

Second Series, No. 9

Thursday, February 19, 1959  
Magha 30, 1880 (Saka)

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

Seventh Session  
(Second Lok Sabha)



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
New Delhi

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[Second Series, Vol. XXV, February 9 to 20, 1959/Magha 20 to Phalguna 1, 1880 (Saka)]

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N B - The sign + marked above the name of a member on Questions, which were orally answered, indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member

## LOK SABHA DEBATES

1825

1826

### LOK SABHA

Thursday, February 19, 1959/Magha  
30, 1880 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the  
Clock*

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

#### ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

#### Agricultural Administration Committee

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- \*418 { Shri Rajendra Singh:  
Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:  
Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Shri Bhakt Darshan:  
Shri Rami Reddy:  
Shri L. Achaw Singh:  
Shri Subbiah Ambalam:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 450 on the 1st December, 1958 and state

(a) whether any decision has been taken in regard to the recommendations of the Agricultural Administration Committee with which Central Government are concerned,

(b) if so, the details thereof,

(c) whether the views of the State Governments on the recommendations of the Agricultural Administration Committee have since been received,

(d) whether Central Government will give any financial assistance to the State Governments to enable them to implement the recommendations, and

(e) if so, the extent thereof?

341 LSD—1

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Recommendations of the Agricultural Administration Committee with which the Central Government are concerned are closely interlinked with the recommendations concerning State Governments. It was decided at a Conference of State Ministers of Agriculture on the 6th and 7th February, 1959 that the recommendations concerning the Centre should be examined in the light of the conclusions reached with regard to recommendations concerning the States. Necessary action in this connection is being taken.

(b) A statement is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No 115]

(c) The views of the State Governments were conveyed to the Centre at the Conference of State Ministers of Agriculture referred to

(d) While the State representatives agreed to implement as far as possible the recommendations involving no financial implications, they made it clear that as the resources of the State Governments during the balance of the Plan period, are already committed, recommendations involving financial implications could be given effect to only if the Centre agree to meet the full expenditure outside the plan provision of the States. The State Governments are, however, prepared to treat the expenditure as committed during the Third Five Year Plan. The question how State Governments could be helped financially in the light of the views expressed at the Conference, is under examination

(e) Each State has agreed to work out the financial implications and communicate the same to the Central Government

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** May I know the extent of the departure from the main recommendations of the Committee and the reasons therefor?

**Mr. Speaker:** First of all, he must ascertain whether the recommendations have been implemented

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** They have not been implemented. The States have made it clear that on such recommendations where there is no financial expenditure they are prepared to go ahead. They have not gone ahead to implement those recommendations which imply financial expenditure and in those cases they want help from the Centre. The Centre is going into the question as to how far it could help them.

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** That is not the point. A list of recommendations of the Committee has been given to us. I wanted to know whether there has been any departure made from the main recommendations of the Committee and if there has been any departure the reasons therefor.

**Mr. Speaker:** Departure by whom?

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** Departure from the recommendations.

**Mr. Speaker:** Departure must be done by somebody.

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** By the Government.

**Mr. Speaker:** Which Government? The hon. Members must think out what exactly they are asking. The hon. Minister has said that these are recommendations which have to be implemented by the States. The States are willing to implement those recommendations which do not involve any financial commitments. Regarding the financial commitments and expenditure, the Central Government is considering the best way of enabling the State Governments to find out the means. That is what the hon. Minister said.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** That is correct.

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the departure?

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** There are certain recommendations where the Central Government is directly involved.

**Mr. Speaker:** Then, put that question. What about the recommendations which relate to the Central Government?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** There are no such recommendations, for, everything has a bearing on the State Governments, because agriculture is primarily a State subject, every recommendation has a bearing on, and is interlinked with, the States.

**Shri Rami Reddy:** The Andhra Pradesh Government has recently revised the scales of pay in regard to the staff of the Agricultural Department. Has the Central Government any intimation about it and has this Government been approached for any financial assistance and, if so, the reactions of the Central Government in regard to the request for assistance?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Many State Governments are revising the pay-scales of the employees of their Agricultural Departments. The Andhra Pradesh Government have made in the course of the last two or three months some changes in the pay-scales. They have not asked any money from the Central Government. If they ask, we will consider.

**Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** The Committee has observed that due to gross lack of co-ordination between the Irrigation and Agricultural Departments both in planning and in execution, the irrigation resources are not being fully utilized. It has also recommended that irrigation departments should have a special agricultural officer to serve as a liaison between the agriculturists and the State Departments of Agriculture and that the feasibility of the portfolio of agriculture and irrigation being held by one Minister should be considered. May I know the views of

the Central Government on these recommendations and the reaction of the State Governments on these recommendations?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** This question refers to States mostly because, in the States, they feel that irrigation and agriculture should go together. The question was discussed threadbare at the Conference, and the results of the Conference will be conveyed to the State Governments, because when two Ministries are concerned, it is the Cabinets of the State Governments which have to take action. So, we will forward the recommendations of this Conference to the State Governments.

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** May I know if the Central Government have agreed with the finding of the Committee that the lack of higher emoluments to the personnel of the Agricultural Departments in the States as well as in the Centre was the main reason for slackness in the food production in the country and, if so, whether the Central Government have recommended to the States that the emoluments for the cadre of these officers should be improved with a view to achieve greater production in the country?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** We do not agree that that is the only reason, but we fully agree that the emoluments of the agricultural staff should be put on a par with those in other departments.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** In the statement it is said that there is going to be a division of functions between the Agricultural Department and the Co-operative Department. May I know whether any Committee is going to sit in order to divide these functions in the States and at the Centre and, if so, when will the recommendations of the Committee be available?

**Shri M. V. Krishnaappa:** There is no need for a separate Committee. Whatever the Agricultural Administration Committee has recommended in its

report is being examined in our Ministry, apart from the recommendations made at the Ministers' Conference. Whatever is necessary, the Ministry will do.

श्री भक्त बर्दान श्रीमान्, मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस कमेटी की रिपोर्ट के सम्बन्ध में उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने क्या सम्मति दी है, उस ने कितने रुपये की माग की है और उन के सम्बन्ध में क्या निर्णय किया गया है?

अध्यक्ष महोदय एक ही प्रश्न के साथ तीन चार प्रश्न कर दिये जायेंगे तो उनका जवाब नहीं दिया जा सकता है।

श्री भक्त बर्दान उनका सम्बन्ध एक एक ही प्रश्न से है।

ज्ञात तथा कुबि मंत्री (श्री छ० प्र० जैन) : उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की राय यह थी कि जो सिफारिशों की गई हैं वे बहुत अनुचित हैं और उन के ऊपर अमल होना चाहिये। अभी तक उन्होंने रुपये का हिसाब किताब पूरा नहीं किया है।

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** In the report, a very emphatic mention is made of the dead-wood in the departments of agriculture. May I know whether the Minister can give us any quantitative information on this subject? Is it continuous with the figures, where the Directors of Agriculture would like to replace something like 30 to 40 per cent of the agricultural staff? Is there so much of dead-wood in the departments of agriculture?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** I do not think the two concepts are the same. Of course there is dead-wood which has got to be cleared. It differs from State to State. There may be a little dead-wood in the Centre also.

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** In view of the fact that there is a specific recommendation of the Committee about the

recommendation of schemes in the case of Union territories, namely, that it should again be referred to the administrative departments and that a second reference is not necessary to the Government of India, may I know whether the Government of India would like to implement from the next financial year, the recommendation of this Committee that a second reference to the Government should be dropped?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** We generally favour that report. As far as the Union territories are concerned, the representatives of the Home Ministry were also present at the Conference and they will take whatever action is necessary in this matter.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** In the statement it is said "The Committee is of the view that a programme which seeks to encourage the farmer to adopt better and improved methods of farming should be matched by a suitable credit programme." May I know whether this Committee has also taken note of the growing indebtedness among the farmers, and, if so what methods have been suggested in this matter?

**Mr. Speaker:** Was this report placed on the Table of the House?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member may look into it.

**Shri Panigrahi:** The committee has recommended that the payment of interest charges on fertiliser loans advanced to different States should be deferred. May I know which of the States have been advanced fertiliser loans and what is the interest charges due to Central Government?

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member may table a separate question.

**Shri Panigrahi:** Sir, they have made a recommendation.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. This is the rule that I will adopt in regard

to such questions. The recommendations of the Committee are many. If any hon. Member wants a discussion on this report, I will certainly allow a discussion. I cannot, during the Question-Hour, go on allowing a hundred supplementaries relating to that practically amounting to a discussion.

**Shri Panigrahi:** The hon. Minister submitted that the Centre has no connection with the recommendations of the Committee.

**Mr. Speaker:** On the other hand, I understand the hon. Minister to have said that it is primarily the responsibility of the State, but the Centre also comes in. Therefore, if the State takes the initiative the Centre will come in.

**Shri Jadhav:** May I know the composition of the Committee, and whether the agriculturists were consulted before arriving at the decisions?

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** The Committee was headed by Raja Surendra Singh, Adviser in our Ministry. He himself is an agriculturist. There were a number of other experts also in that Committee.

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** Sir, you were pleased to observe that Members should not put too many supplementaries and take the time of the House, and that you will allow a discussion on the report if necessary. I had tabled a motion for raising a discussion.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member may put his question.

**Shri Rajendra Singh:** This is a very important subject, Sir, and I think that a discussion should be allowed.

**Mr. Speaker:** If any hon. Member tables a motion in the proper form and according to rules, I will then consider if anything more has to be said. If I consider it necessary, I will allow that motion.



**Timber from Andamans**

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- \*419. { Shri S. C. Samanta:  
Shri Subodh Hanada:  
Shri B. C. Majhi:  
Shri Morarka:

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

(a) the names of varieties of timber that have been exploited in North Andamans by Messrs P C Ray & Co up-to-date,

(b) amount of output up-to-date,

(c) how much of the output has been exported,

(d) what is the amount of royalty due from the Company up-to-date,

(e) how much is in arrears at present,

(f) whether this monopoly of exploitation of forests in North Andamans by Messrs P C Ray & Co will continue, and

(g) if so, for how long?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) to (g) A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No 116]

Shri S. C. Samanta: From the statement I find that during the last eight years 20,000 tons have been consumed by the company in their mills. May I know whether their products were brought to Calcutta or any other place for sale? May I also know whether the demands of railway sleepers, which are so much in demand, have been met?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir, they are brought to Calcutta and sold there. They are also sometimes exported.

Shri S. C. Samanta: The agreement was finalised in 1951. May I know why the royalty on hard and ornamental woods has not been fixed, and why there is so much of arrears on that account?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: What is not fixed refers only to the first three

quarters of the year 1958-59. Other arrears have been fixed and given.

Shri Subodh Hanada: From the statement it appears that the assessed amount due on timber exported from 1st September, 1951 to 31st December 1958 is Rs. 48,09,342.25. May I know whether any royalty has been charged on the timber consumed by the company in their mills?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: We executed the agreement, and the charges are made according to the provisions contained therein.

Shri Morarka: Is it a fact that over and above this amount shown as arrears in the statement a sum of Rs. 21 lakhs and odd is recoverable from this party as this party has failed to extract the minimum timber guaranteed under the agreement?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: I am not sure about the exact amount, but there have been defaults on the part of this company and certain penalties are due from them.

Shri Morarka: Is it a fact that this amount is not recovered because the Government contemplates to revise this agreement retrospectively?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: No, Sir, that is not the reason why we have not yet recovered the amount. We are anxious to realise everything we can, but we have also to take into account the difficulties of the firm in extracting the timber.

Shri Jaipal Singh: In view of the fact that this firm has been notorious in the past in regard to payment of wages to its workers, may I know whether Government are satisfied that the position in regard to this particular matter has improved?

Dr. P. S. Deshmukh: Yes, Sir, we did take action to improve the situation, and I think it is satisfactory.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: May I know whether the timber forests of Andamans are sold by public auction as it is being done in India?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** No, Sir. As is apparent from the statement we have a contract with this company and they are extracting it on our behalf.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** Our difficulty, Sir, is that copies of the statements are not supplied to all hon. Members, and we are not able to find out the information that is given there. Only one copy is placed in the Notice Office, that is the difficulty.

**Mr. Speaker:** All hon. Members can go and see that.

**Shri B. K. Gaikwad:** Only hon. Members who have tabled the question are supplied with copies and not others.

**Mr. Speaker:** I shall see that a dozen copies are placed there.

**Shri Naushir Bharucha:** We find it very difficult to see the copy placed there.

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not possible to distribute so many copies.

**Shri Naushir Bharucha:** We do not get a copy placed in the Notice Office.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think only a dozen hon. Members would like to see at any particular time. I shall have a dozen copies of the statements kept there.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The hon. Minister stated that timber is being brought to Calcutta and sold. In view of the difficulties experienced by Railways in the procurement of wooden sleepers, may I know whether Government have any information about the quantity of sleepers supplied by this firm to the Railways?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** I cannot give the exact number, but I can assure the House that we are doing our best to supply as many sleepers to the Railways as possible.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** What is the amount of outstandings that is due from this firm to the Government?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It has been given in the statement.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether Government also propose to revise the period of 25 years of monopoly when they revise this agreement?

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** We cannot revise it, we can terminate the agreement if we are not satisfied.

#### Own Your Telephone Scheme

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\*429. { **Shri Subodh Hanada:**  
           { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**  
           { **Shri E. C. Majhi:**

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether 'Own Your Telephone' scheme is still in force,

(b) if so, the names of the places where it is still in force,

(c) whether it is a fact that the initial deposit under this scheme has been reduced,

(d) if so, since when this was reduced, and

(e) whether this has encouraged the subscribers and applicants?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) Yes

(b) (1) Delhi (2) Bombay (3) Madras and (4) Ahmedabad and in a relaxed form in Calcutta, Amritsar, Nagpur, Hyderabad, Bangalore, Kanpur and Verawal. A relaxation has also been made in some areas of Delhi, Madras and Bombay.

(c) Yes, at Kanpur only.

(d) September, 1957.

(e) Yes to some extent.

**Shri Subodh Hanada:** May I know whether there is any loss due to this relaxation?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I do not think we have not yet worked out the loss. I require separate notice if the hon. Member wants the exact information.

**Shri Subodh Hanada:** May I know how many fresh applications have been received by Government after the relaxation was given?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The relaxation is made because the situation has improved, and if the situation improves further, there would be nothing like OYT.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know how many applications are still pending under this category and since how long?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** In which particular town?

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** In Delhi

**Shri S. K. Patil:** The situation is extremely acute in Delhi, and except in Karol Bagh Exchange the demands cannot be promptly supplied. I have not got the number here of pending cases, but it must be quite a large number.

**Shri S. C. Samanta:** May I know whether there is any other scheme to allure subscribers for telephones

**Shri S. K. Patil:** This OYT scheme is not really intended for that. It is not a question of money alone; it is a question of having the equipment and also exchanges. They have got to be arranged first and that takes time.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि दिल्ली के कुछ हिस्सों में टेलीफोन के कनेक्शन दिये गये हैं जैसे करोल बाग में। टेलीफोन डिपार्टमेंट की तरफ से यह कहा जाता है कि इस मामले में कुछ टेक्निकल डिफिकल्टीज़ हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वे टेक्निकल डिफिकल्टीज़ क्या हैं, वे तो करोल बाग में भी होगी।

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I do not know the technical difficulties exactly. One difficulty can be the availability of cable; another is the exchange. In Karolbagh, there is an exchange. After we decide that there should be an exchange, the land has to be acquired and so on. Sometimes it takes a long time and that has not been done in many places. In Karolbagh, there is a relaxation possibly because there is an exchange.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : करोल बाग में भी तो यह दिक्कत है ?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** In Karolbagh, there is an exchange and so probably there is a relaxation.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** Even after paying Rs. 2,000 under the "Own Your Telephone" system, in places like Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, one has to wait for six or seven months to get the telephone. Is it on account of the priority list being prepared in those cities?

**Shri S. K. Patil:** I think there is sufficient relaxation in Calcutta, but in regard to Bombay, Delhi, Ahmedabad, etc., it may be true. That is because when there are a large number of people, priority is the only basis by which one can function.

श्री भक्त दर्शन मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि यदि यह योजना लाभदायक है तो इसे और नगरे में क्यों नहीं चालू किया जाता, और अगर यह लाभदायक नहीं है तो इन नगरो में भी क्यों नहीं इसको समाप्त कर दिया जाता ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल आपने तो श्री० वाई० टी० के बारे में कहा। वह लाभदायक नहीं है, उससे तो खाली पैसा मिलता है। लेकिन जो बाकी एकावटें हैं वे तो हं ही।

#### Indo-Pak Canal Waters Dispute

- +
- Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:  
Shri Ram Krishan:  
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:  
Shri Shree Narayan Das:  
Pandit D. N. Tiwary:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:  
Shri Sadhan Gupta:  
\*421. Shri Ram Garib:  
Shri N. E. Munisamy:  
Shri Vajpayee:  
Shri Mohan Swarup:  
Shri Pangarkar:  
Shri Assar:  
Shrimati Mafta Ahmed:  
Shri Shivananjappa:  
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and

Power be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the talks being held at Washington between the representatives of India and Pakistan under the auspices of the World Bank on the Canal Waters Dispute, and

(b) how long the talks are likely to continue?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) and (b) The negotiations between the representatives of India and Pakistan, through the good offices of the World Bank, which were resumed in Washington on the 2nd December, 1958, are still continuing. It is difficult to say, at this stage, how long the talks are likely to continue.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** In view of the announcement of the Minister of Irrigation and Power fixing a target date for the supply, may I ask whether that constitutes the basis of the talks?

**Shri Hathi:** That date cannot be the basis of the talks. The basis is the proposals given by the World Bank.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Before the talks started, was a demand made about the settlement of the disputed claims and the payment of the admitted claims?

**Shri Hathi:** The disputed and undisputed claims had been categorised in 1948, very much before the negotiations started.

**Shri Ram Krishan:** May I know whether the World Bank has made any new suggestion and if so, the reaction of India and Pakistan to that?

**Shri Hathi:** The World Bank has not made any new suggestion.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know whether Government can give an idea about the expenditure incurred up to this time in these negotiations?

**Shri Hathi:** I have not got the figures of the actual expenditure, but

it only includes expenditure for passages of our officers who are staying there.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** May I know the approximate time within which these negotiations are likely to be finalised?

**Shri Hathi:** That I have answered in the mam reply, it is difficult to say at this stage.

**Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** May I know whether the hon. Deputy Minister is aware that last year the Prime Minister said that so great expenditure is incurred in these negotiations and conferences that much of work could have been done. May I know whether the Government have any idea as to what has been the expenditure?

**Shri Hathi:** I have not got the figures.

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** The expenditure is naturally of people travelling chiefly to the United States or elsewhere for this purpose and staying there for months and months. If it is added up for 8 or 9 years, it is a very considerable figure. I am not sure but I think in answer to a question in this House the figure has been given.

**Shri N. R. Munisamy:** Will the hon. Minister tell us the real data and the details put forth for the fabulously astounding figure of Rs. 300 crores which the Pakistan Government wanted for the construction of the canals?

**Shri Hathi:** It was not for the construction of canals. There was some report and that amount was for the plan which they have submitted.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** Have Government made it clear that we would strictly adhere to the dead-line of 1962, when supplies to the Rajasthan canals would commence and supplies to Pakistan would be stopped?

**Shri Hathi:** We had informed the World Bank and Pakistan that by 1962 we shall be ready to withdraw the

waters and then it will be difficult for us to wait.

**Shri Ram Garib:** May I know whether our Government would contribute for the construction of link canals in Pakistan and if so, to what extent?

**Shri Hathi:** That depends on the ultimate result of these negotiations

شری اے - ایم - طارق مہیں  
یہ جاننا چاہتا ہوں کہ نہری پانی کے  
متعلق جتنے بھی متنازع امور  
ہیں کیا ہم نے ان میں ملکہ باندھ کر  
بھی شامل کیا ہے۔ اور اس سلسلہ میں  
ورلڈ بینک نے کیا نظریہ پیش کیا ہے۔

**Shri Hathi:** These are details of the plan which it would not be possible to disclose now.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Is the hon. Minister aware that the continued supply of this water to West Pakistan constitutes a life and death problem for some of the districts of East Punjab and if so, what is being done to solve this problem as early as possible, so that there is no death problem to the agriculturists of East Punjab?

**Shri Hathi:** We look to the needs of our country also while every year, we enter into agreements for delivering waters

**Shri Hem Barua:** May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a *New York Times* report to the effect that although talks are being held in Washington and elsewhere for over 11 years, the officials of the two countries privately acknowledge their inability to settle the issue, and if so, whether Government propose to turn to the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development for a solution acceptable to Karachi and to New Delhi?

**Shri Hathi:** I think the World Bank itself is using its good offices to bring both the parties together.

# Irrigation and Power Potential of Indian Rivers

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\*422. { **Shri Ram Krishan:**  
**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma.**

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 132 on the 21st November, 1958 and state:

(a) the progress made with regard to the work of overall study of the irrigation and power potential of Indian rivers; and

(b) the total amount spent so far upon this work?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (**Shri Hathi**): (a) A statement containing the requisite information is laid on the Table of the House. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 117.]

(b) Rs. 2,07,200 approximately, up to the end of January, 1959

**Shri Ram Krishan:** May I know if the study work on some of the rivers has been completed what is the estimated irrigation potential of these rivers?

**Shri Hathi:** These details have not yet been worked out. We have only collected the data relating to the rivers.

**Shri Ram Krishan:** May I know the power potential of Brahmaputra river, which has been worked out.

**Shri Hathi:** The potential of the Brahmaputra river in Indian territory is about 13.3 million kilowatts.

**Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** May we have an idea about the recommendations that might be given in the report about the exploitation of the irrigation potential?

**Shri Hathi:** It is not going to be any report; this is actually investigations being carried on by the Central Water and Power Commission to assess the power potential in the country.

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसमें उत्तर प्रदेश की घाघरा नदी भी शामिल है या नहीं क्योंकि घाघरा के सम्बन्ध में अभी तक कोई योजना नहीं बनी है ?

श्री हाथी . उत्तर प्रदेश की घाघरा नदी की बेसिन की स्टडी पूरी हो गयी है और ड्राफ्ट रिपोर्ट अवर कम्प्लीशन है। बह नी है।

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether the potential of all perennial rivers will be taken into consideration?

Shri Hathi: Investigations of all rivers will be made.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Is there any scheme for linking the various rivers by canals?

Shri Hathi: There is a scheme for linking the various rivers wherever it is possible

Shri V. P. Nayar: May I know whether the Government have studied the master plan relating to the power and irrigation potential of the perennial rivers in Kerala and, if so, whether they are directing the other State Governments to prepare similar master plans?

Shri Hathi: Yes, I have seen the master plan prepared by the Kerala Government. The other States are also preparing master plans. In fact, Assam has prepared such a master plan for flood control.

Shri Rami Reddy: May I know the irrigation potential of Krishna and Godavari rivers and also how much of it is utilized by the State Government?

Shri Hathi: I have not got the figures in this particular case but the power potential for the east flowing rivers in Southern India is 6.8 million k w.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether any assessment of power potential in Orissa, including that of Mahanadi, has been made and, if so, what is the power potential?

Shri Hathi: Investigations in respect of Mahanadi have been completed in some respects but not yet fully.

Shri P. R. Patel: May I know whether the power potential of Narbada, Tapi and Sabarmati have been investigated?

Shri Hathi: The power potential has been investigated in those cases.

Traffic Survey of Buckingham Canal

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\*425. { Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:  
Sardar Iqbal Singh;  
Shri Subbiah Ambalam:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 898 on the 12th December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the traffic survey report of the Buckingham Canal has since been received,

(b) if so, whether Government have completed the examination of the report, and

(c) what is the nature of decision arrived at?

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

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: It was stated some time ago that the traffic survey report would be received by the end of October. May I know why there has been this delay?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The traffic officer appointed for this has taken his own time. He has finalized his report and it is expected soon.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know when the report is expected to be received by the Government? Is there any firm date?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I cannot give any firm date, because it depends upon how soon the officer is able to finalize

it But I think in the next two months it will be ready.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** From the way we are going on regarding the Buckingham Canal, it cannot be taken up during the whole of the Second Plan period

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I think the hon Member is aware of the advice that has been tendered to us in this behalf by the Planning Commission that before we embark upon any schemes about this particular canal full investigations will have to be made about the traffic because the rail as well as road competition is high Both of them are running parallel to it and unless proper traffic emanates from this particular route the expenditure might not prove an economic proposition on this line

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know whether it is a fact that the PWD Minister of the Madras State has stated a few days ago that the Madras Government have submitted their plans for deepening of this canal regarding their portion?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The plans are there As the House knows very well the schemes are there But the thing is that the traffic survey has got to be done through first

**Shri Thirumala Rao:** The hon Minister just now tells us that when the canal is completed it will adversely be affected by the rail and road competition Was it also one of the terms of reference to the experts who were asked to report on this scheme?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** That was not one of the terms But the survey is one of the essential conditions which the Planning Commission has imposed while making allocations in the Plan.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether the Government has communicated to the investigating officer the fact that an assurance has been made to this House that the report will be submitted by October and, if

so, why it has not been possible for him to present the report accordingly?

**Mr. Speaker:** That is the same question which was put by Shri T B Vittal Rao

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Some time ago we were given an assurance that it will be ready by October

**Mr Speaker:** I am not concerned with that The same question was put by Shri Vittal Rao and the hon. Minister has stated that it is not possible to present the report earlier

**Shri N. E. Munisamy:** May I know how much time the officer has asked and what are the reasons for the delay?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** He was appointed in March By the end of April he got the technical staff, because they are in short supply Then it took him some six months He has finalized the report One Mr Sarathi has been specially deputed so that he may get the report expedited

#### Consumption of Wheat in Southern Zone

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\*426. { **Shri Nagi Reddy:**  
**Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been any improvement in the consumption of wheat in the South, and

(b) what were the steps taken to popularise wheat in the Southern Zone?

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

(b) Distribution of imported wheat has been liberalized and full requirements including those of the roller flour mills are being met

**Shri Nagi Reddy:** May I know whether the Government has received any reports regarding the high prices

that are ruling in the south for maida and other wheat products?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** The price of maida produced out of wheat supplied by us has been fixed and now the various State Governments have been asked to take over distribution. So, with that system of distribution I think the consumers will get maida at the price fixed by the department.

**Shri Nagi Reddy:** Is the Government aware that a number of letters are appearing in the newspapers in the South that the price now ruling there is Rs. 74 per bag of 150 lbs instead of Rs. 42 per bag of 150 lbs which was the price fixed in the whole of the South, especially in the districts of Ramnad and Madurai?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** There have been some such reports. But they probably relate to maida manufactured out of indigenous wheat. It may also relate to wheat products smuggled from the North to the South.

**Shri Nagi Reddy:** I am talking of the wheat that is supplied by the Civil Supplies Department. I am referring to the news items that are regularly appearing for the past three months—that it has appeared even yesterday—that even the wheat that is supplied by the Civil Supplies Department is being sold at Rs. 74 per bag of 150 lbs instead of at Rs. 42 per bag of 150 lbs.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** There has been some abuse, I concede. That is why the State Governments have been asked to take over the distribution and the various Collectors have been asked to issue permits to the consumers.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Is it not a fact that the hon. Deputy Minister himself had an experience of maida being offered at twice the controlled rate? May I know whether the increased price for maida in the southern States is due to the fact that there is not enough of grinding capacity because of the absence of mills?

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** A separate question has been tabled on that—the prices prevailing in Coimbatore

and my experience—and an answer will be coming at the appropriate time.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** But there must be an answer to this question.

सेठ जवल सिंह क्या मनी महोदय यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि गेहू की कमी को देखते हुए क्या यह जरूरी है कि साउथ को गेहू का आटा दिया जाय ?

साउथ तथा कश्मीर (बी. प्र. प्र. प्र.) : इसलिये दिया जाता है कि वे कुछ गेहू भी लायें और जवल भी लायें ।

#### TELCO Locomotives

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- 428 { **Shri S. M. Banerjee.**  
**Shri Tangamani:**  
**Shri A. K. Gopalan**  
**Shri Nagi Reddy**  
**Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:**  
**Shri Vasudevan Nair**  
**Shri D. C. Sharma**  
**Shri Parulekar**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 288 on the 27th November, 1958 and state

(a) whether the Arbitrator has since given his award regarding the prices of Telco Locomotives for the period commencing 1st April 1958, and

(b) if so the main features of the award given by him?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) The arbitration proceedings are still in progress.

(b) Does not arise.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee.** On 27th November, 1958, the hon. Minister, in reply to a question, said "No, Sir" and "does not arise". Today also the same reply is being given. I want to know when the matter was referred to arbitration and what is the time that will still be taken for finalisation of the award?



**Shri Shah nawaz Khan:** In the first instance, the date fixed was about the middle of February this year. They have asked for an extension of four months. Both parties have agreed to the extension. I think the award will be forthcoming by about the middle of June.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** My submission is that TELCOS are asking for more price. They want to delay the whole thing. So, I want to know whether there is any intentional delay on their part.

**Shri Shah nawaz Khan:** There is no intentional delay. Both the parties have submitted written statements and very shortly the case will be argued before the arbitrator.

**Shri Nagi Reddy:** May I know the number of engines that have been purchased during the period when the arbitrator has not given his award?

**Shri Shah nawaz Khan:** The number of locomotives purchased during the fourth price period is 200.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** I want to know whether there has been a decrease in the price of TELCO locomotives and how it compares with the imported ones.

**The Minister of Railways (Shri Jagjivan Ram):** All these questions were discussed in the House. It was considered necessary when the parties did not agree to refer the matter to arbitration. The arbitrator will take all those factors into consideration and will give his award. Whatever the award of the arbitrator be, the price will be according to that.

**Shri Bimal Ghose:** What was the reason which actuated the Government, which I believe is one of the parties, for agreeing to the delay?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** As the arbitrator wanted some time because he has to go through the case of both the parties—statements have been submitted by both the parties and the arbitrator felt that in order to study

the case he will require some more time—it was thought necessary to agree when we received this request.

**Mr. Speaker:** Shri Pande

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** There is a contradiction. The hon. Deputy Minister said that both the parties agreed.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will allow him another opportunity. When I have called another hon. Member, he should not ask a question.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** In view of the fact that price of locomotives manufactured in Chittaranjan has considerably gone down, is it not possible that correspondingly there should be a reduction in price of TELCO locomotives? Will the award, if it comes two years later, be retrospective? Will these supplies be covered by the previous price?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** I think all these questions were raised in the House.

**Shri C. D. Pande:** This is a very important question.

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** The issue referred to the arbitrator is whether the price should be higher than what the Government has offered or whether it should be lower than what the company has offered. The two limits are more or less fixed. The arbitrator has to decide a figure in between the two prices that have been offered. Whatever figure is given by the arbitrator will be the price for the fourth price period. We have paid the price for the third price period according to the award of the Tariff Commission. The price of the locomotives supplied during the fourth price period will be according to what the arbitrator awards.

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The hon. Deputy Minister said that both the parties agreed that they wanted some time. The hon. Minister says that the arbitrator wanted some time. May I know which statement is correct?

**Shri Jagjivan Ram:** That is exactly what I said. The arbitrator said that he will require some more time and naturally both the parties, that is, the Government and TELCO, agreed to it.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** May I know if there is a proposal under the consideration of the Railway Board to take over TELCO as recommended by the Public Accounts Committee some time ago?

**Mr. Speaker:** How does it arise out of this question? Whatever else happens in TELCO, apart from arbitration, is not covered.

**Shri Nagi Reddy:** When there would not be any arbitration at all

**Mr. Speaker:** Many things can happen

#### Re-Employment of Retrenched Employees

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\*429. { Shri S. M. Banerjee  
          { Shri Tangamani

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state.

(a) whether some of the workers retrenched on account of closure of some coach building factories in UP have been provided with alternative jobs in the Integral Coach Factory at Perambur, and

(b) if so, the number thereof?

**The Deputy Minister for Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) No Sir

(b) Does not arise

#### दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति

\*430. **श्री भक्त बर्षाव :** क्या साध तथा कुचि यंत्री १७ दिसम्बर, १९५८ के तारंकित प्रश्न संख्या ११०८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में साध सम्बन्धी धातु-निर्भरता प्राप्त करने के सुझाव देने के लिये

जिस दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति की नियुक्ति की गई थी, उसने इस बीच अपने कार्य में क्या प्रगति की है ?

**कुचि उपमंत्री (श्री बी० बें० कुण्डप्पा):** सभा की टेबिल पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है ।

#### विवरण

२७ सितम्बर, १९५८ को दुर्गम क्षेत्र समिति की प्रस्तावली के उत्तर, आसाम सरकार को छोड़ कर, जिसको स्मरण-पत्र भेज दिया गया है, बाकी सभी राज्य सरकारों । प्रशासनों से भव प्राप्त हो चुके हैं ।

समिति ने सम्स्याओं का स्थान पर जाकर अध्ययन करने के लिये दौरा करने का कार्यक्रम फरवरी, १९५९ के दूसरे सप्ताह में बना लिया है ।

**श्री भक्त बर्षाव :** इस विवरण से ज्ञात होता है कि इस समिति की स्थापना यद्यपि पांच महीने हुए हो चुकी थी, अभी तक केवल दफ्तरी काम ही हो पाया है और भव दौरा शुरू होने वाला है । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि ऐसी हालत में क्या यह जन तक अपनी रिपोर्ट दे सकेगी ?

**श्री बी० बें० कुण्डप्पा :** इस समिति ने एक प्रस्ताव तीसरी गवर्नमेंट्स के पास भेजी थी और इस में की सरकार को छोड़ कर सभी राज्य सरकारों ने अपने उत्तर भेज दिये हैं । इस में सरकार को भी स्मरण-पत्र भेजा गया है और कहा गया है कि वह भी जल्दी में जल्दी अपना उत्तर भेजे । समिति ने दूर करने का भी इतिहास कर लिया है ।

**श्री भक्त बर्षाव :** जैसा कि समिति के टर्म्स आफ रेफेंस से स्पष्ट होता है इस कमेटी में यह पूछा गया है कि क्या इन इलाकों को आधोत्पादन के मामले में धातु-निर्भर बनाया जा सकता है या नहीं, मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय को यह ज्ञात है कि ये इलाके चाहे कितना भी प्रबन्ध क्यों

न किन्ना चाहे, आत्म-निर्भर नहीं हो सकते हैं और वहाँ की समस्या सस्ते नल्ले के वहाँ पहुँचाने जाने से ही हल हो सकती है ? यदि उन्हें ज्ञात है तो क्या इस कमेटी को इस सम्बन्ध में भी कुछ सुझाव दिये जा रहे हैं या उससे इस सम्बन्ध में जांच करने को कहा जा रहा है ?

आत्म-निर्भर कृषिमंत्री (श्री प्र० प्र० जैन) : कमेटी को जिस बात की जांच करने के लिये कहा गया है वह तो बता दी गई है। रहा यह कि कोई इलाका आत्म-निर्भर हो सकता है या नहीं, मैं नहीं मानता हूँ कि कोई इलाका आत्म-निर्भर नहीं हो सकता है। अगर पूरी कोशिश की जाये तो हर इलाका आत्म-निर्भर हो सकता है।

Shri Jadhav: May I know the total population of the inaccessible areas in the Union Territories and in the States?

Shri A. P. Jain: I have not got those figures at the moment

श्री भक्त बर्दान : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि पहाड़ी इलाकों को आत्म-निर्भर बनाया जा सकता है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या माननीय मंत्री जी ने इस बात का अध्ययन किया है या उनको मालूम है कि सप्तर में कोई भी पर्वतीय क्षेत्र चाहे वह स्विट्जरलैंड का हो या काश्मीर का हो, किसी भी दृष्टिकोण से साक्षात् के मामले में आत्म-निर्भर नहीं हो सकता है, या हो सका है, इसलिए समस्या उन क्षेत्रों की यही है कि वहाँ सस्ते से सस्ता अनाज पहुँचाने का प्रयत्न किया जाये ? ऐसी स्थिति में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस मस्यौदा को इस बारे में कोई विशेष हिदायतें दी जा रही हैं ?

