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LOK SABHA DEBATES

(**Fifth Session**)



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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LOK SABHA

Wednesday, 10th September, 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Blood Dysentery, Cholera and Gastro-Enteritis Cases in Delhi

Shri Jadhav:

Shri Easwara Iyer:

Shri Narayananankutty

Menon:

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:

Shri N. R. Munisamy:

Shri Warior:

Shri Kodiyan:

Shri Naval Prabhakar:

Shri Ram Krishan:

*1000.

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the incidence of cases of Cholera, Castro-Enteritis and Dysentery in Delhi following the conditions of water scarcity;

(b) how many of such cases proved fatal; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to prevent the spread of these diseases in epidemic form?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) There were 557 cases of Gastro-Enteritis/Cholera upto midnight of the 8th/9th September, 1958. Information about the number of cases of Dysentery is not available.

(c) The following steps have been taken to control and check the spread of the diseases:—

(i) Disinfection of sources of water supply and advice to the public to boil water for drinking purposes.

(ii) Mass inoculation programme.

(iii) Improvement of environmental sanitation and rigorous anti-fly measures.

(iv) Destruction of unwholesome food-stuffs.

(v) Wide propaganda and publicity by the health authorities regarding the steps to be taken to control the spread of the diseases.

(vi) Strict supervision over sanitation of eating houses and catering establishments.

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether it is a fact that the information about the contamination of water was given to the authorities at the proper time, but on account of the Electoral College elections in Delhi, it was not thought proper to publish it?

Shri Karmarkar: There are yet 40 questions to reach the question on water. We are now on blood dysentery, cholera and gastro-enteritis.

Shri Warior: Out of the 44 deaths mentioned by the hon. Minister, may I know how many died of cholera and in which places the deaths occurred?

Mr. Speaker: I am only afraid that it may create panic if he mentions particular parts of the city. Everybody may go about touching his own stomach.

(b) 44.

173(A) LSD—1.

Shri Karmarkar: My notes show that from 23-8-1958 the number of cholera deaths was 39.

Shri Tangamani: All along we were told it was gastro-enteritis. So, I would like to know whether all these cases were only cases of gastro-enteritis or the other disease.

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir. As I said, I have given a total of 557. I shall give also the information up-to-date till yesterday midnight:

Number of cases of	
gastro-enteritis	16 for the day
Deaths	nil
Progressive total of	
gastro-enteritis	568
Number of cases con-	
firmed as cholera	
bacteriologically	
up-to-date.	92
Progressive total of	
deaths from 23-8-1958	39

Shri Jadhav: May I know whether one Mr. Nirula who was serving in the Life Insurance Corporation has died of blood dysentery?

Mr. Speaker: We cannot allow. There are 17 lakhs of people here.

Shri Jadhav: He says that information is not available.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will kindly write to the hon. Minister.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: Paragraph 1 of the statement says:

"Disinfection of sources of water supply and advice to the public to boil water for drinking purposes."

May I know whether the water which is supplied to about one lakh population of South Delhi from Okhla has become permanently contaminated, and if so, what efforts are Government going to make for other arrangements for supply of pure water to that population?

Shri Karmarkar: I think I shall have to take another opportunity to reply to it. In Okhla it is a patent fact that there is over-chlorination in order to eliminate the chloride contents. It is not satisfactory in that sense as a permanent source of water supply. Regarding the permanent arrangements, I should like to have notice, because I should not like to deal with it in an off-hand manner.

Shri Nambiar: क्या मेरे जान सकता हूँ कि दिल्ली में जो घृत की बीमारी का अस्पताल है उस में ठीक तरह से देख भाल नहीं की जाती है और साथ ही साथ कुछ स्टाफ की भी क्या उस में कमी है?

Shri Karmarkar: जहाँ तक मेरे जान सकता हूँ देख भाल तीक तरह से की जाती है। जहाँ तक स्टाफ की कमी की बात है मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आम तौर से स्टाफ की कमी नहीं होती है और अगर होती है तो वह भी ठीक हो सकती है यद्यपि दिल्ली एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन जल्दी से जल्दी कारंवाई करे और इस ओर अधिक ध्यान दे।

Shri Nambiar: क्या मेरे जान सकता हूँ कि इन दिनों कितने व्यक्तियों को दिल्ली के प्रान्त देखने के टीके लगाये गये हैं?

Shri Karmarkar: Inoculations performed: Progressive Total:

Delhi: 8,59,585
New Delhi: 1,12,489

C.H.S. Scheme for Members of Parliament

*1091. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state the nature of the decision taken for introduction of Contributory Health Service Scheme for Members of Parliament?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): It is tentatively proposed to start the Contributory Health Service Scheme for Members of Parliament for such members as may be willing to join it.

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know the number of Members of Parliament who have agreed to join the scheme?

Shri Karmarkar: I think a little less than 110 up-to-date. I speak subject to correction, but it is round about that number.

Shri Ram Krishan: May I know the nature of the medical facilities to be given under this scheme?

Mr. Speaker: Is it the same for all? Will it be the same as for others, or is there anything special?

Shri Karmarkar: No, Sir. Same for everybody. Absolutely no difference.

Shri Ranga: It is more than a year since Members were asked to express their wish to join or not to join, and although some of us anyhow, as he has admitted, have already informed that we would like to join, till now nothing has been done. He says it is tentatively proposed.

Shri Karmarkar: The difficulty is that every such dispensary and every such arrangement involves a deficit. That deficit has to be met from somewhere. The question that is now under consideration is whether that deficit should be met from the Budget of the Department of Parliamentary Affairs or whether it should be met from the Budget of the Ministry of Health. We proposed that it should be met from the Health Ministry. There the matter is, and if I might make a request to you, Sir, personally, because it concerns Members of Parliament, if we get together the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Finance and the Department of Parliamentary Affairs, I think this procedure might be expedited.

Mr. Speaker: Before I get all these Ministers together, I am not able to convince Hon. Members here. After all, it does not cost more than Rs. 5. Again and again complaints have been brought to me. I know this whole scheme is that once you pay Rs. 5, all the medicines that are available will be supplied free, but I have found

some of the Hon. Members wanting to have a Vaid and others wanting to have a Hakim. It is really surprising. If Hon. Members do not co-operate, what can be done?

Shri Ranga: I cannot put that question to you, but may I suggest to him through you: why not make this thing compulsory so far as Members of Parliament are concerned? You deduct it from our salaries.

Shri Karmarkar: I am prepared. I am very keenly anxious to start it. In fact, I have been anxious for many months to have it started as early as possible, but ultimately when it comes to a question of finance, our Ministry has to square it up with the Finance Ministry. As I said, the difference of opinion is this. One side holds that it should be met from the Health Ministry, another holds that it should be met from the Department of Parliamentary Affairs. We are game for both, but I am very anxious to start it immediately.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I know whether the facilities which will be provided to Members will be the same as those provided for the Ministers?

Shri Karmarkar: Yes, Sir, the same. Except that the Ministers have to pay more.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: The hon. Minister answers one question and then he says it is not the same.

Mr. Speaker: There is no good putting such a question as that. So far as the Ministers, the Speaker etc., are concerned, there are special Acts dealing with them. Hon. Members of Parliament are governed by another Act. There is a Joint Committee looking into this matter of the facilities and so on. Members will have the same privileges as other persons have in the Contributory Health Service Scheme. That is what the rules lay down, unless it be that the constitution is amended and different rules are framed by the Joint Com-

mittee. All that I would urge upon hon. Members is that they should not enter into this meticulous differentiation as to whether it ought to come from the purse or the funds allotted to the Health Ministry or from those allotted to the Department of Parliamentary Affairs; it comes from the same source. Therefore, I am willing, provided all hon. Members will join, and not force me to compel them. As far as I am able to see, I am not in a position to compel anybody under the existing law. Therefore, if hon. Members would only write to me or send chits round to me and say that they are willing to join the scheme, I shall immediately have implemented, whatever might be the deficit.

Shri Ranga: Let those who do not agree write.

Shri Hem Barua: May I submit that many hon. Members have written to the Health Minister saying that they are willing to join the scheme.

Mr. Speaker: The number is small; it is just about 100 out of 500.

Shri Karmarkar: The number of Members who have expressed their willingness, as I said earlier, subject to a correction of 5 or 10, is about 52 or 53 from each of the Houses. It is not more than about 110 in all.

Mr. Speaker: I understand from my Secretary that it is only 25 out of 500 in this House. Therefore, hon. Members from a large section of this House will try to gather signatures from other hon. Members behind them, and then, as quickly as possible, I shall see that it is implemented. I am very anxious.

Shri Karmarkar: I should like to add one word by way of clarification to what you have been pleased to say. Earlier, the Ministers guided themselves by the special provisions under the Ministers' Salaries and Allowances Act. Later on, at the request of the Health Ministry, they agreed to fall in line with all the other members of the CHS by making contributions as under that scheme, though they need

not have done so. Otherwise, the treatment for all of them is the same and alike.

Mr. Speaker: I may also inform the House that I am myself paying; I have been paying for nearly a year at the rate of Rs. 12 a month, the maximum that is chargeable. And I am putting myself not above any other hon. Member. The same facilities will be afforded to all persons under the CHS. That is an advantageous scheme. The whole family will be treated, including the dependants etc.

Shri Radhelal Vyas: On a point of information. In the case of some of the Members, their family members live at their permanent address, and only the hon. Members reside here singly. I would like to know whether that medical aid would be available to their family members or it would benefit only the Members here.

Mr. Speaker: Nobody prevents them. It is very wrong, if the hon. Member goes on keeping his people there and himself resides here.

Construction of Railway Line from Rourkela to Barsua

*1092. **Shri Supakar:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the progress made so far in the construction of a Railway line from Rourkela to Barsua from where the iron ores will be brought; and

(b) whether the line will be completed before the steel factory is put into operation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The Hon'ble Member is presumably referring to the Bondamunda (Rourkela) Dumaro line. If so the overall progress achieved so far is about 66 per cent.

(b) The line is expected to be opened to goods traffic by the target date.

Shri Supakar: What is the target date?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: September, 1958.

Shri Supakar: May I know whether it will not be possible to start this railway line a little earlier, so as to make it coincide with the firing of the blast furnace and thereby avoid the delay?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The Ministry of Steel and Mines have told us that it is enough if the line is opened by September, 1958. We are accordingly scheduling the opening of this line to suit that requirement. If any ore is required earlier, it will be supplied from some other source.

Shri Supakar: Will that not be very costly? May I know the total cost of this railway line from Rourkela to Barsua?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is a distance of about 42 miles. The original estimate was Rs. 3.3 crores. But, now, I am afraid, it will come to Rs. 7.7 crores.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether this scheme has also been included in the electrification of railway lines scheme?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: No, not at present.

Shri Supakar: May I know the dates of these two estimates, namely the original estimate and the final estimate?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: As I submitted, in 1956, the estimate was Rs. 3.3 crores; that was the rough estimate. But, now, owing to increase in cost etc. it will come roughly to about Rs. 7.7 crores.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Are we to take it that from 1956 to 1958, the cost of the line has risen by over one hundred per cent so as to inflate the estimate to Rs. 7.7 crores from Rs. 3.3 crores?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: It is not so. The original estimate was a rough estimate. But the final one is the detailed estimate.

Shri V. P. Nayar: What is this increase of Rs. 4 crores in one year?

Shri Supakar: May I know whether the railway line from Bhilai to Daula Rajeria from where the iron ores will be brought, which covers a distance of about 52 miles, could be completed with Rs. 4 crores, and if so, why this estimate has increased so much?

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: The terrain is a very difficult one, and that adds to the cost.

Shri V. P. Nayar: That was not taken into consideration earlier?

Mr. Speaker: I would only suggest one thing to hon. Members. Of course, the Minister is not there on the spot; he is not the person who executes it on the spot. If there is any particular matter where hon. Members feel that a lot of money is being spent, then I shall have that matter referred ad hoc to the Estimates Committee, to find out what exactly the position is, so that all hon. Members may be satisfied, if they are not already satisfied about it. From time to time, they may make suggestions to that effect.

Shri S. V. Ramaswamy: I submit that it is a difficult terrain; it is a mountainous area, and therefore, the cost has increased.

Shri Supakar: It is not merely a question of increase in the estimates, but there is the delay in not adjusting it to the programme of the steel plant.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has asked his question, and an answer has been given. Let us go to the next question now.

Heat Wave in the Country

+

*1093. { **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri Tangamani:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

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

(a) whether the causes of the heat wave which swept the country during May and June this year have been studied;

(b) if so, that outcome of the study; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The study showed that the heat wave was due to (i) the absence of active secondary western disturbances over the country and the consequent lack of exchange of air between the cooler southern and the hotter northern parts of India; and (ii) the delay in the onset of monsoon over the country.

(c) In the present stage of scientific and technical advancement, it is not possible to prevent the occurrence of such natural phenomenon.

श्री विभूति मिश्च : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही नहीं है कि चूँकि बहुत से पेड़ आज कल काट दिये जाने हैं इस लिये हीट बेब आती है ?

श्री भूहोड़ीन : मैं के मुतालिक पहले भी सवाल हुआ था, उस बबत में ने कहा था कि पेड़ काटने का या नये जंगल लगाने का मुकामी तोर पर ज़कर मौम म पर अमर पहला है लेकिन आम नोर पर पूरे मुल्क पर इस का अमर नहीं होता ।

श्री विभूति मिश्च : मैं कह सकता हूँ कि हमारे उत्तर बिहार में कभी हीट बेब नहीं आती थी । इम साल और पिछले साल ही हीट बेब आई है चूँकि मिलो की बजह से पेड़ काट दिये गये हैं । क्या सरकार इस के लिये कोई समुचित कार्रवाही करेगी कि पेड़ न काटे जायें ।

श्री भूहोड़ीन : पेड़ न काटे जाने का ताल्लुक बेटीरियालाजिकल डिपार्टमेंट से नहीं है । लेकिन मैं यह कह सकता हूँ कि हीट बेब यानी इतना टैम्परेचर उत्तर प्रदेश और बिहार में इस के पहले भी हो चुका है, सन् १९५६ में और इस से भी ज्यादा सक्ती के साथ सन् १९२६ में ।

Shri Tangamani: May I know

Mr. Speaker: Let us go to the next question. The heat wave has passed. Why should we create heat wave here?

Shri Tangamani: There is a specific question that I want to ask.

Mr. Speaker: I know. But there are many other questions.

Shri Tangamani: In the heat wave, many children died. That was the point that I wanted to ask.

Mr. Speaker: Are Government the cause of the heat wave? They can only say what exactly has happened. Hon. Members must allow some kind of discretion to find out whether in a particular case, a number of questions have been asked or not. But I find that every minute I have to dictate to hon. Members that there are a number of other questions here. The hon. Member Shri Tangamani reads every question. That is the difficulty.

Derailment of a Passenger Train near Alambagh

*1094. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a North-Eastern Railway passenger Train from Kanpur derailed near Alambagh at about 9-30 P.M. on 18th May, 1958;

(b) if so, the number of persons who died and those who were injured; and

(c) whether any inquiry was made?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) At about 21-23 hours on 18th May, 1958 while No. 32 Dn. Kanpur Passenger train was negotiating a right handed curve between Alambagh Cabin and Lucknow Charbagh Cabin, on the Kanpur-Lucknow, Metre Gauge, Section of the North-Eastern Railway, the engine and first six coaches got derailed.

(b) One person was killed and 8 received injuries.

(e) Yes, a statutory enquiry into the accident was held by the Government Inspector of Railways.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In view of the repeated accidents and derailments, may I know whether the Minister is thinking of calling a conference with the All India Railwaymen's Federation? The other day, you pointed out to us that we should also advise the employees to be very cautious. So, I want to know whether such a conference with the All India Railwaymen's Federation and their representatives would be helpful, and if so, whether he contemplates calling such a conference?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: For the present, there is no intention of calling any conference with the representatives of labour over this matter. The Government Inspector of Railways inquired into the matter and he was of the opinion that the derailment was caused by sharp curve and excessive speed. We are taking steps to deal with the situation.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the amount of compensation given to the families of the deceased, and the injured persons?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: So far no compensation has actually been paid. The ex-officio Claims Commissioner of the area is receiving claims.

Sugar Production in Bihar

*1985. **Shri Anirudh Sinha:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a fall in the production of sugar in the factories in the State of Bihar in 1956-57 season as compared to the sugar produced in 1939-40 season; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

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

fall of 10,000 tons in the production of sugar in Bihar in 1956-57 as compared with the production in 1939-40. This is largely due to fall in the production of cane in 1956-57 as compared with 1939-40.

Shri Anirudh Sinha: Is it a fact that in recent years in Bihar there has been a progressive decline both in the matter of yield per acre and in recovery of sugar from cane? If so, what steps have Government taken to improve the same, and with what results?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It depends on various factors—production of sugar area under sugarcane, yield of cane per acre, relative prices of sugar and gur and so many other factors. The assumption made by my hon. friend is not quite correct. I find from the information I have in my possession that the area under cane has been changing quite appreciably in Bihar. The highest figure of 5.08 lakh acres was attained in 1940-41 and the lowest was 2.99 lakh acres in 1953-54. With regard to recent years, my hon. friend has asked about 1956-57 and 1939-40. In 1957-58, there has been a considerable fall. The area is 3.76 lakh acres and the quantity of sugar produced is only 2.74 lakh tons. It has been mainly due to the red rot disease.

With regard to recovery, my hon. friend's assumption is not correct. The average recovery in Bihar in 1957-58 is 9.91; in 1939-40, the average recovery was 9.28, so that there is some increase in the percentage of recovery.

Shri Anirudh Sinha: Is it not a fact that the progress of the sugar industry as a whole is not reflected in the Eastern UP and Bihar regions, and even the existing capacity is not utilised fully and effectively? May I know the causes for this? I also want to know what measures Government propose to take to help utilisation to the full extent the installed capacity by the mills in both regions?

Shri A. M. Thomas: My hon. friend's assumption that Bihar has not been keeping pace with the progress

achieved in the matter of the sugar industry in other States is correct. For example, in UP in 1939-40, it was only 12 lakh acres; now it has gone up to 30.5 lakh acres. As I said, it depends on various factors.

With regard to the number of factories functioning, it is 32 in 1939-40, now it is only 28. But in some factories, there has been expansion also so that it has not been due to the reduction of the number.

With regard to the efforts made, I may submit for the information of the House that out of Rs. 8 crores provided for development work on sugarcane in the Second Five Year Plan, the share of Bihar comes to Rs. 76 lakhs.

Shri Thirumala Rao: What are the average yields per acre of sugarcane in 1939-40 and 1956-57?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The average yield per acre in 1939-40 was 12.81 tons whereas in 1956-57, it is 13.33 tons.

क्यों विभूति विक्रम : क्या यह सही नहीं है कि मैंने ब्रेमेंट और लेवर के आँड़े के कारण अगर रिकवरी कम हो गई है ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Four factories—Indian Siwan, Buxar, Japaha and Sempur—which were working in 1939-40 are not working now. The Indian Siwan is not working owing to disputes among the partners. As regards the other factories, there are some other reasons for their not working.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: From 1952 to 1956, the recovery of cane was over 10 per cent, and now it has gone down to 9 per cent. May I know what are the reasons for this, and whether any steps have been taken to improve recovery?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In 1952-53, recovery was 10.63. Now it is 9.91. There has been some decrease. As I have said, it has been mainly due to drought and the red rot disease.

Shri Ranga: What steps are being taken in order to eradicate the red rot disease?

Shri A. M. Thomas: In fact, some schemes are being attempted. Under the auspices of the Indian Central Sugarcane Committee some schemes are being worked. The State is also working out a scheme. Under the Second Five Year Plan, as I have already submitted, Rs. 76 lakhs has been set apart from Bihar.

Shri Ranga: Are any steps being taken to prevent any more land being diverted from food crops to sugarcane?

Shri A. M. Thomas: As far as Bihar is concerned, there is no such problem.

मध्य प्रदेश में विमान सेवाएँ

क्यों विद्युत यांत्रिक सुरक्षा :
स्त्री डाक्टर :
स्त्री वालियरी :
स्त्री साइबोवाला :
सरदार इकबाल सिंह : .

क्या परिवहन तथा सेवाएँ मंजुरी यह बताने की हृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भोपाल, न्दौर और वालियर के बीच ग्रामी हाल में जो विमान सेवा बन्द कर दी गई है उस फिर में चालू करने का कोई प्रस्ताव है ;

(ल) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार में भोपाल और दिल्ली के बीच विमान सम्बन्ध स्थापित करने के बारे में कोई अभ्यावेदन प्राप्त हुआ है ;

(ग) सरकार की इम विषय में क्या प्रतिक्रिया हुई है ;

(घ) क्या इण्डियन एयर लाइन्स कार-पोरेक्टन ने भोपाल, न्दौर और वालियर के बीच विमान सेवा चालू करने के लिये मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से बहुत बड़ी राशि सहायता के रूप में मांगी है ;

(इ) यदि हाँ, तो कितनी राशि मांगी है ; और

(च) यह सेवा फिर से क्या तक चालू होने की संभावना है ?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) The Indian Airlines Corporation have no plans at present to resume air services to Bhopal, Indore and Gwalior.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (f). The Corporation have explained that they had to discontinue air services to these places because the services were uneconomic and that they would be prepared to resume them provided they are reimbursed the losses involved in operating the services. The State Government has been informed accordingly.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know if there are any other air services operated by Indian Airlines Corporation except in the Assam and Tripura region which are at present running uneconomically and if so, which are they?

Shri Mohiuddin: There are a number of sectors where the services are running uneconomically. The Corporation is making attempts to reduce the recurring losses every year, they are making an attempt to eliminate those sectors where the expenditure is very high and the revenues are very low.

Shri V. C. Shukla: May I know if the route Bhopal-Indore-Gwalior was causing the greatest loss to the IAC? If so, what are the comparative figures?

Shri Mohiuddin: I might mention that the service that was run in 1956-57 Agra-Gwalior-Bhopal-Indore-Aurangabad incurred a loss of Rs. 18,60,000. Another service that was also closed was the Delhi-Agra-Bhopal flight, the loss on which in 1956 was Rs. 7,75,000.

Shri Radhakrishna Iyengar: क्या मेरे पास जान सकता हूँ कि . . .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I have already called Shri Jangde.

Shri Jangde: क्या यह भी नहीं है कि भव्य प्रवेश का एपरेंसिक के नक्शे में कोई

स्थान नहीं है और जोपाल को छोड़ कर क्या हिन्दुस्तान में ऐसे और भी कई प्रान्त नहीं हैं जहां पर इस से ज्यादा नुकसान नहीं होता और सालन के पास क्या ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव प्राया है कि भव्य प्रदेश अपनी डकोटा एयरसर्विसेज कमिशनर्स हेडक्वार्टर्स में चलाने का विचार कर रही है और क्या मेंट्रल गवर्नरेंट उसे कोई भवित्वी देगी?

भव्य संघोदय : माननीय सदस्य ने एक सवाल में तीन तीन सवाल कर डाले हैं।

श्री मुहीउद्दोन : अभी मैं ने बतलाया कि मुस्लिम स्टेशन पर नुकसान होता है। लेकिन यह कहना मुश्किल है कि इस से ज्यादा नुकसान किमी और लाइन पर है या नहीं। डकोटा सरविंप चलाने के मुतालिक मुझे कोई इलम नहीं है। अभी हाल ही में कारपोरेशन के जनरल मैनेजर काट्यू माहब में मिले थे और उन से इस के मुतालिक गुफानगर हुई थी। उन्होंने उन से कहा था कि इस के मुतालिक गौर करें कि इंटरनल सरविंमेज किस तरह से चलायी जायें। इस के मुतालिक अभी जनरल मैनेजर गौर कर रहे हैं।

श्री राधेश्वर लाल : क्या मेरे पास जान सकता हूँ कि इस प्रकार नुकसान से बचने वाली दूसी सरविंमेज की महस्या क्या है, और उन पर कून कितना नुकसान होता है?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): This raises a general question. Many hon. Members have been asking whether the uneconomic lines should be run by Government. My ministry is considering the problem as to the lines that are most uneconomic and yet have got to be run in order that the towns and cities could be contacted, what methods could be introduced so that the loss is minimised, if any subsidy has to be given, how much

of that should be shared by the Government of India and how much by the State and all that. The whole question is under consideration—and particularly with reference to Madhya Pradesh.

Death of Fireman due to Heat-Stroke

***1897. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 5th June, 1958 a fireman, Ramjhori Ram of Chitor Loco collapsed in the engine;

(b) if so, the cause of the collapse;

(c) whether there have been casualties amongst railwaymen on Eastern Railway on account of the extraordinary heat-wave in May and June, 1958;

(d) if so, their number and nature; and

(e) whether any compensation and if so, how much has been granted to the victims or their dependents?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, at Chitpur (and not at Chitor).

(b) Not known as the result of the post-mortem examination is still not available.

(c) Yes.

(d) 793 cases of heat exhaustion, out of which there were 6 deaths suspected to be due to the extraordinary heat-wave.

(e) The question of payment of compensation is under consideration.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I know if our Railways make any provision for relief especially to drivers and firemen regarding a shorter week or lesser hours of work during periods of heat-wave when accidents are not unlikely?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No provision for shortening the hours of work is made. In fact, during the extremely hot weather, lot of people fall sick

and those who are on duty sometimes have to work longer hours. This is a point which needs looking into and I will certainly look into it.

Shri Tangamani: The death occurred as early as June 5, 1958; and the hon. Deputy Minister says that the post-mortem report is not available. May I know when he will be able to get the report?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The post-mortem case was entrusted to the G.R.P. The Railway authorities have been making persistent efforts to get the post-mortem examination report.

Mr. Speaker: What is the G.R.P.?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Government Railway Police. This body was taken to D. R. Singh Hospital which is a railway hospital. We have been trying our best to get the report as early as possible. But, I am sorry it has been delayed; and we will make further efforts.

Mr. Speaker: The post-mortem must have been completed long ago. Does it take so long to get the post-mortem certificate?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We have been writing to the police to let us have the report. I am sorry it has not been forthcoming. We will make further efforts.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the attention of the Government was drawn to the statement made by the driver of the Kishenganj local train at Sealdah that was involved in a riot to the effect that 'this is the reward for my working 16 hours in a day in the unbearable heat of the engine'. If so, what steps were taken to give relief to the drivers and foremen who are made to work for 16 hours a day in the unbearable heat of the engine?

Mr. Speaker: The Deputy Minister says that he is looking into the matter; and so far nothing has been done and they are doing that now.

Shri Hem Barua: It is a statement made by a driver. May I know if it

is a fact that they have been made to work for 16 hours a day.

Mr. Speaker: In answer to a previous question, the hon. Deputy Minister has said that a number of people fall sick and the others are made to work longer hours than they are legitimately bound to do. Unfortunately, till now, no arrangement has been made to remove this inconvenience; and they are looking into this matter. The hon. Member is only giving another instance. The Minister is taking action.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: These are the only instances that were brought to the notice of the hon. Minister. But, there are other instances like this. I want to know what positive steps have been taken to provide saline tablets and other things that have been prescribed by the medical authorities for this particular period from 15th May to 20th June.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: During the excessively hot weather, salt tablets are prescribed for the drivers and other people who work on engines. These tablets are given.

Shri Tangamani: The hon. Deputy Minister stated that there have been 6 deaths. May I know whether any ad hoc payment has been made as was done by the Defence Ministry in other cases?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: So far no ad hoc payment has been made. But, I will try to expedite the payment as much as possible.

Land

*1098. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tripura Administration has introduced a system which demands indemnity and security bond from the claimants at the time of payment of awarded sum for the land acquired very recently;

(b) whether it is also a fact that all the claimants especially of moffusil

areas are experiencing difficulties on account of the introduction of this new system; and

(c) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this direction?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha at the earliest.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether Government is aware of the harassment that the rural people have to undergo because of such a new system—a new Act?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We have yet to get all the details from the Tripura Government and it takes time. Unless I get the full information I won't be able to give the correct reply.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether the introduction of such a new system or a new Act is within the competence of the Tripura Administration without the approval of the Indian Parliament or of the Home Ministry of the Government of India or the Advisory Committee for Tripura Affairs

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is putting a question of law and asking for opinion in a legal matter. He suggests that it is illegal and ultra vires.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I have yet to get all the details from the State Government. Until I get the full details, I won't be able to say anything in the matter.

Shri Dasaratha Deb: Sir, may I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that in Tripura the claimants have to take the compensation money from the Agartala treasury, whereas in their own respective towns there are government treasury officers, and that because of that difficulty, in many cases, the claimants have stopped taking their compensation money as the compensation money is smaller than the expenditure they have to incur in travelling and other things?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I take this information from the hon. Member and will write to the authorities.

Mr. Speaker: The Minister should take this into consideration and make arrangements that small amounts are paid at the nearest places. The Minister must take note of this and try to remedy it. We are not now a Police State. The Ministry and every subordinate officer must be constantly thinking of how best to increase the comforts and convenience of the public.

T.B. Clinics in Orissa

***1099. Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) how many tuberculosis clinics have been established with Central aid in Orissa during 1957-58;

(b) whether any proposals have been received from the State Government for establishing more tuberculosis clinics with Central aid during 1958-59; and

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

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) None.

(b) and (c). The proposal of the State Government for the establishment of four T.B. clinics one each at Baripada, Puri, Berhampur and Koraput during 1958-59 has been approved. X-Ray and laboratory equipment will be supplied to these clinics by the Central Government.

Shri Panigrahi: What is the total estimated expenditure of setting up these 4 clinics which have been proposed by the State Government; will the Central Government assist it in full?

Shri Karmarkar: As I said, it is for the State Government to make arrangements for putting up the clinic proper, namely, the building and the staff. For each such T.B. clinic, under the scheme, the Central Government provides equipment worth Rs. 50,000. That is the arrangement.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know the amount of assistance which was given to Orissa for fighting T.B. during the First Plan period and the amount advanced so far?

Shri Karmarkar: About that question, I should like to have notice.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Has any decision been taken that each T.B. clinic should be linked with a T.B. hospital so that apart from giving out-door care through the clinics, necessary cases can be admitted and certain areas thus made free from T.B.? Such an experiment was successfully tried in Delhi. Has any such arrangement been made in Orissa also?

Shri Karmarkar: In respect of those clinics to be set up, it is considered advisable that each clinic should be accompanied by some beds for the T.B. patients.

Shri V. P. Nayar: The hon. Minister says that the Central Government gives assistance for some clinics. I want to know whether any survey has been made of the incidence of T.B. in Orissa and what percentage of the population has been covered by mass radiography and tuberculin tests?

Shri Karmarkar: About the survey, I should like to have notice. I forget what the other part of the question is.....(Interruptions.)

Mr. Speaker: If such long questions are put, everybody forgets.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I asked about the incidence of T.B. in Orissa and the percentage of people covered by mass radiography and tuberculin tests.

Shri Karmarkar: I want notice for that.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the number of T.B. clinics likely to be established in the country during the Second Plan period?

Shri Karmarkar: I think about 300 clinics. Out of that for 1957-58 under this aid scheme, 60 clinics were chosen.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: What is the number of clinics in U.P.?

Mr. Speaker: Leave alone U.P.; when an hon. Member once becomes a Member of Parliament, the whole of India is his constituency.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The incidence is high.

Mr. Speaker: He may write these details to the hon. Minister.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: May I know if the Government of India has worked out any pattern of operation for all these clinics all over India towards the promotion of control of the disease?

Shri Karmarkar: So far as these T.B. Clinics are concerned, there is a pattern worked out and the idea is for the establishment of 200 new T.B. clinics and for upgrading about 100 existing clinics during the Second Plan and the Plan provides about Rs. 127.5 lakhs. We have asked various Governments to make suggestions and in accordance with the suggestions made we have agreed to distribute sixty sets of apparatus to sixty clinics in 1957-58.

Road Transport

***1100. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have evolved a National Policy for transport in order to develop the road transport; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The question of evolving a National Policy in regard to the development of different means of transport, including road transport, is under active consideration of the Government of India.

Shri Sanganna: May I know whether the foreign exchange position has any diminutive effect on the road programme in the country?

Shri Raj Bahadur: The foreign exchange problem has got some effect on the development or evolution of the transport policy in so far as we have to buy motor parts or parts of other vehicles from foreign countries.

Shri Sanganna: What is the position of the road programme in the re-phased plan of the Second Plan? I want to know the position of the road programme in the Second Plan as it is re-phased now.

Shri Raj Bahadur: The question pertains to the evolution, formulation and declaration of a national transport policy. In regard to the question about allocations in the Second Plan, I think the allocations are to the tune of Rs. 286 crores; I am speaking from memory and subject to correction.

Misbehaviour of Railway Police

***1103. Shri Halder:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Police Officer of Sealdah Railway Police who was travelling with a third class ticket in a first class compartment of Up-Lakshmi Kantapur local between Ballyganj and Sealdah was caught by two Travelling Ticket Inspectors of Sealdah Division on the morning of the 2nd July, 1958;

(b) whether the said Police Officer escaped from the Station Master's room with the help of other policemen;

(c) whether the same Police Officer arrested those ticket checkers in the evening and locked them up, until the Divisional Commercial Superintendent of Railway arranged bail for them; and

(d) if so, what steps have been taken against the Police Officer?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). Yes, there was an incident of this nature on the 2nd July 1958. The Police Officer, however, left the Station Master's office after paying the excess charges due. Also the Travelling Ticket Examiners were arrested by another Police Officer.

(d) The case is under investigation by the Superintendent of Government Railway Police, Sealdah.

Shri Halder: May I know if any other police officer has been fined or punished for travelling in a higher class with a third class ticket or for travelling in the train without ticket or misbehaviour during this period?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I could not hear him properly.

Mr. Speaker: I am trying to find out whether this general question arises out of this specific question. He asks if he has come across police officers travelling without tickets or travelling in a higher class with third class tickets.

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: Sometimes some cases do come to our notice and in this particular case, the police officer was travelling in a higher class with a lower class ticket.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I want to ask a question relating to this. After the police officer paid the excess amount, the railway officials were called into the thana by the higher police officer and were remanded to custody. Is it a fact and if so, is it because the police officer was made to pay the excess amount?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We have so far been able to get the version from the railway sources only. I stated the railway version of it. The matter is under police investigation. What actually happened is this. The travelling examiners found a police officer holding a third class pass travelling in the first class compartment. They charged him excess fare and he tried to run away and then when he was being taken to the station master's office, he tried to assault the ticket examiners. Then the public luckily came this time to the rescue of the Railway people and he was charged excess fare. In the evening, when these ticket examiners were going off duty, they were arrested by the police and taken to the thana. Then the Divisional Superintendent and the Chief

Commercial Superintendent contacted the Deputy Inspector-General of Police to release these people on bail. The whole question is now being investigated by the Superintendent of Police and we are awaiting his report.

Shri Ranga: How is it that this case has not been placed before any Magistrate and it is still being investigated? He says it is already two months.

Mr. Speaker: Has the police officer been charge-sheeted?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: The matter is being investigated by the Superintendent of Police.

Mr. Speaker: Which railway official will work under these conditions? I do not want to intercede in these matters but this is not the first time. On a prior occasion, we came to know that when somebody was travelling in a compartment, a police officer got into the compartment and when he was asked to get out, he began to beat and he went on like this. With respect to these matters, there is no safety for those officers who are working in the railways or in the stations. None of them will do anything if things are allowed to happen like this. The other day a question was put; there was some looting on some way-side station and the hon. Minister, when asked, said that it was a matter of law and order. It is not a matter of law and order so far as the railway line is concerned. The station master's safety is first the consideration of the Centre. Here it is our property. I am really surprised that no protection is given to these people. For three months the matter is left in the hands of the local police. The hon. Ministers should have no hesitation in appointing officers while such matters have not been taken notice by others. This case is not the first or the second. There has been the first, second, third and so on. I will allow any amount of discussion so far as this matter is concerned. It concerns the security of the passengers, of the other persons, of the station masters and so on. There is no safety.

