the marginal and sub-marginal ores by beneficiation. When the

debate on Mines and Mineral Regulations was conducted, the hon. Minister assured us that that sufficient attention would be paid so far as beneficiation and upgrading of ores in Orissa are concerned. I would like to know from the hon. Minister what steps have been taken to help the State Government.

Shri Assar: May I point out, Sir, that there is not even half the quorum?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is there anything like half the quorum? The bell is being rung.—Now there is quorum. The hon. Member, Shri Panigrahi, may continue.

Shri Panigrahi: I was referring to the collection of statistics of mineral ores and beneficiation in Orissa. The district of Mayurbhanj in Orissa abounds in iron, vanadium and other valuable mineral resources. The hills in the district of Mayurbhanj contain deposits of mineral ores. The district of Keonjhar abounds in deposits of manganese and chromium. The district of Koraput which is completely inhabited by Adivasis has rich deposits of iron, manganese, mica, bauxite, graphite and copper ores. The area between Talcher and Rourkela contains rich mineral deposits. I request the Government that they should try to devote more attention to the survey and collection of statistics of mineral ores in this region.

I refer to the re-settlement of thousands of people, mostly Adivasis now displaced from the Rourkela steel project areas. More than 12000 Adivasis have been already displaced. No proper resettlement of the Adivasis has been made yet. Now, 3000 acres of land are going to be acquired for the expansion of the steel project. More than 3000 people are again going to be displaced. I hope proper attention will be given to all those who have been displaced. This should be given priority and they should be given employment in the Rourkela steel project area.

I would like to submit to the Minister that out of 34,000 or 35,000 labourers only 1300 labourers are working under the contractors in the Rourkela steel project area. Only 175 of them have been given employment permanently or temporarily in the Rourkela steel project construction. I think the Government should take note of the grievances and difficulties of the people who are displaced because of the construction of this steel project. They should give proper attention for their proper rehabilitation and resettlement.

I now refer to cut motion with regard to the Ministry of External Affairs. I would point out a very minor point with regard to this Ministry. Recently, the Government of India invited a Leaders delegation from Nepal to India. It so happened that the Government of India invited this Delegation without consulting the Nepalese Government. As far as I know, the Government of Nepal objected to such kinds of invitation extended to the people of Nepal—leaders of Nepal from the Government of India. The feeling of almost all the leaders of the political parties of Nepal and those who are our friends is that in this respect the Government of India is treating Nepal as a protectorate of India rather than a friendly country. Some time back the Soviet Youth Organisation invited a delegation of Indian youths to the Soviet Union, but our Ministry of External Affairs objected to it, I do not know on what grounds. If they can object to such an invitation, why not the Government of Nepal take exception to an invitation to the leaders of parties from Nepal without consulting them?

Shri Thimmaiah (Kolar—Reserved Sch Castes: The other foreign Governments also do the same thing.

Shri Panigrahi: But by this act you are not befriending Nepal. They are our friends. This is a minor point, but still the Government of Nepal feels really embarrassed by it. I hope when extending invitations, we will

[Shri Panigrahi.]

that unnecessarily we do not create bitterness in a friendly country which Nepal is.

I will now only refer to the purchase of foodgrains—Demand No. 117. There have been scarcity conditions in Orissa since last October, and repeatedly we have been bringing this to the notice of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture by way of questions, and every time we are told that the demands of the Government of Orissa are being considered. I would like to know how much help has been given to the scarcity areas of Bihar, Eastern and other States up to this time so far as purchase of foodgrains, rice and wheat, is concerned, and what help has been extended to Orissa actually.

I should like to point out that in Orissa as a result of acute drought, 55,83,307 acres of land have been affected and the number of people affected comes to 61,22,000, and 19,48,000 people want seasonal employment because of failure of crops as a result of this drought. I would like to know the exact amount given to Orissa during these four or five months to help these distressed people in the State. I would like to know also from the Minister what actual amount has been given to Orissa so far as purchase of foodgrains is concerned.

In Orissa, the price per bag of paddy has been fixed at Rs. 17-12-0, but in the nearest border market in West Bengal rice is selling at Rs. 23-8-0, in Bihar it is Rs. 23-12-0 and in the Andhra border it is between Rs. 22 and Rs. 23. How was this price of Rs. 17-12-0 fixed so far Orissa is concerned. At the present rate fixed for Orissa, actually the Government is not in a position to purchase any paddy because the little stock that is now with the farmers is being sold to businessmen and middlemen, and they are again exporting this to the border areas where they are fetching more

price. So, naturally, the little stock that Orissa had is going to the black market because the middlemen are coming into the picture, and the Government of Orissa is trying to purchase paddy, but I think the Government of India should give us a picture as to what extent they have helped us so far as purchase of foodgrains is concerned or afforded help in other ways to the distressed people. I know that the hon. Deputy Food Minister is very helpful to the extent that many times he assures us that he will help us, but I would like him today to tell us to what extent actually he has helped us.

श्री भक्त दशांन (गढ़वाल)। उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, कुछ विशेष मंत्रालयों के बारे में ग्रपने विचार प्रकट करने से पहले मैं ग्रपने कुछ प्रारम्भिक विचार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। प्रतिवर्ष हमारे सामने पूरक बजट बड़ी देरी में लाया जाता है। दिसम्बर में इस सदन के सामने एक पूरक बजट लाया गया था। उम पर इस सदन ने विचार किया था और अब फरवरी में भी हमारे सामने इसे पेश किया जा रहा है जबकि २८ फरवरी को अगले वर्ष का जनरल बजट हमारे सामने पेश किया जाना है। मैं केवल यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या ये विषय इन्हें जरूरी थे कि इनको दो महीने तक रोका नहीं जा सकता था या इन पर पहले ही विचार नहीं किया जा सकता था? मैं चाहता हूँ कि वित्त मंत्रालय इस पर विचार करे।

दूसरी बात में यह कहना चाहता है कि हम लोग जो हिन्दी के प्रेमी हैं उनकी सुविधा के लिये इस पूरक बजट को हिन्दी में भी आपा जाना चाहिये। हम वित्त मंत्रालय के बड़े आभारी हैं कि उसने हर वर्ष के बजट को हिन्दी में भी प्रकाशित करना शुरू किया है। पूरक बजट को हिन्दी में

अकरणित यदि नहीं किया जाता तो इससे उन लोगों को जो भ्रातृपी नहीं जानते हैं, अनुबिधा होती है। अगर इस छोटी सी माग को भी स्वीकार कर लिया जाए और आगे वे पूरक बजट को भी हिन्दी में लिपवाने का विर्जय कर लिया जाये तो इससे काफी सुविधा हो जायेगी।

अब मैं मागों के बारे में कुछ विचार अपके सम्मुख रखना चाहता हूँ। सब से पहले मैं रक्षा-भावालय के सम्बन्ध में कुछ निवेदन करूँगा। मुझे विशेष तौर पर अनदान सम्म्या ६, ११, १२ और १०६ के बारे में अपने विचार प्रकट करने हैं। इस सम्बन्ध में मुझे तीन बातें कहनी हैं। सब से पहली बात यह है कि अनदान सम्म्या ६(ए) तथा ११(ए) के द्वारा हमारे जो डिफेस मिनिस्ट्री वे एम्प्लायीज हैं उनको डाई रूपया माहवार महावाई भत्ता मजूर किया गया है, अर्थात् डाई रूपया माहवार इंटरिम रिलीफ दिया गया है, जबकि डिफेस मिनिस्ट्री वे जो दूसरे सिविल एम्प्लायीज हैं उनको पांच रूपया माहवार दिया गया है, जो कि पे कमिशन की रिकमेंडेशन के अनुसार है। मैं यह जानता चाहता हूँ कि यह फर्क क्यों किया जा रहा है? मैं चाहता हूँ कि मत्री महोदय इस पर प्रकाश ढालें और बतायें कि उनको क्यों डाई रूपये माहवार दिया जा रहा है और क्यों नहीं पे कमिशन की सिफारिश के अनुसार पांच रूपया माहवार दिया जा रहा है? सिविलियस को तो पांच रूपया दिया गया है जबकि मिलिटरी परसोनेल को डाई रूपये बताएं रिलीफ के दिये गये हैं, यह फर्क समझ में नहीं आता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि उनको भी पांच रूपया माहवार दिया जाए और फर्क क्यों किया जा रहा है, इसको सरकार द्वारे बताये।