श्री प्र० प्र० जैन : यह तो बहस की बात हो गई कि कोई इलाका आत्म-निर्भर हो सकता है या नहीं हो सकता है। इस को तो देख लिया जायेगा। लेकिन मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि आबादी पर भी वहाँ रोक लगाने की जरूरत है।

### रिहान्द बांध परियोजना

\*४३१. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : क्या सिंचाई और बिजुत् मंत्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि रिहान्द बांध परियोजना के व्यय का अनुमान १६५३ में ३५ करोड़ और २१ लाख रुपये में बढ़ कर १६५८ में ४६ करोड़ और ५ लाख रुपये हो गया है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ तो इस वृद्धि का क्या कारण है ?

सिंचाई और बिजुत् उपमंत्री (श्री हाथी) : (क) जी हाँ।

(ख) इस बढ़ोतरी का कारण इस प्रकार है —

- (१) घसल लागत के आधार पर पहले में ऊँची दरें (हायर यूनिट रेट्स) का अपनाया जाना।
- (२) सीमेंट और इस्पात की कीमतों का बढ़ना।
- (३) जमीन के मुआवजे की लागत का बढ़ना।

Some hon Members: In English as well

Shri Nathi: (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The reasons for the increase are—

- (1) Adoption of higher unit rates based on actual cost
- (2) Increase in the cost of cement and steel
- (3) Increase in the cost of compensation of land

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि कृषि रिहान्द डैम ही एक योजना है जोकि यू० पी० के लिए की जा रही है इसमें फारेन एक्सचेंज की कितनी आवश्यकता है और क्या उसका इतिजाम हो गया है या

नहीं हुआ है। मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि फारेन एक्सचेंज की कमी की वजह से ही यह योजना अभी तक ठप्प पड़ी हुई है।

श्री च० इ० बांडे : ठप्प नहीं पड़ी हुई है।

**Shri Hathi:** There is no difficulty about foreign exchange for Rihand

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The hon Minister has given the causes for the increase to Rs 46 crores. What portion of this amount has been given to UP by the Centre?

**Shri Hathi:** Loan assistance is given by the Centre

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon Member is interested in textile, labour, irrigation, dams etc. I must distribute the time in Question Hour evenly

**Shri Hathi:** I can give the figure

**Mr. Speaker:** I admire the hon Member's interest

**Shri S. M. Banerjee:** The Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh has called a conference of all the MPs of Uttar Pradesh to place before them his difficulties about this particular project and other projects. May I know whether he has demanded any additional amount from the Centre for this particular project and, if so, whether that amount has been given?

**Shri Hathi:** The loan assistance is being regularly given to the State Government by the Central Government as they require it

लेट प्रचल सिंह . मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि रिहांद डैम की योजना कब तक पूरी होने की आशा है ?

श्री हाथी : १९६१ तक ।

**Lighterage Port near Quilon**

\*432 **Shri Kodiyam:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given

to Starred Question No. 1116 on the 10th September, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the report from the Poona Research Station for constructing a lighterage port near Quilon (Kerala) has since been received; and

(b) if so, with what results?

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

(b) The report is under consideration of the Government of Kerala.

**Shri Kodiyam:** What are the main recommendations of the Report?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** As the hon Member might be aware, the choice is between the two sites, that is, the Neendakara site and the Thangasseri site. The report pertains to these and will be examined by the Kerala Government

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The hon Minister has said that the choice is between two sites. I want to know whether the Neendakara site has also been specifically studied or whether they have just submitted the report

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** It has been specifically studied. As a matter of fact estimated costs have also been put up to show that the Neendakara site will involve an expenditure of Rs 85 lakhs more

**Defective Ship constructed at Hindustan Shipyard**

\*433. **Shri Morarka:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether a passenger-cum-cargo vessel constructed for the Eastern Shipping Corporation at Hindustan Shipyard (Private) Limited, was found to be defective,

(b) whether the defects were set right and delivery made to the Corporation, and

(c) if so, the amount involved in removing the defects?

**The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur):** (a). Yes; the vessel M. V. "Andamans" built for the Home Ministry was found to be deficient in stability.

(b) and (c). Yes, the vessel was delivered to the owners after the defect was set right temporarily by placing a ballast of the value of Rs. 5.7 lakhs on board the vessel.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether our technical consultants were paid full fee for the construction of the ship or whether any deduction was made for the defect in the ship?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The question of deduction has not arisen so far because the report has not pinpointed the responsibility on the consultants. Of course, the advice was not found to be sufficient, that is obvious.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know when this investigation for pinpointing the responsibility was started and when the report is finally expected?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The report has been submitted. As a matter of fact, the Board has considered it, as resolution has been passed, and the responsibility or liability or whatever it is for the fault has also been fixed.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know on whom this responsibility is finally fixed and how that person or that party is being penalised?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** In the resolution of the Board Mr. J. C. Campbell, M. Paul Maertin, Shri J. G. Patel and M. Guitart have been specifically mentioned.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wanted to know the amount also. What is the amount and what is the action?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** The loss to the shipyard will be Rs. 5,70,000, the cost of the ballast, plus whatever is spent

on removal of the defect if any acceptable proposal is made in that behalf.

**Mr. Speaker:** That steps have been taken to recover—that is the question. I am not putting a question myself.

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** As I said, I do not know whether the legal responsibility for that defect can be properly pinpointed. That is the thing.

**Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman:** Is there not a penalty clause in the agreement for recovery? Would there not be any clause for recovery?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I do not think there is a penalty clause like that.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** What is the state of technical examination of these ships? Why are these constant complaints coming up? Do these technical personnel go at least for a periodical check and for instruction abroad?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** We have to depend upon foreign consultants and experts, and we took the services of A.C.L. a French concern, in this behalf. Now there are Indian technicians who have taken charge of this function, and they are assisted by a German expert, Mr. Theissen.

**Shri Morarka:** May I know whether this is the only ship about which a complaint has been received, or are there other ships about which similar complaints have been received?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** There are two other vessels also. One is a survey vessel, Haldia, and the other is a customs launch known as Vidyut.

**Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** Are we to understand from the answer given by the hon. Minister that this amount of Rs. 5.70 lakhs is to be written off by the Hindustan Shipyard Ltd.?

**Shri Raj Bahadur:** I do not exactly understand what he means. It is an additional cost which will be included in the price of the ship, if the ballast has got to be maintained in the ship permanently.

Mr Speaker: That is the same thing as that.

#### Fight against Epidemics

\*435 Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the statement of Dr Cockburn of the International Co-operation Administration that frontiers hamper the fight against epidemics,

(b) whether it is a fact that he has suggested the setting up of a regional council of medical experts from India, Pakistan, Burma and Ceylon for the eradication of epidemic diseases, and

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

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

(b) Yes, Sir

(c) Before the question of setting up a Regional Council for the control of diseases like smallpox and cholera is taken up, it is essential that in the first instance the different neighbouring Governments initiate programmes for the control of these diseases within their respective areas. The Government of India have already taken steps in this direction.

In regard to Malaria Eradication Programme the Government of India, in collaboration with the Government of Burma, held two inter-country border meetings in January, 1957 and December, 1958 respectively. The Government of India have already requested the World Health Organisation to arrange similar inter-country conferences with East and West Pakistan, Nepal and Goa which have common border with India.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: May I know whether smallpox, cholera and malaria are the only specific diseases for which this co-operation between the neighbouring countries is absolutely necessary?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir. I have said that co-operation is necessary, and steps are being taken in that regard.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: May I know whether there are other diseases for which also such co-operation is necessary?

Shri Karmarkar: These are the prominent ones.

Mr. Speaker: What is this academic issue about?

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether Government are aware of the fact that the epidemic of smallpox that broke out in East Pakistan along the Indo-Pak border added to the intensity of the outbreak in West Bengal through immigration of susceptibles, if so, what steps were taken to seal the frontier and stop the disease from spreading into our areas?

Shri Karmarkar: May I read the answer? Under (c) there is a reply. Shall I read it again?

Mr. Speaker: Is it very long?

Shri Karmarkar: It is a longish reply. It will take half a minute or more.

Shri Hem Barua: I asked this because this is a very important thing; at the same time it led to the death of some people in Goalpara District in Assam and it added to the intensity of the outbreak in West Bengal because the East Pakistan people died in thousands, and that is why I am concerned.

Shri Karmarkar: He is giving reasons for our action.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Minister is going to read only what he has already read in the House, he will save himself the trouble and the trouble to the House, but if he is going to add anything more, then he may say so; otherwise he need not.

Shri Karmarkar: Because the hon. Member did not hear it obviously, otherwise.

**Mr. Speaker:** Very well. He need not. Let him take the care.

**Shri Hem Barua:** No, Sir. My question is what specific steps were taken in this connection. Then he read out, he read out a general thing.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon. Member must understand what exactly the hon Minister is saying

**Shri Hem Barua:** I am trying to. I have applied all the grey matter in my skull.

**Mr Speaker:** If I understand, I expect every hon. Member to understand The hon Minister has said that he is going only to read that, and then I suggested to him that if he has anything more to do, he may do so. He kept quiet and said that he had read it. What is the good of pressing him? If the hon Member did not hear him, he may go to him and look into it or look into the proceedings

**Shri Hem Barua:** I mentioned a specific case, and he made a general statement about it

**Mr Speaker:** No, no He is not in a position to say Is he in a position to answer any specific case here?

**Shri Karmakar:** Specific cases of smallpox having spread from that border to this border? His question was that he has information that some cases of smallpox from the other border led to some cases of smallpox on this side That I suppose was assumed in the question itself, because unless that is there, no efforts need be made I said we are taking steps in the matter and also, with your permission I may repeat what I read.

"In regard to malaria eradication programme, the Government of India, in collaboration with the Government of Burma, held two inter-country border meetings in January 1957 .."

I gave that information.

**Shri Hem Barua:** I am afraid it has not explained anything I made reference to a specific incident, the outbreak of smallpox in East Pakistan last year.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order There is no good pursuing it If the hon. Member is particular about a specific question, he will put the question, and as far as possible, specific questions must first be addressed This is a huge country from end to end, from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas. On specific questions I cannot spend the time of the House With respect to specific questions either about the railways or malaria or any other epidemic, hon Members will write to the Ministers and if they refuse to answer, or even if the answer is in their possession, then they may come to this House, otherwise not.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में चारे की कमी

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\*४३६. { श्री पद्म देव :  
श्री स० च० सामन्त :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार को ज्ञात है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में जनसंख्या की वृद्धि के साथ-साथ जंगलों का कृषि कार्यों के लिये उपयोग किया जा रहा है और चरागाहों की संख्या में कमी हो रही है जब कि पशुओं की संख्या बहुत अधिक है,

(ख) चारे की कमी को देखते हुए, चरागाहों की दशा में सुधार करने के लिये क्या सरकार की कोई योजना है, और

(ग) यदि हा, तो क्या उस योजना का विवरण सभा-घटन पर रखा जायेगा ?

कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री भौ० बें० कुम्हण्पा) :

(क) से (ग) आवश्यक जानकारी इकट्ठी की जा रही है और उपलब्ध होते ही सभा की टेबिल पर रख दी जायेगी ।

**Shortage of Doctors in Delhi Hospitals**

\*441. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 140 on the 21st November, 1958, and state:

(a) the steps taken to overcome the shortage of doctors and staff prevailing in the Government Hospitals in Delhi; and

(b) the results achieved?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The authorities concerned of the different hospitals were requested to take urgent steps to fill the vacancies. In November, 1958, there were 33 vacancies in the posts of Medical Officers. At present the number of such vacancies is 30 out of which appointment letters have been issued in respect of 8 selected candidates. Requisitions have been sent to the Union Public Service Commission in respect of 9 posts and the Delhi Administration are taking steps to fill 12 posts. One post of Staff Surgeon (Medical Examinations) is not to be filled.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know how long it will take the Union Ministry to fill and all the vacancies since there is urgent need?

12 hrs.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know how long it will take for the Union Ministry to obtain details. But what details?

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** 8 are there already; 13 are yet to be advertised, and 12 are yet to come.

**Shri Karmarkar:** I said that appointment letters have been issued in respect of 8 selected candidates. Requisitions have been sent to the UPSC in respect of 9 posts, and the Delhi Administration are taking steps to fill 12 posts. One post is not to be filled. I gave the whole details.

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** Is the hon. Minister aware that it takes nearly eight to nine months or even a year

before the formalities and technicalities of selection are completed by the Delhi Administration and the UPSC, and by the time the candidate is selected and the letter of appointment goes, there is a gap of five to six months, and very often, when the letter of appointment is sent, the candidates are already appointed elsewhere...

**Mr. Speaker:** What is the question?

**Dr. Sushila Nayar:** What steps have Government taken to simplify this process and shorten the period between the selection and the issue of the letter of appointment?

**Shri Karmarkar:** It is a fact that it takes some time after we sent the requisition to the UPSC to make selections. In this particular field of medical personnel, it does take time, because suitable candidates are not always available.

Regarding the second point which my hon. friend has stated namely that it takes about six months' time after the selection is made, for them to make appointments, I am afraid neither the Delhi Administration nor the Government of India are as lethargic as that. They take prompt steps to make appointments. With regard to medical personnel of a responsible nature, naturally, the posts have to be referred to the UPSC.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** May I know the number of applicants for these 33 posts?

**Shri Karmarkar:** I should like to have notice of that.

**SHORT NOTICE QUESTION****Strike Notice by Manipur State Transport Employees**

**S.N.Q. 2. Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Manipur State Transport has been declared a 'public utility service' under section 2 (vi) of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947;



(b) whether any strike notice has been served by the employees of the State transport;

(c) if so, the main demands of the employees; and

(d) steps being taken to meet the demands of the employees?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). A statement giving the information required is laid on the Table of the House.

#### STATEMENT

(c) The main demands of the employees of the Manipur State Transport are:—

- (i) Reinstatement of former Manager of the Manipur State Transport.
- (ii) Setting up of an Appointments Board and a Promotions Committee in the Manipur State Transport and inclusion of a representative of their Union on the Board.
- (iii) Grant of Trip Allowance.
- (iv) Grant of Weekly Holidays.
- (v) Grant of Overtime Allowance.
- (vi) Provision of Running Rooms.

(d) The demands of the employees were considered at a meeting held on the 5th February, 1959 by the Manipur Administration with the representatives of the Manipur State Transport Workers' Union. Some of the demands have been accepted by the Administration while the remaining have either been rejected or are under consideration.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: May I know whether it is a fact that the services of the permanent incumbent holding the post of manager of the Manipur State Transport had been terminated

without notice, and that this action of the Government has created a sense of insecurity in the minds of all the employees of the Transport Department?

Shri Raj Bahadur: In 1955, it came to notice that there were defalcations to the tune of about a lakh of rupees in the funds of the Manipur State Transport, and this particular officer was found to be the head of that department, and, therefore, he was not capable of being maintained on that post. Hence, temporary arrangements were made, and a retired military officer has now been appointed for one year, pending selection by the UPSC of the permanent incumbent.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: Shall I be able to catch your eye for putting supplementary questions?

Mr. Speaker: He would not catch my eye. Why should he put this question? If he gets up, he should wait and see whether he catches my eye or not.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: No. . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. What is this kind of behaviour in the House? The hon. Member will kindly resume his seat. If any hon. Member gets up, he does not say 'Will I catch your eye, will I catch your eye?'. My eye is always rolling about, here, there and everywhere.

श्री जगदीश अवस्थी : क्या मैं मंत्री महोदय से जान सकता हूँ कि मणिपुर स्टेट ट्रान्सपोर्ट यूनियन के कर्मचारियों ने जो मांगें प्रस्तुत की हैं, उन मांगों में एक मांग यह भी है कि वहाँ के भूतपूर्व मैनेजर जिनको कि पृथक् कर दिया गया था, उनको पुनर्नियुक्ति की जायगी और यदि हाँ तो इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार क्या विचार कर रही है ?

श्री राज बहादुर : मैंने अभी उत्तर दिया कि सन् १९५५ में यह मालूम हुआ कि लगभग १ लाख रुपये का ग़बन स्टेट ट्रान्सपोर्ट के फंड्स में है और उसकी जिम्मेदारी काफ़ी बुर

तक मालूम पड़ा कि उनके ऊपर है लिहाजा दूसरा इंतजाम किया गया और यू० पी० एस० सी० के जरिये परमानेंट इलकम्बेंट का इंतजाम करने के वास्ते कहा गया है और उसमें यह भी एम्पाई कर सकते हैं।

**श्री जगदीश अचरवी :** क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो बहा पर हड़ताल का नोटिस दिया है तो वहाँ के प्रशासक ने हड़तालियों से जो बातचीत की है कि वह हड़ताल न हो, उसमें क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

**श्री राज बहादुर :** जी हा उन्होंने मीटिंग्स की है उनसे बातचीत की है। उनकी मांग को जितनी हमदर्दी के साथ गौर किया जा सकता था गौर किया है लेकिन फिर भी ६ तारीख को उन्होंने हड़ताल का नोटिस दे दिया है। कोशिश यह है कि यह हड़ताल न हो और इसके लिए उनसे फिर बातचीत करने की कोशिश की जायेगी।

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** The hon. Minister stated that some cases were pending against him. May I know whether some specific charges were named against him or whether this post has been abolished on account of the abolition of the post of the manager?

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know whether any charges have been framed and whether proper steps have been taken to find out the position or to punish him, or whether merely the post was abolished and he was dismissed and sent away.

**श्री राज बहादुर :** मैंने अभी निवेदन किया कि कोई १ लाख रुपये का गबन का मामला था। उसके बाद उनको हटाया गया। जो उन के ऊपर चार्ज लगाये गये थे उस के बाद जेनरल मैनेजर की नई पोस्ट बनाई गई है।

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** I could not follow the reply.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know whether the charges have been framed.

ed. That is the simple question, and that requires a simple answer.

**श्री राज बहादुर :** जी हा, मैंने निवेदन तो किया कि चार्ज हैव बीन फ्रेम्ड।

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** I could not follow the answer.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty rose—**

**Mr. Speaker:** I have allowed a sufficient number of questions already.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** I do not want to put a question on this, but I want to make a submission. We had also given some short notice questions on very urgent matters. For example, I gave notice five days ago . . .

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not going into the details of that now. The hon. Member knows fully well that all short notice questions must be accepted at short notice by the Minister, and as soon as . . .

**Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:** A short notice question should be replied to at short notice too. For five days we have waited patiently. The only other alternative for us is to bring in adjournment motions.

**Mr. Speaker:** That means that short notice is not accepted.

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** I could not get the reply. The hon. Minister has given the reply in Hindi, and I could not follow it. Will you please ask the hon. Minister to give the reply in English?

**Mr. Speaker:** Other hon. Members wanted the reply in English, but not this hon. Member who asked the question.

**Shri Sampath:** No, he put the question in English, and, therefore, he wants a reply in English.

**Mr. Speaker:** Other hon. Members need not help him.

# WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

## Vaccination

\*423. { Shri Rameshwar Tandia:  
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:  
Shri Mohammed Elias:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the West Bengal Government has asked the Union Government to make vaccination compulsory; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken in this respect?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-marhar): (a) and (b) Primary vaccination is compulsory all over India except Madras State where conscientious objectors have been granted exemption from taking vaccination. The Government of West Bengal had suggested for the consideration of the Central Council of Health a suggestion for making re-vaccination compulsory for selected groups of persons. The Council recommended to the State Governments to consider the feasibility of introducing compulsory re-vaccination in selected groups of the population from the ages of 5 to 7 years or at the time of admission to schools.

## Mayors' Conference at Hyderabad

\*424 Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) whether the recommendations made by the Mayo's Conference held some time back at Hyderabad have been considered by Government;

(b) if so, with what result;

(c) what are the important features of such recommendations;

(d) whether there is any proposal to amend the Delhi Corporation Act; and

(e) if so, when the amending Bill is likely to be introduced?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-marhar): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the recommendations and action taken thereon is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 118.]

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

## Indo-Pak Canal Waters Dispute

\*427. Shrimati Ha. Falchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government of India has been drawn to statistics recently published in the Pakistan Press which reveal that large areas in Pakistan have been brought under cultivation of major crops—such as wheat, rice, sugarcane, cotton and jute—which require immense irrigation supplies;

(b) whether the Government of India's attention has also been drawn to the fact that the major crops in Pakistan dependant on canal water irrigation have borne better yields last year than at the time of partition, and

(c) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to counter the continued malicious Pakistani propaganda that India is trying to starve the people of Pakistan by cutting off canal water supplies to that country?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Bhat): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Pakistan press reported in November last that due to India's policy of gradually diminishing supply of water to the Pakistan canals there had been an appreciable reduction in the production of foodgrains, cotton etc. Similar allegations were also broadcast from Radio Pakistan. At the same time reports appeared in the Pakistan press that there had been an increase in the production of foodgrains, cotton etc., in the various

divisions irrigated by waters from India and it was said that one of the causes of this increase was sufficient supply of canal water at the time of sowing.

(c) As Pakistani reports of increased production in canal irrigated areas in Pakistan constitute the most telling contradiction of Pakistani propaganda that India is trying to starve the people of Pakistan by cutting off the canal waters, the Government of India do not propose to take any action in the matter.

#### Rural Electrification in U.P.

\*434. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.P. Government have requested the Centre for any aid for rural electrification in the State; and

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

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

#### Paddy and Rice in Orissa

\*436. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1135 on the 17th December, 1958 regarding procurement of paddy and rice in Orissa and state:

(a) the amount of financial help given to Orissa, if any, to purchase paddy and rice for the State and the Centre;

(b) the quantity of paddy and rice purchased by Orissa State so far; and

(c) the quantity of paddy and rice purchased by the Centre and other States, State-wise, so far?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) An initial advance of a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has been made to the Government of

Orissa for making purchases of rice and paddy on behalf of the Centre. Additional funds will be placed at the State Government's disposal as and when necessary.

(b) About 18,000 tons of rice and 4,000 tons of paddy have so far been purchased on behalf of the Central Government, besides about 10,000 tons of rice purchased for the Government of West Bengal.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 119.]

#### Development of Minor Ports

\*437. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (b) of Starred Question No. 451 on the 1st December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the committee recommended to be set up by the National Harbour Board to consider in detail the different aspects of the development of minor ports has been formed; and

(b) the decision taken on the Board's recommendations relating to the Central Lighthouse Department implementing all development plans pertaining to lighthouses in minor ports and maintaining all local lighthouses on an agency basis at the cost of the States?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir. A decision is expected to be taken shortly.

(b) The Lighthouses and Lightships Department of the Central Government are now in touch with the State Governments concerned to settle the list of works to be executed on this basis.

#### Research on Cotton

\*438. Shri Wodeyar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Raichur District in Mysore State has been

selected as a Regional Centre for research on cotton; and

(b) if so, what are the main features of this Research Centre?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes; Dharegur in Raichur District has been selected for a regional research centre on Cotton and Kharif Jowar.

(b) The main feature of the research station is that it is situated in the heart of the tract growing cotton and kharif jowar. This station, besides undertaking research work on these two crops, will co-ordinate the work being done at the research stations under the control of the State Governments of Mysore and Andhra Pradesh, in this region.

#### Kurduwadi-Miraj Railway Line

\*440. Shri Sonavane: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 985 on the 5th September, 1958 and state the progress since made in regard to the conversion of Kurduwadi-Miraj Line into broad gauge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): The Survey Reports are expected to be received shortly.

#### Food Aid from U.S.A.

\*442. Shri Sampath: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any fresh request for food aid from U.S.A. is being made by the Government of India for the year 1959; and

(b) if so, the details and the progress of the talks thereon?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). It is not in the public interest to disclose the information.

#### Central Dairy Farm in Delhi

\*443. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) when will the Central Dairy Farm at Patel Nagar, Delhi start functioning; and

(b) what will be its daily milk supply capacity?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The hon. Member presumably refers to the Central Dairy under the Delhi Milk Scheme which is being built near the Patel Nagar Railway Station. It is hoped that it would start operating in September, 1959.

(b) 7,000 maunds per day; with capacity for expansion for handling 12,000 maunds daily.

#### Rice and Paddy Stocks in Tripura

\*444. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present stock position of paddy and rice in Tripura procured locally,

(b) whether any disbursement was made during the year 1958 out of the stock procured locally;

(c) if so, the quantity disbursed so far, and

(d) what steps are being taken to introduce price support policy on rice and paddy in Tripura?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) About 10,800 maunds of paddy and 15,700 maunds of rice on 31st January, 1959.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) About 19,500 maunds of paddy and 4,300 maunds of rice.

(d) The Tripura Administration are making local purchase of rice and paddy in areas where market prices fall below Rs 16 per maund for rice and the corresponding price for paddy.

**Tellicherry-Mysore Railway**

- \*445. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:  
 Shri Kunham:  
 Shri Keshava:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey of the Tellicherry-Mysore Railway has been completed;

(b) if so, what will be the cost of the project;

(c) how long it will take to build; and

(d) when is the project proposed to be taken up in hand?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The fieldwork of the survey has been completed and the reports are under compilation

(b) to (d) It is too early to say

**Assam Rail Link**

\*446. Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 679 on the 28th August, 1958 and state

(a) the progress of work so far made in the execution of the stabilisation project on the Assam Rail Link, and the time by which the work is expected to be completed, and

(b) the extent to which it is expected to increase the traffic capacity when the project is completed?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The work "strengthening of Assam Rail Link Route" primarily consists of rebuilding of bridges with deeper foundations and/or additional waterways, additional protective works, regarding, etc with a view to minimise the incidence of breaches and washouts and consequent interruption

to traffic. Out of the total of 39 such works, 17 were taken up in 1957-58 and almost completed and other ancillary works which are nearing completion. About 15 items, taken in hand in 1958-59, are in progress. The remaining few works are proposed to be taken up in 1959-60. The works are expected to be completed by 1960.

(b) The strengthening of the Link Route has been taken in hand to reduce the chances of interruption to traffic to Assam during the monsoons to the minimum and to maintain continuity of movement throughout the year.

**Bridge on River Mahanadi**

\*447. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have sanctioned the construction of a bridge over the river Mahanadi in Orissa at an estimated cost of Rs. 155 lakhs,

(b) whether all preliminary surveys in this connection have been completed,

(c) if so the site where this bridge is proposed to be constructed, and

(d) whether the construction work is expected to start during the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b) The work of constructing the bridge over the river Mahanadi on National Highway No. 5 (Madras-Cuttack-Balasore-Baharagora Road) has been recently sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 155.12 lakhs after completing survey etc

(c) Near Cuttack downstream of the existing Railway Bridge;

(d) Yes, Sir.

रेलगा १ में डाका।

\*448. { श्री मन्मथ प्रसादकर :  
श्री विश्वनाथ राव :  
श्रीमती मन्मोहा प्रहलद :  
श्री विमल मिश्र :  
श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :  
श्री बागलकर :

क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि २१६ डाउन गोरखपुर-सीवान लूप रेलगाड़ी को देवरिया जिले के रामकोला धीर लक्ष्मीगंज स्टेशनो के बीच ३ फरवरी, १९७९ को रोक लिया गया और लगभग १ लाख रुपये के मूल्य की सम्पत्ति लूट ली गई,

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि एक गाई को गोली मार दी गई,

(ग) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई जांच की गई है, और

(घ) यदि हा, तो उस का क्या परिणाम निकला है ?

रेलवे उपमन्त्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) :

(क) और (ख) जी हा। २१६ डाउन गोरखपुर-मन्मोहा गाड़ी जब रामकोला स्टेशन के पास पहुंच रही थी, तो उस के एक डिब्बे में हथियारबन्द डाका पड़ा। खजांची और कैश गाई स्टेट बैंक से रामकोला खजाना ले जा रहे थे। जिस डिब्बे में खजाना रखा था, उसी डिब्बे में देहातियों की पोशाक में ४-५ डाकू बैठे थे। स्टेशन पास आने पर गाई ने ज्योड़ी कैश बाक्स की जजीर खोली, डाकू उठ खड़े हुए और उन में से एक ने रिवालवर से फायर करना शुरू कर दिया। गाई को तीन गोलियां लगी और वह उसी वक्त मर गया। खजांची के पैट और जाघ में गहरे घाव आये। डिब्बे में बैठे हुए एक दूसरे, मुसाफिर को भी चोट लगी। जब गाड़ी की चाल धीमी हो गई तो डाकू कैश बाक्स से कर गाड़ी से बाहर

कूद गये। कैश बाक्स में एक लाख रुपये थे।

(ग) और (घ) स्थानीय पुलिस सरगर्मी से मामले की जांच कर रही है।

#### Draft Plan on Roads

\*449. { श्री राम कृष्ण :  
श्री S. M. Banerjee :  
श्री Bhakti Darsan :

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 572 on the 4th December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the draft plan on roads has since been finalised in the light of the suggestions made by the General Body of Chief Engineers,

(b) if so, details thereof, and

(c) whether a copy of the plan will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes The Chief Engineers have since submitted their Report on Road Development Plan for India (1961-81) which is now being examined in consultation with the State Governments.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, and column No 120]

(c) Yes, in due course

#### Fertilizers

\*450. Shri Rameshwar Tanti: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether fertilizers were allotted for agricultural purposes during 1958 at concessional rates,

(b) whether Government have kept an account of actual allocation and consumption; and

(c) whether it is a fact that some of them have been sold to Tea Industry at higher rates?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The rates

charged for sulphate of ammonia sold to the cultivators are not concessional but cheaper than those charged to other users.

(b) The Union Government keep an account of the allocations and the supply made against the allocations. The State Governments maintain account of consumption of fertilizers.

(c) Although no specific instance has been reported, it has been brought to the notice of the Central Government that some such transactions have taken place.

#### Delhi Electricity Power Control Board

\*451. Shri Shree Narayan Das: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 446 on the 1st December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on the request of Delhi Corporation to abolish the Delhi Electricity Power Control Board; and

(b) if so, the nature of the decision taken?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). The Government have decided that the existing arrangements, pertaining to the exercise of Control over the supply, distribution and use of electricity in Delhi, should continue till the power supply position improves to meet the entire demand on an unrestricted basis.

#### भूटान-भारत रोड लिंक

\*४५२ { श्री भक्त दर्शन :  
श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह :  
श्री बी० चं० शर्मा :  
श्री मधुसूदन राव :

व्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री दिसम्बर, १९५८ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ५९३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भूटान और भारत के बीच दो सीधी सड़कों में से प्रत्येक के निर्माण में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है; और

(ख) उन पर अब तक कितना व्यय हुआ है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर): (क) और (ख) . गुरुभासा-हाससर सड़क (Gurubhasa-Hauser Road) गुरुभासा से पांच मील तक के पहले टुकड़े पर काम शुरू हो चुका है और दिसम्बर, १९५८ तक १२ फी सदी काम पूरा हो चुका था जिस पर ३३,००० रुपये खर्च हुए ।

जयन्ति-मुकद्दार-संचुला सड़क (Jainti-Bukaduar-Sanchula Road)

इस के पहले तीन मील के टुकड़े पर काम हाल ही में शुरू किया गया है । नवम्बर, १९५८ तक इस के सर्वेक्षण काम पर १८,४०० रुपया खर्च हुआ है ।

#### Tourist Traffic

\*453. Shrimati Ha Palchoudhuri: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that tourist traffic on railways during the months of December, 1958 and January, 1959 showed considerable increase as compared to the preceding months; and

(b) if so, the nature of steps taken to meet the situation and to provide facilities and comforts to tourists by the railway authorities?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Statistics are not maintained separately of tourists travelling by railways.

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

#### STATEMENT

The more important steps taken to meet the demands of tourist traffic and to provide facilities and comforts to tourists were—

- (1) Running of special trains.
- (2) Strengthening of regular trains by attaching extra carriages;
- (3) Provision of tourist cars;



- (4) Issue at concessional rates of rail-cum-road, rail-cum-air, and standard circular tickets generally and of Air-conditioned class tickets to foreign tourists.

- (5) Running of 3 first class hotels by the Railway Administrations at Ranchi, Puri and Aurangabad, and

- (6) Provision of Retiring Rooms at important tourist centres on a programmed basis

#### Water Supply Schemes in Kerala

\*454. Shri Kadiyan: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether the Kerala Government have asked during 1958-59 for financial aid from the Centre for fresh water supply schemes in the state,

(b) if so, the nature and detail of the aid asked for, and

(c) whether any aid has been given to the State so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) Yes

(b) Loan at 100 per cent for approved urban water supply and drainage schemes and grant-in-aid at 50 per cent for approved rural water supply and sanitation schemes

(c) Yes, the following amounts have been allocated to the Government of Kerala for 1958-59—

Urban schemes	Rs. 60.0 lakhs
Corporation schemes	Rs. 2.0 lakhs
Rural schemes	Rs. 9.0 lakhs

Out of the above allocation, 34th amount has already been paid to the State Government as ways and means advances up to 31st December, 1958. The final adjustment sanction will be issued before the end of the current financial year on the basis of actual expenditure incurred by them.

#### Strike by Delhi Taxi Drivers

\*455. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether taxi drivers of Delhi went on a strike in January, 1959;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same; and

(c) the steps taken on their demand?

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

(b) The strike was against the decision of the Authorities to allow only eight taxis to be parked at the stand opposite the Regal Cinema in New Delhi.

(c) The demand of the taxi drivers to allow them to park more than 8 taxis at the Regal Cinema Stand was considered unjustified and was, therefore, not conceded. However, two additional taxi stands in the vicinity of that stand have been provided. A proposal for the provision of a third stand in that area is also being examined in consultation with the State Transport Authority, New Delhi Municipal Committee and the Traffic Police.

#### Hindustan Shipyard

\*456. Shri Morarka: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that the Eastern Shipping Corporation had cancelled their order for construction of a ship placed in June, 1956 with the Hindustan Shipyard;

(b) if so, what is the financial loss suffered by Hindustan Shipyard in this regard; and

(c) the reasons for the cancellation?

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

(b) Nil.

(c) The cancellation arose as a result of the deficiency in stability

noticed on M.V. "Andamans". Since this vessel was a repeat of "Andamans" the order was cancelled.

#### New Delhi Municipal Committee Arrears

\*457. Shri Rajendra Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that arrears of New Delhi Municipal Committee in respect of electricity and water supply have recently mounted up considerably,

(b) if so, the total amount of arrears accumulated, and

(c) the reasons for such outstanding arrears?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The New Delhi Municipal Committee have reported that arrears on account of electricity and water supply due on the 31st December, 1958 stood at Rs. 33,20,000.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No. 121].

#### Conference on Industrial and Occupational Health

\*458. Shri Tangamani. Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the steps, if any, taken to implement the decision of South East Asian Regional Conference on Industrial and Occupational Health?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): The recommendations of the WHO ILO Conference on Industrial and Occupational Health held in Calcutta in November-December, 1958 are awaited and will be considered on receipt.

#### Nagarjunasagar Project

\*459. { Shri Nagi Reddy:  
Shri Ramam:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state—

(a) the number of tunnels that are to be constructed for the right bank canal of the Nagarjunasagar Project,

(b) what would be the capacity of the tunnels;

(c) the estimated cost of the same;

(d) whether the Government of Andhra Pradesh have suggested bigger tunnels with a capacity to carry 21,000 cusecs of water, and

(e) if so, whether the Centre has accepted the same?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Three.

(b) One of 11,000 cusecs and two of 10,000 cusecs each.

(c) Rs. 146 crores approximately for all the three tunnels.

(d) Though the joint project report submitted by the Andhra and Hyderabad Governments in 1954 provided for a head-discharge of 21,000 cusecs, the project as accepted by the Government of India in 1955 for inclusion in the Plan provided for a head discharge of 11,000 cusecs only. The Government of Andhra Pradesh have not since suggested any increase in the size of the canals.

(e) Does not arise.

#### हिमाचल प्रदेश में भूमि का कटाव

\*460. { श्री पद्म देव :  
श्री स० च० सामन्त :

क्या साक्ष्य और कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि—

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश में और विशेषतः चम्बा जिले में भूमि का कटाव बहुत अधिक हो रहा है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गयी है अथवा करने का विचार है ?