It ought not to be considered that I am giving a general lecture on this matter but again and again these matters come to our notice because it is a Central subject and we are extremely concerned over this matter... (Interruptions.)

Shri Jadhav: I want some very important information.

Mr. Speaker: I have given sufficient information. Next question.

Postal Circle, Mysore

***1104. Shri Joachim Alva:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 212 on the 17th February, 1958; and state:

(a) whether the question of the formation of a new postal and telegraphic administrative circle for the Mysore State has since been considered; and

(b) if so, the decision taken thereon?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) and (b). The matter is now under examination.

Shri Joachim Alva: Has not the P. & T. Department got separate circles for separate States after the States were reorganised?

Shri S. K. Patil: No; it has not yet been done.

Shri Joachim Alva: Is the hon. Minister aware of the great inconvenience caused by making a reference to the Madras Circle with regard to the part of the State and to the Bombay Circle with regard to another part of the State?

Shri S. K. Patil: The whole case, Sir, is one of rationalisation, and we have been thinking as to what should ultimately be done; whether we should follow the "one State one circle" policy or make other zonal system arrangement whichever is convenient. All that matter is under consideration.

Shri Basappa: May I know whether the Government of Mysore has said

anything in this matter, and whether they have recommended the formation of the circle?

Shri S. K. Patil: The Government of Mysore are very keen that they should have a circle for themselves, and they are justified in their keenness. We are considering it in a very helpful and considerate manner.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know whether postal circles would be formed on a linguistic basis?

Shri S. K. Patil: I do not think postal circles would be formed on a linguistic basis.

Shri Achar: May I know when we can expect a decision on this?

Shri S. K. Patil: I had a meeting with the Chief Minister only this morning. I put our difficulties before him, whether in the matter of accommodation and other requirements which are necessary he would help us. He has promised that. That solves a very great obstacle in our way, and we expect a decision pretty quickly.

ओ भक्त ददांन : जहां तक मुझे याद है, दो वर्ष पहले माननीय श्री जगजीवन राम जी ने यह आवामन दिया था कि राज्यों के पुनर्गठन के बाद इन मंडलों के बारे में फिर मेरे विचार किया जाएगा। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस मामले में इन्हीं दोरी क्यों हो रही हैं तथा श्रीप्रधान प्रबंक निषंय क्यों नहीं किया जा रहा है?

ओ स० का० पाटिल : यह कोई सीधा साधा सवाल नहीं है। प्रलय में एक सकिन बनाने के लिए बहुत कुछ करना पड़ता है। ऐसी बात नहीं है कि एक लिविस्टिक स्टेट बनी, इसलिए सकिन बनना चाहिए। हम देख रहे हैं उस ट्रैटिंग में तथा दूसरी रेति से भी कि जोनल सिस्टम या कोई और दूसरा सिस्टम अच्छा होगा। कूँकि मंसूर प्राविस बड़ा है, इसलिए कुछ न कुछ उसके लिए करना चाहिए वह दूसरी बात है।

Export of Cattle to South Vietnam

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*1105. *ʃ Shri Raghunath Singh:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:*

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has entered into a deal with South Vietnam for the export of Cattle; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the kind of cattle to be exported?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The Government of India have, on request, agreed to allow the export of 2,000 buffaloes to South Vietnam for agricultural purposes. The terms and conditions about the procurement and transport of the animals have been communicated to the Vietnam Government. The deal will be finalized when they have accepted the terms.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 1.]

श्री रघुनाथ सिंह : इस स्टेटमेंट से यह जाहिर होता है कि शिपिंग आपके द्वारा होगा। मैं जानता चाहता हूँ कि जो एक्सपोर्ट होगा वह इंडियन शिप्स के द्वारा होगा या फारेन शिप्स के द्वारा ? क्या इसके बारे में डील में कोई प्राविजन किया गया है ?

श्री मो० ब० कृष्णपा : ट्रांस्पोर्ट के लिए कोई शिप वाला आगे नहीं आता था। इस वास्ते एक अफसर को कलकत्ता भेजा गया था और उसके बहुत प्रार्थना करने पर एक शिपिंग कम्पनी के एग्री किया है कि थोड़ी थोड़ी इंस्टालमेंट में वह इनको ले जाएगी।

Shri Hem Barua: In view of the fact that the export of our cattle to U.S.A. many years back has created a new generation of bulls there called the "brahman bulls", may I know if Government has any similar inten-

tion of creating a generation in exporting these 2000 buffaloes to South Vietnam?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We are prepared to give them he-buffaloes also; we have enough of them.

Shri Jadhav: rose—

Mr. Speaker: We will go to the next question.

Shri Jadhav: Sir, I am finding it difficult to catch your eye.

Mr. Speaker: Does he want to put some more questions regarding bulls?

Shri Jadhav: My question is ~~about~~ something else. May I know whether it is a fact that there is a dearth of milch cattle in India; if so, may I know why these buffaloes are exported?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: There are some neighbouring countries like Burma, Ceylon, Vietnam, Indonesia etc. who entirely depend for some things on us, and even though we are short of those things we have to accommodate the people there. We have to send them these things, and in this case the Government of India has liberalised the policy in the matter of export of cattle to earn foreign exchange.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know how many of these 2000 buffaloes are he-buffaloes?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: One he-buffalo will be required to serve 70 she-buffaloes.

Price of Vegetable Oils

*1106. **Shri Mahanty:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether the retail prices of vegetable oils have gone up in the markets following the new export policy of these commodities; and

(b) if so, how Government propose to meet the situation?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) The Government is keeping a watch on the movement of prices of vegetable oils in the country and suitable steps will be taken from time to time to ensure that their prices rule at reasonable levels. The present time is the lean season for kharif oilseeds and with the coming into the market of the new crop within the next two months, prices may be expected to show a downward tendency.

Shri Mahanty: May we know what is the percentage and quantum of increase, and the reasons therefor?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The export on these commodities were allowed in January this year. In December last year the price of groundnut oil was Rs. 55 per maund, and today it is Rs. 59. There is an increase of Rs. 4 for Rs. 50, and that comes to about 8 per cent.

Shri Mahanty: In view of the fact that these exports are going to be promoted and unless the consumers' interests are guarded it will be at the cost of the consumers, may we know what specific steps Government are pursuing in this matter?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: One of the important foreign exchange earners in the country is oil cake and oilseeds. We earn a considerable amount of foreign exchange by exporting oil and oil cakes, but while exporting them we have taken into consideration the interest of the consumers also. In spite of this rise in prices, it is less than the price at this time last year. In July last year the price was Rs. 58 and today it is Rs. 56; that is, in spite of exports the price has not gone above last year's price.

Shri Mahanty: Sir, the hon. Deputy Minister gave two figures. If I heard him correctly, first he said Rs. 59, and now he says Rs. 56.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I am giving the different prices for the different months. The first figure I quoted re-

lates to the month of August, and the second figure relates to the month of July.

Shri Tyagi: May I know whether we are exporting vegetable oils at a loss or at a profit?

Mr. Speaker: Are we selling it at a price less than the current price here?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: No, Sir; we earn a profit.

Shri Ranga: Will the Government give an assurance that just as the next crop would be coming into the market they would not put a ban on the export, and thus bring down the prices again and make the producers lose?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is an answer to the question of Shri Mahanty who does not want these things to be exported. The producers in the country want that these exports should be allowed so that the prices are reasonable and at an economic level.

Shri Ranga: He has put it in another way.....

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Minister is not able to give an assurance straightforwardly. Hon. Members ought not to insist on that.

Shri Ranga: They have done it earlier, Sir; wrongly they prevented the export at the time the crop came into the market and afterwards allowed it to go out, with the result that only the traders and millers were benefited, the consumers lost and the producers did not get anything at all.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: As you said, Sir, on this question of import and export I cannot forecast anything.

Mr. Speaker: All the same, the hon. Minister will take into consideration the suggestion of Shri Ranga that profit ought not to go to middlemen, but more profit should go to the growers; of course, without prejudice to the consumers.

Monetary Limits for Delivery of Money Orders in Villages

*1107. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the village postmen and extra departmental delivery staff are allowed to distribute money orders up to a monetary limit of Rs. 40 only;

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the fact that especially the female payees are put to great inconvenience by this monetary limit system; and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to eliminate such inconvenience in rural areas?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes. The limit is in respect of each money order.

(b) Some complaints have been received.

(c) The matter is receiving attention.

Shri B. C. Mullick: May I know the reasons for not increasing the monetary limit from Rs. 40 to a considerably bigger amount?

Shri S. K. Patil: The limit has possibly to be raised. There are difficulties and we are considering them. In all probability, it will be raised to the maximum.

Shri B. C. Mullick: May I know up to what aggregate amount a village postman or a delivery agent can carry money to a village?

Shri S. K. Patil: The idea is that ultimately the limit would be raised to Rs. 600. Because the village postman sometimes does not return for a whole week, therefore he is not accountable until he returns. He has to move from village to village. He has no securities. There are other factors also to be considered; that is why the matter is a complicated one.

Shri B. C. Mullick: What is the security money given by postmen categorywise?

Shri S. K. Patil: The security that he gives, if I am not mistaken, is about Rs. 300.

'Visit India Year'

*1108. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for observing 1961 as the 'Visit India Year'; and

(b) if so, what facilities Government propose to provide to make it a success?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). The proposal is still in its very preliminary stage. A final decision in the matter will be taken shortly in consultation with the various Departments of the Government of India and other agencies concerned.

Shri Hem Raj: May I know by what time a final decision on the proposal will be taken?

Shri Raj Bahadur: I think very soon.

श्री भक्त राजः मेरे जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस काम के लिये सन् १९६१ का ही वर्ष क्यों छांटा गया? क्या ज्योतिषियों में कोई मुहर्ने निकलवाया गया है?

श्री राज बहादुरः इसके कई कारण हैं। प्रमुख कारण यह है कि उस समय तक जो नये प्रकार के जेट हवाई जहाज हैं वह चालू हो जायेंगे। और उनके हारा काफी संख्या में बाहर से पर्यटक लोग आ सकेंगे। एक कारण यह भी है कि इस समय तक हम अपने होटलों की व्यवस्था और दूसरे प्रदर्शनों को कर सकेंगे।

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS**

Railway Booking Clerks

*1101. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the duty hours of Railway Booking Clerks at some of the stations on Western Railway are divided in two shifts of four hours each;

(b) if so, whether Government are aware of the hardship caused to the employees on account of the break in their duty hours; and

(c) if so, whether it is proposed to have their duty hours fixed only in one shift?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) There is no hardship.

(c) No.

International Air Transport Association

*1102. **Sardar Iqbal Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Airlines Corporation has been admitted as an active member of the International Air Transport Association; and

(b) the main functions and obligations arising out of the membership of this organisation?

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

(b) The obligations of the membership of the International Air Transport Association are that the Indian Airlines Corporation will have to observe the rules, regulations, practices and the procedures of the World Organization in respect of their international operations. The settlement of accounts of the Indian Airlines Corporation will be effected through

the International Air Transport Association Clearing House, London, thereby replacing the present system of settling accounts individually with a large number of airline operators. The I.A.C. have also to pay the cost of membership of the Association.

Cattle Disease in Manipur

*1109. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether rinder pest has attacked cattle in Manipur in an epidemic form; and

(b) if so, what is the number of cattle affected and the number which have died of this disease?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fire in Mines in Asansol Area

*1110. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
 { **Shri Bose:**
 { **Shrimati Krishna Mehta:**

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that extensive and uncontrolled fire in the abandoned mines near Joti-mutuk siding in Asansol area has endangered the above siding, which provides the only out-let of the production of 12 Collieries and Aluminium Corporation;

(b) whether it is also a fact that a diversion has been suggested, the cost of which the siding owners have agreed to pay; and

(c) if so, why there is delay in making the diversion, when closure of the present siding will spell unemployment to about 25000 persons and retard substantially the output of coal?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) An underground fire in an abandoned mine-working first noticed by the

Railways in 1952 has now approached within 400 ft. of the Assisted Siding. The operation of pilots has been confined to day time, but the siding has not yet been declared unsafe. Both during day and night, watchmen have been posted to watch the siding for any subsidence. The siding is the backbone line of sub-sidings which serve five working collieries and an Aluminium factory. Six other working collieries enjoy loading facilities on the backbone line.

(b) Yes, Sir; but only three of the six colliery owners having sidings have agreed to pay their share. The six other collieries have no claim on the loading facility at present available to them nor are they obliged to share in the cost of the diversion.

(c) The work of the diversion will be taken in hand on deposit of the total proportionate costs agreed to by the three owners.

सफदरजंग के निकट सड़क को बीड़ा करना

*१११. श्री भात दर्शन: क्या परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री ३० अप्रैल, १९५८ के तारांकित प्रदम मंस्त्रा १६३५ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) सफदरजंग के निकट सड़क को बीड़ा करने और सफदरजंग हवाई अड्डे के पीछे में विनाय नगर, नई दिल्ली को मुख्य नगर से मिलाने के लिये एक लिंक रोड बनाने के मध्यम में इस बीच क्या प्रयत्न दृढ़ हैं; और

(ल) उपरोक्त दोनों काम कब तक पूरे हो जायेंगे?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य बंदों (जो राज अहमूद): (क) और (ल) सफदरजंग रेल कार्यालय के पास भीजदा सड़क को बीड़ा करने से आवागमन (ट्रैफिक) में भारी भीड़ की समस्या पूरी तरह हस्त नहीं हो सकेगी क्योंकि इस हालत में भी हवाई जहाजों और रेमगाड़ियों के आने जाने से

बहां पर आवागमन बराबर लकड़ा रहेगा। इसलिये नजफगतों बकाबर के बराबर पूरब की तरफ से एक दूसरी सीधी सड़क बनाने के मुद्दाव पर विचार किया जा रहा है। फलतः नाइटों अद्यति सिर्फ नए रेल कार्यालय पर रेस-गाड़ी के आने जाने के बजाए ही सर्वेती।

२. सफदरजंग हवाई अड्डे के पीछे (परिवहन की तरफ से) सड़क को जोड़ देने का इरादा नहीं है क्योंकि इससे सारे आवागमन को एक लम्बा चक्कर पढ़ जावेगा। किन्तु विनाय नगर के आस पास रहने वाले साइकिल बालों के लिये सरकारी सचिवालय तक कीषे पहुँचने के लिये सफदरजंग के हवाई अड्डे के पीछे से रास्ता बनाने का मुद्दाव है।

३. उपर्युक्त काम लंबे का फैसला और तकमीना तथा लाका भंजूर हो जाने पर ही शुरू किये जायेंगे। आशा है कि काम लगभग डेट म.ल के प्रन्दर ही पूरे हो जायेंगे।

Private Practice by Doctors in Government Hospitals

*११२. श्री Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to stop private practice by the doctors in the Hospitals under the administrative control of the Ministry of Health; and

(b) if so, whether any non-practising allowance is likely to be granted?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Medical officers employed in the hospitals and dispensaries under this Ministry are already prohibited from having private practice. They are granted a non-practising allowance in lieu of private practice.

Irrigation Tax for D.V.C. Waters

*११३. श्री Warier:

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:

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

(a) whether the Government of India have directed the West Bengal

State Government to take steps to levy irrigation tax for the use of the Damodar Valley Corporation water;

(b) if so, what is the rate suggested and what are the details of the suggestions made by the Government of India; and

(c) whether the West Bengal Government had taken the approval of the Central Government to the rates proposed under the West Bengal Irrigation (Imposition of Water Rate for the Damodar Valley Corporation Water) Bill?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The Government of India stressed on the West Bengal State Government the urgent necessity for the levy of compulsory water rates in the areas commanded by the DVC Canal System in West Bengal.

(b) No specific rates were however suggested by the Government of India.

(c) No, Sir. It is not incumbent on the State Government of West Bengal to take prior approval of the Central Government in this regard.

Machinery for Irrigation and Power Projects

*1114. { Shri Ram Shankar Lal:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Jhulan Sinha:

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

(a) the cost of wear and tear of the earth machinery engaged in the construction of irrigation and power projects imported during the First Plan period; and

(b) its original purchasing price?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) It is presumed that by "wear and tear" the Hon'ble Members mean 'depreciation'. Earth moving machinery purchased during the First Five Year Plan are all scattered in different parts of the country and it will not

be possible to collect the information within a reasonable period of time from the State Governments/Project authorities.

(b) The original price of earth moving machinery imported during the First Five Year Plan period for River Valley Projects is about Rs. 18.36 crores.

National Highway No. 37

*1115. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that about two furlongs of the National Highway near Palasbari have been completely effaced due to erosion by the river Brahmaputra;

(b) whether the National Highway is also being damaged at Khowang due to eroding by river Dehing; and

(c) if so, what measures are in hand to protect it?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, about 2750 feet of the National Highway Route No. 37 near Palasbari has been eroded by the river Brahmaputra.

(b) Yes, the erosion by river Dehing has reached upto the edge of the Assam Trunk Road (about 400 ft. length in 258th mile of National Highway Route No. 37).

(c) At Palasbari a diversion road has already been constructed. At Khowang also a diversion road has been provided and seventeen semi-permanent groynes have been constructed for protection of the road. All other possible measures to arrest erosion are being taken.

Port at Thangassery

*1116. Shri Kadiyan: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 464 on the 20th November, 1957 and state the decision since taken on the proposal from Kerala State Government for

establishing a lighterage port at Thangassery (Quilon)?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 2.]

Air India International's Inaugural Flight to Moscow

*1117. **Shri Ramakrishna Reddy:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of the travel of persons who have flown to Moscow on the 14th August, 1958 by Air India International on the inaugural flight will be borne by the Union Government only or by Russian Government also;

(b) probable cost of the travel to and fro and their stay at Moscow; and

(c) who will bear the additional expenditure of such a person who extends his stay in Moscow to study Soviet economy?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) The cost was met by Air-India International.

(b) It is difficult to work out the cost of the flight to Moscow and back but the cost of a first class return ticket to Moscow is Rs. 3343. The cost of stay in Moscow for about eight days was about Rs. 800 per head.

(c) This will be the responsibility of the person extending his stay. However, the return ticket given by the Air-India International will be valid for a period of one year.

Kundah Hydro-Electric Project

*1118. **Shri Nanjappa:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) whether third stage of Kundah Hydro-Electric Project relating to the installation of third Power house will be taken up soon after the completion of the second;

(b) if so, will it be carried out under Canadian aid; and

(c) what is the estimated cost and the power to be produced?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 3.]

Electricity Consumption in Delhi

*1119. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) what is the response to Ministry's request to curtail the consumption of electricity in Delhi; and

(b) what is the position of electric supply at present?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The response to the appeal for economy in the use of electricity in Delhi made on the 4th June, 1958, was not very encouraging. As the Delhi Electric Supply Undertaking was able to meet the entire demand by pressing into service some of its standby plant, it did not become necessary to take any drastic measures, e.g., load shedding or disconnection of load for reducing the strain on its system.

(b) Against the firm generating capacity of the Undertaking of 70,000 K.W., the maximum demand on the system in the evening is 70,000/71,000 K.W. The demand during day-time is about 62,000 K.W.

Attack on T.T.E. at Siswa Bazar

*1126. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Guards of the Gorakhpur bound up Passenger train, the T.T.E. and the Station Staff at Siswa Bazar were attacked by passengers on the 15th August, 1958;

(b) the details of the incident; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

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

(b) Two students travelling by train No. 227 Up on 15-8-58 were detained at Khadda railway station by the local police for mischief with the vendors at that station. When the train left Khadda station, other students in the train pulled the alarm chain but the train did not stop being non-vacuumed. On arrival of the train at Siswa a mob of the students pressed the guard, the driver and the station staff to take the train back to Khadda station in order to pick up their companions. This was not done when they started throwing stones on the train and assaulted the engine crew and the station staff present on duty causing them slight injuries. The Station Master summoned the local police for assistance and the crowd dispersed on their arrival.

(c) A case has been registered by the Kotibhar Police under sections 147/323/336 IPC and 121 Indian Railway Act and it is under investigation by Government Railway Police Gorakhpur.

Electric Multiple Unit

***1121. Shri Subbiah Ambalam:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1471 on the 5th April, 1958 and state:

(a) whether any supply of electric multiple units (EMU) has been made by the Jessops Company, Calcutta; and

(b) if, so, how many units have so far been delivered?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) The question does not arise.

Madras Port Trust Employees

***1122. Shri Anthony Pillai:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Madras Port Trust Board requested the sanction of Gov-

ernment to grant its employees the travel concessions enjoyed by the Central Government servants;

(b) if so, when was that application made; and

(c) when Government accorded the sanction?

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

(b) 28th November 1957.

(c) 1st July, 1958.

हिमाचल प्रदेश में कूल्हे

११२३. श्री पद्म देव : क्या साथ तथा कूषि मंत्री ६ अप्रैल, १९५८ के तारांकित प्रश्न संस्था १५५८ के उत्तर के मन्त्रालय में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या इस बीच हिमाचल प्रदेश की विवादप्रस्त कूल्हों की मरम्मत कर दी गई है ; और

(ख) क्या इन कूल्हों को बनाने से पहले गांव वालों की राय ले सी गई थी ?

साथ तथा कूषि मंत्री (अंग्रेजी में) : (क) नीन विवादप्रस्त कूल्हे (Kuhls) प्रथमांत करासा, गंडानावर और रनोल कूल्हों में से, रनोल कूल्ह की मरम्मत किये जाने की रिपोर्ट मिली है।

(ख) हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रश्न सन ने रिपोर्ट की है कि पिछले वर्ष प्राग से रिकाउं नष्ट हो जाने के कारण, यह मालूम करना संभव नहीं है कि गांव वालों की राय ली गई थी या नहीं। प्रशासन ने फिर भी, दूसरे अरियों से मालूम किया है कि जिनता की मिनिस्ट्री के समय में, कुछ गांव वालों ने इन कूल्हों के बनाने के लिये प्रार्थना की थी, यद्यपि उसी क्षेत्र के दूसरे लोगों ने इस का विरोध किया था।

New Railway Constructions

*1124. **Shri Shree Narayan Das:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway Administration has drawn up any programme of construction of new buildings, workshops, station yards, quarters for staff etc. and other measures of amenities to be provided at stations on both sides of Ganga consequent on and necessitated by the completion of Mokameh rail-cum-road bridge thereon; and

(b) if so, the nature and important features of such a programme drawn up by both the Eastern Railway and North-Eastern Railway authorities?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) and (b). Yes, such works are being undertaken mostly on the North Bank of Ganga, or are under consideration, as stated in reply to Starred Question No. 971, on 5-9-58. On the South Bank slight alterations to some yards are being carried out and some staff quarters are being built.

A statement giving details of works already in progress is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V. annexure No. 4.]

Development of Gauhati Airport

*1125. **Shri Liladhar Kotoki:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken so far to develop the Gauhati (Borjor) Airport so as to accommodate larger aircrafts like Sky-Masters, Viscounts etc.;

(b) when the work is expected to be completed; and

(c) whether any similar schemes are contemplated for Dibrugarh, Silchar, Imphal and Agartala airports?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) An estimate amounting to Rs. 12,56,876 has

been sanctioned for the extension of runway at Gauhati Airport in order to make it fit for operation by large aircraft like Sky-Masters and Viscounts.

(b) Tenders for the work are being invited and it will take about a year to complete the work from the date of acceptance of the tender.

(c) There are no such schemes under consideration at present.

Water Supply in Delhi

*1126.

Shri B. C. Kambli:	Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:	Shri Naval Prabhakar:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the action taken by Government to inform public about the timings of availability of drinking water and the precautions to be taken in using it during the recent scarcity of drinking water in Delhi.

(b) whether it is a fact that during these days of scarcity, filtered water continued to be used for watering lawns and gardens in Civil Lines and Old Delhi;

(c) the extent of purity of the water supplied;

(d) the percentage of excess of chlorine in water supplied every day from 14th August, onwards; and

(e) the effects of water containing excessive chlorine on the health of human beings?

The Minister of Health (Shri D. P. Karmarkar): (a) Information regarding the restrictions on water supply and necessity for boiling water was regularly given through radio, press and loud speaker vans.

(b) The Corporation reports that no specific instance has come to their notice.

(c) According to chemical and bacteriological analysis, the water supplied was pure.

(d) and (e). Normally, the percentage of residual chlorine content in the filtered water supply of Delhi is 0.8 to 0.5 parts per million. For a few days from August 19, 1958 it was 1.5 parts per million. It has again been reduced now to 0.8 parts per million. According to public health experts, such dosage of chlorine do not have any adverse effect on the human system.

Looting of Fair Price Shops

*1127. { Shri Daljit Singh:
Shri Mahanty:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that the fair price shops of foodgrains have been looted in some parts of the country;

(b) if so, the causes of this disturbance; and

(c) whether Government would consider to increase quota of foodgrains in those areas?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Second Railway Bridge on Yamuna

*1128. { Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1146 on the 11th March, 1958 and state:

(a) at what stage is the scheme of construction of second bridge on Yamuna near Tughlakabad;

(b) whether final survey has been held;

(c) if so, its location;

(d) details of other work done so-far; and

(e) the estimated cost of the bridge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (e). The field work of the Final Location Survey of Ghaziabad-Tughlakabad Rail Link via Second Yamuna Bridge has been completed and the Northern Railway Administration are just finalising the report and estimate. It is, therefore, too early to say anything about the location of the bridge, details of other works and the estimated cost of the bridge.

रेलवे के सामान को चोरी

११२६. श्री विभूति विश्व वया रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृता करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मरकार को यह विदित है कि उन्हीं जिहार के कुछ जिन्होंने में एक मंगठित गिरोह कुछ रेलवे अधिकारियों के महायांग में रेलवे का सामान चुगाता है, और

(ख) यदि हाँ तो सरकार ने इस मम्बध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की है?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री जाहनवाजवां):

(क) जी हाँ। पता नहा है कि समस्तीपुर डिस्ट्रिक्ट में अपराधियों का एक मंगठित गिरोह कुछ रेलवे कर्मचारियों में मिलकर चांगी करता है।

(ख) नरकटियांज रेलवे पुलिस ने एक मामला दर्ज किया है और उम्मी जाच हो रही है। तलाशी जैसे पर चोटी का कुछ माल बरामद हुआ है और कुछ लोग गिरफतार किये गये हैं जिनमें १० रेलवे कर्मचारी भी हैं।

Looting of Goods Train near Gaya

*1129. { Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Damar:
Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether a goods train was looted near Gaya on the 16th June, 1958;

- (b) if so, the details of this incident;
- (c) the total loss suffered; and
- (d) the steps taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways
(**Shri Shah Nawaz Khan**): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The goods train stopped near the Signal of Gaya station at about 12.15 hours on 16-6-58 as the signal was in the "ON" position.

Though the signal was lowered in 3 minutes time the driver could not start the train immediately due to fall of vacuum. In the meantime a number of persons, some armed with weapons and implements, accompanied by women and minor children, rushed from the nearby villages and victimised 3 wagons of the train and removed a quantity of rice weighing about 11 maunds, through the Flap doors and panel cuts.

The driver sent the fireman to run to the Cabin and on receipt of information from him the Govt. Railway Police and Railway Protection Force Staff rushed to the spot and the miscreants fled at their sight.

(d) The Govt. Railway Police have registered a case under Section 128 of the Indian Railways Act and Section 379 I.P.C. and investigation is proceeding. The Assistant Security Officer, Dinapore, in collaboration with the District Superintendent of Police, Gaya, is taking all possible measures to stop the activities of criminals in Gaya yard and its vicinity.

Barasat-Basirhat-Hasnabad Railway Line

*1131. **Shri Halder**: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the time by which the Barasat-Basirhat-Hasnabad broad gauge railway will be constructed and thrown open to traffic?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy**): It is too early to say. Construction work will be taken in hand as soon as the possession of land including homestead area is handed over to the Railway by the West Bengal Government.

Retrenchment of Hirakud Project Workers

*1132. { **Shri Panigrahi**:
Shri Kumaran:

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

(a) whether a decision has been taken to effect large scale retrenchment of lower categories of employees in the Hirakud Project;

(b) whether such notices have already been served upon the employees;

(c) whether Government have any scheme to provide alternative employment for them; and

(d) whether it has been decided to stop payment of construction allowances to the employees of the Hirakud Project?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (**Shri Hathi**): (a) On account of completion of certain works on the Project, retrenchment of workers and other staff had to be effected.

(b) Yes, notices have been served on those who have been rendered surplus.

(c) Yes. Every effort is being made to get the surplus persons of the Project deployed on other Projects or other organisations.

(d) Construction allowance to the Hirakud staff was sanctioned till 31st August, 1958. The question of its continuance beyond August, 1958, is under consideration at present.

Lepers in Delhi

*1133. { **Shri B. C. Mullick**:
Shri Pramathanath Baserjee:

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that several leprosy patients are found begging in New Delhi especially in Connaught Circus; and

(b) if so, whether any steps are being taken to remove them and keep them in Leprosy Homes?

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

(b) They are daily being rounded up and are sent to the Leprosy Home at Shahdara. But at present the Home is full to its capacity and cannot accommodate any more lepers. These leprosy beggars are, therefore, being left out-side Delhi at a distance of 20 to 30 miles.

Water Supply in Delhi

Shri B. C. Kamble:
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Naval Prabhakar:

*1134.

Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Najafgarh Nullah seeped recently into the Wazirabad Pumping Station and contaminated the drinking water supply to Delhi;

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

(c) the average annual cost of digging the "Kucha" channel and the contractors to whom this work was entrusted since independence; and

(d) the specific difficulties in constructing a "Pucca" channel?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). A report sent by the Commissioner to the Delhi Municipal Corporation containing in detail the information called for is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [Placed in the Library. See Index No. LT 908/58.]

(c) Till the year 1954 the average annual cost of digging the "Kucha" channels was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 20,000 but since 1955 it has gone up-to Rs. 4 to 5 lakhs per annum as the main current of the river has been flowing on the left bank since that

year while the intake wells and pumping station are on the right bank. The work has all along been done through departmental labour.

(d) The construction of a pucca channel is technically not a possibility in the bed of an alluvial shifting river.

Leprosy Control

*1135. **Shri Ram Krishan**: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a proposal for the enactment of a Central legislation for the control of leprosy; and

(b) if so, the action taken by Government so far in this matter?

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

(b) A statement giving the requisite information is laid on the table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 5.]

Minor Irrigation Projects

*1136. **Sardar Iqbal Singh**: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1554 on the 9th April, 1958, and state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the Expert Committee set up regarding the working of the Minor Irrigation Projects; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes. The recommendations have been forwarded to all the State Governments for their guidance and implementation of such recommendations as can be adopted by them.

(b) Necessary steps are being taken by the State Governments to implement those recommendations as far as possible.

Raxaul Aerodrome

***1137. Shri Bishuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) total expenditure incurred on construction of Raxaul aerodrome till the 31st July, 1958; and

(b) whether the construction will be completed this year?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Rs. 4.76 lakhs approximately.

(b) No, the work is expected to be completed by the end of March, 1959.

Posts and Telegraph Facilities at Palam

***631. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) what are the postal and telegraph facilities available at Palam Airport;

(b) whether air lines have represented for improving these facilities;

(c) what is the nature of the demand; and

(d) government's reaction to these?

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

(a) A no-delivery post and telegraph office with working hours from 10.00 to 17.00 hours exists at Palam Airport.

(b) and (c). Yes; the Director-General, Civil Aviation has desired to have a twenty-four hours post and telegraph office there.

(d) It is proposed to provide the desired facilities as soon as suitable accommodation for the office in the main terminal building and residential accommodation or transport facilities for the staff attending office at odd hours are made available by the Civil Aviation Department with whom the matter is already under correspondence.

Supply of Water from Bhakra Nangal Project

***674. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) how the winter irrigation supplies from Bhakra are to be distributed between Rajasthan and Punjab this year; and

(b) whether arrangements have been made that full supplies are utilized?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The stored water supplies from the Bhakra reservoir will be distributed between Rajasthan and Punjab during this winter in the ratio of 15.22 : 84.78.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Derailment of Bhopal-Ujjain-Nagda Passenger No. 88

1756. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Bhopal-Ujjain Nagda passenger No. 88 met with accident on the 1st August, 1958 and the engine derailed near Ujjain Station; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons of accident?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) On 1st August, 1958 at about 11.35 hours when 88 Up Passenger train ex. Bhopal to Nagda was approaching Ujjain Station, 3 pairs of tender wheels of its engine derailed.

(b) The accident was caused by the breakage of the near spring hanger of the right side intermediate tender bearing spring to an internal flaw.

Central Health Service

1757. Shri Sadhu Ram: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of vacancies of doctors reserved for

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at the initial constitution of the Central Health Service;

(b) what is the number of such doctors who are going to be confirmed at the initial constitution;

(c) whether their number is upto the vacancies reserved for them; and

(d) if not, the steps Government propose to take to make good the short-fall?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) No vacancies have been reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes at the initial constitution of the Central Health Service as the Service consists of medical personnel already recruited.

(b) The information is being collected.

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

Bridges Damaged by Rain

1758. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of bridges on National Highways, damaged in each State due to heavy rains during July, 1958;

(b) how many of them were constructed recently; and

(c) the amount spent for repairing each of them?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) to (c). A statement showing the requisite information in respect of bridges on National Highways damaged by rains in Assam, Rajasthan, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Madras, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 6.] Information in respect of the remaining States and Administration is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Pumping Sets in Rajasthan

1759. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have given any assistance for setting up the pumping sets in Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the total amount given to the Rajasthan Government in this respect during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far; and

(c) to what extent the Rajasthan Government have utilised this amount?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A sum of Rs. 2,34,000 was given to Rajasthan Government in 1957-58 and a sum of Rs. 3,00,000 has been allotted for the year 1958-59

(c) So far as 1957-58 is concerned, complete information is not available. According to information received so far from April to December, 1957, the Government of Rajasthan had utilised a sum of Rs. 43,100.

The information in regard to utilisation of the amount in 1958-59 is not likely to be available before the end of the financial year.

Quarters for P. & T. Employees in Rajasthan Circle

1760. Shri Onkar Lal: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the quarters for the Post and Telegraph Employees constructed in Rajasthan Circle during 1957-58, and 1958-59 so far; and

(b) the number of quarters to be constructed in this Circle during the Second Five Year Plan period?

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

(a) 1957-58—Nil.

1958-59 so far Nil.

(b) 334 Units.

Facilities for sending Telegrams in Hindi

1761. **Shri Onkar Lal:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of districts with names in Rajasthan where facility of sending telegrams in Hindi has been provided; and

(b) the time by which this facility will be provided in the remaining districts?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Facility of sending Hindi Telegrams has been provided in all the headquarters of the 26 districts, named below covering the State of Rajasthan. In addition there are 99 other similar offices in the whole of Rajasthan P. & T. Circle which includes a portion of Madhya Pradesh.

(1) Ajmer (2) Alwar (3) Banswara (4) Barmer (5) Bharatpur (6) Bhilwara (7) Bikaner (8) Bundi (9) Chittorgarh (10) Churu (11) Durgapur (12) Jaipur (13) Jalore (14) Jaisalmer (15) Jhalwar (16) Jhunjhunu (17) Jodhpur (18) Kota (19) Nagpur (20) Pali (21) Sawai Madhopur (22) Sikar (23) Sirohi (24) Sriganganagar (25) Tonk (26) Udaipur.

(b) The question does not arise.

