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Tuesday, March 31, 1959
Chaitra 10 1881 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Seventh Session)



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

62 nP. (INLAND)

THREE SHILLINGS (FOREIGN)

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

LOK SABHA DEBATES

8681

LOK SABHA

Tuesday, March 31, 1959/Chaitra 10
1881 (Saka)

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

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

General Agreement on Tariff and Trade

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*1565. { Shri Rajendra Singh.
 { Shri D C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 20 on the 17th November 1958 and state

(a) whether the 13th Session of General Agreement on Tariff and Trade has concluded its sittings at Geneva which began on the 16th October, 1958

(b) whether a copy of the report submitted by the Indian Delegation to the Session will be laid on the Table, and

(c) what measures were agreed to finally towards further reduction and elimination of quantitative restrictions to secure further expansion of world trade?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) A copy of the Report of the Indian Delegation to the 13th Session of the GATT was laid on the Table of the House on the 16th March, 1959

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(c) The Contracting Parties are keeping under review quantitative restrictions applied by member-States of the GATT to their imports and exports. Measures for further expansion of world trade through *inter alia* the reduction of quantitative restrictions are also being discussed in GATT Intersessional Committees

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what is the approximate estimated expansion of world trade so far as India is concerned, and to what countries does this estimated expansion relate?

Shri Kanungo: India is in an unfortunate position now in the sense that she has got to make an all-out effort to maintain her past performance in export

Shri D C Sharma: May I know in what way our association with this body has accelerated or retarded our trade? Or has it kept our trade at the standstill level?

Shri Kanungo: It is rather difficult to answer the question elaborately. Broadly, it might be said that but for this conference, the member-States of which have undertaken not to use discrimination in their tariffs and restrictions, world trade might have contracted and India would have suffered also

Shri Kasliwal: May I know how far our position in the GATT, and how far export trade, has been adversely affected as a result of the European Common Market? And what steps have Government taken to offset that adverse effect?

Shri Kanungo: The European Common Market has come into existence only on the 1st of January this year. Therefore, the effects of it have not been felt yet. But the members of

G A T T have now taken that into consideration and the Intersessional Committees will go item by item, into commodities which are likely to be affected

Shri Tangamani: As a result of the 13th session which was held in Geneva and the restrictions imposed, what are the special articles, the export of which from our country will be affected?

Shri Kanungo: There were no decisions about any particular commodities or any particular tariff rates. In the 13th session, they have set up three Committees which will go into different aspects of quantitative restrictions, tariffs and other factors

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Have Government made any assessment as to how far India is benefited by being a member G A T T ever since its inception in the context of world trade?

Shri Kanungo: That is a part of my answer to a previous supplementary, that but for the G A T T and the contract between the Contracting Parties, India along with other countries would have suffered more by restrictive policies which would have been applied unrestrictedly

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether between the 12th and 13th sessions of G A T T, Government granted any compensatory concessions to any countries? If so, to what extent and in respect of what commodities?

Shri Kanungo: That is a continuous process. But in the discussions in the 13th session, the Government of India have not given any concession, nor asked for any concession at the moment

Dicalcium Phosphate

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*1566. { **Shri S. C. Samanta:**
 Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) how far the production of dicalcium phosphate has progressed in the country;

(b) what will be the production during the Second Five Year Plan period, and

(c) whether the target for it has been achieved?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra):
(a) Only small quantities are being produced

(b) With the present capacity, it may not exceed 20 tons per annum

(c) No specific target has been fixed for this item

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know what is the demand of this chemical in the country at present?

Shri Satish Chandra: As I said, hardly 20 tons is produced, which is being used by the sugar industry for clarification of juice. The present production is sufficient to meet that demand. Some chemical grades are imported for use by the tooth-paste industry because the dicalcium phosphate which is locally produced is not suitable for that purpose

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether any private concern has taken it up or Government is doing it?

Shri Satish Chandra: A private concern suggested that dicalcium phosphate could be used as fertiliser in place of super phosphate. But as chlorine, which is the main component of dicalcium phosphate, has several other useful avenues, nobody has taken it up

सेठ गोविन्द दास ग्रामी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि इसके सम्बन्ध में कुछ चीज बाहर से भी आती हैं जो कि बहुत कम की है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उनका मगाना भी क्यों बन्द नहीं किया जा सकता है?

श्री सतीश चन्द्र मैंने प्रश्न किया कि बहुत ही थोड़ी मात्रा में टूथ पेस्ट में मिलाने के लिए कुछ डाइकैल्शियम फास्फेट

कैमिकल ग्रेड की आवश्यकता होती है वह इतनी कम है कि उसको बनाने में किसी की विलंबता नहीं है।

Productivity Councils

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•1567. { Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Keshava:
Shri Rajendra Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 113 on the 14th August, 1958 and state

(a) the further progress made in setting up of local, regional, and industry-wise, productivity councils;

(b) whether Productivity Councils have been established in all the States in India,

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, and

(d) the strength of membership of the councils which have been set up so far?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Local Productivity Councils have been established at Bombay, Kolhapur, Madras, Coimbatore, Bangalore (Mysore State) and in Kerala State. Efforts are being made to establish further about 20 Local Productivity Councils very soon

(b) and (c) Initially, the emphasis is on establishing Local Productivity Councils in industrial centres only. It is not proposed to lay emphasis at this stage on the establishment of State Productivity Councils

(d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House [See Appendix V, annexure No 67]

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know what is the criterion of selection of members in these Councils?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The constitution is approved by the National Productivity Council. The broad

criterion is that equal representation should be given to labour and employers

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know whether any Productivity Personnel Survey Committee has been set up? If so, what are its findings?

Shri Manubhai Shah: A Committee as such is not being set up, but promotional steps are being taken. The House will be glad to know that there is a large number of statistic control personnel in the country also for the material balance handling and for people required for industrial management, industrial engineers and various other aspects of productivity. We are also taking steps to see that some young men from India are sent out for being trained as productivity personnel

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know by what percentage production has increased in small scale and medium scale industries since the inception of these Councils?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is too early yet to say. The productivity movement is taking shape. But we have no doubt that though a statistical evaluation is not immediately available, and it is very difficult to assess, the movement is, on the whole, very well received. India is one of the first countries which can take the pride that the labour movement here has whole-heartedly accepted this principle of productivity

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether an effort will be made to organise these productivity councils industry-wise, and, if so, when that effort will be made? I find that only 4 productivity councils have been set up till now. How long will it take to cover the whole industrial field?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The idea is not merely to extend for the sake of extension. We are taking steps to consolidate the movement at every stage. And, as I already mentioned in the main answer, 20 local productivity councils are being set up very

soon The first idea is to concentrate in areas where the present industries are so that productivity goes up and then, gradually, State Productivity Councils will be set up As a matter of fact, in Mysore and Kerala, the States have preferred to have State Productivity Councils Both the experiments will continue to work together and the results will be watched

Shri Keshava: May we know what procedure is adopted to secure the representation of labour? Are they going to be nominated or are you going to allow the Unions to elect them?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There are regular elections and I have already laid before the House the constitution All the major unions are already represented in the NPC and the constitutions of the local productivity councils have been very carefully laid down The whole idea is to bring about a spirit of co-operation between labour and the industry in order to increase productivity per unit of investment and per man-hour spent in production

श्री रा० क० वर्मा: क्या श्रीमान् यह बतलाने का कष्ट करेंगे कि जिन प्रदेशों के अन्दर प्राडक्टिविटी कौंसिल कायम नहीं की गई है उन में कायम न करने का मुख्य कारण क्या है और क्यों उन जगहों पर प्राडक्टिविटी कौंसिल कायम करने का विचार किया जा रहा है? इस सम्बन्ध में क्या आप ने स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को कोई सिफारिश की है?

श्री मनुभाई शाह: स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को तो हम ने बहुत दफे लिखा है, लेकिन यह कोई ऐसा मूवमेंट नहीं है कि सिर्फ कौंसिल के सेट-अप हो जाने से या ऐसोसिएशन बन जाने से ही वह चलता हो। हम ने सारे देश के अन्दर पाच जोन बनाये हैं और उन में से हर एक जोन के अन्दर पाच, छ, प्राडक्टिविटी एक्सपर्ट्स एन० पी० सी० की तरफ से रखे

गये हैं, और हम यह कोशिश करते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान में और प्राडक्टिविटी एक्सपर्ट्स बड़ें और हर एक कर्नल उस का फायदा ले कर अपनी प्राडक्टिविटी को बढ़ाये।

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: How many teams have been sent abroad by these productivity councils or are proposed to be sent?

Shri Manubhai Shah: One has already been sent and the report is ready and, perhaps, it has been sent to the Library to-day or will be sent in a few days It is proposed that another 7 to 8 productivity teams drawn from different industries of which I had in the past placed a list—Coal Mining Industry, Plastics Industry, Small Scale Industries,, Cotton Textiles Industry, Management Organisation and Training, Building Industry and Factory Construction, Marketing and Distribution—should go during this year

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether this productivity council is interesting itself in management accountability as well?

Shri Manubhai Shah: Yes, Sir

Shri Dasappa: If so what are the concrete steps taken by the productivity council?

Shri Manubhai Shah. The concrete step to be taken is that during the current year we are trying to set up a Central Institute of Management of which management accountability, which the hon Member pointed out, will be a very important part Gradually, this main institute will branch itself out in the different States so that the small industrialists will become productivity conscious Our main attention to-day is to make the small man more productivity conscious because the bigger units can perhaps afford to have their productivity consultants

श्री रा० क० बर्मा : ऐसे प्रौद्योगिक क्षेत्र में जहाँ पर इंडस्ट्रियल पीस रही हो और डिस्प्लिन हो, और वहाँ पर प्रोडक्टिविटी कौंसिल कायम करने से गवर्नमेंट कामयाब हो सकती है या नहीं, क्या यह जानने की कोशिश की गई है ? और की गई है तो वह कौन से सेक्टर है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : माननीय सदस्य अपने एरिया में प्रोडक्टिविटी कौंसिल की कांशसनेस पैदा करे क्योंकि यह तो आखिर उन्हीं के हाथ में है कि वे मेहनत करे। अगर वह ऐसा करे तो हम मदद करेंगे और वहाँ पर फौरन उन को कायम कर देंगे। सारा सवाल तो लोकल इनिशिएटिव लाने का है। यह कोई जबर्दस्ती या ऊपर से लादने की मूवमेंट नहीं है। यह एक बायोलिशनल मूवमेंट है।

श्री प्र० सु० तारिक : अभी आप ने फरमाया है कि प्रोडक्टिविटी कौंसिल का एक डेलिगेशन योरप गया था। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस डेलिगेशन का इन्तख़ाब किस ने किया था, और इन्तख़ाब करते वक्त लोगों को नामजद करने के लिये क्या बेसिस पेस नज़र रखी गई थी ?

[شری اے - ایم - طارق : ابھی آپ نے فرمایا ہے کہ پروجیکٹوٹی کونسل کا ایک ڈیلیگیشن یورپ گیا تھا - میں جانتا چاہتا ہوں کہ اس ڈیلیگیشن کا انتخاب کس نے کیا تھا اور انتخاب کرتے وقت لوگوں کو نامزد کرنے کے لئے کیا بیسس یہی نظر رکھی گئی تھی۔]

श्री मनुभाई शाह : उन के इन्तख़ाब का यह तरीका है कि जो नेशनल प्रोडक्टिविटी कौंसिल है उसने अलग-अलग इंडस्ट्री के लिये लेबर और इंडस्ट्री के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स और गवर्नमेंट के रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स की सेलेक्शन टीमें बनाई हैं। वह सारी इंडस्ट्री की जो रिप्रेजेंटेटिव्स बाड़ी हैं, ट्रेड यूनियन्स हैं, उन को कंटेक्ट करती हैं और उन में से ५०-१०० प्रादमियों के नाम ले कर जो प्रादमी

सब के अच्छे मालूम होते हैं उन को नामजद करती है।

लेठ गोविन्द दास : अभी शायद मंत्री जी ने कहा कि निकट भविष्य में इस तरह की २० कौंसिलें और बनन वाली है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में क्या हम बात का भी ख्याल रक्खा गया है कि यह २० कौंसिलें इस तरह की बनाई जायें कि वे नारे देश में बन सकें और वह उन से पूरा फायदा उठा सकें, यदि हा, तो क्या कहा वह बनने वाली है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : बात यह है कि यह क्वालिटी वर्क है। सिर्फ इस का फैलावा करने से ही वह नहीं बढ़ता है। जो एरिया हम पसन्द कर रहे हैं वे ऐसी हैं कि जो करीब-करीब सारी कंट्री को कवर कर लेती हैं। वह जगहें यह हैं : दिल्ली, फरीदाबाद, कानपुर, जलन्धर, अमृतसर, नुधियाना, बटाला, बड़ीदा, इन्दौर, भहमदाबाद, सुरेन्द्रनगर, सागली, पूना, हैदराबाद, नागपुर, कलकत्ता, गारीबिडी, मैसूर सिटी, मैंगलोर, ट्रिवेन्द्रम, भालवे, और कालीकट। यह सारा प्रोग्राम ऐसा है कि हर स्टेट के अन्दर तीन चार, मुख्य जगहों पर कौंसिलें हो जायेंगी और प्र.हिस्ता-प्र.हिस्ता बातावरण फैला जायगा।

Shri Kashiwal: The objective of establishing these productivity councils is to reduce consumer price and to raise the workers' wages. May I know whether, during this period, Government have made any assessment as to the extent to which this objective has been achieved?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It is too early to assess the result. The main idea is not only to reduce the prices and to increase the wages but also to increase national production per unit of investment. That is the primary objective. The achievement cannot be assessed within 3 to 6 months of the establishment of the council.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the trade union organisations are

suggested to give their suggestion as to the provision of amenities so that they might give the best opportunities to increase production? If so, what are they like?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As far as the trade unions are concerned I must accept on behalf of Government and the NPC that they have been most cooperative as any found anywhere in the world. The labour unions of all sections have come forward to assist and help productivity movements.

Shri Tangamani: May I know when the *Productivity Review*, a monthly journal which was proposed to be published, will be published? May I also know whether the yearly commitment will remain only at Rs 10 lakhs as it was in 1959 or whether it will be improved in view of the fact that a large number of centres are going to be opened?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I may caution only this much that this is not a mere movement where multiplication of institutions, organisations and other things alone will work. We have to produce the instruments and tools of productivity. Therefore, our approach is more intensively qualitative so that the movement can give the maximum results in the shortest possible time with the least expenditure. Rs 10 lakhs are provided this year, and we consider it an adequate sum of money. But money is not, perhaps, going to stand in the way of expansion. If it is really needed more can be spent.

Shri Tangamani: What about the monthly journal?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It will be published shortly.

Shri R. C. Majhi: May I know whether there are foreign specialists or technicians in the National Productivity Council?

Shri Manubhai Shah: They are attached in a way as advisers. The

NPC is a wholly national institution represented by Indian nationals.

U.S. Trade Mission

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Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri R. C. Majhi:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Rameshwar Tandia:
Shri Tridib Kumar
Chaudhuri:
Shri Assar:
 *1568 **Shri Mahanty:**
Shri Vajpayee:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Bimal Ghose:
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Hem Barua:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that a US Trade Mission visited India during October-December, 1958,

(b) if so, the objects of the Mission;

(c) whether the Mission has submitted any report to the Government,

(d) if so, the details thereof, and

(e) the action Government have taken or propose to take thereon?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) to (e) During October-December, 1958, two US Trade Missions visited India. The object of the first Mission was to advise the Government of India on the possibilities of increasing exports of Indian handicrafts and handloom products to USA. The second Mission was in connection with the US Small Industries exhibition held in Delhi in December-January last. The report of the first Mission is awaited. No report is due from second Mission as it was only for the exhibition as mentioned above.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether it is a fact that the second Mission has expressed the view that

export of Indian goods has fallen a great deal for want of quality and standard? If so, what steps are Government taking to improve the quality?

Shri Manubhai Shah: It hardly arises out of this question. As the hon. Member is aware that there is the Export Promotion Council and steps are being taken to see that more missions, more delegations and more international contacts are arranged and organised so that the foreign trade can go up.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know whether it is a fact that the second Mission had expressed the desire of the manufacturers of machinery in U.S.A. are ready to set up new establishments in India in partnership with Indian businessmen? If so, what is the reaction of Government?

Shri Manubhai Shah: I could not follow the long question. If the hon. Member can kindly repeat

Mr. Speaker: It is a long question. Shri Samanta.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the second Mission which came to India in connection with the Small Industries Exhibition had any talk with our Government about the exchange of small scale things in our country with theirs?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This particular Mission is really confined to taking round the small industries exhibition of the United States which had already been exhibited in Delhi. Now it is being shown in Calcutta and it would be shown in another twelve or fourteen places in India. There was no actual discussion with them. There have been some delegations coming from different countries including the United States with which we are having several types of discussions.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the names of the important handicrafts and handloom product centres which this Mission visited?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This particular Mission, I think, went round to

nearly fourteen places: Benaras, Srinagar, Hyderabad.....

Mr. Speaker: He need not read all that. They have come here to go round.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know whether as a result of this Mission the export of handicrafts and handlooms has increased and if so to what extent?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As soon as a mission comes the exports do not increase but all these steps do have a cumulative effect and create a better climate for Indian goods in the foreign countries and enable the production of standard goods of high quality in our country.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that the leader of the U.S. delegation made a statement in Calcutta to the effect that the U.S. businessmen are interested in how they would earn profits and repatriate them and enjoy equal rights with the citizens of the country and, if so, may I know what is the quantum of profits that is proposed to be repatriated and what is the quantum that is expected to be ploughed back into the industry?

Mr. Speaker: That hardly arises out of this question. If a trade delegation comes, every other matter does not come in.

Shri Subodh Hansda: The U.S. manufacturers are interested in setting up new establishments in India with the partnership of the Indian businessmen. May I know what is the reaction of the Government in this regard?

Shri Manubhai Shah: The reaction of the Government has been that regarding all these missions and various types of collaboration as long as they are within the four corners of the National Industrial Policy and they are going to be in the interest of this country, we always try to encourage such collaboration.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Hem Barua rose—

Mr. Speaker: The hon Member is asking something beyond the scope of the question I have called another question. He can intervene in any question. Now next question.

Production of Raw Film

*1569. Shri Keshava: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that a private company proposes to start the production of raw film in Mysore in collaboration with a foreign firm; and

(b) if so, the name of the foreign firm and where the industry is to be located?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) No, Sir. No regular proposal has been received.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri Keshava: In view of the fact that our country consumes quite a large quantity of raw films and there is no indigenous factory in our country, is it a fact that the Mysore Government sent up a proposal for setting up a raw film factory in Mysore State?

Shri Manubhai Shah: This matter has come up before this House several times in the past. The present effort is to establish one raw film project plant in Madras in Ootacamund which is the place selected by the previous teams and efforts are being made with East Germany—and other countries also now—to see that this plant is established as early as possible.

Shri Dasappa rose—

Mr. Speaker: It has been coming up again and again.

Shri Dasappa: Will it be in the public sector or in the private sector?

Shri Manubhai Shah: In the public sector.

Drainage System in Delhi

*1570. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and

Supply be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1218 on the 19th December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the final report from the Committee of Inquiry regarding inefficient working of the drainage system in Delhi, and

(b) if so, the main recommendations contained therein?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) and (b) The report of the Committee has been laid on the Table of the House on 28th March, 1959. Section 8 of the report furnishes a summary of the recommendations.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know whether this scheme for desilting of Najafgarh Nullah has been taken up?

Shri K. C. Reddy: Yes, Sir, that is one of the recommendations of the Committee. The estimate has also been prepared for desilting of the Najafgarh Nullah—that is, the first phase of it. I think the work is about to be taken up.

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: May I know the total estimated expenditure?

Shri K. C. Reddy: For what item?

Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: For the Najafgarh Nullah.

Shri K. C. Reddy: It has been sanctioned and it costs about Rs 2 lakhs and odd.

Legislation for Prevention of Strikes

*1572. Pandit D. N. Tiwary: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that the Governments of Bombay and Madras States have approached the Government of India for enactment to legislations prohibiting "stay in strikes" and "go slow" by workers; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposals were considered by a Committee appointed by the Standing Labour Committee which met at Bombay in January 1959, and were not accepted. Nothing further remains to be done in the matter.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether the "stay-in strike" and "go-slow" by the workers are considered legal by the Government and, if not, what steps have the Government taken to prevent these?