साक्ष्य और कृषि मंत्री (श्री स० च० जैन) (क) हिमालय रीजन (Region) में होने के कारण इस क्षेत्र में अधिक कटाव होते हैं ।

(क) राष्ट्रीय पंचवर्षीय योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत, भूमि संरक्षण बनरोपण और भूमि विकास कार्य अधिक मात्रा में किये जा रहे हैं ।

#### Crop and Cattle Insurance

\*461. **Shri E. V. K. Sampath:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 55 on the 13th November, 1957 and state whether there is any proposal to implement the scheme of Crop and Cattle Insurance as formulated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** Due to financial stringency it is not possible to implement the scheme on Crop and Cattle Insurance during the Second Five Year Plan period. The question of including the scheme in the Third Five Year Plan is under consideration.

#### Rice in Tripura

\*162 { **Shri Dasaratha Deb:**  
**Shri Bangshi Thakur:**

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

(a) whether it is a fact that large quantity of rice is lying in the open at Churaibari in Tripura;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to protect rice from being wasted, and

(c) whether Government propose to construct a godown at Churaibari (Tripura) for stocking rice?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) and (b). 16,000 Maunds of rice were lying in the open at Churaibari on 22nd January, 1959, but temporary thatched sheds have since been constructed to afford protection against inclement weather.

(c) A proposal to this effect is under consideration of Tripura Administration.

#### Overbridge at Kozhikode

\*463. { **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**  
**Shri Kunhan:**

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

(a) whether the Government of Kerala have requested the Government of India for financial aid to Kozhikode Municipality for construction of an overbridge at Kozhikode; and

(b) if so, whether the Government of India have granted the aid?

**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 Lok Sabha

#### STATEMENT

In December 1958, the Government of Kerala asked for a loan of Rs. 3 lakhs to enable the Kozhikode Municipal Council to meet its share of the cost of the scheme. As no specific provision for loans to State Governments for meeting the road authority's share of cost of construction of under/over bridges in place of existing road-rail crossings had been included in the current 5-year Plan, the State Government were informed that the Government of India had decided that all such schemes should form part of the State Plans and that, after obtaining the prior approval of the Planning Commission, the road authority's share of the cost might be met from the loans which the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs) might grant to the State Governments for miscellaneous development schemes under the State Plans. It was added the State Government should take necessary action if they wanted to take up the scheme under the current 5-year Plan.

**Incidence of T.B. in Assam**

\*464 Shri Hem Barua: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidence of tuberculosis is registering a sharp increase of late in Assam;

(b) if so, the steps Government have so far taken in the matter;

(c) whether this matter was discussed with the Health Department of the Government of Assam when the Union Health Minister recently visited the State; and

(d) if so, the outcome of this discussion

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmakar): (a) to (d) In the absence of statistics, it is not possible to say if the incidence of T.B. is on the increase in Assam. But the Health Minister of Assam at the meeting of the Central Council of Health held at Shillong in January, 1959 referred to the high incidence of T.B. in his State. The Council reviewed the progress of the National T.B. Control Programme and passed a resolution, a copy of which is placed on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No 122]

**Express Cycleways**

\*465 Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a proposal for providing express cycleways to enable cyclists to reach their work-spots around the Central Secretariat and return to their residence without obstructing the general pattern of traffic; and

(b) if so, at what stage the proposal is?

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

such proposal is under the consideration of Government. The Delhi Town Planning Organisation is however, making a detailed study of the possibility of providing the following two cycle-tracks to the Central Secretariat:

- (i) From Najafgarh road along Patel Road and Shankar Road.
- (ii) From Yusuf Sarai along Kushak Nalla and Race Course

**Indian Airlines Corporation**

Shri Rajendra Singh:  
Shrimati H. Palchoudhuri:  
\*466. Shri Pangarkar:  
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 284 on the 27th November, 1958 and state

(a) whether the enquiry committee to examine the cost structure of Indian Airlines Corporation has since been constituted; and

(b) if so the terms of reference and composition of the enquiry committee?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) I lay a statement on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix I, annexure No 123]

हिमाचल प्रदेश को भाखड़ा-नागल से बिजली

\*४६७ श्री पद्म देव क्या सिबाई और वल्लभ मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश के किन क्षेत्रों में भाखड़ा-नागल परियोजनाओं से बिजली दी जायेगी, और

(ख) यह योजना कब तक पूरा होगी ?

सिवाई और विद्युत उप मंत्री (जी हाजी) (क) तथा (ख) अपेक्षित जानकारी का एक विवरण सदन की मंजूर रख दिया गया है। [इसिये परिशिष्ट १ अनुबन्ध अख्या १२४]

#### Poultry Development in Punjab

489 Shri Ram Krishan Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amount allotted during the year 1958-59 so far to the Punjab State for the establishment of Extension cum-Development Centres under the All India Poultry Development Scheme?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A P Jain) A sum of Rs 231 lakhs comprising of Rs 178 lakhs as grant and Rs 053 lakhs as loan has been approved as central assistance

#### Deaths from T B

490 Shri Ram Krishan Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state how many people died in India from T B during 1958-59 so far

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar markar) The required information is being collected from the State Governments and will be placed on the table of the Sabha as soon as it is available

#### Facilities for Keeping Luggage at Stations

491 Shri Ram Krishan Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the names of Stations where facilities for keeping luggage exist in Bikaner Division of Northern Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan) Cloak rooms for keeping luggage have been provided at Bikaner, Sadulpur Jn., Hanumangarh Jn., Sirganganagar Churu, Delhi Cantt Sardarshahr

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Gurgaon, Hansi, Hissar, Bhatinda, Kot Kapura, Sirsa, Rewari and Bhiwani Stations on Bikaner Division

Even at the other stations on that Division, where no cloak rooms as such have been provided facilities exist for leaving luggage in the custody of the railway as staff have instructions to accept luggage for custody on recovery of the usual charges as leviable at stations where cloak rooms are provided

#### Amount Missing from Post Offices

492 Shri Ram Krishan  
Sardar Iqbal Singh

Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state

(a) the amount reported missing from different post offices in Punjab circle during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far and

(b) the steps taken by the Government to check such losses?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S K Patil)

(a) 1957-58	1958-59
Rs 2886 11	Rs 620 74

(b) Punitive action was taken against the officials guilty of contributory negligence and a sum of Rs 3076 84 as against the loss of Rs 3506 85 has since been recovered from the officials at fault Besides, instructions for strict observance of the rules and for tightening supervision have been issued by the Post master General to all his subordinate units

#### Tube- Wells in Punjab

493 Shri Ram Krishan Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amounts allotted to Punjab State during the Second Five Year Plan period so far year-wise for the construction of tube-wells for irrigation purposes?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A P Jain) The funds

allotted for the purpose to the Punjab State (including the erstwhile State of Pepsu) are as follows:—

Year	Rupees
1956-57	160 87 lakhs
1957-58	126 00 lakhs
1958-59	78 00 lakhs

#### Indian Airlines Corporation

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

(a) the total number of passengers carried by Indian Airlines Corporation during 1958-59 so far, and

(b) total income earned during the above period?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) 4,19,251 upto November, 1958

(b) Rs 684 71 lakhs

#### Sileru Hydro-Electric Project

495 { Shri Nagi Reddy:  
Shri Ramam

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1092 on the 17th December 1958 and state

(a) the salient features of the report on Sileru Hydro-Electric Project,

(b) whether it has been finally approved,

(c) if so, whether the work has begun, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Under stage I of the Upper Sileru Hydro-Electric Project it is proposed to construct a diversion weir across the Sileru river at Guntawada, 50 miles down-stream of Machkund. The

water at this weir will be diverted into a forebay, from which two penstocks would lead to the power station, where 2 sets of 60,000 KW each will be installed to generate 120,000 KW of power at a head of 310 ft. The total estimated cost of the project together with the associated transmission and distribution lies at Rs 927 58 lakhs.

(b) Not yet

(c) Does not arise

(d) Stage I of the Project has been considered by the Advisory Committee on Irrigation and Power. Final approval will be issued by the Planning Commission after examination of the financial aspect of the Scheme.

#### Machkund Project in Andhra Pradesh

496. { Shri Nagi Reddy:  
Shri Ramam

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) the total generating capacity at Machkund Hydro-Electric Project in Andhra Pradesh at the end of 1958,

(b) the additional generating capacity at the end of the plan period,

(c) the works of additional installation now in hand and how much additional capacity would it add, and

(d) the target date of its completion and whether the work is proceeding according to plan?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) 51,000 kw

(b) and (c) Work on the erection of turbines as well as three additional generating units Nos 4, 5, and 6 of 21,250 kw each, is in hand. When these three generating units are commissioned, there will be an additional generating capacity of 63,750 kw.

(d) The target dates for the completion of erection of units Nos 4, 5 and 6 were August, 1958, October, 1958 and February, 1959, respectively. The work is somewhat behind schedule.

#### Major Irrigation Schemes

497 Shri Nagi Reddy: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) the amounts allotted to various States (State-wise) towards major irrigation schemes in the year 1958-59 so far, and

(b) the amounts utilised so far?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b) A statement showing the outlay agreed for the year 1958-59 and the amount expected to be utilized as indicated in the revised estimates for 1958-59 of the States is placed on the Table of the House [See Appendix I, annexure No 125]

#### Pochampad Project in Andhra Pradesh

498 { Shri Nagi Reddy:  
Shri D. V. Rao:

Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1854 on the 26th April, 1958 and state

(a) whether any investigation report of Pochampad project in Andhra Pradesh has been forwarded to the Central Water and Power Commission by the Andhra Pradesh Government, and

(b) if so, what are the details of the report?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The answer is in the negative.

(b) Does not arise

#### Irrigation Works in Bombay State

499 Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state the amount allotted for Bombay State for irrigation works during the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): The outlay agreed to for the major and medium irrigation projects in Bombay for the years 1957-58 and 1958-59 was Rs 14.60 crores and Rs 13.85 crores respectively.

#### Bridges Damaged Due to Rains

501. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) the number of bridges damaged due to heavy rains on Northern Railway during 1958 on the following sections —

- (i) Pathankot to Jullundur via Mukerian,
- (ii) Jullundur to Hoshiarpur
- (iii) Pathankot to Amritsar, and

(b) the amount spent for repairing them?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Nil

(b) Does not arise

#### Slum Clearance in Delhi

502 Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) the amount allotted to Union Territory of Delhi for slum clearance under the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) the amount taken by the Delhi Administration so far from the Central Government in this regard?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) and (b) No specific allotment was made for slum clearance schemes in Delhi in the Second Five Year Plan. Ad-hoc allotments

of Rs 38 lakhs and 150 lakhs were, however, made during 1957-58 and 1958-59 respectively as loans to the Delhi Development Authority for this purpose. Actual expenditure during 1957-58 was Rs. 38 lakhs while for 1958-59 the estimated expenditure is Rs 112 lakhs. Suitable provision is also being made in the budget estimates for 1959-60.

#### Second Bridge Across River Jamuna in Delhi

503. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2010 on the 15th September 1958 and state

(a) whether the scheme for a second bridge across the river Jamuna at Delhi has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, what progress has been made so far?

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

(b) A preliminary design and estimate for the bridge have been prepared. The question of inviting tenders for the work is under active consideration.

#### Cooperative Societies

504 { Shri Nagi Reddy:  
Shri Ramam:

Will the Minister of Community Development and Cooperation be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 216 on the 21st November, 1958, and state

(a) whether drafting of the district and general reports has been completed;

(b) if so, what is the main assessment regarding income, indebtedness and reliance on cooperative societies of the peasants;

(c) what are the main recommendations, and

(d) if the drafting is not yet completed when is it expected to be completed?

The Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) Not yet

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The drafting of the general report is expected to be completed in about four months and the detailed district reports, two months thereafter.

#### Manures and Fertilisers

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

(a) what is the availability of the indigenous manures and fertilizers;

(b) what is our total requirement;

(c) what was the rate of all varieties per ton in the year 1958-59,

(d) what quality of the above varieties was imported last year,

(e) what was the foreign exchange involved in the import

(f) what varieties of manures were exported and to what countries, and

(g) what was the foreign exchange earned thereby?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (g) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table [See Appendix I, annexure No 126]

#### Level Crossing at Jabalpur

506 Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether any representations were made to Railways for construction of an overbridge at the railway level crossing near Gorakhpur locality of Jabalpur on Central Railway in Madhya Pradesh;

(b) if so, whether the matter was examined, and



(c) with what results?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) Presumably the hon'ble member refers to the road overbridge near Madan-Mahal at mile 614 of Itarsi-Allahabad Section on Central Railway and if so, the reply is in the affirmative

(b) and (c) It appears the State Government consider this scheme of low priority and have, therefore, sponsored no proposal so far indicating when they are likely to have funds available for meeting their share of the costs

#### Movement of Foodgrains from Punjab

**507. Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) the quantity of foodgrains moved out from Punjab State during the last six months, and

(b) the quantity of foodgrains sent to Punjab State to meet the food situation during the same period?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) and (b) During the period August 1958 to January, 1959, about 20,000 tons of seed wheat and 54,000 tons of rice moved out from Punjab State on Government account. Figures of movement through trade channels are not available

During the same period, 47,000 tons of wheat and maize were supplied to the Punjab Government

#### Telephone Exchanges

**508. { Shri Subodh Hansda;  
Shri S. C. Samanta;  
Shri R. C. Majhi:**

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

(a) whether the proposals for expanding the Telephone Exchanges during 1958 have been implemented,

(b) if so, the number of new lines added to each of them, and

(c) the number of new Telephone Exchanges proposed to be opened in other big cities during the remaining period of the Second Five Year Plan?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) Yes, to the extent funds were available

(b) A statement is placed on the Table [See Appendix I, annexeure No 127]

(c) 20\*

#### Rat Extermination Campaign

**509. { Shri Subodh Hansda;  
Shri S. C. Samanta;  
Shri R. C. Majhi:**

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) which States had declared war against field rats, in connection with the rabi production drive,

(b) how long this campaign was continued, and

(c) whether Government have made any assessment of the percentage of rats killed in this campaign?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) States of Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Bombay, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Punjab, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and the Union Territory of Delhi have launched extermination campaign against rats

(b) The campaign has been launched from September, 1958 and for the present would continue throughout the Rabi Season

(c) It is not possible to make any assessment

\*Forming part of the existing tele phone systems involving generally, replacement of Manual Exchanges by new Auto Exchanges

**Family Planning Officers**

510. { Shri R. C. Majhi:  
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether whole-time Family Planning Officers have been appointed in all the States; and

(b) if not, the names of such States where Family Planning Officers have not yet been appointed?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No, Sir

(b) Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa (the officer has been selected by the State Public Service Commission and the appointment letter is likely to issue shortly), Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir

**Central Medico-Legal Advisory Committee**

511. Shri Subodh Hansda: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) the present composition of the Central Medico-Legal Advisory Committee;

(b) how many times and where this Committee met during the last two years;

(c) whether the recommendations of the Committee to establish Forensic Science Laboratories will be implemented soon; and

(d) whether at present any help is received from the Central Forensic Science Laboratory of the Ministry of Home Affairs?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) The Central Medico-legal Advisory Committee at present consists of:—

1 Dr. K. V. Venkataraman,  
Serologist & Chemical Examiner to the Government of India. *Chairman (ex-Officio)*

2. Shri V. S. Deshpande, Deputy Legal Adviser, Ministry of Law, Government of India Member.

3. Dr. N. K. Iyenger, Director, Central Forensic Science Laboratory, Calcutta "

4. Shri G. C. Dutt, I.P.S., Deputy Director, Intelligence Bureau, Ministry of Home Affairs "

5. Dr. A. R. Natarajan, Chemical Examiner to the Government of Madras and Professor of Chemistry, Madras Medical College, Madras "

6. Dr. P. D. Dalvi, Chemical Examiner to the Government of Rajasthan "

7. The Chemical Examiner to the Government of Uttar Pradesh "

8. Dr. N. K. Sen, Director, Forensic Science Laboratory, West Bengal, Calcutta. "

9. Dr. S. K. Roy, Professor of Forensic and State Medicine, Medical College, Calcutta

10. Dr. I. Bhooshana Rao, City Police Surgeon and Professor of Forensic Medicine, Osmania Medical College, Hyderabad "

11. The Police Surgeon Bombay "

12. Dr. K. N. Bagchi, Principal and Professor of Organic and Biochemistry, National Medical College, Calcutta "

13. Dr. H. S. Mehta, Retired Police Surgeon, Bombay, 127, Cumballa Hill, Bombay-26 "

14. Dr. K. C. Jacob, Professor of Forensic Medicine, Kasturba Medical College, Mangalore "

(b) The Committee met twice during the last two years as indicated below—

Date	Place
18th-20th March, 1957	New Delhi
10th-12th March, 1958	Calcutta

(c) The recommendations of the Committee were forwarded to the State Governments for implementation. The Governments of West Bengal and Bombay have already established such laboratories. Laboratories are being set up in Uttar

Pradesh and Assam. The question of setting up laboratories by the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Madras and Rajasthan is under the consideration of the State Governments concerned. The Government of Orissa do not propose to establish such a laboratory. Information in respect of the other State Governments is not available

(d) Yes

**'Ganguwal Hotlines Crew' Training Centre, Bhakra**

512. Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) the number of the trainees in the "Ganguwal Hotlines Crew" training centre, at Bhakra,

(b) the annual expenditure thereon and the contribution of the USA for the purpose; and

(c) whether it is proposed to increase the number of the trainees in the institute?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Fourteen trainees were admitted to the first batch of the training programme at Ganguwal which commenced on the 23rd June, 1958, and concluded on the 24th December, 1958. Eleven trainees were admitted to the second batch for which the training programme started on the 26th December, 1958, and is in progress

(b) The rupee expenditure to be borne by the Government of India for the entire scheme is Rs 7.86 lakhs comprising a non-recurring expenditure of Rs 3.46 lakhs and a recurring expenditure of Rs 2.2 lakhs per annum for a period of two years for the two Centres, one at Bangalore and the other at Ganguwal. U.S. contribution is \$2,93,500 towards the cost of all the tools and equipment to be imported from the U.S.A. and also towards the services of two instructors for a period of two years for the two training centres

(c) With the equipment and facilities available at Ganguwal, it is possible to train 16 trainees at a time. Subject to the readiness of the State Electricity Departments/Boards to depute the trainees, the strength of the Ganguwal Training Centre can be increased to 16

**Research in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry**

513. { Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:  
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government body of Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned a large sum for implementing a large number of schemes for research in various problems of agriculture and animal husbandry, and

(b) if so, the nature of such schemes and the details thereof (State-wise)?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain) (a) and (b) A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table [See Appendix I annexure No 128]

**Supreme Court Bar Cooperative Housing Society Limited**

514. Shri N. Keshava: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to acquire any land nearby the Supreme Court Building in New Delhi for purposes of allotment to the Supreme Court Bar Cooperative Housing Society Ltd., and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of the Government of India

(b) Does not arise

### Minor Irrigation Schemes

515. **Shri Nagi Reddy:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the amounts allotted to various States (State-wise) towards minor irrigation schemes in the year 1958-59 so far?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table. [See Appendix I. annexure No 129]

### Vestibuled Trains

516. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to convert bi-weekly vestibuled air-conditioned trains into daily trains between Delhi-Bombay, Delhi-Madras and Delhi-Calcutta, and

(b) if so, from which date?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) and (b) There is no proposal to increase the frequency of the bi-weekly air-conditioned Expresses running between New Delhi on the one hand and Howrah Madras Central and Bombay Central on the other into daily services

### पशुओं का चारा

५१७. **श्री नृशंकर राय** क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश की चीनी मिलें पशुओं के चारे के रूप में प्रयोग के लिये खोई और शीरे से खोई का शींग तैयार करने जा रही हैं;

(ख) इस से इन मिलों को क्या लाभ होगा; और

(ग) क्या इस लाभ में से गन्ना उत्पादकों को भी कुछ मिलेगा ?

**खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री ज० प्र० जैन):** (क) जहाँ तक भारत सरकार को पता है चीनी मिलें पशुओं के चारे के रूप में प्रयोग के लिये खोई और शीरे से खोई का शींग तैयार नहीं करने जा रही हैं।

(ख) और (ग) ये प्रश्न उठने ही नहीं।

### Expenditure on Conferences on Canal Waters Dispute

518. **Pandit D. N. Tiwary:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent so far from the beginning of Conferences and Discussions held in connection with the Canal Waters Dispute with Pakistan; and

(b) the foreign exchange component of it?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Rs. 20 48 772 (approximate)

(b) Rs. 15 43,777 (Approximate)

### राज्यों में फार्मसी परिवर्ध

५१९ { श्री बाजपेयी :  
श्री ए० एम० तारिक :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या भारतीय फार्मसी अधिनियम, १९४८ के उपबन्धों के अनुसार सभी राज्यों में फार्मसी परिषदों की स्थापना की जा चुकी है

(ख) यदि हा. तो राज्यों के अनुसार उन की स्थापना तिथि क्या है, और

(ग) यदि प्रश्न के उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर नकारात्मक हो, तो किन किन राज्यों में ऐसी परिषदें स्थापित नहीं की गई ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) :

(क) और (ख) निम्नलिखित राज्या में कामेंसी पण्डित स्थापित की गई हैं । राज्य का नाम तथा राज्य कामेंसी पण्डित की स्थापना की तिथि नीचे दी गई हैं —

आन्ध्र प्रदेश	२० अक्टूबर १९५६
बिहार	२ मार्च, १९५६
बम्बई	११ मार्च, १९५६
गुजरात	१५ सितम्बर, १९५६
पंजाब	१० दिसम्बर, १९५१
उत्तर प्रदेश	१६ दिसम्बर, १९५६
पश्चिमी बंगाल	१६ जनवरी, १९५६
मैसूर	१ सितम्बर, १९५६

(ग) आन्ध्र प्रदेश, उड़ीसा तथा केन्द्रीय प्रभागित क्षेत्रों में कामेंसी पण्डित स्थापित नहीं की गई हैं । राजस्थान में तथा अन्य राज्यों में कामेंसी अधिवानधम १९६० लागू नहीं है ।

राज्य बिजली बोर्ड

५२०. श्री रघुनाथ सिंह क्या सिचाई और बिजली मंत्र यह बनाने का उपाय करेंगे कि जिन राज्यों में राज्य बिजली बोर्ड बना दिए गए हैं और जिन राज्यों में उस योजना का लागू करने का कार्य प्रारम्भ किया जा रहा है ?

सिचाई और बिजली उप मंत्री (श्री हाथी) अब तक मध्य प्रदेश बम्बई पश्चिम बंगाल उत्तर राजस्थान, गुजरात और बिहार, असम और पंजाब इन दस राज्यों में राज्य बिजली बोर्ड बना दिए गए हैं । उत्तर प्रदेश, आन्ध्र प्रदेश और उड़ीसा इन तीनों बाकी राज्यों में जल्दी ही राज्य बिजली बोर्ड बनाने के बारे में कार्रवाई की जा रही है ।

All India Institute of Medical Sciences

521. { Shri V. P. Nayar:  
Shri Easwara Iyer:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Starred Question No 275 on the 20th August, 1958 and state

(a) whether the air-conditioning unit has been installed in the All India Institute of Medical Sciences for purposes of enabling research on modern lines, and

(b) if so the capacity of such unit?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-mar-kar): (a) No

(b) Does not arise

Absorption of Retrenched Staff of Hirakud Dam Project

522 Shri Supakar: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) how many persons of different categories of employees working in the Hirakud Dam Project have been employed so far in other projects of the Central and State Governments and how many persons have been finally retrenched and

(b) how many employees working in the main dam and canals have been transferred to work in the subsidiary dam at Chhipplima?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi) (a) A statement giving the information is placed on the Table [See Appendix I, annexure No 130]

(b) All the staff working in the Subsidiary Dam at Chiplima has been transferred from the Main Dam and Canals. The total strength is as under —

Skilled	Unskilled	Total
363	375	738

Potato Crop

523 Shri Bishwanath Roy: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state whether in view of improvement in cultivation there was any rise in potato yield last year in comparison with 1957?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): According to

the All India Final Estimate of Potato 1957-58, the production of Potato for that year was placed at 19,81,000 tons as against the partially revised estimate of 16,98,000 tons for 1956-57. This shows an increase of 2,83,000 tons or 16.7 per cent in production in 1957-58 over 1956-57

#### Tourist Office in Foreign Country

524. Shri R. E. Morarka: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sum of about Rs. 18,000/- was spent for some glass fittings and a sign-board for a Tourist Office opened in a foreign country, and

(b) If so, whether the expenditure conforms to the instructions of the Government of India?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes. A sum of Rs. 17,194.69 was spent on glass slabs for the construction of a staircase and on the installation of a neon sign board in the Government of India Tourist Office, Paris as detailed below:

	Rs.
(i) Expenditure on glass slabs for staircase	13,183 69
(ii) Expenditure on the Neon Sign Board	4,011 00
TOTAL	17 194 69

(b) Yes.

#### Late Running of Mathura-Delhi Passenger Train

525. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the late-running of the Mathura-Delhi Passenger 1365 Down train has been causing a good deal of inconvenience to the office-going public in Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that on the 9th January, 1959, the passengers of the train refused to allow it to leave

Faridabad as a protest against the regular late running of the train; and

(c) if so, the steps taken so far or proposed to be taken to run the train at right time?

The Deputy Minister for Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): (a) It is presumed that the reference is to No. 365 Down Mathura-Delhi Passenger train. The performance of this train had not been satisfactory during December, 1958, and January, 1959, which might have caused certain amount of inconvenience to office-goers travelling by this train

(b) It is a fact that on 8.1.59, No 365 Dn. Passenger was detained for 44 minutes between Faridabad and Tuglakabad and for 2 hours, 12 minutes at Tuglakabad by the application of alarm cham apparatus by passengers

(c) The following steps have been taken to improve the performance of this train—

(i) This train is being given precedence over No. 19 Down Dehra Dun Express when running late

(ii) Divisional Officers have been given instructions to keep a special watch on the running of this train

(iii) The performance of this train is being specially watched both at the Divisional and Headquarters' levels. All avoidable detentions are scrutinised and taken up

#### Child Mortality in India

526. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the incidence of child mortality in India is on the increase;

(b) if so, what are the causes for the increase; and

(c) the steps taken to check them?

The Minister for Health (Shri Kar-markar): (a) No.

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

**Procurement of Rice from Madhya Pradesh**

**527. Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of rice procured by the Central Government from the Chhatisgarh area of Madhya Pradesh after the decision to have State trading in foodgrains; and

(b) the price at which rice was procured?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) About 1,10,000 tons.

(b) Rice was procured at the maximum controlled prices fixed under the Rice (Madhya Pradesh) Second Price Control Order, 1958, as amended from time to time

**Payment for Uniforms of Postal Employees**

**528. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state.

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item published in the "Statesman" (Calcutta dated the 25th December, 1958) that the refugee tailors who supplied uniforms for the lower grade postal employees of Post Master General's Office, Calcutta have not been paid their dues for two years; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil):** (a) Due note was taken by the Postmaster-General, West Bengal Circle, Calcutta of the said news item and since the same was misleading and incorrect, a rejoinder was issued by the Postmaster-General, West Bengal Circle, Calcutta and the Secretary, Refugee Handicrafts, Calcutta in the Statesman of Calcutta dated 12-1-59 in which the correct position was indicated. [See Appendix I, annexure No. 131]

(b) The delay in making a full payment is due to the accounts of the

cloth supplied by the P&T Department for making of uniforms having not been furnished by the Secretary, Refugee Handicrafts, Calcutta. These accounts could only be furnished on 18-1-59 and the same are now being examined by the Postmaster-General, Calcutta with a view to settling finally the outstanding bills

**Godowns in Orissa**

**529. Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 450 on the 27th November, 1958 and state:

(a) whether any decision has since been taken with regard to the construction of food godowns in Orissa State,

(b) whether food godowns have been constructed in any other State of India;

(c) whether there had been any discussion with the Orissa Government with regard to the construction of food godowns in Orissa for storing foodgrains purchased by the State; and

(d) if so, the nature of such discussion?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) The intention is to construct godowns at 2 or 3 places to provide mainly transit storage for rice that may be purchased on Central Government account in Orissa.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). There have been discussions from time to time. The Orissa Government have been keen on the construction of Central Government godowns in Orissa but the decision has to be taken in the light of the actual needs of the Central Government. As the rice purchased in Orissa is immediately taken out to the consuming states and not stored in Orissa the need for the Central storage in Orissa is relatively small.

### Medical Staff in Manipur

530 Shri L. Achaw Singh. Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) whether the Centrally sponsored schemes under the Ministry of Health are carried out by newly appointed staff in Manipur, and

(b) if so, whether the pay and allowances for the staff in the Anti-malarial and Anti-leprosy schemes are the same in Manipur as in Assam or different pay scales are fixed for Manipur alone?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar markar). (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course

### State Corporation in Punjab

531 Shri Ram Krishan. Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Punjab Government have decided to set up a State Corporation with a view to scale down prices of foodgrains,

(b) if so whether the Government have received such scheme from the Punjab State, and

(c) if so whether the scheme has been approved?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain). (a) to (c) No such scheme has been received from the Punjab Government

### Rohtak-Panipat Railway Line

532 Shri Ram Krishan. Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have decided to construct the remaining portion of Rohtak-Panipat Railway between Gohana and Panipat, and

(b) if so, by what time the construction work will start?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise

### Anti Leprosy Work

533. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state

(a) the total amount of money allotted during the 2nd Five Year Plan period for undertaking various anti-leprosy measures in the country, and

(b) how much of this allotted amount has been spent so far?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar markar). (a) Total amount of money originally allotted for the various anti leprosy measures in the country during the 2nd Five Year Plan period is as follows —

	Rs. in Lakhs
(a) State Leprosy Schemes	409.48
(ii) Establishment of Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute	28.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>437.48</b>

(b) A sum of Rs 11.45 lakhs have been spent till the end of January this year from the provision made in respect of the Central Leprosy Teaching and Research Institute. The information regarding expenditure incurred by the State Governments for the State Leprosy schemes is being collected and will be laid on the table of the Sabha in due course

### Under-bridge at Cuttack Station

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

(a) whether proposal for constructing an under-bridge near railway level crossing at Cuttack Station has been finalised by now,

(b) whether the Orissa Government has agreed to bear its share of expenditure for the proposed railway under-bridge,



(c) whether any progress has been made so far in the work of acquiring land for the same purpose; and

(d) when the construction work of the said under-bridge is expected to be undertaken?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) Such a proposal was designed and estimated but there has since been a change

(b) A plan and estimate was sent to the State Government for their acceptance. Meanwhile, a fresh proposal of constructing an over-bridge between Mahanadi and Cuttack Station in lieu of the above under-bridge is under consideration of the State Government, owing to reappraisal of the most economical means of establishing a suitable road connection between the city and the national highway

(c) and (d) Do not arise

#### **Refund of Cash Securities to Assistant Station Masters on S. E. Railway**

**535 Shri Kumbhar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1706 on the 17th December, 1958 regarding refund of excess amount of the cash security deposits to the Asstt Station Masters on South Eastern Railway and state:

(a) whether excess amounts were refunded to the Asstt Station Masters concerned;

(b) whether any amount of interest was paid on this cash security deposit, and

(c) if not, the reason thereof?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan):** (a) Necessary instructions for refund were issued to the South-Eastern Railway, and it is reported that these instructions are being implemented.

(b) and (c). No interest is admissible under rules on cash security deposit.

#### **Irrigation Projects in Bihar**

**536. Shri Jhulan Sinha:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state.

(a) the amount of expenditure incurred and loss sustained by Bihar in terms of money and land in connection with the D.V.C schemes in Bihar sponsored by the Central Government up-to-date; and

(b) the extent of benefits accruing to Bihar from these schemes?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

#### **Bombay Vidharbha Region Agricultural Tenants Act**

**537. Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state

(a) whether there has been any representation to modify certain provisions of the Bombay Vidharbha Region Agricultural Tenants (Protection from Eviction and Amendment of Tenancy Lands) Act, 1958 in its application to Manipur; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

#### **Handling of Cargoes at Major Ports**

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

(a) the capacity for handling cargo at the major ports of India and the actual volume of cargo handled in each port during the year 1957-58; and

(b) the steps, if any, taken to increase the handling of cargo at Cochin Port?

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

capacity of major ports for handling cargo is at present as follows:—

(In millions of tons)	
Calcutta	11.00
Bombay	13.00
Madras	2.50
Cochin	2.50
Vizagapatam	2.30
Kandla	1.30

The actual traffic handled by the Major Ports during 1957-58 is as follows:—

(In tons)	
Calcutta	10,156,347
Bombay	13,109,878
Madras	2,504,088

(In tons)	
Cochin	1,799,571
Vizagapatam	2,492,778
Kandla	844,255

(b) The following works have been undertaken to increase the cargo handling capacity of Cochin Port —

Description of work	Progress of work
(1) A separate coal berth	Completed.
(2) Two additional warehouses with a total area of 63,270 sq ft.	Completed
(3) Two oil Tanker Berths	Completed.
(4) Black Oil Installation at the Boat Train Pier Jetty	Completed.
(5) Four additional wharf berths facing the Ernakulam Channel with ancillary facilities such as warehouses, transit sheds broad gauge and metric gauge railway sidings, electric cranes, etc	In progress.
(6) A second Coal Berth	In progress
(7) Metre gauge facilities on Willingdon Island, linking Quilon- Ernakulam Railway with the Port	In progress.

#### Appointment of whole-time Managers for Rest Houses

539. Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 1440 on the 12th December, 1958 and state:

(a) which of the State Governments have already initiated suitable action on the Central Government's reference relating to appointment of whole time managers in the rest houses near important tourist centres as per recommendation of the Tourist Development Council; and

(b) the location of the rest houses in respect of which the above recommendations have been implemented?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). A list of the rest houses suggested to the State Governments for being thrown open to the tourists and for the appointment of whole time managers therein is placed on the Table [See Appendix I annexure No 132.] Reply has so far been received only from the Government of Uttar Pradesh who have stated that the circuit houses at Jhansi and Agra could not be thrown open to tourists as there is plenty of good hotel accommodation at these places. This is being verified. Other State Governments concerned were reminded on 30th January, 1959.

#### Regional Experimental Station for Arecanut in Kerala

540. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a proposal to open a regional experimental station for arecanut cultivation at Ponnani in Kerala;

(b) if so, what has happened to this proposal;

(c) whether there are any other proposals for opening experimental stations in Kerala or elsewhere; and

(d) whether it has been decided not to shift the Headquarters of the Arecanut Committee from Calicut?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes. There was a proposal to set up a regional Arecanut Research Station at Ponnani when Ponnani Taluk formed part of the Madras State:

(b) After re-organisation of States, Ponnani became a part of Kerala State and that Government selected a site in Panancherry village in Trichur District in preference to Ponnani and a Research Station has been set up there

(c) Not at present

(d) At its last meeting held at Trivandrum on the 12th January 1959, the Indian Central Arecanut Committee took a decision to retain the Headquarters at Calicut.

#### Road Development in Kerala

541. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether any aid was given to Kerala Government during 1958-59, so far, for road development work; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

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

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is placed on the Table. [See Appendix I, annexure No 133].