दूसरी बात में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन भागों में कई जगह यह चिक्क है कि

काम को ठेंदारों द्वारा करवाया गया है और अब उनको उसकी पेंट करनी है। एम० ई० एस० वे द्वारा वे काम ठेंदे पर दिए गए और बाद में जाकर ठेंदारों के साथ अगड़े हुए और अदायगी नहीं की गई, जिसका नतीजा यह हुआ कि आविदेशन कराया गया और मुकदमे चले। आम तौर पर ये मुकदमे गवर्नरेट के लिलाक गए और अब मजबूर होकर उनकी अदायगी करनी पड़ रही है और पूरक बजट में इसकी व्यवस्था की गई है। मैंने दिसम्बर में जब बाद-विवाद हुआ था उस समय भी निवेदन किया था कि यह चीज़ विभाग को शोभा नहीं देती है। मैं जानता हूँ कि एम० ई० एस० के कम्बारी काफी परिश्रमी है और काफी योग्यता के साथ अपना कार्य करते हैं। लेकिन मैंने अवसर देता है जैसे इस में एक उदाहरण दिया गया है कि सन् १९५० में ठेका दिया गया था, काम हो गया था लेकिन उसकी अदायगी नहीं की गई। इस पर सन् १९५५ में आविदेशन की बारी आई और सन् १९५८ में अदायगी की जा रही है। तथ्य यह है कि कई बार ऐसा होता है कि ठेंदारों को परेशान किया जाता है। मैं जानता हूँ कि ठेंदारों वे अन्दर भी बहुत से लोग हैं जो समय पर काम नहीं करते हैं, और तरह-तरह की अडब्बनें डालते हैं। लेकिन मैं चाहता हूँ कि एम० ई० एस० के कम्बारी भी ज्यादा सतर्क हो और उदासता पूर्वक काम करे। मैं रक्षा मत्री जी से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि जब वह उत्तर दें तो हमें यह बतायें कि कितने बेसेज़ में आविदेशन हुआ, कितने बेसेज में मुकदमे चले और कितनों में फैसला उनके हक में हुआ। मैं तो समझता हूँ कि ज्यादातर बेस गवर्नरेट ने लिलाक ही गए हैं और आविदर में जाकर गवर्नरेट को मजबूर होकर अदायगी करनी पड़ी है, और यह रूपया कन्सिलिडेटिड फंड में से दिया गया है और अब इस राजि को पूरक बजट में रखा गया है। इस तरह से सदन के सम्मुख पुरानी अदायगियों का

[श्री भक्त दर्शन]

निवाटार करने के लिये आना गवर्नरेंट के लिये शोभा की बात नहीं है। मैं चाहता हूं कि इस बारे में आनंदीन हो और रियायतें जारी होनी चाहियें कि फेदारों की अदायगियां समय पर की जायें और नियमों का पालन करते हुए उदासता का बर्ताव किया जाये।

तीसरी बात मैं यह कहना चाहता हूं कि डिमांड संख्या १२ में ४८,६४,००० रुपये की अतिरिक्त मांग की जा रही है। इसमें यह कहा गया है कि जो भूतपूर्व संैनिक जिनको पैनशन मिलती है, वे समय पर पैनशन नहीं ले पाते हैं और उनकी पैनशनें एरियर में पड़ी रहती हैं और अब उनकी अदायगी करनी है। मैं रक्षा मंत्री महोदय से यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि ये एरियर होते क्यों हैं, क्या इस पर कभी गम्भीरता से विचार किया गया है? अक्सर हमारे जिनने भी सैनिक लोग हैं वे आमतौर इलाकों के रहने वाले हैं, रुरल एरियाज के रहने वाले हैं। उनके घरों से जो द्रेजरी आफिस होता है वह काफी दूर पड़ जाता है और वे लोग समझते हैं कि जब कभी मकदमे के सिलसिले में या किसी काम से उधर जायेंगे तो जाकर के एक साल की या छः महीने की पैनशन ले लेंगे। वे लोग हर महीने अपनी पैनशन लेने के लिये नहीं जा सकते हैं।

हास्री बात यह भी है कि आपको मालूम ही होगा कि जब प्रिसली स्टेंट्स वीं उस समय उनकी स्टेंट फोर्सेंज में हमारे बहुत से लोग भर्ती हुए थे, जैसे पटियाला थी, कूरुक्षेत्र थी या दूसरी रियासतें थीं। अब उन स्टेंट फोर्सेंज को भारतीय सेना में मर्ज़ी, (बिलीन) कर दिया गया है। लेकिन उसके बाद अब तक भी उनके पैनशन ऐपर ट्रांसफर नहीं हुए हैं। इस तरह की मेरे पास काफी विकायतें थाई हैं और उनको मैं ने रक्षा मंत्री जी के पास भेज दिया है। हमारे

यहां (गद्वाल में) बहुत से भूतपूर्व सैनिक हैं जो खालियर में या अलवर में या पटियाला में नौकरी करते थे, वहां की स्टेंट फोर्सेंज में थे और उनको पैनशन लेने के लिये वहां उतनी दूर जाना पड़ता है। इस प्रक्षल को मैंने दो साल पहले भी उठाया था और इसके बारे में लिखा पड़ी भी की थी। मुझे यह उत्तर दिया गया था कि जो फाइनेंशल इंटेरेशन है वह पूरा नहीं हुआ है। तब तक जो “बी” क्लास स्टेंट्स भानी जाती थी, उनके एकाउंटंट्स रिजर्व बैंक के द्वारा ट्रांसफर नहीं हो सकते थे। यह एक कानूनी अड़चन थी, जो मुझे बतलाई गई थी। अब मैं समझता हूं कि यह अड़चन नहीं रह गई है, क्योंकि सारी की सारी “ए” क्लास स्टेंट्स बन गई है और सभी राज्य पुनर्गठन के बाद एक ही श्रेणी में आ गए हैं। इस बास्ते अब यह अड़चन नहीं होनी चाहिये।

इस सम्बन्ध में मैं दो सुझाव रखा मंत्री जी के सम्मुख रखना चाहता हूं। पहला तो यह है कि जिन लोगों के पैनशन-ऐपर दूर पड़े हुए हैं और उनको दूसरी जगह जाना पड़ता है, उनको उनके होम डिस्ट्रिक्ट्स में ट्रांसफर कर दिया जाए। इसके लिए आप यह न करें कि आप उनसे दरखास्तें मारें। लाखों आदमी कहां तक अर्जियां देंगे? इस बास्ते मैं चाहता हूं कि रक्षा मंत्रालय स्वयं आदेश जारी कर दे कि जो एकाउंट्स दूर पड़े हुए हैं उनको उन सैनिकों के बिलों की द्रेजरीज में ट्रांसफर कर दिया जाए। दूसरा भेरा सुझाव यह है कि जो हैंडिली रिस्ट्रेंड एरियाज हैं, वहां पर बहुत ज्यादा भूतपूर्व सैनिक हैं, वहां कुछ बिलों के यह व्यवस्था हो जाए कि साल में एक बार या दो बार द्रेजरी आफिसर स्वयं रुपया बांटने के लिये जाया करे। बहुत से घंडे लोग होते हैं, विचारों होती हैं, जूले-लंगड़े होते हैं, इनवैलिड लोग होते हैं जो हैंडिली

तक नहीं जा सकते हैं। अगर ऐसी व्यवस्था हो जाए कि जहां पर भूत्पूर्व सैनिकों की ज्यादा संख्या है वहां पर रक्षा-मन्त्रालय स्टेट गवर्नमेंट वे साथ लिखा-पढ़ी करवे: ट्रेजरी अफिसर को टी० ए० देवे और वह साल में एक या दो बार वहां पर जा कर अदायगी कर आया करे तो मेरे समझता हूँ कि जो एरियर एक्यूमलेट होने हैं, वे नहीं होंगे और लोगों को भी सुविधा हो जाएगी।