Shri Abid Ali: The code of discipline which was agreed to at Naini Tal will take care of it.

श्री भक्त बर्षन श्रीमान्, जो ग्राम तरह की हड़तालें होती हैं उनके अलावा आज कल भूल हड़ताली का रोग भी बहुत बढ़ गया है, अतः मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस बारे में भी विचार किया गया है और क्या इस बारे में कोई कदम उठाये जा रहे हैं ?

श्री आबिद अली माननीय मेम्बर जो ऐसा ब्याल करते हैं वह भी एक अच्छी बात है और यह उन चीजों के बद करने में मदद करेगा ।

श्री रा० क० वर्मा गो स्लो और स्ट्राइक्स के सम्बन्ध में इंडियन लेबर कॉन्फेंस ने जो निर्णय किया है उसके बावजूद भी यह गो स्लो और स्ट्राइक्स की जा रही है तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस सम्बन्ध में गवर्नमेंट ने क्या किया है ?

श्री आबिद अली इस बारे में जब कभी सिकायत आती है तो जरूरी तहकीकात की जाती है और उसके बाद सम्बन्धित बुनियादी और उनके लीडरो से बातचीत की जाती है और कोशिश की जाती है कि ऐसी नामुनासिब चीजें कम हो ।

श्री रा० क० वर्मा उसके बावजूद भी उन पर कार्रवाई नहीं पाया जा रहा है और

लोग गो स्लो और स्ट्राइक्स करने में लग जाते हैं तो उस सम्बन्ध में क्या निर्णय किया गया है ?

श्री आबिद अली निर्णय तो यही है कि पब्लिक प्रोपिनियन इसके खिलाफ बनाई जाय ।

श्री रा० क० वर्मा पब्लिक प्रोपिनियन इसके खिलाफ बनाने के लिए गवर्नमेंट ने क्या निर्णय लिया है ?

Mr Speaker: The hon. Member must do it. What is the hon. Member here for except to create public opinion?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether for the period of stay-in strike and go-slow strike full payment is made or some deduction is being made?

Shri Abid Ali: Full payment should not be made

Shri K. N. Pandey: After this code of discipline was introduced there are some instances where the workers resorted to stay-in-strike and the matter was reported to the Ministry. Has the Ministry taken any action against those employees?

Shri Abid Ali: I have already explained the action taken.

Mr Speaker: Next question

Shri Bose rose—

Mr Speaker: The hon. Member rises always late. Why should he not think of questions and wait till all the questions are exhausted?

Shri Bose: It arises out of the last answer. May I know if the go-slow strikes are launched with due notice? What will be the reaction of the Government?

Shri Abid Ali: Go-slow is not accepted in the labour system, it is discouraged

Recognition of Trade Unions

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*1573. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether rules for recognition of Trade Unions formed by Central Government Employees are likely to be revised; and

(b) if so, whether a Commission has been appointed in this connection?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri L. N. Mishra): (a) The question whether the rules for recognition of Trade Unions, in so far as the industrial employees of Government are concerned, require revision, is under examination.

(b) No.

Shri Tangamani: My question relates to rules for the recognition of trade unions formed by the Central Government employees. It is not only industrial employees—it includes other sections of the employees also. I would like to know whether the rules for recognition have been revised so far as the services were concerned.

Shri L. N. Mishra: Recently the Home Ministry have issued some notification on 3rd March wherein some revisions have been made.

Shri Tangamani: In the revised recognition rules which had been issued by the Home Ministry on the 3rd March, 1959, we find that there are certain alternations like this. A person who is not a Government servant connected with the service cannot be an office bearer. I would like to know whether it will include those persons who are retired Government employees and also persons who are ex-Government employees.

Shri L. N. Mishra: I would require notice.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: May I know whether these rules of recognition as

notified by the Home Ministry have been examined by the Labour Ministry and I would also like to know whether these provisions run counter to the Trade Union (Amendment) Act of 1947?

Shri L. N. Mishra: So far as examination is concerned, it is being examined by the Labour Ministry. Whether it runs counter to some thing—that is a matter of opinion.

Shri Prabhat Kar: As the Trade Union Act gives the right to workers to decide that the executive may consist of persons who are not workers and the rules now circulated by the Home Ministry run counter to that provision, may I know whether the Labour Minister has taken this into consideration and taken up the matter with the Home Ministry?

Shri L. N. Mishra: These are now being examined, and it is difficult to say anything categorical at this stage.

Shri Tangamani: The rules also provide for collection of subscriptions. May I know whether the matter has been referred to the Labour Ministry and whether 'subscriptions' will include normally contributions by employees also as in the case of other trade unions?

Shri L. N. Mishra: I will require notice to answer that question.

Shri Tangamani: The question was...

Mr. Speaker: The Labour Ministry is examining the whole question.

Shri Tangamani: The question was framed following the notification by the Home Ministry. There are two types of employees, one in the services sector and the other in the industrial sector. In both cases when certain rules for recognition have been formulated the matter would have been referred to the Labour Ministry. The rules have been published and I have a copy of the rules. I would like to know what is the point of view of the Labour Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: Those rules were published by the Home Ministry. This has been addressed to the Labour Minister. The Labour Minister now says that he is pursuing those rules now and is trying to examine them. Evidently he was not a party to it or he was not consulted. Therefore, let the hon. Member allow him sufficient time to examine it.

Shri Tangamani: May I know when the rules for recognition of the industrial employees coming under the Central Government will be finalised?

Shri L. N. Mishra: It will take some time.

Second Atomic Reactor

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*1574. { Shri Osman Ali Khan:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Shri Shivananappa:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) when the second atomic reactor for India is likely to be ready, and

(b) the total cost of this project?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Work on the building to house this reactor has just started and is expected to be completed by the middle of 1959. All the components of the reactor will have been made by then and will have undergone preliminary testing before final assembly. The reactor is expected to start functioning some three months after the building is ready.

(b) The project is estimated to cost about Rs 25 lakhs exclusive of the cost of heavy water, uranium and graphite.

Shri Osman Ali Khan: May I know what are the uses of this reactor, and whether these uses could not have been included in the Canada-India reactor and thus the expenditure on the present reactor saved?

Mr. Speaker: What the hon. Member says is that there is no need for a separate reactor.

The Prime Minister and Ministry of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): It is rather difficult for me to answer such question, which, I say so with all respect, indicates a total absence of knowledge of scientific matters. We are probably going to have many more reactors, I might inform the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member knows that one is a reactor. The other is also a reactor. Therefore, he asks, why should there be a second reactor. Very well, let us go to the next question. Hon. Members will kindly study and then ask questions.

Shri Nagi Reddy: It is too technical, Sir.

श्री विभूति मिश्र मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि इस रिएक्टर के बनाने में जो इन्जीनियर काम कर रहे हैं और जो सामान लग रहा है वह हिन्दुस्तान का है या बाहर से भी मगाना पड़ रहा है।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू यह रिएक्टर पूरे तौर से हमारे ही लोगों ने बनाया है। किसी और की मदद की जरूरत नहीं पड़ी। कुछ सामान है हेवी वाटर वगैरह जो बाहर से मगाना पड़ा है, लेकिन वह तो बाद में इस्तेमाल के लिए है। इसके बनाने में बाहर की मदद नहीं ली गयी।

Export of Tea

*1576. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the present position of export of Indian Tea to Iran and Lebanon, and

(b) the measures adopted to promote the export of common and

medium grown varieties of Indian Tea to these countries?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) In 1958 India exported 12 million lbs of tea to Iran as against 10 million lbs in the previous year. Lebanon imports about 6 million lbs of tea annually and India's share is negligible.

(b) No special measures have been taken for promotion of Indian tea in these countries. While Iran has a special liking for high quality tippy teas from India, Lebanon is an extremely limited market.

Shri Pangarkar: May I know what is the quantity of blended and packeted tea exported out of India during 1958?

Shri Satish Chandra: The tea exports in 1958 were 507 million pounds.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In view of the fact that the demand in Iran is for the high quality of tea and Ceylon has become our competitor in this market, may I know what steps have been taken by the Ministry to see that the import of fine tea into Iran to which we had almost a monopoly sometime ago continues as before?

Shri Satish Chandra: It is not correct. I have said that the exports in 1958, have been larger than 1957. We had never had a monopoly in that market, but the finest quality teas are purchased by Iran from India. Iran itself is a producer of the common varieties of tea.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether Government have so far opened any tea centres in Iran and Lebanon, and whether the co-operation of the Tea Board in this respect is sought?

Shri Satish Chandra: No centre has been opened, nor has it been considered necessary to open such centres at these places.

समाजवादी समाज व्यवस्था

*१५७८. श्री विजुति मिश्र क्या योजना मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने "समाजवादी समाज व्यवस्था" शब्दों को कोई निश्चित स्वरूप प्रदान किया है अथवा उसकी कोई ठोस परिभाषा बनाई है, ताकि जन साधारण उसे समझ सकें,

(ख) यदि हा, तो आर्थिक क्षेत्र में इसका क्या स्वरूप है, और

(ग) इसे कब पूर्ण रूप से कार्यान्वित किया जायेगा ?

योजना उपमंत्री (श्री प्रया० न० मिश्र) -

(क) से (ग) द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना के अध्याय २ की धोर ध्यान आकृष्ट किया जाता है। आयोजन का एकमात्र अभिप्राय समाजवादी ढंग के समाज की धोर प्रगति करना है और हमारी हर पंचवर्षीय योजना का उद्देश्य इस दिशा में एक बड़ा कदम उठाना होता है। तीसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना पर भी आज कल इसी दृष्टिकोण में विचार हो रहा है।

यह समझ लेना चाहिए कि समाजवादी ढंग के समाज की स्थापना अनेक परिस्थितियों पर निर्भर करती है और उसे प्राप्त करने के लिये समाज के वर्तमान ढाँचे में अनेक परिवर्तन आवश्यक है। यह सब केवल कानून बनाने से नहीं हो सकता। इसके साथ ही इसके लिए कृषि और औद्योगिक दोनों प्रकार का उत्पादन बहुत अधिक मात्रा में बढ़ाने और साधनों का पहले से अधिक समान वितरण करने की आवश्यकता है। भूमि सुधार के प्रस्ताव और सहकारी स्थापनों को बढ़ावा देना समाजवादी उद्देश्य की धोर प्रगति करने की दिशा में महत्वपूर्ण कदम है। जहाँ तक उद्योगों का संबंध है सरकार की यह नीति है कि मूलभूत और बड़े उद्योग सरकार के हाथ में रहे तथा नियोजित उद्देश्य के

अनुसार अन्य उद्योगों पर भी सरकार का ध्यान निश्चयम रहे।

यह समझ लेना चाहिए कि समाजवादी समाज को पूरी तरह स्थापित करने में ता काफी समय लगेगा ही।

Some Hon. Members: The answer may be read in English.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, will he kindly give a precis of the answer?

Shri S. N. Mishra: Sir, hon. Members have been complaining about the longish nature of the reply. I could not help it in view of the nature of the question. I shall give the reply in English also.

(a) to (c). Attention is invited to Chapter II of the Second Five Year Plan. The whole purpose of planning is to advance towards a socialist pattern of society by stages, and each Five Year Plan is intended to be a major step forward in this direction. Consideration is now being given to the Third Five Year Plan from this point of view.

It must be realised that the establishment of a socialist pattern of society depends on a large number of factors and involves many changes in the present structure of society. This cannot be done by legislation alone. Further, it involves a much higher degree of production both in the agricultural and industrial fields and more equitable distribution. The proposals for agrarian reform and the furtherance of Co-operatives are essential parts of this progress towards a socialist objective. In industry, it is Government's policy to have the basic and strategic industries under State ownership and control and to have general control, in accordance with the planned objectives, of the other fields of industry.

It must be realised that the full achievement of a socialist pattern will necessarily take a considerable time.

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : माननीय मंत्री ने सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न की कोई परिभाषा नहीं बताई है। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न की परिभाषा क्या है। उस को काम में कैसे लाया जाय, वह तो भलग बात है, लेकिन मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि अभीन, कारखानों, सरकारी धाया और जितनी अधिक समस्याएँ हैं, उन के सम्बन्ध में सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न की क्या निश्चित परिभाषा है।

प्रधान मंत्री तथा शैक्षिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू) उस की परिभाषा दो चार फिकरो में तो यह है कि अधिक पैदा करना और ठीक तीर में उस का बटवारा होना।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर के जो कारखाने हैं, उन से जितना पैदा होता है, उस का ठीक तरह से मजदूरों में और लोगों में बटवारा नहीं होता है, तो यह जो परिभाषा है, उस का ठीक उपयोग होता है या नहीं।

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू जो प्राइवेट सेक्टर में पैदा होता है, उस का मजदूरों में या किसी में बटवारा नहीं होता है। वह तो उन लोगों के पास जाता है जिन को जरूरत होती है। फर्ज कीजिए कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर में जूते बने, तो जिन को जूते चाहिए, उन के पास वे जायेंगे।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : मेरा मतलब ग्रामदनी के बटवारे से है। फर्ज कीजिए कि प्राइवेट सेक्टर वाले को पाच लाख मुनाफा हुआ। पाच लाख मुनाफे में सरकार थोड़ा टैक्स लेती है। समाजवादी ढांचे में जितनी ग्रामदनी होती है—चाहे वह किसी सेक्टर में होती है या सरकार की ग्रामदनी है—फर्ज कीजिए कि साढ़े पाच लाख की इनकम है और उस में से तीन हजार बड़े नौकर को तनकाह देते हैं और छोटे नौकर को देते हैं पचास रुपया

तो उस सब के बटवारे का क्या कायदा है, क्या उसूल है ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : माननीय सदस्य पूछना चाहते हैं शायद कि जब समाजवाद हो जायगा, तो क्या होगा। जब समाजवाद होगा, उस का नक्शा रखा जाय, तो वह एक बात है, लेकिन दरमियान में क्या-क्या कदम उठें, उस में हर जगह बहुत बातों को देखना होता है क्या लक्ष्य है, कितना हो सकता है और कितना नहीं हो सकता है, कितना करने से धीरे-धीरे नुकसान न हो, इस सबाल का जवाब नहीं दिया जा सकता है, चाहे मिल कर हम एक किताब लिखें।

श्री त्यागी : जहां तक मैं समझा हूँ, इस सबाल में दरयाफ्त यह किया गया था कि सोशलिस्टिक पटर्न की शक्ल यानी आबजेटिव क्या होगा और जो जवाब दिया गया है

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आबजेटिव नहीं है।

Formulate any pattern, any concrete definition.

Shri Tyagi : That has not been answered. The definition the hon. Prime Minister has given is quite all right, but it is not the actual picture of a socialist pattern. What was required was whether the Government have given any definite form or have formulated any concrete definition of the term, "socialist pattern of society" This requires an answer, Yes or No Have they done it or not? I want to know whether they have actually given any definition of the term of "socialist pattern of society" or not If there is a definition, what is that definition? I can understand the various steps taken to reach that goal, but what is the goal that has been defined?

Shri S. N. Mishra rose—

श्री काशीनाथ पंडे : मैं केवल एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ। जैसा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा है

Mr. Speaker : He is not the Minister.

Shri S. N. Mishra : The main objectives and values of democratic socialism are well known, and it would take a long time to enumerate them here. But what I want to submit is that socialist advance, the form and content of it at a particular time, will have relation to the maturity of the social, political and economic forces at that point of time. It cannot be spelt out in advance except in those general terms which are known to the hon. Members.

Pandit D. N. Tiwary : May I know how many booklets, leaflet and handbills have been printed for the understanding of common people especially in rural areas in different languages of the different States?

Shri S. N. Mishra : I cannot say about the entire literature that has been produced by the Government of India. For that, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting may be asked

Shri Nagi Reddy : May I know whether it is the opinion of the Government that a greater intrusion of foreign equity capital in the country will lead to the quicker implementation of socialism?

Mr. Speaker : No, no. **Shri Jadhav,**

श्री जाधव : आज हमारे समाजवादी ढांचे के समाज का जो नक्शा है, उस को पूरा होने के लिए कितना समय लगेगा ?

Mr. Speaker : It does not arise out of the question

Shri Panigrahi : The hon. Member, **Shri Bibhuti Mishra,** raised a pertinent question as to the distribution of profits in private undertakings. To his question the Prime Minister gave the instance of a shoe factory—that the shoes will go to those who wear the shoes. That is not the reply. He wanted to know whether the profits of a factory which produces shoes are to be distributed among the

labourers equitably. That is the question. How far has the socialistic pattern been implemented in this respect.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : मैं एक क्वेश्चन करना चाहता हूँ ।

Mr. Speaker: I have passed over to another question. Hon. Members will read all the literature that has been produced.

श्री काशीनाथ पांडे : लेबर का मामूली सा क्वेश्चन है । आप की आज्ञा हो, तो पूछूँ । मुझे सिर्फ इतना कहना है कि जैसा कि प्रधान मंत्री जी ने कहा कि सोशलिस्टिक पैटर्न की मोटे तौर पर परिभाषा यह है कि ज्यादा उत्पादन और उस का कायदे से डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन । मैं एक एग्जाम्पल देना चाहता हूँ । सन् १९४६ में .

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member is not the Minister. Next question.

Chemicals and Allied Industries

*1579. **Shri Siddananjappa:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have agreed to aid low cost production of chemicals and allied industries for the purpose of export to West Asian countries; and

(b) if so, in what way Government propose to aid the industries concerned?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) and (b). No special aid is being given to the industries for lowering their cost of production, though all possible assistance is being rendered to manufacturers to enable them to offer their goods in

the export markets at very competitive prices.

Shri Siddananjappa: May I know whether any chemical industry has asked for any help?

Shri Manubhai Shah: There are the Export Promotion Councils. As the House is aware, general steps are being taken in respect of all commodities. On the whole the export of chemicals is showing up better results. We do hope that during the current year the chemical exports will be higher.

Hard and Soft Board

*1580. **Shri K. N. Pandey:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantity and value of hard and soft board required by the country for air-conditioning and other purposes;

(b) the quantity and value of our own production in the country and the value of the remaining portion which is imported to meet our requirements; and

(c) whether any steps have been taken to produce these materials indigenously to meet the entire need?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) The annual demand for hard and soft boards is estimated at 16,000 tons valued at Rs. 1 crore, and 4,000 tons valued at Rs. 40 lacs, respectively.

(b) Indigenous production of hard board has just started; it is expected that 6,000 tons of hardboard valued at Rs 36 lakhs will be manufactured in the country in 1959. There is very little indigenous production of soft board at present.

The import of hard or soft board is banned at present. Some small quantities have, however, been allowed to Actual Users.

(c) Government have approved the following three schemes for indigenous

manufacture of hardboard:—

	Capacity
(i) M/s. Anil Hardboard, Bombay	6,000 tons per annum
(ii) M/s. Madhya Pradesh Industries, Bhopal	6,000 tons per annum
(iii) M/s. Western India Plywood Ltd. Balia-patam	3,750 tons per annum.

Of these units, only M/s. Anil Hardboard have just started production; M/s. Western India Plywood Ltd., are expected to start production sometime towards the end of this year.

An application from M/s. Anil Hardboard, Bombay, for manufacture of 6,000 tons of soft board has recently been received and is at present under consideration of Government.

Shri K. N. Pandey: May I know the countries from where these things are imported?

Shri Mannbhai Shah: Presently, as I have mentioned in the statement, the import of hard and soft boards is totally banned.

Shri Tangamani: Now, the total requirements are 16,000 tons, and the indigenous production for this year of hardboard will be only 6,000. May I know what steps the Government propose to take to fill up that gap?

Shri Mannbhai Shah: I have indicated in answer to part (c) of the question that three more factories are coming up during the current year and they are: Messrs Anil Hardboard, Bombay, Messrs Madhya Pradesh Industries, Bhopal, and Messrs Western India Plywood Ltd., Balia-patam. We hope that by the end of the Plan the national requirements will be more or less met by the indigenous production, both in the case of hardboard and soft board.