Incidence of Chain Pulling on trains

1762. **Shri Onkar Lal:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of instances of pulling of alarm chain on the Western Railway during 1958 so far, month-wise;

(b) the number out of them found unjustified; and

(c) the number of cases where offenders have been prosecuted and convicted during the same period?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of

the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 7.]

Dak Bungalows on National Highways in Rajasthan

1763. **Shri Onkar Lal:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Dak Bungalows situated on the National Highways in the Rajasthan State; and

(b) the amount provided for their maintenance in the Second Five Year Plan?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The requisite information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

(b) The maintenance is chargeable to the normal repairs and maintenance grant given to the State Governments for the maintenance of National Highways. The Second Five Year Plan envisages only capital works of an original nature and there is no specific provision in the Plan for Dak Bungalows.

Research Schemes from Rajasthan

1764. **Shri Onkar Lal:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the number and nature of research schemes received from Rajasthan Government and approved by Indian Council of Agricultural Research during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 8.]

Grants for Road Development Schemes

1765. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that grants sanctioned by the Union Government

to different States during 1957-58 for Road Development Schemes have not been fully utilised; and

(b) if so, the total amount of such grants which could not be utilised State-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes, Sir. A grant of Rs. 4.89 lakhs out of Rs. 289.53 lakhs was not utilised.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V. annexure No. 9.]

Station on Northern Railway

1766. *✓ Sardar Iqbal Singh:*
[Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Railway Stations on Northern Railway during 1957-58; and

(b) the total number of new stations constructed during that year?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) The total number of railway stations on Northern Railway open for traffic as on 31st March, 1958 was 1,216.

(b) 15.

Additional Trains

1767. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of additional trains proposed to be started during 1958 and 1959 on different Railway Zones (Zone-wise)?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Consistent with the availability of coaches, locomotives and spare line capacity and having due regard to the movement of goods traffic, efforts are being made by the Railways to introduce more and more trains to relieve overcrowding on the various sections. It is not feasible to give any indication about

the number of additional trains likely to be introduced in the remaining part of 1958 and 1959.

Amenities at Bhiwani Railway Station

1768. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the nature and detail of the amenities provided at Bhiwani railway station on Rewari-Bhatinda Line of Northern Railway during 1956-57 and 1957-58;

(b) whether the programme for providing amenities during the current year and the remaining period of Second Five Year Plan at the above-mentioned station has been finalised; and

(c) if so, the nature of the amenities to be provided during 1958-59 and during the remaining period of Second Five Year Plan?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) During 1956-57, 10 benches were provided on the platform and a telephone was installed. In 1957-58, no amenities have been provided at this station.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Amenities proposed to be provided in the remaining period of the Second Five Year Plan have been programmed in 1958-59 and are as under:—

- (1) Additions and alterations to station building including provision of a separate booking window for upper class passengers and an Enquiry Office;
- (2) Extension of waiting hall;
- (3) 300 feet long Cover over the platform;
- (4) Water hut;
- (5) Flush type latrines; and
- (6) Electrification of booking office.

Vegetables

1769. Shri Bibhuti Mishra: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have developed any varieties of vegetables which can resist disease; and

(b) if so, how far these vegetables can be made available for consumption by general public

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Work for evolving high-yielding and disease-resistant varieties of vegetables is in progress at the I.A.R.I., New Delhi, and in the States of Punjab, U.P., Andhra Pradesh, Bombay, West Bengal and Jammu and Kashmir, but so far no disease resistant varieties have been evolved.

(b) Does not arise.

Reversion of Officiating Accounts Stock Verifiers

1770. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Railway have recently reverted certain unqualified officiating Accounts Stock Verifiers as Clerks Class II;

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

(c) the number of years they have served as officiating Accounts Stock Verifiers?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes. Due to paucity of qualified Stock Verifiers some of the unqualified Clerks Grade II were promoted temporarily on the condition that they would be replaced by qualified Stock Verifiers as and when the latter become available. As qualified Stock Verifiers have since become available, the unqualified staff were reverted.

(b) 21.

(c) Varying between 1 year and 3 months to 4 years and 4 months.

Parcel Express from Arkonam to Bombay

1771. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways have stopped the running of 'Parcel Express' from Arkonam to Bombay;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the Mango Exporters Association have represented to Government against this step?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The reference is presumably to the daily coaching special (Parcel-cum-Goods mixed) run from Arkonam to Raichur during 1957, when one of the scheduled Goods trains running from Arkonam to Raichur was nominated as coaching special and apart from clearing mango traffic booked at coaching rates, through loads booked at goods rates were also cleared to the extent room was available by these trains.

The service provided by the coaching special was not, however, satisfactory, as the transit time was unduly heavy between Arkonam and Raichur and difficulty was experienced in repacking the mango vans and despatching the consignments onwards from Raichur without delay. During this year, the coaching special was not introduced but satisfactory alternative arrangements were, however, made by fixing quotas for the various stations for the clearance of mango traffic.

(c) Representations were received for the abolition of all quotas for booking of mangoes. Revised arrangements were, therefore, made with effect from 27th June, 1958. Under this system, all stations were permitted to book mango traffic freely on nominated days. Much larger volume of mango traffic had been cleared both in wagon loads and in 'Smalls' during the mango season in 1958 as compared with that

of 1957, as indicated below:—

Wagon loads	Smalls in terms of Baskets	
	1957	1958
Coaching	40	866
Goods	447	822
	390,834	
	411,285	
	Nil	
	140	

Khas Land in Belonia (Tripura)

1772. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that more than 300 acres of khas land are in unauthorised occupation for about 20 years under Mouharipur Tehsil Belonia of Tripura;

(b) whether there is any proposal submitted to the Tripura Administration for the distribution of the khas lands among the landless peasants including tribals, minorities and refugees; and

(c) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard and when?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) No. Out of about 290 acres of Government Khas Land in that Tehsil, the major portion has been in unauthorised occupation since 1939.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Sullage Water Drain in Daryaganj, Delhi

1773. Shri Radha Raman: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a big uncovered sullage water drain passes

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Delhi Gate and Bela Road and its stinking smell is causing great inconvenience to the residents of Daryaganj and also to the general public; and

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

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). Till the morning of June 24, 1958 this drain carried a huge quantity of sewage and sullage from the surcharged sewers going from Old Delhi to New Delhi. As a result of systematic and thorough cleaning by mechanised sewer cleaning machine, the overflow of sewage in this drain has been stopped since that date and the stinking smell has been considerably reduced.

Jack Fruit

1774. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the total production of Jack Fruit in each State during the years 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59, so far?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): Year-wise figures of production of Jack Fruit in each State are not available. A statement showing the approximate annual production in each State is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 10.]

Collision of a Passenger train with a Crane

1775. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the circumstances under which the b-ake-van of a passenger train collided with a crane working at Andul Station (Eastern Railway) and seriously injured several persons on the 23rd May, 1958;

(b) whether the enquiry has held any one responsible for it; and
 (c) if so, what action has been taken against the defaulters?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) At about 02.20 hours on 23rd May, 1958 while the empty rake of 357A Passenger train was proceeding from Santragachhi Station to Bauria it dashed against the cab of the 75-ton Steam Crane which was fouling the line at Andul Station.

The crane driver was killed and 22 persons travelling in the empty rake of 357A train received injuries, 4 seriously.

(b) and (c). The case is sub-judice.

All-India Institute of Medical Sciences

1776. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the total cost of the establishment of the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi (including cost of construction and apparatus) both recurring and non-recurring;

(b) when the college will begin functioning on full scale; and

(c) the total number of students to be trained over a year?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Rs. 579.04 lakhs, i.e. Rs. 110.61 lakhs recurring and Rs. 468.43 lakhs non-recurring upto the end of Second Five Year Plan.

(b) and (c). The Under-graduate and Post-graduate teaching and research has already started. The Under-graduate course was started in September, 1956, and every year 50 students are admitted. The full strength of 250 Under-graduate students will be reached in 1961. There are at present 21 Post-graduate students working in the Institute. The full quota of 120 Post-graduate students will be reached in 1963.

Post and Telegraph Offices in Backward Areas

1777. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many Post and Telegraph Offices are proposed to be opened in the backward areas during the Second Five Year Plan period;

(b) how many Post and Telegraph Offices have been opened so far in such areas;

(c) the number of such offices opened in the Punjab during 1958 so far;

(d) whether a representation of village Dulehar which is in the backward area of Punjab has been received for providing such facilities there; and

(e) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) For expansion of telegraph facility in the country no areas have been specifically declared as backward. It is proposed to open 1400 telegraph offices during the Second Five Year Plan.

(b) 740.

(c) 11.

(d) Yes.

(e) The proposal is not justified and cannot, therefore, be sanctioned.

Claims

1778. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the number of cases of claims on Railways settled before the cases were filed and number of claims settled after filing in 1956-57 and 1957-58 in each zone?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): A statement giving the information asked for, is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 11.]

**Ticket Collector of Katragunj
Railway Station**

1779. Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Shri K. L. Bhattacharya, Ticket Collector of Katragunj Railway Station, North-Eastern Railway in West Dinajpur District in West Bengal was murdered while he was on duty on the 19th June, 1958;

(b) what are the circumstances of the murder; and

(c) what steps have been taken by the Railway Administration to bring the culprits to book?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). It is true that Shri K. L. Bhattacharya was found dead on the platform by the side of the track opposite the refreshment room at Kaliaganj railway station. The matter is under police investigation. The result is awaited.

Export of Wheat from Punjab

1780. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity of wheat exported from the Punjab during the months of May, June and July, 1958; and

(b) the names of the States and total quantity exported to each State?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) About 48 thousand tons.

(b) Delhi .. About 47 thousand tons.

Himachal Pradesh .. About 200 tons.

J. & K. .. About 8 hundred tons.

**Central Institute for Training of
Pilots**

1781. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish Central Institute for train-

ing of the Pilots of Indian Airlines Corporation;

(b) the name of the place where this institute will be located; and

(c) the details of the training and functioning of this institute?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mehmudin): (a) The Indian Airlines Corporation propose to set up a Central Training Establishment for training of their Pilots.

(b) Begumpet (Hyderabad).

(c) Initially it is proposed to train the following categories of pilots in the Central Training Establishment:

1. Newly recruited pilots;
2. Pilots for Pilot-in-Command endorsement on the DC-3 type of aircraft;
3. Refresher courses on the DC-3 type of aircraft for all pilots. This will include ground instructions and simulator training.

Eventually it is intended to train Pilots for Viscount endorsement and command and also refresher on Viscounts.

**Sleeping Coaches in III Class
Compartments**

1782. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether sleeping coaches in III Class compartments have been introduced;

(b) if so, the trains on which these coaches have been introduced; and

(c) how far these coaches have proved popular?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, as an experimental measure on certain trains.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 12.]

(c) The facility is well patronised by the travelling public, the percentage occupation of the sleeping berths being between 70 to 100 per cent. on many of the trains.

Economy Committee of the Railway Board

1783. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state the work done so far by the Economy Committee of the Railway Board?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): Matters concerning the day to day activities of the railways, which come to the Railway Board for sanction, as well as schemes and projects included in the 2nd Five Year Plan, are subject to a continuous scrutiny in the light of the following objectives which the Economy Committee of the Railway Board set forth at the very outset:

- (i) Pruning of proposals with a view to cutting out buildings, structures or other works which can possibly be cut out and restricting expenditure to works essential for meeting increased transport requirements.
- (ii) Conserving man-power, not only by avoiding creation of additional posts but also by cutting out work that can be cut out without serious detriment to the Plan and by simplifying work by increased delegation of powers, etc.
- (iii) Utilising to the best advantage the existing resources of men and equipment by increased productivity methods, etc.

Locust Control

1784. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state the steps taken so far by the Central and State Governments to check locust invasion?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): The various steps taken in this regard are indicated below:—

- (i) For the locust survey and anti-locust control in the desert areas, forty locust outpost stations, fully equipped with modern equipment and poisons, are maintained under the supervision of technical staff of the Directorate of Plant Protection, Quarantine and Storage of the Government of India.
- (ii) For locust intelligence and also to maintain close liaison for the control operations, wireless sets have been installed in various strategic points.
- (iii) For field operations, each outpost has been supplied with the required number of vehicles.
- (iv) For aerial operations, an Aerial Unit comprising of three aeroplanes is being maintained to meet the emergency.
- (v) The State Governments, concerned with locust attacks have been requested to improve their anti-locust organizations.
- (vi) Training courses, in simple methods of locust control, are conducted for the benefit of the Central and State Government employees.
- (vii) As an additional line of defence, Government of India participated for the fourth year in succession during 1958 in the International Anti-Locust Campaign organised by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, by deputing a self-contained Anti-Locust Mission, to Arabian Peninsula, which is the origin of locust breeding for invasion towards Pakistan and India.

During 1958.....about 68,800 tons.
(upto 21-8-58).

(b) The rice has been purchased at the following rates:—

Variety	Price per maund bagged
Begmi	Rs.n.P.
Dara and Sela Joshi	18.00
Basmati raw	16.50
Basmati Boiled (Sela)	25.00
Hansraj, Mushkin, Parmal, Ramjawain and Chahora :	22.75
(a) Raw	22.25
(b) Boiled	20.50
White Tota	12.25
Mongra	16.25
Kani	8.50

Remarks : (1) The prices specified are for fair average quality conforming to the specifications fixed for each variety and subject to quality cuts as provided for in the specifications.

(2) The prices are for grains packed in sound new gunnies. For naked grains the prices are Re. 0.50 per maund less than the prices specified above.

Mineral Waters of Sohna

1788. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1509 on the 9th April, 1958 and state:

(a) whether as a result of the report of the Russian Experts, any place in Punjab has since been selected for utilisation of the mineral waters of Sohna; and

(b) if so, the progress made under the scheme?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a). No.

(b) Does not arise.

Manufacture of Railway Wagons

1789. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have placed orders with the Indian firms,

for the manufacture of Railway wagons during 1957-58;

(b) the names of such firms and the extent of orders placed with each firm; and

(c) when these wagons will be delivered?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement for 1957-58 orders is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 15]

(c) Re. Established Firms.

(i) 13,788 numbers have been delivered up to July, 1958.

(ii) Balance expected to be delivered by December, 1958.

(iii) Re. New Firms

On whom educational orders, have been placed vide statement enclosed:

Since the firms are in development stage the deliveries are uncertain.

Minor Irrigation Schemes in Punjab

1790. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the Punjab State for minor Irrigation Schemes in the year 1958-59; and

(b) the names of the projects to be constructed?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite details is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 16.]

Air Accident

1791. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether a British Freighter Aircraft, on chartered flight met with an accident near Gurgaon on the 25th May, 1958;

(b) if so, the cause of this accident; and

(c) the number of persons killed and injured?

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

(b) The final report of investigation into the accident has not yet been received.

(c) Four killed and one injured.

Remodelling of Stations at Manmad, Niphad and Ugaon

1792. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) when the work of remodelling the stations at Manmad, Niphad and Ugaon is likely to begin; and

(b) whether there is going to be a goods siding and signalling arrangement at Ugaon?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) The proposal for remodelling of the

Manmad Yard is under consideration for inclusion in the 1960-61 programme.

The remodelling of Niphad Station which entails extension of the UP and DN. loop lines only is in progress.

Conversion of Ugaon Station from 'D' Class to a 'C' Class Station is in hand.

(b) It is not proposed to provide a goods siding at Ugaon at present. The Station will, however, be provided with improved signalling and interlocking.

Strike of Licensed porters at Delhi Railway Station

1793. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 100 licensed porters at the Delhi Railway station struck work for two hours on the 12th July, 1958;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether any agreement was subsequently arrived at; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan): (a) and (b). There was no strike. On the 12th July, 1958, some porters went to the Station Superintendent, Delhi, to represent their views against the enforcement of an order that at least 100 licensed porters should be present every night in rotation.

(c) and (d). The licensed porters gave an assurance that they would ensure attendance of a sufficient number of men during the night and instructions were therefore, issued that the attendance specifically of 100 porters every night need not be rigidly enforced.

Marine Engineering College, Calcutta

1794. **Shri Raghunath Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many engineers received diplomas from Marine Engineering College, Calcutta from the date of the establishment of the College so far, year-wise; and

(b) how many diploma holders of the said college have been employed so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) The College was established in 1948 and the first batch of trainees was recruited in August, 1949 for a four year course. These trainees passed out of the College in 1953. The number of Engineers who passed out of the College in 1953 and subsequent years is furnished below:—

Year	Number of Engineers who received Diplomas
1953	.. 48
1954	.. 47
1955	.. 47
1956	.. 47
1957	.. 45
1958	.. 50
Total	284

(b) All except two, whose whereabouts are not known, have secured employment.

Irwin Hospital, New Delhi

1795. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students admitted to the medical college attached to the Irwin Hospital, New Delhi; and

(b) the number of students (male) and (female) who failed to secure admission in the new college?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Sixty.

(b)	Men	Women	Total
	379	217	596

Gola Road Station

1796. **Shri B. Das Gupta:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether quarters for Railway servants are under construction in the Gola Road Station on the South Eastern Railway;

(b) the total amount sanctioned for the work;

(c) when the work was first started;

(d) when the work is expected to be completed; and

(e) whether any further amount has been sanctioned in the current financial year for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Yes, Sir. 12 units Type I Quarters are under construction.

(b) Rs. 44,000.

(c) In February, 1958.

(d) By March, 1959.

(e) No, Sir.

Failure of Engines

1797. **Shri Rajendra Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of engines which failed during the period from July to December, 1957 in Samastipur and Sonepur (Mechanical) Districts of the North-Eastern Railway;

(b) the reasons for such failures; and

(c) the steps taken to prevent failures in future?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahrukh Khan): (a) and (b).

Reasons for failures	Samastipur District	Sonepur District	No.	No.
(i) Bad workmanship in sheds			11	8
(ii) Mismanagement by crew			6	2
(iii) Bad Coal			2	..
(iv) Defective material	1
(v) Defective Design	3
TOTAL			19	14

(c) 1. The staff responsible have been suitably punished under Discipline and Appeal Rules. Instructions have also been issued to ensure supply of good quality of coal.

2. All cases of defective material are analysed by Chemist and Metallurgist and remedial measures taken.

3. Cases of defective design are reported to the Research, Design and Standardization Organisation for investigation and improvement.

4. The system of refresher courses and of special training already exists on the railway.

Indian Standards Institute, New Delhi

1798. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a code of practices on water supply, plumbing, drainage and sanitation has been compiled by the Indian Standards Institute, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, whether it has been approved by the Government of India?

The Minister of Health (Shri D. P. Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The Indian Standards Institution, New Delhi, has undertaken the work of preparing several Codes relating to water supply, plumbing, drainage and sanitation, which are in various stages of progress.

दिवनापुर रेलवे स्टेशन

१७६६. श्री मोहन स्वरूप: क्या नवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को विदित है कि दिवनापुर स्टेशन पर यात्रियों के ठहरने के लिए कोई उचित प्रबन्ध न होने के कारण यात्रियों को बहुत कठिनाई होती है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार वहां पर तुरत एक अस्थायी शोड बनाना चाहती है?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज लाल):

(क) दिवनापुर सिर्फ हाल्ट स्टेशन है। यहां यातायात बहुत घोड़ा है।

(ख) इसे देखते हुए इस सवाल पर विचार हो रहा है कि इस हाल्ट स्टेशन को जारी रखा जाय या नहीं। इस स्टेशन पर यात्री-सुविधा की व्यवस्था करना इसी फैसले पर निर्भर है।

माल गाड़ी में चोरी

१८००. श्री मोहन स्वरूप: क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जिला मालगढ़ में भांडई स्टेशन पर माल गाड़ी के डिल्बों में से काफी माल चोरों के एक गिरोह ने चुरा लिया था;

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जब माल गाड़ी स्टेशन पर लड़ी थी, तो उसके दो डिव्वे अलग कर दिये गये और चोर उन डिव्वों का माल ने कर भाग गये;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि चोरी की घटनायें कोटा और कोसी स्टेशनों के निकट भी हुई हैं;

(ब) यदि हाँ, तो इसमें रेलवे विभाग को घनुमानतः कितनी हानि हुई; और

(द) इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कार्रवाई की गयी है?

रेलवे उपर्युक्ती (श्री शाहनवाज जां) :

(क) जी हाँ। १० और ११ जुलाई, १९५८ की रात को जब एक मालगाड़ी भांडई स्टेशन पर लड़ी थी तो पता चला कि उसके एक डिव्वे में से बीड़ी के २४ लांचे चोरी चले गये हैं। आगरा याड़ में जगह नहीं थी, इसलिए यह गाड़ी भांडई स्टेशन पर लड़ी की गयी थी।

(स) जी नहीं।

(ग) जी नहीं।

(ब) बीड़ी के २४ लांचे चुराये गये थे उनकी कीमत ₹५,६०० रुपये थी। इनमें से ₹३,८०० रुपये की कीमत के १६ लांचे भांडई स्टेशन के पास लेतों में पाये गये।

(क) आगरा पुलिस ने मामले को दर्ज कर लिया है और इसकी जांच हो रही है। रेलवे सुरक्षा बल के जो सैनिक भांडई स्टेशन पर लड़ी मालगाड़ी की निगरानी के लिए तैनात थे, उन्होंने ड्रूटी में भ्रसावधानी दिलायी जिसके लिए उन पर कार्रवाई की जा रही है।

Departmental action against Postal Employees

1201. Shri T. R. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of clerks working in Meerut City Post Office, against

whom departmental action has been taken during 1957 and 1958; and

(b) whether any one of them against whom the cases were taken to the Court of Law was acquitted by the High Court of Allahabad for the same charges?

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

(a) One during 1957 and two (including the one of 1957) during 1958.

(b) No.

कॉडोय जांच अधिकारण

१८०२. श्रो श्रो जांच अधिकारण : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की हुया करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय जांच अभिकरण के कुछ कर्मचारियों को विधि सम्बन्धी कार्रव करना पड़ता है;

(ब) यदि हाँ, तो इन पदों पर काम करने वाले कर्मचारियों को क्या काम दिये गये हैं; और

(ग) उन कर्मचारियों ने कितने मामलों में विधि सम्बन्धी राय दी है?

रेलवे उपर्युक्ती (श्री शाहनवाज जां) :

(क) उत्तर नकार में है।

(स) और (ग). सवाल नहीं उठता।

Ranjit Nagar Colony

1203. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ranjit Nagar, a Colony in West Delhi, has turned into a slum; and

(b) if so, steps taken to improve the condition of this Colony?

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

(b) The Town Planning Organisation have prepared a re-development

plan of the whole area west of Patel Road between Pusa Institute and the railway line which includes the Ranjit Nagar colony. This area is now proposed to be declared as a 'Development Area' under the Delhi Development Act, 1957. After this has been done the Delhi Development Authority would execute the re-development Scheme.

Distribution of insecticides in Manipur

1804. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that insecticides were distributed at subsidised rates to agriculturists in Manipur during the last 2 months; and

(b) if so, what is the rate of subsidy and what is the quantity distributed so far?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b)

(b) The rate of subsidy is 50 per cent. The quantity distributed is over 14 (fourteen) tons.

Agricultural Loan in Tripura

1805. Shri Dasartha Deb: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) what amount has been disbursed so far in Sadar-Sub Division of Tripura as agricultural loan and also as "dadan"; and

(b) the number of persons who received such loan Sadar-Sub division Tehsil-wise?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) Amount of Loan disbursed so far in Sadar Sub-division in the current financial year is as under:—

(i) Agricultural Loan Rs. 21,925/-
(ii) Loans for eradication of Dadan, Rs. 14,600/-

Sl. No.	Name of Tehsil	No. of persons who received loans	
		Agricultural Dadan	
1.	Sadar	10	88
2.	Old Agartala	20	90
3.	Mohanpur	4	2
4.	Bamutia	19	..
5.	Ishanchandranagar	30	..
6.	Bishalgarh	3	..
7.	Kamalsagar	3	..
8.	Takarjala	4	..
9.	Charilam	15	175
10.	Simna	Nil	Nil
TOTAL		108	88

कस्तूर स्टेशन पर रेलवे साइडें :

(१८०६. अं) भ्रह्मन नाव सिंह : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पूर्व रेलवे के आसनसोल डिवीजन में कस्तूर स्टेशन पर रेलवे साइडिंग है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार को विदित है कि कस्तूर रेलवे स्टेशन से गिट्टी बाहर भेजी जाती है, जहां प्रादिम जाति के लोग पत्थर तोड़ने का काम करते हैं और यही उनका एकमात्र अन्यथा है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार को यह भी विदित है कि विकास योजनाओं और बाधों के निमणि के कारण गिट्टी की मांग बढ़ गई है और इस कारण वहां से गिट्टी अधिक मात्रा में भेजी जाया करेगी ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो कस्तूर रेलवे स्टेशन पर रेलवे साइडिंग बन्द करने के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(इ) क्या इस विषय पर पुनर्विचार किया जायेगा ?

रेलवे उपर्यंत्री (श्री सैंड० बैंड० रामस्वामी) : पूर्व रेलवे के आसनसोल डिवीजन में कस्तूर नाम का कोई स्टेशन नहीं है। शायद माननीय सदस्य का मतलब पूर्व रेलवे के आमनमान-झाज्जा सेक्षण के जामताड़ा और करमाटाड़ स्टेशनों के बीच कसीतार ब्लाक हट स्टेशन से है। यदि ऐसा है तो उत्तर इस प्रकार है :—

(क) रेलवे साइडिंग १६५५ से बन्द कर दी गई है।

(ख) यह नहीं मालूम है कि प्रादिम जाति के लोग केवल पत्थर तोड़ कर अपनी जीविका कमाते हैं। लेकिन वहां पूछताछ से पता लगा है कि वे खेती भी करते हैं और जब खेती के

काम से उहाँ कुरतत रहते हैं, तो वे पत्थर की खानों में काम करते हैं।

(ग) भ्रांत (इ) . तिकं रेलवे की लागत से इस स्टेशन पर साइडिंग बनाने के लिये यातायात काफी नहीं है। 'इमदादी साइडिंग' की शर्तों के प्रधीन एक साइडिंग भ्रांत लूप बनाने के सवाल पर विचार हो रहा है।

(घ) इस सेक्षण पर गाड़ियों की तादाद बढ़ गई, जिसकी वजह से परिवालन में कठिनाइयां होने लगीं और इसलिये यह साइडिंग बन्द कर दी गई। इस सेक्षण पर बढ़ हुये यातायात के परिवालन के लिये यह जल्दी या कि लूप लाइन बनाई जाय और साइडिंग को हटा कर इसी जगह बनाया जाय। लेकिन इस स्टेशन पर यातायात योड़ा है, इसे देखते हुये सिर्फ़ रेलवे की लागत से इनकी व्यवस्था करना उचित नहीं समझा गया।

कतरनियां घाट स्टेशन तक सवारी गाड़ी

(१८०७. श्री भ० ब० शिव) : क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि वर्षा क्रतु में सवारी गाड़ी कतरनियां घाट तक जाने की वजाये निशान गढ़ तक जाती हैं ;

(ख) क्या मरकार को यह विदित है कि कतरनियां घाट स्टेशन अनाज की एक महत्वपूर्ण मंडी है, जहां नेपाल से आने वाला लालों भन धान और लाही स्वरीदा जाता है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार स्वाच्छ भेजने का भी वैसा ही प्रबन्ध करना चाहती है जैसा इमारती लकड़ी और बन उत्पादन आदि के लिये किया गया है ताकि वर्षा में अनाज एक स्थान पर इकट्ठा होने के कारण गल-सड़ न जाए।

ऐतिहासिक जलवायी (जी शाह नवाज जां):

(क) जी हाँ।

(ब) सरकार को यह नहीं मालूम है कि तरनिया घाट में नेपाल से लालों मन बान और लाही की स्तरीय की जाती है, लेकिन बाहर भेजने के लिये इस स्टेशन पर अनाज आता है।

(ग) इस स्टेशन से इमारती नकड़ी, जंगली उपज (Forest produce) आदि की तरह प्रनाज भी "पहले पावे, सो पहले पाव" वाले मान्य मिदान्त के प्रनुसार भेजा जाता है, लेकिन साथ ही अवता वर्गीकरण (Priority classification) का भी व्यापार रखा जाता है ११-७-५८ से १०-८-५८ तक इस स्टेशन से अनाज के २५ माल-डिब्बे भेजे गये और ११-८-५८ की अनाज भेजने के लिये माल डिब्बे की कोई मांग बाकी नहीं थी। इसी अवधि में धान और लाही भेजने के लिये तो कोई मांग नहीं की गई, लेकिन पत्थर और इमारती नकड़ी के कमशा: ३२४ और ६० माल-डिब्बे भेजे गये। इसलिये, इमारती नकड़ी और जंगली उपज भेजने के लिये जो प्रबन्ध किया गया है, धान और लाही के लिये बैसा ही प्रबन्ध करने का सवाल नहीं उठता।

Fruit Preservation Industry

1806. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether steps have been taken by Government to implement the schemes to start Fruit Preservation Industries in the country; and

(b) if so, the details of the schemes implemented so far?

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

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 17].

Fisheries Development in Bombay

1809. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether any grants have been sanctioned to Bombay Government for the development of fisheries during 1958-59; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). A sum of Rs. 5.3275 lakhs has been provided for fisheries development schemes during 1958-59. The actual amount will be released in January/February, 1958 on the basis of actual expenditure incurred by the State during the first three quarters and the estimated expenditure during the fourth quarter 1958-59.

Power Supply System in Trains

1810. Shri Sinhasan Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to an article appearing in "Indian Railways" Vol. No. 4 of July, 1958 by Shri Narayana Iyer, Chief Electrical Engineer, North-Eastern Railway about change-over in train power supply system;

(b) if so, whether the facts contained therein have been examined; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) to (c). A Statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 18].

बाबतपुर हवाई घट्ठा (बनारस)

१८११. जी गवर्नर राम: दया परिवहन तथा संबार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) बाबतपुर हवाई घट्ठा (बनारस) की हवाई जहाज उत्तरने की पट्टी, यकानों

और अब निवास बोर्ड इमारतों ने अपना अलग कुल कितने एकड़ भूमि बोर रखी है;

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पक्की पट्टी के उत्तर में और कच्चे पट्टे के आसपास कई एकड़ जमीन बेकार पड़ी हुई है और आस उपाने के लिये उसका उपयोग किया जाता है; और

(ग) यह जमीन अनाज पैदा करने के लिये क्यों नहीं काम में लाई जाती?

अतिरिक्त उद्देश्य उपर्युक्ती (भी जोहोड़बोल): (क) बाबतपुर (बनारस) हवाई घट्टे का रकमा ५७० एकड़ है। इसमें से ३८२ एकड़ जमीन की आपरेशनल कामों के लिये और १२७ एकड़ जमीन की जरूरत तकनीकी और रिहायश के कामों के लिये है। बच्ची हुई ६१ एकड़ जमीन अभी हाल ही में सिविल एविएशन की जायद करार कर दी गई है, और इस जमीन का तस्फिया उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार की राय से किया जा रहा है।

(ख) और (ग). कोई भी जमीन बोरार नहीं पड़ी है। आपरेशनल एरिया का एक हिस्सा पक्का है; इसलिये काल्कारी के कालिल नहीं है। दूसरा हिस्सा (२० एकड़) जिसमें (१) पक्के रनबे की पट्टी और (२) कच्चा रनबे है, सिर्फ आस काटने के लिये पट्टे पर दिया गया है। इस रनबे में काल्कारी की आज्ञा नहीं दी जा सकती, क्योंकि इसे हवाई जहाजों के लिये जरूरत पर उत्तरने के लिये ठीक ठाक रखना होता है। ८० एकड़ का रकमा (जिसमें सरल्स की हुई ६१ एकड़ जमीन भी शामिल है) काल्कारी के कामों के लिये पट्टे पर दिया जा चुका है।

Quarters for Railway Staff at Stations between Aurangabad and Nanded

1812. Shri A. V. Ghare: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is shortage of quarters for Railway

Staff on the Railway Stations between Aurangabad and Nanded on the Kachiguda-Manmad line; and

(b) if so, when Government propose to provide quarters for these staff?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): Presumably the Hon'ble Member is referring to stations between Aurangabad and Nanded on the Kachiguda-Manmad Section of the Central Railway. If so, the reply is as under:

(a) Yes, Sir. There are about 1,065 essential staff on this Section out of whom quarters have been provided for 670.

(b) Staff quarters are constructed to house initially the essential staff on a programmed basis. During 1959-60, 259 quarters are proposed to be constructed on this section. The extent of each year's programme of building quarters is determined by the actual availability of funds and the priorities for construction on the Railway as a whole.

Exploratory Tube-Well Organisation

1813. Shri Subbiah Ambalam: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells sunk in each State by the Exploratory Tube-well Organisation in India and the total amount of expenditure incurred;

(b) how many of them were found successful and economical in each State; and

(c) what is the amount paid for technical services rendered by the American firm?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). The number of exploratory bores drill-

led and the number converted into production tube-wells upto July, 1958 in each State is given in the statement below:—

Name of State	No. of bores drilled.	No. of bores converted into tube-wells
1. Madhya Pradesh	30	16
2. Bombay	51	8
3. Rajasthan	10	1
4. Madras	40	27
5. Kerala	5	1
6. Bihar	15	6
7. Punjab	29	7
8. Uttar Pradesh	17	8
9. Andhra Pradesh	11	7
10. West Bengal	3	3
TOTAL	211	84

The total expenditure incurred on the Project upto March, 1958, excluding payment in dollars for technical services, is about Rs. 219-17 lakhs.

(c) The dollar expenditure incurred upto March, 1958 on the technical services rendered by M/s. Ralph M. Parsons Company, an American Firm of Consultants, amounted to about 795,000 dollars.

Post Office building in Amritsar

1814. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the time taken in the construction of the multi-storeyed building for Golden Temple Post Office at Amritsar;

(b) the expenditure incurred on the construction; and

(c) the accommodation to be provided in the building?

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

(a) The double-storeyed was constructed in about ten months between December, 1955 and September, 1956.

(b) Rs. 1,17,600 including departmental charges.

(c) 3590 sq. ft. inclusive of amenities block and Sub-Postmaster's quarters.

Shortage of Block Personnel in Orissa

1816. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Community Development be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 312 on the 17th February, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the handicap of shortage of Block personnel has been removed in Orissa; and

(b) if so, whether Orissa Government have since taken up extension work in the Blocks sanctioned in the months of January and April, 1958?

The Minister of Community Development (Shri S. K. Dey): (a) The shortage of Block personnel has been removed in all categories except medical personnel, Lady Social Education Organisers and Gram Sevikas.

(b) Yes, Sir.

Railway Service Commission, Calcutta

1817. **Shrimati Na Palchoadhuri:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during 1957 the Railway Service Commission, Calcutta advertised in the Press for about 1000 posts of ticket collectors, clerks etc. for the Eastern, South-Eastern and North-Eastern Railways;

(b) whether it is also a fact that about 80,000 persons applied for these

posts on prescribed application forms costing rupee one each;

(c) if so, whether all these vacancies have been filled up; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

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

(b) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Persons Convicted under Essential Commodities Act, 1955

1818. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) how many persons have been convicted in Manipur under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and Manipur Foodgrains Act, 1956 during 1957 and 1958;

(b) the maximum term for which these persons were sentenced;

(c) whether the terms of imprisonment have been reduced on appeal to the Judicial Commissioner in case of some of the accused; and

(d) if so, the number thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (d). The necessary information has been asked for from the Manipur Administration and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha when received.

Minor Irrigation Schemes

1819. Shrimati Mafida Ahmed: Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to allocate additional funds for the minor irrigation schemes in the States; and

(b) if so, the amount thereof?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) and (b). At the Regional Minor Irrigation Conferences held at Hyderabad and Calcutta some of the State Governments asked for additional provision of funds to the extent of Rs. 291.2 lakhs and the allotment is now under consideration.