भारतीय डाक-तार विभाग की जो डिमांड नम्बर ८३ है, उसके सम्बन्ध में मुझे यह निवेदन करना है कि मेरे अपनी ओर से तथा अतिरिक्त विभागीय स्टाफ की ओर से मत्री महोदय को इस बात के लिए अन्यावाद देता हूँ कि उन्होंने दो रुपया महगाई भत्ता, इंटरिम रिलाफ के तौर पर, जो हमारा एक्सट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल स्टाफ है, उसके लिए दिया है, इसके बारे में वैसे तो एक कमेटी बैठी हुई है और श्री राजन, पी० ए० एड टी० डिपार्टमेंट के उसके चेयरमैन है और वह इस बीज की जाच कर रही है। यह कमेटी अपना कार्य कर रही है। लेकिन इनके केस में भी क्यों फर्क किया गया है, यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आया है। “सब धान बा० स पसेरी” वाली कहावत यहां चरितार्थ होती है। जहां एक्सट्रा डिपार्टमेंटल पोस्ट अफिस खुलता है वहां पर बीस रुपये में एक पोस्ट-मैन रख लिया जाता है, बीस रुपये में ही एक पोस्ट-मास्टर रख लिया जाता है और बीस रुपये में ही डाक-हरकारा रख दिया जाता है। चाहे काम मेरे फर्क है, लेकिन २० रुपये मासिक का एक ग्रेड बना हुआ है। १० रु० भूल बेतन, १० रु० महगाई भत्ता। यह २० रु० जो दिया जा रहा है वह बहुत कम है। हालांकि मेरे जानता हूँ कि यह आशा की जाती है कि उनके पास कुछ और भी काम है, दूकान है, या लेती

करते हैं। लेकिन मेरे ने अक्सर देखा है कि डाक-हरकारों व पोस्टमैनों का दिन भर लग जाता है और वह दूसरा काम नहीं कर सकते। इसलिये यह माग की जा रही है कि उन का मूल्य भत्ता बढ़ाया जाय। इस लिये होना तो यह चाहिये था कि अगर केन्द्रीय सरकार के द्वासे कर्मचारियों को ५ रु० मासिक नया भत्ता दिया जा रहा था तो उन्हे १० रु० दिया जाना चाहिये था। न्याय का यही तकाजा था। लेकिन कम से कम ५ रु० तो दिया ही जाता। उस के बदले २ रु० की बढ़ोतरी की गई—यह बहुत असन्तोषजनक है, यह बहुत अपर्याप्त है। मेरे मत्री महोदय से निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जब अगले साल का बजट वह पेश करेतो पहले तो ज्यादा होना चाहिये, नहीं तो जितना सेन्ट्रल गवर्नमेंट के स्टाफ को दिया गया है, उनके बराबर तो उन्हे दिया ही जाना चाहिये।

डिमांड नम्बर १२७ के सम्बन्ध में मुझे एक सुझाव देना है। उसमें स्टोर्स के बारे में जिक्र किया गया है। बास्टर में डाक और तार विभाग के स्टोर्स की हालत बहुत खराब है मेरे उत्तर प्रदेश के बारे में बतलाऊ। तीन साल से २२ तहसील हेडवार्टर्स हैं जिनके लिए विभाग ने स्त्रीकृति दी थी कि वहां तारधर खोले जायेंगे। आज तीन साल से लगातार हम प्रयत्न कर रहे हैं लेकिन अधिकाश जगहों में तारधर नहीं खुले और यह बीमा गवर्नमेंट से नकाज किया जाता है, तो कहा जाता है कि हमारे पास स्टोर्स नहीं हैं। पता नहीं स्टोर्स कहाँ चल जाते हैं कैसे उन का बटवारा हो रहा है। मैं इस बात की प्रश्नसा करता हूँ और बधाई देता हूँ कि इस में ज्यादा मांग की जा रही है और ज्यादा स्टोर्स आने वाले हैं लेकिन उनका वितरण और फूटीं से होना चाहिये, ताकि दूर-दूर के इलाकों में तारधर खुल सके।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप भी सहमत होंगे इससे क्योंकि आप का निर्वाचित ज्ञेय जो

[श्री महान् दर्शन]

आमों से सम्बन्ध रखता है। बहुत से गांव ऐसे हैं जहां पर डाकखाना खोलता, तारबर सो बहुत बड़ी बात है, स्वराज्य की नई निशानी है। वहां और तो कुछ हो ही नहीं पाता, बड़े बड़े बाघ नहीं बन सकते, रेलवे लाइन नहीं खुल सकती, एक नया डाकघर खुल जाना भगवान की ओर से बरखान सिद्ध होता है। तो मैं समझता हूँ स्टोर्स की पोजीशन पर सास तौर से ध्यान दिया जाना चाहिये, और जहां तक सेंकिड प्रोपोजल्स का सम्बन्ध है, उन्हें जल्द से जल्द पूरा किया जाना चाहिये।

डिमांड संख्या १३० के सम्बन्ध में, कैपिटल आउटले औन रोड्स के सम्बन्ध में मुझे इतना कहना है कि हम लोग केन्द्रीय सरकार के बहुत भ्रमित हैं कि उन्होंने काफी रुपया राज्य सरकारों के लिये रक्खा है ताकि जो आधिक महत्व की सड़कें हैं उन का विकास किया जाये। लेकिन मैं एक शिकायत गवर्नरेंट के सामने रखना चाहता हूँ। मुझे उत्तर प्रदेश के अधिकारियों से मिलने का अवसर मिला। उन्होंने बताया कि वे कई यांगे अब तक केन्द्रीय सरकार से कर चुके, लेकिन रुपया रिलीज नहीं होता है। रुपया बजट में रखा जाता है, लेकिन रिलीज नहीं होता। वे कहते हैं कि हम पेमेंट नहीं कर पाते हैं, किस तरह से फेंकेदारों को दें, काम कैसे आगे बढ़ाया जाये? केवल कागज पर रख देने से काम नहीं चलता। मैं एक उदाहरण दूँ। बोहन-मर्चुला डोमेला बैजरो रोड मेरे जिले में है, इस सड़क के लिये १२ लाख रुपया स्कीम के अन्दर मंजूर हुआ है, पर उस में से बहुत कम रुपया भ्रमी तक उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को दिया गया है, जब कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने सड़क का अधिकार काम पूरा कर लिया है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ मंजूर भ्रौदय से कि इन रुपयों को जहर रिलीज किया जाये और जो प्रेसाम

स्वीकार किया गया है वह जल्दी से जल्दी कार्यान्वित किया जाये।

डिमांड नं० ७६ के बारे में मूँस से पहले श्री मध्यवा और श्री पाणिपांडी शाहब ने प्रकाश डाला है। इंडियन व्यूरो आफ माईस के लिये १ करोड़ रुपया प्लान में रखा गया था। यह बड़ी प्रसन्नता का विषय है कि वह २.१४ करोड़ कर दिया गया है। लेकिन वास्तव में अगर सारे देश को देखा जाये तो यह पर्याप्त नहीं है। पिछले दिनों, एक वर्ष पहले तक की जो रिपोर्ट है, जिम्मालोजिकल सर्वे आफ इंडिया की, उस से मालूम हुआ कि अभी तक हमारे देश का ७५ परसेंट हिस्सा ऐसा है जिस का जिम्मालो-जिकल मैं पै तैयार नहीं हुआ है। अर्थात् यह पता नहीं कि कितना भंडार हमारी भूमि में छिपा पड़ा है। अभी न मैंग हुआ है न सबै हुआ है। पूरे आंकड़े हमारे सामने नहीं आये हैं, पूरे तर्थ, पूरे फैस्ट एंड फिगर्स नहीं आये हैं, एक बेंग आइडिया है, हमारे सामने एक अस्पष्ट दृश्य है सारे देश का कि हमारी भूमि रत्नगर्भ है, उस के पास इतनी अधिक सम्पत्ति है। जैसे मैं ने अपने जिले के सम्बन्ध में यांगे रख्लीं वहां तांबे की खानें थीं, राजाओं के जमाने में, ब्रिटिश सरकार के आने से पहले, एक ब्रिटिश सरकार ने आते ही उन्हें बन्द करवा दिया। और अभी तक वह बन्द की बन्द है। जांच-पड़ताल हो चुकी है, लेकिन मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि क्यों काम शुरू नहीं किया जाता। वहां जिम्मोलोजिस्ट जा चुके हैं, उन्होंने प्रभागित कर दिया है कि वहां बहुत अच्छे प्रकार का कौपर पाया जाता है। और देश में तांबे की आज कमी है। मुझे अच्छी तरह याद नहीं, लेकिन मेरा स्थाल है कि जितनी हमारी तांबे की आवश्यकता है उस का १/४ हिस्सा भी हम पूरा नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। शायद १० करोड़ रुपये का तांबा हम आयात करते हैं।

Shri Naazir Bharscha: 35,000 tons are the demand. 25 per cent is the supply from indigenous sources.