Transfer of Work-charged Staff of C.P.W.D. to Indian Institute of Technology

*1581. { Shri Tangamani:
Shri Easwara Iyer:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to refer to

the reply given to Starred Question No. 1196 on the 19th December, 1958 in the Lok Sabha and state:

(a) whether the terms and conditions of transfer of the work-charged staff of the C.P.W.D. to the Indian Institute of Technology have been finalised; and

(b) if so, what are those terms and conditions and whether the years of service the staff have put in under the C.P.W.D. will be taken into account in the Institute for purposes of retirement and other benefits?

The Deputy Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri Anil K. Chanda): (a) and (b). The Indian Institute of Technology (Kharagpur) is competent to lay down the terms and conditions of service of its employees in accordance with the powers vested in it under the Indian Institute of Technology (Kharagpur) Act, 1956. It has been reported to the Government of India that at the intervention of the C.P.W.D., the Institute has agreed to give certain terms of transfer to the work-charged staff of the C.P.W.D. at Hijli. A statement of the main terms of transfer is given below:—

STATEMENT

(1) The staff will get the same pay, pay scales and allowances as they were drawing in the C.P.W.D. on 31st March, 1959.

(2) The posts will be temporary and non-pensionable for the time being and employment at the Institute will be on temporary basis until further orders from the date of joining duties at the Institute till the employees attain the 60th year of their age, if made permanent.

(3) Leave will be governed by the statutes and rules of the Institute

(4) On completion of one year's satisfactory service under the CPWD or under the CPWD and the Institute, followed by confirmation in the Institute, the employee shall be required to contribute at 8-1/3 per cent of their pay to the Contributory Provident Fund to which an equal sum will be contributed by the Institute

(5) Service may be terminated by one month's notice on either side during the period of temporary service. On confirmation, the appointment may be terminated by 3 month's notice, if on medical grounds certified by a medical authority nominated by the Board of the Institute. The appointment of permanent employees may also be terminated by the Board as a measure of retrenchment or economy by 6 months' notice in writing

Shri Tangamani: In reply to a previous question it was stated that 164 employees would be transferred to the institute at Kharagpur, and to the question whether their past services would be reckoned, the hon. Deputy Minister stated that it would be considered. But I find in the statement that for the purpose of contribution to the provident fund the employees will have to be there for one year. I would like to know whether the Government will request the institute to take into consideration their past services so far as provident fund is concerned. In other words, I want to know whether a provident fund contribution of 8-1/3 per cent will be deducted right from the beginning, that is, from 1st April, 1959.

Shri Anil K. Chanda: Yes, Sir. We have already taken up this matter with the institute, and I am informed that those who are already paying or contributing to the provident fund will be allowed to do so in the same manner in the High Institute.

3 LSD—3

Shri Tangamani: May I know what is the alternative that has been provided for them to what has been given under the Employees State Insurance Corporation scheme?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I am afraid I do not quite follow the question.

Shri Tangamani: There is the Employees State Insurance Scheme which is applicable to certain industrial employees. There is an alternate scheme which is being provided for by the CPWD employees. I would like to know what is the alternative medical facility which is to be given to these work-charged employees who are being transferred to the Kharagpur Institute?

Shri Anil K. Chanda: I do not have detailed information with me here, but I can say that the people who had been in the work-charged establishment and who had joined the Institute have done so on their own volition and on the terms offered to them.

Closure of Rehabilitation Ministry Offices

*1582 **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state

(a) what provision has been made for employment of the staff whose services would be terminated due to the gradual closure of the different offices of the Ministry of Rehabilitation, and

(b) the number of discharged employees who have not yet been employed and the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) A Special Cell has been set up in the Directorate General of Resettlement and Employment for arranging for the absorption of staff rendered surplus in the Central Government establishments located in Delhi. The retrenched employees in the offices situated outside Delhi, are required to

register themselves with the local Employment Exchanges who give them special priority in securing alternative employment.

(b) Practically all the employees retrenched in Delhi have secured alternative employment. Information regarding the number of retrenched employees outside Delhi who have not yet been able to secure alternative employment is not available.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Is it not a fact that a large number of employees retrenched from the Faridabad Development Board have not yet been absorbed?

Shri P. S. Naskar: As I said, those in the subordinate offices are required to register themselves with the local employment exchange. We have not got exact figures as to how many have been absorbed, those who have not been absorbed and the reasons therefor.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know if any instructions are being issued to the different departments of other Ministries that priority should be given to the retrenched employees in their offices, similar to the instructions that are given to the employment exchanges?

Shri P. S. Naskar: The list of the retrenched employees in Delhi is sent to the Special Cell, as I have mentioned in my original answer.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Is the priority and status given to the employees of the Faridabad Development Board the same as those of the retrenched employees of the Ministry?

Shri P. S. Naskar: I require notice.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In view of the service rendered by the employees for over ten years, may I know whether the State Governments have been asked specially by this department to take over these employees in their various departments, instead of making any fresh appointment?

Shri P. S. Naskar: As I said in the original answer, the retrenched employees are required to register themselves with the local employment exchanges. But so far as the State Governments are concerned, I have not got exact information.

उत्तर प्रदेश में झखबारी कागज का कारखाना

*१५८३. श्री भक्त बर्बन: क्या वाणिज्य तथा उद्योग मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में हिमालय के पर्वतीय क्षेत्रों में, झखबारी कागज बनाने के लिए मुलायम लकड़ी बहुत अधिक मात्रा में उपलब्ध है,

(ख) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार प्रयास किसी गैर-सरकारी उद्योगपति ने झखबारी कागज का एक कारखाना खोलने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव भारत सरकार के सामने रखा है,

(ग) यदि हा, तो प्रस्ताव की मुख्य रूप-रेखा क्या है, श्री

(घ) केन्द्रीय सरकार इस उद्योग को स्थापित करने के लिए किस प्रकार की सहायता देने का विचार कर रही है ?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): (a) Government have no detailed information regarding the suitability of the softwood in the Himalayan hilly regions of Uttar Pradesh for manufacture of newsprint. Information is however, being collected from the State Government.

(b) to (d) Two private parties evinced interest last year in setting up newsprint factories and one of them proposed to set it up in U.P. Both of them have neither indicated the sources of raw materials, nor have they pursued the matter further and sent any concrete proposals.

श्री भक्त बर्षाण : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि केन्द्रीय सरकार इस सम्बन्ध में जो जांच पड़ताल कर रही है, उस के परिणामों के कब तक मिल जाने की आशा की जाती है ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जहां तक केन्द्रीय सरकार की जांच पड़ताल का ताल्लुक था एक कमेटी भी नियुक्त की गई थी और उस ने काफी एरिया सर्वे किया था। लेकिन यह सब हिल्ली रिजंस है और उस को अच्छी तरह से सर्वे करना और इंटेसिवली मा करना और सब डाटा इकट्ठा करना कोई आसान काम नहीं है। इसलिये फिलहाल जितना डाटा अवैलेबल है, उसी पर काम किया जा रहा है।

श्री भक्त बर्षाण : क्या यह सत्य है कि जब दूसरी पंचवर्षीय योजना तैयार की जा रही थी उस समय उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने इस सम्बन्ध में एक सुझाव दिया था लेकिन जैसाकि उस समय के तत्कालीन मंत्री श्री डी० पी० करमरकर साहब के उत्तर से स्पष्ट है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार के खोर देने से ही उस विचार को स्पष्ट कर दिया गया। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस को अब कोई प्राथमिकता दी जायेगी और कम से कम तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में इस को सम्मिलित किया जायेगा ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : जहां तक न्यूज़प्रिंट के उत्पादन का सारे देश में ताल्लुक है, दूसरी योजना में उत्तर प्रदेश में किसी नये क्षेत्र में न्यूज़प्रिंट फैक्ट्री लगाने की न प्रपोजल थी और न आयोजन के अन्दर उस को रखा गया था। सिर्फ एक ही सुझाव था और वह शक्करनगर के अन्दर लगाने के बारे में था, जो बग़ास शुगर फैक्ट्री से निकलती है, उस के रा मेटिरियल के बेसिस पर। अभी भी उस की कोशिश की जा रही है। उत्तर प्रदेश में भी कम से कम छः आबमियों को हम ने कांटेक्ट किया है, बातचीत भी हो

रही है लेकिन उस की अवैलेबिलिटी जब तक पूरे पक्के तौर से न मालूम दे तब तक न इंडस्ट्रियलिस्ट ही कुछ कर सकते हैं और न गवर्नमेंट बुद ही कर सकती है।

Shri Achar: Have Government any proposals to manufacture newsprint whether in U.P. or elsewhere in view of the heavy demand?

Shri Manubhai Shah: As I have indicated, the National Industrial Development Corporation has a proposal under active consideration for the establishment of a newsprint plant in Hyderabad—Shakkarnagar—based on the bagasse obtained from the Nizam sugar factory. However, the German firm which had really invented the process is still not prepared to give the necessary technical guarantees for the successful operation and production of newsprint from bagasse.

सेठ गोबिन्द बास : क्या यह बात सही है कि अभी तक इस देश में झलबारी कागज की केवल एक फैक्ट्री चल रही है और वह नेपा में, मध्य प्रदेश में है ? क्या यह भी सही है कि उस फैक्ट्री में पूरा उत्पादन अनेक कठिनाइयों की वजह से नहीं हो रहा है ? यदि हा, तो नई फैक्ट्री बनाने के पहले क्या गवर्नमेंट इस बात पर विचार कर रही है कि जो फैक्ट्री अभी है, उसको ठीक तरह से चलाने का प्रयत्न किया जाये ?

श्री मनुभाई शाह : आप का सवाल ठीक है। जैसे हाउस को पता है इस फैक्ट्री को अच्छा करने के लिये काफी कोशिश की जा रही है। हाउस को यह जानकर खुशी होगी कि १९५५ में नेपा के अन्दर २५०० टन ही सालाना उत्पादन होता था। १९५६ में वह बढ़ कर १०,००० हो गया, १९५७ में १४,००० और इस साल २२,००० टन का उत्पादन हो रहा है। इस से पता चलता है कि सारी कोशिश की जा रही है और हम ने एक करोड़ रुपया चांदनी पावर हाउस को एक्सपेंड करने के लिये मंजूर किया है और फौरन ही मशीनरी आ जायेगी। आशा की जाती है कि जब

स्टीम और पावर पूरी तादाद में मिल जायेगी तो तकरीबन सौ टन पर डे मतलब ३०,००० टन की जो उस की कैपेसिटी है, उस तक हम पहुँच जायेंगे। क्वालिटि के लिये भी कोशिश की जा रही है। एक छोटी सी टेक्नीकल कमेटी भी हम एप्वाइंट कर रहे हैं ताकि वह जाँच पड़ताल कर सके जिस से जल्दी से जल्दी क्वालिटि भी अच्छी हो जाये।

श्री भक्त बर्षन : अभी माननीय मंत्री महोदय से बताया है कि दो पार्टियो ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से कहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि मैं दोनों पार्टिया कौन कौन सी हैं और किन-किन स्थानों पर वे इस कारखाने को लगाना चाहती हैं ?

श्री अनुभाई शाह : अभी कुछ तै नही हुआ है। जब तक कोई बात पक्के तौर पर तै न हो जाय तब तक किमी का नाम बतलाना अच्छा नही है। जब यह चीज तै हो जायगी तो फौरन ही यह चीज हाउस के तथा देश के सामने आ जायेगी। न्यूज़प्रिंट फैक्ट्री का लगाना कोई आसान नही है। और लगाने की मंशा करने से ही यह काम होगा नही। पूरे रा-मैटीरियल को देखना होता है, ट्रांसपोर्ट को देखना होता है और ठीक ढग से ढाचा बनाना होता है तब जा कर न्यूज़प्रिंट की फैक्ट्री लग सकती है।

ग्वालियर में रेडियो स्टेशन

*१५८४. **श्री सूर्य प्रसाद** : क्या सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने प्रथम पंचवर्षीय योजना के अन्तर्गत ग्वालियर (मध्य प्रदेश) में एक रेडियो स्टेशन स्थापित करने का विचार किया था ; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो अभी तक इस रेडियो स्टेशन को स्थापित न करने के क्या कारण हैं ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री के सभा-सचिव (बी डा० चं० जोशी) : (क) और (ख) पहली पंचवर्षीय योजना में जो प्रस्ताव थे उन के अनुसार यह विचार था कि ग्वालियर में १ किलोवाट मीडियम वेव का पाइलेट रेडियो स्टेशन स्थापित किया जाये। बाद में जो अनुभव हुए उन के आधार पर और अन्य जरूरतों को ध्यान में रखते हुए इस योजना को बदलना पड़ा। राज्यों के पुनर्गठन होने पर जब नया मध्यप्रदेश बना तब उस में रेडियो केन्द्रों की स्थापना की योजना को नये सिरे से बनाना पड़ा और सारे मध्यप्रदेश की जरूरत को पूरा करने के लिये भोपाल में एक १० किलोवाट शार्ट वेव ट्रांसमीटर लगाया गया।

श्री सूर्य प्रसाद : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि उत्तरी भारत में ग्वालियर संगीत कला का केन्द्र है और संगीत सम्राट् तानसेन का जन्म स्थान भी है और तब क्या वहा पर रेडियो स्टेशन स्थापित करना उचित नही था ?

सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्री (डा० केसकर) : जो हा, यह पता है लेकिन केवल कला का केन्द्र होने के नाते ही किमी जगह पर रेडियो स्टेशन नही खोला जा सकता है और उसके साथ ही साथ और भी बहुत सी बातों का ध्यान में रखना होता है।

श्री सूर्य प्रसाद : क्या यह बात मही है कि भोपाल के राजधानी होने की वजह से वहा पर रेडियो स्टेशन खोला गया है और यह जो रकम थी वह ग्वालियर से ट्रान्सफर करके भोपाल में खर्च कर दी गई ?

डा० केसकर : ग्वालियर के नाम पर कोई रकम नही रखी गई थी बल्कि मध्य प्रदेश में किसी याग्य स्थान में एक शक्तिशाली रेडियो स्टेशन खोलने की बात थी। भोपाल राजधानी है यह बात भी अवश्य ध्यान में रखने लायक थी। लेकिन दूसरी बात यह भी है कि भोपाल ग्वालियर से ज्यादा मध्य-प्रदेश के केन्द्र में है।

Uranium

*1585. **Shri Narasimhan:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state—

(a) when the occurrence of the Uranium bearing rocks in Salem was discovered;

(b) when will the deposits be explored by bore-holes, and

(c) the preliminary indication as to the quality and quantity of the occurrence?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of External Affairs (Shri Sadath Ali Khan): (a) Radio-activity was first recorded in Kullampatti area of Salem District, Madras State, in 1956

(b) and (c) A considerable amount of detailed geological work is necessary before underground drilling can be undertaken. The investigation so far carried out indicate that drilling would be justified and it is therefore proposed to start drilling operations shortly. Unless a certain amount of drilling and development work is done, it is premature to assess the quantity and quality of the ore from the deposit.

Shri C. R. Narasimhan: May I know where exactly in Salem district was this found?

Shri Sadath Ali Khan: This area comprises the foothills of Suryamalai hills and Tiruchengodu tehsil in Salem district of Madras State.

12 hrs.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION**Food Scarcity in N.E.F.A.**

16. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state.

(a) whether it is a fact that some 120 Mishris, Lohit Valley, Hayuliang, NEFA, have recently died as a result of malnutrition and acute scarcity of food and due to non-availability of medical help to ameliorate the suffering of the tribal people,

(b) whether the surviving people have practically nothing to depend upon for the future months, and if so, what steps Government have so far taken to treat this matter on a "top priority" level, and rush help in food and medicine to these affected areas in NEFA?

The Deputy Minister of External Affairs (Shrimati Lakshmi Menon):

(a) and (b) We have received no report of death from starvation or from malnutrition. There has however been outbreak of a serious epidemic of malignant malaria in the locality and upto the 21st March, 80 deaths have been reported from this disease.

As soon as reports of the epidemic reached the NEFA Administration, additional medical aid was rushed to the area. The District Medical Officer has gone from Tezu to Hayuliang personally to supervise the arrangements. Three doctors and two compounders with the necessary medical supplies have already reached the area and mobile teams have been set up for rendering medical aid on the spot in outlying villages. Additional stocks of medicines have been sent to the area. Owing to the difficult terrain it is not easy to move from place to place and this has added to the difficulties of coping with the epidemic. I may add that the Chief Minister of Assam and the Adviser to the Governor of Assam visited Tezu in the middle of February and although they were met by a large number of village leaders from the Lohit Valley, nobody complained to them of death from starvation or inadequate medical aid.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the attention of the Government is drawn to a signed article by a Mishri, Kobbso Tinda appearing in the *Democratic Review* of Shillong dated the 19th March where he alleges that 120 Mishris have died by starvation? If that is not a fact, as the hon. Minister just now said, why was it not contradicted immediately by the NEFA Administration in Shillong?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I cannot say what appeared in some local papers there. But we have given the facts after investigation by the Chief Minister himself and the advisers to the NEFA Government, and this in itself is an adequate contradiction.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether it is a fact that the local officers there sent top priority signals to the Agent in Shillong and he was not moving till the 19th of March?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: I have already pointed out in the answer that as early as February the Chief Minister and the Adviser to the Governor visited the area.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether the Government are aware of the great topographical changes in the area due to the great earthquake of 1950 and, if so, whether Government propose to rehabilitate these Mishmis, 5,000 only in number because of these topographical changes and the difficulty of the terrain, as the Deputy Minister has said?

Shrimati Lakshmi Menon: That question does not arise.

Shrimati Benu Chakravarty: We would like to be assured that the price of rice and the availability of rice is all right and satisfactory in this area, because we ourselves know that right in January and February we in the much more accessible areas were experiencing great difficulty. Therefore, we would like to be assured that on this score NEFA is O.K. and there is no difficulty there, as far as availability of food is concerned.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: To say that NEFA is or, for the matter of that, large parts of India are O.K. is more than what I can say. NEFA is a place with very difficult communications. It has recently improved. Previously it took weeks and weeks to go a short distance, even now, although it is better. There are always difficulties there and we have to import, and

sometimes by aeroplanes take this. And in our attempts to do so, in the past we have lost quite a large number of aircraft because of the dangerous and difficult flying conditions. But I feel conditions are much better now. Mainly we are trying to raise food production there, though it takes a little time. The conditions are better than they were, both because of communications and more production. But for me to say that this place is O.K. would not be correct.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know whether Government propose to make NEFA region more accessible to the press so that the iron curtain that is imposed now against news percolating from the NEFA area is lifted?

Mr Speaker: We are going away from one thing to another.

Shri Hem Barua: We want to know the correct picture. Now the news that percolates from Shillong is always a torso of the picture. What we want is a free press.

Mr Speaker: All that may be all right. But that does not arise out of this question.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

*1571 **Shri Rameshwar Tanti:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state

(a) the number of factory workers who were expected to be covered by Employees' State Insurance Scheme by the end of 1958, and

(b) the number of employees actually so covered?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) 13.75 lakhs of employees

(b) 13.56 lakhs of employees

Manufacture of Carbon Black

*1575. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the steps taken, if any, to produce India's requirement of Carbon Black and the result achieved so far?

The Minister of Industry (Shri Manubhai Shah): Two Rumanian experts visited the country at the invitation of the Government, with a view to exploring the possibilities of manufacturing Carbon Black and have submitted a report which is under examination. An Indian firm is also negotiating with a leading American firm for setting up the manufacture of Carbon Black in the country.

"India, 1958" Exhibition

*1577. Shri P. G. Deb: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) what is the total number of persons who are out of jobs as a result of the closing of the "India, 1958" Exhibition, and

(b) what steps Government propose to tackle this unemployment problem?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra).

(a) So far 239 people have been discharged, another 274 people will be discharged shortly.

(b) A number of Organisations and Departments under the Government and also the World Agriculture Fair, which is coming up shortly, have been addressed with a view to rendering assistance to the people discharged and to be discharged for getting suitable employment.

Messrs. Chagganlal Textile Mills (Private) Ltd., Chalisgaon

*1586. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 1312 dated the 17th September, 1958 and state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Somani Committee in regard to

the closure of Messrs Chhaganlal Textile Mills (Private) Ltd., Chalisgaon, District East Khandesh, have since been examined, and

(b) whether any action is being taken under the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): (a) Yes, Sir

(b) Not at present, as the Mill is reported to be working satisfactorily.