Medical Practitioners in States

1820. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Health be pleased to state what is the number of medical practitioners and Licentiate Medical Practitioners practising State-wise in the Urban and Rural areas, and their proportion to the population in the respective areas?

The Minister of Health (Shri Kar-markar): The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Late Running of Trains

1821. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of times in June and July, 1958 when trains from Delhi to Amritsar on Northern Railway ran late;

(b) the reasons for such irregularity; and

(c) the steps being taken to improve the situation?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) A statement furnishing the information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix V, annexure No. 19].

(b) The main reasons for late running are given below:

(i) Extra time for Engineering restrictions over and above that provided in the Time Table.

(ii) Heavy rains and breaches.

(iii) Alarm chain pulling.

(iv) Time lost by locomotives, displaced crossings etc.

(c) (i) All detentions are thoroughly scrutinised and staff are suitably taken up for avoidable detentions.

(ii) Punctuality drives are launched to make the staff punctuality conscious.

(iii) Officers and Inspectors are detailed to travel on trains which are consistently running late, to pin point the causes of late running; and

(iv) Timings of certain trains have been revised to provide more margin and to avoid detentions.

Doubling of Railway Line

1822. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal for doubling the Jullundur-Pathankot section via Mukerian Railway on the Northern Railway during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

उपर्युक्त

1823. **श्री अर्जुन सिंह भद्रीरिया :** क्या लाल तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि भारत की वर्तमान प्रति एकड़ औसत उपर्युक्त उपर्युक्त क्या है?

लाल तथा हृषि मंत्री (श्री अ. प्र. जैन) : अब तक की उपलब्ध जानकारी का एक विवरण सभा पट्टन पर रख दिया गया है। [इसमें परिशिष्ट ५, अनुबन्ध संख्या २०]

Guest Control Orders

1824. **Shri Raghbir Sahai:** Will the Minister of Food and Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the names of States where the Guest Control Orders have been issued; and

(b) whether copies of the orders issued will be laid on the Table?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) The States of West Bengal, Bihar, Bombay and Kerala and the Union Territories of Tripura and Delhi.

(b) Copies of the relevant orders are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 21].

Harnessing River Waters of Punjab

1825. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes to harness the river waters in Punjab which are under the study of the Central Water and Power Commission;

(b) the number of schemes approved during 1958-59 so far; and

(c) the amount spent so far?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No major or medium irrigation scheme in the State of Punjab is at present under the study of the Central Water and Power Commission.

(b) None.

(c) The expenditure on the major and medium irrigation schemes included in the Second Plan is estimated at Rs. 37.69 lakhs up to the end of 1957-58

Over-Bridges on Northern Railway

1826. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Railways be pleased to state:

(a) the number of over-bridges constructed on the Northern Railway during 1957-58 and 1958-59 so far; and

(b) the number of over-bridges proposed to be constructed during the Second Five Year Plan on this Railway?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) In 1957-58, two foot-over-bridges and three road-overbridges were constructed. In 1958-59, the work on two foot-over-bridges and one road over-bridge has been completed so far.

(b) 34 foot over-bridges and 19 road over-bridges were contemplated in the Second Five Year Plan period, but limitation of funds and necessity for conserving steel has imposed restrictions on the planning of such structures.

Telephone and Telegram Facilities in Hoshiarpur

1827. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) how many villages having population of 3,000 and more are not provided with telephone and telegram facilities in Hoshiarpur district of Punjab State; and

(b) the time by which such facilities will be provided?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) 26 villages (population between 2000 and 5000) without telephone facility and 18 without telegraph facility.

(b) As and when each such proposal is found justified.

Letter Boxes

1828. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages in Kangra district of Punjab which are not provided with letter boxes; and

(b) the time by which such letter boxes will be provided.

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) The total number of villages in Kangra District is 8062. The Posts and Telegraphs Department does not provide letter boxes in every village. The

policy of the Department is to provide letter boxes in rural areas in localities which post two letters or more per day and are situated at a distance of one mile or more from the nearest post office or letter box. There are only 874 such villages in Kangra District where letter boxes are justified and all these villages have been provided with the requisite letter boxes.

(b) Does not arise.

Stock of Foodgrains

1829. Shri Hem Raj:
[**Shri Onkar Lal:**]

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

(a) the total amount of foodgrains stocked in the Central godowns in the country in the years 1955, 1956, 1957 and 1958 so far. Stage-wise and its value;

(b) the total quantity that was wasted or damaged; and

(c) its estimated value State-wise?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. P. Jain): (a) to (c): Information is given in the statement laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix V, annexure No. 22].

दिल्ली गेट के पास टेलीकोन एक्सचेंज

१०३०. { श्री नवल प्रभाकर
श्री भृत दर्शन :

क्या परिवहन तथा सवार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली गेट के पास जो टेलीकोन एक्सचेंज बनाया जा रहा है उसमें कितने टेलीकोन काम करेंगे ;

(ख) इसके कब तक पूरा हो जाने की आशा है ; और

(ग) उस पर मशीनरी पादि के लिए को मिला कर कुल कितना व्यय होने का अनुमान है ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्री (भी स०
कारो पाटिल): (क) भन्नुमानतः ३८००।
(ल) १६६१ के प्रारम्भ में।
(ग) ६७. १६ साल रुपये।

12 hrs.

RESIGNATION OF A MEMBER

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that Shri T. N. Singh has resigned his seat in Lok Sabha with effect from today, the 10th September, 1958, as he has been appointed a member of the Planning Commission.

12.01 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Abstention by Opposition Members from U.P. Assembly session.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): May I submit a few words about the withholding of your consent to my adjournment motion? I have to submit only this. You have written that it relates to a continuing matter. I have to submit that the Opposition there in the U.P. Assembly has been forced to keep out of the session of the Assembly and it has been a very unprecedented situation. Not a single member of the Opposition there, out of 145 Opposition members, is participating in the administration. This is a matter when article 355 of the Constitution has got to be applied. There are internal disorders, hartals, etc. Processions are going on there and also hunger strikes. So, I think that the intervention of the Centre is required. I want that that adjournment motion should be allowed.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta—Central): Technicalities apart, I feel that there is an occasion for the application of the healing touch to this position in Uttar Pradesh, particularly because we had a discussion in this House the day before yesterday which started rather acrimoniously, I fear,

but it ended up very well, as you yourself were pleased to note. I felt, therefore, that every effort should be made, in reason, to bring about a position where there could be a concerted, co-operative effort to solve the problem. In Uttar Pradesh, what has happened rightly or wrongly—I am not discussing it—is that the Opposition parties have all boycotted the legislature, and I am sure as the inevitable sequel to that, there would be a non-co-operative spirit in regard to an attempted solution of the food problem. Now, the policy which was announced by the Prime Minister the day before yesterday was a policy of continued co-operation between the Centre and the States, and in order to do that, the Opposition parties are sitting together with Government to find out a solution. If Uttar Pradesh, a very major State, is completely out of the purview of this co-operative effort, then the whole position becomes vitiated.

Therefore, I feel, whatever the technicalities,—I know there are some very serious technical difficulties to which you referred yesterday—I do feel that something should be done, and at least an expression of the views of this House is called for. If that is not possible, at least you can convey to Government an idea that all possible efforts should be made to bring about a reconciliation in regard to the position in Uttar Pradesh. If that does not happen, the all-India effort in which we are all very keenly interested is bound to be a failure. I would beg of you to take a very wide view of this position as it is necessary at the present moment, and at least direct us to what we should do, and how we should behave when a position of such crucial importance has cropped up and we do not quite know how to overcome the peculiar technicalities of the position.

Shri Frank Anthony (Nominated—Anglo-Indians): Nobody is more zealous of the rights and privileges of members of any State legislature than myself. But I feel, with due respect

[**Shri Frank Anthony**]

to some of my hon. friends, that what we are going through now is no less an abuse of the processes of this House. Matters are constantly being sought to be raised which do not come even remotely within the purview of an adjournment motion. If there is need for a healing touch, let the healing touch be applied somewhere outside on a particular occasion. But, as I sat here, I feel my patience has been exhausted. We are constantly... (Interruptions.)

Mr. Speaker: The House does not belong to only one Member. It is open to a Member to say that it is an abuse.

Shri Frank Anthony: It is definitely an abuse of the processes of the House. The House's time is being held to ransom because of some political motives here or elsewhere.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): May I make a submission?

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

ओं जगदोंग अवस्थी (बिलहोर) : इस सम्बन्ध में मझे निवेदन करना है कि कल आपने व्यवस्था दी थी कि यह स्टेट का सद्ब्रेक्ट है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि उत्तर प्रदेश में इस वक्त जो पालियामेंटरी डिमें-क्रेमी है वह यत्तरे में पढ़ गई है। अब केवल इस मदन को अधिकार प्राप्त है कि वह इस पर विचार करे। आप इस को देविये। (Interruptions.) बिल्लाने में कोई लाभ नहीं। I will not stop. मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस वक्त उत्तर प्रदेश में केवल एक पार्टी का एक व्यक्ति का सामाजिक स्थापित है और वहाँ डिमेंक्रेमी यत्तरे में पढ़ गई है। ऐसी अवस्था में मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस मदन के अलावा कौन भी ऐसी जगह है जहाँ हम इस पर विचार कर सकते हैं। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि अब स्टेट में जो स्थिति है उसे देखते हुए आप अपनी विवेक

शक्ति का प्रयोग करें और सदन को अधिकार दें कि इस पर विचार विमर्श हो ताकि अविष्य में ऐसी घटनायें न घट सकें। आप यह देखिये कि वहाँ पर जो माननीय सदस्य ये उनके साथ सबसे प्रथम सशस्त्र पुलिस बुला कर दुर्घटनाहार किया गया, उनको खींचा गया। यह बातें कल स्पष्ट हुईं। मैं समझता हूँ कि कल यहाँ पर विरोध पक्ष ने अपने विचार प्रकट किये थे इस आशा से कि आप सबसे देंगे और विचार करने देंगे। मैं अनुभव कर रहा हूँ कि वह समय आ गया है जब कि लोक सभा को निश्चित स्पृष्ट से इहम करके इस पर विचार विमर्श करना होगा वरना अविष्य में, अगर हम विचार नहीं करते हैं, अन्य राज्यों में इस प्रकार की अवस्था बनती रहेगी और लोकतन्त्र यत्तरे में पढ़ जायेगा। इसलिये मैं आपसे निवेदन करता हूँ कि आप सदन की ममता कारंबाई गोक कर इस पर विचार विमर्श करने दें।

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to hear anything more.

Shri Yadav (Barabanki): I request you to listen to me first.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to listen. I am really sorry. I have been very patient!

Shri Yadav: May I request the hon. Chair to hear me first?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to hear.

Shri Yadav: What I am going to say is—

Shri Ranga (Tenali): If he is going to be heard, then others also may insist on being heard from this side.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. There has been an adjournment motion tabled today. It appears from what is happening here that I must scrap that particular rule which says that un-

less the Speaker gives consent adjournment motion ought not to be raised here! I have written to the hon. Member, Shri Braj Raj Singh, that I do not give my consent to it. It is a continuing affair. We know everything and we know what is happening. But still he got up and spoke. He was followed by Shri H. N. Mukerjee who said that we must do something. I am at a loss to know what exactly can be done. All of us are jointly interested in trying, as far as possible, to see that there is no trouble anywhere, not only here but outside also. But what is it that can be done? The whole thing has arisen out of the food situation, the so-called food situation. I do not know exactly what is happening. On the one side.....(Interruptions) Order, order.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): There is the food situation; it is not a so-called food situation.

Mr. Speaker: Should I accept everything stated here when it is desired? I am really surprised.

Several Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Is this democracy if I am not allowed to say what I want to say?

Shri Ragunath Singh (Varanasi): The same thing happened in Uttar Pradesh.

Mr. Speaker: What I can say is, it is unfortunate that there have been floods; there have been famines; there have been many difficulties from time to time. We have been getting questions, and I have been allowing in every session, as a rule, whether questions are put or not, a discussion on food. I have said that the food question should be debated in this House to the extent that the Centre has taken any responsibility under the Constitution, under the law, by convention and by agreement. In all these cases, I have allowed the question to be discussed without meticulously saying that this is not the concern of the House and so on.

Now, we have had a debate recently. Thereafter, so far as the State Legislative Assembly in Uttar Pradesh, at Lucknow, is concerned, they seem to have had a debate; not only a debate, but they have gone to the extent of trying to throw out the Government—from the reports that I see—and there was a no-confidence motion against the Government. But anyhow, that Government justified itself and so the majority is in favour of that Government. Otherwise, the Government would have been thrown out.

Now, after the debate, still, if some hon. Members are not satisfied, what can be done? They go into the country and say, "No, no, we will take the law into our own hands". Naturally the aid of the police is asked for, and some of them are arrested. Then adjournment motions are brought before the House.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: I want to say that the whole matter came up because.....(Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri Hem Barua rose—

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur): They have been arrested without warrants.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know if Mr. Nath Pai is a lawyer.

Shri Nath Pai: I am.

Mr. Speaker: I am extremely glad. Then, why does he say that arrests must always be made only with warrants? As far as I remember, unless I have forgotten, arrests can be made by the police with or without warrant. There are certain cases where arrests can take place without warrant from a magistrate. Hon. Member knows the Criminal Procedure Code. Why should he ask my opinion about it? (Interruptions). I am not the Supreme Court here to decide that.

Shri Ranga: If the Speaker is not allowed to speak, what is the use of our having this House here?

ओं धर्मन तिथि भवीतिया (इटावा): या
हीपीकर साहब रंगा साहब के कहने हर काम
करेंगे। रंगा स.हब को बिठलाया जाये।

Shri Raghunath Singh: They are out to create trouble.

Mr. Speaker: Nobody need help me. Let us not repeat whatever might have happened elsewhere in this House also. Hon. Members will kindly hear me. I am not trying to shirk my responsibility even by a hair's breadth. I can discharge my responsibility to the satisfaction of all and try not merely to stand on technicalities, but really to bring a human touch about it and then try to settle that matter. I am honestly of that opinion.....

Shri Ranga: Even the Prime Minister.....

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member, Shri Ranga, also must hold his soul in patience. One word here brings out two words there. Yesterday we had a discussion about this matter; not exactly this matter, but some other matter akin to this. (Interruptions). If hon. Members go on disturbing me like this, I am afraid I have to take disciplinary action against them. I may have to repeat all that has happened elsewhere. Have we come here to fight?

Shri Yadav: I have to say something.

Mr. Speaker: Something was said yesterday about this matter; not exactly in A, B, C on all fours with that, but similar to that. Those people were turned out and pushed by the police, etc. I am not concerned with what the police did there. An enquiry, anything might happen there. As a consequence of this, if the whole Opposition boycotted the session, what

is it that I can do? It is open to hon. Members to walk out one day and we have to carry on. Shall I say, merely because the Opposition walks out, we shall not do any business here?

An Hon. Member: There was force.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of force. The Opposition wants to coerce the majority there. There is no doubt about it.

Some Hon. Members: Wrong.

Mr. Speaker: I stick to this. All that the Opposition can do here or anywhere in a democratic Parliament is that they can place their views before the House and leave the majority to accept it. Even if they are in power, they must enforce the majority rule if there is no unanimity. If the majority takes a particular view, it is open to the Opposition, to participate, co-operate or not to co-operate. Nobody can compel them if they go out. If they choose to go out, can I from here compel all those people to come and sit there? No. Or, am I to say, if they choose to go out, that the whole of this constitutional machinery shall break down and the majority shall not carry on, because the minority is not prepared to co-operate? Is that the Constitution?

Coming to Mr. Mukerjee's suggestion, he says that the Government there must be carried on in co-operation as far as possible with the Opposition and then try to satisfy them. I agree with him. Therefore, it is for them to come and meet me. The Socialist Party, the P.S.P. and the Communist Party are represented here. I do not know if there is any Ganatantra Parishad there; that does not appear to be the case there. All the other parties in that legislature are represented here. If they come and meet me, I will hear them and whatever I can advise as to what ought to be done, I have no objection to do. I can tell them privately, "This is what they want; go along and

do so." More than that, what is it that I can do here? Under those circumstances, there is no good bringing in unnecessarily whatever might have happened, to disturb this Parliament.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): After the statement made by the Prime Minister, you suggested a 'cease-fire' and I was one of those who suggested to the hon. Prime Minister to use his good offices with the Chief Minister of U.P. Now a very sad thing has happened. After the assurance of the Prime Minister that he would invite 30 Members, U.P. Government has not taken any sympathetic attitude and this is going on. All the Opposition Members have boycotted the Assembly not only because they wanted to boycott, but because they have been humiliated to the maximum. They have been kicked. What is the answer of the Home Minister to that kicking?

Shri Jagdish Awasthi: Even the doors were closed and members were not allowed to enter the House. It is reported in the Press. Mr. Rajnaraian Singh was thrown out

Shri Nath Pai: We share your anxiety regarding this matter coming up every day. But I would like to point your attention to one thing that has been very heavily on our mind. Is the dead weight of procedural niceties to be allowed to kill the soul of democracy? We feel very deeply. As the final custodian of democracy in parliamentary institutions, you have to protect us in this matter when we raise our voice of protest against this. It was not Rajnaraian Singh who was kicked and spat upon, but the police tried to kick and spit upon our democracy. In this we want you to express your disapproval. We feel very agitated on this point for this simple reason that if this House is to acquiesce in this mockery of parliamentary institutions, where else can we get justice to see that the prestige of democratic institutions is upheld in this country? (Interruptions).

Mr. Speaker: I have heard Mr.

Nath Pai. What it amounts to is this. Hon. Members want me to convey what? That the police there committed excesses. What led to that? Shall I say, all that Mr. Rajnaraian Singh did may be repeated in this House and elsewhere? Shall we give an imprint to that and then approve of that conduct?

Now, a member is entitled to say something and then the Speaker says, "No, I do not agree with you; please resume your seat." He refuses to resume his seat and goes on speaking. Then the Speaker says, "You must go out" and then the Marshal comes and asks him to go out. He refuses to abide. Then the Speaker finds it impossible to carry on notwithstanding the support of the majority of members. Then he leaves the House. That is, a situation has been created by one of the Members, the Leader of the Opposition or somebody, making it impossible for the Speaker to continue in that House. Hon. Members here want me to say that that is not constitutional breakdown; that that man is in the right and the Speaker who sends the Marshal is wrong. That is, I have to give advice to the Speaker there, "You keep quiet and allow that man to continue". Is that what hon. Members here want me to say? Not only did he continue, but as soon as the Speaker went away, he takes physical possession of the House, goes to the Chair, and makes it impossible for the Speaker to carry on the administration. That is not constitutional breakdown.

Some Hon. Members: Shame!

Mr. Speaker: What that individual does is right! It is rather strange that instead of saying to that Rajnaraian Singh that it is improper that he should have done so, hon. Members come here and tell me that I must tell the Police that they were in the wrong. What is the poor Speaker to do? When the Speaker went away, the police came and tried to lift that member. But the other members surrounded him and he refused to get up. It is said that he is one of the heaviest

[Mr. Speaker]

persons there—200 lbs.—(Interruptions). Then the police lifted him and others and in lifting them, the clothes might have been torn or the police might have committed excesses.

Shri Nath Pai: They stripped him naked.

Mr. Speaker: All right; shall the Speaker by himself see to it that the cloth is immediately tied round his body? What is it that he wants to be done?

Therefore, it is a matter of regret to me that in this House not for one day, but for two days, there is nobody here who condemns the conduct of that Rajnaraian Singh, but they all come here and say that the police had misbehaved. It is very wrong. The police did what they ought to do. The Speaker did what he ought to do. (Interruptions). I would not allow it to happen here in this House—a few people trying to make it impossible for the Constitution to be observed. The majority will rule, so long as they are in the majority. The minority won't be allowed to cow down the majority. That is what has happened there; it shall not do so here. We will proceed to the next item. Sardar Amar Singh Saigal. (Interruptions).

12.20 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

TWENTY-SIXTH REPORT

Sardar A. S. Saigal (Janjgir): I beg to present the Twenty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT —contd.

Some Hon. Members rose in their seats and were making observations simultaneously.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: May I make a submission?

Mr. Speaker: I am not prepared to allow him. Hon. Members are advising me. Instead, let them advise those hon. Members in the State. We will go to the next business. Shri Karmarkar.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee: You are throwing the concept of brute majority in our face and this is completely against parliamentary democracy. It is impossible for us to remain in this House.

12.21 hrs.

At this stage Shri H. N. Mukerjee and some hon. Members left the House.

ओ प्रदेश : चक्र मुक्ते बालने का मोक्षा नहीं दिया गया इमलिये में मदत में बाहर जा रहा है।

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, be taken into consideration."

Shri Nath Pai: May I ask something?

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. He will resume his seat. I have closed the discussion.

Shri Mahanty rose—

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow any further discussion on that.

Shri Mahanty (Dhenkanal): May I make a submission? It has no relevance to the adjournment motion.

Shri Nath Pai: I want just one minute.

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed sufficient time.

Shri Mahanty: May I make a submission which has no relevance to the adjournment motion?

Shri Karmarkar: The Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 received the assent of the President on the 30th December 1956. (Interruption).

Shri Mahanty: Sir, in all humility, I want to make a submission. If it is the position that the will of the majority will prevail and the voice of the minority will not be heard, I will be out of court.

An Hon. Member: Not always.

Shri Mahanty: It is for you to guard the inherent right of the minority from the clutches of the majority. (Interruptions). I am making a submission. What is the excitement about? My submission is two-fold. Two statements have been made, one by Shri Frank Anthony and another by you. Shri Frank Anthony said that the minority is keeping the whole House to ransom, to which we take very strong exception. Then, you, Sir, have qualified the food situation as the "so-called food situation". This statement, coming from the Speaker of the House of the People, will create an impression that the opposition has been behaving irresponsibly. (Interruptions).

An Hon. Member: That is correct.

Shri Mahanty: It is not for this House, and not for the majority, to judge whether one is right or wrong. It is for you, Sir, to determine whether it is fair for an hon. Member to say that the opposition is holding the whole House to ransom.

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow this kind of debate. I have heard enough. There will be no end to this kind of discussion. When an hon. Member moves an adjournment motion, it is open to another Member to characterise it as merely trying to obstruct the business of the House.

Shri Mahanty: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: It is his opinion. So far as I am concerned, there are two

opinions with respect to food. Both the State Government and the Central Government say that there is no crisis, that they have handled the situation. (Interruptions). Unnecessarily by this kind of discussion, a crisis is likely to be created. Therefore, instead of my saying that there is no food crisis at all,—to which exception was taken the other day also—I said the "so-called food situation". Or, I can say the "alleged food shortage" because there is allegation on one side and refutation on the other side. I do not want to decide. If I say there is a food crisis, there is a quarrel. If, on the other hand, I say "so-called food situation" then also objection is taken to it. So, I would say, "alleged food shortage". There is no intention to quarrel with any member of the opposition. All I said was that this subject of food is being brought up here again and again. As I have repeatedly said, the opposition is entitled to take a fair time and make their representations. But we have no jurisdiction, and when I say so, they have to abide by my decision. Hon. Members want to make me give a ruling as to what has happened there. They want me to chastise the Speaker for having called the police. He called the police because he found it impossible to carry on. When the police entered the House, a charge is levelled that the police misbehaved. We will assume the police used more violence.

Shri Nath Pai: That is what we want you to say

Mr. Speaker: Am I to say it from here? It is for them.

Shri Nath Pai: You are the only man in the whole country who can say that. Then no further evidence is wanted. (Interruptions). Nobody else in India can say that. Constitutionally, you are the only man who can say that. So I appeal to you.

Mr. Speaker: The unfortunate thing is that the action of the persons in the

[Mr. Speaker]

opposition, which led to the break-down of democracy is lost sight of by making much of a police trouble. On the other hand, I am more concerned with that. What is now happening there? Is there really a break-down of democracy? If the opposition is not allowing the majority party to carry on with their business, they are contributing to the break-down of the democracy on the one hand and they are asking me to interfere on the other. For what? To help them to break down the democracy? Hon. Members must condemn that, instead of going on complaining that the police has committed excesses. Much is made of the police excesses and not a word is said about the manner in which the Member behaved. The members of the opposition tried to convert the majority into a minority and break down democracy. I condemn in the most strong terms that action and not that of the police. I cannot allow any more discussion.

Shri Nath Pai: Sir, I want to say only one sentence.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Nath Pai: What is the point in so many of you howling together?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member is preventing me from carrying on. I will have to request him to withdraw.

Shri Nath Pai: I will withdraw, if you won't permit me. I want to say only one sentence.

Mr. Speaker: I won't allow him. If he wants to create an excuse for walking out, I am not preventing him from doing so. He ought to resume his seat. I request him to do so.

Shri Nath Pai: You can allow a sentence.

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed sufficiently. (*Interruptions*). Order, order. We will take up the next item.

Shri Nath Pai: What is lost if you listen to me for a minute? In other countries, have such things happened?

Have such things happened in the House of Commons?

Mr. Speaker: I will not allow any more discussion.

12.28 hrs.

INDIAN MEDICAL COUNCIL
(AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Health (Shri Karimkar): Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, be taken into consideration."

The Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, received the assent of the President on the 30th December, 1956. Under sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Act, it shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification, appoint. But before the Act can be brought into operation it is necessary that the States, more particularly the re-organised States, get the State Medical Registers prepared as the Medical Council to be constituted under the Central Act will consist, among others, of members elected from among themselves by persons enrolled on the State Registers. Action in this behalf has been or is being taken by the State Governments; but this is bound to take some more time. In the meantime, it has been represented to the Government that unless the Act is brought into force, persons possessing certain licentiate qualifications and persons who are citizens of India possessing certain foreign medical qualifications, which are not recognised under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933, will not be eligible for enrolment on the State Medical Registers. In the circumstances, Government consider that the Act should be brought into force without further delay.

As soon as the new Act is brought into force, the Council constituted under the Indian Medical Council Act, 1933, will cease to function as there is no provision in the new Act for

continuing the existing Council until such time as a new Council is constituted under the Act. Some time will necessarily have to elapse before a new Council can be constituted as it is not possible to hold fresh elections under Section 3 of the new Act before the Act is brought into force. To get over this difficulty, the following provision was originally made in the Bill as introduced in the Rajya Sabha, which was intended to give the power of nomination to the State Governments pending the preparation of the Indian Medical Register of Members under clause (c) of Section 3 of the Act:

'Provided that pending the preparation of the Indian Medical Register in accordance with the provisions of this Act, clause (c) shall have effect as if for the words "to be elected from amongst themselves by persons enrolled on such Register", the words "to be nominated by the State Government from amongst persons" had been substituted and clause (d) shall have effect as if for the words "to be elected from amongst themselves by persons", the words "to be nominated by the Central Government from amongst persons" had been substituted'

This provision was amended as shown below by the Rajya Sabha.

'Provided that clause (c) shall have effect in any State where a Medical Register is not maintained, as if for the words "in which a State Medical Register is maintained, to be elected from amongst themselves by persons enrolled on such Registers", the words "to be nominated by the State Government from amongst persons" had been substituted; and ending the preparation of the Indian Medical Register in accordance with the provisions of this Act, clause (d) shall have effect as if for the words "to be elected from amongst

themselves by persons", the words "to be nominated by the Central Government from amongst persons" had been substituted.'

When the Bill came up for discussion in the Lok Sabha this provision had to be omitted in so far as it related to nomination by the State Governments of members under clause (c) of Section 3 of the Act, as it was considered that the proviso below sub-clause (e) of clause 3(1) was not necessary. As it is desirable that there should be continuity in the existence of the Medical Council, it is proposed to provide for the continuance of the existing Council after the commencement of the new Act until the new Council is constituted. This will enable the Government of India to enforce the new Act immediately without awaiting the completion of the State Medical Registers by State Governments. The enforcement of the Act will also entitle persons possessing certain licentiate qualifications and citizens of India possessing foreign medical qualifications to registration in State Medical Registers.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, be taken into consideration."

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi): Sir, I am very glad that the hon. Health Minister has brought this Bill before the House. It is very necessary that certain changes be made in the Indian Medical Council Act, and pending the period when the new Act comes into force, there cannot be a vacuum. There has to be a Medical Council in existence and this Bill seeks nothing more than to continue the existing Council during this period. Therefore, so far as this Bill is concerned, there is no controversy. There is no matter for any discussion in it and I think this Bill as it is can be accepted and will be accepted by everybody without any comments. However, taking this opportunity I would like

[Dr. Sushila Nayar]

to make a few general remarks regarding the Medical Council.

The Medical Council has been set up to act as the custodian of standards of medical education and medical practices and the maintenance of both ethical and professional standards. So far as medical education is concerned, naturally rapid progress has been made in recent years with regard to the methods of teaching, techniques of teaching and even the content of teaching in the medical schools and colleges. The Medical Council has to keep up with all these activities and be in a position to suggest and have implementation of their suggestions with regard to the improved techniques and improved methods of teaching. I would like to ask the hon. Minister to have some kind of an appraisal made as to whether the Council has been able to do the job that it was expected to do with regard to the standards of medical education in the country.

Secondly, it is for the hon. Health Minister to consider as to what extent the Council has at its disposal the necessary facilities to keep a continuous contact with all the medical colleges in the country and to keep a constant up-to-date knowledge of what is happening in the field of medical education and in different subjects of medical education in India and abroad.

Thirdly, has the Medical Council succeeded in giving some kind of an orientation to the medical education in this country which will make our graduates coming out of the medical colleges better fitted to serve the needs of the masses in this country?

The problem before us is a difficult one and at the same time a challenging one and a most fascinating one. We have to provide medical facilities for the masses in this country as quickly as possible. We cannot be content with thinking that in five years

we will increase them by five or ten per cent and in another five years by another five per cent and thus for the total population to be covered we will have to go up to perhaps five or six or even more Five-Year Plans and may be even 50 or 100 years may pass before we can cover the whole population. That prospect cannot be accepted by anybody. It cannot be looked at with equanimity by anybody.

It is for the Medical Council to consider how these doctors that they are turning out from the medical colleges are trained so that they can work in co-ordination with what personnel is today available in the country-side—a vast mass of half-baked doctors you might call them, a vast mass of vaids and hakims and others. On the one hand the Ministry has to consider some methods of bringing their knowledge up-to-date, but leaving that aside during the medical education of our doctors it is necessary that it be impressed upon their minds that they have to work in co-ordination with these people and not feel superior or in a mood to condemn everybody else except people who have been trained like themselves.

We have before us the question of hundreds of thousands of our villages where medical facilities are non-existent or are very inadequate. Our trained men cannot reach every nook and corner of rural India. The men who are there today can be made to serve as the limbs of the fully trained doctors and reach where they themselves might not be in a position to reach. I feel that it is for the Medical Council to bring about that change in the outlook of medical men by re-orientation of medical education in the country so that the young graduates would begin to think in terms of the tasks before them and be in a position to make use of all possible facilities and resources that may be forthcoming or that may be capable of being used and in this fashion in

order to help in the big task of providing medical care for all the people in the country.

I have another question to ask the hon. Minister of Health. Here, in Delhi, we have set up an All India Institute of Medical Sciences. It is an institute which we look up to with pride. It has raised great hopes in the mind of the medical profession and the people throughout the country. A tremendous amount of money is spent upon the Institute of Medical Sciences. It is to be a place of learning and it is to be a place of research. It is to evolve new methods of medical education as well as of medical care and administration and so on. But, this Institute is completely outside the purview of the Medical Council. I am unable to understand the reason or justification for doing so. After all, if the Medical Council is the overall custodian of the standards of medical education in this country, would it not be right for the Institute to be under the Medical Council? Or, if there is, for any reason, a feeling that the Medical Council is not up to the job that it will have to do for supervising an Institute like the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, by all means, change that Council. By all means give the All India Institute the place of the Medical Council by bringing about certain changes or make it an Associate Member. The Director of the Institute can be a Member of the Medical Council and could even be given a responsibility and a place of honour in the Medical Council. But, it seems to be a completely wrong concept to keep this top-ranking medical institute in the country, which has to make experiments and find out new methods of teaching, which has to carry on new researches and raise the medical standards, completely outside the purview of the Medical Council, so that the results of their discoveries cannot be made use of for the purpose of improving the standards all over the country. The hon. Minister might say, well, even though the All India Institute of

Medical Sciences is not within the jurisdiction of the Indian Medical Council, it is perfectly possible that what they discover can be taken to other Universities and other medical colleges and be applied there. If that is so, why do we have a Medical Council at all? We have the Medical Council because it is the feeling that through the Medical Council, better co-ordination, better exchange of experience and better maintenance of standards of medical education can be kept up in the country. Under those circumstances, I am very clear in my mind that it is necessary for the Ministry to put all medical colleges in the country under the jurisdiction of the Medical Council, and keep no teaching institution outside its purview.

The All India Institute of Medical Sciences is kept even outside the purview of the Delhi University. How far that is justified, I do not know. They say, the Institute is going to provide trained teachers for the whole of India. These teachers are to go and work in the medical colleges which are under the Medical Council. But, the Institute which is training the teachers has no contact at all, with the Medical Council. It is a matter of, I think, clash of personalities. If that be so, I think it is a most unfortunate situation that because of that, this kind of a situation should come about where the Medical Council is not in a position to perform the functions that are expected of it. I plead with the hon. Health Minister to look into this matter and see to it that the Medical Council is constituted in a manner and is given facilities which will enable it to perform the functions which it is expected to do in India and which similar Medical Councils perform in other parts of the world, for instance, in England from where we have taken the pattern of the Indian Medical Council.

With these words, I whole-heartedly support the Bill that the hon. Minister has placed before the House.

Shri Kodiyan (Quilon—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Mr. Speaker, the present Bill seeks to extend the life of the existing Medical Council of India. I did not hear the opening remarks of the hon. Minister. Anyhow, I am glad that at last the Government has decided to implement the Indian Medical Council Act of 1956.

The Indian Medical Council Act was passed in 1956. Although more than one year and eight months have elapsed since then, it is regrettable that the Act has not been brought into operation. Of course, the hon. Minister may say, pending the preparation of the State medical registers, it was not possible for the Central Government to implement the Act. But, the responsibility for not implementing the 1956 Act, in my opinion, cannot be shifted entirely to the shoulders of the State Governments, because, according to the 1956 Act, certain licentiate practitioners of the medical profession were to be enrolled on the State medical registers and without the 1956 Act being brought into operation, such licentiate members of the medical profession could not get themselves enrolled on the State medical registers. Of course, the State Governments may have made some delays. They will have to make adjustments, make some changes in their existing State Medical Acts. But, at the same time, there was this difficulty that unless the 1956 Act was brought into operation, perhaps, the State Medical registers could not have been completed by the State Governments concerned.

Now the Government wants to implement the 1956 Act. The difficulty is that when the 1956 Act is brought into operation, the existing Medical Council will cease to function because, there is no provision in the 1956 Act for the continued existence of the Medical Council till the new Council is constituted under the 1956 Act. This shows clearly the lack of foresight on the part of the Government

and also the defect in our legislation. The Government could have seen such an eventuality that when the Act was brought into operation, it would be difficult to have the continued existence of the Medical Council. They could have very well made such a provision in the 1956 Act at the time of the discussion of that Bill. They did not do it. Now that they have decided to implement the Act, the old Medical Council will cease to exist and therefore, they want an extension of the life of the existing Medical Council. Of course, we must have the continuity of the Medical Council in our country, because, it is a very responsible body. It is considered to be the custodian of medical education and medical standards in our country. Therefore, I whole-heartedly support the idea of giving an extended period for the life of the Medical Council of India.