जी भवत इर्फ़न : भतलब यह कि करीब १० करोड़ रुपये का ताबा हम भौं देशों से आंगे रहे हैं। अतः हमारे देश में ताबे के विकास की बड़ी भारी गुजाइश है और हमारे उद्योग धरों, हमारे आर्थिक जीवन पर उस का बड़ा असर पड़ने वाला है, इसलिये आज भाग की जा रही है कि उस को तेजी से आगे बढ़ाया जाये।

अन्त में मुझे डिमाड संख्या ६४ के बारे में एक छोटा सा निवेदन करना है। वह यह है कि बद्र, हाउसिंग ऐंड सप्लाई मिनिस्ट्री के अन्तर्गत अदर सिविल बड़म के लिये दो करोड़ ७६ लाख ४३ हजार रुपया रक्खा गया है दूसरे विभागों का काम करने के लिये। यानी एक नो मेन्टेनेंस पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० अपना काम करता है और कुछ दूसरे विभागों का करता है, जैसे पोस्ट ऐंड टेलिग्राफ डिपार्टमेंट है, सिविल एविएशन है। पोस्ट ऐंड टेलिग्राफ डिपार्टमेंट के बारे में आपको शायद याद होगा, कि जितना रुपया पहली पचवर्षीय योजना में रक्खा गया था, मैं समझता हूं उसका आधा रुपया भी खर्च नहीं हो पाया। कितनी खराब हालत है, इससे सब परिचित है। कई बार इस सदन में उस पर वाद-विवाद हुआ है कि डाक-तार विभाग अपने इजीनियर रक्खे ताकि वह अपना काम आगे बढ़ा सके। यह जो सी० पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० है, केंद्रीय नोक कर्म विभाग है, उसके अन्दर तेजी आनी चाहिये। पिछले दिनों दोनों विभागों में एक समझौता हुआ था और एक लियेजो आफिसर (एक सम्पर्क अधिकारी) की नियुक्ति की गई थी। उसके बाद काम बढ़ाने की बात सोची जा रही है, लेकिन जहां तक मुझे पता है अभी तक तेजी नहीं आ पाई है और शिविल गति से काम हो रहा है। द्वितीय 'च वर्षीय योजना में, जहां तक मुझ भालूम है, शायद १० करोड़

रुपये का प्रीविजन है डाक तार विभाग की बिल्डिंगें बनाने के लिये। लेकिन इस बधे की रिपोर्ट के द्वन्द्वार कोई ज्यादा रुपया खर्च नहीं हो सका है। इस लिये मैं अपने सी० पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० से खास तौर से अ० औ बरना चाहता हूं कि जहां तक दूसरे विभागों की उसने जिम्मेदारी ले रखती है, खास कर औस्ट ऐंड टेलिग्राफ डिपार्टमेंट की, उसकी बिल्डिंगें जल्दी में जल्दी बनाने की उस की जिम्मेदारी है।

अन्त में मुझे एक ही बात कहनी है। वह यह कि इस डिमाड के अन्तर्गत रिकवीजीशन बिल्डिंग भी आती है। इस बारे में इस भवन में काफी बाद विवाद हो चुका है अ० ए० क वा० नून भी पिछले दिनों पास हो चुका है। यहा० शिकायत की गयी थी कि मकान-मालिकों द्वारा नियंत्रण की गयी थी कि मकान-मालिकों द्वारा भी मकान रिकवीजीशन कर लिये जाने हैं और उनको जबरदस्त होने पर भी वापस नहीं विया जाता है। मैं आपको द्वारा मश्नूलग के भासने यह शिकायत रखना चाहता हूं कि गवर्नरमेंट ने कुछ लोगों द्वारा लिये कुछ इमारतों को रिकवीजीशन किया है परं वे लोग उ० इमारतों को सबल्टेट कर देते हैं। दूर जाने को आवश्यक नहीं, यही पर दिल्ली में कनाट सरकास में छतरीवाला की बिल्डिंग है जो कि लडाई के जमाने में रिकवीजीशन की गयी थी। उसके ऊपर के हिस्से में तो सरकारी कर्मचारी रहते हैं और नीचे एक यौकं रेस्टूरां खुला हुआ है। न मालूम कैसे यह स्थान यौकं रेस्टूरां को गिल गया? इस बिल्डिंग को सरकारी कर्मचारियों के लिये रिकवीजीशन किया गया था और यौकं रेस्टूरां के लिये नहीं। लेकिन यह स्थान उनके पास है और उन्होंने वहां कई और दूकां भी चलवा रखी हैं। तो मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूं कि विभाग को स बात की भी देखभाल करकी चाहिये। जिन बिस्तरस की अब सरकार

[श्री भगत दर्शन]

को आवश्यकता नहीं है उनको छोड़ दिया जाये और यदि इन इमारतों की सरकार को आवश्यकता है तो उनके बारे में जो नियम हैं उनका ठीक-ठीक पालन किया जाये। यह बिल्डिंग जिसका मैंने किक किया इसका इतना मध्य-ल्यटिंग कर दिया गया है कि जो ऊपर सरकारी कर्मचारी रहते हैं उनको जोन से ऊपर जान भे काटनाई होती है। ऐसे ग्रैंड रेस्टरां हैं। आप जानते हैं कि दिल्ली के रेस्टरां किस तरह के होते हैं। वहां पर किस प्रकार का विलामिता का नगर दृश्य तोता है यह सब को मालूम है। कैसी शराब पी जाती है

प्रतिरक्षा उत्तमश्री (सरदार अजीठिया) : अब कहां शराब पी जाती है। अब तो लाइसेंस नहीं है।

श्री भगत दर्शन : मैं समझता हूँ कि अभी भी हफ्ते में कन्दो दिन की छुट है।

उत्तमश्री भहोदय : हो सकता है कि माननीय सदस्य के लम्बे में हो, आप मुतें तो

श्री भगत दर्शन : मेरा निजी अनुभव नहीं है, जो मैंने सुना है वही मुझे मालूम है। मैंने तो ऐसे रेस्टरां को दूर से भी नहीं देखा है। मेरे कहने का भत्तलब यह है कि इस प्रकार इस बिल्डिंग का दुष्पर्योग हो रहा है जिसका नतीजा पह है कि जो ऊपर सरकारी कर्मचारी रहते हैं उनकी स्थियों को वहा रहने में कठिनाई हो रही है। इसलिये मैंने यह उदाहरण दिया कि रिकवीजीक्षन्ड बिल्डिंग का किस प्रकार यहां पर सरकार का नियंत्रण रहते हुए भी दुष्पर्योग हो रहा है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी चीजों की ज्ञानवीन की जाये और संप्रकार की मारतों का सुषुप्तयोग नीता चाहि

Shri B. K. Galkwad (Nasik): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I have moved a cut motion No. 3 which relates to a strike which had taken place at Nasik Road by the workers of India Security Press. In that connection, I have some grievance which I want to put before the House and before the Minister, and it is this.

There are about 4022 workers. Out of them, about 3600 workers had gone on strike. There are 2 unions. One is the INTUC and the other is the India Security Press Mazdoor Sangh. The strike was organised by the India Security Press Mazdoor Sangh. There were about 16 demands made by this union. Out of these demands, some were agreed to; but, there was dispute on one demand, namely, that the week should be of 44 hours.

Today, the workers are working 48 hours a week.

17 hrs.

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Can a matter of policy be raised?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is objection that a matter of policy is being raised here now.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: He is talking about a strike which does not exist at present.

Shri B. K. Galkwad: I just want to put a grievance as regards the strike. I am not talking about the strike but coming to the conclusion that there is such and such grievance which should be remedied. That is I want to put.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member may continue tomorrow. We will now take up the half-an-hour discussion.