Exchange of Salt for Chemicals with Japan

*1587. Shri Rajendra Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the stage at which our discussion stands with Japan for a bilateral exchange of salt for certain chemicals which we are importing from that country?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): The matter is under consideration.

Inspectorate of Mines

*1588. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda.

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 413 on the 25th November, 1958 and state

(a) whether it is a fact that the inspecting staff attached to the Inspectorate of Mines is not sufficient to deal with the increased volume of work at their disposal, and

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

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) Yes

(b) The pay scales are being revised so as to attract suitable candidates.

Trade-Agreement with France

*1589. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2186 on the 19th December, 1958 and state:

(a) whether talks between France and India regarding Trade Agreement have been concluded; and

(b) if so, the nature of the talks held and their result?

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): (a) and (b) Some exploratory talks have been held but no appreciable progress has been made so far

Displaced Persons from East Pakistan

*1590. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Rehabilitation and Minority Affairs be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 9 lakhs refugees from East Pakistan who migrated after partition did not claim any dole or rehabilitation loan; and

(b) if so, whether Government is likely to consider their case for loan for building houses at this stage?

The Deputy Minister of Rehabilitation (Shri P. S. Naskar): (a) Yes, this is the approximate number of persons who have so far not approached the Government for assistance

(b) Over 11 years have elapsed since partition and it is felt that the majority of such persons have by now been rehabilitated and would not be in need of rehabilitation assistance. Besides rehabilitation, housing loans, there are other loan schemes such as low cost housing schemes etc. under which these people can obtain loans to build houses. So far the bulk of the money sanctioned under the loan schemes has gone for the benefit of the non-camp families. Our

first priority now is to resolve the problem of rehabilitation of the camp families. It is only after this problem is resolved that the question of giving house building loans to the families who have so far not applied for such loans, can be considered, within the limits of availability of funds.

Employees' Provident Fund Scheme

*1591. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri H. N. Mukerjee:

Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to extend employees' provident fund scheme to establishments having 20 employees or more, and

(b) if so, the steps taken so far to implement this decision?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration

Jute Mills

2. { Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the names of jute mills in India owned by foreign firms?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix V, annexure No 68].

Automobile and Textile Industries

2525. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state whether there has been decrease in production in textile and automobile industries due to labour strikes during the first quarter of the year 1959?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): There has been no fall in production

in the handloom, woollen, art silk, jute and automobile industries due to labour strikes during the first quarter of the year 1959. There were minor stoppages of work during 1959 in six cotton textile mills, but these were of very short duration, in some cases lasting for a day or so. The fall in production on account of these stoppages was negligible.

Medium Wave Antenna Mast at Trichy

2526. **Shri Nanjappa:** Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether a medium wave Antenna Mast is to be erected near Trichinopoly, Madras State, and

(b) if so, what are its advantages and special features, if any?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr Keskar): (a) A medium wave self-radiating mast 56 ft. in height is to be shortly erected at Tiruchirappalli along with a 50 KW Medium wave transmitter which is being installed at that place under the Second Five Year Plan.

(b) An antenna is essential for radiating the radio-frequency energy of a transmitter. Modern design uses the mast itself as an antenna and such a design is more economical than the older practice of suspending an antenna between two masts. The height of the antenna is also an important factor. The greater the height of the antenna up to a theoretical maximum, the larger would be the non-fading service area of a medium wave transmitter.

Industrial Estates in Mysore

2527 { **Shri Keshava:**
 Shri Siddiah:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question

No. 281 on the 23rd July, 1957 and state

(a) the progress if any, made in establishment of Industrial Estates in the State of Mysore; and

(b) the total allotment made by Central Government to Mysore State for the above purpose during the Second Five Year Plan period so far?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b) The Mysore Government propose to set up eight Industrial Estates during the 2nd Five Year Plan period, one each at Mysore, Harihar, Bangalore, Ramanagaram, Gulbarga, Mangalore, Belgaum and Hubli. Construction work in Industrial Estates at Mysore, Bangalore, Hubli, Belgaum, and Harihar is in progress. So far eight sheds have been completed at the Mysore Estate and the construction work at Bangalore Estate has progressed to roof-level. Work has not yet started in the Industrial Estates at Gulbarga, Mangalore and Ramanagaram.

Funds to the extent of Rs 23.60 lakhs have been sanctioned to the Government of Mysore so far during the Second Five Year Plan period for the establishment of Industrial Estates.

Merger of Dearness Allowance with Basic Pay

2528. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have considered the question of merger of dearness allowance with basic pay in respect of workers and employees in the public sector; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) and (b) This will be answered by the Minister of Finance on a subsequent date.

Chemicals for Medicines

2529. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of Commerce and In-

Industry be pleased to state the nature of measures adopted to achieve self-sufficiency in chemicals required for the production of medicines?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): Till a few years ago, the pharmaceutical manufacturers in the country were producing mainly formulations by importing drugs and chemicals in bulk. However Government are, since the beginning of Second Five Year Plan, attaching the greatest importance to the manufacture of drugs from basic stages. The development of the industry is regulated under provision of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act 1951 in such a way that the manufacture of basic drugs is undertaken progressively or that the scheme is based on raw materials available in the country or intermediates likely to be produced in the Central Drug and Intermediates Plant to be set up in the Public sector.

It is expected that the country will reach a stage of near self sufficiency in most of the drugs and chemicals in the Third Five Year Plan period.

Automobile Production Centres

2530. Shri Rameshwar Tantia: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the important centres for the manufacture of ancillary and components to feed the indigenous automobile production centres?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): The important centres for the manufacture of automobile ancillaries and components are Bombay, Madras, Calcutta, Bangalore, Poona, Delhi, Patiala and several other places.

Import of Photo Goods

2531. Shri Dinesh Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the total value of the import of photo goods in the years 1956-57 and 1958-59?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): A statement showing total value of imports of photographic goods during 1956-57 (April-December, 1956) on the basis of old trade classification, 1956-57 (January-March, 1957) and 1958-59 (April-December, 1958) on the basis of revised trade classification is laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix V, annexure No 69]. Information beyond December 1958 is not yet available.

Indians in African Countries

2532 { Shri D C Sharma:
Shri Raghunath Singh.

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indians residing in African countries, country-wise,

(b) whether the Indians now residing in African countries are subjected to colour prejudices, and

(c) whether Indians there maintain the standard of living expected of them in those countries?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) There are no Indian nationals in South Africa. There are however about 4,31,000 people of Indian descent but they are not Indian nationals.

In other African territories the total number of persons of Indian origin, including Indian nationals, is as follows:

Ethiopia	2,00
Ghana	475
Nigeria	390
Sierra Leone	100
Gambia	5
Liberia	40
Kenya	1,65,000
Tanganyika	80,900
Uganda	58,700
Zanzibar	15,900
Portuguese East Africa	6,000

Belgian Congo & Ruanda Urundi	2,000
Federation of Rhodesia & Nyasaland	22,000
Egyptian region of UAR	146
Libya	27
Morocco	630
Tunisia	20
Algeria	23

The above figures are approximate.

(b) There are colour prejudices and discrimination in some countries. The policy of segregation practised in the Union of South Africa is well known. In the Central African Federation also is much discrimination. To some extent there is also discrimination in some other countries.

(c) The standard of living varies considerably. But it may be said that generally Indians maintain the standard expected of them in those countries.

Village Housing Projects in Orissa

2533. Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Works, Housing and Supply be pleased to state

(a) the names of the villages of Orissa included under the Village Housing Project Scheme so far,

(b) the number of villages that have been taken up for development during 1958-59, and

(c) how much of the allotted amount has been spent during 1958-59?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): (a) A statement showing the names of villages (and the Districts and Blocks

in which they are situated) selected by the Orissa Government for setting up of housing projects under the Village Housing Projects Scheme during 1958-59 is attached [See Appendix V, annexure No 70]

(b) All the 60 villages mentioned in the list have been taken up for development during 1958-59

(c) The State Government have drawn and expect to disburse their entire loan allocation of Rs 2,85,000 during the current financial year

Import of Nylon

2534 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to lay a statement showing

(a) the names of the countries from which nylon is imported into India,

(b) the annual value thereof, and

(c) the nature of the steps taken or proposed to be taken to manufacture nylon in India?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) Nylon is imported mainly from the UK, Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Italy, Japan and the USA

(b) Information is not available, because the figures for nylon are not recorded separately in the Sea Borne Trade Account

(c) The following units have been licensed for the manufacture of nylon

Name of Unit	Capacity	State
J. K. Investment Trust, Kanpur	0.48 m lbs p a	Rajasthan
Nanubhai Industries, Bombay	1.6 „ „	Bombay

Works-cum-Production Committees

2535 Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state

(a) the number of undertakings in central sphere where works-cum-pro-

duction committees have been formed upto March, 1959, and

(b) the main functions thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Amd Ali): (a) 14, upto December 1958. The number of undertak-

ings where sub-committees of works committees are functioning as production committees is 32, the number of undertakings where independent production committees have been constituted is 64. These figures relate to Central sphere undertakings for the quarter ending the 31st December, 1958. The number of works committees functioning in central sphere undertakings for the quarter ending the 30th September 1958, was 701.

(b) Works Committee is a statutory body to promote measures for securing and preserving amity and good relations between the employers and workers whereas production committee is a non-statutory body formed for consultation and advice on matters relating to production problems in which labour has a direct interest.

Ground nut Oil Quotas

2538. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any additional quotas for export of ground nut oil have been sanctioned for the year 1959, and

(b) if so, to what extent?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Yes, Sir

(b) Quota holders who utilise the allotments made to them in 1958 are granted further allotments equal to their quota.

Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.

2537. { Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) how many experts have studied the working of the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd., during the last 4 years;

(b) what are their findings and recommendations; and

(c) whether Government have implemented their recommendations?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) No expert has undertaken a study of the working of the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd. during the last 4 years. Some studies were, however, made by three representatives of Industrial Management Research Unit for Planning attached to the Indian Statistical Institute, Calcutta.

(b) and (c) The report of the IMRUP is more in the nature of a review of the working of Sindri as a part of their study of the various industrial units in the country, and contains certain observations and recommendations. M/s. Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd. have been asked to examine the report and consider how far the recommendations made would help in improving efficiency in management.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.

2538. { Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri Prabhat Kar:
Shri Elayaperumal:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) whether any directive from the Government regarding reservation of posts for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes was given to the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.;

(b) whether it has been implemented; and

(c) if so, when?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Due to non-availability of suitable Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes candidates possessing requisite qualifications and

experience, the Company has not been able to implement fully the Government advice given towards the end of 1956.

Cotton Mills

2539. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state how many cotton mills which were producing both yarn and cloth, are now producing only cloth in order to evade taxes?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): None, Sir, with a view to evade taxes.

Sample Count of Population

**2540. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:**

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 2151 on the 19th December, 1958 and state whether any decision has since been taken to undertake a sample count of population between March and April every year to determine the growth and migration of the population in the country?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Not yet

Brass and Metal Workshop at Kumbakonam in Madras State

2541. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount allotted by the Central Government to copper and brass metal workshop at Kumbakonam Town in Madras State for the year 1959-60?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): No allocation is made by the Central Government for the individual

schemes of the State Governments for the development of Small Scale Industries. The Central Government only fixes the overall allocation for each State Government and the quantum of Central assistance for the financial year for schemes for the development of Small Scale Industries. Accordingly the Central Government have made an overall allocation (including the State's share) of Rs. 74 lakhs to the Madras Government for 1959-60 for development of Small Scale Industries. Out of this, the allocation by way of Central assistance is Rs. 47 lakhs (Rs. 40 lakhs loan and Rs 7 lakhs grant).

Hotel Workers

2542. Shri Muhammed Elias: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state:

(a) the numerical strength of the hotel workers working in different first and second class Hotels in India at present;

(b) whether there is any proposal before Government to form Wage Board for the hotel workers; and

(c) whether the hotel workers are covered by any labour legislation?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) The information is not available.

(b) No

(c) Hotel workers are covered by the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926. The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 also applies to every industrial establishment wherein one hundred or more workmen are employed. In some of the States they are covered under the Shops and Establishments Acts. In Madras they are covered under the Madras Catering Establishments Act.

इन्दौर मिल के श्रमिकों को श्रमिष्य निधि का लाभ

२५४३. श्री रा० क० वर्मा : क्या क्वीर रोजगार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि राय बहादुर कन्हैयालाल भण्डारी मिल्स, इन्दौर के श्रमिकों को १९५७ से श्रमिष्य निधि का लाभ नहीं दिया जा रहा है; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

क्वीर उपजंत्री (श्री आशिष शस्त्री) :

(क) और (ख). यह मिल दिसम्बर, १९५८ से मार्च, १९५७ तक बन्द था, और यह कर्मचारी प्रोविडेंट फंड कानून १९५० के मातहत नहीं आता था। अगस्त १९५५ में, नंदलाल भण्डारी मिल्स, इन्दौर ने इसे खरीदा और पहली अप्रैल १९५७ को चालू किया। इस में करीब करीब सभी नयी मशीनें लगाई गईं और नये कर्मचारी, जिनमें पहले के कुछ कर्मचारी भी होंगे, रूने गये। चकि यह "नया कारखाना" है, इसलिये पहली अप्रैल, १९५७ से तीन साल के बाद यह प्रोविडेंट फंड कानून के अन्तर्गत धाना चाहिये। फिर भी, कर्मचारी प्रोविडेंट फंड संगठन की कोशिश से मिल ने पहली जनवरी १९५९ से कर्मचारियों को प्रोविडेंट फंड का लाभ देना शुरू कर दिया है।

Consumption of Foreign Cotton by Textile Mills

2544. **Shri Siddananjappa:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 577 on the 29th November, 1958 and state what is the amount of foreign cotton consumed by the textile mills during the cotton season ending with 31st August, 1958?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): 5.66 lakh bales.

Industrial Production and Employment in Non-Government Factories

2545. **Shri Siddananjappa:** Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) what is the average daily number of workers employed in non-governmental factories as on the 31st December, 1958;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is a downward trend in industrial production and employment at present; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Information regarding employment in factories is published from time to time in the Indian Labour Year Book and the Indian Labour Gazette. Figures as on 31-12-1958 are not yet available.

(b) and (c). Overall industrial production in the country has been steadily rising. The general index of industrial production (base 1951=100) which was 132.6 in 1956 rose to 137.1 in 1957 and the average index for the first nine months of 1958 was 142.8.

Overall employment figures for 1958 are not yet fully available but from the data so far available there is no downward trend in employment.

Tungsten Carbide Tips

2546. { **Shri Subodh Hansda:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1970 on the 16th March, 1959 and state:

(a) the name of firm which is manufacturing Tungsten Carbide Tips in India;

(b) whether the raw materials required for the manufacture of

Tungsten Carbide Tips are abundantly available in our country, and

(c) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to exploit these materials?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):
(a) M/s Guest Ken Williams Ltd, Calcutta

(b) and (c) Sufficient quantities of Tungsten ore which is the main raw material for the manufacture of Tungsten Carbide Tips, are available in the country Government have recently issued a press note setting out the scope for the manufacture of Tungsten Carbide, emphasising therein that Government would welcome manufacturing schemes which would exploit the indigenously available Tungsten ore

Import of Paper

2547 Shri Chandak: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have evolved any policy for the import of paper on barter,

(b) will the Government allow import of paper against export of exportable cotton, and

(c) will the general trade be allowed to operate this policy or will it be restricted to the State Trading Corporation or the established importers?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) No, Sir

(b) Such proposals are considered on merits from time to time

(c) Such deals are generally routed through the State Trading Corporation.

Appointment of Officers in Publications Division

2548 { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a number of officers in the Publications Division who were appointed on *ad hoc* basis and have not yet been confirmed by the Union Public Service Commission;

(b) if so, what is their number and what are the posts held by them, and

(c) how long have such officers been holding their posts in the absence of approval from the Union Public Service Commission?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): (a), (b) and (c) There are no posts of officers in the Publications Division which are held without the approval of the Union Public Service Commission. In two cases, one of a Technical Assistant and the other of a Research Assistant, the date up to which the Union Public Service Commission had agreed to the provisional appointment, viz 31-12-1958 and 30-6-1958 respectively has expired and the matter is under correspondence with the Union Public Service Commission for replacement or continuation

Director, Publications Division

2549 { Shri H. N. Mukerjee:
Shri Tangamani:

Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state

(a) what are the qualifications regarded by Government as essential for appointment to the office of Director, Publications Division, and

(b) whether appointment to the said office is made on the basis of advertisements and scrutiny of applicants by the Union Public Service Commission?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting, (Dr Kesar): (a) The qualifications regarded as essential for appointment to the post of Director, Publications Division at present are—

- (i) Experience and ability to guide and initiate the designing, planning and production of magazines, books, pamphlets, etc., and publishing them
 - (ii) Acquaintance with Indian and World Affairs in general, preferably by personal experience
 - (iii) Administrative ability and experience in running a large organisation in a Government Department or Commercial Department
- (b) The post is filled in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission

Keshoram Cotton Mills, Calcutta

2550. Shri K N Pandey: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the management of the Keshoram Cotton Mills, Calcutta, is contemplating a lock-out,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) to (c) The subject matter of the question falls within the State sphere Government have no information in the matter

Educated Unemployed in Himachal Pradesh

2551 Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state the number of the unemployed Graduates, Intermediates and Matriculates on the Live Registers of the Employment Exchanges in Himachal Pradesh as on the 1st March, 1959?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): The number as on 1st March, 1959 is not available. The position as on 31st December, 1958 is given below—

Category	Number on Live Register as on 31-12-1958
Graduates	31
Intermediates	27
Matriculates	583

Export of Electric Goods

2552 Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) the total export of electric goods to Iran, Japan and Bahrain in 1957-58, and

(b) what further steps have been taken to step up such exports?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a)

	Rs
Bahrain	46 100
Iran	5 300
Japan	35,400

(b) The measures taken to promote exports of engineering goods to foreign markets are set out in the statement laid on the Table of the Sabha [See Appendix V, annexure No 71]

Employment Exchange, Agartala

2553. Shri Bangshi Thakur: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state

(a) the number of refugees, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and ex-servicemen separately registered with the Employment Exchange, Agartala during the year 1958,

(b) the total number of women registered during the same period, and

(c) the number of persons to whom employment has been provided so far?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):

(a) 1	Displaced Persons	3,284
2	Scheduled Castes	384
3	Scheduled Tribes	311
4	Ex-servicemen	98
(b)	Women	531
(c)		474

Documentary on Cotton Industry

2554 Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state

(a) whether documentary films depicting the various processes of Cotton Industry have been brought out, and

(b) if so, who has borne the cost of the films?

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr Keskar): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha (See Appendix V annexure No 72]

Technical Training Centres

2555 Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state the names and number of places where technical training centres were started in Punjab State during 1958-59?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): Three Technical Training Centres at Pathankot, Gurgaon and Sonapat were started in Punjab State during 1958-59

Passports for U.S.S.R.

2556 Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) the number of passports issued for USSR during 1957-58 and 1958-59, and

(b) the number of Indian immigrants at present in USSR?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) The total number of passports for USSR issued by the Passport Issuing Authorities in India during the year 1957, 1958 and 1959

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(upto February) was 1641, 1991 and 230, respectively

(b) The total number of Indian Immigrants at present in U.S.S.R. is estimated to be three (3) only

Indians in Japan

2557 Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state

(a) the number of passports issued for Japan during 1958, and

(b) the number of Indian immigrants in Japan at present?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) 2353 passports for Japan were issued by the Passport Issuing authorities in India during the year 1958

(b) The total number of Indian immigrants in Japan upto the end of December, 1958 is estimated to be 695 inclusive of children, but exclusive of short-term tourists and visitors

Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.

2558 Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state the amount of foreign exchange incurred during 1958-59 on the import of machinery for the expansion of the Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): About Rs 75 lakhs upto end of February, 1959

Export of Leather Goods

2559 Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state

(a) the total value of leather goods exported during 1958 and

(b) the total amount of foreign exchange earned thereby?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri): (a) and (b) The total value of leather goods exported and the total amount of foreign exchange earned

thereby, during the year 1958, amounted to Rs. 1,94,39,000.

Production of Paper

2560. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Commerce and Industry be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of different kinds of papers for the purpose of writing and printing which have been produced in India in the year 1957-58 and 1958-59 in different paper mills;

(b) the quantity of such papers supplied to each State during the above period; and

(c) which of the States supplies the bulk of the raw material's for paper production?

The Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri):

(a) Separate figures for writing and printing papers were not maintained in 1956 and 1957. The total production in 1956, 1957, 1958 was as under:

Year	Total Production of paper & paper board	Production of printing & writing papers	Production of printing paper	Production of writing paper
	(in tons)	(in tons)	(in tons)	(in tons)
1956	193,400	123,010		
1957	208,957	126,514		
1958	251,356	154,407	99,240	55,167

(b) No information is available, as there is no control over distribution of paper

(c) The main raw material used for the production of paper is bamboo and its off-take by papers mills from different States during 1957-58 was as follows—

	Tons
1. Andhra Pradesh .	54,150
2. Assam	26,500
3. Bihar	60,848
4. Bombay	21,000
5. Madhya Pradesh	74,016
6. Orissa	116,500
7. Uttar Pradesh .	516
8. West Bengal . .	7,500
TOTAL	361,030

छावनी बोर्ड के कर्मचारियों के लिये राष्ट्रीय न्यायाधिकरण

२५६१. श्री भक्त बर्मान : क्या अब और रोजगार मंत्री २६ फरवरी, १९५९ के

तारकित प्रश्न सख्या ७०७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) छावनी बोर्डों के कर्मचारियों की मांगों पर विचार करने के लिये स्थापित किये गये राष्ट्रीय न्यायाधिकरण ने अभी तक अपने काम में क्या प्रगति की है, और

(ख) न्यायाधिकरण का काम कब तक पूरा हो जायेगा ?

अब उपन्यास (अ) आदिब अल.)

(क) ६० छावनी बोर्ड इस मामले से ताल्लुक रखते हैं। पक्ष अपने बयान पेश कर रहे हैं। बहस समाप्त होने के बाद सुनाई शुरू होगी।

(ख) न्यायाधिकरण का काम पूरा करने में कितना समय लेगा, यह कहना इस वक्त संभव नहीं।

Employees' State Insurance Scheme

2562 Shri Panigrahi: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to state

(a) whether the Employees' State Insurance Scheme has been in operation in Orissa;

(b) if so, the number of industrial workers now getting the benefit of medical care under this scheme in Orissa, and

(c) the names of the factories or industrial establishments in Orissa which have implemented this scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) No

(b) and (c) Do not arise

Film "Naked Earth"

2563. Shri S. M. Banerjee: Will the Minister of Information and Broadcasting be pleased to state

(a) whether the African students Association, New Delhi has made a representation to the Union Government requesting to ban the film "Naked Earth", and

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

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr Kesar): (a) Yes Sir

(b) The representation has been brought to the notice of the Film Censor Board, who keep in view the relevant directives regarding wrong presentation of friendly countries and peoples

Accident in Saunda Colliery

2564 Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Labour and Employment be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 870 on the 3rd March, 1959 and state

(a) the findings of the Regional Inspector of Mines who enquired into the accident in Saunda Colliery of National Coal Development Corporation,

(b) the steps being taken for prevention of such accidents, and

(c) whether a copy of the report of the Regional Inspector of Mines will be laid on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): (a) The accident occurred due to an undetected accumulation of inflammable gas which was ignited as a result of smoking. The persons concerned were overwhelmed by fumes

(b) The statutory provisions pertaining to gassy mines contained in the Coal Mines Regulations and the Indian Electricity Rules are being enforced in this mine

(c) A summary of the report is as follows —

For the purposes of the Mines Act, the Saunda Colliery is split into two separate mines, namely, Saunda No 1 and Saunda No 2, each one under a First-Class Colliery Manager. The accident occurred in the underground workings of Sirka Seam in Saunda No 2 Colliery. The Colliery is in charge of adequate and duly qualified managerial and supervisory staff

The Sirka Seam is not known to be gassy, but as a precautionary measure, the management have issued instructions to the mining sirdars that they should carry flame safety lamps in order to detect gas. The Investigating officer's finding is that the accident was caused by the ignition of inflammable gas. According to him, there had been gradual accumulation of inflammable gas in the air and this accumulated gas was ignited by the miners who went there to cut coal as permitted by the authorities. The ignition was caused by smoking and the presence of matches and 'chuttis', which were recovered after the accident established this fact beyond doubt

Regulation 147 of the Coal Mines Regulations 1957 provides that any mine to which regulations 122(2) and 144 apply, no contrabands shall be permitted to be carried underground. Though Regulations 122(2) and 144 do not apply to this mine the management had made obligatory the use of safety lamps in the mine as a precautionary measure. The ban on contrabands and smoking, under

regulation 147, was a natural corollary to the introduction of safety lamps, but the management did not check the carrying of contrabands and smoking underground. The Investigating Officer has, in the circumstances, fixed the responsibility for the accident on the management, though they cannot be held to have contravened any of the statutory provisions.

India's Contribution to U.N.O.

2565. Shri H N. Mukerjee: Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) what are the figures regarding our contribution to the United Nations Organisation and its associated units during the last seven years, to be shown separately;

(b) what are the principles followed in determining such increases in payment as have taken place, and

(c) what are the reasons for the large increase under this head in the budget estimate for 1959-60?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) India's contributions for the seven years, 1952 to 1958, to the United Nations budget are:

Year	Rs.
1952	68,02,232
1953	69,09,702
1954	78,24,095
1955	63,79,098
1956	60,74,148
1957	63,78,347
1958	50,98,703

Our contributions in respect of the Specialised Agencies of the U.N. are being collected and will be made available as soon as possible.

(b) Member States contribute to the budget on a scale determined by the General Assembly on the recommendation of its Committee on Contributions which takes into account—

(i) the capacity to pay, judged by comparative national income;

(ii) comparative income per head of population;

(iii) temporary dislocation of national economies; and

(iv) ability of Member States to secure foreign currency.

Special relief is given to countries with low per capita incomes.

The percentages of our contributions to the U.N. since 1952 are as follows:—

Year	Percentage
1952	3.53
1953	3.45
1954	3.40
1955	3.30
1956	3.25
1957	2.97
1958	2.90
1959-61	2.46

The percentage of India's contribution towards the budget of the U.N. has thus been steadily decreasing. The actual sum to be paid depends however on the total size of the U.N. budget in a particular year.

(c) The principal reason for the increase in the budget estimate for 1959-60 is because of the provision of Rs 62 lakhs as India's share for 1959 of the expenses of the United Nations Emergency Force in the West Asian region.

12:07 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during various sessions of Second Lok Sabha:

(i) First Statement—Seventh Session, 1959. (See Appendix V, annexure No. 73.)

- (ii) Supplementary Statement No IV—Sixth Session, 1958 (See Appendix V, annexure No 74]
- (iii) Supplementary Statement No VIII—Fifth Session, 1958 (See Appendix V, annexure No 75]
- (iv) Supplementary Statement No XVII—Fourth Session, 1958 (See Appendix V, annexure No 76]
- (v) Supplementary Statement No XIX—Third Session, 1957 (See Appendix V, annexure No 77]
- (vi) Supplementary Statement No XVIII—Second Session, 1957 (See Appendix V, annexure No 78]

ANNUAL REPORT OF HINDUSTAN
SHIPYARD

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin). On behalf of Shri Raj Bahadur I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (1) of section 639 of the Companies Act, 1956 a copy of the Annual Report of Hindustan Shipyard (Private) Limited for the year 1957-58 along with the Audited Accounts. [Placed in Library, See No LT-1327/59]

AMENDMENTS TO RUBBER RULES

The Deputy Minister of Commerce and Industry (Shri Satish Chandra): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (3) of section 25 of the Rubber Act, 1947 a copy of Notification No GSR 308 dated the 14th March, 1959, making certain further amendments to the Rubber Rules, 1955 [Placed in Library, See No LT-1328/59].

12.00 hrs.

ESTIMATES COMMITTEE
FORTY-FIFTH REPORT

Shri B. G. Mehta (Gohilwad): I beg to present the Forty-fifth Report of the Estimates Committee on the Ministry of Health—Medical Services Part II.

12.00 hrs.

* DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.

MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL
contd

Mr. Speaker: The House will now resume further discussion of the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel. Out of 8 hours allotted for this, 4 hours and 9 minutes now remain. All the Demands and the cut motions moved thereto on the 30th March have already been circulated to hon. Members on the same day and they are now before the House. When should I call the Minister?

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly) May I suggest that in view of the fact that the hon. Minister has already taken one hour in the beginning and he is going to take one hour for reply, the time may be extended?

Mr. Speaker: Let me hear the Minister first.

Shri Nath Pai (Rajapur) He is not here.

Mr. Speaker: His deputy is here.

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): The hon. Minister will take about 40 minutes for reply.

Mr. Speaker: All right, I will consider it—what more time is to be allotted.

Shri Nath Pai: The Minister for Iron and Steel, Sardar Swaran Singh, was kind enough yesterday to open the debate. There is another Minister equally concerned with one aspect of industry, oil. If he is not given a chance, it will not be fair. We would like to hear Shri Malaviya also. This may also be taken into account with regard to the adjustment of time.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Members are wanting a number of things. It is up to the Minister to choose whoever or both should reply. Therefore, we here cannot dictate to the Minister as to who should reply.

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Shri Malaviya will not take more than 15 minutes.

Shri Nath Pai: That means 55 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore an hour more.

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: Approximately one hour.

Shri Bose (Dhanbad): I was saying yesterday that there is another section, that of oil and gas. In this section the Ministry is working through the Oil and Natural Gas Commission. This Commission, as we find from the Report, has moved from Kashmir to Cape Comorin and from Assam to Jaisalmer and further down to Saurashtra in search of gas and oil. It has gone deep down into the womb of the earth thousands of metres below the surface in pursuing the mineral wealth. The details of its working in geological surveying, mapping and scientific prospecting in various ways, as indicated in the Report, will make a big volume. But it must be said to its credit that the Commission has already made many valuable discoveries. In Assam it has discovered both oil and gas in sufficient quantities for which refineries will shortly be erected in Assam and Bihar.

Gas and oil have also been found in Jwalamukhi and Cambay area and if everything comes up to expectation production will begin in these places in the near future. I may add in this connection that the Commission is working under various handicaps, particularly in the matter of drills and other equipment necessary for drilling holes, and if these machineries were readily available I have no doubt in my mind that the Commission would have shown much better results.

One thing will have to be realised in this connection and that is that prospecting for oil and gas is a highly costly and speculative job. There is no knowing when success will come or success will come at all or not. Still what the Commission has done is to be highly appreciated. With these words I support the Demands of this Ministry.

Shri Somani (Dausa): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to confine my remarks to the steel section of the Ministry about which there was such strong criticism from a number of hon. Members yesterday. I would first like to deal with the criticism levelled against the Ministry for the policy followed by them in regard to the working of the private sector steel projects.

Hon. Members, Shri Nath Pai and Shri Morarka raised the points about the retention prices and also about the interest-free loans to these steel companies. I think that the entire criticism is rather based on some misunderstanding. I would first like to take the question about the retention prices.

Much has been made of the retrospective effect which was given by the Ministry to the increase in the retention prices last October as a result of the recommendations of the Tariff Commission. The real position is that the current scheme of retention prices of steel operative for the five-year period 1st April, 1955 to 31st March, 1960, was recommended by the Tariff Commission in their report dated the 30th November, 1955, and sanctioned by Government by their Resolution dated the 1st February, 1956. The retention prices were so fixed in pursuance of Government's direction on the subject as to enable the major producers to obtain, after meeting all their current charges and obligations including taxes and reasonable dividends on their share capitals, a reasonable proportion of the finances required for their expansion programme for internal resources. The scheme of retention prices sanctioned on the

above basis of the Government's Resolution of the 1st February, 1956, mentioned above, also contains the following escalator clause

"The retention prices recommended by the Commission may be adjusted from time to time to the extent that Government are satisfied that manufacturing costs if altered from the 1954-55 level as a result of changes in railway freights, changes in statutory price of coal and other fuel, raw materials, stores or machinery and changes in labour costs caused by labour legislation or adjudication or conciliation awards"

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu) This was the recommendation of the Tariff Commission

Shri Somani: This is the decision of the Government

Shri Morarka: Was it accepted? No In the Resolution of the 1st February 1956, to which the hon Member is referring this was not accepted by the Government. The Government said that whenever the representation is made the Government would consider that on merits

Mr. Speaker: Very good

Shri Somani: What I have quoted is the Resolution of the Government itself under which they have accepted the recommendations of the Tariff Commission in so many words. A provision in similar terms has also been made in clause 5 of the agreement dated the 23rd June, 1955, between the Government of India and TISCO regarding the expansion programme to be carried out by the steel company. The increase in retention price as recommended by the Tariff Commission in their report dated the 24th May, 1958, and sanctioned by the Government on the 13th October, 1958, has been granted in accordance with the provisions of this escalator clause to cover only such increases in costs as have been accepted by Government as falling within the purview of the escalator clause

Shri Morarka: No. Did the Government not ask that this should be examined only for the future? The Government in its letter of reference to the Tariff Commission says in so many words, Please examine this question 'for the future'

Mr. Speaker: Very good Hon. Member need not go on interrupting. Let the hon Member have every right to speak

Shri Morarka: It is in reply to my point. He says that I made the criticism on some misunderstanding. I want to point out that the hon Member is replying on the basis of some misunderstanding

Shri Somani: Why I say that it is based on a misunderstanding will be quite clear from the fact that what we are concerned with is not the retrospective character of the increase that was given. That is my submission. If the hon Member wants to take any objection to the recommendations of the Tariff Commission in regard to the increases which took place in the manufacturing charges during that period, that may have been a relevant contention. But having accepted the principle that the Government of India are committed to give a fair increase in the manufacturing prices to the steel companies, if there is any genuine increase in the items of various manufacturing expenses it does not matter in the least whether the increase is given retrospectively or for the future

Shri Morarka: Why not?

Shri Somani: After all, if the increase would have been given for the future, the increase in terms of prices per ton would be much higher than what has been given

Mr. Speaker: Any hon Member is entitled to draw his own inference from the facts. I have no objection to allow any hon Member to correct a palpable error or a mistake of facts. But so far as inferences are concerned each hon Member is entitled to draw his own inference. The other

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hon. Member who is not satisfied with it has to keep quiet in his seat.

Shrimati Benu Chakravarty (Basirhat): It is a matter of fact. What Shri Morarka has said is that that reference was for the future and Shri Somani says that it was for the past.

Mr. Speaker: That is all right. There is no quarrel then.

Shri Morarka: Yesterday I quoted it and I have got a copy of the Resolution of the Government here with me where it says that the Tariff Commission had to examine the question only for the future. The hon. Member says that I made the speech based on some misunderstanding. I request the hon. Member to place a copy of the Resolution of the 1st February on the Table of the House where it says that the Government accepted the recommendations of the Tariff Commission. The Government has not accepted them. They say, "We shall examine that question only on merits as and when the two companies come to us."

Mr. Speaker: The Government will explain it later on.

Shri Somani: I have got a copy of the Tariff Commission's report and there is, I submit, a misunderstanding in the mind of Shri Morarka in regard to the word 'future'. The point is that the Government of India in accepting the recommendations of the Tariff Commission accepted the principle of examining any increase in the manufacturing charges from time to time for the period 1955-59. And the word 'future' indicates that the Government of India at that stage were not in a position to correctly assess the increase in the manufacturing charges, and, therefore, when the reference was again made to the Tariff Commission for future, the word indicated, in my opinion, that commitment that was already made by Government that the prices for this five-year period, namely 1955-59 would be governed by the actual increase or decrease in the

manufacturing expenses that might occur and that if the Government of India would be satisfied after proper examination by the Tariff Commission that there has really been any increase in the cost of manufacture, then that increase could be given on a basis which may certainly be called retrospective but which is not retrospective in the sense that Government had already accepted this principle, that is, the principle of giving such increases or even bringing about reduction in the retention prices if in the light of the actual cost of manufacturing, such decision was warranted.

What I want to submit is that much is being made of the word 'retrospective'. Suppose the increase would not have been given retrospectively, then it would only have meant a greater increase for the future production of the company in order to compensate it for the increase in the manufacturing charges. Here, there is no question of any departure from the basic principle that was accepted by Government.

Shri Morarka: You must excuse me for an interruption here, for the simple reason that the hon. Member is trying to give some wrong mathematics to the House. If we had given the increase for the future only, if we had not given retrospectively this so-called smaller increase, Government would have saved Rs. 4½ crores; by giving the so-called smaller increase, Government have given to these two companies Rs. 4½ crores more than they would have given otherwise. Even if they had given Rs. 68 per ton only for the future as against Rs. 46 per ton as they have given for the whole period, Government would have saved Rs. 4 crores or so. Let the hon. Member multiply the figures of production with the actual increment that they have given and the amount that they would have given in case this would not have had any retrospective effect.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think I must say that second speeches should not be permitted, because they virtually make out new points and

the like. Let the debate continue. Moreover. . .

Shri Morarka rose—

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not give in. So, let not the hon. Member get up in that manner.

Shri Morarka: I do not give in either.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The simple point is this.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister is entitled to make the representation on behalf of Government.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The simple point is that it is true that if the increases are not given, Government can save; if Government do not give any increase, they can save several crores more. So, that is only an argument, not a question of arithmetic.

Mr. Speaker: I did not quite follow. I think Shri Morarka said that it would involve an additional payment of Rs. 4 crores. In the future, the accounting may be done, whatever amount is paid from time to time is only paid provisionally, and whatever is decided upon by the Tariff Commission will be given effect to, and it will be given effect to retrospectively; after so much of work has been done, if the Tariff Commission finds that this is the price that has to be paid for the work or for the article, then the price will be on the date on which the accounting finally takes place, in which case whatever has been supplied even before the price was fixed will also be covered by this higher price, and, therefore, so much extra has to be given. Therefore, what Shri Morarka seems to say, namely that it should not or ought not to be given retrospective operation, seems to have some force.

Now, because it will involve payment for what has been already supplied, the hon. Minister may say, there is no definite payment at any particular stage, the whole thing would be decided by the rate fixed at

the end, and, therefore, till then, every payment that is made is only provisional. That is one way.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Your second alternative is generally the basis on which these payments are made, because additional expenses have to be incurred as they fall due. Government later on make a reference to the Tariff Commission, and it is quite often that the increases are given with retrospective effect to cover additional expenditure that has, in fact, been incurred.

Shri Nath Pai: The hon. Minister has never explained why from April 1955, retrospective effect should be given. That is what staggers us.

Mr. Speaker: Very well. That is a matter for explanation.

Shri Somani: So far as this production issue is concerned, the company's contention has been that the estimate of production that was taken by the Tariff Commission at the time of the original inquiry was much higher than what has been the actual production in the subsequent years. The whole price structure as recommended by the Tariff Commission at that period was based on certain calculations of production based on the expansion and other modernisation programmes, and the company has made out a case, and I think they have also represented to the Government further, that the Tariff Commission has not done full justice to this principle of giving an adequate increase in the retention price due to the increases which have been brought about in the manufacturing expenses, and also due to the fact that the company has not been able to produce that quantity of steel which was envisaged to be produced, by the Tariff Commission, at the original period of the inquiry. My whole submission is this, that the question of retention prices. . .

Mr. Speaker: Was it in the original agreement that whatever the Tariff Commission decides upon will be given even from the start? Was it said there

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that whatever price may be fixed may be fixed tentatively, we agree at a particular rate, but this is subject to whatever the Tariff Commission may fix, in which case it will apply retrospectively from 1955? Unless there is such an arrangement, if subsequently there is payment to them of something more, that will come into operation only from the date from which it is fixed. That has been the bone of contention.

Sardar Swaran Singh: The Tariff Commission's recommendations are after all recommendations as to the items that have to be taken into consideration. About that, there is an agreement that they will be entitled to ask for additional payment if there is an increase in such and such items of costs.

Shri Somani: I was just labouring the point that the impression of the hon. Member that the Tariff Commission is so liberal in fixing the prices for controlled commodities is not correct. I have myself an experience of the way in which the Tariff Commission works. I am connected with the cement industry, and I know, the procedure—which has been followed by the Tariff Commission in fixing the prices of controlled commodities—has been such that after a thorough and comprehensive inquiry recommendations were made which in my opinion hardly did full justice to the question of giving fair prices to the industries concerned. Their approach has been so thorough, so rigid and so comprehensive that it would be a wrong impression on the part of any hon. Member to conclude that the Tariff Commission has in any way been liberal to the industries concerned while making their recommendations as to the price structure.