But, what I want to submit is this. No excuse can be put forward for the delay in implementing the 1956 Act. Before coming to certain other matters relating to medical education in our country, I want to bring to the notice of the House another point. Now, the life of the Medical Council is to be extended and we are asked to approve this amendment. But no information is given to us regarding the working of the Medical Council. If we are to approve this amendment and extend the life of the Medical Council, we are entitled to know what the Medical Council is doing, what its activities are and whether the responsibilities that have been entrusted to it have been discharged satisfactorily by that Council. No information is available with regard to the Medical Council's activities. Either in the Annual Report of the Ministry or in any other publication, no such information is coming forth.

With regard to our health services, it is our common experience that most of our health projects and schemes suffer because of the shortage of medical personnel in the country. Without having sufficient number of

trained medical personnel, qualified medical personnel, whatever be the soundness of the schemes launched by us, their success cannot be guaranteed. Medical education in our country, therefore, has to be improved a lot, and both the quality and the quantity of the output of the medical colleges have to be improved. Though in recent years we have made some progress with regard to the improvement of medical education in our country, that cannot anyhow make us complacent about the tasks lying ahead of us.

There is no uniform standard of medical education in our country, and also the quality of medical teaching has not improved substantially. I shall quote here the Ministry's own recent publication.

Health in Independent India: At page 150, the author of this book says:

"A certain amount of wastage is to be observed between the number of admissions to medical colleges and the graduations. The fault does lie somewhere. Sometimes it is that the candidates are unsuitable material for the medical profession or the pace proves too much for them and they drop out before graduation or else take a much longer time to assimilate what is the normal five years training. Perhaps the methods of examination are faulty and tend to serve much more as a test of memory than of the practical application of what has been learnt. It may even be that the methods of teaching are faulty in themselves. Be that as it may, the cumulative result of all this is that the output of doctors suffers both in quality and quantity."

This is from the Ministry's own publication, and so there is no controversy about that subject. What concerns us is the steps we are going to take

to improve the system of medical education and also, of course, the training facilities for bringing out more and more doctors and other medical personnel every year from our institutions. As I have already pointed out, without doing this main-work, the basic work, we cannot progress satisfactorily with our schemes, and because of this shortage of medical personnel, as Dr. Sushila Nayar has already pointed out, it is the millions of people in the rural areas that suffer.

The All-India Institute of Medical Sciences has been referred here by Dr. Sushila Nayar. I also support the idea that this Medical Institute should be brought under the jurisdiction of the Medical Council.

Now I come to foreign qualifications. Our citizens go abroad and get foreign qualifications from outside, but according to the existing Act, the Act of 1933, some of those qualifications are not recognised in our country, and such persons find it very difficult to practise medicine in this country.

I do not wish to quote every instance that has been brought to my notice, but I know there is one gentleman in Calcutta who took his MBBS degree from the Dacca University in East Pakistan some six years ago. When he returned to Calcutta, he found that this degree was not a recognised qualification in India, and so he could not practise. He made several representations to the authorities concerned, but with no results. If the 1956 Act had been brought into operation, this difficulty would not have arisen because it contains provisions to recognise such foreign qualifications. Therefore, I would request the hon. Minister that there must be no delay in implementing the 1956 Act.

Then, with regard to reciprocal arrangements, I do feel that we should not recognise the medical degrees conferred by certain foreign countries which are not prepared to recognise our institutions and our degrees. At

[Shri Kodiyan]

the same time, I wish to point out that there are a number of world famous medical institutions where higher learning in medical science is imparted, such as Hopkins, Columbia and Moscow Universities. There must be facilities for our people to go abroad and study in these higher institutions and learn all the benefits of modern techniques of medicine and surgery.

Lastly, I wish to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister that the licentiate medical practitioners, though they may not be fully qualified as the graduates, are doing a great service to our country. Hitherto they have been kept aloof from the Medical Council. They are not given any representation in the Medical Council at present. According to the 1956 Act seven representatives of the licentiate medical practitioners are to be elected to the Medical Council, but since the 1956 Act was kept in cold storage after it was passed by Parliament, they could not get that representation in the Medical Council which they very greatly deserve. Now that the hon. Minister has decided to extend the time limit of the Medical Council, I request him that, pending the preparation of the All India Medical Register, the seven representatives of the licentiate medical practitioners should be nominated to the Council, so that the Council will become more representative of all those qualified medical personnel in our country who are doing a very humanitarian service.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Nanjappa. I am calling Dr. Melkote next.

Shri Nanjappa (Nilgiris): I am unable to welcome this amending Bill in so far as it makes the Act of 1956 inoperative to its full effect.

13 hrs.

Sir, by the Act of 1933 a large number of medical men in this country are not eligible to get into the

all-India register and they had no voice in the All-India Medical Council. But by the Act of 1958 they are brought in the all-India register and they can elect representatives to the All India Medical Council. Sir, after a very long agitation for over twenty-three years they were all given the chance to enter into the all-India register. But even after two years after the passing of this Act of 1958 they were not allowed to elect their representatives to the All-India Medical Council. We do not know how long they will have to wait.

One of the reasons given for not bringing these people into the register is the reorganisation of States as a result of which the registers were not prepared up to date. Sir, the reorganisation of States took place long ago, more than two years ago, and general elections for these State Assemblies have taken place and they have been working for the past one and a half years. Even in the course of these one and a half years a register was not prepared by some of the reorganised States

Sir, the preparation of a register is not a very difficult thing. It is not as if preparing for the general elections. Every medical man in this country practising modern medicine and surgery has to register himself as a practitioner. So, most of their names are in the State list and it is not difficult to prepare a list. What the State Government has to do is only to get their correct addresses. They may probably have to make certain deletions due to the death of practitioners. These are the things they have to do and the register will be brought up to date. In order to aid this process the D M O is there. Every district medical officer can prepare the list of each district and he can put it up. The medical men have organised themselves and they have got medical associations on an all-India basis, on State basis; even in districts and taluks they have got their associations. They have got

their printed list. They can give it at a moment's notice.

There is the third process of advertisement through newspapers or by pamphlets. The list can be prepared in no time. Or the medical men themselves can address and get themselves enlisted in the register. So, the preparation of the list is not such a great thing and could have been done within the course of a few months and elections could have been held. Yet one does not understand why the thing is being postponed for any length of time.

Another reason given for bringing this amending Bill is for continuance of the Indian Medical Council. In a time of emergency even at the time of elections, the whole Constitution of India is suspended and election takes place. What if the Indian Medical Council is suspended for some time and election is proceeded with? Sir, it has given room unnecessarily for heart-burning and suspicion to large sections of people who have been left out of the register and they have no voice in the Indian Medical Council. I do not suggest that this amending Bill should be withdrawn. All I say is: let the Ministry go on with the Bill. Within the course of a few months they can hold the elections and reconstitute the Indian Medical Council. It is for the hon. Minister to draw up a programme for the preparation of the register for the election; the election can be held within a few months and the Indian Medical Council can be reconstituted and nothing will be lost.

Sir, with these few words I request that early elections may be held for the Indian Medical Council and all those who were left out of the register may be brought in.

Dr. Melkote (Raichur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I congratulate the Health Ministry for their boldness in bringing this amendment to the Act. This amendment was due long ago and the licen-

tiates in particular have been feeling that it has come too late. Now that it is being amended, though late, it is to be welcomed.

This is part of the legacy which we are still enjoying of the British regime. The British created different sets of educational institutions and even such as those that qualified themselves as licentiates, when they went into service or took to private practice were looked down upon by the public at large for the simple fact that in the Council they were not allowed to sit on a par with the other medical men. May I say, Sir, that these very licentiates are allowed to compete with the highest qualified medical practitioners, even such of those that qualified themselves and came back from England, and are allowed to practise.

Then again, in many of the medical colleges it is still to be found that these licentiates teach the students for the graduate's course. How the licentiates who are considered as an inferior type of brand, who are not supposed to have qualified themselves sufficiently could be allowed to teach graduates who are supposed to come up to sufficiency mark is an anomaly of the British regime. Then again the licentiates as a body in their association and annual conferences and through the All-India Medical Association Conference, which includes medical men of every brand in the country have been voicing their feeling that this type of distinction between the licentiates and the other graduates should be removed.

When war came in and it was to the advantage of the British regime to take the services of these licentiates they were put on a par with the other graduates and when their services were needed they were considered sufficiently qualified. Many of them are still in the army holding very high positions. Some of them are civil surgeons, and quite a number of them have left bequests with which many of the associations are inviting the

[Dr. Melkote]

highest medical practitioners of the country to come and speak on any particular subject either in surgery or in midwifery. So, in actual practice, these licentiates have enjoyed a status equal to that of the highest men. But this Medical Council of India even today does not want to recognise the licentiates as on a par with the others. They are still in part II of the Third Schedule, where they have been relegated to the background.

I personally feel that apart from including these seven members of the licentiates into the Medical Council, which this Bill decides to do, something further should be done. It is a fact that some of the States have still not taken measures to bring the registers up to date. I suspect—I may not be quite correct—that some of the senior members of the profession who are graduates and who are not licentiates would possibly like to feel that this Act which has been passed by this Parliament in 1956 should not be put into operation, by not bringing the State Medical Registers up to date. I also understand that there may be difficulties in the States. There was the Andhra State which was formed in 1953, and which had to form a new register, after it got out from the Madras State. Then, the Hyderabad State got disintegrated, and there was the Hyderabad Medical Council which has had to merge with the Andhra Pradesh Medical Council. So, these delays may be partly due to these reasons, and part of the blame for the delay might be laid on them. In spite of that, the licentiates generally feel that the senior members of the profession who are full-fledged graduates do not want them to be treated on a par; and, therefore, it is being delayed. I, therefore, have to say that what is being done by the Ministry today is the general consensus of opinion of the country, and what is being done today is a bold act which would be welcomed by every medical practitioner.

My second point is this. I have been a member of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences, from this Parliament, elected by the Members of this House, and I would like to say that Dr. Sushila Nayar has raised a very pertinent point in regard to this institute. The All India Medical Institute is supposed to be the premier medical institute in the country, and it has to set up standards for others, and if it has to set up standards for others, its standards must be above those of others. Since the All India Medical Council is there to test these standards I do not see why the institute should not allow itself to be inspected by the Medical Council. Nowhere in the world has a medical institute or a medical college been constituted which does not come within the purview of the medical council of the State. The Medical Council of India not being able to recognise or test the standards, and the Medical Institute feeling shy of the whole affair smack of something that is not good. The Medical Institute should make bold to get its standards tested by anybody in this world including the Medical Council of its own country. I, therefore, welcome what Dr. Sushila Nayar has been saying, and I have been repeating the same thing elsewhere also.

Thirdly, I would like to say that the system of licentiates, for whose benefit all this is being done, was a system that was in vogue in the country. It no longer exists. We have no licentiate system anywhere in the country today. And those people that are there now would possibly fade away in the course of the next forty, fifty or sixty years. Here, in this very country, we have apothecaries who are recognised in England, and who come and practise here, but our licentiates are not allowed by our Medical Council to go to foreign countries and get further qualifications there. The Medical Council of India does not want them to do such a thing. Again, there is the Banaras

Hindu University from which graduates in the Indian system of medicine come out, whose qualifications are recognised in America for post-graduate studies. Equally, so, some of the German institutions also recognise some of these graduate courses in the Indian system of medicine; they can go and qualify themselves with the highest qualifications in the allopathic system, and when they come back to this country, it is said that since they have not had the basic qualifications here, though they have the highest qualifications, in allopathy, of those countries, they should not be put on the register here. Whether they were qualified here sufficiently or not is a different question, but today they have the highest qualification, and they can practise anywhere in the world, but they would not be put on the register in India, which again smacks of injustice to these people. I, therefore, feel that the Medical Council of India should make bold and assert its own independence and not still follow in the foot-steps of the British system which is still our legacy. I feel that a new type of orientation in the Medical Council is necessary. So, I welcome this amendment that has been brought forward by Government, and Government should be enabled to nominate the licentiates in any of the vacancies. I go a step further. Today, as the Act is sought to be enforced, may I request the Health Minister that till such time as the elections do not take place seven members from among the licentiates should be included or nominated immediately, and they should be allowed to act in the present Medical Council? If such a thing is done, I am sure the licentiates in the whole country would welcome it, and justice will have also been meted out to them.

I have nothing further to say except to congratulate the Ministry once again for this bold act.

Shri M. C. Jain (Kaithal): I rise to support this two-clause Bill seeking to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1958. In that Act, Government

took powers to appoint a date to enforce the Act. But more than eighteen months have passed, and yet Government could not decide when it should be enforced. Of course, there was some difficulty why the Act could not be enforced, because if it had been enforced, the existing Council would have ceased to exist.

But my grievance is why the Health Ministry should have taken more than eighteen months to come to the conclusion that this Act requires amendment. I feel that the labours of this Parliament have been kept in abeyance for eighteen months. Not only have the labours of Parliament been kept in abeyance, but the hopes raised in the minds of the medical people all over the country that their representatives also would be included in the Indian Medical Council have also not been fulfilled. Through you, Sir, I would like to bring it to the notice of the Ministry that such delays cast a slur on the administration. Why should the Ministry have taken so much time to detect this small lacuna in the Act? I realise, and I agree, that there was a lacuna in the Act, but that could have been found out in a very short time. Of course, it is not that anybody did not point it out to the Ministry. I know that in the Punjab, the medical people write to the department that this Act should be enforced, and the Indian Medical Council under this Act should be constituted. Still, the department did not take any steps to enforce this Act. I would like to bring it to the notice of the Ministry and the Government of India, through you, that such delays always cast a slur on the Government, and should not, therefore, be repeated in the future.

Mr. Speaker: Now, the hon. Minister.

Shri Halder (Diamond Harbour—Reserved—Sch. Castes): I have an amendment. So, may I speak?

Mr. Speaker: I shall allow him to speak on his amendment.

Shri Karmarkar: I am grateful to my hon. colleagues who have parti-

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pated in this debate for the unanimous support that they have given to this measure. Naturally, advantage has also been taken of this opportunity to offer some suggestions.

My hon. friend who spoke first suggested that some kind of an appraisal should be made as to whether the Council has done the job that it was expected to do.

I think it is my duty to tell this House that the Indian Medical Council has been able to discharge the particular task for which it was created with commendable credit, to keep up the standards of medical education on as high a pedestal as possible. Hon. Members know the speed with which medical colleges have come up especially during the last two years. It is for the good. But the colleges have not always been able to find the requisite staff with adequate qualifications for the purpose. It has been the function of the Indian Medical Council through its bodies, through its inspectors and the like, to keep always a very close watch. If I may say so, they have succeeded not only in keeping a close watch but also in being helpful to the institutions concerned by way of making useful suggestions for making adequate arrangements for the tuition of the students.

I think it was Dr. Sushila Nayar who made the suggestion that it is for the Indian Medical Council to consider how the doctors can be trained to work in co-ordination with those working in the field—a large number. It is very highly necessary in the new dispensation to work with a sense of co-ordination. In fact, it has been repeatedly placed before this House that Government's feeling in this matter has been that there should not only be co-ordination but in a sense we should take in everywhere efficient work that could be taken from other systems of medicine

also. There could not be any difference of opinion on that, and I think a new orientation also has to come—and is fast coming. The modern medicine people, doctors and the like, cannot afford—it is not proper and advisable for them—keep themselves aloof with a sense of superiority in respect of other systems of medicine or other people practising medicine. I do hope that that orientation is fast coming which will enable us to make use of the best medical talents in the country.

Another point made by Dr. Sushila Nayar and reinforced by Dr. Melkote is that there has been a sense of grievance—this was there sometime earlier also—that the All India Medical Institute should have been kept outside the purview of the Indian Medical Council. It is only recently—I think about two years back—that Parliament passed the enactment constituting the Medical Institute and Parliament in its wisdom also kept this Institute outside the purview of the Medical Council. It is yet too early to assess the possible results of the Institute having been kept outside the purview of the Medical Council.

Now, much can be said on both sides. On the one side, there is the point urged by Dr. Sushila Nayar and Dr. Melkote that we are constituting the Indian Medical Council with a view to see that adequate steps are taken to keep up the standard of medical education at as high a plane as possible. Why then should this top institution keep itself outside the purview of the Medical Council? It could also be urged, on the other side that a high grade institution like the All India Institute of Medical Sciences which in its conception is a very bold conception, might serve the purpose by being kept as an integrated institution almost as a University outside the purview of any other body in so far as its functioning is concerned.

Shri Supakar: How does it help?

Shri Karmarkar: It is just as we keep Universities outside the purview of any other parallel body, just as we have the Roorkee Engineering University functioning by itself. Therefore, it should be kept as a high institution outside the purview of any other body which is supervising. In fact, the idea then was—as anyone can see from the records—to give it as much autonomy as possible.

Dr. Melkote: It is not even a University where academic standards are tested and so on.

Shri Karmarkar: I appreciate that I appreciate both points of view. I will have this matter again considered in Government.

Mr. Speaker: What is the experience during these two years?

Shri Karmarkar: The experience is that the institution has yet to come into being. Only the first 18 months of under-graduates course has been finished out. They have yet really to function in the proper sense. I am afraid it might take about three or four years before they really begin their work. Their building has yet to come into existence so that they are having their classes in what was originally planned to be the building for the nurses' college. That is the state of things as it is.

So, as I said, Government will take cognisance of the views expressed in this House and give it a re-thought themselves. Since the All India Medical Institute is in a way an autonomous body, we shall have to take their opinion also. I shall convey the views expressed in this House to the institution also to ascertain their opinion. At this moment, I cannot commit Government to any expression of opinion on this point because the whole question has to be considered.

Shri Kodiyan and another hon. Member naturally expressed impatience about the delay that has been

there in coming up before this House. In one sense, we need not have come before this House at all, as according to the provisions that have been there in the old Act, it was possible for us to form a new Medical Council, to proceed straightway with nominations as it was within the purview of Government. Even if the new Medical Council was defective, under the provisions of the Act itself, we could have gone straight ahead functioning. But the question was whether it would be wise for us to do it. In the meantime, as has been generally appreciated—I do not want to be censorious in respect of any State Government—it has been a matter of regret to us here that there has been delay which really might not have been perhaps necessary. The States must have their own difficulties. And when State Governments ask for time, when they say, 'wait till such and such date before bringing this Act into force' and things like that, if you have to proceed with the co-operation of the State Governments, it is not always conducive to very good and efficient functioning if we ignore them. We waited and waited and waited. But we thought that if the spirit of the Act had to be brought into force, we could not wait without being untrue to the spirit of the Act itself.

Therefore, we came forward with this measure. We did not welcome the other choice of having recourse to a defective Medical Council with more or less all members nominated, because we thought as between one body which has been properly constituted—the Indian Medical Council as it is now constituted under the law—and the new one defectively formed under the new Act, we thought it would be better for us to function with the old Indian Medical Council properly constituted according to the provisions of the old Act. We thought that we could not afford to wait longer, wait till all the States concerned had brought their registers up to date, as that would be wrong. As I said, we also did not want to function in a manner which would not be

[Shri Karmarkar]

in consonance with the principle of election and the like.

Therefore, it is that we came here eventually with this Bill. We had to take the time of the House because we wanted to be considerate to the States. We could just have waited for, say six months after the Act received the assent of the President and then said that those of the States which did not bring their registers up to date would suffer the consequences of doing so. We could just have done that, but things always do not work that way. That is the reason we have come here and come here so late.

There has also been an opinion strongly expressed that pending arrangements for bringing the Indian Medical Council into existence after election, nomination and the like even in the existing Indian Medical Council, whose life we want to prolong for a time that is necessary, there should be representation for the licentiates.

Sir, I have had occasions many a time to have my attention invited to the grievances of the licentiates. They have naturally a feeling that in the new dispensation their interests are not being looked after in a sense or, to put it in rather popular parlance, the licentiates have become rather out of date. Sir, it would be wrong for us to belittle the precious services that have been rendered to the country by the licentiates. That was a system in vogue then according to the understood pattern. Later on, owing to their own strong feeling the difference between the licentiates and the medical graduates was sought to be abolished by making one degree common to all.

Many times, in matters of representation, I have seen that they have a strong feeling that sometimes their interests are neglected; sometimes their right to proper representation is

neglected. I appreciate the feeling though it might not always be justified. An amendment has come before the House providing for nomination to the Council—even in the interim period—from persons possessing medical qualifications included in Part I of the Third Schedule of the Indian Medical Council Act of 1958.

Earlier, our view was that, since this is going to be for the interim period only, it might not be strictly necessary to have licentiates included in the Medical Council. But, in view of the fact that so much time has elapsed and since on principle we have agreed in the Act that they are going to have representation, after reconsideration, and after listening to the hon. Members here, I have a feeling that in this particular matter, the licentiates should not be kept under any possible grievances. Therefore, I have got before me an amendment—I am just informing the House but I will move it at the proper time with your permission—that after the figure 1933 in line 15, the words "with the addition of seven members nominated thereto by the Central Government from among persons enrolled on any of the State Medical Registers who possess the medical qualifications included in Part I of the Third Schedule to this Act" may be added. If you permit me, Sir, I will move it or it may be moved by some other hon Member, because it fulfils the purpose of the earlier amendment on record. It fulfils also wishes of the hon Members who spoke on this particular point.

I need not take the time of the House any longer. There are many precious suggestions which have been given on the floor of the House by Dr. Sushila Nayar and other hon. Members. Those suggestions will be given the respect to which they are entitled and will be considered in due course.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted

Clause 2.—(Substitution of new section for section 34.)

Mr. Speaker: There are certain amendments to clause 2. There is Shri Halder's amendment. Is it to this that the hon. Minister was referring?

Shri Karmarkar: It is that of Shri Kodiyan and Shri Nayar.

Mr. Speaker: Then both may be moved. Shri Halder may move his amendment. Does Shri Kodiyan want to move his amendment?

Shri Kodiyan: Yes, Sir. I wish to move my amendment. I may not press it.

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, I have read out the draft of the amendment which would be acceptable to Government. It is substantially the same as his except that it is legally clothed. Either Shri Kodiyan may be permitted to move his amendment in the modified form or I may be permitted to move my amendment.

Shri Kodiyan: I would like to move my amendment; but I do not wish to press it.

Shri Karmarkar: I think he need not move his amendment. Sir, I move:

Page 1, line 15,—

after "1933" insert—

"with the addition of seven members nominated thereto by the Central Government from among persons enrolled on any of the State Medical Registers who possess the medical qualifications included in Part I of the Third Schedule to this Act".

Mr. Speaker: Shri Halder can speak on his own amendment as well as on the Government amendment. I will treat Shri Kodiyan's amendment as not moved.

Shri Kodiyan: Sir, I said that I will move it but not press it.

Mr. Speaker: Yes, he may move it.

Shri Kodiyan: Sir, I move—

Page 1,—

after line 21, add—

"Provided that seven members are nominated to the Council from persons possessing the medical qualifications included in Part I of the Third Schedule of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956."

Shri Halder: Sir, I move—

Page 1, line 21,—

after "fit" insert—

"after consultation with the members of the Executive Committee."

13.36 hrs.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair**]

Sir, in the Indian Medical Council Act of 1956, the whole idea of the Central Government seems to be that the Council should have the right of specifying which particular qualifications should be recognised to be the standard. The intention of the Bill is good no doubt. But when the Bill was in this House a memorandum by the Indian Medical Association was sent to the Central Government. I will now quote one sentence from that memorandum.

"The Indian Medical Association deplores the arbitrary nature in which the Health Ministry is passing a measure ignoring the Indian Medical Council and flouting the opinion of the organised medical profession in our country."

Government is liberal enough to come forward with a Bill to give licence to the medical practitioners

[Shri Halder]

who have no licence. The intention is good no doubt. There are thousands of medical practitioners in the rural areas who have no such licence qualifications or diplomas. But most of the people in the rural areas are treated by them. What will be their condition? I think they should also be considered.

Another point I would like to mention is, taking the power from the hands of the Indian Medical Council by the Central Government or the Health Ministry is not enough. That means, some officials will control the Indian Medical Council which may not remove the grievances of our people. That may even create troubles among the people.

We hear of instances in the Medical Colleges in Calcutta and elsewhere that even the newly delivered mothers do not see their children by their side in the morning. Even the patients have disappeared from the hospitals. There are so many instances. Even in Delhi there is the famous Irwin Hospital which is fully controlled by the Government and there are serious charges made against this hospital. There are a big number of hospitals which are not properly managed and against which people have got grievances.

Only a few days ago, in Calcutta, from the Indian Medical Association a deputation was sent to the Chief Minister of West Bengal, who is also an eminent doctor, that there are many grievances against the management of the hospitals and that even Government are not properly looking after the interests of the doctors and the nurses in those hospitals.

This also should be considered. I can mention here an instance. Only two or three months ago, the West Bengal Government had taken over charge of the R. G. Car Medical College Hospital renowned in West Bengal for its misdeeds and mis-

management. I do not like to mention many other instances but I shall request the Government that when taking over charge of this Medical Council will not be enough. They should be very careful about the patients and the medical practitioners who are practising in our country. For that reason, I say that if the Central Government takes over charge of these things, it will not solve the problem. There is an organisation which still exists in the country and if some power is given to that, it may probably solve some of these problems. Hence, I have moved an amendment.

Shri Kodiyan: Sir, I do not intend to speak on my amendment No. 2. I am grateful to the hon. Minister for accepting the substance of my amendment and for himself moving an amendment to this effect.

Shri Karmarkar: Sir, I am afraid I have not been able to fully appreciate and understand the implications of the observations made by Shri Halder. He appears to be under the impression that we are trying to take something over.....

Shri Halder: Yes, Sir. They are taking control of the Medical Council.

Shri Karmarkar: There is no emergency of that kind; we are not taking full control of anything at all. What we are trying to do is this. The moment the Act of 1956 is brought into operation, the old Act ceases to exist. So, the Indian Medical Council constituted under that Act becomes a *functus officio*. There will be some time-lag between the bringing into operation of the new Act, that is to say, the extinction of the old Act and the constitution of the new Indian Medical Council according to the present Act. The Bill aims at simply creating continuity between the old Council and the new Council—not to extinguish the earlier lamp before the new one is lit.

The other amendment is about the addition of seven persons from a particular category of persons. The Indian Medical Council will function only till the new Council comes into existence. If unhappily a vacancy arises—God bless everybody, let there be no vacancy during this period....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does it not occur by resignation?

Shri Karmarkar: Even that, God forbid. That is what I was saying. It may be any type of vacancy, by retirement, by resignation and so on. We do not want these vacancies to be created and the Government is not anxious to fill these vacancies. But if some vacancies arise, somebody has to be vested with power to nominate. Therefore, the Government which is naturally the representative of the people is the relevant body. If he really understands his amendment more than he appears to have understood it, he would not press that because he appears to place a little discretion in the hands of the executive council of the Indian Medical Council. We do not want to be clogged in the matter. We would like the Government which is responsible to this House to be vested with the power of nomination in respect of the vacancies. I think that what I have said is appreciated by him. In any case, it does not appeal to us and so I oppose them.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon. Member press his amendment?

Shri Karmarkar: I do not think he presses it.

Shri Halder: I do not press it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: So, amendments 1 and 2 are not pressed. Have the hon. Members leave of the House to withdraw those amendments?

The amendments were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall now put the Government amendment to

the vote of the House. The question is:

Page 1, line 15,—
after "1933" insert—

"with the addition of seven members nominated thereto by the Central Government from among persons enrolled on any of the State Medical Registers who possess the medical qualifications included in Part I of the Third Schedule to this Act."

The amendment was adopted.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That Clause 2, as amended, stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2, as amended, was added to the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1, Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

Shri Karmarkar: I beg to move:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Bill, as amended, be passed."

The motion was adopted.

13.46 hrs.

DELHI RENT CONTROL BILL

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to move:

"That the Bill to provide for the control of rents and evictions, and for the lease of vacant premises to Government, in certain areas in the Union Territory of Delhi, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 15 members; 30 from this House, namely Shri Radha Raman; Choudhry Brahm Perkash; Shri C. Krishnan Nair; Shri Naval Prabhakar; Shrimati Sucheta Kri-

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palani; Shrimati Subhadra Joshi; Shri N. R. Ghosh; Shri Vatukuru Rami Reddy; Dr. P. Subbrayan; Shri Kanhaiyalal Bharulal Malvia; Shri Krishna Chandra; Shri Kanhaiya Lal Balmiki; Shri Umrao Singh; Shri Kalika Singh; Shri T. R. Neswi; Shri Shivram Rango Rane; Shri Chandra Shankar; Shri Bhola Raut; Shri Phani Gopal Sen; Sardar Iqbal Singh; Shri C. R. Basappa; Shri B. N. Datar; Shri V. P. Nayar; Shri Shamrao Vishnu Parulekar; Shri Khushwaqt Rai; Shri Ram Garib; Shri G. K. Manay; Shri Uttamrao L. Patil; Shri Subiman Ghose; Shri Banamali Kumbhar and 15 members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the Committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee".

Sir, as you are aware, the question of control of the rent has been before the Government and the public as a result of the commencement of the fatal World War. Two actions were taken when it was found that the rent was rising beyond proper and due proportions. In 1939, immediately after the starting of the Second War, an order was issued known as the Order of 1939. Thereby rent control was introduced, first in New Delhi and

the standard rent fixed was the one in force on, or twelve months before, 1-1-1939. It was laid down that the landlord was not to charge a higher rent. Thereafter in 1944, the Delhi Rent Ordinance was issued and the rent control was applied to the whole of the Old Delhi areas and there also the standard rent was the same as in the earlier year 1939. For non-residential purposes, it was stated that a slight increase should be allowed for those premises the rent on which was not less than Rs. 15 per month. For structural and additional improvements a certain percentage of increase was allowed. The House may note that the increase that was allowed was 6½ per cent of the cost of improvement. Thereafter, an Act was passed in 1947 known as the Delhi-Ajmer-Merwara Rent Control Act, 1947. What was done then was, as I have pointed out, under the orders of 1939 and 1944 a certain rent was fixed which, in terms of the present Bill, would be what can be called the 'original rent'. Then it was felt that there ought to be some further increase in view of the conditions then obtaining, in view of the cost of materials and a number of other circumstances. Therefore, for the first time, when this Act of 1947 was passed, a certain percentage was increased, and the percentage also has been given here in the present Bill, which might be generally called the 'basic rent'.

We have three terms which have to be understood for a proper appreciation of the provisions of this Bill. One is the 'original rent' covered by these two orders of 1939 and 1944. The second one is what is now called the 'basic rent'. These terms were not used then, but in order to appreciate the provisions that we have in the present Bill it would be better to understand what it was, or what constituted a 'basic rent'.

This term 'basic rent' has been referred to in the Second Schedule attached to this Bill. There in paragraph 2 the term 'original rent' has been defined,

and that 'original rent' naturally was in respect of premises let out before 2nd June, 1944. Then, after taking into account the 'original rent' what was done was, the 'basic rent' had to be fixed up, and that has been referred to in paragraph 3 of this Schedule. There you will find that a certain percentage of increase has been allowed. It is stated there:

"Where the premises to which paragraph 2 applies are let out for the purpose of being used as a residence or for any of the purposes of a public hospital, an educational institution, a public library or reading room or an orphanage, the basic rent of the premises shall be the original rent increased by....."

A certain percentage is given—there is a graded increase so that those poor tenants should not be hit hard. This is for residential and for certain useful purposes when the premises are let out. Then, for premises other than those mentioned in paragraph 3, the basic rent of the premises shall be the original rent increased by twice the amount of this percentage. That was, as I pointed out, the basic rent which was allowed under the provisions of the 1947 Delhi-Ajmer-Merwara Rent Control Act. That continued until 1952.

In 1952 we had an Act which is still in force. Under that Act, you will find that so far as the rent structure is concerned that was not increased as such, but certain two provisions were made. One was that a point was laid down, a point or what ought to be the interest or the return that a landlord should expect whenever he lets out his premises to other persons. It was laid down under the Act of 1952 that in respect of those premises which were let out after 2nd June, 1944, rent should be such that it should not exceed 7½ per cent. Another provision was, with a view to see that houses were constructed

some impetus was necessary to be given to landlords to induce them to construct houses and, therefore, in those respects a departure was made and exemption was granted according to which houses constructed between 2nd June, 1944 up to 2nd June 1951 were to continue on the rent agreed upon between the parties without any change for seven years and thereafter, naturally, a proper percentage should be followed; because it was expected that while, on the one hand, the tenant ought to pay a proper or a fair rent, on the other hand, it is also necessary that the other question should be taken into account, namely, that there ought to be some impetus to the landlord to carry on construction work. Therefore, for constructions between 2nd June, 1944 and 2nd June 1951 a seven years' period was allowed during which they would be exempted from any control so far as rent control Act were concerned.

This Act is now in force. There are a number of difficulties that have been found, and the purpose of the Act of 1952 is not fully served. Therefore, Government considered it necessary to have a new Act replacing the old one to the extent that it is necessary, and so as to bring it in conformity with the modern conditions. That is why certain objectives have been placed before the people for the purpose of framing a new Act as per the Bill that we have now before us.

Three objectives have been pointed out in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. Firstly, that there ought to be a rent which is fair, which it not unconscionable. So far as the tenant is concerned, he has to pay some rent, but it should not be unfair, it should not be unconscionable. That is the first objective. The second objective is that the house also should remain in good repairs. As a result of the houses having been let out to tenants, the maintenance of houses. Therefore, the landlords began to take less and less interest in the upkeep or in the maintenance of houses. Therefore,

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what happened was that, when there was no proper repair, when maintenance was not properly looked after, some of the houses began to suffer from want of repairs. That object also has, therefore, to be taken into account and some increase has to be allowed in the rent on the ground that there ought to be some incentive to the landlords to keep the houses in good order, to maintain them properly, and not allow them to go to rack and ruin. That is the reason why this second objective was kept in view.

Then, as you are aware, the population of Delhi is increasing really by leaps and bounds, and we have also a large refugee population here. A considerable difficulty has, therefore, been felt so far as housing is concerned by numerous classes and categories of residents of Delhi. For that purpose, Government are doing whatever is possible but, in addition to this, in the private sector some encouragement has to be given, some proper and legitimate inducement has to be held out before the landlords or those who are in a position to construct houses. That is the third objective that has been kept in view, that incentive ought to be offered to those prospective builders so that they may further invest their money in the construction of new houses. This is a matter which is of great interest to those who are staying in India, to those who are residing in India and, therefore, it became necessary to give some further inducement so far as this question is concerned.

Lastly, under earlier Acts some protection was given to tenants in respect of wrong or wrongful evictions. It became necessary that under the present Act a larger measure of protection ought to be given so far as the tenants who had been or who have been in possession of the premises are concerned.

14 hrs.

So, these are four objectives that we kept in view. There were also certain

reasons or grounds for having a new Act so that other difficulties which were often felt could also disappear. For example, you will find from the Act of 1952, what was done was that whenever fair rent had to be fixed or whenever the landlord wanted eviction, the disputes between the landlords and the tenants, and the fixation of fair, standard rents were matters which were to be settled by the civil courts. So far as the civil courts machinery is concerned naturally, it is liable to delays, and there are a number of reasons where matters could not be disposed of early. That is the reason why it was felt that instead of having the usual judicial machinery of the civil courts, it would be better and would conduce to the speedy disposal of proper cases regarding standard rents and proper and expeditious adjudication of points between landlords and tenants, if a new machinery was evolved. Accordingly, a new machinery under the present Bill has been evolved. It is known as the machinery of the rent controllers.