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I submit that if we do not ensure the quorum before we start this discussion and if somebody were to refer to it, then the whole thing will fall through. Let us just have the quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No reasons are required. The hon. Member wanted to draw my attention to the want of quorum. Let the bell be rung. Now there is quorum. The hon. lady Member may proceed.

INDO-PAK CANAL WATER DISPUTE

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha (Barh): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while raising this discussion, I am afraid that I am taking this opportunity to tire this House once again about this important matter. This discussion has been coming in time and again in this House and Members have been fully informed about the developments by the hon. Minister. But the recent coming and going of the visitors from the World Bank have raised some fresh interest, if not fresh hopes, regarding this dispute. Therefore, I have taken this opportunity to bring some ideas that are coming to my mind and also in the minds of the other hon. Members.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, you know that since the last November some representatives of the World Bank have been coming to this sub-continent for talks for the final settlement of this dispute between India and Pakistan but as usual they have gone back, I think, without any sense of fulfilment and I think this time also they have gone with a sense of failure with regard to a permanent settlement of this dispute. Meanwhile, this delay, I am afraid, is causing in this country a heavy loss, financial, moral and psychological day by day and doubts are increasing in the minds of the people of this country whether Pakistan at all wants a solution of this problem. On the other hand, the

incidents and events are there, rather to prove that Pakistan has made this economic matter into a cold war dispute and is trying by conscious and calculated delay to lubricate the propaganda machine to malign India, not only in Pakistan, but also before other countries of the world. And, we are, unfortunately, sharing in that propaganda, because the more time we give the more they get the chance to misrepresent this issue and cause confusion in most of the countries of the world that India is being very very unfair to Pakistan in the two vital problems for settlement—one is Kashmir and the other is canal waters. Sir, this time I was in the United Nations and, unfortunately, I think most of the statesmen when they used to speak off the record often said: "What is this? You have got two disputes to settle and in both these disputes India is being a little unfair." And, we have had to allay their fears by explaining our position, both in regard to the Jammu and Kashmir dispute and also with regard to the canal waters dispute. Sir, we have always been paying dividend on the generous side.

Therefore, I would like to bring to the notice of the House—I really need not bring this thing to the notice of the House because the House is very well aware of this fact—that Pakistan is trying its utmost to create a confusion about these matters in the world, and Pakistan is proving a little bit successful in their propaganda campaign in maligning India.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, you must have passed through a newspaper report about the speech of Ch. Mohammed Ali, ex-Prime Minister of Pakistan—(I do not know how many Prime Ministers they actually had, so far and it is very difficult to remember their names)—in which he threatened India saying, to quote his own words "If India did not see reasons soon enough and did not honour her international commitments over the question of Kashmir and canal waters, India shall have to pay very heavily

[Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha]

for it". What is this kind of threat, I cannot understand. What does this ultimatum means. It is not only the ex-Prime Minister of Pakistan who is making such statements. Even representatives of the present Government under Mr. Feroze Khan Noon have made, if not such a statement, similar statements threatening India, that if these disputes are not solved the consequences might be very heavy.

I would ask, what are they going to do to us if we are going on in a reasonable manner and considerate manner? I just can't understand. And, this sort of giving ultimatums, I think, should be very very strongly resented by our country, because this is not the one instance where such things have been done.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon. lady Member want to ask this Government or the other Government?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: This Government must protest strongly. After all, what is the sense in giving ultimatums and threats like this to this Government. I would have kept quiet if it would have been only one instance where such a threat is given. All the newspapers of Pakistan are full of this propaganda that India is choking Pakistan dry. It is not only done in Pakistan. Mr. Suhawardi, ex-Prime Minister of Pakistan, when he went to America made some statement that India is choking Pakistan dry. Almost all the newspapers were full of these things. In every newspaper of Pakistan we are condemned for choking Pakistan dry, killing Pakistan, withholding water from them which is very important for their very existence and so on and so forth.

Propaganda is going on like this. As I said, many responsible members of the Government as well as other responsible people there have been constantly indulging in this propaganda. They have been creating this impression that it is not Pakistan

which does not wish a solution of the problem, it is India which does not want a solution of the problem.

This dispute, as I said, is not new to the Members of this House. Time and again this question has come before this Parliament and in both the Houses. I have heard the statement made by the hon. Minister twice, and I was very much impressed by the statement which was a very, very bold and informative one, giving all the detailed information which we wanted to know. But I want to ask the hon. Minister how far this generosity is paying us dividends.

On the other hand, if we turn to the pages of history since 1948, I think that the 1948 agreement or the postscript which was written on the agreement after 1948, has become more cumbersome, more complicated and more confusing. The basic agreement has gone completely into the background and all the relevant matters, so to say, were completely blackened out. The basic agreement of 1948 has gone placid, and as I said, the postscript of the letter or the agreement is becoming more and more cumbersome and complicated. I think it has become very difficult now, and the hon. Minister feels that it is very difficult for him, even to get out of the cumbersome complications that have arisen after the 1948 agreement.

I am afraid I shall be once again placing before this House the basic things of 1948 agreement. The Members of this House will remember that India and Pakistan entered into an agreement in 1948 by which progressively India was to give a diminishing supply to Pakistan canals by her own rivers and India gave ample time to Pakistan to tap her own resources. The House is also aware of the development of 1952, when Mr. Black, the President of the World Bank, came out with a fresh proposal in order to divide the rivers between India and Pakistan. The six rivers of the Indus

basin were to be divided, the western rivers to Pakistan and the eastern rivers to India. But Pakistan as usual did not accept that proposal.

In 1954 also, with the influence and co-operation of Mr. Black, another proposal came from the World Bank by which they extended the term of five years for Pakistan to build her own canals for connecting the western rivers to irrigate their lands. As you know, we agreed to pay the construction cost of these canals,—link canals as they are called. Pakistan again rejected the plan or the proposal of the World Bank. Not only have they rejected it, but so far, no talk has been conducted without Pakistan's interference. That shows very clearly that Pakistan does not want at all a solution of this problem. They do not want to lose a pawn in their game of maligning India. They are not very keen in really solving this problem and bringing this problem to a certain solution for the welfare of their own people. They are not interested in that. Otherwise, they would have treated this question not on a political basis but on the economic basis, and they would have had this sense of judgment and propriety and should have felt that the World Bank would not have touched this problem and negotiated upon it if they would have thought that this thing is on a propaganda basis or a political campaign. But the World Bank thought that this is an economic issue and therefore they came into the picture. Pakistan unfortunately has completely forgotten the economic aspect of the question, but only pursues the politics, without caring whether they are right or wrong. That is why I say that even for the welfare of their own people, they do not want a solution of this problem. Otherwise, they would have agreed to some solution long ago.

As you know, in this agreement we have been a loser. Pakistan got 80 per cent. of the supply and India got only 20 per cent. But we agreed to that. Then, even after that, talks were continuing. Mr. Iliff came meanwhile,

and the hon. Minister, when his attention was called to an urgent matter of public importance, made a statement that he is not in a position to disclose the outcome of the proposals or that he is not able to make a definite statement about the results of the talks because the talks are still going on, and the talks are in a very premature stage.

But meanwhile, news has been appearing in the press and it has been disturbing. I have seen some of the press comments in India and more in Pakistan to the effect that Mr. Iliff came with a different proposal and that proposal is different from the original proposal of 1954 and that the new proposal is going to give further concessions to Pakistan in this dispute. I hope these rumours are incorrect. But there are rumours, and I would just like to have an assurance from the hon. Minister that nothing of this kind is going to happen, and no further concession is going to be given to Pakistan.

There are also rumours that perhaps a suggestion has come before the parties to refer this dispute to certain international agencies for arbitration. I would like to have an assurance from the hon. Minister that in no case we are going to have this arbitration business again.

We have been a heavy loser with regard to Kashmir. Before our own eyes, we became a chess-board of the international political manipulations. We do not want to create another precedent by referring this canal water dispute to any sort of arbitration whatsoever. We want to settle this dispute ourselves. We would tell Pakistan very clearly that it is no use mincing matters of delaying matters. We would like to settle this once for all and we would like to have an assurance that the deadline fixed by the hon. Minister in this case would on no account be extended. After this deadline, we must look after our own business, and we cannot take responsibility for doing anything in

[Shrimati Tarakeshwari Sinha].
regard to canals or any other thing in respect of Pakistan.