Shri Morarka: Here again, may I interrupt?

Mr. Speaker: I am not going to allow this.

Shri Nath Pal: We remember the case of TELCO.

Shri Morarka: This will be my last intervention. Why was Government obliged not to accept the recommendation of the Tariff Commission?

Mr. Speaker: I agree, the hon. Member may be enthusiastic. . . .

Shri Nath Pal: We only remember the case of TELCO, which runs counter to what Shri Somani says.

Shri Morarka: I remember this thing also.

Mr. Speaker: I do not know what to do in the circumstances. I have always felt that instead of having a general discussion like this, as soon as the general discussion on the Budget is over, the whole Budget may be referred to a Committee of the Whole House, which can split itself into a number of sub-committees, and each sub-committee may sit with the officers in the Ministry and look into these matters and exchange views—and if necessary, the press also may be allowed to be there; there is nothing private about it—in which case, all the recommendations of the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee can be put before them, and such discussions can be had certainly across the table. That will be very useful.

But as it is, we are again having on each Demand a general discussion. That is what exactly is happening. Except in the case of one or two hon. Members who know intimately, and who apart from their study, have intimate knowledge of these facts, in the case of the others it becomes a general discussion. When hon. Members who know these subjects intimately want to have their say, we have not got the time here or the opportunity to give to them, for, when an hon. Member speaks once, he would not be allowed normally to speak again. I have gone out of the way to allow Shri Morarka to speak three or four times, after he has concluded his speech once.

Shri Morarka: I am grateful to you for it.

Mr. Speaker: All the same, I do not think I have been enlightened. Personally, I am not a veteran; even now, after all these interruptions, I am as I was originally. Now, this is the difficulty. I am yet to devise some method.

I would request hon. Members on both sides to find out how best, when there is a doubt, the matter could be resolved. I do not know what to do. I would normally ask the Estimates Committee or some other committee to look into this matter, but, again and again, asking the Estimates Committee when the matter is here is not proper. We must devise some method by which these differences could be resolved. If really so much of money has been spent, then we would like to know before we spent; and if it is not spent, then the doubt ought to be cleared up.

I am sure the hon. Minister will try to take both sides into account and try to explain to this House why this misunderstanding has arisen. Let there be no more interruptions now.

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): What about the committees?

Mr. Speaker: As for those committees, it is left to the hon. Members to pursue that matter. Let them all think about it properly themselves, and then let us think of it.

Dr. Melkote (Raichur): I move that the whole House endorse the view that you have placed before us that the whole question be submitted to a sub-committee. May I suggest that the Speaker move in this direction and help us?

Mr. Speaker: Under the rules as they stand, I have no authority to refer any of these matters to a sub-committee. Let us wait and see. The hon. Minister will certainly explain these differences, so that the whole House may get cleared of this doubt. And if still something persists, some

doubt, I shall try to find out how best it can be resolved.

Shri Nath Pal: It will be of great importance, what you just now said, and I hope not only this Ministry but others will bear this in mind.

I will point out a very relevant instance. The doubts we had raised on the 25th November in this House have been fully confirmed, in toto, every word, by the Estimates Committee, but we did not get any reply on this point yesterday. We hope he will bear in mind what you just now said by way of guidance.

Shri Somani: I welcome the suggestion made by you, and indeed, I would like that this whole matter about the Tariff Commission's recommendations and the Government's decisions thereon in regard to the retention prices given to Tata Steels is enquired into thoroughly to clear away any doubts in the minds of any hon. Members that anything but bare justice has been done to the industry in giving retrospective effect to the increase in the retention prices.

In this connection I may draw the attention of the hon. Minister to the dividends that are being distributed by Tata Steel and Indian Iron. The dividends do not exceed four or five per cent return based on the present stock exchange prices of these shares. If the return that the investor gets from investment in the shares of these big companies is only four or five per cent. I do not think there is any case in pointing to the question of the retention prices, because in no way are the resources which are placed at the disposal of the companies being frittered away by way of dividends to the shareholders or in any other way. On the other hand, they are being usefully utilised in the huge expansion programme which both the companies have undertaken. What I wanted to convey is that the companies concerned, under the direction and advice of the Government, are following a very rigid and conservative policy in the

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question of dividends, and are doing everything possible to see that their huge expansion programme is implemented in the manner decided and in full conformity with our national policy. Therefore, no impression should be created as if the Ministry has been in any way liberal to the claims of this industry or has in any way done anything which is not warranted by the needs of the national economy.

Before concluding this point and coming to the public sector projects, I would also like to make a brief reference to what my hon. friend Shri Nath Pai said about the interest-free loans to these companies. There is a long history behind these loans. It is not as if these interest-free loans have been allowed as a gift to these companies. This scheme has been evolved after very long deliberations and negotiations, and in consultation with the World Bank by the Government in a manner quite different from what the company itself had wanted. It was early in 1952, I think, that TISCO represented to the Government in regard to the needs of their expansion programme, and they wanted an increase of about Rs. 100 per ton in order to enable them, after paying the taxes, to build a fund exclusively earmarked for the purpose of expansion. So far as the needs of expansion were concerned, Government were fully agreed with the soundness of the proposal, but certainly Government did not entertain this proposal. On the other hand, Government did increase the prices and pay this increased amount to the equalisation fund and from that fund these loans have been given. As a matter of fact, Shri J. R. D. Tata, Chairman of TISCO, has referred in one of his speeches to this and stated that this loan which has been given by the Government, as a matter of fact, is legitimately an amount which belongs to the company itself. The Government, instead of allowing the amount to be secured by way of increase in the retention

prices, has given it by way of loan in order to comply with certain requirements of the negotiations which the company had carried on with the World Bank. This interest-free loan was regarded as equity capital by the World Bank, and it has helped out steel companies to secure valuable financial assistance from that institution. Even if interest had been charged, naturally these interest charges would have been the expense of a revenue-character, and to that extent the Tariff Commission or the Government would have had to give a corresponding increase in the retention price. Therefore, I do not think there is any point in my hon. friend, Shri Nath Pai, making anything about any favour being shown by the Government in these interest-free loans to these companies.

Shri Nath Pai: Do you refer to the Steel Stabilisation Fund of Rs. 17 crores?

Shri Somani: Whatever it is, whether it is Rs. 17 or Rs. 10 crores, I am only trying to state that the whole question of these interest-free loans was negotiated for a long time in consultation with the World Bank, and the Government did not accept the proposal as submitted by the steel company, but have taken action absolutely in conformity with the needs of expansion on the one hand and the other various factors which have got to be considered in this connection.

Now, I would like to say a few words about our public sector projects, about which so much has been said yesterday, again especially by our friends Shri Nath Pai, Shri Morarka and others. I do not in the least minimise the criticism that has been made about the administration of these huge projects, but I would like to submit at the beginning in this connection certain salient features which have to be kept in mind if we are to do full justice to the issue.

First of all, I readily agree with the suggestion contained in the Estimates Committee's Report, as also what was said by Shri Nath Pai yesterday that the Government did make a great mistake in not undertaking the construction of one steel project under the First Five Year Plan. If there had been one steel project under the First Plan, certainly that could have been undertaken 40 to 50 per cent cheaper than what we have had to incur during the Second Plan, and moreover, the experience and the organisation which would have been available would have been very valuable in the implementation of the programme of construction of the remaining two steel projects. But that is a matter of over-all policy of the Government and the Planning Commission as well.

What we are today concerned with is, once the decision having been taken to establish three steel projects simultaneously, how that programme has been executed by the Ministry. As I said, this programme of establishing three steel projects simultaneously is so gigantic and so ambitious in nature that it would not be doing full justice to the work of the Ministry if the hon. Members do not keep in mind the gigantic and unprecedented nature of the burden that was placed on the Ministry in executing such huge programme of construction of three steel projects simultaneously. Remember again that they were asked to undertake this programme of the three steel plants at a time when the two big steel companies in the private sector had also embarked upon a substantial expansion of their units. That meant that the Ministry could not avail itself of the resources or of the experience of valuable technical personnel which could, in the ordinary circumstances, have been made available, if the two units in the private sector had not simultaneously a very big programme of expansion for their own units.

Then again, it should be remembered that these projects have not been established in important cities like

Calcutta and Bombay where adequate facilities of everything are available. These projects have been constructed in out-of-the-way places where there have been so many formidable difficulties in the beginning of township, of housing, lack of adequate transport facilities and so many other problems. The hon. Minister yesterday said that about 150,000 workers are at present engaged in the construction of these three steel projects. That shows the magnitude of the task in which the Ministry is engaged. There are a hundred and one other problems. As one who is connected with the private sector, I myself realise the nature of the formidable difficulties which we have encountered in the last few years in implemmenting even much smaller projects in various places. Therefore, while it will be certainly fair to criticise the many deficiencies and defects that have been discovered in the working of this Ministry in the implementation of these projects, it will be necessary to realise the nature of the task which was being undertaken.

Having realised the difficult circumstances under which the Ministry was asked to undertake the construction of these three steel projects simultaneously, we have to examine the nature of the deficiencies that have been pointed out by hon. Members who have so vehemently denounced the working of these public sector projects. In this connection, I find that the major criticism has been about the increase in the original estimates. That is true, because from the original estimate of the three steel plants of Rs. 353 crores, the projects are now estimated to cost, including all the items which were left out at the original stage, something in the neighbourhood of Rs. 560 crores. There is no doubt that this increase is a colossal one, one which can give a very alarming picture. But then we have to take into account certain other features which led to such enormous increase in the estimates. It has been pointed out that compared to the original specifications, a lot of additions and improvements were made in

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the projects themselves. It would perhaps have been possible to control this increase if the specifications originally formulated were adhered to. But I think the Ministry acted wisely in accepting the suggestions of their technicians to make certain additions and alterations which, though involve a great amount of additional capital outlay, will ensure greater and more efficient working of these units.

We have been told that purchases were made from abroad of structural steel, refractories and many items of stores which were originally intended to be purchased in this country itself. There have, of course, been increases due to the under-estimates made by the consultants, due to increase of prices and wages in Europe and so on.

Now the important point we have to remember is, that having entered into a commitment as regards this enormous increase, the hon. Minister had, I think, in the budget discussions in May 1957, given certain revised estimates. The major point before us is whether these revised estimates of 1957 are also going to be increased to an enormous extent. Fears were expressed, and certain items were also given. But in this connection, I can only go by what the hon. Minister said in his opening statement yesterday that he does not see even today that there will be any significant increase in the revised estimates that were given to the House in May 1957. So long as the Ministry can, from the actual completion of the three projects, prove that their revised estimates have not substantially been exceeded, I do not think that the alarming picture painted about the increase in estimates has got any substantial justification. But if really, as hon. Members pointed out yesterday, even these revised estimates will be exceeded enormously and substantially then certainly that is something which would require a more detailed explanation than what was given in the beginning. I would therefore request the hon. Minister to again clarify in

his reply whether he stands by the assurance that he gave in his opening statement that so far as the revised estimates are concerned, there will not be any major or significant increase.

Then the question of delay may be taken into account. In this connection, I would like to submit that even so far as the expansion programmes of TISCO and IISCO are concerned, there has been a substantial increase compared to the original estimates which they had put before the shareholders or the public at the time these programmes were formulated. There has also been quite some delay in the implementation of these programmes. If the private sector projects, with all their efficiency and experienced organisation at their disposal could not avoid the enormous increase in their capital outlay and also delay in the execution of their expansion programmes, I think the picture that has emerged of the completion of these three projects has to be viewed in its proper perspective. After all, you want to undertake an ambitious programme of industrialisation. I hold no brief for the ICS officers who may have been on the job, but I certainly was pained to hear from my hon. friend, Shri Nath Pai, that there was a conspiracy to run down the public sector on the part of the ICS officers concerned. I think that was the unkindest cut. I would like to appeal to hon. Members to see the difficult circumstances under which our officers are working, and it will do no good to those who have got so much in their heart for the welfare of the public sector projects to condemn them outright. I do not think my hon. friends, Shri Nath Pai and Shri Naushir Bharucha left any adjective in the dictionary untouched so far as the black side was concerned.

Shri Nath Pai: Just on a point of personal explanation....

Mr. Speaker: Whatever has been said is there....

Shri Somani: Words like 'extravagance', 'bungling', 'messing' were utilised. But I do not think it does any

credit to Members of this House to condemn a programme of such a gigantic nature which has been undertaken by the Ministry in these terms. The nature of the projects should clearly have given a warning to us that if these three steel projects are to be implemented simultaneously, then mistakes—serious mistakes—or lapses are bound to occur. They are inevitable. It would have been marvellous if they had been able to steer clear of those things. It is a very difficult position for anybody.

We have been told about the contractors and so many other things. But when day to day problems have to be decided, either you follow the strict and rigid rules of red-tapism or you act in a businesslike manner. Either you delay the projects or take the risk of being criticised later. I think it is much better in the national interest that these projects have been completed more or less according to scheduled than that the policy of following rigidly the rules was followed, which would have kept the officers free from criticism.

My whole submission is that so long as no definite charges of malafide are proved, it would not be advisable to make such sweeping and general statements of condemnation of the whole department. The entire debate of yesterday as well as the other day when we were discussing the projects painted a picture which, if true, will mean that the public sector should cease to function.

Shri Nauship, Bharucha (East Khandesh) No, no.

Shri Nath Pai: We want it to succeed. We want to defend it.

Shri Somani: I can understand constructive suggestions being made and criticisms being made which are of a constructive character. If you will read the various adjectives which have been used, you will find that we are not fit or competent to undertake any job whatsoever. The black or

dark side has been painted in that manner. I do not agree with it. But I personally say that there have been serious mistakes and lapses, and before I conclude, I would like to say a few things about the organisation. But I would appeal to my hon friends that it is better that such matters are discussed in an informal way with the Minister, than that such a dark and black picture should be painted in this House which leaves a very undesirable impression in the country as if the public sector projects are being run so inefficiently, so irregularly and in a manner which is causing such a drain and waste of public funds.

Coming to the question of organisation, I myself agree that the hon Minister should give serious thought to put the organisation on a purely commercial basis so that the three steel plants can run in a sound and scientific manner. Various constructive suggestions have been made in the Estimates Committee's Report. I would certainly like that the Ministry examines in detail these various constructive suggestions and takes concrete and effective measures to ensure that the administration of these projects is put absolutely on a commercial, sound and scientific basis.

In this connection, we have had a lot of suggestions coming during the recent few years as to how our public sector projects should be conducted, the administrative machinery, the board of directors, the cadre of technicians and so on. I mean all these points have been discussed threadbare during the last few years by various committees and various suggestions have been made. It is high time that the Ministry took serious note of all these suggestions and put things in a manner which would not give rise to these criticisms.

One thing more—and that is about the optimistic view taken by the hon. Minister about the supply of steel. Here I want to give a little warning. I have experience of cement. A little over two years ago there was such an

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acute shortage of cement that we were compelled to import cement from foreign countries. But, suddenly, with the progressive increase in production, we today find ourselves in a position where the manufacturers of cement have to export part of their products.

Our steel production is going to be doubled very shortly. We have at present over 2 million tons of supply of steel. It is going to be 4½ million tons. It is high time that the hon. Minister and his Ministry gives serious thought to see how this doubling of the supply is going to be utilised. We should not be suddenly faced with a situation as it happened in the case of cement, that steel production will not be utilised and the steel projects will find themselves in difficulty. This is a problem which should receive detailed consideration at the hands of the Ministry. It will not be sufficient just to say that with our growing and expanding economy and with the progressive increase in the need for steel we will have more than double demand, and we will be able to export a part of our production. I would like this matter to be very thoroughly examined before any new scheme for a fourth steel plant or plans for the expansion of these three undertakings is undertaken. It is essential that we should take proper measures to see that our production which is going to be doubled shortly will not be left unutilised.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Not shortly, not till 1963.

Shri Somani: Anyway I wanted the planning to be done in a manner which will ensure the proper utilisation of our progressive increase in production.

In the end, I will only say that it was not in a spirit of criticism of what any colleague had to say that I said this. I must agree that the criticisms to a great extent are just and that everything possible should be done to ensure that our public sector projects function in an efficient manner.

But I felt strongly, in view of the impression created yesterday, that I should like to express something about this.

Shri Nath Pal: Sir, a word of personal explanation, as he referred to me. It is very nice to hear somebody put up a stout defence for the Ministry. But he should not give an impression to anybody that I was trying to denounce the civil servants. I had said that I will be the last person to abuse the parliamentary immunity which a Member enjoys to denounce people who can never have an opportunity of saying what they feel. I cited an example. I only asked this: Was it proper, was it advisable, was it good business to send one single serviceman to Germany to sign a deal worth Rs 90 crores. He comes back and we find that the German association on monetary basis of Rs 9 crores cannot be had because he did not give thought to the simple thing of Rs 9 crores being taken in this country at the rate of 12 per cent. This is what I had in mind. The Estimates Committee also say this.

"They also find it strange that the administration of the Rs 560 crore steel projects rests largely with two to four officials or erstwhile officials of the Government who have had no previous experience of steel industry, or of any industry for that matter."

And it is in this spirit we pleaded that they are good administrators but they have no business knowledge and steel is a business. Let us use the talents of men like him. I have no objection. But I did not cast any aspersion. That is what I want to say. Again the Estimates Committee ended by saying that the association of civil servants will have to be terminated and we will have to get competent men. Now, I think he will agree with me.

Shri Feroze Gandhi (Rai Bareilly): Sir, before you put up Demand No

33—Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas—to the vote of the House, I would like to draw your attention to something.

Shri Speaker: Does the hon. Member want to intervene in the debate now?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: There seems to be some mistake. I want to draw your attention to it.

Mr. Speaker: If the hon. Member wants to speak I will allow him an opportunity.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I do not want to speak. This may take only a little time

Mr. Speaker: Has he already spoken?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: No, Sir. The hon. Minister...

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister is here.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: The hon. Minister is here. I want to draw his attention to this. In Demand No 83, Major Head—36, Directorate, Oil and Natural Gas—A 1, page 12, you find in 1958-59, for 390 officers the revised estimate for 1958-59 is Rs. 11,95,000. The number of officers has gone down to 336 in 1959-60 and the Budget estimate for 1959-60 has risen to Rs. 16,86,000, that is, by 7 lakhs. Then, under A. 2, for an establishment of 2850, the revised estimate for 1958-59 is Rs. 13,24,000. The number has diminished to 2222 in 1959-60 and the Budget estimate for 1959-60 has increased by Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 23,88,000. I just wanted to know whether this is a printing error. If it is a printing error it could not be put to vote.

Mr. Speaker: Are there no explanatory memoranda for this?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: There is nothing Sir. I have already pointed it out to the hon. Minister.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister will note it and reply in due course
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Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Mr. Speaker, Sir, we have just had a delectable sight of seeing how Mr. Somani has rallied to the side of the Ministry.

Mr. Speaker: What I was wondering was that hon. Members who are wedded to the public sector have formed a private businessman to support the public sector, himself opposing it, according to him. Now, Mr. Nath Pai has explained it. The hon. Member may go on.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Sir, I do not know what really was the point in your intervention at this stage. In any case, it was quite a delightful thing to see Mr. Somani rallying to the aid of the Ministry. But the last sentence which he uttered gave the real clue to the whole story and that was that we should not have any more steel plants in the public sector.

Shri Somani: No, Sir, I never said that.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: And the real reason for that is whatever price we may have paid—there is no doubt that we have paid through the nose—there is one truth, that the country is going to produce steel in the public sector and the price of private sector steel will come down, whatever happens. I think that the conclusion Shri Somani has drawn from cement cannot be applied in the case of steel because cement still continues to be produced in the private sector. And, if my information is correct—of course, Shri Somani says that the Tariff Commission is very rigid and very conservative and has tightened the screw on and all that and the profits derived from cement are not enough for him—in spite of all that he says, the profits of cement are still on the high side. I am sure, in a poor under-developed country like India, if we could have brought down the price of cement, if there was really some competition

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from the public sector in the cement industry, there would have been no question of a surfeit in cement

As far as steel is concerned, this kite-flying has been going on for some time that we are going to be surfeited in steel. We shall not be able to sell steel. But, in a country like India, if we really want to industrialise, if we really want to have modern implements and the latest methods in agriculture is there any limit to which steel can be utilised, provided we can make it economical and within the purchasing power of the people? Every person will use it if really we can do it. Therefore, this question which is being raised by the Tatas and Mr Biren Mukerjee and now by Mr Somani, "please do not go ahead, please do not go ahead", is in a way affecting the public mind. I think this has to be taken very seriously and we should have no idea of trying to restrict what we should do. The sky is the limit. What is our restricting factor? The restricting factor is money at our disposal and that is where economy has to be brought about.