#### स्नोईम राज्य अस्पताल (हिमाचल प्रदेश)

१४२. { श्री क्या देव :  
श्री स० च० सामन्त :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश में स्नोईम राज्य अस्पताल का भवन बनाने में क्या प्रगति हुई है; और

(ख) इस का भवन कब तक बन जायेगा ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) भवन के निर्माण के लिये स्थान का विकास कर दिया गया है तथा नींव पूरी हो चुकी है। दो मंजिलों का आर० सी० सी० फ्रेम-वर्क तैयार हो चुका है। अस्पताल तक पहुँचने वाली सड़क चौड़ी कर दी गई है और प्रति-धारा दीवारें तथा पानी बहने के लिये मोरिया आदि भी तैयार हो चुकी हैं।

(ख) जून १९५९ के अन्त तक जल-प्रदाय, सफाई तथा बिजली लगाने आदि जैसी आवश्यक सेवाओं के साथ इस भवन की दो मंजिलों का निर्माण कार्य पूरा हो जाने की आशा है।

#### हिमाचल प्रदेश में चिकित्सा सम्बन्धी सुविधायें

१४३. { श्री क्या देव :  
श्री स० च० सामन्त :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के महासू जिले में चीनी के निवासियों को पर्याप्त चिकित्सा सम्बन्धी सुविधायें उपलब्ध नहीं हैं;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि डाक्टरों के स्थान पर कम्पाउण्डर काम कर रहे हैं; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्यवाही की गई है प्रथमा की जाने वाली है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) :

(क) सरकार के पास ऐसी कोई सूचना नहीं है जिस से पता चले कि चीनी के निवासियों को पर्याप्त चिकित्सा सम्बन्धी सुविधायें उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।

(ख) केवल पूह का सिविल अस्पताल जो तिब्बत की सीमा के एक वन नजदीक है, एक कम्पाउन्डर के अधीन है।

(ग) पूह में यातायात के साधनों की कठिनाई तथा आधुनिक नागरिक सुविधाओं के अभाव के कारण डाक्टर ऐसे दूरवर्ती स्थान पर काम करने के अनिच्छुक हैं। पूह में एक डाक्टर की नियुक्ति के लिये प्रयास किये जा रहे हैं।

**हिमाचल प्रदेश में राष्ट्रीय विस्तार सेवा और सामुदायिक विकास खण्ड**

५४४. श्री पद्म देव क्या सामुदायिक विकास और सहकार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) इस समय हिमाचल प्रदेश में कितने राष्ट्रीय विस्तार सेवा खण्ड चालू हैं;

(ख) इन खण्डों का कितनी जीप मिली हुई है; और

(ग) इन जीपों के लिये १९४८ में बजट पर कितना खर्च हुआ।

**सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्री (श्री सु० कु० डे) :** (क) (१) सी० डी० ब्लाक्स ६

(२) स्टेज १ ब्लाक १४

(३) स्टेज २ ब्लाक ५

(४) प्रसार पूर्व ब्लाक १

याग २६

एन० इ० एस० ब्लाक नहीं है क्योंकि उन को १-४-५८ में स्टेज १ ब्लाक में तब्दील कर दिया गया है।

(ख) व (ग) हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन से जानकारी मांगी गई है और आने पर मदन पटेल पर रक दी जायेगी।

**रोड (हिमाचल प्रदेश) की बिजली परियोजना**

५४५. श्री पद्म देव क्या सिंचाई और बिजली मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत कार्यान्वित की जाने वाली रीडू (जिला महासू, हिमाचल प्रदेश) बिजली परियोजना स्थगित कर दी गई है, और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इस क्षेत्र को बिजली देने के लिये अन्य क्या योजना है ?

**सिंचाई और बिजली उपमंत्री (श्री हाथी) :**

(क) तथा (ख) पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना अवधि में, रोड नया जुबबल और इनमें मिले हुए अन्य इलाकों को बिजली देने के लिये, हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन का मौ किलावाट का एक जल विद्युत् एन्ड (हाइड्रोइलेक्ट्रिक स्टेशन) स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव था। बाद में, दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना के लिये प्रस्ताव तैयार करने समय उन्होंने इन इलाकों को बिजला देने के लिये ५०० किलावाट का जन-विद्युत्-एन्ड स्थापित करने का मुझाव दिया था। इस याजना को कार्ड प्राजेक्ट रिपोर्ट अभी तक नहीं आई है और इससे ऐसा पता लगता है कि प्राजेक्ट रिपोर्ट तैयार करने के लिये आवश्यक जाच (इन्वेस्टिगेशन) अभी नहीं हुई है।

**Power Station at Jubbal**

546. Shri Padam Dev: Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government are considering a scheme for developing the power station at Jubbal in Himachal Pradesh,

(b) if so, whether Hatkoti Savra areas will be supplied electricity from this station; and

(c) when the scheme will be implemented?

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) to (c) At the time of formulation of the proposals for the Second Five Year Plan there was a suggestion from the Himachal Pradesh Administration for the installation of a 500 KW hydro-electric power station for electrification of Rohru, Jubbal and other adjoining areas. No project report however, for this scheme has so far been received from the Himachal Pradesh Administration. The investigations required for the formulation of project proposals have not yet been carried out.

#### **Electrification of Poona-Sholapur Railway Line**

**547. Shri Sonavane:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Railway Board to extend the electrification on the Poona-Sholapur line of the Central Railway when the electric power from the Koyana River Project is available; and

(b) what is the policy of Government in the matter of electrification of Railways?

**The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy):** (a) No, Sir

(b) Electrification requires heavy capital expenditure, a portion of which is at present required to be spent abroad for purchase of Rolling Stock and other fixed equipment. Priority for electrification is given to the section where traffic density is high and steam traction is unable to carry the anticipated increase in traffic. Such conditions have not yet arisen on Poona-Sholapur line.

#### **Koyana Project**

**548. Shri Jadhav:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the amount to be spent on the Koyana Project during the rest of the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) the amount spent over the project up-to-date?

341 (A) LSD-4.

**The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi):** (a) Rs 19,58,00,000 (approximately)

(b) Rs 11,95,64,000 till end of December, 1958

#### **Regarding X-Ray Materials**

**549. Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the quantity of X-Ray materials required per annum and the indigenous production of each of the important items?

**The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar):** No information regarding the quantity of X-Ray materials required annually is available. However the information regarding the value of X-Ray materials required annually are given below:—

X-Ray films	Approximate value Rs. 60 lakhs.
X-Ray equipment	Approximate value Rs. 62½ lakhs.

X-Ray Developers are manufactured in the country by the following firms.

- 1 M/s Kesar Sugar Works, Bombay.
- 2 M/s Kodak Ltd, Bombay.
- 3 M/s Allied Photographics Ltd, Bombay.

The average production of developers of the above three firms for two years 1957 and 1958 was 74177 gallons which can be increased according to demand. One firm produces a small quantity of equipment from imported components.

#### **Accident near Jasidih Station**

**550. Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 25th December, 1958, one Block Signal Officer, one trolleyman and one Khalasi were killed by a running train while engaged in repairing telephone and rail line near Jasidih Station, Eastern Railway;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that the said officer left a widow aged 20 years and father aged near about 80 years;

(d) whether any compensation has been paid to the said widow and the relatives of the said trolleyman and khalasi; and

(e) if so, what is the amount of compensation paid to each?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b) On 25th December, 1958 at about 11.30 hours one Assistant Maintenance Inspector (Block), one Line Man and one Khalasi were working near the new Block Hut, (at Mile 205) between Jasi-dih and Lahabone Stations on the Eastern Railway. As they saw GL-2 Down train approaching on the Down line they shifted to the Up Line for safety unmindful of the simultaneous approach of 71 Up Parcel Express on that line. The three persons were run over by the Parcel Express and were killed.

(c) The officer has left behind a widow aged 18 years and father aged 71 years.

(d) The sums due as Workmen's compensation have been deposited with the respective Commissioners for Workmen's compensation for disbursement to the dependents of the deceased.

(e) The amounts deposited with the Commissioners are:

(i) In respect of the Assistant Maintenance Inspector (Block).  
Rs. 4000/-

(ii) In respect of the Lineman  
Rs. 3500/-

(iii) In respect of the Khalasi.  
Rs. 1800/-

# Kharagpur Railway Workshop

551. { Shri Subodh Hnasda:  
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of vacancies reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Class IV services in different sections of the Kharagpur Railway Workshop, South Eastern Railway which have not been filled up so far; and

(b) the reasons for not filling up the vacancies?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): (a) It is only in the category of Trade Apprentices that the number of vacancies reserved have not been filled up in the different sections of the Kharagpur Workshop as shown below:—

Section	No of vacancies reserved		No. of reserved vacancies not filled	
	S.C.	S.T.	S.C.	S.T.
Loco	23	20	14	48
Carriage	21	19	12	17
Wagon	4	3	2	2
TOTAL	48	42	28	37

(b) The reason for the shortage is that no recruitment to this category was made after 1956. The shortage will be made good when the next recruitment to this category is made.

## Drought in Khowai (Tripura)

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

(a) the acreage of land that could not be cultivated in Khowai sub-division (Tripura) due to drought in 1958;

(b) loss of crops resulting therefrom;

(c) the steps taken so far to irrigate drought affected areas; and

(d) the nature of relief given to the people of drought affected areas of Khowai sub-division so far?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (d). The information has been called for from the Tripura Administration and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it becomes available.

#### गोबर निरोध अधिनियम

५५३. { श्री विभूति मिश्र :  
श्री जूलन सिंह :

क्या साध तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन राज्य सरकारों ने ३१ जनवरी, १९५६ तक गोबर निरोध अधिनियम पास किये हैं;

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में राज्य सरकारों को कोई निदेश दिये हैं; और

(ग) यदि हा, तो उस का व्यौरा क्या है ?

साध तथा कृषि मंत्री (श्री श्री प्र० जीन) : (क) उपलब्ध जानकारी के अनुसार उड़ीसा, केरल और जम्मू तथा काश्मीर को छोड़ कर सभी राज्यों में विधान के द्वारा यो हत्या बन्द है।

(ख) जी नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता।

#### Kalkalighat Station

554. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to want of godown or shed at Kalkalighat Station, huge quantities of rice supplied by the Government of India for Tripura, are very often allowed to be damaged by rain etc.; and

(b) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawas Khan): (a) and (b). The existing goods shed is adequate for normal traffic. Recently, due to movement of Tripura traffic by all-rail route, large consignments of rice were received occasionally. They are required to be unloaded by the Tripura Administration and are generally cleared by them without recourse to storage in the railway's goods shed. Those left over in the railway premises due to reasons such as limited clearance, are protected with tarpaulins by the railway. In the context of the recent heavy receipts for Tripura, the question of extending the goods shed is proposed to be examined.

There have been no claims for damage from the Tripura Administration.

#### Sugar Factories

555. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sugar factories in the country having their own sugarcane farms;

(b) the extent of these farms; and

(c) the yield per acre in these farms?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) 79.

(b) 2.28 lakh acres with 1.04 lakh acres under cane in the crop year 1957-58.

(c) About 32 tons of Sugarcane.

#### टिकट कनेक्टर

५५६. श्री जगदीश प्रकाश : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन रेलवे महाकाण्डों में रेलवे मंत्रालय द्वारा घोषित टिकट कनेक्टरों के बर्थों को उचित करने की कार्य प्रारम्भ कर दिया गया है;

(ख) क्या उत्तर रेलवे के दिल्ली विभाग में टिकट कलैक्टरों के पदों को उन्नत किया जा रहा है,

(ग) यदि हा, तो कब से, और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस के क्या कारण हैं ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खान) :  
(क) मध्य, पूर्व, उत्तर, पूर्वोत्तर, पूर्वोत्तर सीमा, दक्षिण और पश्चिम रेलें ।

(ख) जो हा ।

(ग) १-४-१९५६ से ।

(घ) सवाल नहीं उठता ।

#### Shelters on platforms on Delhi-Lucknow Section

557. Shri S. A. Mehdi: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state.

(a) the progress of work done so far to provide shelters on the island platforms of important stations on Delhi Lucknow sections,

(b) whether there is a proposal to provide a shelter on Rampur Station this year, and

(c) if so, the work done so far?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Shelters on island platforms at Delhi, Ghaziabad, Hapur, Moradabad, Bareilly, Shahjahanpur, Anjhu, Hardoi and Lucknow already exist. Work of providing shelters on island platforms at Pitambarpur, Balamau, Tilhar is kept pending due to conservation of steel.

(b) and (c) A shelter on the main platform at Rampur already exists. It is proposed to provide a shelter on the island platform and fabrication of steel work is in hand. The work is likely to be completed in another six months.

12.08 hrs.

#### DEATH OF SHRI SIDDAPPA HOSMANI

Mr Speaker: I have to inform the House of the sad demise of Shri Siddappa Hosman who passed away on the 14th February, 1959, at Haveri at the age of 79.

Shri Hosman was a Member of the former Central Legislative Assembly in 1934.

I am sure the House will join with me in conveying our condolences to the family of Shri Hosman.

The House may stand in silence for a minute to express its sorrow.

(The Members then stood in silence for a minute)

#### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

##### NOTIFICATIONS UNDER MOTOR VEHICLES ACT

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 a copy of each of the following notifications —

(i) No B-TP/7/56 dated 25th July, 1958 as amended by Notification No B-TP/7/56 dated 3rd December, 1958 making certain amendment to the Motor Vehicles Rules for Manipur, 1951, published in the Manipur Gazette.

(ii) No 141/58 dated the 5th December, 1958 published in the Andaman and Nicobar Gazette.

[Placed in Library, See No. LT-1223/59]



# MOTION RE THIRTY-FIFTH REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):  
I beg to move

"That this House agrees with the Thirty-fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th February, 1959"

Shri B. Das Gupta (Purulia) I move for the extension of the time for the consideration of the amendments made by Rajya Sabha in the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1958, by one hour more.

Mr. Speaker: Hon Members have got copies of this report. This was presented yesterday. If they want any changes, they must table amendments. They should not get up and say off-hand that the time should be extended in respect of any particular item of business, for other hon Members will be taken by surprise. There are a number of hon Members who in a representative capacity go into the Business Advisory Committee, and take everything into consideration.

Shrimati Benn Chakravartty (Basurhat) This came to us this morning

Mr. Speaker: Copies have been sent only this morning?

Some Hon. Members: Yes

Mr. Speaker: Some Members were already in the Business Advisory Committee (Interruptions) Anyway, what is his amendment?

Shri B. Das Gupta: I want to have the time allotted for item No 5 extended by one hour.

Mr. Speaker: We have got two hours already for it.

Shri B. Das Gupta: It is an important Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Under the rules, the Speaker has always got discretion to extend the time allotted by one hour. Therefore, if I find that it is necessary, I shall do so.

The question is

"That this House agrees with the Thirty-fifth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 18th February 1959".

The motion was adopted.

12 11 hrs.

## MOTION ON ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT—contd

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further consideration of the motion moved by Shri Kashiwal and seconded by Shri Joachim Alva on the 13th February 1959, and amendments thereto

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I must begin on a note of apology for not having been present here throughout the discussions on this Motion, as I was absent from Delhi for one day and heavily occupied on other days. I was present for some time. I have however, tried to remedy that lapse by reading the official verbatim record of the speeches made by hon. Members, more particularly the leading Members, on the other side of the House. I have read specially the speech of Shri S. A. Dange with its seeming profundity and light cynicism, the speech of Acharya Kripalani with all its earnest appeal, and the war-like saga of Shri M. R. Masani.

The first thing I should like to say is—and I say this almost every year on such an occasion—that there appears to be some misapprehension as to what the President's Address to a joint session of the two Houses should be. I think Shri Dange said that the Address was lifeless and not inspiring. Shri Khadilkar said that the speech utterly lacked urgency,

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

vigour and vitality; it should be more analytical and critical, showing where Government had gone wrong and so on. Now, I fear nothing that I can say is likely to inspire the hon. Member, Shri Dange. His inspiration is from sources not available to me. But what Shri Khadilkar said presumes that our President is more or less in the position of the President of the United States with his State of the Union message which he sometimes gives—an analytical survey. It is obvious that our President is not constitutionally or otherwise in that position and it would not be fair to him or fair to this House for the President to function in any other way than is laid down in the Constitution. Therefore, his annual Address is necessarily not an analytical and critical document, except very broadly speaking; it is to be rather a simple narration of what has been done; giving some idea of the major things that Government is going to undertake. If we have to start some other convention in this matter, I do not know how it will fit in with such ideas of our Constitution and the President's position as have thus far been accepted by us.

In the various speeches made in this House, many matters have been referred to. I think there have been several references to the case of Shri Mathai. Many other subjects have come up too, and more particularly there has even been mention of something which had not been previously mentioned in any context in this House, that is, the possibilities of civil war in this country. So the debate has covered a wide field. I should like, if I may, to refer to some of these matters because to refer to every point raised would make what I have to say much too discursive and without much point.

I would rightaway say a few words about Shri Mathai's case which seems to have agitated a number of Members opposite, and to which reference

has been made in the speeches. Now, I welcome any kind of inquiry that can be made about any matter which raises doubts in Members' minds. I have always been willing, if ever I am approached, to give such information as I have, whether outside the House or in answer to questions. When questions were asked in this House and in the other House, I endeavoured to give answers to the particular questions. Naturally, I could not go into the history of it or give a long account of all connected matters. When I found that because of public interests, because of the interest of Members in this House and because of the importance of certain charges and insinuations made it was desirable to have this matter considered in its wider context as a whole comprehensively, I decided not to give information piecemeal which did not seem to satisfy Members, because some of the questions put to me were rather extraordinary, extraordinary in the sense that they were hardly questions; they were something more than questions. And in the speeches made too, it seems to be almost accepted that something very grave has happened—without waiting for all the facts. Therefore, I decided that it was better for this matter to be considered in all its fullness by some one who could prepare a report on it to be considered and at that time it will be for us to decide what, if any, further steps should be taken in this matter. So I asked our Cabinet Secretary to ascertain all the facts that he could in this matter from the various allegations and charges made, whether in any question in this House or in the Press, if it was available, and report to me so that I would be in a better position to submit such a report or my own report on it to you Sir. I have done that. And because these matters involve—these charges involve—financial matters, it is my intention when the Cabinet Secretary sends his

report or note to me on these subjects, to send it to my colleague the Finance Minister and separately to the Comptroller and Auditor-General so that they may judge the financial proprieties and improprieties of any action that had been taken.

When a person has been in fairly intimate contact with another, then, two consequences flow. One is that he is presumed to know him better and more intimately and to be in a better position to judge that man. The other possible consequence is that he might be rather partial to him. One is an advantage; the other is a disadvantage. In any event, I decided that this matter should be considered without my own opinions coming in the way. And, therefore, as I said, I decided that when the Cabinet Secretary submits ~~the~~ report, I shall request my colleague the Finance Minister to look into it and to give me his advice in the matter and separately I shall ask the Auditor-General to consider whether the proprieties were observed or whether any improprieties were committed in this matter. Because I want these to be considered rather fully and because I want it to cover the period since Mr. Mathai joined me—and that was 12 years ago—it will take a little time to get all these facts to be ascertained.

I am not interested in what Mr. Mathai did before he came to me; but, ever since he came to me, naturally my interest begins. I may point out—hon. Members may not perhaps know it—that he came to me very considerably before there was any talk of my being in any Government. I forget exactly, about a year and a half before, I think, and there was no question of his coming to a prospective Prime Minister or any government official. And so, I have asked the Cabinet Secretary to do this, that is from the time he came to me, to have some broad knowledge of the situation and more precisely in regard to the actual allegations made.

**Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Basirhat):** Does it mean that the period prior to that will not be enquired into—that the Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs. 3 lakhs which he built up while he was in the establishment of the United States Army will not be enquired into?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** Yes, Sir; that is precisely what it means. I am not going to enquire into that; that is a separate matter—whether it is to be gone into by somebody. I cannot go on enquiring into everybody's previous life. But, I am interested and the House has a right to be interested in what has happened since he has been connected with me or in government service.

Now I would like to add again that I welcome the interest that Members of this House take in a matter which creates any doubt in their minds and where they feel proprieties have not been observed. That is right. But, I would with all respect say that I have been a little surprised at the manner in which this question has been pursued, and almost an element of persecution has come in that approach outside and here, because that, I think, is the last thing which hon. Members would desire. They want the truth; they want justice to be done. They want the standards of integrity to be maintained. I am sure no one here wishes that a kind of witch-hunt should take place whenever some such thing comes up to our notice. There has been, in the Press, Sir—and I am not for the moment complaining of anybody but I am stating a fact—a tendency for matters to be sensationalised.

May I mention another simple instance? The other day, in a periodical not famous for its reputation for responsibility or truth, a letter was reproduced which Mr. Mathai had written about 9 years ago. The letter was addressed to Mrs. Rameshwari Nehru. Simply because Mr. Mathai

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case is before the public, it was published. I do not know where the paper got this letter from; it was hinted that it was got from a sweatmeat seller; the sweatmeat was wrapped up in it. It may be. In this letter which was reproduced, for example, Mr. Mathai had said: The Prime Minister has asked me to send you a cheque for Rs. 5,000 for relief. He regrets he may not be able to send it to you regularly.

Most hon. Members of this House probably know Shrimati Rameshwari Nehru, one of the respected persons in Delhi city who, at that time more especially and since, was devoting herself to the relief of the displaced persons from Pakistan, especially women. She was an honorary Adviser of the Ministry of Rehabilitation. Of course, the Ministry was helping these people. In cases where there was urgency she came to me and said: I can't always wait for governmental slow processes when urgent help is needed. So, I used to give her some money for which he gave me long accounts. And this Rs 5,000 I gave her for relief. This is the kind of thing that is reproduced in this periodical—to suggest that, since she is the wife of a cousin of mine, I was giving her a sort of pension from government funds. (Interruption.)

I think I should like to go on now to Mr. Masani's speech. I regret I was not here, but I have read every word of it in the official report because in the course of a varied experience in this House for the last 11 years that was a novel experience. That was a novel experience and I believe it is the first time that any hon. Member of this House has talked and threatened a civil war if something was done.

Shri M. R. Masani (Ranchi-East): The Prime Minister will give me a moment. Will he read the verbatim

text? There was no sign of threat; it was a caution. This is what I said:

"If Members feel I used a harsh term, if I mentioned civil war, that is what I feared. If any serious attempt is made to come to the peasants of Ranchi and Chota Nagpur and tell them to give their land, I say, whether we like it or not, blood would be shed. It is to warn the Government against taking such a step, to warn against taking steps which may lead this country to a horrible thing like this that I am raising this question"

Surely, threat has nothing to do with it.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have also got a quotation in inverted commas from his speech with me. He referred to the question more than once. He said that if this thing is done, that is, co-operative farming, it can only be by threat or by coercion.

"I do not hesitate to say that if a serious attempt is made it will lead to civil war and bloodshed and the death of thousands of people in this country. We will never accept such a commitment."

Shri M. R. Masani: One word is missing—'unfortunate'. It is missing in the Prime Minister's text..... (Interruptions.) I wish the Prime Minister discusses co-operative farming and not draw this rod hearing across the trail.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The second one was what the hon. Member has quoted about his constituency where he is so intimately connected with the Adivasis.

He has said:

"Such people will never give up their land with whatever slogan you may approach them. If Members feel that I use a harsh term, if I talk of civil war, I mean this...."

**Shri M. E. Masani:** It is an uncorrected text; I have got it corrected

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** It goes further:

"If any serious attempt is made to come to the peasants of Ranchi and Chota Nagpur and to tell them to give up their land and to get into the big co-operatives as in China, I may say, whether you like it or not, blood will be shed"

I am glad to notice that he is in a more chastened mood and wants to correct his previous speech

**Mr. Speaker:** No hon Member is entitled to put a new word into his speech (Interruptions)

**Shri Jaipal Singh (Ranchi West—Reserved—Sch Tribes)** May I point out that any hon Member may recite only the corrected text because as you know things are sent to us for correction. Certain words are missing

**Mr. Speaker:** It was not brought to my notice. The hon Members will kindly look into the rules. No hon Member is entitled to put a new word into his speech or to correct any expression which he has used. Whatever it may be, it is left to the Speaker, if it is objectionable, to expunge it, it is not for him to say after second thought that he ought to have said so. So, he must take the consequence of whatever he has stated here

**Shri M. E. Masani:** The text is incomplete. The word 'unfortunate' was missing. I put it in because I uttered it.

**Shri Joachim Alva:** Some of us were present when he talked of civil war. (Interruptions)

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** May I continue?

**Mr. Speaker:** It is not necessary to pursue this matter.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I am not interested in a particular word. If

I may submit, if the hon Member thinks that a word has been left out, his word should be taken and the word should be put in because sometimes words are left out. But I have to deal with the more basic position. I was, I should confess, distressed at this light-hearted reference to the possibilities of civil war. Previously, I have heard of this word being used not in this House but outside. Now from different channels it has crept into this House and I think that is a bad development because however strongly we may feel about questions and argue about them in this House and outside, there are certain basic things which we must keep in mind and we must not, I submit, say things which aggravate the situation which lead people's minds into wrong directions. There is enough. We have to face enough difficulties—all of us, I am not talking about the Governments but the country. And while it is right that we should criticise each other's policies, to refer to this kind of thing is, I submit, not to be encouraged.

Now, why did the hon Member, Shri Masani, get rather worked up? Because of certain resolutions passed at the Nagpur Session of the Congress among them being one on land reform and co-operatives. There, in those resolutions, it was said that our aim and objective is joint farming, that we should aim at that but for the present, for the next three years, we should concentrate on service co-operatives. It was further emphasised that this business of co-operation in the very nature of things is a voluntary business and if joint farming comes it will be with the consent of the people concerned. Now, Shri Masani in his speech stated that he had always been in favour of the co-operative principle but the way and what has been said in the Congress resolution has nothing to do with co-operation because the moment the idea of joint farming comes in it means deprivation of the land from

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the peasant and therefore it is not co-operation. Further, that, if there is joint-farming at any stage, it must necessarily lead to collectivism. That is his argument. Collectivism then leads to that horrible state of affairs which, according to him, exists in Russia and China and elsewhere. Therefore, this is the slippery path which leads down below to the lowest depths. This is the argument, I hope I have put it correctly.

Now that argument of course presumes so many things which do not exist that it is a little difficult to answer it. He starts with this assumption that where there is joint farming, it ceases to be co-operation. I have heard of many criticisms of joint farming but this is the first time I have heard this principle enunciated. Then if there is joint farming, he says that it must lead necessarily to collective farming which also seems to me rather an odd statement to make. Speaking for myself, I do not broadly speaking agree with collective farming. I do not—and I wish to be quite frank—but if some people want to do it, let them do it. I will not come in the way but I shall not encourage them. But I do believe in co-operation and I do, firmly and absolutely believe in the rightness of joint cultivation. Let there be no doubt. I do not wish to hide my own beliefs in this matter. I shall go from field to field and peasant to peasant begging them to agree to it. Knowing that they do not agree, I cannot put it in operation. That is a different matter. It is for them to agree. I am not saying that in this or any other matter any common principle can be applied to every country in the world. I have come to believe firmly that to try to generalise about all countries about one policy, is not right. We may have some general principles, naturally of approach, but each country's facts and conditions have to be judged as they are and something else

from another country should not be imposed which may not fit in. And, if I suggest something for the peasantry of India—whether I am right or wrong, of course, is another matter—it is because I think that in the conditions of India that thing is desirable and profitable. I cannot say in this changing world what I may think or others may think a few years later, because we live in a terrific period of change.

Now, Shri Masani said somewhere that he objects to anything being done to change this traditional way of doing things. He said somewhere that he wants the traditional way of family farming, individual farming, to continue. Now, I am not against tradition as such, but I think that the one thing that we want in India is to get out of tradition as much as possible. We have had enough of traditions here. I do not mean to say about all traditions—that would be absurd for me to say—but we have become in some ways traditionalists, fundamentalists and all that. And, I must say, however much I may differ from Shri Masani, I did not think he was a fundamentalist and a traditionalist in that sense.

So let us consider this question on the merits, realising that whatever we have to do in this sphere of co-operation must come from the willing assent of the people concerned, otherwise, apart from being good or bad—I agree with Shri Masani—it is not co-operation. It is something else. If that is agreed to then most of the arguments that Shri Masani gave us falls to the ground.

He also stated with great vigour that nowhere in the world has this kind of farming yielded better results. Now, again, I think that it is very unsafe to make these general statements. I can give him instances where it has been known to be a success, but leave that out. He gave

examples. He gave us what had happened in Yugoslavia and Poland. The examples were that collective farming was given up. There, again, he will see that, first, he combined two quite different things. He gave the example of one and applied it to the other. That is a curious way of argument. That is, firstly, he says that joint farming of the kind we have suggested is collective farming, and then he says that collective farming failed somewhere else and therefore joint farming will fail here. That indicates a tremendous confusion in his mind, whether it is some kind of an unconscious confusion or conscious confusion, I do not know.

I am not judging Yugoslavia or Poland or Soviet Union or China. I do not like many things that happen in other countries. I like other things. Sometimes in the context of things one expresses one's opinion but I am always reluctant to do so because unless something is a matter of high principle, I honestly do not consider myself competent to judge other countries. I do not know all the facts and circumstances and context, and to judge by some odd facts that appear in newspapers or a report is not enough. I do not want others in other countries also to fall into the trap of judging my country by some odd facts or reports. Therefore I cannot say whether Yugoslavia, Poland, Soviet Union or China for that matter is acting rightly or not, profitably or not. They know best.

But in India we have to deal with a situation where the average holding is very very small. The average for India is—I do not know—one acre, maybe two. Certainly, quite a vast number of people do not even have one acre of land. What are you to do with that? It will be a completely different proposition if the average holding here was let us say, 20 acres or 50 acres. That would make us think differently. I am not enamoured of joint farming or anything because of the name of it. You get some foothold to work there, to im-

prove the land. But what can a person who has a holding of one acre or so, as most people have in India, do with that land? Of course, he can improve it. And, as Shri Masani has told us, we can give him better seeds, give him water, give him fertilisers, give him better tools. Certainly, gradually we can give them to him, and in any event he ought to be given those things. But having given all these, what? Then there are certain improvements in the land which he can profit by if he had larger pieces to plough, to cultivate. A one-acre land will always keep its owner in semi-starvation. If it is a good season he may get a little more to eat but, then again he relaxes. There is no future for him in that. Of course, we have at the present moment too many people on the land and they must be engaged in other occupations, namely, industry, whether it is big industry, middle industry or cottage industry—that is another matter. But they have to be engaged and the burden has to be lessened. That is true, and everything has to be done to help in greater production in the land. But I do submit that—whether it is from the point of view of a theoretical approach or otherwise—in the conditions in India joint farming is the right objective to aim at.

Again, I add definitely that means by consent, not otherwise, and, apart from the theoretical view, if you examine the practical question here you will be led to the same conclusion. I know very well that peasants are conservative, farmers are conservative and they do not easily change their own habits if I want them to change. I will have to put examples of success before them, not a theoretical speech. If I tell them that their neighbour is succeeding in this, that will convince them more than anything else. So, ultimately this question lies in the hands of farmers of India, not in my hands or Shri Masani's hands. I should do my best to convince them of a certain course of action.



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But, in the meanwhile, when we say that for the next three years we should concentrate on service co-operatives, that itself indicates that we are proceeding not hurriedly. Give the full time. They must have their service co-operatives. No Act is going to be passed by Parliament. If they themselves want to change it, who can prevent them? Indeed, I ask you, who can prevent a co-operative society today from deciding that they shall do joint cultivation? Nobody can prevent it. There is no question of coercion. There is no question of a new law. The society itself decides to do it. In fact, many have done so, quite a number of them. So, I do not understand this. The subject of co-operative farming may be discussed, whether there is virtue in it or not. You may even say, well, it is suited to wheat farming and not so much to rice farming. These are matters to be considered—I can understand that. But what has surprised me is this fierce approach of Shri Masani. Shri Masani knows even less about farming than I do. I do not pretend to know much except that it has been my privilege to be connected with the peasants of my State for many, many years. Somehow I felt that that reaction had little to do with joint cultivation. It was a reaction against something, some fear, which lay behind it as it comes out repeatedly. What lies behind or beyond, the future, I do not know, neither Shri Masani. But I do know this, that things are happening in the world and in India which are changing the face of our country and will change it tremendously. We cannot carry on the old traditions, whether they are in land or in industry or in so many other things.

The problem before us is so big; the entire problem of carrying the 400 millions of the Indian people forward is so tremendous that in the course of our journey we shall have to undergo many transformations.

Now, coming back to joint cultivation, I should just like to give a few facts as to the present position of co-operatives. In regard to the small village co-operative societies, not joint farming, I am giving the numbers. At the end of 1950-51, the number of these societies was 118,000. At the end of 1956-57, the number was 159,000. At the end of 1958-59, the number was 179,000. These are the village ones, not the big ones. The membership of village co-operatives was, in 1950-51, 51½ lakhs, in 1956-57, 91 lakhs, in 1957-58, 110 lakhs; in 1958-59, the estimate is 138 lakhs.

To come to the large-sized co-operatives, at the end of 1956-57, there were 1,915, in 1957-58, 4,529 and in 1958-59 6,318.

Then, it may interest the hon. Members to know the amount of rural credit that was given by these co-operatives. I might mention that 80 per cent of this was given by the village co-operatives, I mean the loans. The big ones gave only 20 per cent. In 1950-51, it was Rs. 22·9 crores, in 1955-56, it was Rs. 49·62 crores, in 1956-57, Rs. 63·33 crores; in 1957-58, Rs. 96 crores and in 1958-59 Rs. 130 crores. All this indicates—I do not say it is stupendous advance—a solid advance of co-operative societies, more especially of small co-operatives.

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi): Are these credit societies or service societies?

Mr. Speaker: Multi-purpose.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Many of them are credit societies, but nowadays, we try to make every society that is formed a multi-purpose one. These include all kinds.

Coming to joint co-operative farming, according to the report, there were 2,020 co-operative farming societies in India at the end of 1957-58.



But I would like to add that this term 'co-operative farming' has been used somewhat loosely. Sometimes, the land is held by the society, the ownership is of the society and yet cultivation is carried on individually in some cases. If this type of farming societies is excluded, that is, if those societies where cultivation is carried on separately are excluded, the number of joint and collective farming societies and where cultivation is undertaken jointly, is 1,357, consisting of 966 joint farming societies and 391 collective farming societies. These are the present figure.

It is true, and I would like to make this clear, that some of these societies were formed with the intention of circumventing land reform legislation.

Shri C. K. Nair (Outer Delhi): What is this collective farming? Again, that dangerous word is used.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I have got a report where each of these collective societies is separately discussed. They differ. But broadly speaking, I take it that it means—where they use the word 'collective'—that the land is held by the community, that is, each individual has not got a separate share. I take it like that. I suppose it is so.

I do not say that all these 1,300 odd societies are very good societies or very successful ones or models of joint farming. But in every State, there are examples of successful joint farming societies. They have arisen in the last two or three years and they have arisen really not because of any tremendous pressure from anybody but because due to various reasons the farmers have decided to do so. There is a report of the Programme Evaluation Organization of the Planning Commission on *Studies in Co-operative Farming* which was issued two and a half years ago, where all these societies are separately considered and evaluated. Further studies are being organized now by the Planning Commission.

The other question in which some doubt has arisen has been raised by some people. There has been some criticism about the ceilings on land. This question has been under discussion not in this House but outside, and certainly in the Congress organization for a number of years and in the Planning Commission. The hon. Members know that the Planning Commission, in their reports and five years plans, have repeatedly recommended it. In fact, some States have already taken action on it.

The first point I would like to submit is that these decisions, whether on co-operative farming or on ceilings, did not suddenly come out of somebody else's head. These things were discussed, argued for years. We have been criticized, and perhaps rightly criticized, as going too slow in this matter. Anyhow, they have been considered, special committees were appointed not only consisting of members of the Congress but of eminent economists from outside who made these recommendations which were again discussed. So, the decisions arrived at were preceded by a very great deal of discussion and consideration of each aspect of the question.

One thing I would like to say about Shri Masani's speech. He made a statement which seemed to me rather remarkable. He said "Is it not a farce to talk of co-operation and targets?" I hope I understand the English language adequately, but I do not understand what this question means. Why should we not have targets and also have co-operation?

13 hrs.

Shri M. R. Masani: Mr. Gomulka has specifically proved that you cannot have targets when you want it to be voluntary, because you are then planning the rate of growth of human consciousness.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The hon. Member seeks refuge under Mr.

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Gomulka's name, of course a very eminent person, no doubt, but I wish nevertheless that he takes refuge in a common sense approach even more. It is perfectly true—if I am asked how do you expect the Indian peasant to grow in political or economic or other consciousness, how am I to put a target on that? But I can very definitely put a target on a field's production. I may not reach it; that is a different matter, but it is a most ordinary thing to be done.

In fact, that applies to a single individual field. Leave out co-operation; can we or can we not put a target on a farm of 10 acres or whatever the acreage may be? I do not say that it is a precise target and it must be attained. But it is arrived at after some calculation and you put a target—20 per cent or 30 per cent ~~whatever~~ whatever it may be. If we can put it on an individual field, why cannot we put it on 10 or 20 fields joined together and call it a co-operative? I do not understand it. Otherwise, one must say that one can never put a target, regardless of co-operation, on any piece of land, as to what they are going to produce. That is surely an extraordinary statement to make, opposed to all scientific, statistical, and every kind of approach.

Shri M. E. Masani: The target I referred to was the target that 3,000 co-operative farms should be brought into existence by the end of the Second Five Year Plan and 600 must be brought into existence by the end of the financial year 1958-59. It was that target of the rate of co-operativisation that I mentioned, and not any target of production.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Either the hon. Member believes in planning or he does not. I submit that today there is none that, I know of, whether in the capitalist world, the socialist world or the communist world, who does not believe in planning. The approach to planning may be different; it is admit-

ted. But the moment you plan, you must have targets. The targets may be attainable or not.