There is another important matter, to which I would like to refer. That relates to the dues. I do not know why people say there is a dispute about it. What is the dispute in it? Under every canon of justice and propriety, these dues must be paid to us. They are in arrears with Pakistan. I do not understand why it is called a disputed amount. Pakistan has utilized the water, agreement or no agreement. Therefore, under the canons of justice, propriety and good business deal, they must pay for that. They have utilized the water. What is the dispute in it. I cannot understand. It is our dues. Why should this be called a disputed amount? There is no dispute in that, not at all. The thing is very clear. Pakistan has utilized water, and they must pay for that.

The arrears are now increasing, according to the statement made by the hon. Minister himself. It is mounting up and still we are keeping quiet. We must take some immediate action in the matter. I would like to have an assurance from the hon. Minister that we are not going to show any further concession in regard to these dues. Pakistan must pay the dues, and we must get the money that is lying with Pakistan as arrears. I would conclude by saying that nobody should expect, and it includes Pakistan also, that this Parliament is going to sign a blank cheque in this regard for all time to come.

Shri Supakar (Sambalpur) —rose.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member must finish within a minute or two.

Shri Supakar: I want to put a few questions to the hon. Minister. Firstly, is it a fact that it is convenient for Pakistan not to continue any negotiation with India on account of the fact

that when there is no further talk between India and Pakistan, they do not find it necessary to reduce their withdrawal of water from Indian rivers.

Secondly, is it a fact, as is stated, for several years or months in the past, the withdrawal by Pakistan of the canal water is not increasing more than 50 per cent of what it was in the year 1948.

Thirdly, there is a report of 31st January when Mr. Iliff came to India that there would be no exclusive rights on allotted rivers to the two countries, namely, three western rivers to Pakistan and three eastern rivers to India, and that there would be further mutual adjustment between the two countries. If that is the proposal, is it a fact that India is agreeable to consider that proposal on its merits? It will wipe out all the previous commitments made by the Government of Pakistan under the agreement dated 4th May, 1948. It was stated in the agreement that Pakistan in the course of years would not want any more water from the Indian rivers. Do the Government consider this as a counterblast to wipe out the previous agreement?

These are the questions and doubts that arise in my mind, and I hope the hon. Minister will be able to answer them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Kasliwal may put a question.

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah): Sir, previously under certain conditions, India had agreed to pay a sum of Rs. 40 crores for the construction of link canals in Pakistan—I am saying 'under certain agreed conditions'. I would now like to know whether there is a change in the position now after the coming to India of Mr. Iliff from the World Bank.

The Minister of Irrigation and power (Shri S. K. Patil): I wish a better day could have been chosen

for this debate, because apart from the interest taken by Members, this is in a way an international question where people other than the people of this country are also interested. Whatever it may be, I can understand the anxiety of hon. Members as to what is going to happen to this, what is popularly known as, canal water dispute. Members are concerned that possibly India is making more concessions than it ought to. They are equally concerned to know that Pakistan is not fulfilling the terms of the agreement, the Indo-Pakistan Agreement, that was solemnly entered into in 1948.

I do not propose to go into the whole question; it will take a very long time; and, besides, there is no session when at least a dozen questions on various aspects of this dispute are not asked and answered. I shall come to a few very relevant points which have been raised from time to time, if by doing so I may be able to allay the apprehensions and fears entertained by several Members of this House.

The House knows very well, and reference was also made to it by the hon. lady Member, that under the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of May 4, 1948, the Government of Pakistan undertook to deposit in the Reserve Bank of India such *ad hoc* sums as might be specified by the Prime Minister of India from time to time. Now, this sum does not differ from year to year—it of course slightly differs generally, because of calculations, etc. But I shall give the House some idea as to what is disputed and what is undisputed, how much money Pakistan has paid and how much they have not paid. This is the question which too often recurs in this House, and therefore an explanation in that behalf is very necessary.

The two canals through which water is supplied to Pakistan are the Upper Bari Doab Canal, which Pakistan calls the Central Bari Doab Canal—they mean one and the same thing—and the Dipalpur Canal which takes from

Ferozepur. The undisputed charges are about Rs. 30 lakhs per year, maybe a little more or a little less, which Pakistan is paying almost regularly and in full. These consist of proportionate share of the recurring cost on maintenance and operation, together with interest on capital value of the works in Indian territory through which Pakistan receives water for two of its canals. The capital value for this purpose is taken at twice the book value of the capital cost of these works. The rate of interest is 4 per cent. Now, the disputed charges consist of seigniorage and additional interest on capital value of the Upper Bari Doab Canal which Punjab claimed should be taken as equal to four times and not two times the book value of the capital cost of the works built about a hundred years ago.

For the first two years, up to the quarter ending June, 1950, Pakistan paid the disputed charges amounting to Rs. 29 lakhs which are deposited in a escrow account in the Reserve Bank. No charges were paid or deposited thereafter. The disputed charges outstanding against Pakistan are now about Rs. 90 lakhs.

Now, hon. Members will understand these two things. The charges that are made, not for the water, but for the maintenance, servicing of these canals that run through Indian territory, are of the order of about Rs. 30 lakhs a year. There is no dispute about that. Pakistan agrees, India agrees. They are a part of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement. These charges are almost regularly paid. There is no quarrel about that.

So far as the disputed charges are concerned, they are disputed because whereas Pakistan regards twice the booked cost as the value of the works capital the Punjab Government want four times. That dispute is there as to what should be the proper thing. Therefore, a proper remedy has been found out that *ad hoc* payments should be made, they should be held in an escrow account,

[Shri S. K. Patil]

and afterwards, by some kind of arrangement between the two countries or by some kind of arbitration, it should be finally decided as to what should happen. Pakistan, in fulfilment of the second point, namely payment of disputed charges has paid only about Rs. 28 lakhs. Up to now, the arrears have gone to about Rs. 90 lakhs. This is about disputed and undisputed charges.

As I said, I do not want to go into the whole history of it. I could assure this to the House. The hon. Lady Member suggested, if Pakistan regards this canal water dispute as a part of what she styled as cold war—it is not a very happy expression; waters are sometimes cold; surely on that account we should not call it cold war. But, surely if it is going to be a kind of sister dispute to the Kashmir dispute, naturally we can do precious little about it because both the disputes possibly can be solved simultaneously. But, if it is an economic dispute, if it is an agricultural dispute, if it is a dispute where the interests of millions of subjects of Pakistan and India are vitally concerned, then, surely, there should be no trouble whatsoever in arriving at a settlement. I am of this view that the political aspect does not exist, as it does not exist so far as India is concerned, I have made it abundantly clear on more than one occasion in this House and in the other House that so far as we are concerned, we have no political angle whatsoever in this dispute. We look upon it as an economic dispute and it has got to be solved, as I said, in the larger interests not only of the people of this country, but of even the people of Pakistan. That is exactly the basis of the Indo-Pakistan Agreement of 1948. Otherwise, all these conditions would not have been agreed to.

Therefore, my appeal to Pakistan is that they should cease to look upon this question as if it is a sister dispute to Kashmir, sit at the table and merely consider the problem from the

economic and agricultural stand point. I am sure within 24 hours, a solution can be found to all these outstanding differences of opinion. It is exactly for the same reason that the World Bank has entered this field. Otherwise, there was no locus standi so far as the World Bank was concerned. They conceived that there was a possibility of this dispute ultimately growing into a political dispute and then if it becomes a political dispute, surely there is no end to it. Therefore, they entered on the scene and suggested, why not treat it as an economic dispute and try to resolve it. That is why since 1952, more especially since they made their proposals which are the famous proposals of 1954, the World Bank has come.