It is very surprising that Mr Somani had no constructive criticisms to offer. He could not say how we could economise and how we can go forward. There is a feeling in the country that criticism against the public sector means that we are against the public sector. Before I start, I want to say very clearly (Interruptions) At least that is being tried to be shown and I think the intervention from the Chair was out of fear.

Mr. Speaker: Yes; out of fear

Shri Nath Pai: And you did very rightly, Sir

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I want to make a categorical and clear statement that when we make criticisms they shall be sharp criticisms.

They are so because we want the Steel Ministry and the Hindustan Steel Private Ltd., and the other industries connected with steel to come out and have the pride of place in the country and not because we think the private sector has done better. We have a private sector in this industry for the last so many years. What has been its record? Has it been better? If we go into the rottenness and all the mistakes, then we will know. I am glad that Shri Somani has admitted that they were making mistakes. Our criticism is to see that there is a sharp break from this rottenness and new standards may be set up so that the hire and fire system of private sector is replaced by a system where no profit criticisms but merit may be rewarded. We want to have a new social outlook in this sector. That is why we are saying these things. Economy on the one hand and a new outlook on the other are the two main, basic things which we want to see followed in the public sector.

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Having said that, I would like to go to my first suggestion. The Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel is a strategic Ministry—the three departments dealing with industries which are basic to the essential needs of industrialisation. My first idea is it is a hotch-potch Ministry which really does not do justice to any of the three major departments. It should be split up if we want to do justice to each of them. If any country could go forward successfully developing steel, coal and other mineral ores and petroleum, then that country will have got the Aladdin's Lamp and found the way to the land of prosperity and plenty. Therefore, I would very much like the Government to consider this point especially because we have allocated for all these—steel, mines as well as petroleum—special places in

the public sector. They belong to the special schedule whereby the further development will be entirely in the public sector, as such the responsibility of the Government will be very much heavier than in many other departments of Government. Therefore, I make this suggestion that this Ministry should be split up.

Acharya Kripalani (Sitamarhi)
Adding more jobs

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty. I have one lurking fear because I have seen the top heavy administrative set-up not only in this Ministry but of almost all Ministries. I was surprised, as I was going through the figures, that the officers' pay was quite disproportionate to the staff's pay and the allowances and honoraria and other things. For instance, let us take the Department of Iron and Steel. I have just called out a few figures: 31 officers draw Rs 2,17,000. One Secretary seems to be drawing about 48,000 a year which comes to about Rs 4,000 per month. In comparison to that 150 class III and 62 class IV servants draw Rs 2,20,000. This morning we had a question about the socialist pattern. It is surprising how this terrific disproportion can still exist. In the travelling allowance, dearness allowance and other honoraria, here of course I must say that the dearness allowance and other things under the category should according to us be incorporated into the wages. If I come to the Iron and Steel Control organisation, what do I see? There are 35 officers drawing Rs 3,64,000 in comparison to 706 class III and 128 class IV drawing Rs 13,27,200. The travelling and the dearness allowances come to Rs 10,72,000. I do not want to go into the Department of Mines and Fuel. The anomalies have already been pointed out. There, 75 officers draw Rs 8,21,000 of which almost a lakh of rupees is paid to one Deputy Secretary and six Under Secretaries in comparison to two deputy assistant

petroleum officers whose pay seems to be reduced. In comparison to that in the Department of Mines and Fuel, 424 class III and IV people get Rs 4,62,300.

Mr. Speaker: The salary is the same for all these servants. The only question is whether so many are necessary are not.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: If that is so, if that is absolutely on par with Ministries, how is it that there is so much discrepancy between even the Department of Mines and Fuel and the Department of Iron and Steel?

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, the one question is this: If the salaries are equal to the salaries here, why should so many be appointed? That will be the point.

Shri Nath Pai: There are disproportionately low and high salaries also in the same Ministry.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty. I only want that the three Ministries should be split up. Here we see how disproportionately things happen in the Government departments. I know the explanation which the Minister will give. He will say that it is the set rule and set pattern. We want to get out of these set rules and patterns. Let us have more people. I do not mind. But let us have some less disproportionate figures placed before us.

None of us will have time to deal with petroleum. Coming to the question of steel, what I want to say is that these discussions are taking place at a very important time. With the commissioning of the two blast furnaces we have reached the end of a period which I would like to term as a period of exploration. We have now reached a stage when we can look back at our mistakes and achievements. We should be in a position to know our basic mistakes. Although

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the Minister has said that we are going to learn from our mistakes, what have been our basic mistakes? That is not very clear. Are we trying to rectify them? The Estimates Committee's report will be very useful to the Ministry and I hope he will give good thought to it and adopt the recommendations made therein.

The second reason why I say that this is a very important time when we are discussing this report is this. We have reached a very critical stage. On the one hand we want a rapid expansion of the steel industry and on the other hand the situation especially in the context of foreign exchange difficulties has made us very careful regarding expenditure. These two things have to be combined together. We have to husband our resources to the utmost. The third reason why the discussion now is important, is that we have now reached a period when the Third Plan is to be formulated. What perturbs me is not that mistakes have been committed. They have cost us dearly; they are bad but we do not seem to have learnt from our mistakes. What disturbs me most of all is the statement made by the Minister in his speech yesterday. He says:

"In this process, mistakes would, no doubt, have been made and almost everyone engaged in the task would be able to say in the light of experience how things might have been done better.... our endeavour should be to benefit for the future from the many and varied experience of the past."

That is good. But then what does he say:

"... That cannot be done hastily or in mid-job, so to say."

First the job should be finished and then only things can be improved. When a person gets into the mire, one

tries to get out of the mire even in mid-way and he does not try to get more into that mire. So, he puts an excuse: after all we are in the middle of the job and so let us not do anything to change the policies or anything in the middle or at the moment. I think it is a very dangerous thing. We have to change where we have made mistakes so that we do not make further mistakes. There can be no excuse that there will be further delay. These explanations would not do. I am sure that there are many avenues where we can make amends even now. That is what I am going to suggest. I do not want to go into the past. The past is there; Shri Morarka dealt with it and in the Estimates Committee also it has been very categorically stated. Let us see what is happening today. To my mind, our greatest difficulties arose out of two basic weaknesses: defects inherent in agreements and contracts as a result of which the foreign consultants and suppliers of machinery took full advantage and made us pay through the nose. That has been amply explained on the floor of this House and by the Estimates Committee. The second thing is our abject dependence on foreign experts. These were the two basic defects. We have now reached a stage when we must learn from our mistakes and when the expansion and economy must go hand in hand. We have to so plan, co-ordinate and design our projects keeping a sharp look at the special characteristics of our own raw material position, technical manpower position and we have to set up a strict list of priorities and of doing things in the most economical way possible.

Sir, Shri Somani said, well, mistakes are made, costly mistakes are made, what can be done. We cannot afford to do that. Of course, mistakes are made, genuine mistakes are made, but it is about avoidable mistakes that I am talking about. Let us be clear on that score. Let us not mix up matters.

This can only be done if we make full use of our Indian technicians. I want to make a very strong plea on behalf of our own technicians. If we inject into the Hindustan Steel Limited engineers having knowledge of steel technology, and if we shake ourselves and the Hindustan Steel out of the slavish mentality of depending too much on foreigners, I am sure we shall be able to do a much better job.

How can we expect foreigners, especially those who themselves come from the private sector like Krupp-Demag, GHH or ISCON not to help themselves to their own self interest and rather guard our national interest? In Bhilai, it is true that things have gone better because it is from a Government to Government basis. There private profit is eliminated. Even here, I would say that a very good job was done in the case of Bhilai because we sent our own team of experts to the Soviet Union, they visited many of the steel plants there and the Soviet experts helped them. Our technicians also gave them an idea as to what would be the most suitable things to adopt in our country under our own conditions. That is why, I say, Bhilai has come out to be the best. It is only because there has been the greatest co-operation between our technicians and the Soviet experts. (Interruption). It is true that we have many more experts there, but I think on the whole everybody will agree that if we can do with lesser people the Russians won't mind, they would go away. That is the one area where Indians have been taught to be in charge even in the commissioning stage. The large number of Soviet experts who remain there will commission the plant, but actually the Indians will be in charge. They will stand beside them and teach them, and as soon as they have been taught they will go away. But at Rourkela and Durgapur, we have found that if there are foreign experts they will help the foreigners—the Germans will help the Germans. We

have found that Krupp-Demag helped GHH and GHH helped the German carpenters. ICC helped ISCON and we had to pay heavily.

Let us see what is happening at Durgapur. Actually the Estimates Committee has not said very much about Durgapur because it is just starting its work. Now, here again we find that this wonderful package deal of ours was a package deal in everything else except in one very important aspect. The commissioning contract is not there. As soon as they erect the plant they will hand it over to you and then the commissioning is left to you. It is a very serious defect that has been brought to notice. We will now have to think about having a commissioning contract. What it will mean to us in terms of money and other things, I do not know. We have been assured that the estimates will not jump up any more. I suppose the hon. Minister will say that he only made the estimates up to the point of construction and for the commissioning it will be separate.

Sir, I do not want to go again into the whole question of defective piling at Durgapur. It is a scandalous state of affairs. We have got the ICC. We have got the ISCON. We have paid once over Rs. 15 crores to ISCON. Earlier we have paid Rs. 8 crores altogether for six years to ICC. All this has happened. What was the ICC doing? Was it not there to safeguard the interests of Government? It was our engineers that detected the mistakes. It is a fantastic position that we are paying through the nose, we are having tier upon tier of foreign consultants, and still even the pilings, the foundations even are being done without our consultants, who are supposed to be ICC, protecting our interests. What were they doing?

Again, Sir, I want to raise a very important question in this House, regarding the entire atmosphere at Durgapur. The entire atmosphere at

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Durgapur is vitiated with the stinking atmosphere of the white man's superiority. I was surprised to read in the *London Economist* of 14th February, 1959 where they talk about racialism and say

"It is hard to believe that, eleven years after India became free and sovereign, a colour bar should still be applied in a Bombay swimming pool."

Then they say

"Such a bizarre exception might be held merely to prove the rule, but there are many less bizarre, and more alarming instances ranging from the supercilious conduct of certain senior British staff at Durgapur, where Indo-British teamwork is furthering India's steel programme."

Sir, most of our Indian technicians, some of them very experienced, have felt the pinch of the behaviour of these people. Our engineers are not allowed to do anything. We are told that according to our agreement there is nothing about know-how, we are not supposed to get any know-how. No blue-prints are allowed to be kept by us. The blue-prints are sent to the General Manager and quickly taken back again before we can even keep a copy of them. They say we are not entitled to have any know-how. Again, of course I do not want to take up the case of individuals, I think the hon. Minister should know that there are individuals whose behaviour is not as it should be. In the General Manager you have a very kind gentleman, a man trained in the pukka ICS tradition. He is very nice and amiable, but I am afraid that he is unable to take decisions. He is timid and he is unable to see the new social forces which are growing around him. He is still over-burdened with his old bureaucratic mentality, and I am afraid such a person cannot stand up

to these white people who are behaving in such an arrogant manner. The atmosphere there has gone to the level that they almost amount to saying "Mr. Sen, when we have finished and everything is ready we will hand them over to you; before that, please do not come to us."

Mr. Speaker: Are not our engineers allowed to know how they are setting up the plant and machinery?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: We have not got it in the contract. That is a big weakness in the contract itself.

Mr. Speaker: If anything goes wrong what are we to do?

Shri Nath Pai: God alone knows, or the Minister knows. We pay Rs 14 crores for these technical services.

Sardar Swaran Singh: That is not precisely correct, Sir, I will clarify that.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I hope he will clarify.

Mr. Speaker: Anyhow, I remember to have admitted a question the other day wherein it is said that those people are still thinking they are the masters in this country. (Interruption) It is stated that the directors there still seem to feel that they are the old Europeans who are ruling this country.

Dr. Melkote: That is the impression created.

Mr. Speaker: That is a question which I have admitted. I do not know what the answer will be.

Sardar Swaran Singh: My answer will be "No", that that is incorrect.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I hope the hon. Minister will take the House into confidence. We all come from that area. Even those who do not come from that area will very

well know the atmosphere there if they have a talk with our technicians and our engineers who will give expression to that humiliation.

Sir, to say the least about humiliation, we have developed a phobia about foreign experts. All experts are not experts. Many are for less experienced than our own engineers. Take the case of ICC itself. They are supposed to look after the interests of Government of India. We know how they have looked after our interests. Except for the head of the ICC, Mr Bankston, all others could easily have been scrapped. Yet they are our overall consultants. We have our own consultants in each project, and on the top of that they are our overall consultants for which we pay crores of rupees. They are also our consultants at Durgapur. Any reference to ICC cannot be answered by them. They refer it back to the consortium, whoever is supplying the plant. Yet, ICC is supposed to be on behalf of the Government of India, doing all the forward thinking, looking into everything and having complete control of the matter. But, in fact, ICC is nothing but a middleman, not worthy of being our overall consultants. If many of us had our way we would have scrapped ICC. Also, they have not given us the best and most modern plants and process. It is very necessary to discuss this, because at this moment we want to get the maximum benefit out of the existing steel plants, we want them to produce to their maximum capacity because it is much more economical that way.

In this context, it is of great importance that we expand first to full capacity our three steel plants at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur. Actually, I believe, HSPL has already asked the project to go ahead and suggest ways and means to expand the existing capacity. But what has happened in Durgapur, for example? What is happening in actual practice? It is no use asking for something and then not being able to know where

we are being actually taken and where the sabotage is coming in. ICC and ISCON are giving such advice which is actually contrary to this very objective and HSPL is accepting it. Of course, how can we blame the HSPL directors. They are composed of men innocent about the technology of steel.

Shri Nath Pai was rather mistaken when he said that we have got only ICS men. It is not so. We have got two or three engineers. We have one experienced engineer of the CPWD, a very eminent man possibly in his own field, and another is from the Railways. But still, steel is such an industry which needs men with the technical know-how of steel. It is an industry in which newer and newer methods of technical knowledge are being advanced all the time, and it is necessary for us to be able to know which is the best and the most economical method which would yield the best production. For example, the ICC has given us a plant which has a low melting rate of 20 gross tons per hour from the open hearth even after desiliconising process, while modern mills have anywhere near 40 to 45 tons melting rate. If we had this, how much more production we could have had? After all, we are paying very high amounts. We are not paying very little. Everybody knows the size of our steel plants, and we have gone round the India 1958 exhibition and the steel pavilion. We know that the duplex process is one of the best and well-known processes for producing good steel, and also we will be able to get the maximum production but yet, this process has not been adopted. The simple open hearth process, even with the desiliconising process, will yield far less than the duplex process.

Recently, one more thing has come to our notice. That is, the high top pressure at Durgapur blast furnace has been permitted by the Hindustan Steel Limited to be dropped from the contract for the time being. I believe one of the Indian engineers has said that we need not have it just

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now Naturally, the ICC got hold of this and the Hindustan Steel has also got hold of this. Everyone knows that high top pressure is to-day accepted as a very important process for producing the maximum quantity from the blast furnaces. But it has been dropped. Is it to our national interest? Is this the way to really get the maximum capacity?

Let us take certain other aspects. For example, we are a poor country and we have to have certain priorities. We are rich in raw materials for the industries, and we have large quantities of ores, and it would have been much more logical if we had first put up a cinderling plant in Durgapur for the furnaces, because it is known, and we have been told about it in Bhilai also, that with the cinderling plant, the production goes up and it is economical on coke. Instead of putting up a cinderling plant, what have we done? We have put up a huge ore mixing plant, a huge, expensive affair, which we might have installed it at a much later date, when we had more money. The result has been that at Durgapur we have paid Rs 18 crores for the three blast furnaces and we could not gain the maximum in production because Hindustan Steel are neither capable of judging themselves nor did they get the help of Indian Consultants.

Take again the oxygen plant. We have seen pictures about it. We know that oxygen is a very important element for the good production of steel. The more oxygen there is, the more flexibility there will be in the production of steel and the steel will also be of better quality. Yet, we have been given in Durgapur small units of 50 tons. But after our engineers insisted, they have given us two 100-ton units. We must have bigger units for better production.

I have given all these facts because it is pointing to one important conclusion, and that is, we have to have

Indian engineers and technical men at the helm of affairs and not be abjectly dependent on foreigners. This is all the more absolutely necessary now, now that our foreign exchange position has become so serious. If we are really serious about learning from our mistakes, our national interests point directly to two things. Firstly, Indian engineers, experienced in steel technology and manufacture must be taken on the Board of Directors of Hindustan Steel. I do not want to go into the question of ICS officers. They may be good or bad. Some are good officers and some are bad officers. There are good officers, there are bad officers. There is no doubt about it. But any type of engineers is not good enough. We are going to be told that we have got engineers and technical men. For Hindustan Steel we need a certain percentage of technical men, and indeed a good percentage of men knowing the technical know-how of steel and steel technology.

Secondly, the Government of India must appoint Indian steel consultants for the setting up of the steel projects. The third thing, about which I shall speak a little later, is the way and type of designs organisation which should be set up. Dealing with the first two points, that is, the question of the Board of Directors of Hindustan Steel and the question of Indian consultants—

Mr Speaker: The hon. Member's time is up.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: The answer has been given by the Estimates Committee itself. They have said that although there is one firm of Indian consultants in iron and steel, they have not been used at all. I believe that since then, in answer to a question, we have been told that they have been asked to prepare one of the reports for the fourth steel plant. But still we do not know whether they will really be the technical consultants for the Bokaro project or they will be only given a little bit of

work here and there. We do not know whether or not this firm of Indian consultants will be made the Government consultants to look after our national interests. We were told that we have got in this firm a TCM expert. We are surprised. If he can be an acknowledged TCM expert, who sent him to examine Bhadravati why cannot we accept him as an expert at least to look after our national interests? At least why not have a second opinion from him, if you do not trust him for a first opinion? The work of the consultants would be not only to do overall planning but to co-ordinate designs to suit the local conditions, and to set up priorities, also keeping in sight the local conditions about raw material, communications, personnel, the timing of the various sections to commission the plant on schedule, etc. All this could be done by the Indian consultants. Also, they could help in setting up and directing the designs organisation.

Here, one question may be put by the hon. Minister and I should like to answer that. Can we do without foreign experts and know-how? The answer is that at the present moment we cannot completely do without it. But I would like the House to consider what is the type of know-how and what is the method of getting that know-how. We are young in the field but we also know that we have got a very fine band of technicians trained abroad. And here also we are training them. Without reducing or trying to minimise the question of lack of personnel. I think we are overdoing this 'lack of personnel'. I feel that for obtaining the know-how in which we lack, we can go to the particular individual sources, for the particular know-how of process, the knowledge or which we lack. After all, we pay for it, and so we go to the actual source. That is the best way. We pay for that particular item of know-how or process of supply and get it. It is not necessary for us to have overall consultancy from a foreign firm, because that has cost us very dearly.

Sir, you have rung the bell. I had many other points.

Mr. Speaker: I have given half an hour for her.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Yes, Sir. I know you have been very kind. The other point which I wanted to bring forward is about the Board of Directors of the Hindustan Steel. I do not want this to be made into a very frightening affair by saying that we have not got the technical personnel for putting them on in the Board of Directors. Why do we not give some of the best metallurgists and technicians we have in the three steel plants a chance and elevate them to the Board of Directors? The Board of Directors need not be at Delhi. The Estimates Committee has recommended that one of the plant sites should be the headquarters of the Hindustan Steel.