There is a separate chapter in this Bill, dealing with the appointment of rent controllers. Their qualifications have been so fixed that they would be in a position to decide the cases in a fairly judicial manner. Therefore, the rent controllers have to be appointed in Delhi for certain zones into which the areas covered by this Bill or Act would be divided, and in that case, it will be open to the rent controllers to follow the usual methods laid down so far as the ordinary procedure is concerned. So far as the principles of justice are concerned, after hearing the parties, the rent controllers will fix the rent properly and fix the increase properly and will allow evictions only in proper cases according to the provisions of the Bill and otherwise pass orders that have to be passed in respect of the relations which are sometimes strained between landlords and tenants. These are the various matters which were being

considered and adjudicated upon by the civil courts, but it was found that it was a costly machinery and that it was a machinery which was liable to delays. There were a number of suits which are still pending for a number of years. That is the reason why it was considered that speedy procedure should be followed.

I may here give some figures showing the number of ejection cases pending in civil courts at Delhi in November, 1957, under each of the sub-sections of section 13(1) of the Delhi Ajmer Rent Control Act of 1952. The total number of cases is 5,327. The largest number of cases came under non-payment of rent, and bona fide requirements. Under non-payment of rent, it is 38; sub-letting and non-payment of rent, 841; bona fide requirements and non-payment of rent, 852; rebuilding, 382; nuisance, 432; damages, 385; repairs, 220. There are also some minor cases referred to. But I would point out that this is a fairly large number; it is taxing both to the landlord and the tenant. After all, if a litigation is there, it gives a considerable amount of inconvenience to both the parties and at least there is a sense of suspense which is not good either for the landlord or for the tenant. That is the reason why so far as this Bill is concerned, a new machinery has been evolved and that machinery is the machinery of the rent controllers. After an order has been passed by the rent controllers, it is subject to an appeal in the first instance to a tribunal. That tribunal will be there as an appellate authority. The tribunal will deal with all the cases in respect of which appeals have been filed by the aggrieved parties, and then you will be pleased to find that a second appeal also has been allowed so far as the question of law is concerned. In other words, you will agree that we have followed in substance the very principles that have been laid down in the Code of Civil

Procedure, namely, that there should be a first appeal in respect of all questions, both of fact and law, and thereafter a second appeal to the high court itself so far as the decisions on questions of law are concerned. These are the points that have been taken into account.

There are a number of matters which have to be mentioned. I would go very briefly through the summary of this particular Bill. You will find that the provisions have been so devised as to be salutary both to the landlords as also to the tenants. When this Bill was introduced in this House a few days ago, we had press comments and also the views of correspondents. If they are properly analyzed, we will find that both the landlord section as also the tenant section have complained against the provisions of the Bill. That is a matter which might perhaps show that we are in the right, because we wanted to hold the scales even. I can understand the tenants complaining that this is a pro-landlord Bill, but if landlords also complain that this is a pro-tenants Bill, then, it is some indication or measure to show that this Bill has tried to hold the scales even between the legitimate claims of the tenants and also of the landlords.

Shrimati Subhadra Joshi (Ambala):
Not a socialistic Bill.

Shri Datar: Under these circumstances, you will find if you go through the Bill that we have tried to make it as useful to all classes of society as possible, while keeping in view, as I have stated, certain broad features.

With your permission, I shall very briefly go through the provisions of the Bill in as brief a manner as possible. As I have pointed out, I shall first deal with the original rent, that is, the basic rent, which is also known as the standard rent. In this respect may I point out that houses exempt from the provisions of the 1952 Act

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were those constructed between 2nd June, 1951 and 8th June, 1955. These were exempted for a period of seven years from the date of their completion. That was done by way of an incentive.

I would request the hon. House to go through clause 6 which deals with the fixation of standard rent as also Schedule II. The second schedule is a Preliminary or an introductory schedule. What is a standard rent, how it has to be fixed, and to what extent it has been increased—all these have been pointed out in clause 6. The underlying principle is that the basic rent a ten per cent increase has to be taken into account, and to the basic rent a ten-per cent increase has to be allowed. You are likely to ask why this has been allowed. You will find that this has been allowed in the year 1958 on account of the circumstances that the costs of construction of houses have also increased to a very large extent. They have increased to more than 300 per cent. I have got figure according to which the costs of construction have increased in such a way that something has to be done in order to enable the builders of houses to give some relief. If the building cost index in Delhi based on the Central P.W.D. rates is taken as 100 in 1939, it has increased to 325 in 1958. That means it has been trebled—more than 300 per cent. Under those circumstances, I suggest that the framers of the Bill were right in allowing some increase. That is why clause 6 has provided for standard rent in respect of buildings let out at any time before 2nd June, 1944. Clause 6 says that in respect of such premises, standard rent means the basic rent of such premises as determined under the provisions of the Second Schedule together with 10 per cent of such basic rent. Over the basic rent, we have allowed an increase of only 10 per cent of the basic rent. That is a point which I would request hon. Members to note carefully. Sometimes we are criticised; but, I want to point

out that we have not given a very large increase at all; because it is only 10 per cent. increase over the basic rent which was fixed some years ago.

In the case of premises which were constructed before 2nd June, 1951 and let out at any time on or after the 2nd June, 1944, there also this 10 per cent. increase has been allowed. In any other case, where the rent has been fixed under the Acts of 1947 and 1952, then an increase has to be allowed on the basis of a certain principle, namely, that the rent shall be calculated on the basis of annual payment of an amount equal to eight and one-fourth per cent, per annum. This is the criterion of the interest or return that the landlord is entitled to have. This is the maximum that we allow in view of the present conditions. This principle has been followed for the purpose of fixing the standard rent.

Certain other points have been made clear in clause 6.

The proviso may kindly be studied by hon. Members. It says:

"(a) in the case of any premises constructed on or after the 2nd day of June, 1951, but before the 9th day of June, 1955, the rent at which the premises were let for the month of March, 1958 or, if they were not so let, the rent at which they were last let out shall be deemed to be the standard rent for a period of seven years from the date of the completion of the construction of such premises."

That has been laid down by way of concession.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hisar): This is not a concession; this is taking away a concession.

Shri Datar: The hon. Member is entitled to have his own views. Proviso (a) deals with the premises constructed after 2nd June, 1951, but

before 9th June, 1955. Proviso (b) deals with the cases built after the 9th June 1955 including those which are built after the commencement of the Act that will follow if this Bill is passed. In that case, the rent agreed upon between the landlord and the tenant when such premises were first let out shall be deemed to be the standard rent for a period of five years from the date of such letting out. These are the two provisos which have been introduced in this Bill for the purpose of giving some protection so far as the parties are concerned.

It has been made clear in clause 7 that certain charges ordinarily will have to be paid by the tenant or the landlord as the case may be. So far as charges for consumption of electricity and water are concerned, if in the absence of any agreements to the contrary, they are paid by the landlord or recovered from the landlord, the landlord can recover them from the tenants. So far as the taxes on the building and land are concerned, naturally it is a liability to be borne by the landlord. That also has been made clear.

So far as the question of sub-letting is concerned, it is a fairly complicated matter, but often times, we have to deal with sub-letting. Two points have been made clear here. One is normally sub-letting should not be allowed, because if a man takes a particular house or premises, ordinarily he ought to be in possession of the premises so long as the relationship of landlord and tenant continues. But there might be certain circumstances where there has been a sub-tenancy which has been more or less condoned or acquiesced in by the landlord. There are a number of such cases.

There are other cases where the landlord sub-leases a particular tenancy and then goes and lives in another house. Such cases were fairly large. So, it was laid down that there ought to be a regularisation

of some cases of sub-tenancy; not all. A principle also has been laid down. One of the aspects from which the question of rent is approached, so far as sub-tenancy is concerned, may be found in clause 7(3). Clause 7 deals with lawful increase of standard rent in certain cases. After the fixation of standard rent, if there have been some additions, any improvements, and if that circumstance has not been taken into account in fixing the standard rent, a further proper increase ought to be allowed. That has been made clear in sub-clause (1) which says:

"Where a landlord has at any time, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, incurred expenditure for any improvement, addition or structural alteration in the premises....."

The words following this have to be noted:

"....not being expenditure on decoration or tenantable repairs necessary or usual for such premises, and the cost of that improvement, addition or alteration has not been taken into account in determining the rent premises, the landlord may lawfully increase the standard rent per year by an amount not exceeding eight and one-fourth per cent. of such cost."

That is the criterion laid down so far as the legitimate expectations on the part of the tenant are concerned.

I have already dealt with sub-clause (2). Sub-clause (3) says:

"(3) Where a part of the premises let for use to a tenant has been sub-let by him—

(a) the landlord may lawfully increase the rent payable by the tenant—

(i) in the case of any premises let for residential purposes, by an amount not exceeding twelve and one-half per cent. of the standard rent of the part sub-let;

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(ii) in the case of any premises let for other purposes, by an amount not exceeding twenty-five per cent. of the standard rent of the part sub-let."

This is what is called regularisation of increase of rent.

Then, clause 8 deals with notice of increase of rent which has to be given by the landlord to the tenant. This will arise where the standard rent has not been fixed at all. There it is open to the parties to approach the Rent Controller, and the procedure to be adopted by the Rent Controller is dealt within clause (9), where it is stated:

"The Controller shall, on an application made to him in this behalf, either by the landlord or by the tenant, in the prescribed manner, fix in respect of any premises—

- (i) the standard rent referred to in section 6; or
- (ii) the increase, if any referred to in section 7."

Then, in sub-clause (2) it is stated:

"In fixing the standard rent of any premises of the lawful increase thereof, the Controller shall fix an amount which appears to him to be reasonable having regard to the provisions of section 6 or section 7 and the circumstances of the case."

Then, in sub-clause (3) the same point has been made further clear. Where it becomes difficult to assess the exact rental capacity, it is open to the Controller to fix it after having due regard to the situation, locality and condition of the premises and the amenities provided therein. So, he has to take into account the locality and the rent of the premises in the neighbourhood and then he can fix it properly.

I need not deal with the other points dealt with in clause (9). I will now come to the fixation of interim rent. Often times what happens is that suits are filed by the landlords for eviction on the ground of non-payment of rent. In such cases, if the tenant finds that the rent is not fair or is unconscionable, it would be open to the tenant to approach the Rent Controller and to have interim rent fixed, and after it is so fixed, he can go on paying it, and if he goes on paying it properly, there would be no penalty of eviction. That is the principle of equity which has been embodied in this Bill. The clause says:

"If an application for fixing the standard rent or for determining the lawful increase of such rent is made under section 9, the Controller shall, as expeditiously as possible....."

In fact, we expect all the proceeding before the Rent Controller will be expeditious.

"....make an order specifying the amount of the rent or the lawful increase to be paid by the tenant to the landlord pending final decision on the application and shall appoint the date from which the rent or lawful increase so specified shall be deemed to have effect."

Then, nothing more than the standard rent, plus increase where it is allowed, is to be charged. That is laid down in clause (11). Then we have a period of limitation. Formerly, it was six months. Now it is one year.

Then you will find that Government have tried to be fair with the tenants, to a larger extent than even with the landlords. If in any particular case something more has been recovered, something which ought not to have been recovered has been recovered,

that will have to be refunded, and that has been provided for in clause 13.

Then, Chapter III is a very important one from a number of points of view. It deals with the question of eviction. It lays down that eviction can be only on certain grounds, and the grounds have been specified in clause (b). The first point is non-payment of rent. The second point is sub-letting and assigning or otherwise parting with possession. In that case, two conditions have been laid down. If the premises have been let out after the 15th day of April 1952 without obtaining the consent in writing of the landlord, then it can be done. Then, consent in writing is necessary in respect of all houses let out after the 15th day of April, 1952, that is the date on which the last Act came into force. If the premises have been let out before the same date without obtaining his consent, writing or oral of whatever it is, then this will apply. Then, if the tenant has used the premises for a purpose other than for which it was let out, this will apply. Here again some conditions have been laid down. The condition is that the premises were let for use as a residence and neither the tenant nor any member of his family has been residing therein for a period of six months. Now, the tenancy has been for the purpose of residence, for the purpose of proper use. If for example, it is not in occupation for a period of six months, then he is naturally entitled to eviction. The next condition is that the premises let for residential purposes are required *bona fide* by the landlord for occupation as a residence either for himself, if he is the owner thereof, or for any person for whose benefit the premises are held. Here you will find that the rule has been relaxed so far as such *bona fide* purposes are concerned. Under the earlier Act, it was open to the landlord to ask for possession of premises let out to a tenant for his own use or for the use of his family. The word "family" is comprehensive

enough to include all relatives, near or distant. So, the word "family" has been purposely removed. Here we have stated that it has to be for himself or, if he is the guardian of some other person, for that person. Otherwise, he cannot ask for possession of the property on the ground of his requirement, his *bona fide* requirement. An explanation has also been given in this respect.

Then I come to sub-clause (f). This refers to premises which have become unsafe or unfit for human habitation and is required by the landlord for carrying out repairs. There are a large number of buildings which are in possession of the tenants. In such houses, the landlords, on account of certain difficulties, are not willing to have proper repairs effected. Therefore, what happens is that the houses are not in a good condition at all. Sometimes, they are in unsafe conditions. Therefore, it has been stated that where they are required for repairs, which cannot be carried out without the premises being vacated, it can be done. This also is made clear because if repairs can be carried out when the tenant is in possession, then they should be so carried out. But when they require serious repairs, more costly repairs, then naturally the houses will have to be vacated by the tenants.

Then, if the premises are required *bona fide* by the landlord for the purpose of building or re-building or making thereto any substantial additions or alterations, the tenant can be evicted. Another condition is that the tenant has, before or after the commencement of this Act, built, acquired vacant possession of, or been allotted, a suitable residence. This is a very reasonable ground for eviction. For example, a tenant was residing in a particular house. If he has another house which he can use, it would be absolutely wrong, especially when there is such a great pressure on housing, to permit him to use both houses. It is quite likely that he has rented out the other house for some

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advantage. In such a case he is liable to eviction.

Another condition is that the premises were let to the tenant for use as a residence by reason of his being in the service or employment of the landlord. That is a term of the employment. When the landlord, as master, allows his tenant, as servant, to remain in possession of a house, when the service comes to an end, naturally the tenancy also must come to an end.

Then there is a provision with respect to damages. Sometimes the tenants do not take proper care of the house and sometimes positive damage is also caused. That has been provided for in sub-clause (j), which reads:

"that the tenant has, whether before or after the commencement of this Act, caused or permitted to be caused substantial damage to the premises, or notwithstanding previous notice, has used or dealt with the premises in a manner contrary to any condition imposed on the landlord by the Government....."

Then, if the landlord requires the premises in order to carry out building work at the instance of Government or local authority, these orders have to be passed.

So, in these respects it is open to a landlord to ask for eviction. Then a notice has to be given which has been provided for.

Then I need not go into all other cases which have been dealt with so far as this particular point is concerned. Now I come to the circumstances when a tenant can get the benefit of protection against eviction. If for example, a suit has been filed for eviction on the ground of non-payment of rent, then we have got a provision in the Transfer of property Act also. A similar or a more substantial

provision has been introduced in clause 15 where it has been stated:

"In every proceeding for the recovery of possession of any premises....., the Controller shall, after giving the parties an opportunity of being heard....."

The House will kindly note the expressions which occur in the Code of Civil procedure and in similar Acts where the matter has to be heard judicially. Therefore it has been stated here:

".....after giving the parties an opportunity of being heard, make an order directing the tenant to pay to the landlord or deposit with the Controller within one month....."

If that is done, naturally no further proceedings so far as this remedy is concerned can go on. An interim order has to be passed, otherwise oftentimes what happened was that suits were filed for eviction on the ground that rent was not paid but the rent was not one that was proper or that was duly fixed. Under these circumstances, it ought to be open to the Rent Controller to fix the rent. It may be noted that if that rent which has been fixed as an interim measure is paid by the tenant, no future adverse consequences could arise against him.

Then, so far as the sub-tenancy is concerned, clause 16 provides:

"Where, after the commencement of this Act, any premises are sub-let either in whole or in part by the tenant with the previous consent in writing of the landlord, the tenant or the sub-tenant to whom the premises are sub-let may, within one month from the date of such sub-letting notify the termination of such sub-tenancy within one month of such termination."

I need not go into all those cases. So far as the sub-tenant is concerned, a provision has been made according to which direct relationship or a direct privity can be established between a sub-tenant, where it has been allowed, and a direct tenant. He has to give a notice and then the sub-tenant shall with effect from the date of the order be deemed to become a tenant holding directly under the landlord in respect of the premises.

Then, one more point which is of a fairly stern nature may kindly be noted. When a landlord files a suit for possession and when he recovers possession of the property or the tenant is evicted, then sometimes the object is not *bona fide*. It is far from *bona fide*. Then if he gets back possession and he lets it out to others, that would constitute a *mala fide* purpose on his part. Therefore a penalty has been laid down and clause 18 is very important. It says:

"Where a landlord recovers possession of any premises from the tenant in pursuance of an order....."

A reference has been made to certain order here.

"....the landlord shall not, except with the permission of the Controller obtained in the prescribed manner, re-let the whole or any part of the premises within three years....."

So, for three years he has to continue in possession. For three years he is not to let it out because you will find that it is a very stern measure against the landlord. It is very salutary, otherwise what will happen is that he will remove a particular tenant and then let it out to another tenant, possibly on higher rent. That would be entirely wrong. Therefore this three years period has been laid down during which it will not be open to him to re-let the premises to another tenant.

When a landlord recovers possession of any premises as aforesaid and the premises are not occupied or are re-let, then you will find that the Controller may, on an application made by him in this behalf, direct the landlord to put the first tenant into possession. That means that restitution is allowed under proper circumstances. When, for example, the whole action is *mala fide* on the part of the landlord, when he recovers possession through the court or otherwise and when he re-lets it to some other person, then that constitutes a great inconvenience to the first tenant and therefore in such a case it is open to the Rent Controller, after going through the facts of the case and after hearing the parties, to allow what can be called a restitution or to allow restoration of the possession to the original tenant.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: What is the penalty?

Shri Datar: If you will wait for some time, you will understand the penalty. There is also criminal liability. Then hon. Member will understand that. In addition to what has been done here, he will get back possession. That is the first thing. The second thing is that he will get back what is recovered from him, more than what is due. Then I would point out how in addition to these ordinary measures of a civil character between the landlord and the tenant, a provision has been made in this Act. So, to that extent you will agree that this is also a penal Act. I would invite the hon. Member's attention to a clause where it is said that if any provisions are not complied with or are violated, then he renders himself liable to penal provisions, i.e., he can be awarded punishment also. To that I shall come very soon.

Recovery of possession for repairs and rebuilding and re-entry has also been provided for. Then, I would not go into other matters of details and would pass on to Chapter IV, where it is open to a tenant to pay

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the money directly to the landlord. But sometimes these landlords are not prepared to take money. They evade the receipt of money. Now, two rules have been laid down. One is that when rent is offered then he ought to pass a receipt also. When it is found that the landlord is evading the receipt by certain subterfuges, it is open to the tenant to deposit this money with the Rent Controller and the payment to the Rent Controller constitutes in law and the payment to the landlord concerned. That has been provided for in Chapter IV.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam): Is there a fund?

Shri Datar: The deposit of the rent with the Rent Controller constitutes in law the payment of the landlord. It would be open to the landlord to take the money from the Rent Controller.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: I was more concerned about the Rent Controller in whose custody this money is going to be. Because of the few words that fell from the hon. Minister, I submit with respect that some provision should be made for the Rent Controller to hold that money in some fund, otherwise it cannot be in mid-air.

Shri Datar: That question might be examined. In any case, here what we are concerned with is not the possible return or income in respect of that money, but that the amount is to be paid. In the first place, the tenant has got to pay and the landlord has got to receive and pass a receipt. If he does not do so wrongly or wrongfully then the tenant's liability has to be put an end to because if it is not put an end to, several consequences of a serious nature will follow. Therefore, it has been laid down that payment to the Rent Controller constitutes in law the payment to the landlord. The landlord might recover it from the Rent Controller.

Then Chapter V is a chapter which deals with hotels and lodging houses and where certain provisions have been laid down according to which it is the duty of the manager or the proprietor to charge only reasonable charges and not excessive charges. In a proper case, under clause 30 if there is a written complaint before the Controller or otherwise and if he believes that the charges made for any board or lodging or any other service provided in the hotel are of an excessive character, he may fix a fair rate. That also has been provided for. This rate which has been fixed may be revised by him in proper cases. Charges in excess of the fair rent are not recoverable if they charge. Then, there is provision for recovery of possession by manager of a hotel. That is so far as the grievances of the managers are concerned. The lodgers or boarders have to use the premises for a proper purpose and not make themselves a nuisance or cause annoyance to others. This is the usual principle.

Then, we come to Chapter VI dealing with Appointment of Controllers. So far as this is concerned, I have already pointed out what has been done. I shall briefly make reference only to a few provisions. One is:

"A person shall not be qualified for appointment as a Controller or an additional Controller, unless he has for at least five years held a judicial office in India."

That would make it clear that he ought to have inculcated in him not only service, but the judicial spirit as well. That is the reason why civil courts have been barred from taking cognizance of these cases and they have been entrusted to those who are judicial officers in the fullest sense of the term.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Not a lawyer?

Shri Datar: No.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Ramam: I find, you cannot appoint a lawyer. As the definition now stands, he must have held a judicial office.

Shri Datar: A lawyer, after becoming a judicial officer, elsewhere can qualify himself. A lawyer by himself is not to be appointed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does Shri C. R. Pattabhi Ramam refer to the appearance of lawyers or to the appointment of lawyers?

Shri Datar: Appointment of lawyer: not appearance.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Ramam: Appearance is protected, fortunately. The Supreme Court says that they can appear, that first a notice should be given and there has to be a hearing and all that. Only a lawyer cannot be directly appointed as a Controller.

Shri Datar: What he possibly means is that it is not open to a lawyer to be appointed. As I said, a lawyer can first become a judicial officer elsewhere. For five years let him serve and then, he will be eligible. Then, Sir.

"The Controller shall have the same powers as are vested in a civil court....."

This may be noted.

"under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, when trying a suit, in respect of the following matters,.....".

It has to be treated as a judicial proceeding. Some other provisions have been laid down. Then, comes the procedure to be followed by the Controller. This is a principle of civil jurisprudence which has been laid down.

"No order which prejudicially affects any person shall be made by the Controller under this Act without giving him a reasonable opportunity of being heard."

against the order proposed to be made and until his objections, if any, and any evidence he may produce in support of the same have been considered by the Controller."

You will find that he has got all the powers and he has to follow the same procedure as a regular civil court. The procedure that has to be followed should be the procedure of the court of small causes. Otherwise, if a lengthy procedure is there, lengthy cross-examinations are carried on, there will be no end of the case at all. Therefore it has been laid down that the procedure should be the one followed by the court of small causes. He can also award costs in proper cases.

Provision has been made:

"An appeal shall lie from every order of the Controller made under this Act to the Rent Control Tribunal.....

Here, the qualifications that have been noted are,—in sub-clause 5—

"A person shall not be qualified for appointment to the Tribunal, unless he is or has been, a district judge or has for at least ten years held a judicial office in India."

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Ramam: Another thing struck me in respect of drafting. It is said, 'An appeal shall lie'.

Shri P. S. Daulat (Jhajjar): What is this? The hon. Member can speak after the hon. Minister finishes. This is a cross-examination.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If something prompts him just now, there is no harm in that. I may point out to the hon. Minister that he shall have to answer the criticisms that would be made during the discussion. He has already taken one hour. He shall have to reply again.

Shri Datar: May I point out, Sir, without committing myself at this stage, that there is some force in what he says? If we use the words that an appeal shall be preferred, we cannot compel a private person to file an appeal in every case.

Shri C. E. Pattabhi Ramam: The usual wording is, 'There shall be an appeal'.

Shri Datar: That is why I said, there is some force.

Shri C. E. Pattabhi Ramam: This is best known to the draftsmen.

Shri Datar: That question may be considered.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is going to the Joint Committee and they will consider.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: An appeal shall lie to a Tribunal consisting of one person—not in every case an appeal shall be made.

Shri Datar: In sub-clause (1), "An appeal shall lie..."; in sub-clause (2), it is said, "An appeal under sub-section (1) shall be preferred within.....". If both are taken together, they make a consistent case.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: First it is said that an appeal shall lie and then that it shall be preferred.

Shri Datar: I think both should go together.

Under what circumstances will an appeal lie to the High Court? It has been made clear in sub-clause (2) of clause 38 that:

"No appeal shall lie under sub-section (1) unless the appeal involves some substantial question of law."

The word 'substantial' has been put in purposely in order to avoid unsubstantial or technical questions.

There are provisions for amendment of orders. The Controller is to exercise the powers of a magistrate for recovery of fine. The Controller is to exercise the powers of a civil court for execution of orders. Then, comes the provision regarding finality of the order. Then, there are provisions regarding special obligations of landlords and tenants. What they have to carry out, has been made clear. Certain things, they should not do. I need not detail all that.

I would, then, bring to the attention of Shri Braj Raj Singh clause 47. Clause 47 is the last clause in this Chapter. It says that if any person contravenes any of the provisions of section 5, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for three months or fine, in the case of contravention of the provisions of sub-section (2), etc, three months imprisonment or fine. You will find that a number of offences have been created. If a landlord fails to comply with the provisions of section 45, he shall be punishable with fine which may extend to Rs. 100.

Under clause 48, no court inferior to that of a magistrate of the first class shall take cognizance of any offence punishable under this Act, or hold trials. A larger power has been allowed in the case of fine:

"Notwithstanding anything contained in section 32 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, it shall be lawful for any magistrate of the first class to pass a sentence of fine exceeding two thousand rupees on a person convicted of an offence punishable under section 47."

You will kindly note the expression "exceeding two thousand rupees". Rupees two thousand is the limit that has been laid down so far as ordinary powers of first class magistrates are concerned. It would be open to him to pass a sentence of fine exceeding Rs. 2,000. The highest amount is not mentioned. That means he can impose

any amount of fine after taking into account all the circumstances of the case.

Then, we have the last Chapter which is the Miscellaneous Chapter. Clause 49 bars the civil courts. So far as the suits that are already going on are concerned, the provision is that they shall continue where they are, namely in the civil court.

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: The redeeming feature is that suits for title are saved. It is said in sub-clause (4) that a suit in respect of title is saved. That is the most important thing.

Shri Datar: That provision is also there. It says:

"Nothing in sub-section (1) shall be construed as preventing a civil court from entertaining any suit or proceeding for the decision of any question of title to any premises to which this Act applies or any question as to the person or persons who are entitled to receive the rent of such premises."

That is, question about title pure and simple. Naturally, that has been left to the civil court.

I would invite your attention to clause 52 according to which certain other Acts have been saved.

"Nothing in this Act shall affect the provisions of the Administration of Evacuee Property Act, 1950, or the Slum Areas (Improvement and Clearance) Act, 1956, or the Delhi Tenants (Temporary Protection) Act, 1956."

This Act will continue in force till February 1959. This Act itself is of an interim nature. Now it has been allowed to remain.

Then there is the clause relating to power to make rules as usual. Then the earlier Act of 1952 has been repealed because this Act deals with all the provisions, makes changes therein and adds certain provisions therein also.

Thus you will find that if all these circumstances are taken into account, there has been considerable improvement on the last Act of 1952. The provisions that have been introduced in the Bill are of such a nature as to be of a salutary help to both the tenants and the landlords, and as I have pointed out, we have given greater attention to the legitimate claims of the tenants, and in some cases we have to take into account the realities of the situation. The realities are that there ought to be proper repairs of the houses, that the houses ought to be maintained properly; and secondly, there ought to be an incentive to the landlords or to those who are in a position to build, of a fair return provided they build properly. That is the reason why certain benefits have been promised to them, the object being that there ought to be a larger number of houses so as to cope with the pressure that at present is found. Therefore, I commend this motion to the acceptance of the House.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to provide for the control of rents and evictions, and for the lease of vacant premises to Government, in certain areas in the Union Territory of Delhi, be referred to a Joint Committee of the Houses consisting of 45 members; 30 from this House, namely:

Shri Radha Raman, Choudhry Brahm Perkash, Shri C. Krishnan Nair, Shri Naval Prabhakar, Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani, Shrimati Subhadra Joshi, Shri N. R. Ghosh, Shri Rami Reddy, Dr. P. Subbarayan, Shri Kanhaiyalal Bherulal Malvia, Shri Krishna Chandra, Shri Kanhaiya Lal Balmiki, Shri Umrao Singh, Shri Kalika Singh, Shri T. R. Neswi, Shri Shiv Ram Rango Rane, Shri Chandra Shekhar, Shri Bholu Raut, Shri Phani Gopal Sen, Sardar Iqbal Singh, Shri C. R. Basappa, Shri B. N. Datar, Shri V. P. Nayar, Shri Shamrao Vishnu Parulekar,

[Mr. Deputy Speaker]

Shri Khushwagt Rai, Shri Ram Garib, Shri G. K. Manay, Shri Uttamrao L. Patil, Shri Subiman Ghose, Shri Banamali Kumbhar and 15 members from Rajya Sabha;

that in order to constitute a sitting of the Joint Committee the quorum shall be one-third of the total number of members of the Joint Committee;

that the committee shall make a report to this House by the first day of the next session;

that in other respects the Rules of Procedure of this House relating to Parliamentary Committees will apply with such variations and modifications as the Speaker may make; and

that this House recommends to Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha do join the said Joint Committee and communicate to this House the names of members to be appointed by Rajya Sabha to the Joint Committee."

There are five hours allotted for this Bill.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Five hours only? There should be at least ten hours.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But the hon. Member should have taken objection to it when the recommendation of the Business Advisory Committee was put before the House. No, this has not been put. The Committee is considering it, and the representative of his party also must be there. This is a question that can be put there, and then it will come before the House. Then it can be considered. I need not at this stage.....

Shri Naashir Bharucha (East Khandesh): So far as I know today at 4 O'Clock the Business Advisory Committee will consider the Bill for which

it is only proposed by the Government to devote five hours. We shall consider that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is exactly what I was saying now.

Shri Naashir Bharucha: This is not the final thing. The Business Advisory Committee may change the Government proposal.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This is what I am saying, that the Committee would consider the allotment today, and there the representatives of the different parties can press that point. And again that recommendation has to come before the House. Even at that time any hon. Member who wishes to take it up can take it up. Now I call Shri Daulta, if he wants to speak, because at 3 O'Clock there will be other business.

Shri P. S. Daulta: I listened to the hon. Minister with great attention and I read the provisions of this Bill more than once. The more I read it, the greater is my belief that this Bill which has been brought forward in the name of giving relief to the tenants, is a landlords' Bill.

The hon. Minister was pleased to state that even landlords cry against this Bill. Tenants cry because it pinches them. Their cry is genuine. But landlords cry because they are shrewd enough to understand psychology. They believe that for the safeguarding of their economic interests it is always better to cry, not to keep mum. They remember Allama Iqbal:

"बमनआरे सप्यासत मे खामोशी मौत है दुलदुल", that is, Oh! Nightingale, go on crying, because they see that politics is nothing but clash of economic interests, and if they keep mum at this juncture they are going to suffer. So, the landlords' crying may not be compared with the tenants' crying, and this Bill cannot be justified by saying that both sides cry, that is why this Bill.

The point is that the lot of the tenant of this capital is very poor to begin with. He does not find any accommodation to suit his requirements. If he finds one, he is asked to pay a very high rate for that. And even if he pays, there is no security of his tenure. Whether it is the fixing of the rent, or settling the conditions of the tenure or the termination of the tenure, it is always the land lord who wins because of two reasons. Firstly there is the law of demand and supply. Demand is far greater than supply, and because of the unequal relationship between the land lord and the tenant, it is always the landlord who gets the upper hand in his relations with the tenant. Therefore, the various organisations of the tenants in Delhi tried to change their lot. They explored all democratic means they could, they shouted from platforms, they agitated through the press, and they organised deputations and waited upon our Prime Minister and our Home Minister—I do not know about Shri Datar—and I am given to understand by these organisations that they were given very promising promises that a Bill would be brought forward giving them relief.

One thing more. The Delhi tenant is an educated man. He reads the newspapers. In the newspapers he reads that in the rural side landlords have been liquidated, that a ceiling to their property has been fixed. In the rural sides not far off from here, just five or six miles, there is a slogan going on:

“लेत उस का जो उमे बोये”

An so he asks himself: The field is to the man who cultivate, but the house is not mine when I am living in it. He is not an economist to distinguish that the one is the means of production while the other is property simply for consumption. These insights of economics he cannot understand. Psychologically he entertained very high hopes because of

the promises these gentlemen made, and secondly because of this change which is going on in rural India—after all, they cannot be away from that—he expected that a very good law was coming for him. The tenants waited for long and waited with very high hopes, and now what is their reaction when this Bill has come? A big disappointment.

In this part of India there goes a saying to express the feelings of one who puts great effort, entertains very high hopes but the return is very poor:

“खादा पहाड़ निकली चुहिया”

Even this saying does not express the feelings of the Delhi tenants today. They say they moved mountains only to get a snake, not even a mouse. They mean that this Bill is not only short of their expectations, it is not only contrary to their demands, this does not only fall short of their expectations created by the promises given by the higer authorities, it goes positively against their interests.

The very Statement of Objects and Reasons makes it clear that it is a Bill for the landlords, and they have cogent reasons for believing it, because whatever law you may bring here, if houses are not built, if new houses are not there, if quite a large number of houses are not available, no law can bring down the rent. This is a hard fact. And Government realises it. But this Government, because of its peculiar type of welfare State, does not take responsibility for providing houses to its citizens. That apart, they contributed to the situation. I do not mean the partition of 1947 to which they agreed. I do not mean even the refusing of plans creating a situation in which so many houses have been built without any permission. We say simply this: the State has been expanding, but they are not able to provide houses even for their own personnel. They have been contributing to the problem. So, before the Government the position is this. They realise that rent cannot

[Shri P. S. Daulta]

be lowered without new premises being built, and they can be built either by themselves or by the Government of the people as they have done in China and neighbouring countries; or the third, alternative is to bow before the landlords, to bow before men with money, to give them incentive to invest in this so-called industry. They have adopted the third course. This Bill is a standing invitation to the men with money, 'Gentlemen, come along, invest here, and I shall make it profitable for you'. Let me tell them that it is already very profitable. If somebody wants to build a house in Rohtak or Hissar or Ghaziabad, a person from Delhi, even an ordinary clerk, would say, 'Why are you building there? Why do you not build it in Delhi, live in it and let out a part of it and have a nice income out of it?'. It is already a very profitable trade, I may tell you, and these people are going to extend this invitation to them to build houses here. And they have declared it in the Statement of Objects and Reasons. I would not refer to it in detail because my hon. friend the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs has referred to it already. But I would just draw your attention to the following:

"(a) to devise a suitable machinery for expeditious adjudication of proceedings between landlords and tenants;".

And what are these proceedings? Out of hundred per cent proceedings between landlord and tenant, 95 per cent would be ejection proceedings, and the other five per cent would be for realisation of arrears. Now, there will be another sort of litigation, because with this boon that they are getting they will go to the courts, that is, the controllers, to whom they will apply for an increase in the rent, and they are going to get it.

So, the first object of theirs is to give these landlords a machinery

through which they can eject and can realise their arrears and can get the rents increased as expeditiously as possible.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Would the hon. Member like to continue his speech?

Shri P. S. Daulta: Yes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: This would be taken up tomorrow. we shall now proceed to the next business.

15-02. hrs.

DISCUSSION RE: REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST PAKISTAN

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): I beg to move:

"That the important policy decisions taken at the high level conference held on the 4th July, 1958 at Calcutta regarding rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan, be taken into consideration."