What is the position? India is very anxious to see that the dispute is treated as an economic dispute. The people of Pakistan or the farmers of Pakistan must get water. So also the farmers in India must get water. Therefore, arrangements must be speedily made that the water that Pakistan was withdrawing from the eastern rivers must be withdrawn from the western rivers so that they have water. We have also promised that whatever the link canals or other arrangements will have to be done in order to divert the withdrawal from the eastern to the western rivers, India shall pay. What India shall pay? We shall pay a sum which will be regarded both by Pakistan and India—if a dispute occurs somebody will come to help us, the World Bank or other agency—we shall be prepared to pay what is the most economic and straightforward charged for these link canals. I can tell the House because there is no catch in my expression, and it is this. Supposing Pakistan wants to have canals which not merely are confined to the historic withdrawal of water, but they want these canals to be used even for their expansion or development. They have got a right to do so. One cannot build canals very often for one purpose, and then another canal for another

purpose. So, we say, although you have a right to construct such a canal, we shall not pay all the money that you will require; we shall pay what we shall agree mutually to pay, i.e., the most economic and the straightforward cost of those canals. Whether it costs Rs. 40 or Rs. 50 or Rs. 30 crores we do not know, but we are bound by this commitment, and as time passes we are afraid that India will have to pay increasingly more because the cost is rising. The loser is India, because what was the most economic and straightforward cost possibly ten years ago may not be so today, and if they linger on for another two years, that cost is likely to be more. But we are committed to do one thing, that in the most economic and straightforward manner the link canals that will ultimately replace the historic withdrawals of water from the eastern rivers will be paid for by India.

Another point which was made in this House and in the other House is this: while they have built some canals and are already withdrawing some water, why are we not paying for the link canals? In fact, I was asked a very pertinent question: surely there is no justification for using something for which you have not paid. I could tell you one thing. India does not want to back out of its commitment we cannot begin payment before an agreement is reached. Also if you go on paying piecemeal for the little work that they do, possibly the solution of the problem will be delayed. We are anxious for that solution, as I have pointed out, for many reasons, because firstly we want to have the water, and secondly if time passes, naturally the construction cost also rises. Therefore, we have very respectfully submitted to the World Bank that we want to pay and we could have paid; if the whole solution was arrived at, as a part of that payment we would have paid even for the link canals constructed today. There is no disqualification or backing out of the commitment that India has made so

far as the most economic and straightforward payment for these link canals is concerned.

That brings us to one or two things more, as to what will happen and what is the present position. The House knows very well, because it has been told often enough, that the quantum of water that Pakistan was drawing in 1948 from these canals was of the order of about 10 million acre feet, which is a big quantity of water. Now Pakistan must arrange to draw that 10 million acre feet of water, or more or less if they want—it is their choice—from the western rivers which in the quantum of water are four times bigger as compared to the three eastern rivers. There, is nothing like the Bank asking Pakistan to do anything impossible.

The position today is this, that Pakistan has built link canals which are capable of taking 5 million acre feet flow, that is nearly half. I am not saying that Pakistan is today drawing that, but those canals, if they are worked to their fullest capacity for which they are designed, can draw about half the water. There also many impediments come in—there were breaches, something else had happened, there were other difficulties; maybe to a certain extent they may be true, but as early and as soon as possible Pakistan must arrange to take up to the fullest capacity of water that can be drawn from the existing canals which is about 50 per cent of 10 million acre feet which is the quantum which is known as historic withdrawals from the eastern rivers.

Then the question arises: when half the water is taken, they have got to build or construct canals for the remaining half and draw the water from the western rivers, and when the question is solved, we pay for these canals that are built and the canals that will be built hereafter by

[Shri S. K. Patil]

agreement between India and Pakistan. What is the rule then? The rule is this, that Pakistan is not doing it. I have often referred on the floor of the House to the last date, which sometimes people call the deadline. It is a bad word like "cold war". I am not blaming the hon. Member, but blaming myself for allowing myself the luxury of the use of that expression. It is really not a very good expression, and I want to amend it. And it is not any threat to Pakistan. We should not imitate Pakistan in these matters. They may give any number of threats. A strong man or a strong nation does not believe in threats. Therefore, we do not believe in threats. What we want to do is this. By 1962 we shall be in a position to use that water which is wanted for ourselves. Many people ask us, "If you want that water for India, why do you not use that today?" Why do you wait for three years and five years? But many Members perhaps do not know that these are highly technical questions. Even if Pakistan tomorrow comes and says, "Have these 10 million acre-feet of water, and use it", we cannot use it. For that, we have to build our canals before we withdraw water for ourselves. And the Sarhmd feeder and the Rajasthan canal are precisely the canals which are meant for making use of that water which will come to us.

Therefore, when I say that the farthest limit to which India could go—and reasonableness cannot go an inch farther than that—is 1962 (call it deadline or call it anything), it is not a kind of threat. We are telling Pakistan, requesting Pakistan, "You have already built the link canals that are withdrawing 50 per cent of that water, now, there is time for three years; it does not take more time; it may take a year or two; you also build canals before 1962", so that it should not be said that India all of a sudden withdrew the waters or did not give the waters, and Pakistan was reduced to a dust-bowl or things of that kind, and left dry and millions of

farmers could not get that water and so on—that is an exaggeration. Suppose I tell the House that even if this 10 million acre-feet were not there, 85 per cent of the water resources are within Pakistan, and out of the fifteen per cent also, they have now taken half; that means that we come in only for about the 7 per cent of water which Pakistan uses for irrigation. I merely say so again, because the propaganda is carried on in other countries that we want to reduce Pakistan to a dust-bowl and all that kind of phraseology that they only depend upon 5 per cent. Even assuming that they do not get that 5 per cent water, yet 95 per cent of water is with them. But the question arises that the water would not go to those parts or those lands where the present waters are going. There comes in the question of constructing these link canals. Therefore, 1962 is the date that we have given so that by that time Pakistan may be in a position to construct the link canals, and it would be possible in the most friendly manner for Pakistan and India to come to a settlement.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur). Why does the Minister not lay a white Paper on the Table along the lines of the speech that he is making?

Shri S. K. Patil: I know the hon. Member is impatient, but I am more impatient than he

What I may say is this, that this question now resolves itself to very practical things, that within the next two or three years, before 1962, when we shall be in a position to draw water for our Rajasthan canal and Sarhmd feeder, Pakistan must be ready with its link canals. As regards the question of money, as I have said, as soon as they do it, India will honour her commitment, in fact, even before that, India will honour her commitment, if the settlement is there. After all, the link canals will take time, and it will take time for a mutual settlement to be there.

So far as the role of the World Bank is concerned, a word is necessary. Many people believe that the World Bank does this and does that. I am convinced and the Government of India are convinced that the role of the World Bank is one of good offices. They are earnest. They are doing everything in their power to see that this dispute is settled by negotiation and agreement between the two countries. If their good offices can be of any help, they are there. But if we can settle it even without reference to them, they would be very happy.

Now, the agreements have expired, the *ad hoc* agreements about the withdrawals of water etc had expired on 31st March, 1957, the further agreements, while the World Bank was having negotiations with us and so on, had expired on 31st December, 1957. We are today without an agreement. But there is a general agreement. Without any written agreement we have promised the World Bank that so long as Pakistan is not ready to have these withdrawals by their own link canals—for which we have given time till 1962—we shall not withdraw all the waters.

The last point is that it was argued that when the vice-president of the World Bank, Mr Iliff, came here, possibly he brought some proposals, and then he went, and nothing happened and so on. Secrecy is bad. I know that. For, it really gives rise to many misapprehensions, conjectures and so on and so forth, and people imagine that something more than what appears on the surface must be there. There is nothing of that kind. Mr Iliff did not bring any extraordinary or any revolutionary or new proposals. But in its anxiety, the World Bank wants to find out how the replacement of these 5 million acre-feet that now remain after the present link canals are completed could be

done, and whether it can be done by one way or by another way.

Again, the terrain of Pakistan and India is such, as you will see—luckily or unluckily for us, I do not know—that if any reservoir is to be built on the Chenab it can be on India soil, because we can have that water and then give it. It is not our fault. We have not made any contract with nature that it should be so, that Pakistan should be at a disadvantage and we should be at an advantage. But it has happened so.

Therefore, these are small matters. The World Bank wants to get round those difficulties and find a solution. Where will Pakistan get 10 million acre feet of water? Not of the eastern rivers, but either from the western rivers or partly from the western and eastern rivers. We cannot give that 10 million acre feet from the eastern rivers, and if any exchange is there, a part of it can come even from the western rivers.