If I may rather give an example to the hon. Member, nobody can say whether the next child of a certain married couple is going to be a son or a daughter. But statistically, you can say that in India, there are likely to be so many sons and so many daughters. In each individual case, you are completely uncertain. Therefore, targets are put to know what we want to do. It involves some calculation to some extent as to what can be the produce by the use of so much better fertilisers or better seeds, better manure, more labour and all that; this can be calculated, though not with accuracy. But when you spread this out over a large figure, then the inaccuracies become less.

What Acharya Kripalanisays in this House or elsewhere always has to be listened to with respect, because he is not only one of our most respected elder statesmen, but a dear colleague and comrade of ours in the past and I hope in the present too. Acharya Kripalani said that I had made appeals for co-operation, but this kind of appeal had no particular value, because the appeal was for co-operation at the level of consultation and not at the level of execution. He said,

"Opposition parties cannot be asked to make themselves responsible for policies in the execution of which they have no part or lot."

He said on his own behalf—he made it perfectly clear—and not on behalf of his party that there should be, therefore, a national government. I have no doubt that under certain circumstances, a national Government is desirable to a larger measure, because after all, when we consider these tremendous problems that face us, I hope no one can allow himself to be narrow-minded enough to think on

party lines. It has been our privilege to work on mighty tasks and it is our privilege now in this House to face enormous challenges and problems and work out solution. And, we must adopt the method which takes us farthest. That is the only test or yard-stick.

But when I consider Acharya Kripalani's proposal of a national Government, my mind is not quite clear as to what he means and what this thing itself called 'national Government' is supposed to be or is likely to be. He himself in the course of his speech, talking about his own party, the Praja-Socialist Party, said that the PSP has a policy statement which precludes it from co-operation with the Congress or the Government in the political field. Then again, a national government presumably means a government representative of various parties. Which parties? In this House, apart from the majority party, there are three or four major groups and some Independents, who perhaps are not in any group. Those in the opposition may present a solid front, as it sometimes does against the Government, but it is well known that the fissures between the different groups in the opposition are deep and wide and possibly, it may be even more difficult for them to function together than it is for the present Government to function with any one of those groups. So, all these difficulties arise.

One has to try to work, not the routine work of administration but the big work that faces all of us. Whether it is planning or the execution of the Plan, there has to be a certain measure of united approach, not altogether I mean, but if there is a basic difference in the approach itself, then that would simply mean each group coming in the way of the other, no result being visible. Acharya Kripalani, in the goodness of his heart, thinks that people, when faced with serious problems, will naturally took

at it in the right way and come to some kind of broad agreement. But that does not happen. Leaving out people who may not be honest, in politics, even amongst honest people, there are strong differences of opinion. Now, if I may venture to say so, what would happen to me if I have Mr. Masani in my Government? If we can behave peacefully towards each other, we shall at any rate be trying all the time to convert or to prevent the other person from going in a certain direction. There will be a stalemate and nothing will be done. So, there has to be some kind of common approach to problems. That common approach is hammered out, of course, in Parliament, the Planning Commission and elsewhere. As a matter of fact, many of these things are capable of common approaches.

Now, I submit, if the time comes for what is called a national government, well, obviously if the time comes and if the people are in the mood for it, let us have a national government. But again I submit I do not quite understand what the national government would be. Would it mean all the parties in this House functioning together? Patently not. Because, some of them are so far removed from each other that there is no common ground.

Acharya Kripalani: May I submit here that there is more difference among Congressmen about some of the dominant policies that are adopted at the Congress than some of those who are on this side?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: The Acharya is right in what he has said. In the wide fold of the Congress there are many differences of opinion. But it is no good pointing out to me these differences in the various parts of India. Because, the policy laid down by the Congress comes gradually; because of those differences it takes some time for new policies or variations of old policies to be framed; that

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is true. But once it is laid down, people accept it. If they do not accept it, and if it is a matter of principle, well, then there is a break and the person goes out of the organisation. That has been the history of the Congress, as Acharya Kripalani knows very well.

**Acharya Kripalani:** He does not go out of the Congress. He is a drag on the Congress.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** He is a drag? Yes, that is so. But I was merely referring to the early days of the Congress when people like our respected friends of the Liberal Party left the Congress. Those who do not leave, they become a drag too. That is so. These are but consequences of our history, the Congress history. I do not wish to take much time of the House on this. I just wanted to point out the difficulty one has to face

Now, Acharya Kripalani knows that among the various groups and parties in this House, so far as national policy is concerned, probably his party is nearer to the Congress than other parties here.

**Acharya Kripalani:** And Communists too.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** They are, in fact, people who have been in the Congress. Now, there are others, there is another party, rather faintly represented here—not faintly, I am sorry, but in a very small number—which has laid down, whose leader has laid down the policy of permanent, not revolt of the Trotsky type but permanent civil disobedience or permanent satyagraha, whatever it is.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad):** Till injustice is going on.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** That is exactly what I say—permanent interruptions, permanent processions. Now, what are we to do here? Take, for example, the city of Calcutta, which,

I think, now can be called the city of processions. It is always easy to find cause for a procession. But I am told that if there is nothing at all even then there is a procession. Now the recent agitation in U.P. about cane price, this, that and the other, it is a little difficult; I am not going into the merits of it, but I am merely saying these approaches do not fit in. But what I submit to Acharya Kripalani's consideration is this: everything comes when the time is ripe for it. I thought, and I do think still, that there are large number of openings for co-operation, apart from what might be called governmental co-operation. I am not ruling out anything, because we have to prepare the ground for it, because we cannot have an artificial thing.

Today take, first of all, the planning as such, which I submit is the most important stage, vital stage. Insofar as implementation goes, implementation naturally is looked after by the Government, but ultimately the implementation goes to vast numbers of officials and the like. It goes through. Then there are the stages. All these difficulties are there. But one can immediately have co-operation in the planning stage; one can have co-operation in the implementation stage, various levels. Take community development blocks.

**Shri P. R. Patel (Mehsana):** May I submit that is not done at the district level. That is the monopoly of the Congress people. How can you say there is co-operation by others?

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** I did not say about the district level. It may be so. If it is not there, it should be done. I do not know what he means by co-operation at the district level. I can understand the community development block; I can understand the panchayats, the co-operatives. So far as co-operation is concerned, it may surprise Shri Masani to know that we have laid the greatest stress on both

the panchayats and the co-operatives to function, apart from official pressure even official guidance, I would say, except where it is necessary. We want them to be self-reliant entities. Now, if we build up co-operative effort at the top, the planning in its various stages, it grows; it grows and a time may come when we can have it much more, of course.

I have taken much time of the House But I should like to give some information which the hon. Member, Shri Ghose asked for when he was talking about the Berubari Union yesterday. First of all, may I say that we realise fully the depth of feelings in such matters? It is quite natural, especially in Bengal. So far as we are concerned, I can assure him that we shall examine this matter, we shall have it examined again from the constitutional and legal point of view and other points of view also. It is rather difficult for me to deal with this matter while dealing with what he said about consultation—because, honestly I find that I hold a different opinion about what has been expressed elsewhere Now I am not saying that anybody is deliberately saying something that is not true But I can say that there has been a grave misunderstanding about it Of course, in a matter of this kind it is inconceivable to me that one can come to any decision without the consent of the representatives of the Government concerned

But there it is I do not wish to pursue this matter further But he wanted some figures and I shall give them to him—sorry, I cannot find the paper that contains the figures—here is something.

According to the previous agreements arrived at and the Bagge Award certain exchanges took place on the 15th January Many of these things had been agreed to previously—by 'agreed to' I mean that the Bagge Award said so. According to this ...

Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore): It is there.

341 (A) LSD.—3

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Bagge Award is here.

An Hon. Member: Exchange took place this year?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Exchange took place on the 15th January. The area in India's possession and handed over to Pakistan is 26.4 square miles. The area in Pakistan's possession and handed over to India is 12.2 square miles That has been done.

About the others, that is, the Cooch Behar enclaves, the area in India's possession to be handed over to Pakistan is 29 square miles and the area in Pakistan's possession to be handed over to India is 18 square miles.

So far as the Berubari Union is concerned, the area is 4.3 square miles and there is about half a square mile in the 24 Parganas.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: The point we would like to know is whether Pakistan ever raised this question of Berubari as a dispute before the Bagge Tribunal at all and if it did not do so, why this matter was raised as a dispute or accepted by our Government as a dispute to be resolved

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It was not raised before the Bagge Tribunal. That is true But it was raised repeatedly and, in fact, many of the border troubles that have occurred have been on this border in furtherance of that dispute They are trying to come in. But I hope this House will consider this matter in all its aspects fully later

I have dealt with various matters but really what I should like to have dealt with was the major approach of the President's Address, that is, about our planning, about our Third Five-Year Plan, about what we have done and what we intend to do. May I say that in spite of all the errors of which we may have been guilty and in spite of all the disasters—natural

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

and others—that we have had to face, still the general record in regard to production et cetera of the past few years has been, I think, good. The results of that may not be good. That is perfectly true. But I am talking merely in terms of production at the moment—agricultural as well as industrial—because that is a basic thing and on that everything will depend. I do not say that that is the only thing. Other things have to be taken into consideration. But the major fact that we have to face is that if our production goes up by 2 per cent per annum that is just enough to keep us where we are, that is, to prevent us from sliding back. Therefore for any real progress it has to be beyond the 2 per cent increase per annum. I believe our average has been about 6 per cent in the past few years.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Before the last two years.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Yes, before that. During the last two years it has been pulled down, but I think if you take the whole period it may not be less. During the last two years it has been less, specially agriculture. Anyhow, there is a basic fact that we have broadly to go ahead at about 6 per cent. per annum, both in the average of agriculture and industry.

In regard to industry, one can fairly easily calculate it, in the sense as to how much investment you put in and you get back. In regard to agriculture, it is a little more difficult to be precise. But from all indications, apart from the indication of good harvest which we have, the work we have done in the past is bearing fruit now. The community development movement has now been geared up to agricultural production specially and it is producing results, and otherwise also. More important than all, I think, is our efficiency in the States. Our State agricultural departments have—I say so with hesitation—become at last very fully alive to what

they have to do which, perhaps, they were not previously. So, broadly speaking, it is clear that one has to make a certain effort in order to go ahead. About the details thereof we may differ but if we lessen the effort, far from going ahead we will perhaps remain where we are.

Secondly, the resources in India are there and even by the experience of the past few years it is certain that we are likely to do that, but obviously all this requires a tremendous effort. Shri Khadilkar, I think, said about a new perspective. It is not merely a question of doing the same thing with a little more effort, but of a new perspective because that perspective is required not only in industry but in land too. It was more with the idea of giving that new perspective in land that the Resolutions relating to this matter were passed by the Congress.

Now, I want to say a word or two about the so-called public sector. Sometimes I have criticized the private sector—not really the private sector but some persons who said that they spoke on behalf of the private sector. There are some people who, perhaps, in spite of what they do, are not very helpful to the private sector. Perhaps they create prejudice against it by their public utterances. I mean to say some people in the private sector. . . .

Shri P. R. Patel: Should they not give any opinions?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I merely say that by their activities they sometimes create an adverse impression on the public mind. They are welcome to do that as anybody is. There is freedom of speech in this country even though the speech may not be logical or intelligent. But I do believe that on one side everything seems to be judged by this fact, namely, have you nationalised this or are you going to nationalise this. With great respect may I say that these are rather immature approaches to these problems?

12.30 hrs.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Nationalising a few more things may be good or bad. We do not know. It depends on the things themselves. But today, as I understand it, we have to increase our production and increase it in a way so that monopoly controls are not added to—to diminish monopoly controls—and a strong socialist basis is gradually built up; that is, the dynamic points in our country are controlled by the State. I believe they are largely controlled by the State; I do not say completely, but they are largely controlled, and they will be more and more controlled. Maybe, of course, all kinds of things happen which sometimes result in pressures,—foreign as well as here—but I think we are in control. To say that any foreign Government can compel us to do something is not right, it is wrong. We may agree to something in the balance, that is a different matter; we decide as to whether it is agreeable or not. To say that the private sector exercises pressures on us is very much less true. The private sector can do much, but it cannot deliberately deflect Government from its policy. I think the private sector people realise that adequately—I do not say every one of them, but broadly; and I will say this, although I have criticised them greatly, some of them, that the great majority of them have tried their best to co-operate with Government.

The point is that some kind of brave gestures by us against the private sector, against the other, do not help at all. Let us examine each point, and as I said, we feel that the private sector has a great domain to work on in India; they can do a great deal. Just to push out the private sector, I think, would be utterly wrong, harmful and injurious to the country at the present moment and for a considerable time to come. But I do not want it to play any kind of a dominating role in our economy. I want more particularly many of its evil features

to be controlled, because there are evil features; and I want especially that this kind of monopolies should not be encouraged and, should, in fact, be discouraged. That is the present approach, and that, I believe, is the broad approach of the Planning Commission.

Therefore, it becomes important how this approach to the Third Five Year Plan has become the most vital of our subjects for consideration today. It governs the next two years of the Second Plan, and it will obviously govern the future, and in that matter particularly, as well as in many others, I want the largest amount of consultation. It is a very big thing—what kind of Third Five Year Plan we build, because on that depends the basic thinking of the country, of the Planning Commission, of this House, of the country, and it is not a matter as you know, as the House knows, of putting together a number of projects. That is not planning; it is something deeper than that that we are endeavouring. Therefore.

**Raja Mahendra Pratap (Mathura):** You must be tired, Sir, but do not finish without saying a word for World Federation.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The hon. Member has been good enough to remind me that I have spoken enough. Thank you, Sir.

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** May I seek a clarification from the Prime Minister on his exegesis on co-operation in the field of agricultural production. He has stressed, I am glad to hear, that it has to be on the basis of voluntary co-operation. Now, I find in my own State, the Government of Bihar have what they call the Land Consolidation Act where compulsorily they have sought, without any success whatever so far, certainly not in the south of Bihar, to consolidate, with the result that they have had to withdraw it. Is consolidation a precursor to the future pattern of co-operation?



[Shri Jaipal Singh]

Why is it not being done on a voluntary basis? I am talking of Bihar.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: If joint farming was to be in a village, then obviously consolidation was not necessary, but as joint farming is not coming immediately, it is important that there should be consolidation. It is essential that they should go on. It will help, anyhow it will help. Consolidation has to be compulsory because otherwise. . . .

Shri Jaipal Singh: But people are resisting. What do you do then?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That is a different matter. When we say "compulsorily", it simply means a law is passed to that effect. In bringing it into effect there should be co-operation, understanding, talking to them and all that, because the hon. Member will understand that consolidation does not mean depriving a person of land, but bringing his piece of land together with others in the same area. Of course, this should be done with a great deal of mutual co-operation and goodwill, but there has to be a law behind it; otherwise, it could not be done at all. j

Shri Jaipal Singh: My contention is that if there is voluntary co-operation, no law is required, but here we have to resort to legislation in order to carry out his ideas.

Shri M. C. Jain (Kaithal): Resistance might be due to the ignorance of the people.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Enough has been said on this.

There are as many as 209 amendments to this. Does any hon. Member want me to put his amendment?

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khairpur): No. 15.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: 84 to 87.

Shri M. R. Masani: 208 and 209.

Shri P. R. Patel: 199 to 203.

Shri Yadav (Barabanki): 32 to 47.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): 48 to 53.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi (Bilhar): 67 to 75.

Shri D. R. Chavan (Karad): 121 to 133.

Shri Jadhav (Malegaon): 18 and 19.

Shri B. Das Gupta (Purulia): 175 to 198.

Mr. Speaker: Some amendments have been moved. Hon. Members are referring to some amendments which have not been moved. 15 is moved, 87 is moved. 84 was not moved, it does not appear here. 199 and 203 have been moved.

Shri P. R. Patel: 199 to 203, inclusive.

Mr. Speaker: All right.

Shri M. R. Masani: 208 and 209.

Mr. Speaker: Yes. Then, 32 to 47, 49 and 53.

Shri Panigrahi: 48 to 53.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. Then 67 to 75.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: They are in my name. I have given notice on the 16th.

Mr. Speaker: 67 to 75 have not been moved at all.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: I have given notice in writing on the 16th, and they have to be taken as moved. I do not know what has happened to them.

Mr. Speaker: I did not allow any amendments to be moved after the discussion started, since hon. Members who had spoken already would not have an opportunity to speak on them. Therefore, I have disallowed these amendments which came in.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: I have given in writing that my amendments should be moved on the 16th.



Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow. I have disallowed them.

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: I have not been informed like that.

Mr. Speaker: All right. I am informing him now. It is not as if I must go on writing letters to hon. Members.

Hon. Members who have tabled the amendments must be aware of the rules. The rules are there. I have given also directions from time to time that when once a motion or resolution is moved, thereafter, I would not accept any amendments.

Shri Jadhav: Amendments Nos. 18 and 19 were moved before the motion was taken up.

Mr. Speaker: No.

Shri Jadhav: I had submitted them before the discussion began.

Mr. Speaker: On what day?

Shri Jadhav: On the same day.

Mr. Speaker: After the motion was moved?

Shri Jadhav: Before the motion was moved.

Mr. Speaker: I did not get them before the motion was taken up.

Shri Jadhav: I passed on the chit at the Table.

Mr. Speaker: I rejected it because it came to me afterwards. What is the meaning of giving notice after a motion or resolution is started? How is the hon. Member who moves the motion or resolution to address himself to those amendments and answer in advance? He has no second or third opportunity. So is the case with respect to other hon. Members who want to participate. It is a strange thing.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: You were pleased to allow 15 minutes time for

giving an indication of the amendments, after the speech of the hon. Mover.

Mr. Speaker: That only means that hon. Members are only entitled to pick and choose from those amendments that have already been tabled.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: What is the position with regard to my amendments, namely amendments Nos 91 to 101? Were they moved in time?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. lady Member is a little too impatient. Now, I come to amendments Nos. 67 to 75. I have disallowed them.

As for amendments Nos. 91 to 101, they have been moved

Shri D. R. Chavan: What about amendments Nos. 121 to 133?

Mr. Speaker: They have not been moved.

Shri D. R. Chavan: I submitted them on the same day.

Mr. Speaker: If it was on that day, it is useless. How many times am I to answer hon. Members?

Shri D. R. Chavan: The motion was being discussed, and you gave us fifteen minutes' time

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members do not seem to follow what is happening here. Another hon. Member, namely Shri Braj Raj Singh raised the same matter and said that I had given them fifteen minutes' time; and I told him that those fifteen minutes were for the purpose of enabling hon. Members to pick and choose from those amendments that had already been tabled, they may or may not like to move them; it was only for the purpose of giving them time to choose that I allowed those fifteen minutes.

Shri D. R. Chavan: They had already been tabled.

Mr. Speaker: Those amendments were not given

Shri D. R. Chavan: Those amendments were moved, and for that purpose, the chit was given.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member did not move them.

Shri Jadhav: They were passed on to the Table.

Mr. Speaker: Amendments Nos. 121 to 133 are not there.

As for amendments Nos 118 and 119, I am allowing them

Shri B. Das Gupta: What about amendment No. 175?

Mr. Speaker: It is not there

Shri B. Das Gupta: What about amendments Nos 175 to 198?

Shri P. E. Patel: What about amendments Nos. 199 to 203?

Mr. Speaker: I have noted them

I shall now put the amendments in the order. I shall put all these amendments together.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: No I want division on amendment No 15 It reads thus:

"That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

'but regret that the Address does not disclose any intention on the part of the Government to check extravagance in travelling allowances of Ministers, while Members of Parliament are being denied barest bus transport facilities to and from Parliament on ground of economy'

Rs. 20 lakhs are spent for Ministers

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member would not have an opportunity to speak again.

Now, I shall put amendment No 15 to vote

The question is

"That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

'but regret that the Address does not disclose any intention on the

part of the Government to check extravagance in travelling allowances of Ministers, while Members of Parliament are being denied barest bus transport facilities to and from Parliament on ground of economy'."

Those in favour may say 'Aye'.

Some Hon. Members: 'Aye'.

Mr. Speaker: Those against may say 'No'.

Several Hon. Members: 'No'.

Mr Speaker: The 'Noes' have it.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The 'Ayes' have it

Mr. Speaker: After all, I heard only two voices in favour.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I request that a division must be allowed

Mr. Speaker: During lunch-hour we do not divide. Therefore, the House will take up this matter at three o'clock or half past three of the clock.

Shri M. R. Masani: What about the other amendments? When will they be put to vote?

Mr. Speaker: They will be put together

Shri M. R. Masani: At what time?

Mr. Speaker: We shall start at 3 PM

Shri M. R. Masani: All right, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Or, we may start at 3.30 P.M. I shall dispose of all the amendments, one after the other.

Now, the House will take up the next item.

11.46 hrs.

# **WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) BILL.**

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri  
Abid Ali):** I beg to move:

"That the Bill further to amend  
the Workmen's Compensation Act,  
1923, as passed by Rajya Sabha,  
be taken into consideration"

A comprehensive revision of the Workmen's Compensation Act has been in contemplation for quite a long time now, and the various proposals for amendment have been considered and examined. Two important proposals for amendment relate to the revision of the current rates of compensation and an enhancement of the wage limit in the Act from Rs 400 to Rs 500. These two proposals were referred to an Actuarial Committee for assessing their impact on the finances of the industry. The Committee has submitted its report recently and it is being examined. The present Bill incorporates a number of other proposals for amendment. I do not propose to go into the details of all these proposals but will touch upon some of them only very briefly.

At present, a minor gets a relatively small fixed amount by way of compensation in the event of death or permanent total disablement resulting from employment injuries whereas the rates of compensation for an adult in similar circumstances are calculated on the basis of his monthly wages. The Bill seeks to remove this distinction and place adults and minors on the same footing in the matter of calculation of rates of compensation.

Now, a workman suffering temporary disablement is not entitled to compensation during the first seven days of disablement. This period is being reduced to three days.

The Bill provides that if the payment of compensation is delayed for more than one month, interest would be payable by the employer on the

amount due at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum. The Commissioner may also award penal compensation up to 50 per cent of the amount due if the delay in payment is, in his opinion, without justification. We hope that these provisions will go a long way in ensuring prompt payment, and the workers will be spared the hardship which is inevitably caused by undue delays in payment of compensation.

We also propose to extend the existing time-limit for filing claims from one year to two years. The limitation period of 6 months applicable in the case of masters and seamen is being increased to one year. The Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation is also being given further powers to condone delays in preferring claims in suitable cases in the case of masters and seamen also.

The present provision for the maximum penalty for failure on the part of employers to furnish reports, returns etc is Rs 100. This is being increased to Rs 500.

In order to make it easier for the workmen and their dependants to set the process of law in motion, the Bill provides that the inspectors of factories and mines would also be able to prefer claims on their behalf whenever authorised to do so in writing.

By another amendment, it is being provided that if the employer transfers his assets during the pendency of compensation proceedings or before the amount due by way of compensation has been actually paid, such amount would constitute the first charge on the assets of the employer.

As regards the three Schedules attached to the Act, the first one at present contains a list of 14 injuries which are deemed to result in permanent partial disablement. We propose to replace it by a more comprehensive Schedule which has been taken from the National Insurance (Industrial Injuries) Benefit Regulations of the United Kingdom.

[Shri Abid Ali]

Schedule II to the Act gives a list of persons included in the definition of 'Workmen'. We are amending this Schedule by enlarging the scope of some of the existing entries and adding some new ones.

Schedule III contains a list of 12 occupational diseases for which compensation is payable under the present Act. This is also being appropriately amended.

I do not propose to take the time of the House by going into the details of all the proposed amendments. It will be clear to the hon. Members that the main purpose of the amendments is to broaden the scope of the Act, remove some anomalies, discourage delay in payments, improve the procedure, minimise litigation and make it easier for the workmen to obtain compensation in good time. Even though we have not been able to bring forward any proposal for a general revision of rates of compensation, the workmen suffering injuries listed in Schedule I will receive compensation on a more liberal scale as a result of the present proposals.

I commend the Bill for the consideration of the House.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration"

Shri L. Achaw Singh (Inner Manipal): I beg to move:

"That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri T. B. Vittal Rao, Shri K. K. Warior, Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav, Shri Jagdish Awasthi, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri Bhakt Darshan, Shri D. R. Chavan, Shri Hem Raj and the Mover with instructions to report by the 1st April, 1939."

Mr. Speaker: Has he taken the consent of all the Members?

Shri L. Achaw Singh: Yes, but I am sorry I could not contact the Members of the Treasury Benches.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right, whichever names he has given he has taken their consent.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: Yes.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): There are persons to volunteer.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I had taken enough care because of your ruling the other day.

Mr. Speaker: In all motions for reference to a Select Committee, every section of the House must be represented; otherwise a few people alone can give notice for themselves. The House sends it to a Select Committee so that when it comes back it may rely upon its report.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Sometimes it is not possible to approach Members opposite and get their consent; otherwise, it would defeat our own purpose of referring a Bill to Select Committee.

Mr. Speaker: Hon Members must make an attempt. If they refuse to be there, it is a different matter. They do not make an attempt at all. I will excuse him this time. But in future the rule is that a Member who moves a motion for reference to a Select Committee must approach all sections of the House, whichever may be the groups—according to the importance of it—and if they refuse to serve on the Committee, that is another matter.

Shri V. P. Nayar: All sections are represented in the proposed Select Committee. I find the names of Shri Hem Raj and Shri Bhakt Darshan also. So I think almost all the groups have been covered.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right.

Shri L. Achaw Singh: In moving this amendment, I want to speak on

some of the controversial clauses and points raised in the discussion and in the debate in the other House also. The existing Act is 35 years old. From time to time some amendments have been made here and there. But still the Act is outmoded and there has been a long-standing demand for modification of this Act. For example, there are a number of defects, namely, inadequate quantum of compensation, delay in settling cases and exclusion of a large category of occupational diseases. According to my information, 70,000 workers sustain injuries every month while at work. In view of the fact that India is being increasingly industrialised and more and more complicated machineries are being installed in the factories, occupational hazards are sure to increase till the workers have gained the required technical proficiency. So there is a greater need for having a very comprehensive legislation on the subject of compensation.

The purpose of successive amendments to the main Act is to enlarge its jurisdiction by enactment of employers' liability laws. In America, for example, the laws made the employer responsible not only for his own negligence, but also for that of his supervisory staff. Despite the broader responsibility under employers' liability laws, litigation over industrial injuries generally resulted unsatisfactorily for the employee. Persons injured by accident may have a remedy by a suit for damages against their employer in the civil court, but the law applicable there is inequitable because the employer may evoke defences to defeat the claims to compensation.

**Mr. Speaker:** The hon Member will have 20 minutes and other hon Members will have 15 minutes each.

**Shri L. Achaw Singh:** So the aim of a workmen's compensation law is to remove the uncertainties of litigation at common law and to ensure a definite scale of benefits regardless of fault

under employer's liability. Such benefits are, in part, indemnity for wages lost as a result of injury, in part medical services made necessary by the injury. Industrial injuries are now regarded as part of the productive process and their costs are, therefore, held a proper charge on the cost of production.

In the light of the latest developments in social security legislation, our law is most inadequate. It is not exhaustive. There are also a number of provisions in the existing law and the amending Bill which are controversial and need closer scrutiny at the hands of a Select Committee. First of all, the quantum of compensation was fixed in 1923. It has been related to wages and not to the cost of living index. In fact, the cost of living has increased and the earning capacity of the workers has also increased. Here no account has been taken of the increase in the price index in fixing the amount of compensation. So in this respect, a very careful study is required.

Regarding coverage, there is still an anomaly. The Statement of Objects and Reasons says that the wage limit has increased from Rs 300 to Rs 400 per month. But according to the Industrial Disputes Act, the definition of 'Workman' covers his salary upto Rs 500. But that definition is not here in this Act. So I ask, why this discrimination? There is every necessity to change the definition of 'Workman' in this Act so that he may come within the wage limit of Rs 500.

14 hrs.

I would like to say that the Act is not adequate to meet the needs of the day. This is a very important legislation dealing with social security. But it falls short of the ILO Convention, No 17, to which we are also a party. In this respect, the question of taking provident fund contribution and bonus as part of the wages and their inclusion in calculating compensation has not been decided. This is

[Shri L. Achaw Singh]

necessary because the wage level of the workers in India is very low and the various tribunals in our country have decided that provident fund should also be considered at the time of considering the wages and that bonus is nothing but deferred wages.

According to the Act, the State Governments are also empowered to extend the provisions of the Act to other classes of workers whose occupations are considered hazardous. But most of the State Governments do not go ahead because there is a Central Act. It is for Parliament to make a list of these occupations and the classes of workers as exhaustive and elaborate as possible.

I have observed a very notable omission in this Act and that is about transport workers. The Royal Commission on Labour in 1931 stated.

"The development of motor transport on an organised scale has given rise to another class of workers whose inclusion is necessary. We recommend the inclusion of all persons engaged in the operation and maintenance of mechanically propelled vehicles which are maintained for the transport of passengers or for commercial purposes."

Then comes the waiting period. According to some amendment the number of days in the waiting period has been reduced to three. In spite of that it has worked against the interests of the workers. You will find that burns and cuts in glass factories heal within the waiting period and there is no reason why they should not be paid compensation for those days for waiting.

I do not find that the list of occupational diseases is as exhaustive as it is necessary. It is necessary to amend that list.

Lastly there is the clause that seeks to protect the interests of the workmen entitled compensation in the event of the employer transferring his

assets before discharging his liability under the Act. The question is whether it is advisable to make it applicable only to immovable property. Some concerns generally do not have a substantial portion of their assets in immovable property. So, this is a loophole and the charge should be made applicable to movable property also.

Lastly, I would like to say that there is great scope for improving the working of this Act. In very small establishments, in the mofussil as well as the districts, it has been found that most of the claims for compensation have not been well attended to and there are no agencies also for rendering legal and other assistance to the worker in securing compensation in those areas.

I would like to mention also that in some of the distant areas, for example, in my own territory, the rules are not framed and in the Government P.W.D. in the Press and the State Transport and in other Government undertakings the workers are not conscious of the existence of these beneficial Acts. This is one of the defects.

In view of the statements and arguments put forward by me about some of the provisions of this Bill, I feel that this should go to a Select Committee consisting of the Members whom I have named.

Mr Speaker: Amendment moved

"That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri T. B. Vittal Rao, Shri K. K. Warrior, Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav, Shri Jagdish Awasthi, Shri S. M. Banerjee, Shri Bhakt Darshan, Shri D. R. Chavan, Shri Hem Raj and the Mover with instructions to report by the 1st April, 1980."

How long would the hon. Members like to spend with regard to the general discussion and clause by clause discussion?

**Shri Naushir Bharnocha:** Three hours and one hour.

**Mr. Speaker:** We shall see if there is any time left for the third reading.  
**Shri Vittal Rao.**

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam)**  
**Mr. Speaker, Sir,** there are a few amendments in favour of the workers in this amending Bill; but I must express my disappointment.

In 1955 when a non-official Bill by **Shrimati Renu Chakravarty** was discussed in this House, we were given to understand by the then Labour Minister that a comprehensive legislation was thought of and was being brought forward. But, today, we find that that comprehensive legislation has not been brought forward. In the informal talks we had with the Deputy Labour Minister we were told that a comprehensive legislation will be brought forward later on.

This Act which was amended last some 12 or 13 years ago ought to have been drastically amended. A new legislation should have been brought forward keeping in view the objective of socialist pattern of society.

14.08 hrs.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER** in the Chair]

The other day, I was reading a book *Labour Laws in India*. In the preface, **Mr. Menon**, who was a former Secretary of the Government of India in the Ministry of Labour and who is today the Director of International Labour Organisation writes

"Any labour legislation would indicate the objective the Government has."

Keeping that as the test, I find that this Bill falls far short.

This Bill affects 34 lakhs of workers employed in the Railways and in the industrial establishments, mines and plantations. Therefore, this should seriously engage the attention of the hon. Minister and the Government.

The first time that I ever heard of workmen's compensation was when my hon. friend **Shri Ramananda Tirtha** addressed a meeting of workers which I attended some 20 years ago. There was an agitation for a drastic amendment of this legislation. Schedule IV of this Act is not at all amended. The maximum rate of compensation payable to the dependant of a worker in case of death of the bread-winner or the worker is Rs. 4,500. In case of permanent disablement it is Rs. 6,300—that is for one who is drawing a salary of Rs. 300 or so. Can anybody imagine that with the cost of living obtaining today it would be a sufficient protection for the family of the workers in case of disablement?

Looking to the figures of deaths in the industry, in the year 1954, for 1000 workers employed it was 31; 29 in 1955, 27 in 1956. The permanently disabled as a result of those accidents has been 1·20 in 1954, 1·24 in 1955 and 1·00 in 1956. The temporary disablement is 16·1 in 1954, 17·8 in 1955 and 16·76 in 1956 per thousand workers. This statement shows to what extent these workers are exposed to these risks. I have worked out the figures of compensation given by the Ministry of Labour in their annual report on the working of the Workmen's Compensation Act. The average compensation per death comes to about 2,000 per worker. That is the amount paid to the dependant. The average rate works out to Rs. 317 for permanent disablement and for temporary disablement, Rs. 34. We can understand how meagre this amount is. When we go deeper and analyse further the statistics, they are very revealing.

Now, 29 per cent. of the total accidents involves people who are getting below Rs. 50 as their monthly earnings. It is 61 per cent. in the case of persons earning Rs. 50—100 per month. It is 9 per cent. for those drawing between Rs. 100—200. It is one per cent. above Rs. 200. The schedule has to be seen in this context. Let me take the maximum slab in the lowest category; let me take the



[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

Rs. 45-50 category. What does the dependent of a worker get if the worker dies in an accident? He gets Rs. 1,500/-. In case of permanent disablement he gets Rs. 2,100. If he gets less salary, he will get less. This definitely shows that this Act is not a sufficient protection. In the next higher group of people getting Rs. 50-100, who account for 61 per cent. of the accidents, they get only Rs. 3,000 in case of death and Rs. 4,200 in case of permanent disablement. This clearly shows that this Act does not afford the protection that a worker must get, a worker who is increasing the wealth of this nation is entitled to get more.

With regard to this Act and various other amendments to this Act, we are told that the implication of the burden on the industry is being worked out. Let me turn to the total figures paid by way of compensation to the workers. In no year it works out to more than Rs. 50 lakhs—that is, compensation paid to the workers under this Act for fatal accidents, permanent disability and temporary disability. But what is the total wealth that these people produce? In the mineral industry alone today we get more than Rs. 100 crores, not to speak of other things. Sixty per cent. of the total national income comes from the industrial and mineral production. We are told that the national income is about Rs. 11,000 crores and so this share comes to about Rs. 7,000 crores. Out of this, these people are getting Rs. 50 lakhs. I do not know what implications are being worked out. This clearly indicates that our Government has a pro-employer attitude.

In the amending Bill, one most important thing that is the rehabilitation of the disabled is not provided. I am afraid that not much is being done in this direction—for instance, rehabilitation by providing artificial limbs for those who have lost their limbs and giving them some sort of a training so that in later years they may be gainfully employed. I come from the area of a

mine about which I have got intimate knowledge. There are several hundreds of workers who have either lost their hands above the arm or their legs. Unfortunately they get a very meagre compensation and some part of it is spent or deducted due to expenditure in the hospital during the period they are in the hospital. Thus they get very little and then they roam about unemployed and beg in the streets. I think those who produce our national wealth should be treated in a better way. Few had been sent to any artificial limb centres. So many years have passed. Only the other day in reply to a question the hon. Minister has said that 12 people had been sent to the artificial limb centre in Poona out of about 400 people who had lost their limbs during these 3-4 years, and that they will be sent in batches. This also has been expedited because probably a question was put in Parliament. But in this Bill, no provision is made for the rehabilitation of those people who lose their limbs.