While moving this motion for consideration, I would like to submit to the House that in Calcutta, in July last, important decisions have been taken with regard to the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan. I share the anxiety of the Minister. He is very anxious to see that the displaced persons from East Pakistan no longer wait in the camps and they are provided with re-settlement colonies. Therefore, such a conference was held in Calcutta, and very important decisions were taken. These decisions which are important in their nature have set a time-limit by which the entire refugee population living in camps in West Bengal should be rehabilitated.

It is unfortunate that in such an important conference which concerns the problem of rehabilitation of a vast number of displaced persons from East Pakistan, no representative from the refugee organisations in West Bengal, were invited. If it was due to neglect, at least leaders or the representatives of the refugee organisations in Calcutta might have been consulted. It is my firm opinion that if the decisions which have been taken are really implemented, Government will go a great way in re-settling the refugees.

I am also of opinion that money has never been a hurdle in the way. As for plans, appraisals of plans, reviews and detailed schemes they have been produced by the Government of India in such a great number, during a period of only ten years, that if we count them in terms of pages, I think they will far exceed the epics of Ramayana and Mahabharat taken together. Really, it goes to the credit of a Government to produce such a vast number of documents in terms of printed pages. It is really an achievement, no doubt.

But I would like to submit to the hon. Minister and to the House, that in spite of all the best efforts, the rehabilitation of refugees still remains as the most baffling problem, as it was before. In spite of all these efforts, not more than fifty per cent of the 4.5 million displaced persons from East Pakistan have been re-settled till now, and many of them have been re-settled only partially. Money has never been a hurdle in the way of refugee rehabilitation, and I think the hon. Minister has never said that money will stand in the way of rehabilitation.

I shall now refer to the important decisions which were taken in the conference. They are three in number. The first is that out of 45,000 refugee families awaiting rehabilitation in camps, only 10,000 families will be rehabilitated in West Bengal, while

35,000 refugee families will be sent outside the State of West Bengal for rehabilitation. Secondly, families which will not go outside the State of West Bengal will be given rehabilitation assistance equal to six month's dole, and payment of doles to them will be stopped thereafter. Thirdly, camps will be abolished within 31st July, 1959, and no family will be maintained on doles after that date except in homes and infirmaries.

Out of these 35,000 who will be taken outside West Bengal for rehabilitation, 20,000 will be taken to Dandakaranya, and the rest 15,000, I suppose, to the different States, because in Dandakaranya, they have allowed only 20,000 refugee families to be settled.

When this question of fixing the target comes, really it is encouraging. I feel that in an effort to settle the problem of refugee rehabilitation as soon as possible, the Ministry of Rehabilitation and the Government of India have taken such an important step. I welcome such decisions and such steps, because such energetic steps have to be taken in order that the rehabilitation of refugees can be completed within a definite time-limit.

But, so far as the fixing of target dates is concerned, I am not very hopeful about it. On different questions, dates have been fixed many times, but—I do not say that efforts are not being made to see that the targets are achieved, but—the efforts have always failed.

If we look to the practical aspect of these decisions, some difficulties arise. It is not quite practical to decide that 35,000 families will be rehabilitated within a period of less than a year. From our practical experience during the last seven or eight years, we have seen that every year, at best 6,000 families have been removed for rehabilitation in colonies, from the camps. On an average, it

[Shri Panigrahi]

is 6,000 per year. In view of the experience of the last five or six years that on an average only 6,000 families could be removed for rehabilitation in colonies, to take such important decisions that within a year, Government will be able to re-settle more than 35,000 families outside West Bengal is something, which is ambitious, no doubt, but which is in my opinion devoid of any practical analysis of the problem.

There is another aspect of this decision. It has been decided that no further doles will be given to those refugees who do not like to go outside West Bengal. I am not for doles. It is good that doles will be stopped. But the fact that after six months the State will not take any responsibility for the refugees and the responsibility of the Government of India to the refugees goes only up to six months is something which needs consideration. I am reminded of a beggar who used to beg and get only one seer of rice every day. After independence, his wife asked him: 'How is it that while people are becoming rich overnight, even after independence, you go begging and get only one seer of rice?' The beggar replied, 'What can I do?' Then she said, 'You go and ask God what is your due in life. If you owe Rs. 900 or whatever amount for your whole life, then settle accounts with God and settle accounts with humanity and then let us live together peacefully'. Ultimately it was found out that God had said that only Rs. 200 were due for the whole life....

If we are going to decide the fate of the refugees in this way, if after six months Government are not responsible for their rehabilitation, they will only go into the streets of Calcutta. After six months when the doles are finished, naturally they will flock the streets of Calcutta and the problem will be aggravated, not solved.

These two practical difficulties come in the way and I hope they will be taken into account when such important decisions are being taken. Decisions are taken on certain premises. I am glad the Government of India took those decisions. When the Government took those decisions, they did so on a certain premise. The premise was that the West Bengal Government had said that sufficient land was not available in West Bengal for settling the refugees there. That was the first thing. Therefore, it was quite natural for the Government of India to approach other States for the purpose of resettling the refugees there. That is good. But I would like to submit that what was taken for granted three months ago now seems not true. When the West Bengal Government thought that there was not an inch of further space in that State for resettling refugees, the Union Government had no other way. But now the West Bengal Government has discovered that in Midnapore 1 lakh acres of land are available and the land is reclaimable and 20,000 families can be resettled in Midnapore itself.

On 11-2-58, the hon. Minister said in the House:

"We are going ahead with plans mostly outside West Bengal because in West Bengal there is hardly any land available".

That was so when the West Bengal Government said that no further land was available. But now those things which were taken for granted are not there. So the premise on which decisions were taken no longer exists. So I think those decisions should be reviewed. The West Bengal Government has at last found out that there is enough reclaimable land in Midnapore up to 1 lakh acres.

Recently the hon. Minister also went to visit those areas. He was quite glad to see that such a vast

tract of land was available in Midnapur for rehabilitation of the refugees. Seeing the crops in the land which was reclaimed in Midnapore, he said to the Director of Agriculture, West Bengal:

"If you could have brought this about five or six years ago, you could have saved many families of refugees".

I think he was in a poetic mood. Perhaps when he saw the vast growing crops, he realised that if the State Government had thought of this land five or six years ago, many families could have been rehabilitated in West Bengal itself. He further added:

"If it is possible to get the refugees successfully resettled here in West Bengal, there is no need for them to leave this State for rehabilitation purposes elsewhere. We thought so long that there were no further openings in this State for lakhs of displaced persons who need rehabilitation. If it is now found that there are such openings, I think the Government of India will be too happy to help in their rehabilitation here".

I think this has created a very good atmosphere in West Bengal and among the refugees. The hon. Minister has himself visited the place and the West Bengal Government has felt that the lands are available and the resources of West Bengal could be utilised, if the Government of India come forward—and the Government of India are not lacking in this regard as evidenced from the encouraging observations of the hon. Minister when he visited the area.

I think after this discovery by the West Bengal Government—the discovery may be painful, but it is a fact—and after our hon. Minister visited the spot personally and is satisfied with the progress of the work there, it will be recognised that the

premises which were taken for granted are now lacking. Therefore, the important policy decisions which were taken at Calcutta need reconsideration in view of the latest developments. In July these things were not known; it was only in August that these things became known. Therefore, the decisions which were taken in Calcutta in July need revision in the light of the latest position. That is why I have moved this motion before the House.

There are 45,000 refugees in West Bengal camps. Out of them, according to the decisions taken in the Calcutta Conference, 10,000 refugee families will be rehabilitated within West Bengal and 35,000 will be taken outside. Now, besides these 10,000, another 10,000 refugee families can be successfully rehabilitated in West Bengal. So out of the 45,000, 20,000 can be rehabilitated in West Bengal. There remain 25,000 families, in the camps. This is according to the statistics provided by the Ministry of Rehabilitation. The problem now becomes very clear. If 20,000 could be accommodated in West Bengal—and it is better that efforts are made to see that these 20,000 families are accommodated in West Bengal—there remain 25,000 families.

15.20 hrs.

[SHRI C. R. PATTABHI RAMAN in the Chair]

What are we going to do with these 25,000 refugee families? Out of these 25,000 refugee families, there are 13,000 refugees whose applications are pending before the authorities. There was a scheme helped by the Government of India to assist refugees who are able to purchase their own lands. Since 1954, in West Bengal you have devised a scheme, known as the Bainanama scheme, for helping refugees to possess their own lands. According to that applications of 13,000 families are pending and if they are accepted, these 13,000 families who

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are now remaining in camps will be in a position to purchase their own lands. So, out of these 25,000 families, 13,000 families can purchase their own lands in West Bengal. Only 12,000 families need go out of West Bengal. The problem stands this way according to the statistics which have been provided by the Minister of Rehabilitation frequently to us.

The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna): From where are you quoting these 13,000 *bainanama* cases?

Shri Panigrahi: From the figures given by the Ministry of Rehabilitation of West Bengal.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: From the Rehabilitation Department of West Bengal?

Shri Panigrahi: Yes; and they have mentioned that these applications are pending with the Government (Interruption). These people are in a position to purchase the lands and if they are financially helped and if their applications are expeditiously dealt with, then, there would be no difficulty in resettling these 13,000 refugees. Only 12,000 families from the camps in West Bengal will have to be rehabilitated either in West Bengal or outside West Bengal.

Let us look to the decisions of the Calcutta Conference which were taken to resettle 35,000 families outside West Bengal. After July, many changes have taken place and I suppose these new changes should be taken into consideration when we are going to solve the problem of refugee rehabilitation in the eastern part of India permanently.

I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister to one more aspect of the problem. The average expenditure to rehabilitate one refugee family in the Dandakaranya area has been estimated to be Rs. 10,000/- per head.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: From where have you got this figure?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From Government figures.

Shri Panigrahi: I will supply these figures to you. I am always at your service.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty (Basirhat): These are supplied by the West Bengal Government.

Shri Panigrahi: It requires Rs. 10,000/- per family to be rehabilitated in Dandakaranya. I can clear any misapprehension, if there be any, that I do not support the Dandakaranya scheme. I support it; and I know that area should be developed. But, let us come to the practical aspect of the problem. We always say that we are in need of money. In Dandakaranya, it requires Rs. 10,000/- to rehabilitate a family whereas it requires only Rs. 3,000/- in West Bengal. And in other States with a dry climate, it requires only Rs. 5,000/-. We are paying Rs. 5,000/- to a family to rehabilitate itself in Rajasthan which is not suitable to them as the families themselves claim. Why not we give them Rs. 3,000/- per family so that they might rehabilitate themselves in West Bengal itself? In view of these things this problem of resettling the refugees should be considered very seriously.

I need not go to the refugee population which now remains in Tripura, in Assam, in Bihar and in Orissa and U.P. Out of the 41 lakhs of refugee population, I think, more than 9 lakhs remain in these eastern States and more than 31 lakhs are remaining in West Bengal.

The question now is whether the figure of 45,000 refugee families remaining in camps in West Bengal is correct. I have the figures supplied by the Government itself. But, I suppose the refugee families which are

in Sealdah today have not been included in this figure. I believe 5,000 to 7,000 families are still there. If not, I may be corrected. Therefore, I suppose—it may not be so much—there are 50,000 families there in West Bengal in camps which have to be permanently resettled in colonies.

Out of these 50,000 families, 35,000 are agriculturists and 15,000 are non-agriculturists. I feel the figure is quite correct. The problem remains of resettling 12,000 agriculturist families either inside West Bengal or outside and 15,000 non-agriculturist families either in West Bengal or outside. And, if possible, before July, 1959, they should be rehabilitated. I would like to know whether there is any possibility of rehabilitating these 15,000 refugee families who are non-agriculturists by providing them employment anywhere?

So far as Dandakaranya is concerned, the progress is really not satisfactory. The scheme they have for rehabilitating these families is like this. By November, 1958, they want to resettle 1,000 families there. I would like to know whether Dandakaranya has been really made suitable for this resettlement of these families by November, 1958. Because it is an area which has to be developed and only Rs. 2 crores have been allotted for 1958-59, it may take some time, and it may not be possible for Government really to remove these 1,000 families by November, 1958. It is September now and there are only two months left.

In view of the latest developments inside West Bengal, it needs serious consideration whether the decisions which were taken in Calcutta in July should be stuck to or they need modification. I suppose the decisions need modification, because the West Bengal Government have discovered sufficient scope within their own limits. Therefore, so far as rehabilitation of refugees is concerned, let there not be any fad. If land is really available

for 20,000 families in West Bengal—and the refugees have all along been claiming that there is—though the discovery has been made very late, let efforts be made to get as many as possible resettled in West Bengal itself because the atmosphere in West Bengal will be more congenial for the refugees and it may ease the difficulty of the Union Ministry of Rehabilitation in finding suitable places in other States.

I am quite sure that the eastern States in India are quite agreeable to taking refugees and they are taking in refugees. When this was discussed in the Eastern Zonal Council, the States like Orissa, Bihar, U.P., Assam and Tripura came forward with their suggestions and expressed their eagerness to offer lands for the rehabilitation of the refugees (*Interruption*). About Assam I am not quite sure.

An Hon. Member: Assam has already accommodated them.

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): How many is your State prepared to take?

Shri Panigrahi: I may answer the question of my guru; he is the guru of all. In Orissa 12,000 refugee families were to be resettled. But I venture to say that in Orissa only 5,000 families are there. According to the figures of the Government of India, 12,000 families have been completely resettled in Orissa. This is not a fact. A departmental enquiry can be made whether 12,000 families are residing in Orissa. The figure is there but the refugees are not there. It can be enquired into and I do not want to say that they must accept what I say.

So, the problem of resettlement of the refugees in West Bengal is still there. I am not sure whether all the refugees now living in camps are bound to be resettled in West Bengal. If out of these 45,000 refugee families, 20,000 could be accommodated in West Bengal, why not ask our brother West Bengal Government, maybe a

[Shri Panigrahi]

big brother, to make a little effort and find out if another 10,000 could be accommodated. They can accommodate 10,000 and they agree to accommodate 10,000 more. Why not ask them whether, with the resources in men, money and materials made available from the Government of India, they are not in a position to accept 10,000 more for resettlement in West Bengal itself.

I have gone through some memoranda prepared by the refugee organisations in West Bengal that there are some places in West Bengal where land could be available. I am not a citizen of that State and I do not know whether those lands could be available. It could be enquired into. If lands are available, the Union Ministry will be doing a service if sufficient money is advanced to the West Bengal Government so that they can accommodate more refugees.

From the figures of persons sent to rehabilitation sites from camps, I would like to show that the decisions are not practical. In West Bengal, upto July 31st, only 12,949 refugees have been removed to the colonies. In Orissa, up to 30th June, 1958 only 1438 refugees—not families—had been removed to colonies. This rate does not show that the Government will be in a position to release all the 45,000 refugee families within the time-limit of July, 1959. There are the practical difficulties with regard to the schemes undertaken in Orissa, Bihar, U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Mysore.

Mr. Chairman: He has taken about 35 minutes. I hope he will be brief now.

Shri Panigrahi: I will be brief and I will allow enough time to our hon. Minister to reply.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barsat): The other Members also want to speak.

Shri Panigrahi: I will finish in two minutes. In Orissa, 13 schemes were sanctioned after May 1958 to rehabilitate 713 families. The number of families actually rehabilitated was 210. Similarly, in Bihar out of 3825 families to be rehabilitated, only 2307 families were rehabilitated. The figures in regard to U.P. are 1319 and 100 respectively; for Rajasthan 660 and 114. So, it goes without saying that the target taken up by the Rehabilitation Minister cannot be achieved in the States. As they say, in Tripura alone the rehabilitation programme is something which is commendable. In other States according to the figures furnished, the rate of progress is not satisfactory. In view of this, I urge that the Government should give serious consideration to the decisions taken in Calcutta which need modification.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That the important policy decisions taken at the high level conference held on the 4th July, 1958 at Calcutta regarding rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan, be taken into consideration."

There is a substitute motion by Shri Das Gupta. Is he moving it?

Shri B. Das Gupta (Purulia): Sir, I beg to move:

"That for the original motion, the following be substituted, namely:—

"This House, having considered the important policy decisions taken at the high level conference held on the 4th July, 1958 at Calcutta regarding rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan, is of opinion that an Advisory Committee be formed with the representatives of the displaced persons from East Pakistan which would advise the

Government regarding the policy measures and their implementation."

Shri N. R. Ghosh (Cooch-Behar): Sir, I come from a border district; I come from Cooch-Behar—Jalpaiguri. What I could gather from the speech of Shri Panigrahi is that Bengal has got enough land and all the refugees can be kept within the bounds of West Bengal. We know these things and we also know what is behind this proposal. Every Bengali knows that Bengal has reached the saturation point. In fact, the proposal of Dr. Roy that he would rehabilitate 10,000 refugee families is, I think, unrealistic. It is impossible for Bengal to accommodate even 5,000 refugees.

At the time when first the refugees began to come to Bengal, there was a proposal on the part of the Government that they should be rehabilitated in Andamans. The climate, the rainfall and the texture of the soil—all are similar to Bengal. The lands there grow paddy and jute excellently. The familiar fishes, trees and other things there actually remind one of Bengal. Some families went there. Then there was one political party which stood against it. They began to scream and say that the refugees should not go there. They told the refugees—"Are you actually murderers to undergo a life-sentence there? It is *kala pani* of the convicts—and you should not go there." That is what these people said. There was too much discussion on the part of their party. I have some direct knowledge about the Andamans—the refugees are quite happy there—rehabilitated in the true sense of the word. I mentioned this to Shri Khanna and I must say that he has a good deal of sympathy for them. He has sincerity and imagination. He is doing a lot for us and we are grateful to him.. (Interruptions).

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: You tell me the same thing in private.

Shri N. R. Ghosh: I made this proposal. Instead of sending these people to other provinces where the soil, climate etc. are different, why not send them in larger number to the Andamans. He agreed with me but said that he has got no right because it is under the administration of the Centre. I asked him to recommend at least that a larger number of refugees should be sent there.

As a matter of fact, the refugees who have come to Bengal are leading such a miserable life for a long time that they are now completely off their balance. Some people say that these doles should be continued, this camp life should be continued. I should say it has demoralised them. In 1942 famine, thousands and thousands of Bengalis died, thousands of lower middle class people died. They never begged like this. But these doles and this abnormal life have made us a nation of beggars. The sooner these camps are abolished, the sooner these doles are stopped, the better for us.

I would submit, if actually the Government has taken any good decision, it is the decision which they have taken recently. Previously the Central Government did not pay much attention to these refugees from East Pakistan. We were long neglected. Now for the first time they are actually going to take some steps for real rehabilitation. We welcome these schemes. But I should say that Dandakaranya is a place where cultivators cannot be rehabilitated immediately; it has to be developed. Most of the refugees in Bengal are cultivators. They only know that cultivation means cultivation of paddy and jute. Dandakaranya is not at present a very suitable place for that, and cultivation cannot be started there immediately. Some development has to take place, and some arrangements for irrigation will have to be made before cultivation can be started there. Only then can these people—the agriculturist refugees—be rehabilitated

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there. I have read the pamphlet published about this scheme, and I would, say that for immediate rehabilitation a very larger number of refugees should be sent to the Andamans.

I would like to mention one other point. In Jalpaiguri and Cooch-Behar there is a peculiar feature. Five thanas of Jalpaiguri have been made over to Pakistan, thanks to the Radcliffe Award. As a matter of fact, the majority of people of this tract were Hindus. In one thana—the biggest thana—80 per cent of the people were Hindus; still we lost that thana. The peculiar feature here is, there are some enclaves in Cooch-Behar which are actually owned by Pakistan, and there are some enclaves, now in Pakistan, which are owned by India. Therefore, there ought to be an exchange of these enclaves. In that case there will be a surplus area, because the area covered by enclaves owned by India far exceeds the area covered by enclaves owned by Pakistan. Therefore, this matter should not be allowed to drift, as it has been hitherto allowed to drift. There ought to be a quick decision and settlement. In that case there will be some solution to the refugee problem in this locality as some refugees can be accommodated in that area.

But there is one difficulty. I got a telegram only last night saying that there is a rumour that there is a claim on the part of Pakistan for a portion of Jalpaiguri Thana. This portion is occupied by refugees from Pakistan, from the nearby areas which is now in Pakistan. About 10,000 refugees have been rehabilitated there, not by Government but by the refugees themselves. They are quite happy there. A claim is now being made by Pakistan that this portion is actually included in Pakistan. As a matter of fact, you know, Sir, that in the border area there is now apprehension of inroad by Pakistani soldiers. I have got a telegram here saying that those people are alarmed because the Pak-

istani soldiers would forcibly occupy this portion on the basis of the claim that I mentioned earlier.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Sir, because the Prime Minister of Pakistan is here we have even refrained from putting supplementary questions relating to such matters.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarthy: These are matters of External Affairs.

Shri N. R. Ghosh: I do not know how it hurts my friends when it is a question of rehabilitation (Interruption). Sir, I would submit that this question of enclaves should be settled quickly. When we have got that surplus area, if any area actually goes to Pakistan on account of re-relay of maps—because relay of maps sometimes gives very queer results—then there should be some adjustment of that area with the enclaves—even if the decision goes against us. But these people should be assured that they are not going to be refugees again.

My friend made a suggestion that the representatives of the refugees should be consulted before these refugees are sent out, before any scheme of refugee rehabilitation actually materialises. Who are the representatives of the refugees? The refugees—most of them are now leading a very miserable life in Calcutta and some political parties are after these refugees; they claim they are the representatives of the refugees may be for their political ends. To consult the so-called representatives of refugees means to consult some particular political party people who are actually using these refugees as pawns. This will do no good to the refugees—will only hinder rehabilitation.

There is another strange statement which I now hear (Interruption). I am a Bengali myself. I know about Midnapore, and my hon. friend Shri Maiti sitting by me comes from

Midnapore. It was said that 1000000 acres of arable land is available. A reference was made to the statement of Dr. Roy. I don't think that he has been correctly quoted. I think that Dr. Roy actually under pressure of the Sctualean gave a promise that a large number of refugees will be accommodated in Bengal. My impression and reading however, may be wrong. This however is definite. We have long passed the saturation point. Look at the population pressure on a square mile.

The idea behind all this is, I would submit, that the refugees must not go out of Bengal, the refugees must not go out of Calcutta, so that they can be utilised for certain political purposes (*Interruption*). Sir, I know this question of refugees much more than many hon. Members. I am myself a refugee. I know these people; I have mixed with them, and I know their problems. If anybody says that this Dandakaranya scheme should go, that these refugees should not go out of Bengal, I shoud say they are simply trying to delay the rehabilitation of these people, they are the enemies of these refugees.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Shri Panigrahi, according to his simple arithmetic, does not want a single refugee to go out from West Bengal to Orissa.

Shri N. R. Ghosh: They would not listen to real arithmetic because real arithmetic hurts them, and logic hurts them. They only want to keep these refugees in Bengal and preferably within Calcutta.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Send them all to Cooch-Behar.

Shri N. R. Ghosh: If you go to Sealdah Station you will realise that it is a disgrace to any Government. As a matter of fact, if anybody goes there his heart will bleed. Human beings are not used to this sort of living. We never begged. As I have

already said, these doles—this abnormal life—have demoralised us. Therefore, Sir, I wholeheartedly support the scheme which is inaugurated by the Government, and if there should be any modification of that scheme, the modification should be that the claim of West Bengal Government that they can accommodate 10,000 families is a very ambitious claim and that should be dropped.

Shri Bimal Ghosh (Barrackpore): Sir, I am grateful to my hon. friend, Shri Panigrahi, for giving us this opportunity of again reviewing the condition of these unfortunate victims of a circumstance which, let us not forget today, helped us to achieve our independence. Sir, the decisions arrived at the July Conference are, if I may say so, nothing new. The usual platitudes and promises are there. There is one novel feature, that is, that there is a target date, namely, July, 1959, by which the camp should be wound up.

There is no claim made, I believe, that the rehabilitation problem will be settled by July, 1959—let us be clear about that. The only point made out is that the camps should be abolished by July, 1959. Sir, as I shall not have time to refer to all aspects of this problem I will take up only two or three important aspects.

About the camp population, there has been a lot of controversy. Let us take this problem first. The present camp population, we are told, is 45,000 families. In the July Conference, it was stated that the West Bengal Government can take responsibility for only 10,000 families. There was a conference held sometime in October, 1957 in Darjeeling, and I find from the proceedings which the hon. Minister had circulated to us that the West Bengal Government had then stated that they could absorb half of the camp families then. That was about 50,000 families at that time. I have the annual report here and I

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may read from it:

"The State of West Bengal had indicated that about 50 per cent of the camp population in the State numbering about 50,000 families was surplus to the resources of the State".

50 per cent was surplus. That means 50 per cent could be absorbed. So, if, in October, 1957, it was the contention of the West Bengal Government that they could absorb 25,000 families then, how do we come to this position that in July, 1958, they cannot absorb more than 10,000 families? That has to be explained.

The second point is about the possibility of absorption of all the families that are in the camps at present in West Bengal. On that there has been a lot of controversy. We have discussed with the hon. Minister, both officially and unofficially, and we had made certain suggestions and I do not see why the hon. Minister does not accept them. There is one point to which Shri Panigrahi had referred, as to the availability of land for settlement of all the refugees. If it is true as has been stated in the *Amrit Bazar Patrika* of the 13th and 14th August, that more land is available,—about one lakh acres of land not merely in Midnapore which Shri Panigrahi referred to but also in Birbhum, Purulia and Bankura and in some parts of Burdwan,—one lakh acres of waste land in dry areas which could be brought under cultivation by the system of contour bunding, why have Government not taken account of this fact? I want to know as to whether it is true, as has been stated in the *Amrit Bazar Patrika*, that the hon. Minister made certain statements.

It is quite correct that the hon. Minister can explain away his statement. He stated that "if there is sufficient land, I shall be very happy." He may say that "if there is land I should be very happy", but I beg to submit that there is a distinct change

in the tone, because, formerly, both in this House and outside, he used to say categorically that there was no land in Bengal. But it is only after having seen these areas that he has stated that "if there is more land, I shall be happy if all the people could be settled in West Bengal". He should realise that there is a change in the tone of his statement or his speeches.

There was yet another point made at the Darjeeling Conference. It was stated that an attempt should be made to settle all the refugees, and the camp population should be liquidated as early as possible either by converting them into townships or by providing land or employment to camp families. What has happened to this idea of converting those places into townships? Has any attempt been made? If no attempt has been made, what was the special point in making that suggestion at the Darjeeling Conference? That was the first item of the Darjeeling Conference decisions.

There is another point which I hope the hon. Minister is keeping in mind while thinking of liquidating the camps, and that is about the employees in these camps. I hope that this is one factor which has been standing in the way, to a certain extent, of an early liquidation of camps. The officers and the employees in these camps have been working there for the past 10 to 12 years. Have they been assured of alternative employment? If the camps are wound up, what will happen to them? Have the Rehabilitation Department any scheme for the absorption of the personnel in the camp population, because, otherwise, as he knows as much as I do, there will be some difficulty. I do not say there will be insuperable difficulties, but some difficulty, in dispersing the camp population. If an assurance could be given I think the problem would be easier.

We stated formerly that as there is a controversy as to the availability of land in West Bengal for the settlement of the camp population, this question should be gone into by the representatives of the Central and the West Bengal Government and of the refugee organisations. With due respect to the previous speaker, I must say that it is known that there are two refugee organisations in Bengal. Most of the refugees owe allegiance to one or the other of these two organisations. What stands in the way of the hon. Minister taking these people into confidence, because, if there is no land, certainly they cannot say that all the refugees must be settled in West Bengal. But the bone of contention has been as to whether there is sufficient land or not, and the recent statement made by the Chief Minister there and the Union Rehabilitation Minister also was that more land is probably available, and that makes the position even more confused. And certainly there is a feeling amongst the refugees that sufficient land would be available in Bengal for their settlement.

I have not more time to develop this point, and so I come to the question of the partially rehabilitated refugees. What is the position about the partially rehabilitated refugees? I believe the West Bengal Rehabilitation Minister stated that these people have not at all been rehabilitated and that a huge sum of money would be needed for them. The way to rehabilitate them is to establish small and medium industries. Now, how far have we taken any step towards this object? I remember a conference which the hon. Minister had called in Calcutta some two or three years ago when the idea of establishing these industries was mooted, and he said that "I am inviting private capitalists to start these industries and I am sure that the results would be very encouraging." But I find from the July Conference decisions that it is the intention of Government now to start these industries in the public sector. At that conference, some of

us—my hon. friend Shri Bhupesh Gupta and others—stated that it may not be possible for the private capitalists to establish industries under these conditions or in those places, and it would have been much better if the Government had taken them up. But at that time, the Rehabilitation Minister stated, "No, the experiments in Faridabad have been particularly bad" and therefore he was not in favour of starting any industries in the public sector. But we come round to that position today, and in the meantime we have wasted all these years, because the industries for which financial aid was promised,—at least many of them—I think, have yet to come into existence. So, we do not know as to what extent Government feel that they can give employment to those refugees who are not in camps by starting industries or otherwise, what schemes they have, and how many people, they feel, can be rehabilitated from amongst those partially rehabilitated refugees.

I have a third point and it is about the squatters' colonies. What has happened? They should be regularised—so the hon. Minister stated from year to year. But the question of the regularisation has been hanging fire. He says he has been taking steps, but the anomalous situation is this. Because the squatters' colonies, or at least many of them, have not been regularised, they cannot undertake many desirable things. For example, in these colonies, which are there for the past 10 to 12 years, there are schools which have been established by the people who reside there. They are entitled to grants from the Government for the construction of school buildings. But those grants will not be given unless they have a right to the land; that means, unless the colonies are regularised, they cannot get any grants. Because the colonies are not regularised they are not getting any grants and they cannot really run these educational establishments. Why should there be so much delay in regularising the colonies? Which Government

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have already admitted are due for regularisation. The first excuse before the Constitution was amended was that the Constitution stood in the way. But the Constitution has been amended many months or years ago and even now we do not see the Government taking positive steps for the early regularisation of these colonies.

16 hrs.

Finally, I would like to say that we have discussed this problem; it is not a question of my pointing out certain defects. Defects are there and I believe my hon. friend, Shrimati Renu Chakravarty, knows more about them and she will describe them. Year after year, month after month, we come before this House with the same complaints and we see practically no change. The hon. Minister used to say two years ago that one difficulty had been that he did not know the dimensions of the problem and so it was extremely difficult. Since 1957, he has practically frozen migration from East Pakistan to India, and 20 months have gone by. In 1957, I believe the total migration into India was only about 10,000 and this year, it must be even less. In 20 months' time, what have we done? The point that Mr. Panigrahi has made is that judged by the progress that we have made in the past, it is impossible that we should be able to rehabilitate all the families in the camps before July, 1959.

I am appealing to the hon. Minister that he should not adhere to that date as such. The question is one of rehabilitation. If he is able to rehabilitate all of them before July, 1959, we shall not be sorry; we shall be only happy. But if he is unable to do it, then there is no point in adhering to a particular date blindly. So, a target date is good in so far as it indicates what one wants to do within a certain period of time, but I would appeal to him that he must not

adhere to it and ignore the main question of rehabilitation of the people in the camps.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Guha.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I may also be given a chance. I have not sent in a chit, but I have been trying to catch your eye.

Mr. Chairman: I have been following a particular pattern. We have had some speeches by Opposition Members.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: That is all right; but I did not know we have to send a chit. I would like to participate in the debate.

Mr. Chairman: I am sure the House would like to hear the hon. Minister's reply also.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Surely.

Shri A. C. Guha: Whenever I have had to speak in this House on the rehabilitation problem, I think I have taken the role of a critic of the administration; but, on this occasion, I should support the decision taken by the administration in this matter. Mr. Panigrahi has tried to make out a point that no refugees should be taken out of West Bengal. Of course, he is not so emphatic as some other leaders of West Bengal, but he feels along with them that there are enough lands in West Bengal for the rehabilitation of these refugees.

I know how the rehabilitation work has been done in West Bengal; I know it has not made as much progress as it should have done. I know who are the Sealdah squatters; I have moved round them and talked to them and I know that more than 50 per cent of them are deserters from rehabilitation sites, because those sites were not suitable for rehabilitation. It is no use sending them to marginal

or sub-marginal lands, squander public money and also cause human suffering. Everyone will remember the most dramatic way in which the proposal about Midnapur land came. I am sorry my hon. friend, Mr. Khanna, also went there and allowed some photo to be taken and wide publicity was given to it. I think on closer examination, it will be found to be almost a moonshine. As far as I know, the most that can be done is within two or three years, they can produce 20,000 acres of sub-marginal land; not even marginal land. I would like to ask Mr. Panigrahi if he thinks any family can be really rehabilitated by cultivating savai grass and Sisam or munj grass? I am afraid there is no reality about the one-lakh acre proposal.

It is not possible to rehabilitate a family on such meagre sustenance. I feel as a Bengali that rehabilitation work should be spread outside Bengal. I welcome the proposal of Dandakaranya. I welcome it not only now, but on previous occasions also, in my other public capacities also, I have welcomed this proposal. Bengal needs some colonial opportunities, some outlet to spread out and relieve the density of population there, which is 800 per square mile. The unemployment problem and other economic distresses are awfully bad. From that point of view also, besides the rehabilitation of these 45,000 families, even for relieving the economic distress of West Bengal and finding out some solution for the surplus population of West Bengal, there should be an outlet. From that point of view also, I welcome the Dandakaranya scheme.

I have mentioned it on previous occasions, but I would like to emphasise it again now that the refugees should not be spread out over the 80,000 square miles of Dandakaranya. There should be some concentrated colonisation schemes in compact areas, so that the refugees, who are sent there, may not be lost in the wilderness, so that

they might maintain their social and cultural integrity even in Dandakaranya. There might be occasion for other Bengalis and also for people from other congested areas, particularly Kerala, to send some pioneering colonists in Dandakaranya. This is just now a rehabilitation scheme, but in its wider aspect, it is a scheme with possibilities of development of vast areas of land. That scheme should be helped in every way. If the refugees from East Bengal can go and settle there and develop it, I think they will get the gratitude of the entire nation in their pioneering work of developing the vast tracts of land there to add to our foodgrains stock.

I can claim that I know about the refugees more than most of the Members. I know their conditions. I invite Mr. Panigrahi to come along with me. He was a student in Calcutta and his knowledge of Bengali is fairly good, so that he can understand it. He also took part in Calcutta politics in his student days. I invite him to come along with me. I will not take any Government officer. I will take him to the rehabilitation camps and let him see whether he would like the camps to be continued there. It is better that those camps are disbanded even today. If they remain for a day longer, this will add more demoralisation and more corruption. These camps have been the cess pool of corruption and demoralisation. About two years ago I wrote very indignant letters to my colleague, Mr. Khanna, about the conditions prevailing in camps. But I cannot hold him responsible for all that had happened there. He was not responsible for everything. He cannot do anything... (Laughter). He cannot do everything.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: He said, "he cannot do everything".

Shri A. C. Guha: Yes, I say. In those matters, he could not do anything. Yes, he had to depend on some other machinery. He has his limitations. He is not all powerful.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarti: He can stand on his own. The hon. Member need not support him.

Shri A. C. Guha: I do not support him. I am only supporting the proposal which will help the national development. It will help the Bengalis as a community and the Indian nation as a whole. I am supporting the proposal from that point of view, and not from the point of view of supporting Shri Khanna or any other Minister or Department.

What are the decisions taken in the Calcutta Conference? The main thing is that the camps should be closed by 1st July. Shri Panigrahi has raised some doubts about the practicability of sticking to that date of 1st July. Shri Bimal Ghose has also, in his own way, stated something like that. But in a complex and vast problem like this, when there is a proposal, there cannot be a very rigid decision and attitude. There must be some flexibility. They must have a target date to work with. But if they cannot move all these refugees within that date, I do not think Shri Khanna will throw them to the wolves. They must make some other arrangement when the refugees wholly depend on this Government.