It is a new approach, if you can call it. But I am not prepared to say in any detail about it, because the details have not been worked out. I do not know myself what the details are.

Therefore, I shall conclude by assuring this House that so far as the interests of India are concerned, so far as the interests of the millions of farmers who will be benefited by the withdrawal of the 10 million acre feet of water are concerned, India is very vigilant. We shall not allow any mistake to come between that and the ultimate solution, namely, that we are in a position to withdraw that 10 million acre feet of water. With this assurance, I think the House will now be convinced that all the efforts that have been made so far by the Government of India and also by the World Bank are in the direction of having that solution as early as we can bring it about.

xi.,

29 FEBRUARY 1958

Message to 1870
from President

MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have to inform the House that I have received the following message from the President:—

"I have received with great satisfaction the expression of thanks by the Members of the

Lok Sabha for the address I delivered to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 10th February, 1958".

17.43 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the clock on Friday, the 1st February, 1958.

DAILY DIGEST

[Thursday, 20th February 1958]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS		COLUMNS	Subject.	COLUMNS
		1647-85	344 Irrigation Facilities in Bihar	1687-88
S Q No	Subject		345 Right Bank Hospital at Nagarjunasagar Project	1688
322	Milk Boards	1647-50	346 Defects in Buildings	1688-89
323	Assam Rail Link	1650-52	347 Central Fruit Products Advisory	1689-90
324	Price Stabilisation Board	1653-54	348 Integration of Curative and Preventive Branches of Health Administration	1690
325	Poultry Development	1655-57	350 Fish Supply in Tripura	1690-91
327	Railway Amenities Passenger	1657-58	351 Money Orders	1691
328	Indo-Norwegian Fishing Project	1658-60	352 Failure in Supply of Wagons	1691-92
329	Foodgrains Committee Enquiry	1660-63	354 Cycle Trolley	1692
330	Rail Link to Tripura	1663-65	355 Railway Corruption case	1692-93
331	Rural Electrification in Delhi	1665-66	356 Integration of Gramdan and Community Projects	1693-94
332	Wagon Repair Workshop	1666-68	357 Aid from U S A	1694
333	Railway Accidents	1668-71	358 Poultry Farm at Bhubaneswar	1694-95
334	Jute	1671	359 Railway Corruption Enquiry Committee	1695
349	Jute Prices in Orissa	1672-73	360 Delivery of Telegrams to Passengers on Trains	1695-96
335	Konch Reserve Water Project	1673-74	361 Training for Engineering Graduates in River Valley Projects	1696
336	Rice Procurement Scheme	1675-76	362 Demands of National Federation of Posts and Telegraphs Employees	1697
337	Central Rice Committee	1676	363 Derailment of Carriages	1697
338	Derailment of Coaches	1677-79	364 Victoria Terminus Station	1697-98
340	Sugarcane	1679-81	365 Slaughter House in Delhi	1698
341	Choudhury Committee Report	1681-83	366 Food Production	1698-99
SHORT NOTICE QUESTION.			367 Hindustan Tibet Road	1699
3	Food grain prices	1683-85	368 Civil Airport in Delhi	1699
WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS		1685-1728	369 All India Institute of Medical Sciences	1700
S Q No			U S Q No	
326	Irwin Hospital, New Delhi	1685	392 Fertilizers	1700-02
339	Wheat in Himachal Pradesh	1685-86	393 Dock Workers	1701-02
342	Rice in Orissa	1686		
343	Housing Cooperative Society	1686-87		

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—*contd*

U.S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS	Subject	COLUMNS
394	Wireless Stations	1702-04	419	Sheep Breeding Centres in Himachal Pradesh
395	Welfare of Labourers at Kandla Port	1704	420	Potato Trade
396	Central Mechanised Farm at Suratgarh	1705	421	Prevention of Accidents
397	Weather Bulletins	1705-06	422	Japanese Method of paddy cultivation
398	Monitoring Centres	1706	423	Price of Rice in Calcutta
399	Level Crossing, Pachora Junction	1706-07	424	Utilisation of Railway Service
400	Railway Overbridge, Chalisgaon	1707	425	Quarters for Railway Staff on the Ratlam Godhra Section
401	Community Development and N E S Blocks in Rajasthan	1707-08	426	Telephone and Telegraphs Offices in Madhya Pradesh
402	Fair Price Shops in Rajasthan	1708	427	Forest Training College, Dehra Dun
403	Growing Grapes in Delhi	1708	428	Public Call Offices
404	Extra Departmental Staff	1709	429	Public Call Office
405	Private Railway Com- panies	1709	430	Goshalas in Madhya Pradesh
406	Indian Roads Congress	1709-10	431	P & T Staff of Coorg
407	Export of Foodgrains	1710	432	Bridges and Roads in Orissa
408	Bhakra Nagal Project Administration	1710-11	433	V M Hospital, Agartala
409	Appointment of Joint Directors of Extension	1711-12	434	Cholera in Tripura
410	Railway Saloons	1712	435	Non-payment to Sugar cane Growers
411	Foreign Aid for Shipping	1712-13	436	Rabi Crop Estimates in Punjab
412	Thefts in Kharagpur Railway Workshop	1713	437	Accommodation for Posts and Telegraphs Employees
413	Cooperative Sugar Fac- tories	1713-14	438	Pilferage on Railway Coaches
414	Post Office Building, Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh	1714	439	Post Office Buildings, Jaipur
415	N E S and Community Development Blocks in Delhi	1714-15	440	Divisional Headquarters S E Railway
416	Commissioners for Food Production	1715	441	Selection of Scheduled Caste Candidates
417	Post Offices in Gurdaspur District of Punjab	1715-16	442	N E S and Community Development Blocks in Punjab
418	Quarters for Post and Telegraphs Employees	1716		

Subject	COLUMN S	Subject	COLUMNS
STATEMENT BY MINISTERS	1728-29, 1732-33	MOTION RE: REPORT OF COMMISSION OF INQUI- RY INTO THE AFFAIRS OF LIFE INSURANCE CORPORATION	1734-73, 1774-1817
(i) The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda) made a statement regarding the apprehended loss of life as a result of an explosion and flooding in two mines in Asansol area on the 19th February, 1958.		Further discussion on the motion to consider the report of Commission of Inquiry into the Affairs of the Life Insurance Corporation continued. The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Finance (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru) replied to the debate. The substitute motion moved by Shri Jawaharlal Nehru on the 19th February, 1958 was adopted.	
(ii) The Minister of Co-operation (Dr. P.S. Deshmukh) made a statement correcting the reply given on the 11th December, 1957, to a supplementary by Shri M. C. Dassappa on Starred Question No. 998 regarding Fruit Preservers' Licence.			
PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE	1729-30	DEMANDS FOR SUPPLE- MENTARY GRANTS (GENERAL) for 1957-58.	1817-51
The following papers were laid on the Table:		Further discussion on the Demands for Supplementary Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1957-58 continued. The discussion was not concluded	
(1) Annual Report of the Eastern Shipping Corporation Limited along with the Audited Accounts for the year 1956-57			
(2) Annual Report of the Western Shipping Corporation (Private) Limited along with the Audited Accounts for the year 1956-57			
REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLU- TIONS PRESENTED	1730—	HALF AN HOUR DISCUSSION	1851-68
Fourteenth Report was presented		Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha raised a half-an-hour discussion on points arising out of the replies given on the 12th February, 1958 to Starred Question No. 55 regarding Indo-Pak Canal Waters Dispute. The Minister Irrigation & Power (Shri S. K. Patil) replied to the debate.	
PETITION REPORTED	1730		
Secretary reported the receipt of a petition signed by a petitioner in respect of the Forward Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1952 and the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act, 1956		PRESIDENTS' MESSAGE	1869-70
CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE	1731-32	The Deputy Speaker communicated to the Lok Sabha the message from the President expressing his great satisfaction at the expression of Thanks by the Members of Lok Sabha for the Address delivered by the President to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 10th February, 1958.	
Shri Assar called the attention of the Minister of Health to the spread of poisonous gas in Patel Nagar and other adjoining localities in Delhi.		AGENDA FOR FRIDAY, 21ST FEBRUARY, 1958—	
The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar) made a statement in regard thereto.		Further discussion on the Demands for Supplementary Grants (General) 1957-58 and the Private Members' Bills.	