Some increase in the percentage of compensation for the loss of limbs has been included in the schedule. The employment schedule has also been increased. But it does not cover all. Several workers are left out of this. I do not know why they should not be included. All the occupational diseases have not been included. I do not know why I cannot understand the non-inclusion, for instance, of the occupational disease to which the worker in a rayon factory is subject to. We have been urging for a speedy survey. A team has been appointed, they have gone into it and I do not know when they will submit their report. Working in such factories has a very deleterious effect on health. There are about 33,000 workers in these factories. Years pass by and nothing is done for them. Even in industries where a study has been made, it has not been done. For instance, there are the battery industries and so on. I do not know what implications on the industry should



have to be worked out if this schedule is enlarged. Simply because we have been asking the Government to bring forward legislation, they seem to have brought it forward with some amendments. There can be no explanation beyond that. An amendment of this Act was under contemplation and actually a memorandum was circulated to the State Governments as long ago as 1953. The comments of the State Governments have been received. They were before the Government for a pretty long time, and yet the Government have not thought it wise to amend it in a comprehensive way.

With regard to the submission of returns, their own report which has been published a few months ago in the *Indian Labour Gazette* reveals a very sorry state of affairs. Though a statutory obligation is placed on the employers for submission of these returns, they do not submit any returns. I can quote instances. To West Bengal alone 3315 forms for submission of returns were issued but only 800 returns were received—that is, less than 25 per cent. But, yet, these employers go scotfree and nothing is done. Very seldom any prosecution is launched. I do not want that there should be prosecutions, but you must have some measure by which you will be able to make these people submit these returns.

**Shri Abid Ali:** What measure would you suggest?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Exchange places, and we shall do it.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** You grant loans and other things. They should be debarred from getting all these concessions if they do not submit their returns. This is the state of affairs, and the Labour Ministry, whether in the States or in the Centre, I am sorry to say, is not alive to this at all. Why can't they find out the reason why these employers are not submitting their returns? They must find out whether there are genuine reasons or they are doing it deliberately as they

evade in some cases the payment of compensation. Some sort of a penal provision should be there.

With regard to these occupational diseases, the State Governments are authorised to make rules. They take their own time to frame the rules. In Andhra Pradesh, silicosis is declared as a disease for workers in gold mines. There is a small gold mine in Andhra Pradesh; probably the Minister does not know. The rules for award of compensation under this Act have not been framed there, with the result that the workers in that gold mine are not eligible to any compensation though they suffer from silicosis. The Ministry has done nothing about it. I can quote several such instances. They say that labour legislation is a concurrent subject, we will have to leave it to the State Governments and they will make the rules. When they do not frame the rules, the Central Government also remains complacent.

**Shri Abid Ali:** What to do?

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Instead of asking that, if I were in your place, I would have quit that place. In case I am not able to make the State Governments do it, I would not occupy that place in the Labour Ministry.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Individuals can't change places; it is the whole block that has to be changed.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** If I were the Labour Minister or the Deputy Labour Minister and if I were not able to persuade or use my good offices for the speedy framing of the rules under this Act, I would have quit that office as Shri Giri did a few years ago and made Government to revise their attitude.

Sir, the Industrial Disputes Act was passed in a great hurry. We also agreed not to refer it to a Select Committee and allowed it to be passed in a hurry. It was passed in 1956. We are now in 1959. Still the rules under certain sections of that Act have not been framed by the Andhra Pradesh Government. We have asked for the

[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao.]

intervention of the Central Government. We have asked them to use their good offices to persuade the Government of Andhra Pradesh to do that. We now understand that the rules have been drafted but they have not yet been finalised. Under the this Act also the State Governments are given powers to frame the rules

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is a Committee on Subordinate Legislation. If the hon. Member were to write to them they would at once proceed with it and see that the rules as required are framed.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Even in respect of State Governments?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They will ask the Central Government to move in the matter.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hisar): The law can be amended enjoining upon the Central Government to frame the rules

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: I thought that we could approach that Committee only in regard to rules to be framed by Central Government.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Well, I shall look into it.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: On many occasions we have impressed upon the hon. Minister the desirability of enhancing the rate of compensation payable to miners. The work in the mines is more arduous and hazardous. Barring, of course, some port and dock workers, the rate of accidents amongst the miners is nine times more than in other cases. Therefore, we requested the Government that at least in the case of miners who do an arduous nature of work they should be paid double the rate of compensation. This

is not a new demand. In U.K., in addition to the compensation under the law they get an equal amount as additional compensation. That is not being done here.

As has been mentioned by my hon. friend, Shri Achaw Singh, wages for the purpose of computing compensation includes all over-time allowance, dearness allowance, house rent allowance etc. that a worker is eligible to. I cannot understand why the employer's contribution to the provident fund should not be there. Employer's contribution to the provident fund is not taken into consideration for the purpose of computing the compensation to be paid. To include this, Sir, are the implications of financial liability on the industry to be worked out? Several industries have got their own insurance. There will not be any liability on the industry as such. Yet, this is not being done.

There has been a reduction in the waiting period. Originally it was seven days, it is now being reduced to three days. I remember Government had taken a decision or they informed us through some of the papers circulated to the central trade union organisations while they invited comments on the draft amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act in the year 1955, that they were going to reduce the waiting period from seven days to two days. I find that still the waiting period is put as three days.

Not only that. I can't understand why a worker who is involved in an accident should not be paid from the very date of the accident. Why should there be waiting period? For instance, in the amending Bill it is said that only if the injury is for more than 14 days he will be eligible from the date of the accident, and he will not be eligible if the period is less than that.

With these few words, Sir, I urge upon the hon. Labour Minister to bring forward at least a comprehensive legislation very soon, providing for a higher rate of compensation. At least Schedule 4 requires to be revised in favour of the workers. Not only that. In the Industrial Disputes Act they have put down "Workers who draw Rs. 500 and less". Why should they make it Rs. 400 in this Workmen's Compensation Act? Why should it not be Rs. 500? Why should there be different grades for different Acts? I hope, if he does not accept the motion for reference of the Bill to a Select Committee, at least he will accept the amendments that I have tabled.

श्री रा० क० वर्मा (निमाड़) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आज सदन के समक्ष जो बिल पेश किया गया है उसका समर्थन करते हुये जो अमेंडमेंट पेश किया है, उसका मैं विरोध कर रहा हूँ। कारण यह कि जो बिल पेश किया है इसके अन्दर कुछ ऐसी बातें हैं कि अगर आज ही हमारा यह बिल पास हो जाता है तो जैसे ही राष्ट्रपति की स्वीकृति इस बिल को मिल जायेगी, त्योही हमारे हजारों गरीब मजदूरों को तात्कालिक फायदा और लाभ मिलना शुरू हो जायेगा। इसलिये ऐसे पवित्र कार्य में देरी लगाना या सेलेक्ट कमेटी के सामने जो इसको ले जाने का सुझाव आया है, मैं यह मन्ता हूँ कि जिन अमजीवियों के कल्याण के लिये एक अच्छी चीज सदन के अन्दर पेश की है, उसके अन्दर देरी लगाना है। इसलिये मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुये मंत्री महोदय के समक्ष आपके द्वारा कुछ सुझाव रखना जरूरी समझता हूँ।

पहली बात तो श्रीमन् यह है कि हमारे शासन ने और अम विभाग ने अपनी यह नीति बना ली है कि अमजीवियों के लिये स्टेट इंसुरेंस स्कीम शुरू करेंगे और उसकी जो

शुरुआत की गई है उसमें हमें बहुत जबरदस्त सफलता मिली है हालांकि यह चीज बिदेख की ची और हमारे देश की नहीं थी और उसको समझने में एम्प्लायर्स, एम्प्लायीज को और स्वयं गवर्नमेंट को भी बहुत ज्यादा देर लगी क्योंकि अमिकों के हर सप्ताह के काम का रेकार्ड बगैरह रखना, यह एक बड़ी कम्प्लीकेटेड चीज थी लेकिन श्रीमन्, यह मानना होगा और गवर्नमेंट को इसके लिये मुबारकबाद देना होगा कि इसको लागू करने पर अमिकों को कुछ फायदा ही हुआ और जो रकम गई वह एम्प्लायर्स के पास से गई और आज गवर्नमेंट ने उसके द्वारा देश के अन्दर एक ऐसी चीज पैदा कर दी है कि लाइफ इंसुरेंस कापॉरेशन के पास सेविंग तो हुई ही है और साथ ही जो मेडिकल डिपार्टमेंट है उसको भी बड़ी तादाद में सहूलियतें मिली और उसका दूसरे लोगों को फायदा मिलना शुरू हो गया क्योंकि अस्पतालों में जगह नहीं रहती थी और उनका एक एक लिमिटेड बजट हुआ करता था लेकिन सस्टेंट एम्प्लायीज इंसुरेंस की स्कीम होने के कारण वह जो कामन लाभ सब को मिलता था, उसमें अमिकों को भी मिलना था लेकिन अब उनको अलग लाभ मिलने के कारण यह ड्रैल्स डिपार्टमेंट का बजट बड़ा है। अमजीवियों को एक तरफ निकाल दें तो उससे आम जनता को फायदा पहुंचा है। मैं मानता हूँ कि इस नीति का भागे बढ़ाना होगा और हर जगह इसे लागू करना होगा। यह वाकई एक बड़ी चीज है। लेकिन शासन के समक्ष कुछ कठिनाइयाँ हो सकती हैं। आज डाक्टर्स नहीं मिल रहे हैं। हमने यह जो स्टेट एम्प्लायीज इंसुरेंस स्कीम लागू की, मैं अपने प्रदेश की बात करता हूँ जहाँ कि मैं स्वयं यूनियनों में काम कर रहा हूँ, हिन्दुस्तान भर में अगर कहीं यह स्कीम कामयाब हुई है तो वह मेरे प्रदेश के अन्दर हुई है। कोई डिस्पूट नहीं, कोई झगड़ा नहीं, कोई फसाद नहीं और सारे का सारा काम इस तरह से चल रहा है कि

[श्री २० क० श्री]

डाक्टर, मजदूर, एम्पलाई और गवर्नमेंट सब यह मानते हैं कि मध्य प्रदेश के अन्दर जिस तरीके से यह स्कीम चल रही है उस तरीके से दूसरे प्रदेशों के अन्दर नहीं चल रही है। इस सफलता मिलने का कारण यूनियनों के कार्यकर्ताओं का सहयोग मिलना है। इस स्कीम का फायदा श्रमजीवियों को मिले उसके लिये जहाँ सहयोग चाहिये वहाँ लगन, तड़पन और तमना भी चाहिये। केवल जबान चलाने से ही काम होने वाला नहीं है।

इसलिये मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस बिल को सेलेक्ट कमेटी को सौंपने का जो सुझाव दिया गया है तो उसके पीछे बड़ी मामले को टालने की बात है और जैसे आज विधेयक के ऊपर काफी बोल दिया और यदि उनका सुझाव मान लिया जाता है तो सेलेक्ट कमेटी से आने के बाद भी उनको फिर इस पर बोलने का मौका मिल जायगा लेकिन बकिंग के अन्दर इसका कोई लाभ नहीं है। यह बात जरूर है जैसे मैं ने निवेदन किया स्टेट एम्पलायीज इन्वोल्स स्कीम को आगे बढ़ाना चाहिये लेकिन दूसरी तरफ यह भी वी। ए. सी. श्रम विभाग ने जो नीति ठहराई है, उसके अनुसार एम्पलायीज और गवर्नमेंट के प्रतिनिधि बैठ कर कोई ऐग्रीड फारमूला तैयार कर सकते हैं। मैं तो यह देख रहा हूँ कि दो साल से बराबर लगातार हम बैठते हैं, तय करते हैं और ऐग्रीड फारमूला हर बात के अन्दर तय करने हैं, इस चीज को भी आगे बढ़ाया जाये और सेबर कान्फेंस के अन्दर या स्टैंडिंग नेबर कमेटी के अन्दर इसको चर्चा के रूप में रक्खा जाये और जब हमारा ऐग्रीड फारमूला होगा वह बहुत अच्छा होगा। आगे इसमें बहुत सारी बातें हैं।

पहली बात तो यह है कि हमारे सामने कारखाने आते हैं, रेलवे आ जाती हैं, माइनिंग

आती है लेकिन मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान में ऐसे श्रमशीली जो कि कारखानों में काम नहीं करते हैं, उनकी संख्या कारखानों में काम करने वाले श्रमजीवियों से मेरे ख्याल में अधिक निकलेगी। अब ऐसे छोटे-छोटे घरेलू वर्गों में लगे मजदूर लोगों की जब दुर्घटना बस मृत्यु हो जाती है या उनको चोटें लग जाती हैं तब उनका विचार हमारे यह साथी कभी नहीं करते, उनका ध्यान तो कारखानों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों की ओर ही रहता है। मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बड़ी बड़ी फर्मों और दुकानों में काम करने वाले गुमास्तों के बारे में कभी भी नहीं सोचा गया। इस ऐक्ट को कारखानों, रेलवेज, माइंस और डोक्स वगैरह में काम करने वाले मजदूरों के अलावा, इसको उन मध्यम वर्गीय लोगों की तरफ भी ले जाना होगा जिनको कि हम यह बता सकें कि तुम्हारे साथ भी हम सामाजिक न्याय करने के लिये तैयार हैं। आज उन बेचारे गरीब लोगों की कोई नहीं सुन रहा है। इसलिये मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि दुकानों में काम करने वाले गुमास्तों, होटलों और मन्जी मार्केट्स में बौसा डोने वाले मजदूर और वे लोग जो कि मंडी में कचड़ा और फलों सब्जी वगैरह का जो कूड़ा इकट्ठा हो जाता है उसको ढो कर बाहर फेंकते हैं और यदि वे केले नारंगी आदि का झिलका रास्ते पर से न उठाये तो लोगों के पैर फिसलने और चोट लगने का भ्रदेश रहता है, इस तरह का काम करने वाले लोगों का कभी कोई विचार ही नहीं किया गया। इसलिये मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि सारी समस्या पर विचार करना होगा।

इसके अलावा मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बड़ी-बड़ी खुद के कारखानों में जो काम करने वाले मजदूर

योग है और जो बाहरों महीने काम पर जाने रहते हैं और जब उनकी इयूटी के सिल-सिले में मृत्यु हो जाती है तो जो सहायियों सुगर फेक्ट्रीज वर्कर्स को मिलती हैं वह फार्म में काम करने वाले श्रमिकों के लिये नहीं होती है। इसी तरह खेतों की रखवाली घर जो मजदूर लोग रीनात होते हैं, बड़े बड़े जमींदार लोग उन मजदूरों को रात में अपने खेतों की रखवाली पर नौकर रख लेते हैं और रात के अन्दर चोर कपास आदि चुराने की बात में आ जाते हैं और उन बेचारे मजदूर और रखवाले को मार कर सारी फसल चुरा कर अपने साथ ले जाते हैं, ऐसे लोगों की ओर भी हमारा ध्यान जाना चाहिये। इसलिये जो घरों में काम करते हैं और दूसरों की मजदूरी करते हैं, उनको भी इस ऐक्ट का लाभ दिलाया जाय। मेरा कहना है कि इसका लाभ उन लोगों को भी मिलना चाहिये जो दूसरों के घर का काम करते हो, दुकानों में काम करते हो या फिर खेत की रखवाली का काम करते हो।

आज जब हम अपने देश में एक समाज-वादी समाज की स्थापना के लिये प्रयत्नशील हैं तो हमें तमाम श्रमजीवियों को समान नजर से देखना चाहिये।

इसके अतिरिक्त मेरा निवेदन है कि जो ऐक्सीडेंट और मृत्यु की रकम श्रमिकों को दी जाती है उसमें मारी बातें एनक्लूड करनी चाहिये। अब उनकी आकस्मिक मृत्यु हो जाने अथवा चोट लग जाने पर जो केवल वेतन के आधार पर उनको रकम दी जाती रही है, वह आज के बदले हुए हालात में उपयुक्त नहीं है क्योंकि आज यहाँ एक श्रमिक को वेतन तो मिल रहा है केवल २८ रुपये वहाँ उसे डियरनेस एलाउंस ४८ रुपये मिल रहा है।

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एक माननीय सदस्य : कहाँ मिल रहा है ?

श्री १०० क० बर्मा : ग्रहमदाबाद में। दुःख तो इस बात का है कि आप ध्यान दे सारी समस्या को देखते नहीं हैं और स्थिति का ठीक से अध्ययन नहीं करते हैं। हा तो मैं बतला रहा था कि ग्रहमदाबाद में टेक्सटाइल इंडस्ट्री में एक मजदूर की मिनिमम वेज २८ रुपये २ पैसे है और डियरनेस एलाउंस उसको ८८ रुपये मिलते हैं और इसलिये मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो रकम उसे उन हालात में मिले उसमें वे सब चीजें एनक्लूड होनी चाहियें। मजदूर को उस कम्पनी से क्या मिलता है। मैं तो यहाँ तक कहूँगा कि हालांकि उन्होंने उनको क्वार्टर्स दिये हैं और उनका किराया नहीं लेते हैं। अब क्वार्टर का किराया क्या हो सकता है और दूसरे कोई भी एम्प्लायर इतना सज्जन और मजदूरों का भला चाहने वाला नहीं होगा जो कि मजदूरों को वह क्वार्टर्स बिल्कुल मुफ्त में दे देगा और वे एम्प्लायर्स क्वार्टर्स इसलिये देते हैं चूँकि वह पहले से हिसाब दौड़ा लेते हैं कि इसको वेज में इतनी रकम कम देने से वह ऐडजेस्ट हो जायेगा। इसलिये उसका भी बेंफिट हमें मिलना चाहिये। तो मबाल यह आता है कि जो रकम श्रमिक को मिलनी चाहिए और मिल रही है उसमें यह जोड़ना चाहिए।

इम० : माघ माघ में यह भी निवेदन करूँगा कि कारखानों के अन्दर आप मजदूरों को तो शरीक कर देने हैं लेकिन उसके अन्दर काम करने वाले क्लर्कों को क्यों नहीं शामिल करते। जब इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट्स ऐक्ट में अन्दर आप ५०० रुपये की ग्रामदनी वालों को शरीक करते हैं फिर वह चाहे मजदूर हो या क्लर्क सभी को उसके अन्दर शरीक करना चाहिए। और फिर जब इंडस्ट्रियल डिस्प्यूट्स ऐक्ट में आपने ५०० रुपये रखा है तो वहाँ ४०० रुपये रखना उचित नहीं विचार है।

[श्री ए० क० शर्मा]

वेता। इसलिये मेरा निवेदन है कि जो आपने कारखाने के एम्प्लॉई की परिभाषा रखी है उसके अनुसार कम्पेन्सेशन भी ५०० रुपये वाले वाले सब लोगों को मिलना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात यह कहनी है कि आपने यह बड़ी कृपा की कि जो बेटिंग पीरियड को सात दिन से बढ़ा कर तीन दिन कर दिया। लेकिन मेरा तो निवेदन यह है कि यह तीन दिन भी क्यों रहे। जब किसी मजदूर को चोट लगती है और वह उस कारण काम नहीं कर सकता और गैर हाजिर रहता है तो कम्पेन्सेशन के अन्दर यह तीन दिन की रियायत क्यों? इसका यह मतलब तो है नहीं कि चोट लगी है या नहीं यह देखना है। चोट तो लगी है और चोट लगने पर जो एक दिन में उसका नुकसान होता है उसी परिमाण में उसको कम्पेन्सेशन मिलना चाहिए। उसके नुकसान पर ही यह चीज आधारित है।

इसके साथ आपने यह ठहराया है कि चोट लगने के एक महीना हो जाने पर भी मालिक कम्पेन्सेशन की रकम जमा नहीं कराता तो उसको उम रकम पर ६ परसेंट ब्याज भी जमा करना होगा। श्रीमान् आज हालत यह है कि कारखाने वालों को ६ परसेंट पर बैंकों से रुपया नहीं मिल रहा है और बहुत से कारखानेदार तो १० परसेंट तक पर रुपया ले रहे हैं। इसलिये रखाने वाले किसी भर जाने वाले शक्म के बनिफिट के रुपये पर ६ परसेंट ब्याज देने को तो बहुत जल्दी तैयार हो जायेंगे, इसलिये होना तो यह चाहिए कि वह रकम फौरन मिले, और देर होने पर जो भी ब्याज हो वह तो देना ही पड़े पर साथ ही उसको थोड़ी सजा भी अवश्य होनी चाहिए। केवल पैसे की सजा उसके लिए काफी नहीं है। चाहे आप उसको एक दिन के लिये ही बन्द कर दें लेकिन सजा जरूर होनी चाहिए। पैसे वाले के लिए पैसे की तो कोई बात नहीं है। जो जुरमाना वह जमा

करेगा वह तो उन्हीं लोगों से वसूल कर लेगा। इसलिये अगर २४ घंटे भी उसे किसी बन्द कोठरी में रखा जावे तो मैं मानता हूँ कि सुधार होने की भाषा की जा सकती है। मैं इसके बारे में बहुत कुछ नहीं कहना चाहता क्योंकि दूसरे माननीय सदस्यों को भी बोलना है। लेकिन मैं इस बिल का समर्थन करते हुए माननीय मंत्री जी से यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि जो बातें मैंने सुझायी हैं, उन्हें वह लेबर स्टैंडिंग कमेटी के सामने रखें या एम्प्लॉयर्स एसोसिएशन के सामने रखें या स्वयं ही उन पर विचार करके एक मुकम्मिल बिल लायें कि जो समानता वाला हो और सभी एम्प्लॉईज पर लागू होता हो।

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandedesh). Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not surprised at the discontent expressed against this Bill, because it was expected that when an amending Bill came, the quantum payable by way of compensation to workmen would be considerably enhanced. As several hon. Members have already mentioned, the quantum payable is so low that I am reminded of a poem which I learnt at the school:

"Alas, that bread should be so dear,  
And flesh and blood so cheap."

This quantum was fixed as far back as 1923. Certainly it was revised later on, but even today, having regard to the value of money in terms of commodities, what is the compensation that one gets? The maximum is Rs. 4,500. A railway driver earning round about Rs. 300 gets about Rs. 4,000 or Rs. 4,500 as compensation when he meets with an accident and it results in death. What his dependants can do with it can well be imagined. So, the most crying need is the revision of this scale of compensation.

I really fail to see in what respect the provisions have been made liberal.

Here and there, of course, an element of generosity has been introduced, but by and large, there is no modification of the original Act in a manner that will satisfy us. Take, for instance, the question of occupational diseases and hazards. No doubt the list has been made a little more comprehensive, but far more is left out of the occupational diseases and hazards. It is true that the State Government will be empowered to add to this schedule, but I would ask the hon. Minister-in-charge as to why a comprehensive study has not been made of the numerous industries, why medical opinion has not been consulted and a comprehensive list prepared and incorporated in this amending Bill. There is no answer to that. It is left indefinitely to the State Governments.

The only welcome feature of the Bill is that where a workman has worked under succeeding employers and when it becomes extremely difficult to find out whether he contracted the occupational disease under one employer or the other, they are all made collectively responsible. It is a good thing in so far as it goes. Of course, some employers will try to wriggle out of it. As soon as a workman is discharged, they will call upon him to submit himself to a medical examination and have him pronounced free from occupational disease in which case it becomes extremely difficult for the employee to obtain redress against that employer. Barring this one minor amendment, by and large, the workman does not get any benefit out of this amending Bill. In fact, I am inclined to think that this clause, as it is worded, is likely to create trouble, because how far back can one go? Simply because the man was employed 25 years ago in the same occupation, should that employer also be equally responsible? How far back one can go, one does not know. But even for that small mercy, one is grateful.

The most important thing is that compensation is so meagre today that it is really ridiculous. Today if you count the value of the rupee, it is equal

to four annas compared to pre-war prices. An hon. Member said that the compensation works out on an average to Rs. 2,000, which means Rs. 500 for a precious life in this age when our Government says that it is after a socialist pattern of society. The value of life is next to nil in this Workmen's Compensation Act. That is a tragedy which the House must view with human sympathy. In the BEST, where our buses used to knock down people, my main demand from the General Manager used to be that an adequate amount of compensation, apart from immediate medical treatment, must be given to the victim irrespective of whether it is his fault or anybody else's fault. After all, people do not rush into buses just for the fun of it, but in spite of their best care. So, they have to be adequately protected.

After all, what is going to be the total burden on the industry? Assuming for a moment that the rate of accidents resulting in death is three per 1,000 workmen and assuming that there are about 30 lakhs of people employed, the total number that will be killed in accidents in factories will be about 10,000 a year. So, the compensation will be round about Rs. 2 crores. Is it seriously contended that the industries in India cannot pay more than Rs. 2 crores by way of compensation for death? I certainly think that no serious attention has been paid to this aspect. It is simply stated that they have got to analyse the incidence of this burden on the various industries as if the industries are going to crack under the weight of this burden. I think a human approach is completely lacking in the amending Bill that has been placed before this House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order order. An hon. Member has passed four times between the hon. Member who is speaking and the Chair.

**Shri Namshir Bharucha:** Then there is the question of liability of the



[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

employer Here the provision refers to 6 per cent. interest and a penalty of 50 per cent. As the hon Member who spoke before me said, who cares for 6 per cent interest? A workman who is injured needs money immediately and badly. Even 12 per cent interest has no charm for him. He needs money when he is ailing, when he has to incur medical expenses. The value of money at that time is the greatest and this 50 per cent penalty, if he gets it after six months or one year, it has very little meaning for him. I think some sort of penal provision must be attached to it that he is criminally liable to at least one month's simple imprisonment, though I am not sure even that type of provision will have any effect. Because, I know it for a fact that in my constituency the mills are closed down where provident fund amounts have been swallowed by the employers. No criminal action has been taken up till now even though I approached the Chief Minister of the State and the Labour Minister of the State, asking them to institute criminal proceedings. This is the attitude of the Government towards the workers. So, who is going to care for the payment of interest in the amount of compensation? I think these are palliatives which will have no effect whatsoever.

Then, coming to another clause that compensation should be the first charge on assets transferred by an employer, so far so good. I am glad that has been introduced. But is the hon Minister aware of the fact that often fraudulent employers—I know it in my constituency—have created bogus mortgages and the whole company has been mortgaged to the hilt to the mortgagees? What happens to that? Accidents will take place in due course even if the assets are mortgaged, the assets have been transferred long before. What happens to such cases? I submit some way must be found whereby the employers must be made to deposit with the Commissioner for Workmen's Compensation certain amounts out of which workers ought

to be paid compensation. It should not be left to the vicissitudes or the financial fortunes of the undertakings where the employees are serving.

There is one aspect to which a reference has been made by one of my friends here. There is no provision regarding the supply of artificial limbs and there is no provision for compulsory costs by the employer for medical treatment. Often it happens that the cost of medical treatment, if it is to be really adequate and efficient, far exceeds the amount of compensation that the worker can get, apart from the fact that subsequently he becomes more and more dependent. I am of the opinion that the time has come when the entire cost, including the cost of artificial limbs, must be made a first charge on the working expenses of an undertaking. Until we take firm steps and deal with accidents and loss of limbs in a very humane way, I am afraid, merely tinkering with the Workmen's Compensation Act here and there is neither going to satisfy this House much less the workmen for whose benefit this Act is supposed to be enacted.

I am not in favour of having different rates of compensation. My hon friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao said that there should be larger compensation for miners and others. But that is likely to create complications in the working out of the compensation. If the miners' occupation is hazardous—certainly it is—there are other occupations which are equally hazardous. Therefore to reduce all those hazardous occupations to a common denominator to work out such a scheme would be extremely difficult. The proper procedure would be for the miners to claim higher salaries in view of the greater risk that they are daily incurring.

But apart from that I submit that the Bill, as it stands, merely tinkers with the Workmen's Compensation Act. It does not amend it. Not that we are not welcoming it, because



whatever small mercy is shown is certainly welcome. We shall certainly vote for it. But it falls far short of our demand. The Bill has not given anything new. Only the collective responsibility is introduced and a petty penalty of 6 per cent interest is imposed.

I, therefore, submit that the Workmen's Compensation Act, which was framed at a time when the rights of workmen were dimly understood, and even the very lenient provisions of the 1923 Act were resented by employers, an Act which was framed in those days 35 years ago, has to be changed and I think a time has come when we should completely re-orientate our outlook towards workmen working in our factories. And if the workmen are given a greater sense of security, I am sure they will be able to work better for the benefit of greater industrial production. In the light of this, while I say that though I am certainly disappointed with the Bill as it stands today because it does not touch the pressing problems facing the workmen, I do hope that in the near future the Government will bring in a more comprehensive amending Bill which they have promised so often in Parliament and for which this House has been waiting so long.

Shri Bose (Dhanbad) The Workmen's Compensation Amendment Bill, though it has defects and drawbacks as stated by my hon friends, is a great improvement on the original Act. It is a step forward and not backward, and I have no doubt that the workers all over India will welcome this Bill, for the benefits they will derive from it.

The Workmen's Compensation Act was originally passed at a time when people had no right to vote. It was really passed by the upper classes who were the owners of factories, mills etc. Therefore, it had many defects. It was confined to a few workers and there was no provision against industrial diseases. Although we were

shouting, we had no voice then. It is, therefore, natural that people should like to have this Act on the model of the advanced countries. But, at the same time, we must realise that we have to proceed step by step. All of a sudden we cannot burden the industry, which is also not as advanced as in the western countries, with the provisions of the Act which they have got in Europe.

As regards the rate of compensation, it was stated just now that it was very low. I know that in European countries and other advanced countries, the rate is calculated in different ways. Here it is on a slab basis, from Rs 250 or Rs 500 and so on. In the European countries it is calculated on the longevity basis. The calculation is on how long a worker is likely to live. Therefore, there was no difference between minors and adults, as it was here. Now that difference has been removed. I am grateful for that. This is an important point. The minors will get the same benefit as the adults.

15 hrs

There has been criticism on other points also. The Bill seeks to provide to remove the distinction between an adult and a minor for the purpose of compensation only and to bring down the waiting period from seven days to three days. In this regard I also feel as to why there should be a waiting period of three days. I think in the Employees Insurance Act there is no such waiting period mentioned. These daily wage earners have not enough money to carry on the maintenance of their family for three days. So, this may be removed, if not today gradually.

Then the question which Shri Bharucha pointed out is also a very important question, that is, if the payment is not made on due date the penalty that has been imposed, would not be enough. I quite agree, but then we cannot continue to disbelieve the owners as a set of scoundrels. We

[Shri Bose]

have also to believe that they also have a feeling for the workers who die or who are injured. They must provide for them. If there are some who have no feeling, I think, they will be penalised. If he does not improve matters then I think Government should take further action. But taking all the mill-owners and the mine-owners to be scoundrels and that they will deceive or cheat the labourers is also not good for the labourers. Ultimately the labourers will suffer if we take that attitude.

Shri M. C. Jain (Kaithal) In that case there was no necessity for this law.

Shri Bose. That will not help the labour. Even if they get after three or four months, they will get some more money. Meanwhile they can arrange for a loan from a union or from some other place. That is happening now-a-days. The union advances money to the families of the injured workers. When the money is received from the court they have to deposit the money with the union. They repay the money to the union. So this law as it is is not bad. It should be accepted as it is. I think this penalty of interest will be sufficient to impress on the owners that they should pay their dues within due date.

Then the other things that have been done are that more workers and more diseases have been included. My hon friend talked of silicosis in mining. There is only one type of mine, that is mica mine, where this disease has so far been discovered. Medical opinion normally is asked for by Government. I was associated with some of the quarries. But medical men are not sufficiently trained in these industrial diseases. That is also one difficulty of the Government. Only in mica mines they have found that silicosis is there. It is the worker in mica mines who gets it. In coal mines silicosis is not there. There are one

or two other diseases. They are not mentioned there. Medical opinion also is that it is not due to the occupation of mining. It may be had anywhere, not in the mine alone but outside also. That cannot be taken as an industrial disease.

Under these circumstances I think the Bill should be accepted as it is without any amendment for the present. As I have said, the original Act was passed under a different condition and of course, it was a half-hearted measure. The rate was very low. But gradually it has been improved. The rate has been doubled. More workmen have been brought under it. More mines and more diseases have been brought under it. All these things have been done. This Bill as I have said before, in spite of its defects and drawbacks has removed many of the lacunae and workers all over India will welcome it. There is no doubt about it.

As regards the other demands put forward by my hon friends, I think, in every Bill there are defects and amendments have got to be carried out. But that should be done gradually. This is not the time for that. The industry, I think, is not in a position to pay as much as in the European countries. With this I support the Bill.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati) Sir, enacting a labour legislation today is bound to be a complicated thing—again the background of the developing industrial economy that we are having in this country. This is proved by the fact that the original Act of 1923 underwent three different stages of amendment. The first was in 1929, the second was in 1933 and the third was in 1946. Now we are having another amending Bill on this anvil of this House.

Because of this change in our industrial set up and the developing industrial economy, as I have already

said, this is bound to be a complicated thing. But at the same time the law has to be prepared according to the needs and situations of the times. One hon. Member said that this Bill is not a comprehensive Bill. I feel like agreeing with him because it has not seriously taken the new situation into account that exists in our country.

Now we are using new mechanical devices and new mechanical processes. There is development in technology and we are putting extra emphasis on the development programme of the industries of our country. These apparatuses or development in technology have affected our psychology in a sense. Since it has affected our psychology, it has produced a new set of social values and social ideas as well. So, whenever there is legislation regarding the welfare of the working class population in this country, it should be taken into account, that is, these mounting forces, the social ideas and the social values.

I want to congratulate the Government for one thing. They have amended section 18A of the principal Act. By an amendment they have to raise the wage limit to Rs 500. That is quite in the fitness of things in view of the fact that the working class population is becoming more and more conscious and is becoming greater in number. Their number is increasing. This Bill is welcome because of another thing, and that is, that it is going to embrace a wider range of workers. That is the crying need of the times and the Government would do well by raising the wage limit in the original Act to Rs 500 in this amending Bill.

Now I come to the waiting period. There is a lot of controversy about the waiting period. In this amending Bill the Government has put it as three days. The ILO convention laid down the waiting period to be as three days. At the same time in the memorandum that the Government of India

prepared in 1955 and circulated in December of that year, also they said that the waiting period should be three days. As far as I remember the British law has a waiting period of three days. Now there is a serious attempt on the part of the Government, no doubt to fit itself to the standard laid down by the International Labour Conference. This is a welcome thing. But at the same time there is a hesitation all the country over today as the trade union organisations are engaged in an agitation. I think they are right to a very great extent when they say that the waiting period should go entirely. It must be abolished. That is what they say. The agitation is spreading and I think there is some reason, why some reason, there is positive reason in this demand of the working class population for the waiting period to go entirely. Let me quote from the report of the Rege Committee published in 1946, page 53.

"In the glass factories the commonest accidents are those arising from cuts and burns, most of which heal up within the waiting period."

They suffer from cuts and burns, and they heal within the waiting period, and because they heal up within the waiting period and because the Government has fixed a waiting period, these people are deprived of the benefit of this law. They are deprived of the benefit of getting compensation. It might so happen that during this waiting period they are confined to their beds, they lose their daily wages, they suffer and they have to foot the medical bills and all sorts of things, but on the other hand, they are deprived of the benefits of compensation, and that is why the working population today, organised as it is under different trade union organisations, is rightly agitating for a total abolition of the waiting period, and I would request the hon. Minister to seriously consider this aspect of the question.

[Shri Hem Barua]

It is also true that occupational diseases and accidents are increasing. At the same time, there are new types of occupational diseases coming into the industrial map, and it is in the fitness of things that the new type of occupational diseases should emerge because there is a change in our climate because of industrialisation of our society; at the same time, new industries are springing up, new mills are springing up, new technology is springing up and a new set of social values is also springing up, and because of this, it is quite in the fitness of things that there would be new types of occupational diseases. I would say it is no use trying to borrow a list of occupational diseases that they have in foreign countries; it is no use transporting bodily a list of occupational diseases that obtain in the U. K. or the USA or in France, and superimpose it on our country without taking the needs of the country or the forces of the country into consideration.

There is another thing. In those countries industrialisation was a gradual process, and after a series of developments it has come to a pitch in our country. I would say industrialisation is not a gradual process in the sense that we are taking rapid strides in order to develop our industries, and so it is quite natural that new types of occupational diseases and accidents mount up.

I would ask the Government to have a research section in order to evaluate accidents and the causes of accidents as well.