Shri Ghose has supported Shri Panigrahi's proposal that some refugee representatives should have been consulted. He has stated that there are two refugee organisations to which 'most of the refugees owe allegiance', that is his language. I do not know who set up these two organisations. What is their constitution? How are the office-bearers elected? For what time, are they elected? After what period the elections are held? These are mushroom parties organised in the drawing rooms of some political parties or political leaders.

Shri Bimal Ghose: I object to that.

Shri A. C. Guha: I will not yield. He had his say.

Shri Bimal Ghose: He says that these parties are organised in the drawing rooms of political leaders. If he wants, let him come, I will show him what they are.

Mr. Chairman: There is no reference to political parties.

Shri Bimal Ghose: There is. He said that. There are two political parties in Bengal. He knows it as much as we know it.

Shri A. C. Guha: He has claimed the allegiance of all refugees to these two organisations. So, I am quite entitled to question the bona fides of the two organisations, the origin of the two organisations, how they function, what are their constitutions, how the office-bearers are elected, what is the sanction behind them and so on.

Shri Bimal Ghose: The Congress organisation was formed in the drawing room of certain people.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Why should he worry about that?

Shri A. C. Guha: There has been too much protest from that side which will expose the hollowness of their claim. So, I need not elaborate that point.

These refugees have been made pawns in the political game, particularly the camp refugees. A meagre dole is given to them. Every week or every fortnight some subscription is being collected from them and in most cases the subscription is paid under duress, under compulsion of certain people.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Was it taken from the hon. Member also?

Shri A. C. Guha: May be from me also.

Shri Bimal Ghose: And he paid it under duress?

Shri A. C. Ghosh: Yes, can't help!

Mr. Chairman: I would request the hon. Member to proceed with his speech.

Shri A. C. Ghosh: I am sticking to my point. If they interrupt, what can I do?

Shri Bimal Ghose has admitted that there are some vested interests which have been blocking the rehabilitation of these refugees. He has referred to the officials. But there are certain other vested interests also which have been blocking the rehabilitation of these refugees, and the peculiar situation in the camps is the result of the efforts of the vested interests. Officials, there may be, but there are politicians also who are interested in maintaining these camps, who are interested in the continuance of the refugee problem in West Bengal. So, from the point of view of humanity, from the point of view of the economy of West Bengal, and from the point of view of the better rehabilitation of these refugees, I support the proposal that they should be sent out as soon as possible, and the camps should be closed down soon. I would plead with Shri Khanna that, if possible, he should close down the camps even before 1st July. But if he cannot make proper arrangements by 1st July, I am sure, he will not throw the refugees to the wolves; he will make certain other arrangements.

Then I come to certain other aspects. Shri Ghose referred to the question of the partially rehabilitated people. I have on several occasions referred to this matter. I have raised it in my private correspondence also. This Conference of 3rd and 4th July has taken certain decisions about the partially rehabilitated people also. Even after 8 or 10 years we find that these people have not been fully rehabilitated, because the lands given for them in Bengal are not suitable for the rehabilitation of the refugees there. It is sub-marginal

land in most of the colonies. The per capita income is Rs. 8, Rs. 10 or Rs. 12, and I think the maximum in three or four colonies is only Rs. 18 whereas the per capita income in West Bengal as a whole is about Rs. 25 per month. So, you can imagine the pitiable condition of these refugees.

I am glad that this Conference has also taken some decision about the question of these partially rehabilitated people. I only wish the implementation of the decisions taken may be expedited. I have, on several occasions, brought to the notice of the Government the miserable conditions of some of these refugees. I have received letters very recently also from some of the partially rehabilitated refugees, offering to go anywhere, whether it be Andamans, Nani Tal, Bihar or Dandakaranya. So bad is the condition there. I hope the rehabilitation work of these partially rehabilitated refugees will be taken up soon. They must have some scope for earning their livelihood. Now in those areas there is no means of earning their livelihood. You may offer 5 kathas of land for homestead. That does not mean rehabilitation. A man has to earn his livelihood. In most of these colonies, nothing of that sort has been done. Merely providing some Ambar Charkhas will not do. There must be something for small scale industries, on co-operative basis or on Government initiative.

Mr. Chairman: The hon. Member must conclude now.

Shri A. C. Ghosh: I am finishing. There must be some small-scale and medium-scale industries.

Lastly, I come to Sealdah station. I am glad that Sealdah is going to be cleared. Last year I was given an assurance by the highest authorities connected with this matter that Sealdah would be cleared by the 15th September, 1957. That could not be done. I quite realise their difficulties.

[Shri A. C. Guha]

So, I do not like to blame them. I know they have been trying to clear the Sealdah platform. It is a question of human suffering. It is a pain to see the condition of the refugees in Sealdah. If anybody suggests that the situation in Sealdah should be continued in preference to any other scheme, I would say that he has no consideration for human suffering. I am glad that they are now being sent to Andamans. Most of the Sealdah squatters, strictly speaking, may not be entitled to rehabilitation loans and grants. But if they go to Andamans, it will be under another scheme of the Home Ministry. If they are going to the Andamans, they will not be required to satisfy the formalities of rehabilitation benefits, loans or grants. If they are rehabilitated there, it will be under the scheme of the Home Ministry. So, I am glad that they are now being taken to the Andamans. I hope refugees in large numbers would be taken from the Sealdah to the Andamans.

These are the points decided. Lastly, I would again like to impress upon Shri Khanna that he may start some medium-sized industries and small-scale industries in the colonies already situated there in West Bengal, so that there may be proper rehabilitation of the 21 lakh refugees who have been technically called to be rehabilitated.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Das Gupta has moved a substitute motion. I hope he will conclude his remarks soon because all sides of the House will like to have the benefit of the hon. Minister's reply.

Shri B. Das Gupta: I will finish in ten minutes.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: I hope you will give me an opportunity.

Shri B. Das Gupta: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I shall try to deal with the major point—the abolition of all refugee

camps by the 31st July, 1959. To me it seems to be something absurd. It has also been stated or decided that out of the 45,000 families residing in camps ten thousand families would be rehabilitated in Bengal and the rest, i.e., 35,000 families, would be rehabilitated by the Government of India outside Bengal in various States. That is to be done within a year. This time-factor should be specially taken note of. I wish its success but I think it is completely unworkable and that is why this decision has created confusion and to some extent panic amongst the refugees of West Bengal.

Such decisions and discussions have often been made. There have been various conferences, meetings, sittings, etc. and a similar decision had also been taken in 1950. In 1950 an order was passed that all the refugee camps in Bengal should be abolished before the 30th April, 1951. It was virtually carried out except for one refugee camp in Nadia, but it could not continue. After some time the refugee camps which were abolished were re-opened and fresh refugee camps had to be started. The result was that some of the refugees had more suffering and those who were settled in the camps were stranded. Practically speaking, the more suffering was on the part of refugees.

This decision, I am afraid, will also lead to some such catastrophies on the refugees. I cannot find any plausible ground on which I can depend for the success of this decision. The Union Ministry has taken the responsibility of rehabilitating 35,000 families outside Bengal, i.e., nearly 1,75,000 refugees and that too within a year. Let us do a bit of calculation. Within the last ten years, i.e., since 1948, 40,000 refugees, say about ten thousand families, have been taken outside Bengal. They have been sent to Rajasthan, U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Orissa and Bihar, but still they (the States) have not been able to re-

habilitate them. A vast number of them is still waiting in the camps for rehabilitation and in this way I do not know how far it will be possible for the Government of India to rehabilitate these 35,000 refugee families outside Bengal.

There is a question of Dandakaranya. Dandakaranya has been announced to be the heaven and heaven of refugees. Though I hold a different view about Dandakaranya, still taking for granted that everything is just going according to the plan and according to schedule, what do we find? The targets of displaced persons to be settled in Dandakaranya that have been fixed by the Government are—in 1958-59, 2,760 families are to be settled in Dandakaranya, in 1959-60, 5,640 families are to be settled and in 1960-61, 9,600 families are to be settled. So, we find that within this year, or by the year 1959, only 2,760 families are to be rehabilitated in Dandakaranya.

Now, out of 35,000 families, if we say that we will be able to rehabilitate 3,000 families, then there are 32,000 families which are to be rehabilitated outside Bengal in different States. That is to be done by the 31st July, 1959. As regards other States outside Bengal, what is the position? It is not very encouraging. Recently there was a meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council in Shillong on the 2nd August, after these policy decisions were announced. Our hon. Home Minister was the Chairman at that meeting and all the Chief Ministers of all the member-States, i.e. of Bihar, Orissa, Assam and Bengal, assembled there. They discussed things. There was an item on the agenda. The item was just to form a small committee with the representatives of the States concerned regarding this rehabilitation problem. But I do not think any such committee had been formed there. So far as the Press Report goes, we understand that there was a rift on this issue of rehabilitation. Uptill now we have

heard of no decision taken in that Zonal Council meeting regarding the rehabilitation of these refugees. So, you can safely say that if the camps are abolished by 1959 and if the doles are stopped by that time, the refugees will be pushed to a precipice from which it will be very difficult for them to come out.

Will the hon. Minister enlighten us about his future programme, where and how he is going to rehabilitate these 32,000 families outside Bengal? I do not think there is any suitable answer to that, because, I know that there has not been any plan and it is simple an impossibility to rehabilitate them outside Bengal in the different States. I am finishing. I do not want to take much of the time of the House. I shall only say that the whole refugee problem is being dealt with in a manner which is really hopeless. Absolutely there is no plan regarding this refugee problem,—there is no plan for this problem. I may just cite a few words of Mr. Horace Alexander from his book, *New Citizens of India*. He has written about this refugee problem of India. He says:

"The solution of the Indian refugee problem depends finally on the marriage of two human qualities—vision and practical competence: idealism and commonsense."

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Which are generally lacking.

Shri B. Das Gupta: I do not think I have to explain much. Unless the Rehabilitation department has these qualifications, I do not think it will be able ever to solve this refugee problem. It will complicate, it will create more difficulties regarding this refugee problem. It is not much time, it is not a long time—in 1959, on the 31st of July, we will find where we are and where the refugees stand.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Mr. Chairman, I have only a few minutes.

[Shrimati Renu Chakravarty]

I would like to say that just as in the case of the food problem, this very urgent and complicated problem cannot be solved except with the co-operation of all. In the same manner, it is no use politically brickbatting each other regarding this very complicated question. Therefore, I was not able to appreciate the maiden speech made by the hon. Member there.

Actually I am very happy today that on this issue of lands being distributed to the refugees within West Bengal, a new turn has been made by the West Bengal Government. After very great initial resistance supported ably by the Union Minister for Rehabilitation that there was not an inch of land in West Bengal, I am deeply grateful today that a scheme has been brought out in the Midnapore district from where, I find from the press report, they will have 60,000 acres. They say they will be able to get 60,000 acres of land, and that it can go up to 1 lakh acres of land. This is only a beginning. I do not want to quarrel on the amount that is available. The cost will be there. It is a question which we have to see. The first official results have been good.

I should also like to state that for the last two or three years, we have been saying this again and again to the Union Minister of Rehabilitation. But, because it has come from this side of the House, it has been treated with complete contempt and various political insinuations have been made against us. However that be, if anything, we are glad that we have been able to change the opinion of the West Bengal Government. Not only that. It is not only a question of what has been found successful in Midnapore. I would like also to reiterate to this House that there are lands in areas like the Sunderbans, for instance in Hervohanga which is in my constituency itself, about 11,000 acres of land can be reclaimed and a scheme has been undertaken. Two thousand families can be rehabilitated there.

Actually this scheme has been taken up by the West Bengal Government. But, I believe that the scheme has not yet received the approval and financial sanction of the Government of India. The House may remember that a little while ago, I had put a question to the Union Minister on the 2nd of December, 1957 as to whether it had been sanctioned or not. The answer was that the proposal for reclaiming a part of Sunderbans is being examined. Uptodate, I believe—I shall be glad to be contradicted—that that sanction has not come.

There is the Salanpore scheme. This is another scheme which has been dropped half way on the ground that the cost was too high. Apart from cash to the refugees, an additional cost of Rs. 200 per acre is being incurred for the development of this land. That has been given up. I just want to make this point before the House. I am not against the refugees going anywhere willingly right throughout India. As a matter of fact, as everybody knows, there are Bengalis working right throughout India from Cape Comorin to Assam, from Assam to Orissa, right up to Raja than and Kashmir. We are all very proud that we are citizens of India and we should have equal opportunities of living in any part of India. Certainly from a commonsense point of view—exactly the point that has been raised by Shri B. Das Gupta—by what we have seen happening before us, we find that our schemes outside West Bengal have been unsuccessful. I do not say that the West Bengal schemes have been successful. But from a practical point of view, if there is land within West Bengal it is better to settle the refugees there. There may be certain people who work to get more land to make bigger plantations and make profit, as my hon. friend there. He feels that there is no land to be given to the refugees. We feel that there is land if we all get together and try our best to reclaim that land.

I would also like to say that I would not like the giving of land to be made an issue between refugees and those who are not. A word which hurts me in the maiden speech of my friend Shri Ghosh was "those" refugees—as if they are not part of our people. They are part of our State—our State meaning India. As such I would like that we should accept them. If any land is reclaimed, it should be divided 50 : 50 between the local people and the refugees. We should live in harmony.

Regarding various other schemes which should be examined, I again reiterate that the Central Council for Refugee organisations has submitted on the 11th August a comprehensive constructive scheme of all the various places which can be reclaimed. It is a constructive approach with a capital 'C'. We would like to see how far our Minister is going to reply to that.

I would like to answer one or two points regarding these doles. I was very pained to hear certain people making scurrilous remarks regarding the Bengali people, that we have become a nation of beggars, that we do nothing but ask for doles. We do not want doles.

Shri Ranga: Nobody said that.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: It has been stated. Look into the transcript. It is unfortunate that it has come from a Bengali himself.

We definitely want this to be recorded that we do not want doles. We do not want camps. We are not beggars. We want all camps to be eliminated. But, we do not want to make a fetish of a date. We want that it should be earlier than 30th of July if rehabilitation is there. We do not want what happened in 1954, when a target date was fixed and the refugee were told that by that date, we must disperse. These Dispersals took place. What do we find now in the statement of the West Bengal

Government itself? They said that there can be little doubt that "in a majority of cases, if the economic conditions had been satisfactory, they would not have deserted." They have seen it themselves. This is what we do not want. We do not want a target date to be made a fetish of. We should rather say we want that the rehabilitation scheme should go ahead, practical, proper, efficient rehabilitation schemes both for the agricultural sector as well as the non-agricultural sector.

It is very unfortunate I never have enough time to make my points, but on this point of doles, I want to give one example. There is a colony—the hon. Minister will know it, the others may not—called the New Barrackpore colony. In a certain portion of that, there are about 454 families still on dole. They could have been given homestead lands, plots, in 1954. Why was it not given? Because our Rehabilitation Ministry said they were not going to incur any additional expenditure beyond the ceiling. An extra expenditure of Rs. 1.5 lakhs would have prevented us from spending Rs. 18.5 lakhs in doles, and yet today they have been kept on doles. Is it not the policy of Government which is responsible for this?

Regarding the non-agriculturist refugees, the point has been made by my hon. friend Shri Bimal Ghose that we from the very beginning stated: let us set up industries in the public sector; the private sector is not interested in setting up industries; where there are concentrations of refugees near the border and there are many other difficulties. But that was not listened to. Today again the policy is being changed. We welcome it. I do not say: we said it first, you did not agree to it. I only want to point out that unless we approach the problem in a co-operative manner, it cannot be solved. They may be sitting in the Treasury Benches, they may be members of the Congress, but

[Shrimati Renu Chakravarty]

if they really have the welfare of the refugees at heart, it is no use taking to political brickbats. Let us find out together what is the best way of solving the problem. We have also put forward good, correct proposals which are proved to be correct today.

Lastly, regarding the small industries, I would say no doubt we have spent money on training these people, especially the women, but we ask that not only the big industry should be taken in the public sector, but certain grants should be given directly for the production centres. There are rules which are holding this up. These rules are not being changed.

Again, in the agricultural sector there is the ceiling on land. If you go outside Bengal you can get Rs. 5,000; if it is within Bengal the maximum you can get is Rs. 2,500. You cannot get good land for that. But the "bainanama" scheme may be allowed to go through. He wanted a reference, I can quote chapter and verse from the press statement made by the Chief Minister of West Bengal as to the number of *bena nama* which were executed, the number of *bena nama* which were rejected. On the basis of that a very large number of these people can get their lands. . . .

Not only that. There is the ceiling of price for land. If the ceiling on agricultural land prices is raised a little bit, then you will find that a very large number of refugees will rehabilitate themselves.

From all these points of view I would like to say that the new change in policy is a very welcome one. We should like that there should be quick sanctioning of the scheme from the Centre, that the Centre should support this and should not try to hold it back, but expedite the schemes, and that there should be no artificial closing down of camps by the 31st July. They should expedite these schemes and make them efficient.

With these words, I would like an answer from the hon. Minister.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I am glad the House had an opportunity of discussing the important decisions that were taken by us in consultation with the Government of West Bengal in early July. These decisions have been laid on the Table of the House and I do not want to discuss them at length, but I feel that there is a certain amount of misunderstanding in certain quarters regarding the interpretation of these decisions.

These decisions which can be broadly categorised into three heads relate to the clearing of Sealdah station; the regularisation of the squatters' colonies in and around Calcutta; and the closure of the camps in West Bengal and giving rehabilitation assistance to the partially rehabilitated families. I shall not dilate much on the squatters' colonies nor the Sealdah station, because I am at one with everybody in this House that the regularisation of the squatters' colonies should be expedited, as quickly as possible. We have taken certain decisions in that connection, and I am going ahead with them, and a number of schemes have already been sanctioned during the month or two regarding the development of these colonies.

As regards Sealdah, it is no credit to any Government or to any country or to any nation to have a large body of unfortunate people lying in the open at the Sealdah station in Calcutta. But, as I have said before, it is not a question with which we have been faced for the first time. Sealdah has been cleared not once but twice, but it has again been filled up. I do not want to go into the causes, but the fact remains that there is suffering humanity at the Sealdah station. We have taken a decision, and we are implementing that decision. Already, a small section of the population at the Sealdah station has been moved.

So, there is no difference of opinion on these two counts between me and the hon. Mover of the motion or those who have taken part in the debate. Nor is there any difference of opinion between us on the matter of the closure of the camps. Everybody is agreed that these camps have a very demoralising effect on the displaced persons. They have been in existence now for a number of years. They could have been closed a long time ago, but we had a very heavy influx from East Pakistan in the years 1955 and 1956, and suddenly the camp population went up by about two lakhs of persons. Now, if these camps have to be closed, what measures are we taking to see that the least amount of human suffering is caused? We all agree that the camps should be closed. Apart from the fact that Government are spending about Rs. 10 crores on relief alone, that is, on the maintenance of these camps, each camp family of five persons, including an infant and a child costs the Government of India, Rs. 125 p.m. While the national income is only Rs. 21 per head, the expenditure on camps is at the rate of Rs. 25 per head. I am not taking that aspect of the matter into consideration. As Shri Bimal Ghose very rightly remarked, these are unfortunate people who have become refugees for no fault of theirs; a decision was taken regarding the partition of the country, and these 42 lakhs of persons had to come out of East Pakistan. I have every sympathy with them. So I am not taking into consideration the aspect of the Government expenditure being incurred on the maintenance of these camps, but it is actually the demoralising effect that it is having that is exercising me.

Now, it has been urged repeatedly in this House that these camps should be closed, and the sooner the better. What have we done now? I will read the exact words from the decisions which were taken, which have been circulated to all Members of the House

and which have also appeared in the Press.

"The present camp population is estimated to be 1,97,000 refugees, namely, about 45,000 families. The State Government anticipated that they will be able to absorb not more than about 10,000 families within the State".

It is important. This decision has to be viewed in the context of the number of displaced persons who are within West Bengal today. You cannot take it out of that context and deal with only 45,000 families. There are in the State of West Bengal today about 32 lakhs displaced persons out of a total of about 42 lakhs displaced persons who have come out of East Pakistan. The State Government have not asked for the removal of a single family or a single person out of the 32 lakhs excepting the camp families who are in the State. The State Government have accepted very cheerfully the burden and the responsibility of rehabilitating these 30 lakh persons within the State. They are there. There is no question of taking a single person out from within the State of West Bengal.

Now these 45,000 families come to roughly about 2 lakh persons. Even if you take round about 3 to 4 acres as an economic unit in West Bengal, you want about 2 lakh acres of land. I still hold and maintain that West Bengal has reached saturation point.

Shri A. C. Guha: More than saturation point.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I still hold and maintain that hardly any land which is cultivable or culturable is available there. If there was, why should I as Minister in charge of Rehabilitation at the Centre take my friends out of West Bengal to other States.

Shri Bimal Ghose: That is what we want to know.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: It is no pleasure to me. The Bengalis want

[**Shri Mehr Chand Khanna**]

to remain within Bengal, within their historical surroundings, within their cultural background. My task is easy because then it becomes the responsibility of the State Government; it becomes the responsibility of Dr. Roy and the two Opposition parties or those two great organisations who claim to represent the refugees. I do not come into the picture. I only come into the picture when I have to take these families out of West Bengal either to Bihar or to Orissa or to any other State.

Again I repeat that if it costs me Rs. 5,000 for the rehabilitation of a family outside West Bengal and if with a similar amount a family can be rehabilitated within the State, why should I grudge that? And if the Press reports are read carefully, not between the lines....

Shri Bimal Ghose: We will be tempted to answer.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: it has been stated, and stated very clearly, that only waste lands are available in Midnapore.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Even outside only waste lands are available.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Let me go on. Only waste lands are available in Midnapore; only lands of a marginal and sub-marginal quality are available within the State of West Bengal.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Are they given the best of lands in other States?

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Here he has said that the land available outside Bengal is also of a marginal type.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: The hon. lady Member from West Bengal opposite me quotes me. I still hold and maintain that no cultivable lands are available in West Bengal (Interruptions). Let me go on. I have got only five minutes more.

Where have I undertaken that these 35,000 families who are in the camps today, when I take them out to Dandakaranya or to other States, will be rehabilitated by 31st July, 1959? I have not undertaken that. The Government of India has not undertaken that. What we have undertaken to do is this: I am quoting the exact words of the decision, "as regards the remaining families the Government of India will make arrangements for their rehabilitation in States outside West Bengal including the Dandakaranya project. When the families are moved, they will be provided with shelter and work during the initial period until they are rehabilitated." I undertook to provide each family that I take out of the camps from West Bengal with continuous work till that family is rehabilitated (Interruptions). I was very happy when Shri Panigrahi moved this motion but I was most unhappy when he started saying what I had not stated at all, that the Government of India had undertaken to rehabilitate these 35,000 families within a year. You can quote all the facts and figures, and talk of Ramayana and Mahabharata; there is no harm about that. I can understand the anxiety of the hon. Mover; while he wants to show to be a friend of the Bengali refugees at heart he does not want a single Bengali to be settled in Dandakaranya. (Interruptions).

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: This is twisting.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: It is simple arithmetic. I come to simple arithmetic (Interruptions). If rehabilitation could be solved by a simple arithmetic, I can assure you I could have done it ages ago; there would have been no difficulty. The idea is to show that all these families can be rehabilitated within West Bengal and so we should not take a single family out of West Bengal. It is put into my mouth that the cost of

rehabilitation of a family in Dandakaranya will be Rs. 10,000. I am the Minister in charge. I have never made a statement of that nature anywhere up till now.

Shri A. C. Guha: They say that West Bengal Government said that.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Now, let us come to simple arithmetic. I have been to Midnapore; I have been to Kaligeh and I have seen these lands. I stand by the statement I have made. The House would be interested to know that the total area that can become available in the district of Midnapore including Barbata and Kaligeh and some of these places is not going to be more than 25,000 acres in all—all waste land. Each family will be given 6 acres, 10 khatas for a homestead plot, contour bunding has also to be taken into consideration. The maximum number of families that can ever be rehabilitated under that scheme can never be beyond 4,000. The maximum area that can be reclaimed with the help of the tractors that we have at our disposal today in West Bengal is not more than 8,000 acres a year. That means, not more than 1,000 to 1,200 families can be rehabilitated and the period of rehabilitation of each family is going to be three years.

Shri Bimal Ghose: How long will it take in Dandakaranya?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Don't get excited; please wait. I am coming to it. (Interruptions).

That is the position about Midnapore.

Much has been made of the *bena nama* transactions. I mean the *bena nama* schemes. I have heard somebody putting the figure at 13,000. During the last 4 or 5 months....

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: 32,000 was the number of applications referred to in the statement of the Chief Minister of West Bengal.

17 hrs.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Let me clarify the position. I am not in any way contradicting the statement that has been made by the hon. Member. I was referring to the *bena nama* Scheme. These schemes are of two kinds: urban scheme and rural scheme. Under the urban scheme, you want a homestead plot loan for the construction of the house and a small trade loan. Under the rural scheme, you need land, implements for cultivation and maintenance loan till the harvest period. What I am trying to do is this I take one integrated scheme. I do not take the homestead plot today and the land tomorrow and the loan sometime later. I take all these three applications relating to a particular individual as one scheme and we sanction that. If you multiply it by three, the figure will naturally come to 9,000 or 10,000. If you take the family, the unit becomes one. We have during the last six months sanctioned about 3,300 *bena nama* schemes covering an expenditure of over a crore of rupees. All these things were taken into consideration. 21 lakhs of displaced persons in West Bengal have received rehabilitation benefits. Shri Bimal Ghose made out a point and I agree with him that a certain section of the population though they have received rehabilitation aid, have not been fully rehabilitated. We call them partially rehabilitated. According to the version of the State Government, the percentage is as high as 40 or 50. Now, if we take 20 lakhs and divide it by five, it means four lakh families. If a lakh or a lakh and a half of partially rehabilitated families have to be rehabilitated, they cannot be rehabilitated in mere vacuum, in the air. Lands have to be found for them. Similarly, if the West Bengal Government keeps 10,000 camp families, lands have also to be found for them. I agree with some hon. Members here and this was the doubt that I expressed myself: whether in the final analysis, the Government of West Bengal, taking into consider-

[Shri Mehr Chand Khanna]

ation the partially rehabilitated families, whom, I think, it will not be advisable to take outside the State, can provide means for the rehabilitation of even 10,000 families within the State. You cannot have Midnapore on one side.....

Shri Bimal Ghose: What is the reaction of the Chief Minister to that suggestion?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I can assure my hon. friend, Shri Bimal Ghose, that no decision has been taken during the period that I have held office, without the concurrence and the approval of the Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Shri Bimal Ghose: I did not ask that question.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: What I am trying to tell the House is that it is after very great deliberation that we have taken this decision and the decision is this. We propose to close these camps by the 31st July, 1959. I undertake to provide work to each family that comes out with me from West Bengal, whether I take them to Dandakaranya or Bihar or Orissa. I also undertake that each family, which comes out with me will be rehabilitated and till the family is rehabilitated the family will be provided with work. What have we done? We have given our friends in the camps and their well-wishers here and their well-wishers in Bengal a period of one year. If they have any schemes to formulate, let them formulate and send them.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Many, many schemes were formulated.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I fully understand and appreciate. A scheme comes on paper.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Then, how will it come?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: A proper scheme, well planned out? Let me come to that. If you give me two or three minutes, I will finish.

Hero Bhanga is a part of the constituency of the hon. lady Member from West Bengal and possibly she feels that we are looking at it with a squint eye. It is not the point. Hero Bhanga is an area where the embankment, according to the very papers which they hurled at me, gives way to the vagaries of the sea every year. Secondly, the scheme was prepared not long ago and sent to me. When the scheme came experts told us that, perhaps, instead of one embankment we will have to have another embankment too. I was further told that by the construction of a second embankment, on account of a good part of the area going to sea, the number of heads of families will be reduced and the cost of the scheme will go up from about Rs. 26 lakhs or Rs. 28 lakhs to about Rs. 50 lakhs. Again, I am told that even for these families, when they are taken to Hero Bhanga, it may take another three years for them to be rehabilitated there. I am not against the rehabilitation of the existing refugee population in the State of West Bengal, but it must be clearly understood that if I have any responsibility to the displaced persons, if I have any responsibility to this House, if I have any responsibility to the Central Exchequer, I have to see that the schemes are properly planned and implemented. And if I find that there is no vacuum in the State of West Bengal—whatever vacuum there is I am prepared to utilise it to the maximum—I will have to go elsewhere.

I cannot remain in the vain hope of getting schemes. What has been happening for the last three or four years? What schemes have been sent to me by hon. Members there? All that I am told is "Hold a meeting". I hold meetings twice, thrice and even

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four times a year. Every time the Parliament is in session there is a meeting of the Consultative Committee. Shri Bimal Ghose and also Shrimati Renu Chakravarty are there.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Sir, schemes are not submitted in the Consultative Committee; they are submitted elsewhere.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: When the hon. Member can bring to my notice individual cases of A, B, C, D and E—in fact, I got a letter from her only yesterday bringing to my notice an individual case—why can't she send up a scheme? I do not understand. By merely saying here that lands are there in West Bengal.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Sir, the hon. Minister should not mislead the House. He has been given many schemes, and it is wrong to say that he has not received any schemes.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Sir, I am very grateful to you for the time that you have given to me. I only want to repeat that the decision of the Government should not be misunderstood, and I want the co-operation of, more so, the hon. Members opposite in having these decisions implemented;

these decisions, in my view, are the best, they are in the best interests of the displaced persons and their speedy rehabilitation.

Mr. Chairman: What about Shri Das Gupta's amendment.

Shri B. Das Gupta: I beg to withdraw it.

The amendment was, by leave, withdrawn.

17.09 hrs.

PARLIAMENT (PREVENTION OF DISQUALIFICATION) BILL

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE

Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput): Sir, I beg to present the Report of the Joint Committee on the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957.

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TWENTY-NINTH-REPORT

Shri Rane (Buldana): Sir, I beg to present the Twenty-ninth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

17.09 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, the 11th September, 1958.

[Wednesday, 20th September, 1958.]

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1136	Minor irrigation Projects	5674
1137	Raxaul Aerodrome	5675
631	Posts and Telegraphs Facilities at Palam	5675
674	Supply of Water from Bhakra Nangal Project	5676
U. S. Q. No.		
1756	Derailment of Bhopal-Ujjain-Nagda Passenger No. 88	5676
1757	Central Health Service	5676—77
1758	Bridges damaged by rain	5677
1759	Pumping sets in Rajasthan	5678
1760	Quarters for P. & T. Employees in Rajasthan Circle	5678
1761	Facilities for sending telegrams in Hindi	5679
1762	Incidence of chain pulling on Trains	5679—80
1763	Dak Bungalows on National Highways in Rajasthan	5680
1764	Research Schemes from Rajasthan	5680
1765	Grants for Road Development Schemes	5680—81
1766	Stations on Northern Railway	5681

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—contd.

Subject	COLUMNS
U. S. Q.	
No.	
1767 Additional Trains	5681-82
1768 Amenities at Bhiwani Railway Station	5682
1769 Vegetables	5683
1770 Reversion of officiating accounts stock verifiers	5683
1771 Parcel Express from Arko-nam to Bombay	5684-86
1772 Khas land in Belonia (Tripura)	5685
1773 Sullage water drain in Daryaganj, Delhi	5685-86
1774 Jack Fruit	5686
1775 Collision of passenger Train with a Crane	5686-87
1776 All India Institute of Medical Sciences	5687
1777 Post and Telegraph Offices in Backward Areas	5688
1778 Claims	5688
1779 Ticket Collector of Katra-gunj Railway Station	5689
1780 Export of wheat from Punjab	5689
1781 Central Institute for Training of Pilots	5689-90
1782 Sleeping coaches in III class Compartments	5690-91
1783 Economy Committee of the Railway Board	5691
1784 Locust control	5691-92
1785 National reserve of Food-grains	5693
1786 Requisitioning of Food-grains	5693-94
1787 Purchase of rice in Punjab	5694-96
1788 Mineral water's of Sohna	5695
1789 Manufacture of Railway Wagons	5695-96
1790 Minor irrigation schemes in Punjab	5697
1791 Air accident	5697
1792 Remodelling of stations at Manmad, Niphad and Ugaon	5697-98
1793 Strike of licensed porters at Delhi Railway Station	56-98
1794 Marine engineering college, Calcutta	5699
1795 Irwin Hospital, New Delhi	5699-5700
1796 Gola Road Station	5700
1797 Failure of engines	5700-02
1798 Indian Standard Institute, New Delhi	5701
1799 Dibnapur Railway Station	5702
178 LSD—9.	

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—contd.

Subject	COLUMNS
U. S. Q.	
No.	
1800 Theft in a Goods Train	5702-03
1801 Departmental action against Postal Employees	5703-04
1802 Central Investigating Agency	5704
1803 Ranjit Nagar colony	5704-05
1804 Distribution of insecticides in Manipur	5705-06
1805 Agricultural Loan in Tripura	5706
1806 Railway siding at Kustaur Station	5707-08
1807 Passenger Train to Katar-nian Ghat Station	5708-09
1808 Fruit Preservation Industry	5709
1809 Fisheries development in Bombay	5710
1810 Power supply system in Trains	5710
1811 Babatpur Aerodrome (Banaras)	5710-11
1812 Quarters for Railway Staff at stations between Auran-gabad and Nanded	5711-12
1813 Exploratory Tube Organisation	5712-13
1814 Post Office building in Amritsar	5713-14
1815 Shortage of Block Personnel in Orissa	5714
1816 Railway Service Commission, Calcutta	5714-15
1817 Persons convicted under Essential Commodities Act, 1955	5715
1818 Minor irrigation schemes	5715-16
1819 Medical practitioners in States	5716
1820 Late running of Trains	5716-17
1821 Doubling of Railway Line	5717
1822 Agricultural production	5717
1823 Guest control orders	5717-1
1824 Harnessing river waters of Punjab	5718
1825 Over-bridges in Northern Railway	5718-19
1826 Telephone and Telegram facilities in Hoshiarpur	5719
1827 Letter boxes	5719-20
1828 Stock of Foodgrain	5720
1829 Telephone Exchange near Delhi Gate	5720-21

COLUMNS

RESIGNATION OF A MEMBER 5721

The Speaker informed Lok Sabha that Shri Tribhuan Narayan Singh had resigned his seat in Lok Sabha with effect from the 10th September, 1958

REPORT OF COMMITTEE
ON PRIVATE MEMBERS'
BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS
PRESENTED

Twenty-sixth Report was
presented.

BILL PASSED

5736—66

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar) moved for the consideration of the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill. After the clause-by-clause consideration the Bill was passed

MOTION TO REFER BILL
TO JOINT COMMITTEE
UNDER CONSIDERATION 5766—5800

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar) moved that the Delhi Rent Control Bill be referred to a Joint Committee. The consideration was not concluded

COLUMNS

DISCUSSION RE: REHABILITATION OF DISPLACED PERSONS FROM EAST PAKISTAN

5800—50

Shri Panigrahi raised a discussion on the important policy decisions taken at the high level conference held on the 4th July, 1958 at Calcutta re: rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan. The Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs (Shri Mehr Chand Khanna) replied to the Debate and the discussion was concluded.

REPORT OF JOINT COMMITTEE PRESENTED

Shri Jaganatha Rao presented the Report of the Joint Committee on the Parliament (Prevention of Disqualification) Bill, 1957

REPORT OF BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE PRESENTED

Twenty-ninth Report was
presented

AGENDA FOR THURSDAY,
11TH SEPTEMBER, 1958—
Further discussion on the motion to refer the Delhi Rent Control Bill to a Joint Committee

5850

5850