In 1939 the number of accidents per thousand of workers employed was 20.56; in 1956 it is 44.56—it has more than doubled. In 1956-57 the compensation paid for death was Rs. 82,677 and the total compensation that was paid during 1956-57 was Rs. 2,73,180. In 1957-58 it was Rs. 4,42,425. Accidents are increasing, they are mounting up, there is no doubt about it, but then there might

be an argument that because of the efficiency in inspection accidents are discovered, or that the employees, the man-eaters, in order to adjust their psychology to the crying need of the times, have become more humanitarian and have taken to regular notification of accidents.

The administration of the Act also is a problem. You might ask me why I put any emphasis on the administration of the Act, but we have to consider the rule-making laws provided in the amending Bill itself. This is a fact that the employers do not notify the accidents, I would say in most cases. I do not say that every employer refuses to do it, but in most cases, according to statistics, the employers do not notify accidents at all. Even under the Factories Act it is obligatory that the employers must notify accidents, but it is generally honoured more in violation than in observance.

Now, I would like to quote once again from the Rege Committee about the working of the Act and the safety measures. It says:

"Secondly, in spite of the statutory obligation, a number of employers do not submit the annual returns and to that extent the statistics are incomplete."

This was published in 1948. For instance, in Madras in 1948 the total number of establishments was 5,717 and the returns that the Government got was only from 4,329 establishments. In this connection again I want to quote the Indian Labour Gazette, April 1948:

"Many State Governments, however, cannot be said to be reflecting the true position regarding industrial accidents occurring during any year."

In West Bengal, for instance, 3,315 returns were issued during that year and they got returns only from 289 establishments.

This Bill suffers from a lacuna also. It has not properly defined "serious bodily injury". This might be construed in any way. The purpose of the law must be to deter the employers from creating conditions where accidents might occur. This provision for compensation must work as a deterrent and must also be an encouraging factor to the employers to adopt more and more safety measures. There might be some people who might say that we have to depend on the goodness of the employers. We want to depend on their goodness, but at the same time the edge of goodness has to be sharpened by some sort of legislation and compulsion as well in this country.

When I say that the number of accidents is increasing, there might be some people who might say that it is due to the efficient working of the inspectorate that these are discovered. In 1954, according to the Indian Labour Year Book 1954-55, there were 33,772 factories and the factories that were inspected were 28,941. In the State of Assam, for instance, till the other day there was only one factory inspector against at least 1000 or 900 factories—I forget the exact number. That was the condition there. It is humanly impossible. But if Government argues that they suffer from lack of staff, that can be met by another argument. If they suffer from shortage of administrative staff, why not they man the inspectorate properly and with adequate personnel?

Now, what about these diseases about which I have already spoken? There must be some provisions for medical examination. The employers must be made to have these medical men even on a part-time basis, if necessary, for the discovery or for the examination of such occurrences. But we find that there is no provision like that.

There is another important thing in this connection. Whenever an occupational disease is discovered in the case

of a particular worker, he gets compensation. But how are we to rehabilitate him? There is the problem of rehabilitation also. It is said that when a worker works in a glass factory, he generally suffers from cataract in the eye. For instance, a man suffers from cataract in the eye; the cataract is removed, and he gains his eye-sight again; of course, his eye-sight might not be as powerful as he used to have before getting the disease. But then he gains his eye-sight, his limbs are all right; he is robust; he is capable of hard work, and he is energetic. So, he has to be rehabilitated; it may not be in a glass factory again, but in some other industrial concerns he can be employed. There must be some provision in that behalf also.

I find from the proposed amendment that clerical staff are being omitted from the purview of this compensation. The wording in clause 16 is as follows

"employed, in any mine as defined in clause (j) of section 2 of the Mines Act, 1952, in any mining operation or in any kind of work, other than clerical work, incidental or connected with any mining operation"

I cannot understand this, because as far as my knowledge goes, it very often happens in these mines that a man who has to work at the desk might have to go down into the pit and work there as well; and if he meets with an accident there, what happens to him? He is not covered by the provisions of this amending Bill. My own request is that the provisions of this amending Bill must be made comprehensive, in order to make this piece of legislation a comprehensive one. Unless and until it is comprehensive, and meets the marching forces of the time and the needs of the time, it would be as it is, a bit of legislation that goes only half-way and does not go the whole way.

श्री मू० च० जैन : डिप्टी स्पीकर साहब, मैं इस बिल की हिमायत के लिये श्री सिलेक्ट कमेटी को सुपुर्द करने की तहरीक की मुखा-लिफ्त करने के लिये खड़ा हुआ हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि सिलेक्ट कमेटी में भेजने से इस बिल में कोई बुनियादी तब्दीली नहीं हो सकती। इस बारे में मेरा इस्तिस्लाफ नहीं है कि यह बिल काम्पिहेन्सिव नहीं है इसमें प्रमेडमेंट की जरूरत है और यह बिल आरिजिनल एक्ट की सब कमजोरियों और नक़ायस को दूर नहीं कर सका है। लेकिन इसको मिलेक्ट कमेटी के सुपुर्द करने का नतीजा सिवाये इसमें कुछ नहीं होगा कि इसमें जरिये वर्कर्स को जो फ़ायदा पहुँचाने वाला है, उसमें देर हो।

जहाँ तक हम बिल की हिमायत का बाल्लुक है, मुझे दोहराने की जरूरत नहीं है। हाउस के हर मੈकेशन ने इस बिल की तारीफ़ की है, जिस हद तक यह जाता है। आरिजिनल कानून में जो कमियाँ थी, उनको दूर करने की कोशिश की गई है। मिसाल के तौर पर कम्पेन्सेशन देने के मामले में मेजर और माइनर के फ़र्क को उड़ा दिया गया है। हमारे अलावा बिल में वेटिंग पीरियड पांच दिन रखा गया था। यह ख़ुशी की बात है कि राज्य सभा ने उसको घटा कर तीन दिन कर दिया है। अगर एम्प्लायर वक्त पर कम्पेन्सेशन न दे, तो पिनान्टी रखी गई है। आरिजिनल एक्ट के मुक़ाबले में कुछ ज्यादा जिम्मेदारी एम्प्लायर पर इस बार म रखी गई है, यह एक काबिले-तारीफ़ बात है। १८९ क्लॉज में जो जुर्माने की सज़ा रखी गई है, उसको भी बढ़ा दिया गया है। इससे एम्प्लायर्स की जिम्मेदारी बढ़ जानी है।

जहाँ तक इस बिल की कमियों का बाल्लुक है, हाउस के कई मेम्बरान ने उनकी तरफ़ नज़र ज़रूर दिलाई है। मैं उनको दोहराना नहीं चाहता हूँ, लेकिन मैं इस बात की तरफ़ डिप्टी सेबर मिनिस्टर साहब का ध्यान ख़ास तौर पर दिवाना चाहता हूँ कि हमारे

कहाँ सैन्टर में या स्टेट्स में—जो प्रोविसिव लेजिस्लेशन पास होते हैं, उनके इम्प्लीमेंटेशन में बड़ी भारी कसर रहती है। हमारी हुकूमत पालिसी डिसेम्बल तो कर लेती है और उनके मुताबिक़ कानून भी बन जाते हैं—हालाँकि उनमें कई बार कसर रह जाती है—लेकिन उन कानूनों के इम्प्लीमेंटेशन में बहुत ज्यादा कसर रह जाती है। सैन्टर में मुझे एक और डिफ़िकल्टी ख़बर आई है। कई ऐसे सबजेक्ट्स होते हैं, जिनके बारे में मिनिस्टर साहब—यहाँ पर एक्सक्यूटिव जैसे शब्द का इस्तेमाल शायद ठीक न हो—कह देते हैं कि यह कनकरेंट सबजेक्ट है या स्टेट सबजेक्ट है, इसमें हम क्या कर सकते हैं, अगर स्टेट गवर्नमेंट इस पर अच्छी तरह से धमल नहीं करती, क्योंकि ज्यादातर आफ़िसर्स उन्हीं के होते हैं। मैं डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब की सेवा में यह अर्ज करना चाहता हूँ कि इस एक्सक्यूटिव से वर्कर्स को कोई तसल्ली नहीं है। लेकिन मैं यह कहना चाहता

कि यह कोई एक्सक्यूटिव भी नहीं है। इसके इलाज़ सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट के पास है। मंत्र की तरफ़ से स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को मुस्तलिफ़ तरीके से ग्राण्ट्स और सर्वाइस दी जाती है। यहाँ की नेबर मिनिस्ट्री की तरफ़ से स्टेट्स के नेबर डिपार्टमेंट्स का तरह तरह की मदद दी जानी है और इसमें अनावा काग्रम का सेंट्रल पॉलिटिक्ल बोर्ड भी मौजूद है, जिससे हम बारे में बाकी मदद मिल सकती है। इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिए कि पार्लियामेंट जो भी कानून बनाए, उसमें मातहत क्लॉज दो महीने के अन्दर बना दिए गए हैं या नहीं, जिनसे कि वर्कर्स को फ़ायदा पहुँचता हो। मैं अर्ज करूँगा कि जब इस हाउस के माननीय मेम्बरान यह ऐतराज़ उठाएँ कि फ़ना स्टेट में किसी कानून के क्लॉज नहीं बनाए गए हैं, जिसकी वजह से वर्कर्स उस कानून से फ़ायदा नहीं उठा सकते हैं, तो मिनिस्टर साहब यह कह कर अपना पिण्ड खड़ा करने की कोशिश न करें कि हम क्या करें, यह तो कनकरेंट या स्टेट सबजेक्ट है।

एक बात की तरफ मैं और तबज्जह दिलाना चाहता हूँ। प्राप्रेसिडेंट लेजिस्लेशन वर्कर्स के फायदे के लिए होते हैं, जैसे कि यह बिल भी है। जहाँ वर्कर्स ज्यादा भारगनाइज्ड हैं और ज्यादा ताबाद में हैं, वहाँ मुस्तलिफ पार्टियों—कम्प्यूनिस्ट पार्टी, आई० एन० टी० यू० सी० वर्ग—के जरिये उन तक खबरें पहुँच जाती हैं और उनको मालूम हो जाता है कि पार्लियामेंट में उनके फायदे के लिये कानून पास किया गया है। लेकिन कितनी ही जगह वर्कर्स स्कैंडल हैं और उनको बड़ी देर के बाद इन कानूनों का पता चलता है। फिर इंडस्ट्री में तो वर्कर्स भारगनाइज्ड हैं, लेकिन टेनासी लेजिस्लेशन वे बारे में—यहाँ उसका कोई वाल्यूक नहीं है, लेकिन मैं उदाहरण के तौर पर बताना चाहता हूँ—टेनाट्स का बहुत देर के बाद पता चलता है, क्योंकि वे डिस्ट्रिक्ट भर में फैले होते हैं और इस तरह वह उस लेजिस्लेशन से फायदा नहीं उठा सकते हैं। लेकिन इस किस्म के कानूनों पर भी यह बात लागू होती है। इस में यह प्राविजन रखा गया है कि इस बिल के एम्बेड्डिंग को फेक्टरी में लगाया जाय। यह काफी नहीं है। मैं समझता हूँ कि कमिशनर वे स्टाफ और लेबर आफिसर्स की यह झूठी है कि वे वर्कर्स में जायें—जो पार्टियाँ वर्कर्स में जानी हैं वे अपने मतलब के लिए जाती हैं—और उन लोगों को एक्सप्लेन करे कि यह कानून पास हुआ है आप इससे फायदा उठा सकते हैं। यह कोई ऐसी बात नहीं है, जो कि नहीं हो सकती है। आन्डर लेबर डिपार्टमेंट लेबर कमिशनर और लेबर आफिसर्स वर्ग वर्कर्स के फायदे के लिये हैं इसलिये वर्कर्स को इन्फार्म करना उनका कर्ज होना चाहिए।

यह बताया गया है—और मुझे सुन कर बड़ी हैरानी हुई है—कि एम्प्लायर्स जो रिटर्न्स इनको भेजनी हानी हैं नहीं भेजते हैं। इस हाउस में फिगर्स दी गई हैं कि किसी स्टेट में ३३०० में से ८०० से भी कम रिटर्न्स

दी गई हैं, जिसका मतलब यह है कि सिर्फ पच्चीस परसेंट कम्प्लायेंस हुई और पचत्तर परसेंट नहीं हुई। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि जिन पचत्तर परसेंट लोगों ने रिटर्न्स नहीं भेजी, उनके खिलाफ क्या एक्शन लिया गया। क्या उनके खिलाफ मुकदमे चलाए गए। यह हो सकता है कि जो पहला आफेंडर हो, उसको माफ कर दिया जाए, लेकिन क्या मिनिस्टर साहब बतायेंगे कि जिन लोगों ने रिटर्न्स नहीं भेजे उन में से कितनों को वार्निंग दी गई और उनका एक्सप्लेनेशन माग कर फिर उनको माफ किया गया। इस तरह की कोई बात नहीं है। इसीलिये मैंने अभी कहा है कि हमारे प्राप्रेसिडेंट लेजिस्लेशन पास तो हो जाते हैं, लेकिन उन पर धमल नहीं होता है, जिस की वजह से वर्कर्स भुगतते हैं।

जैसा कि मुझ से पहले भी कहा गया है, मुद्दावर्क की जो लिमिट रखी गई है, वह बहुत कम है। मोन पर्मानेंट डिम-एबिलिटी और थोड़ी देर की डिम-एबिलिटी के लिये जो स्केल रखी गई है, उसमें पहले से तो कुछ सुधार हुआ है, लेकिन अब भी उसमें कसर है। मुझे उम्मीद है कि जब इस सिलसिले में कोई काम्प्रोहैमिव बिल आयेगा जिसकी तरफ डिप्टी लेबर मिनिस्टर साहब ने इशारा किया है तो उसमें इन बातों की तरफ ध्यान रखा जायेगा।

इन शब्दों के माध्यम में इस बिल की हिमायत करना हूँ।

15.23 hrs

#### MOTION ON ADDRESS BY PRESIDENT—contd

Mr. Deputy-Speaker We will now take up amendments to the motion of thanks to the President for his Address

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

The question is:

"That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely.—

'but regret that the Address does not disclose any intention on the part of the Government to check extravagance in travelling allowances of Ministers, while Members of Parliament are being denied barest bus transport facilities to and from Parliament on ground of economy' "

The Lok Sabha divided

Dr. M. S. Anay (Nagpur): I have not been allotted my seat yet. So I could not record my vote. My vote may be added to 'Noes'.

Shri Neswi (Dharwar South): My vote has not been indicated I voted 'No'

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I will add 2 to the 'Noes'. The result of the division is Ayes 21; Noes 112.

Division No. 1]

AYES

[15.35 hrs.

Awasathi, Shri Jagadish  
Beck, Shri Ignace  
Bharucha, Shri Naushir  
Dasgupta, Shri B  
Deb, Shri P G  
Deo, Shri P K  
Dige, Shri

Gulwad, Shri B K  
Ghodssar, Shri Patehsinh  
Godeora, Shri S C  
Jadhav, Shri  
Jaipal Singh, Shri  
Kamal Singh, Shri  
Mahanty, Shri

Mesani, Shri M R  
Mazin, Qasim  
Patel, Shri P R  
Singh, Shri L Achaw  
Soren, Shri  
Thakore, Shri M B  
Valvi, Shri

NOES

Abdul Lateef, Shri  
Ambalam, Shri Subbiah  
Anay, Dr M S  
Anirudh Sinha, Shri  
Bahadur Singh, Shri  
Banerjee, Shri S K  
Banerji, Shri P B  
Bangshi Thakur, Shri  
Barupal, Shri P S  
Basappa, Shri  
Bhargava, Pandit Thakur Das  
Birbal Singh, Shri  
Borooah, Shri P C  
Bose, Shri  
Brahm Perkaash, Ch.  
Chaturvedi, Shri  
Chavda, Shri  
Chettiar, Shri R. Ramanathan  
Demani, Shri  
Deo, Shri K K  
Deo, Shri N T  
Desai, Shri Morarji  
Dindod, Shri  
Dinesh Singh, Shri  
Dube, Shri Mulchand  
Dubliah, Shri  
Dwivedi, Shri M.L.  
Eswaperumal, Shri  
Gandhi, Shri M.M.  
Ganga Devi, Shrimati  
Gangpati Ram, Shri

Hajarnava, Shri  
Harrani, Shri Ansar  
Hansda, Shri Subodh  
Jain, Shri A.P  
Jain, Shri M C  
Jhulan Sinha, Shri  
Kashwal, Shri  
Khan, Shri Osman Ali  
Khan, Shri Sadath Ali  
Kottukapally, Shri  
Kripalani, Shrimati Sucheta  
Krishna, Shri M R.  
Lachmi Ram, Shri  
Lachman Singh, Shri  
Laxmi Bai, Shrimati  
Maiti, Shri N B  
Majithia, Sardar  
Mansan, Shri  
Mandal, Dr Pashupati  
Maniyangadan, Shri  
Mehdi, Shri S.A.  
Mehta, Shri J.R.  
Mehta, Shrimati Krishna  
Mishra, Shri R.R.  
Mohiuddin, Shri  
Morarka, Shri  
Nair, Shri C.K.  
Nair, Shri Kuttikrishnan  
Nanjappa, Shri  
Narasimhan, Shri  
Nathwani, Shri

Nayar, Dr Sushila  
Nehru, Shri Jawaharlal  
Nehru, Shrimati Uma  
Neswi, Shri  
Oza, Shri  
Padam Dev, Shri  
Palaniyandy, Shri  
Patel, Shri Maniben  
Pattabhi Raman, Shri C.R  
Prabhakar, Shri Naval  
Radhamohan Singh, Shri  
Radha Raman, Shri  
Raghuraj Saha, Shri  
Raghunath Singh, Shri  
Ram Krishna, Shri  
Ram Saran, Shri  
Rameswamy, Shri K S.  
Rambir Singh, Ch.  
Rane, Shri  
Rao, Shri Jagannatha  
Roy, Shri Buhwanath  
Saghal, Sardar A.S.  
Samanta, Shri S C.  
Sethadi, Shri Ajit Singh  
Sen, Shri P.O.  
Shankariya, Shri  
Sharma, Pandit K.C.  
Siddanarayana, Shri  
Singh, Shri D.N.  
Singh, Shri H.P.  
Sinha, Shri B.P.



Sinha, Shri Gajendra Prasad  
Sinha, Shri Saiya Narayan  
Sinha, Shri Satyendra Narayan  
Siva, Dr Gangadhar  
Snatak, Shri Nardeo  
Someni, Shri  
Sonswane, Shri

Subberrayan, Dr P  
Sumet Prasad, Shri  
Swaran Singh, Sardar  
Tariq, Shri A.M  
Thirumala Rao, Shri  
Thomas, Shri A M

Tiwari, Shri R.S  
Tiwari, Pandit D N  
Umrao Singh, Shri  
Upadhyaya, Shri Shiva Datt  
Wilson, Shri J N

The motion was negatived

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur):  
Kindly add my name to the 'Noes'

Mr Deputy-Speaker: It is too late  
now

15 35 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

Mr. Speaker: The question is

"That at the end of the motion,  
the following be added, namely —

"but regret that Government  
has failed to control the rising  
prices of foodgrains and also  
failed to lay down a definite  
price policy"

Dr. M. S. Aney: I want to record  
my vote for 'Noes' As I have not  
been allotted a seat I could not vote.

Shri B. P. Sinha (Monghyr) Sir,  
my colour has not come

Mr. Speaker: Dr Aney has voted  
against What about the hon Mem-  
ber there? Has he voted for or  
against?

Shri B P. Sinha. I voted against, it  
does not appear here

Mr Speaker: So, it is another plus

The result of the division is Ayes  
35 Noes 116

Division No 2]

[15.41 hrs.]

## AYES

Awasthi Shri Jagadish  
Banerjee, Shri S M  
Barua, Shri Hem  
Beck, Shri Ignace  
Bharucha, Shri Naushir  
Braj Raj Singh Shri  
Chakravarty Shrimati Renu  
Chaudhuri Shri T K  
Dasgupta, Shri B  
Desaratha Deb, Shri  
Deb Shri P G

Deo Shri P K  
Dige, Shri  
Ghodasur, Shri Fatehsingh  
Ghosal Shri  
Godsons, Shri S C  
Halder Shri  
Jadhav, Shri  
Jaiswal Shri  
Kamal Singh Shri  
Kodiyar Shri  
Mansuri Shri M R  
Martin Qazi

Nayar, Shri V P  
Pandey, Shri Sarju  
Panigrahi Shri  
Rao, Shri T B Vittal  
Reddy, Shri Naga  
Singh, Shri L Achew  
Soren Shri  
Supakar, Shri  
Thakore, Shri M R  
Valvi Shri  
Warner, Shri  
Yadav, Shri

## NOES

Abdul Latief, Shri  
Aja, Shri Joachim  
Ambalam, Shri Subbiah  
Aney, Dr M S  
Anirudh Sinha, Shri  
Bahadur Singh, Shri  
Banerji, Shri P B  
Banshi Thakur, Shri  
Barupal, Shri P L  
Beeappa, Shri  
Bhargava, Pandit Thakur Das  
Birkel Singh, Shri  
Bose, Shri  
Brahm Parakash, Ch

Chaturvedi, Shri  
Chavda Shri  
Chettiar, Shri R Ramanathan  
Dahit Singh, Shri  
Damani Shri  
Das, Shri K K  
Das Shri N T  
Desai, Shri Morari  
Dindod, Shri  
Dinesh Singh, Shri  
Dube, Shri Mulchand  
Dubish, Shri  
Dwivedi, Shri M.L.  
Elayaperumal, Shri  
Gandhi, Shri M M

Ganga Devi Shrim  
Ganpati Ram Shri  
Ghosh, Shri Atulya  
Hajarnava, Shri  
Harvati Shri Anwar  
Hansda Shri Subodh  
Hukam Singh, Sardar  
Jain, Shri A.P  
Jain, Shri M C  
Jhulan Sinha Shri  
Kasiwal, Shri  
Khan Shri Osman Ali  
Khan, Shri Sadath Ali  
Kottukapally, Shri  
Krishna, Shri M.R

Lachhi Ram, Shri  
Lachman Singh, Shri  
Laxmi Bai, Shrimati  
Mahto, Shri N. V.  
Majithia, Sardar  
Mansan, Shri  
Mandal, Dr. Pashupati  
Maniyangadan, Shri  
Mehdi, Shri S.A.  
Mehta, Shri J.R.  
Mehta, Shrimati Krishna  
Misra, Shri R.R.  
Mohdullah, Shri  
Morarka, Shri  
Nair, Shri C.K.  
Nar, Shri Kuttukrishnan  
Nanjappa, Shri  
Narasimhan, Shri  
Narayanam, Shri R  
Nathwan, Shri  
Nayar, Dr. Sushula  
Nehru, Shri Jawaharlal  
Nehru, Shrimati Uma  
Neswi, Shri

Ora, Shri  
Padam Dev, Shri  
Palaniyandy Shri  
Patel, Shri Maniben  
Patelbhai Raman, Shri C.R.  
Prabhakar, Shri Naval  
Radhamohan Singh, Shri  
Radha Raman, Shri  
Raghubir Sahai, Shri  
Raghunath Singh, Shri  
Ran Kraham, Shri  
Ran Saran, Shri  
Ramaswamy, Shri K.S.  
Ranbir Singh, Ch.  
Rene, Shri  
Rao, Shri Jagannatha  
Roy, Shri Bishwanath  
Saigal, Sardar A.S.  
Samanta Shri S.C.  
Sarbadil, Shri Ajit Singh  
Sen, Shri P. G.  
Shankaraya, Shri  
Sharma, Shri D.C.  
Siddananjappa, Shri

Singh, Shri D.N.  
Singh, Shri H. P.  
Sinha, Shri B. P.  
Sinha, Shri Gaiendra Prasad  
Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan  
Sinha, Shri Saryendra Narayan  
Siva, Dr. Gangadhara  
Snetak, Shri Nardeo  
Somani, Shri  
Sonawane, Shri  
Subbarayan, Dr. P.  
Sumat Prasad, Shri  
Surya Prasad, Shri  
Swaran Singh, Sardar  
Tariq, Shri A.M.  
Thirumala Rao, Shri  
Thomas, Shri A.M.  
Triwari, Shri R. S.  
Triwari, Pandit D.N.  
Tripathi, Shri V.D.  
Umarao Singh, Shri  
Upadhyaya, Shri Shiva Dast  
Wilson, Shri J.N.

*The motion was negatived*

**Mr. Speaker:** I suppose I can put all the other amendments together.

**Shri M. E. Masani:** We would like to have separate voting, Sir

**Mr. Speaker:** Should we take up the time of the House?

**Shri Jaipal Singh:** Sir, I am rather in a fix. I find that below the Ayes and Noes the total is noted there as 150. I submit that the last line may be incorrect. Any hon. Member can be present here and he need not operate this thing at all. So, the last figure does not necessarily indicate that so many are present. I can understand present and voting.

**Mr. Speaker:** We are not going by the last figure. We are only concerned with Ayes and Noes. The other is for checking up.

Which is the amendment of Mr. Masani?

**Shri M. E. Masani:** Nos. 208 and 209.

**Some Hon. Members:** We want to hear the amendments, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Hon. Members must have the Order Paper with them. There is other pressing work before the House. Shri Masani made a big speech about that; how can anybody forget that?

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"and expresses the hope that the reference to co-operation in paragraph 11 of the Address has no reference to the proposal to institute joint 'co-operative' farming in place of the system of peasant family farming."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Speaker:** The question is:

That at the end of the motion, the following be added, namely:—

"and expresses the hope that the reference to agrarian reforms in paragraph 11 of the Address has no reference to the proposal to impose a ceiling on agricultural holdings."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Mr. Speaker:** I will now put all the other amendments to vote.

\*Amendments Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 147, 148, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 162, 163, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, and 206 were put and negatived.

**Mr. Speaker:** I will now put the original motion to vote.

The question is:

"That the Members of Lok Sabha assembled in this session are deeply grateful to the President for the Address which he has been pleased to deliver to both the Houses of Parliament assembled together on the 9th February, 1959"

The motion was adopted

15.46 hrs.

# WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION (AMENDMENT) BILL—contd.

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now continue further discussion of the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill. Shri P. K. Deo

**Shri P. K. Deo (Kalahandi):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, in view of the rapidly expanding industrial activity in this country, the Workmen's Compensation Act needed a through change. Even

\*"The original Nos. of the amendments moved on 13.2.59 in brackets at the end of the text have alone been reproduced at the stage of final disposal."

though such changes are long overdue, it is a pity that up till now Government has not come forward with a comprehensive legislation. At long last, Government comes forward with this amending Bill with slight improvements.

Though the amending Bill falls far short of the expectations of the workers and the prime needs of the day, I support it. It is not a fact that Government are not aware of the shortcomings of the original Act. It was in 1953 and again in 1955 that Government circulated certain memoranda suggesting amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act. It was circulated to the various State Governments and the various employers' organisations and various trade unions for their reactions. I am surprised to find that most of those amendments which were suggested in those memoranda do not find a place in this amending Bill.

In the 1955 memorandum the maximum limit of wage to be eligible for compensation was suggested at Rs. 500/-. But, in this amending Bill I find that the maximum limit has been kept at Rs. 400/-. Of course, the memorandum was sent in December 1955 and 1955 was the pre-general election year. Like all election promises that are to be violated, naturally, those amendments which were suggested in 1955 do not find a place in this amending Bill.

In the original Act, the limit of wage was fixed at Rs. 300/- per month. With all humility, I beg to submit to this House that the maximum limit should be fixed at Rs. 500/-. What is after all Rs. 500/-? What is its value with the low purchasing power of the rupee when you compare it with Rs. 300/- of 1923? The payment of compensation arises mainly out of accidents and occupational diseases.

Our hon. Prime Minister has many a time rightly said that we are passing through two revolutions, that is the industrial revolution and the atomic revolution. With the increas-

[Shri P. K. Deo]

ed tempo of industrialisation the number of accidents and occupational diseases are growing in magnitude and are becoming more and more frequent. In the case of the industrial revolution in western countries it was a slow and a gradual process, whereas in this country it is a rapid stride. If the House will consider the number of accidents that have taken place or industrial injuries that have been inflicted on the workers, hon. Members will surely understand how the accidents and occupational diseases have increased. In 1939, the injury per thousand workers was 20.56 and in 1956, after 17 years, it was 44 per thousand workers. In 1956-57, the total amount of compensation paid was Rs 2.73 lakhs and in the next year, in 1957-58, it was Rs 4.42 lakhs. From this we can very well understand how these accidents have increased lately. The amendments proposed in the 1955 memorandum circulated by the Government do not find a place in this amending Bill.

Under the original Act to be eligible for compensation the period of waiting was seven days. The Government has now reduced it to three days. I cannot understand why there should be any waiting period at all. As soon as an injury is inflicted, compensation has to be paid then and there because the worker needs it for his medical expenditure. Even though it is mandatory on the part of the various concerns to submit various returns to the Government, they always neglect it. In the various reports supplied to us by the Government, you will find that these establishments do not submit their reports regularly. They even evade payment of Government dues, what to speak of the payment of compensation to the labourers especially when Indian labour has no bargaining power. I feel that every type of accident, whether it is minor or major, fatal or non-fatal, resulting in partial or total disablement should be reported to the Government and they should be compensated then and there.

Further the factory inspectors must inspect the factories at least three times in a year. In 1954, the total number of registered factories was about 33,722 and only 28,941 of them could be inspected. In my State of Orissa, in 1954, only 210 factories were inspected out of 449 registered factories. From this you can very well understand how effectively this Act is being worked out? Further, these inspectors are not also conversant with the labour laws nor are they well educated. They generally neglect to make periodical and regular visits to the factories. It should be the policy of the Government to have an adequate number of vigilant inspectors to visit these registered factories, at least three times a year. The compensation rates must be regularly paid and they should be calculated according to the earning capacity of the labourer. A younger worker who is naturally expected to put in more years of active service and earn more income for his dependents should be paid more in comparison to the other workers. The Second Five Year Plan suggests the expansion of the Central Labour Institute and the setting up of regional museums of industrial safety and welfare of labourers in the various regions of this country. I do not know what progress has been made in the construction of these labour museums and how far they have been able to obviate the various accidents that are taking place. I feel that these accidents have greatly increased in their magnitude and in their frequency of late. In this connection, I would be failing in my duty if I do not bring it to the notice of the House that such workmen's compensation cases had been dragging on for three or four years. I would like to cite case No. 105 of 1956 in the Rourkela steel plant—the case of Dhanmati and four other labourers *versus* the Hindustan Steel (Private) Limited. In this particular case, four labourers were killed at the time of the construction and the compensation has not been calculated so far because they were contractors' labourers and such labourers do not

generally get the benefit of compensation under this Act and in this particular case, the contractor, Mr R N Sinha, could not be found out as he has absconded. Lastly, I would submit that with our rapid programme of expansion of the atomic power houses and the various atomic reactors, we shall be exposing our labourers to radiation and to various amounts of radioactivity. They would be susceptible to various kinds of new types of diseases and so this should find a place in the list of occupational diseases. The Labour Minister must seriously consider that they should get adequate compensation at the right time.

**Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput)**  
Mr Speaker, this is a wholesome measure in the field of labour welfare. But I feel that this Bill does not go too far. For the last 30 years and more, the Government had been trying to come forward with an amending legislation but for some reason or the other this legislation could not be brought forward. But better late than never. The hon Minister has come forward with this amending legislation. But before we think of any cure, we have to think of prevention of crimes. We find in recent years there has been a steep increase in the accidents in the industries. I do not want to read the figures quoted by my hon friends on the other side but we find that there is an alarming increase in these accidents. Steps should therefore be taken to enforce safety measures in all these industries. We find that the factories situated in all these States are not inspected annually by the factory inspectors. Section 88 of the Act enjoins a duty on the employer to report to the authorities about accidents which occur in the factory. But these provisions are honoured more in the breach than in their observance. Strict enforcement of these provisions is necessary before we think of paying compensation. Section 3(1)(a)

is sought to be amended by reducing what is called the period of waiting. But I fail to understand why there should be any period of waiting at all. Section 3 in the parent Act says that in respect of any injury result which does not in the total or partial disablement of a workman for a period exceeding seven days, employer shall not be liable to pay compensation. The period is now reduced to three days. Does it mean that if a worker is not disabled for a period of three days, he is not entitled to compensation? Supposing he receives an injury, he may not be able to do his job, then should he not be paid compensation? Why should he be deprived of that? I think that view has not been canvassed, and I would request the hon Minister to consider that aspect of the matter.

16 hrs

In the amending Bill the period within which a claim can be preferred is increased from one year to two years. I have a feeling that this amendment does not go far in favour of the workmen. It is more advantageous and beneficial to the employers. Even under the parent Act there is a provision that if within this period of one year a claim is not preferred for sufficient reasons the Commissioner can condone the delay and admit the claim. Why should we extend it to two years? Again there is a provision for extending the period for sufficient causes. I would prefer lessening the period so that compensation claims can be preferred and compensation amount paid to labourers which will benefit them.

I quite appreciate clause 4(a) which enjoins the payment of interest on compensation that is due to the workmen if the amount is not paid in time. Likewise, I appreciate the penalty that is now sought to be imposed. But the basis of compensation in section 5 of the principal Act, which is not now touched in this Bill, seems to me to be rather strange.

{Shri Jaganatha Rao}

There is no valid or reasonable basis for calculating wages. Clause 5(a) of the principal Act reads :

"where the workman has, during a continuous period of not less than twelve months immediately preceding the accident, been in the service of the employer who is liable to pay compensation, the monthly wages of the workman shall be one-twelfth of the total wages which have fallen due for payment to him by the employer in the last twelve months of that period."

Why should only one-twelfth of the total wages be taken into consideration, why not the total wages payable to him? Likewise, in sub-clause (b) it is said

"where the whole of the continuous period of service immediately preceding the accident during which the workman was in the service of the employer who is liable to pay the compensation was less than one month, the monthly wages of the workman shall be the average monthly amount "

In sub-clause (c), which is now sought to be amended, it is said

"in other cases, the monthly wages shall be thirty times the total wages earned in respect of the last continuous period of service "

There is no rational basis for this classification for calculating wages for payment of compensation

Clause 10 seeks to incorporate section 14A in the parent Act which, I think, is a very salutary provision—compensation to be first charge on assets transferred by the employer before the compensation is paid

Again, I cannot well appreciate the basis for the difference between Schedule I and Schedule II. In Schedule

I the percentage of loss of earning capacity is given for loss of arm above the elbow, loss of arm below the elbow etc I cannot understand the basis of this. If a worker loses his limb, he becomes unfit. Whether he loses his arm above the elbow or below the elbow that arm becomes useless I am afraid this aspect has not been considered by the hon. Minister while bringing forward this amending legislation. There are also several other items like loss of toe, amputation below the knee, amputation below middle thigh and so on. If there is amputation below the knee or above the knee, the leg becomes useless. Therefore, I think that aspect has not been considered

Schedule II enumerates the classes of employment wherein occupational diseases are contracted. I quite see that some new employments have been included such as construction, maintenance, repairs, demolition of buildings, dams, embankments etc. But, again, there is a snag. In the case of a building, only where the building has a height of 12 feet or more from the ground the worker concerned will be entitled to compensation if he contracts an occupational disease. Likewise, if a dam or an embankment is 12 feet or more in height from the lowest to the highest point, only in such cases, the worker is entitled to compensation if he contracts an occupational disease. I cannot understand this. What is the basis for this? Suppose a workman who is employed in the construction of a dam contracts an occupational disease, apart from the fact that the dam is 12 feet or 10 feet high, and if the conditions there are such that the workman contracts an occupational disease, he should be entitled to compensation irrespective of the fact that the dam measures 12 feet or more

Again, in Schedule III, Part B, some diseases have been enumerated in the light of new industries that have come up and are likely to come

up in the near future, I think a thorough survey should be made to see what are the industries in which there is a vulnerability of an occupational disease being contracted by the workmen, and such diseases should be included in Schedule III.

Apart from this, I would like to point out that the Employees' State Insurance Scheme should be extended to all the industries. Now, it is applied only to some industries.

Schedule II describes the clauses of employment where the workman is entitled to compensation for contracting an occupational disease. But certain classes of employment have been excluded. For instance, I shall read sub-clause (1) of Schedule II:

"(1) employed, otherwise than in a clerical capacity or on a railway, in connection with the operation or maintenance of a lift or a vehicle..." etc.

In sub-clause (1), one finds "employed, otherwise than in a clerical capacity, in any premises" etc. Supposing a clerk is employed in a coalmine or in a factory, he also works in the same surroundings as the other workmen, though the incidence or the chances of contracting the disease may be less. Nevertheless, the clerk also who is working within the premises or within the factory should have the same benefit as other workmen.

Again, the words "accidents arising out of the and in the course of employment" have not been defined. This clause has been the subject of divergent decisions of High Courts. Supposing the worker who is employed in a coalmine is asked by the employer to do some other job; for instance, if he is asked to go to the railway station to get a parcel, and while going there on the way he meets with an accident, can it or can it not be said that he has met with an accident in the course of employment? Such contingencies have not been taken into consideration. I feel that in this matter of welfare legislation

we should have a more comprehensive measure. The workmen who have contracted occupational diseases or who have met with accidents should be rehabilitated.

My friend Shri Vittal Rao was suggesting that disabled workers should be supplied artificial limbs. That is quite correct. Supposing after medical treatment the worker is again found fit, he should be re-employed. Some such measures will have to be considered.

I hope the Labour Minister who is a labour leader will look into these matters. If I remember aright, I read in the press that he was himself some years ago a workman. So, he knows the conditions of labour much more than any one of us. I therefore hope that the hon. Minister would consider these aspects of the matter and come forward with a comprehensive legislation at the earliest possible time.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): My hon. friend, Shri Vittal Rao, pointed out that this House expected a comprehensive amending Bill and he had amply spoken about the defects of the existing Bill. I will confine myself to certain aspects of the original Act. Many speakers have spoken about the rates of compensation. In 1923, our country was ruled by the Britishers, who thought that the value of an Indian life can hardly be Rs. 3,000 or Rs. 4,000 at the most. I ask the hon. Minister, does our national Government also think on the same lines?

Throughout the country, in the industries, most of the workers are getting a salary between Rs. 28 to Rs. 50 or Rs. 60. What are the rates of compensation? Between Rs. 27 and Rs. 30, compensation for death is Rs. 900 and for permanent total disablement of adults Rs. 1,260. From Rs. 30 to Rs. 35, the rates of compensation are Rs. 1,050 and Rs. 1,470 respectively. So on it goes up to Rs. 50, at which the rates of compensation are Rs. 1,500 and Rs. 2,100 respectively.



[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

The maximum compensation for those who are getting Rs. 300 and above is Rs. 4,500 for death and Rs. 5,000 for those who are permanently disabled. I want to know from the hon. Minister whether we are not thinking in terms of increasing the quantum of compensation in view of the soaring prices and rising cost of living and in view of the fact that there are a large number of accidents and also it is on the verge of increase.

Let us see the alarming rise in accident rates in the mines. From 26.50 per thousand in 1954, it rose to 248.76 in 1956. In docks and ports, from 23.43 in 1954, it rose to 72.19 in 1956. In Posts and Telegraphs, from 0.19 in 1954 it rose to 10.96 in 1956 and in the miscellaneous group, from 12.82 in 1954, it rose to 24.18 in 1956. This clearly shows that the accidents are on the verge of increase. In 1957 or 1958, there might be a decrease in some industries and the hon. Minister has stated many times in this House that enough safety measures are being taken in mines and other industries.

When we discuss the amendment suggested by the Government, let us also discuss how the accidents take place in the mines. The example of Chinakuri disaster is before us. The other day, the hon. Deputy Minister defended the Chief Inspector of Mines and gave him a big certificate. That discussion is coming up in the House and I do not want to enter into that controversy now. But I must submit that the mine-owners are not being prosecuted. Considering the number of accidents and the number of violations of this Act, the number of prosecutions is far less. I do not know why Government is feeling shaky in punishing those who are guilty and who are responsible for these disasters in coal mines.

Many Members have mentioned about the occupational diseases.

According to a U.P. report as early as 1948, there was no suitable agency for reporting occupational diseases and no compensation is paid in deserving cases, merely because the cause of the disablement or death is not properly diagnosed. This is the condition and we want that something more should be done about the occupational diseases. Many diseases have not been included in the Schedule. I hope the hon. Minister himself will come before this House, if not today or tomorrow, at least after some time, with a comprehensive Bill which will have the support of all the Members of the House, irrespective of party affiliations.

About the non-submission of returns many figures have been mentioned. It is not only in Bengal, Madras and Bombay but in almost all the States the returns have not been submitted to the Government.

Then there is the delay about the payment of compensation. There is the instance of an accident which took place in May 1957 in a particular mine in Andhra—the Universal Mineral Company. No compensation has been paid even till today in February 1959. The union representatives went even to the extent of requesting the owner to pay something less. But he did not agree. This is just one case which I wanted to bring to the attention of the hon. Minister. There are hundreds of thousands of such cases where even after such accidents as losing one's life or permanent disability, people are denied compensation. Now when people are denied compensation after some negotiation by the Union the case goes to the compensation court after six months. Then he is granted some compensation. But it takes one year or, in some cases, more than two years. I want to know from the hon. Minister the total figures of cases where compensation was sanctioned by the Compensation Commissioner before demands were made. Unless



we know these figures, it will be impossible for us to know whether there is proper vigilance on the part of the Government to see that the employers pay the compensation in due time or not.

Lastly, I would only request that the amendment of Shri T. B. Vittal Rao and Shri Warrior about changing the amount from Rs. 400 to 500 be accepted. In all fairness, Rs. 500 should be the limit. Already, it is there in some of our labour legislations. I hope this will be accepted, because today a middle class man gets only Rs. 500. We cannot term a man who is drawing only Rs. 500 as of the upper middle class because of the soaring prices and the increased cost of living index. So, this amendment should be accepted and the rate of compensation should be increased.

I would submit for the information of the hon. Minister that the figures given by me and by my friends clearly show that the rate of accidents is on the verge of increase and so there should be some check on the safety measures. Last but not least, the rate of compensation must be increased. The lives of Indians today in terms of money would be more than Rs. 3,000 to 4,000. Since our own Government is in power, I would request them to bring in another comprehensive Bill to meet all the requirements of the country.

**Shri Aurobindo Ghosal (Uluberia):** Though I do not expect that the workers will receive any tangible benefit from this amendment, still I am glad the Government, eleven long years after they came into power, have felt the necessity and the urgency to bring an amendment to a vital legislation like the Workmen's Compensation Act, which was originally passed in 1923.

Of course, it has already been mentioned that since 1953 attempts have been made several times to bring forward a comprehensive legislation

on the question of workmen's compensation. It has already been stated that in December, 1953, a memorandum was prepared by the Central Government and was circulated to the State Governments for their comments. On the basis of their comments, in 1955 again another memorandum was prepared. In 1956 a non-official Bill was also introduced in the Lok Sabha. In 1958 I myself had introduced a non-official Bill on the same subject. It is still pending.

Injuries for which compensation is granted arise out of accidents which may broadly be divided into three categories, namely, injuries arising in the process of normal work, injuries arising out of accidents which are solely due to the nature of the job and injuries arising out of accidents on account of other reasons. As regards the first type of accidents I would like to submit that they are large in number and can be avoided if two steps are taken. The first is that safety measures are taken and the second is that some training is given to the workers.

As regards safety measures, we know from our experience that safety measures are mostly violated by the employers and that there is a lack of vigilance by the Inspectorate of the Labour Department. Recently there was a conference on safety in mines and I had the opportunity to attend it. It is in our experience—we came to understand that—that so far as rules and regulations are concerned, they are quite adequate. If they are observed many of these accidents would have been avoided. But the difficulty is that there is a lack of vigilance on the part of the Inspectorate and there is also understaffing of the Inspectorate to carry on inspection of factories and mines. That is one point.

The second point is that some training in industry must be given. It is also prevalent in all other countries. In England in the coal mines some

[Shri Aurobindo Ghosal]

lectures are given before a worker is sent underground. There is also a provision that a new worker should be sent to work with a trained worker for giving him training. That sort of measures should also be adopted in our country. If the safety measures are observed and if some training in industry is given to the workers then many of the accidents can be avoided.

As regards the accidents which arise out of the nature of the job, I submit that apart from the occupational diseases some disablement is caused which has a cumulative or a long effect. For example, blindness, deafness, asthma, tuberculosis and paralysis also occur because of the nature of the job. I would like to give one instance of that. A man used to work in dazzling light in the night. After 15 years of work he went blind. When we filed a case before the Workmen's Commissioner, he refused to give any compensation on the ground that it was the condition of his service. Fortunately enough in the High Court we got the decree and the High Court Judge was kind enough to extend his imagination to the point that there were accidents every day behind the retina of his eye and that blindness has a cumulative effect. So, he was granted compensation. So, my submission is that instead of leaving these things on the sweet discretion of the judge there should be a provision so that this type of disablement, like deafness in the case of those who work in unusual sound or who work in a place which is full of dust and thus contact diseases like paralysis and asthma, is also covered. There should be scope for giving compensation to those workers also.

As regards the third kind of accident, I beg to submit that these arise out of human fatigue. Because of the introduction of rationalisation and also because of the increased mechanisation of the works, the workload is being imposed on the workers.

Naturally, due to human fatigue, workers are more prone to accidents, and no survey has been made of it, though we have referred to it several times in the labour consultative committees also. So, a survey should be made in order to evaluate the jobs and fix workloads so that accidents due to human fatigue can be avoided.

The number of accidents has been tremendously increasing day by day. Statistics have been already supplied, and I do not wish to deal with this point. But I may submit that previously in claim cases a quasi-judicial procedure was being followed, but nowadays the procedure of the civil court is creeping into it, and naturally there is undue delay in the disposal of the claim cases.

Rehabilitation of workers is also an important matter, because we find in our experience that a worker disabled in a factory is not found working in the same factory later on, though the nature of his injury is not very serious. So, in order to give employment to these disabled workers, a separate wing may be opened in the employment exchanges. This should be considered by the hon. Minister.

As regards the realisation of dues, it is very difficult. In my personal experience I have found that a worker who became blind got a decree for Rs. 1200 but as the employer did not pay, the decree was sent to the Collector for realising by certificate procedure, and it took four years to get it, and he had to spend about Rs. 400 on fees and other things for getting the amount. The provision of six per cent interest is not a sufficiently deterrent element in the matter of speedy realisation. So, I submit that aspect should also be considered.

As regards injuries mentioned in Schedule I, already Shri Jaganatha Rao has pointed it out, and I also do not understand the basis for computing the rate of compensation, whether it is the utility of the limb or the measurement of the limb. If the

limb is lost above the knee or below the knee, what is the difference at all? Therefore, our basis should be not the measurement but the utility of the limb. If the limb has lost its utility, it is no use having different percentages for computing compensation.

In the claims cases, the onus is on the worker to prove there was an injury. The onus should be shifted to the employer. In the West Bengal Labour Gazette issue of June 1957 in page 27, it has been stated

"In the matter of procedure for determination of claims under the Workmen's Compensation Act of 1923, some amendments might facilitate matters more to the benefit of the workmen and also of the employers. In claim cases, the onus is on the applicant to prove the accident and the injury. It is difficult for the workmen or their dependants to find out witnesses. By law the onus might be placed on the employers to disclose all evidence as to how the employee was engaged during the period from his joining the work till he left the premises of employment or was removed to any hospital. If the disclosure *prima facie* makes out that the accident causing the injury did not arise out of and in the course of the employment, then the applicant would be asked to adduce evidence on the point."

There is also another passage in that same issue on page 26

"In cases before the Compensation Courts questions sometimes arise whether the accident to a workman during his journey to or from the place of work can be said to arise out of and in the course of employment."

There are judicial controversies and also confusion on this point. Therefore, this should also be clarified in the Act.

I also understand that this sort of an Act is a very important social measure. In spite of the improvements that are being made, I am afraid that Government are moving at such a slow pace that it would be difficult to cope with the present industrial expansion. I hope, therefore, that in the immediate future, a comprehensive Bill would be brought forward in this House.

Shri Warrior (Trichur) I have to make only two points. When we speak about industries, the most important industry that we have to take into account is agriculture, and plantations form a major part of the same. In the plantations, we are using all sorts of insecticides, pesticides, weedicides and fungicides. All these are poisonous. And people are affected by these poisons and gradually they succumb to various diseases, and at times, death also. Many cases have come to the notice of the Government of Madras as well as the Government of Kerala where the use of foliolol has resulted in the death of some persons. But those workers are not covered by this Act.

There is also the work of palm tapping, in the agricultural sector. Of course, palm tapping is included in the schedule, but what about areca-nut tapping, coconut-tapping etc? Do these things come within the ambit of this Act or not? If they do not come, then they must also be included, because there are very tragic cases of accidents in which these labourers are involved. They fall down from the tall trees but there is no compensation paid to them, and there is no machinery also for that purpose. There are no trade unions of theirs to get them this compensation, and Government also do not come to their help. That is a very tragic thing indeed. Therefore, they must also be covered by this Act.

Then, I come to the quarries. Usually, there are mining inspectors in the quarries in the mining areas.

[Shri Warier]

But where there are no mining inspectors, the quarries are left free, and so many accidents are occurring in these quarries also on account of huge rocks falling down on the workers, or on account of the use of gun-powder and other things. Of course, they are in the schedule, but at the same time they are not given the benefit of the compensation, because there are no agencies to implement it, and to get relief for the workers who suffer as a result of these accidents or for their relatives as the case may be. Where there are mining inspectors, there also cases have come to the notice of the trade unions and others where quarries have been left free to operate in their own way. They must be brought within the rules and regulations of the mining Act so that the benefits coming out of the Mining Act and the Workmen's Compensation Act can be extended to the quarry workers also. There are innumerable quarry workers in the country, and their number is growing large because of the new constructions that are going on in the land. So, they must also be covered.

In the final analysis, what I wish to observe is that apart from amendments being made in the body of the Act, it is the schedules which have to be mainly looked into and revised, in view of the expanding economy, and the expanding industries both on the agricultural side and on the mechanical side. If that is not done, then this Act will not be beneficial to the vast majority of the workers. Only the few categories mentioned in the schedules will be getting the benefit of this Act, if at all they get.

Lastly, the implementation of the Act is very important. The Deputy Minister intervened while my hon. friend Shri T. B. Vittal Rao was speaking, to say that the Central Government were unable to do anything in the matter, since the States did not co-operate by adapting the regulations.

Shri Abid Ali: I did not say that. I asked what should we do.

Shri Warier: If they are not able to do that, then the Minister in the Central Government at least must be able to do that. According to the Constitution, in a concurrent subject, the Central Government can give a directive to the State Governments.

Shri Abid Ali: If it is not carried out?

Shri Warier: If it is not carried out, then there must be some other measures which should be taken. I say this because when so many things are not carried out, the Central Government finds out ways and means to make them carry them out. It may not be coercion, it may not be sending their Army there, but it may be some other means.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Labour Ministers' Conferences.

Shri Warier: Yes. This can be given publicity to.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): His good offices may be utilised.

Shri Warier: Good and bad offices also, bad offices in the sense that if they are recalcitrant, they can take some action against them.

So there is no gainsaying the fact that there is power vested in the Central Government or the State Governments. The State Governments must adhere to the principles enunciated in the Bill and it is up to them to carry them out. If they do not, there is the all-powerful Central Government. If the Central Government also finds it difficult and cannot do anything, where will the workers in between go? That is the whole trouble about it. They are quarrelling amongst themselves, the Central Government saying 'we have no power' and the State Governments saying 'we have no power'.

Shri Abid Ali: There is no quarrel.

Shri Warier: It seems there is quarrel; otherwise they will accede to it.

So it is up to the Central Government to take necessary action. We can appeal only to the Central Government. The Central Government has got more powers. It is a Concurrent Subject. It is up to the Central Government to see that these Acts are implemented and the benefits thereon go to the workers. That is why I appeal to Government that some measures should be taken either by persuasion or, if necessary, by some coercion. Lastly, I support the amendment of Shri L. Achaw Singh to refer the Bill to a Select Committee, because every time Government is evading the question of bringing in a comprehensive Bill. Only piecemeal amending Bills are brought forward. If these also are to be enacted in such a speedy manner without much consideration, whatever benefit even Government is considering to give the workers will not go to them. So at least this amending Bill, meagre as it is, little as it is in terms of benefits to the workers, should be made a proper Bill so that the actual benefit will go to the workers.

Shri Nanjappa (Nilgiris): I have two amendments to the Bill.

Mr. Speaker: I will allow the hon Member an opportunity in the next stage.

Shri Nanjappa: I will take only a few minutes. The first is relating to accidents occurring due to poisoning by sewer gas. In these days, not only big cities but even smaller cities have underground drainages. We read in newspapers a number of cases occurring due to exposure to sewer gas. They are not merely cases of poisoning, but there are cases of fatalities also. They are also not few. So such cases should be brought within the purview of the Bill.

The second is regarding workers in leather tanneries. These people develop certain skin diseases, eczema,

exfoliation of the skin, inflammation of the skin and other diseases. I am not exaggerating; one comes in one's daily practice of medicine across such cases for treatment. In these days they are not few; there are a number of tanneries in the country and the number of such cases is also great. These people must also be given protection under this Bill.

There are a few cases wherein there is delay in the payment of compensation. There is one case even now pending regarding the Electricity department of the Madras Government. They have awarded the payment a year and a half ago; but, yet, the party was not paid the amount. On some excuse or other the payment is delayed.

With these words I thank you for allowing me to make a few observations.

Shri Abid Ali: The discussion mostly centred round issues like returns not being submitted, the Rs. 400/- limit being increased to Rs. 500/-, the compensation to be liberal and the waiting period of three days and the delay in the payment of compensation and in deciding these cases. Some of the arguments advanced had nothing to do with the subject-matter of the Bill before the House and I was surprised to find some hon. Members going to the extent of saying that some of the clauses were detrimental to the interests of the workers and were more in favour of the employers.

One of the instances pointed out was that because we have increased the time limit for filing compensation claims by the workers, the employers will take advantage of it. It has also been said from the other side that we have been influenced by the employers and all that. I am sorry that friends who are responsible for giving too much of liberal facilities—maybe for good reason—to some well-known industrialists to the extent that their own party adherents have protested vehemently and held big demonstrations—rather their counterparts—come

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here and tell us that we are influenced by employers and, therefore, are not doing justice to the workers

It has been said that because of agitation from some of the trade union organisations belonging to the Opposition parties these amendments have been brought forward. It is far from the truth. The proposals originated from us and there were discussions. As hon Members know, detailed memoranda were formulated and circulated to all India organisations of workers and employers and State Governments also. After several discussions and conferences it was thought that, as the other two items about which I made mention in my opening remarks would take more time, this amending Bill may in the meantime, be brought forward and accepted by Parliament and be brought into force.

A suggestion has now been made that this should be referred to a Select Committee. I may inform the hon Members that a similar suggestion was made in the other House and, at that time, I was feeling that, perhaps during the last session this amending Bill may be passed by both the Houses and, therefore, requested hon Members of both Houses taking active interest in labour matters to sit in an informal committee. They were good enough to come. We had detailed discussions.

As it is known, the original amending Bill contained 5 days waiting period. That was on the basis of the ILO Convention. Most of the hon Members are asking us, 'Why have you fixed these 5 days?' It is not our brain wave, it is the unanimous decision of the ILO. According to that we fixed five days. Subsequently during the course of the discussion in the committee, it was unanimously agreed to reduce it to three days and some hon Members who spoke today were present there and now they come here and criticise us. I leave it to

them to decide to what extent they are wrong or right.

Now about Rs 400-500 category, it was very unfortunate that some hon Members could not take the trouble to listen to the opening remarks. They would have saved a lot of trouble they have taken in levelling so much criticism if they had been kind enough to listen to what I said in the morning while requesting the House to consider this Bill. I have said that two important proposals for amendment relate to the revision of current rates of compensation and an enhancement of the wage limit in the Act from Rs 400 to Rs 500 and that these two proposals were referred to an Actuarial Committee for assessing their impact on the finances of the Industry. The Committee has submitted its report recently and it is being examined. The intention is to examine this report with the utmost speed and decide the issue and submit a Bill for the consideration of Parliament as soon as possible.

With regard to returns, a large number of them are submitted and some are not submitted. It does not mean that where the returns are not submitted the workers do not get compensation. No worker goes without getting compensation which is due to him. What is the trade union organisation doing? When the returns were submitted last time, more than 30 lakhs of membership has been claimed by the four central trade union organisations. The hon Member has stated that about 32 lakhs of workers are covered by the Act. If so most of the workers are covered by the trade union organisations and certainly they should be taking care of this matter as well. The Inspectorate, the factory department etc should be alert, about that nobody can say anything. But there is some responsibility on the trade unions officials as well. There may be some

delay in payment but no worker who is entitled to any compensation is denied even if the trade union does not take care of him. Our departments are there and we as individuals also take an active interest in these matters. Even a post-card received receives attention it deserves.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** Is it a fact that people get compensation sometimes after their death?

**Shri Abid Ali:** That is for God to decide, not for me, if somebody claims compensation and in the meantime dies, certainly his relations must get it.

**Shri Braj Raj Singh:** Matters are so delayed

**Shri Abid Ali.** Some cases are delayed. I have already mentioned. The attempt is that these cases should be speedily disposed of. We make efforts, write to the State Governments and other departments which can be influenced by us. Whenever the Labour Ministers' Conferences are held and when these items are there, these matters are also discussed. The hon. Members have said that the State Governments are not doing their job well. It is not for us to decide whether they are doing their part of the job well. They are also democratically elected, by the same electorate that elected us. They have got their legislatures also. I expected the hon. Members to say that it is for those members. They have also got their members and these questions can be raised there. Suggestions can be made. Certainly, it is not that all the State Governments in all matters are negligent. There are some difficulties also. One hon. Member said that the Labour Minister should resign if any State Government is not carrying out any suggestion. Then, in that case, every day, the Labour Minister will have to resign.

**Shri Hem Barua:** We want you to continue and prosper.

**Shri Abid Ali:** Certainly, the nation should prosper. Compensation should be liberal, and I have already mentioned about it.

My good friend from Bombay said that 6 per cent interest as compensation will not be enough. Six per cent compensation has been mentioned in addition to the 50 per cent penalty amount. If the Commissioner is satisfied that the employer has been neglecting the payment and is unduly delaying payment, then the amount that we have fixed is to the extent of 50 per cent of the amount due to the worker as compensation. So, the six per cent compensation is in addition to that. The Commissioner can allow that. So, that percentage has been fixed.

There have been prosecutions. We are not dictators here. The law has been passed by Parliament and is administered by the States. In case any employer or a large number of employers do not carry out their part of the job and where prosecutions are justified the prosecutions are launched. They take time, of course, as everybody knows. But what else can we do?

One hon. Member said, "Stop all the help of Government." Can it be done? It is easy to make such a suggestion, but what will be the consequences? Suddenly, the factories will be closed. Do hon. Members seriously suggest that because some return has not been submitted, the factory should be closed and the workers, either should be laid off or retrenched or dismissed or discharged? What is the suggestion? I cannot understand how a responsible person belonging to a responsible trade union organization could go to the extent of saying that for a little default on the part of the employer all the workers in the factory should go home.

A question was asked as to why more industries are not being included. I may request the hon. Members to glance over the Act again. They



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will find that the State Governments by notification can apply the Act to industries, as it has been provided for in the Act. That can be done. For that purpose, it is not necessary to amend the Act

Mention was made about transport workers: I myself belonged to the transport workers' union. The transport workers are covered by the Act. They get compensation under the Payment of Wages Act.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: To which union does the Minister belong?

Shri Abid Ali: In 1952, before I came here, I belonged to the BEST Workers' Union in Bombay.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Ex-President.

Shri Abid Ali: I am very happy. Then, about quarries, the workers in the quarries also are covered by the Act. About sewage workers a suggestion was made that these are employees of municipalities. But the municipalities do pay compensation. About the Mines Department, the hon. Members said that I gave a good certificate to that department the other day. Certainly, if they deserve a certificate it must be given.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: At the cost of human life.

Shri Abid Ali: Not certainly at the cost of human life. One hon. Member said that when he attended a Safety Conference it was felt there that the accidents were increasing and the inspectors of the Mines Department were not doing their job. I do not know about it although I presided at that conference. Nothing of the kind happened in that conference at least. The reports which were placed before that conference were up to the year 1957, and certainly 1957 was a year which had the least number of deaths in the coal mines particularly. Some figures were mentioned here. But I have also got some

figures. The total number of accidents in the year 1955 was 79,793, in 1956, the number was 61,610.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: What is the figure for 1954?

Shri Abid Ali: That can be seen from the books. I have quoted these two figures to show whether the accidents were increasing or decreasing.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: In 1955, the figure was the highest. That is why I wanted the 1954 figure. There was no other motive.

Shri Abid Ali: I am not attributing any motive. I am only placing the correct figures before the House. The number of accidents in factories was 38,741 in 1955 and 29,446 in 1956. Similarly in plantations, the number of accidents was 3659 in 1955 and 915 in 1956; similarly, in railways, the number was 19,931 in 1955 and 12,619 in 1956.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: The credit goes to the Ministry.

Shri Abid Ali: Certainly, to the workers and to the public also. Everybody is contributing to all that happens, good and bad. If some friends are determined to be unreasonable and say everywhere everything is bad, nobody can help it.

About artificial limbs, that is not the function of this Act. This Bill does not deal with that. The hon. Members know that the Employees' State Insurance Corporation have opened a department. In regards to the coal mines also, they have got a regular department. Some people have been sent to Poona in the military section and they are to be trained there. Hon. Members will be happy to know that in every sphere, an attempt is made to do all that is possible. But we cannot mention everything in any Bill that is brought before the House. How can that be possible?



I have already mentioned about increasing the limit from Rs. 400 to Rs. 500. I have said that this will be taken up in a separate Bill. As the method of lump sum payment is not satisfactory, we have been considering whether it can be replaced by a system of monthly payment. This will require a different set of machinery and the liability will also increase two or three times.

Then, I do not remember ever using the expression "comprehensive legislation".

Shri S. M. Banerjee: All-embracing.

Shri Abid Ali: Wherever amendments are necessary, we bring before Parliament amending Bills. I do not know from where the hon. Members have got this idea that for everything there should be a comprehensive Bill. Nobody has told me up to this time what that comprehensive Bill should contain. Everybody says that a comprehensive Bill is not coming. When some other Bill comes, they will again say that it is not comprehensive. So, it should be known that there is nothing of that kind which is known as a comprehensive Bill, in this connection at least.

About shops and commercial establishments, I have already submitted that State Governments are empowered according to the main Act to add to the schedule whenever they think it is necessary.

17 hrs.

My hon. friend from Kanpur said that we have not collected information with regard to the amount not paid. Now, how can that be possible? If in case any amount has not been paid, then certainly trade

union organisations should collect information and bring that to our notice. And when complaints come to us that amount has not been paid, our efforts are in the direction of getting the amount due to the workers paid. And that is the end of it. We are not maintaining figures of amounts not paid. It is not possible, nor is it necessary.

Therefore, I would request hon. Members not to criticise the working of these laws but to have a little more connection with the trade union organisations and be more interested in the welfare of the workers. Then I am sure that 90 per cent of the things said today will not be repeated and everybody will be thankful to them.

Mr. Speaker: I think the Minister has covered all the points. Now is it necessary to refer it to the Select Committee. Is the hon. Member pressing his amendment?

Shri L. Achaw Singh: I am not pressing my amendment.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Speaker: I will now put the motion to the vote of the House. The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

17.02 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, February 20, 1950/Phalgun 1, 1950 (Saka).

(Thursday, February 19, 1959/March 30, 1980 (Saka))

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

S Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
418.	Agricultural Administration Committee	1825-29
419.	Timber from Andamans	1833-36
420.	Own Your Telephone Scheme	1836-38
421.	Indo-Pak Canal Waters Dispute	1838-42
422.	Irrigation and power potential of Indian Rivers	1842-44
425	Traffic Survey of Buckingham Canal	1844-46
426	Consumption of Wheat in Southern Zone	1846-48
428	Telco Locomotives	1845-51
429	Re-employment of Retrenched employees	1851
430	Inaccessible Area Committee	1851-53
431.	Rohand Dam Project	1954-55
432.	Lighterage port near Quilon	1855-56
433	Defective Ship constructed at Hindustan Shipyard	1856-59
435.	Fight against Epidemics	1859-62
439	Shortage of Fodder in Himachal Pradesh	1862
441.	Shortage of Doctors in Delhi Hospitals	1863-64

## S N Q No.

2. Strike notice by Manipur State Transport Employees 1864-58

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

S Q. No.	COLUMNS
423	Vaccination 1869
424.	Mayors' Conference at Hyderabad 1869-70
427.	Indo-Pak Canal Waters Dispute 1870-71
434	Rural Electrification in U P 1871
436.	Paddy and Rice in Orissa 1871-72
437	Development of Minor Ports 1872
438.	Research on Cotton 1872-73

## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd.

S Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
440.	Kurdawadi-Miraj Railway Line	1873
442.	Food Aid from U.S.A	1873
443.	Central Dairy Farm in Delhi	1874
444	Rice and Paddy Stocks in Tripura	1874
445.	Tellichery-Mysore Railway	1875
446	Assam Rail link	1875-76
447.	Bridge on river Mahanadi	1876
448	Robbery in Train	1877-78
449	Draft Plan on Roads	1878
450	Fertilizers	1878-79
451.	Delhi Electricity Power Control Board	1879
452	Bhutan India Road Link	1879-80
453	Tourist Traffic	1880-81
454	Water Supply Schemes in Kerala	1881
455	Strike by Delhi Taxi Drivers	1882
456	Hindustan Shipyard	1882-83
457	N D M C Arrears	1883
458	Conference on Industrial and Occupational Health	1883
459	Nagarjunasagar Project	1883-84
460	Land Erosion in Himachal Pradesh	1884-85
461.	Crop and Cattle Insurance	1885
462	Rice in Tripura	1885-86
463	Overbridge at Kozhikode	1886
464	Incidence of T B in Assam	1887
465	Express Cycleways	1887-88
466	Indian Airlines Corporation	1888
467	Electricity to Himachal Pradesh from Bhakra Nangal	1888-89

## U.S.Q. No.

489	Poultry Development in Punjab	1889
490.	Deaths from T B	1889
491	Facilities for keeping Luggage at Stations	1889-90
492.	Amount Missing from Post Offices	1890
493.	Tube-wells in Punjab	1890-91

## [DAILY DIARY]

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO  
QUESTIONS—contd.

U.S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
494.	Indian Airlines Corpora- tion . . . . .	1891
495.	Sileru Hydro-Electric Project . . . . .	1891-92
496.	Machkund Project in Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	1892-93
497.	Major Irrigation Schemes . . . . .	1893
498.	Pochampad Project in Andhra Pradesh . . . . .	1893
499.	Irrigation Works in Bombay State . . . . .	1894
501.	Bridges damaged due to Rains . . . . .	1894
502.	Slum Clearance in Delhi . . . . .	1894-95
503.	Second Bridge Across River Jamuna in Delhi . . . . .	1895
504.	Cooperative Societies . . . . .	1895-96
505.	Manures and Fertilizers . . . . .	1896
506.	Level Crossing at Jabal- pur . . . . .	1896-97
507.	Movement of Foodgrains from Punjab . . . . .	1897
508.	Telephone Exchanges . . . . .	1897-98
509.	Rat Extermination Cam- paign . . . . .	1898
510.	Family Planning Officers . . . . .	1899
511.	Central Medico-Legal Advisory Committee. . . . .	1899-1901
512.	'Gangawal Hotlines Crew' Training Centre, Bhakra . . . . .	1901-02
513.	Research in Agriculture and Animal Husbandry . . . . .	1902
514.	Supreme Court Bar Co- operative Housing So- ciety Limited . . . . .	1902
515.	Minor Irrigation Schemes . . . . .	1903
516.	Vestibuled Trams . . . . .	1903
517.	Cattle Fodder . . . . .	1903-04
518.	Expenditure on Confer- ences on Canal Waters Dispute . . . . .	1904
519.	Pharmacy Councils in States . . . . .	1904-05
520.	State Electricity Boards . . . . .	1905
521.	All India Institute of Medical Science . . . . .	1905-06
522.	Absorption of Retrenched Staff of Hirakud Dam Project . . . . .	1906
523.	Potato Crop . . . . .	1906-07
524.	Tourist Office in Foreign Country . . . . .	1907

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO  
QUESTIONS—contd.

U.S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
525.	Late Running of Mathura-Delhi Passenger Train . . . . .	1907-08
526.	Child Mortality in India . . . . .	1908
527.	Procurement of Rice from Madhya Pradesh . . . . .	1909
528.	Payment for Uniform of Postal Employees . . . . .	1909-10
529.	Godowns in Orissa . . . . .	1910
530.	Medical Staff in Manipur . . . . .	1911
531.	State Corporation in Punjab . . . . .	1911
532.	Rohtak-Panipat Railway line . . . . .	1911-12
533.	Anti-leprosy work . . . . .	1912
534.	Under-bridge at Cuttack station . . . . .	1912-13
535.	Refund of Cash Sec- urities to Assistant Sta- tion Masters on S E Railway . . . . .	1913
536.	Irrigation Projects in Bihar . . . . .	1914
537.	Bombay Vidarbha Re- gion Agricultural Ten- ants Act . . . . .	1914
538.	Handling of Cargoes at Major Ports . . . . .	1914-15
539.	Appointment of whole- time Managers for Rest Houses . . . . .	1916
540.	Regional Experimental Station for Arecanut in Kerala . . . . .	1916-17
541.	Road Development in Kerala . . . . .	1917
542.	Snowdon State Hospital (Himachal Pradesh) . . . . .	1917-18
543.	Medical facilities in Himachal Pradesh . . . . .	1918-19
544.	N E S and C D Blocks in Himachal Pradesh . . . . .	1919
545.	Electricity Project at Ro- dnu (Himachal Pradesh) . . . . .	1920
546.	Power Station at Jubbalpur . . . . .	1920-21
547.	Electrification of Poona- Sholapur Railway Line . . . . .	1921
548.	Koyana Project . . . . .	1921-22
549.	X-Ray Materials . . . . .	1922
550.	Accident near Jasidih Station . . . . .	1922-23
551.	Kharagpur Railway Work- shop . . . . .	1924

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO  
QUESTIONS—contd.**

**COLUMNS**

S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
552.	Drought in Khowai (Tri- pura)	1924-25
553.	Prevention of Cow Slaugh- ter Acts	1925
554.	Kalkalighat Station.	1925-26
555.	Sugar Factories	1926
556.	Ticket Collectors.	1926-27
557.	Shelters on Platforms on Delhi-Lucknow Section	1927
<b>OBITUARY REFERENCE</b>		1928

The Speaker made a reference to the passing away of Shri Siddappa Hosmani who was a member of the former Central Legislative Assembly

Thereafter Members stood in silence for a minute as a mark of respect.

**PAPERS LAID ON THE  
TABLE**

1928

A copy of each of the following Notifications was laid on the Table under sub-section (1) of Section 133 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 :—

(i) No. B-TP/7/56, dated 25th July, 1958 as amended by Notification No. B-TP/7/56, dated 3rd December, 1958 making certain amendments to the Motor Vehicles Rules for Manipur, 1951, published in the Manipur Gazette.

(ii) No. 141/58, dated the 5th December, 1958 published in the Andaman and Nicobar Gazette.

**REPORT OF BUSINESS AD-  
VISORY COMMITTEE  
ADOPTED**

1929-30

Thirty-fifth Report was adopted

**MOTION ON ADDRESS BY  
THE PRESIDENT**

1930-64,  
2006-13

Further discussion on the motion on address by the President and the amendments thereto moved on the 13th February, 1959, concluded. The motion was adopted.

**BILL UNDER CONSIDERA-  
TION**

1965-2006  
2013-42

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali) moved that the Workmen's Compensation (Amendment) Bill, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration. The motion was adopted.

**AGENDA FOR FEBRUARY  
20, 1959/PHALGUNA 1, 1880  
(SAKA)—**

Further discussion on the motion to consider and passing of the Parliamentary Privilege Bill moved by Shri Naushir Bharucha and also consideration of other Private Members' Bills.