Regarding the designs organisation also, the Estimates Committee has rightly criticised that we do not take it seriously. We were so engrossed in getting tier upon tier of foreign experts that we did not realise how important it was to guarantee and get the maximum know-how. I have already talked about the package deal in Durgapur. The German agreement had a clause about it but it was ignored. It is a very funny thing. It was at Bhilai where the Russians were asking us to give them people to train, and we were found wanting. I believe that this designs organisation is going to be set up at Rourkela. I do not know why Rourkela has been chosen. Anyway, I do not mind that, if it is the particular fancy for them to have it at Rourkela. Certainly they may have it there. But the only thing that I would like to say about the designs organisation is that it should not be reduced to a draftsmanship job. It should not be that you just put a draftsman section there. It should be an all important unit which will have to fulfil a much bigger task of knowing the best processes suited to given conditions, the

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implications they will have in relation to the raw materials. A man with a metallurgical background, capable of discerning all this should be heading this organisation. We should have a good team of people for that.

I would also urge that it should be an independent unit. It should not become a part of Hindustan Steel. Then alone it would be able to give an impartial opinion without favour or fear of the department. Another important reason is, if it is a fact that a heavy machine building plant at Ranchi is going to produce steel plants, then the designs unit will have as much to do with HSPL as it will have to do with the heavy machine building plant at Ranchi. Such a design organisation with close liaison with Indian consultants, the HSPL and the heavy machine building plant, with foreign know-how wherever we need it and wherever it is absolutely necessary, this set up can enable us to make the fourth steel plant by ourselves with a small dose of foreign help.

Coming to the alloy and tool steel plant, I would like to say that in the case of all the plants which we are setting up, whether it is Kiriburu, Kargalik, Dugda or the pipe foundry at Rourkela and the alloy and tool steel plant, it is foreign consultants and foreign consultants. Why are we suffering from so much inferiority complex? At least, cannot we associate Indian consultants with them? Can we not learn from what we are paying? In the case of the special alloy and tool steel project, two or three foreign parties have been asked to submit project reports and there are three or four sections. I believe there are royalty clauses in some of these foreign contracts and these royalty clauses may sometimes go on for ten years and even more. We should be very careful about this. Let us not think that the same old story will be accepted by this House that "a very specialised knowledge is needed",

as we were told in the case of Rourkela "shuttering". We have had alloy and tool plants in the ordnance factories and in Tatas also. We have got a little bit of knowledge about it. We may need to go to foreign sources for some processes, but certainly we should not feel so helpless about this.

I have no time to go into how the various plants are proceeding. But I would like to say something about the production of pig iron at Bhilai and Rourkela. Both started on the same day. Whenever we have put a direct question to the hon. Minister as to the quantity that is being produced on an average daily at Bhilai and Rourkela, the answer is being evaded. Yesterday we were told that at Rourkela it is 500 tons, but we know that it has gone down to 100 or 200 tons at times. I might say that it is not a minor defect in Rourkela. In Bhilai, it has reached 1,000 tons. Why not give these straight figures? It would be much better. I ask, is not the cause of Rourkela's troubles due to hurry which was put from Delhi that the blast furnace at Rourkela must be started 24 hours in advance of Bhilai? It is just because Bhilai must not come first.

We have been assured by the hon. Minister that it is only a minor defect about the casting or some small defect which has been repaired. Of course, speed is necessary, this House has urged speed. But sometimes speed beyond the cautious limit laid down by technologists effects the life of the plant and we hope in this case we will have to have earlier replacements due to this hurry. I hope this will not have to be done.

I will only plead with the hon. Minister. Mistakes we have made, but let us not be afraid of changing our ways. Let us know the basic mistakes, where the real fault lies and let us change even in midstream because

that will be much better and cheaper. The man of steel will really be the man who will be building the India of tomorrow.

Shri Oza (Zalawad): Mr. Speaker, Sir, the Ministry has had a sufficiently long innings of brickbats and I have no desire to carry it further. On the contrary, I have to congratulate the Ministry and the Minister, not so much for the success they have achieved—of course, they have achieved a fair measure of success—as for being associated with the development of a very vital factor of our economy. The country is looking at the progress of the steel projects with great expectation mixed with hope for the fulfilment of which we have made a very large provision in the outlay of the second Five Year Plan.

Of late, there is some criticism about the execution of works in the steel plants. It has been alleged that there is wastage due to defective planning, that some favouritism has been shown here and there and sometimes one gets an impression that there are some instances of malpractices. As has been rightly pointed out, we have to be very watchful. It is true that we have been taxing the people and asking them to pay through their tears; the anxiety exhibited here is highly appreciable and we are thankful to the friends for drawing our attention to some aspects. I must make it abundantly clear that I am not less anxious about the proper utilisation of our funds. On the contrary, while speaking on the general budget, I said that not only every rupee should be well spent, but people should be made to realise that every rupee is well taken care of and spent with great care and thrift.

But there is another aspect of the issue. We have undertaken a big and stupendous task, which to my mind is more than what our natural propensities in men, material and money and, shall I say, character, would allow us.

We want not only to develop, but we want it at a very rapid pace, so that we can wipe out the backlog of backwardness as early as possible. As has been pointed out by my learned friend, Shri Somani, we have very little experience of big plants and projects. We have to rely upon help from abroad. All countries are busy building up their own war-ravaged economy. Sometimes speed and meticulous care may not go together. We are almost spending on a war basis. Have we not declared war on poverty? Naturally, there is bound to be some wastage; not that it should be ignored, but we have to keep it in proper balance. Sins of omission in the present context are much more condemnable than the sins of commission. If we do things very slowly and at leisure, we will not commit mistakes, but there is always the other out-balancing disadvantage which is sometimes very injurious to economy. Personally speaking, in a fast developing economy like ours, our officers should be made to feel that not doing anything and not committing an error will be considered to be more condemnable than committing errors in getting things done. In these plants, hundreds of officers are working about whose devotion to work, sacrifice and integrity, we should all be proud. Let not a feeling go round that instead of appreciating their good work, we in this august House are unduly harsh, making sometimes sweeping criticism.

In some of the instances quoted here, if we are to arrive at an inference that there was fraud or misfeasance, we shall have to presuppose a conspiracy between officers of different categories at different levels, which to my mind is not probable. On the contrary, it is highly improbable that such a conspiracy can be hatched and carried out. I do not want to plead for the Ministry. There are abler hands to put their cause more effectively. I would only urge them to take the criticism in the true spirit, to put things right and go ahead with godspeed. Our problems arising out

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of stark poverty cannot wait for long. I have great faith in the rapid industrialisation of the country. If I can speak a word of cheer or give a pat on the back of those who are working hard, I am sure it will be worthwhile

As in the case of steel, the production of primary energy is also very important. The production and utilisation of primary energy is the standard of prosperity of the country. Primary energy is energy produced from primary sources such as oils, waterfalls, minerals etc. as distinct from secondary energy produced from animal and vegetable waste. In the total consumption of energy of any country a large proportion of primary energy indicates a higher level of industrialisation. In countries like USA, UK, Germany etc. the percentage of use of secondary energy is negligible while in India it is almost two-thirds. That shows how backward we are. For the world as a whole the average consumption of energy comes to about one ton equivalent of coal while in India it is 1 ton. We are far below even the average of the whole world. Our consumption of primary energy is roughly 1/80 of what USA is consuming. No wonder that we are trying to step up our coal production from 38 million tons to 60 million tons during the Second Five Year Plan.

If you go through the Report which has been circulated you will get the impression that both the public and private sectors are playing their role properly. But while one reads the report one gets a feeling that there is lack of coordination between the Ministry of Mines and Fuel and the Railway Ministry. I was just referring to the Report which has been circulated and at page 4 I found we have been given some information about the progress in various mines.

For example, about Kathara in Bihar, it is stated:

"The Colliery is in a position to despatch coal to consumers on a commercial scale, at the rate of 30,000 tons per month, but for the completion of the railway siding which is expected only in March, 1959."

Let us hope it has been done by now. Then, about Gidi in Bihar it is stated:

"Coal has been touched in some of the inclines and about 10,100 tons have been obtained from the drirage operations alone. The Railway bridge has been promised towards the middle of 1959."

In the same way, talking of Saunda (Bihar) the Report says:

"With the completion of the railway sidings, expected by April, 1959, the despatches of coal will start on a commercial scale."

So also, about Bachra (Bihar) it says:

"Coal has been touched in the inclines and some token raising of coal has already been made. The railway siding is expected to be completed by March, 1959, and with this the production will commence on a planned scale."

So in all cases we find that there is lack of coordination between the Railway Ministry and this Ministry. Let us hope that both the Ministers will put their heads together and see that the programme is carried out according to schedule so that we are not suffering in production because the Railway Ministry is not co-operating to the extent it should.

We also want the co-operation of the Railway Ministry in another aspect. We learn that the railways are consuming coking coal while it is not essential for it to do so. It can do with non-coking coal. I think the Railway Ministry should work out a

phased programme for using non-coking coal instead of coking coal which it is using at present. I am sure the Minister will look into the matter as early as possible

While we are on coal I would also draw the attention of the Ministry to the Coal Price Revision Committee Report, which we are eagerly awaiting. As has been pointed out by previous speakers, in the case of steel, we have got uniform price for every railway head in this country because steel is an important raw material for the development of industries, both large and small. So it was necessary to have a uniform price throughout the whole country irrespective of where the particular place is situated. Why not have the same about coal? Coal is an important base for the development of any industry. Without coal even steel cannot be put to any use. Therefore, if any commodity has a better case so far as equalisation of price is concerned, uniform price structure is concerned, it is coal. Particularly those areas which are far away from the coal-fields have a very strong case. Talking about my own place, Saurashtra, we know what freight we have to pay for coal. We cannot compete with other industries placed in a very favourable position. Because of that so many of the industries are languishing. So many industries are closed because they cannot afford to buy coal at a very high price.

Not only is there difficulty about the price structure but there is difficulty about despatches also. About transport also we are experiencing a lot of difficulties. Whatever little we sometimes get is consumed by the railways, because they want it badly. So the wagons which are meant for the industries are diverted to the railways with the result that the difficulties of the industries are aggravated. I am sure the Ministry will look into this properly and at an early date fix uniform price for coal all over the country and see that areas which are

far flung from the coalfields are properly looked after, because now they are not getting coal supply sufficiently.

Coming to the question of oil, as pointed out earlier, a nice pamphlet has been brought out by the National Council for Applied Economic Research on primary energy in India. We know from this what important role primary energy, particularly oil, plays in the economy of any country. It leads to rapid industrialisation of the country. Not only that, politically speaking also, we become very safe, secure. We know that of late this Ministry is showing very nice signs of activity. We have got the Oil and Gas Commission. I was wondering why this Oil and Gas Commission has not been made autonomous. We have so many autonomous bodies for comparatively very small things. So I am wondering why of all communications this Natural Oil and Gas Commission has not been made into a full-fledged corporation, because I feel that many administrative bottlenecks require to be removed. If we want to get things done quickly, expeditiously, we should free this activity from all administrative bottlenecks and hurdles that we are experiencing today, particularly in this Ministry. In promotional activities if at very stage we have to go to the department for administrative sanction, financial scrutiny, technical advice, even technical approval, I think we will not be able to push the programme as early as possible.

Fortunately for us, we have been able to find oil and gas in certain parts of our country, e.g. Cambay. Let us hope more will be found. When the Minister was recently in Rumania he entered into certain contracts with the Rumanian Government. So, more drills will be forthcoming and there will be more exploration, not only exploration in this area, let us hope that it will be possible for us to find oil in very large quantities.

While we are talking of the Cambay region it will not be out of place for

[Shri Oza]

me to express the feelings of the people of Cambay and Gujarat, because they are naturally anxious about the location of oil refinery. I am sure the Government will keep in view their legitimate aspirations at the proper time after proper scrutiny and study.

I was talking of steel. That reminds me of one thing. We are told that about 7 lakhs tons of steel will be made available for our re-rolling mills. About this also, talking in a way about my own area, we have got some re-rolling mills, and these re-rolling mills do not get sufficient quota for getting them going even, what to talk of utilising their full capacity. Even today they cannot work properly because of the lack of proper supply of re-rolling material. I request the Ministry to look into this case sympathetically and before new re-rolling units are set up to see that the old re-rolling units are given sufficient supply of steel so that they can keep things going.

Mr Speaker: The hon Member's time is up.

Shri Oza: Just one word more. The criticism that was levelled here was to my mind mainly based on some observations made by the Estimates Committee. The Estimates Committee has made very useful and valuable suggestions but all the same while one goes through the report one gets an impression that after all the Estimates Committee has not given the conclusions. At the most they have made some suggestions here and there. They are tentative suggestions and if one goes through the appendices attached to the Report one also finds that so much material was not even available to the Estimates Committee because it was not forthcoming. I would draw the attention of the House to Appendix I where it has been said under the Head 'Information outstanding from the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel, Department of Iron and Steel, as on 2nd December,

1958', that so much material was not forthcoming. That shows that the Committee was not seized with all the facts and material.

I also find from the introductory remarks that some witnesses were examined by the Estimates Committee. It is said there that—

"They also wish to thank Sarvaswari Biren Mukerjee, Managing Director, Indian Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., Burnpur, G. D. Somani, M.P., Kamalnayan Bajaj, M.P.; M. N. Dastur, Consulting Engineer, Calcutta and D. S. Mulla."

I do not know whether all these experts and witnesses were examined in the presence of the officers of the Ministry and whether the officers had an opportunity to put questions to them because, I am afraid, if we examined all these persons in the absence of all these officers or those who are directly concerned with the steel plants we would be led into wrong inferences. Natural justice demands that if we want to draw an adverse inference against anybody we must give him ample opportunity to defend. We must draw his attention and say 'Look here, out of this fact, we will make this inference. What have you to say about it?'

Shri Supakar (Sambalpur): That was done.

Shri Oza: About these witnesses?

Shri Supakar: Yes.

Shri Nathwani (Sorath): Whenever any inference was made we invited the attention of the officials to it.

Shri Oza: When these officials gave evidence?

Shri Nathwani: Officials of the Ministry were not present then. But whenever any inference was sought to be drawn by the Estimates Committee it was placed before the officers and their attention drawn to it.

Shri Oza: It is good. But I submit that when these witnesses were examined it would have been fair if

an opportunity was given to the officers concerned directly with the execution of these plants to talk it over across the table

I think if we go through the Report of the Estimates Committee we find that they have made broad suggestions

13-58 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

As I said in the beginning we have to take this criticism very seriously. After all we have to see that every pie is properly looked after and it is not wasted. We have to create an impression on the country. Therefore, I am sure the Ministry will take this criticism in its true spirit. What I say is that we do not want to dampen their spirit on the whole. We want to encourage them. We want to see that they go ahead because after all, as I said in the beginning, these are very important projects vitally connected with the development of our economy. I am sure the Ministry will put right whatever defects are pointed out in the true spirit and go ahead. That is all that I wanted to say.

Shri Supakar: When we laid the foundations

Mr Deputy-Speaker: I will request hon. Members not to go beyond the fifteen minutes

Shri Supakar: I shall try my best

Mr Deputy-Speaker: I will help him

Shri Supakar: When we laid the foundations of these three steel plants in public sector we hoped to build the foundations of the Third Five Year Plan and the future Plans of our country on steel. In the context of that hope we must judge the achievements and the failures of the three steel plants in the public sector. When we consider that aspect we find that our expectations are not fulfilled. The

Estimates Committee had an occasion to remark from very authoritative source that the production and the investment in steel plants should be equal. That is to say that for each rupee of investment the outturn should be one rupee. But what do we find in the three steel plants in the public sector? We find, for example, that in the Rourkela steel plant although we are going to invest a sum of Rs 212 crores our ultimate production per annum will not exceed Rs 55 crores.

Yesterday, while criticising this aspect of the problem Shri Bharucha pointed out the fact that if we account for the depreciation and the interest charge of the investment this amount of Rs 55 crores on an investment of Rs 212 crores is a very small return. This is not in keeping with what the steel plants in other countries as well as the steel plants in the private sector are going to make out of their investment.

In this connection what pains us more is the first impact of our production. When the pig iron production started from the month of February—we were very glad to learn that we have started the era of iron so far as the Government sector is concerned—to our dismay soon after that we learnt the news that the production is not up to our expectations. We find that though we expected that from both these steel plants at Rourkela and Bhilai we would have 1,000 tons of pig iron produced every day we are told in reply to a question by Shri Malaviya that the production in Rourkela is only 345 tons per day. Yesterday, we were told that it is near about 500 tons per day. But it is only 50 per cent and if we compare this with the fact that our production is 25 per cent of what other people produce in similar circumstances and we are not able to fulfil even our own expectations and that too to an extent of 50 per cent we feel very apprehensive. Unless we take active steps to see that matters improve—and improve in a very short period of time—I am afraid that disastrous consequences may ensue so far as our

[Shri Supakar]

future plans are concerned and so far as the future of our future generation is concerned. Therefore we must do all that we can to see that the future stages of production, namely, the production of steel from pig iron stage and also our future development is so adjusted that further losses do not accrue.

In this connection I will say that the difficulty arises because the management of the Hindustan Steel Limited and the Steel Ministry keep so far away from the actual places of production that they do not realise the difficulties and the troubles and they do not meet the exigencies of the situation whenever they occur. On the other hand, as has been remarked by the Estimates Committee, the decisions of these steel plants are really the decisions of two or four persons sitting in New Delhi. The committee that has been appointed by the Board of Directors meet from time to time and come to certain conclusions. Their conclusions ultimately become what is called *fait accompli* and the Board has perforce to ratify those recommendations. One of such instances where this small committee has gone wrong or where the Board of Directors have doubted the wisdom of such directions has been pointed out by the Estimates Committee at page 36 of the Report. There have been other instances also which have not been mentioned.

But I would submit that so long as the decisions and directions continue to emanate from New Delhi at a distance of more than a thousand miles from the steel plants, such mistakes and blunders are likely to recur. Therefore, unless Government shift the Hindustan Steel (P) Ltd., to one of these places, preferably Rourkela, these mistakes and blunders are likely to continue.

14 hrs.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Why Rourkela? Because it is in Orissa?

Shri Supakar: I say Rourkela because it is equidistant practically from the other two public sector projects.

I shall now point out one other instance in which Government or the Board has not taken into consideration the economies of the projects, to which I have drawn the attention of Government from time to time. For instance, there is the transport of iron ore from the mines to the steel projects so far as Rourkela is concerned. You know, Sir, that so far as Bhilai was concerned, Government took very active and early steps to construct a railway line from the steel plant to the mining area, but they did not take any steps whatsoever to connect the Barsua mines with the Rourkela steel plant. The Estimates Committee has remarked that for each year of this delay, Government undergo a loss of about Rs 68 lakhs in freight alone. I would submit that this is an underestimate, actually, if we calculate from the freight rates, from a single item of freights alone, Government have to undergo a loss of more than Rs 1 crore per year, and this is over and above the extra amount that they have to pay on account of profits on ore, for purchasing ores from the open market.

In this connection, I would submit that though we propose to develop the steel industry at a very rapid pace, yet we find that Government propose to export raw iron ore to Japan, and we do not understand very much the logic of this proposition. Last year, there was a proposal that every year two million tons of iron ore would be exported to Japan, but we find very recently from the newspapers that they are going to export four million tons every year. Why should this be so? And if they have to export anything for earning foreign exchange, why should Government not export instead of iron ore, pig iron or steel to those countries? I fail to understand. If we deplete our resources of iron ore in this manner, I believe that in course of time when

India develops her industrial potentialities we shall be faced with greater difficulties, and we shall then have to run to the doors of other countries for importing iron to our own country. So, Government should not take a very short-sighted view of these matters.

Before the three steel plants fully go into operation, Government have contemplated in the meantime to establish a fourth steel plant at Bokaro. In this connection, the Estimates Committee had the occasion to remark that it was more economical to develop the present plants before they went in for a fourth steel plant; and even when they went in for the fourth plant, they must take into consideration certain data which they have enumerated at page 58 of their report, such as:

"a complete estimate of the capital cost

- (ii) the manner in which the requisite funds are to be raised,
- (iii) the estimated value of products proposed to be manufactured,
- (iv) the estimated cost of production, and
- (v) the estimated margin of profit."

before they started a new plant. I do not know whether these things have been taken into consideration, and whether Government have begun collection of these data.

I now come to some of the problems especially in connection with the Rourkela steel plant. There, the two important problems which concern the people of the locality are the problem of labour and the problem of rehabilitation of the persons displaced.

So far as the labour problem is concerned, it is a matter of regret that though Government have enunciated the policy that so far as the non-technical personnel, especially of class III and class IV are concerned, the local

people should be given adequate consideration, yet the local people are not given any chance, and people from outside are preferred.

I found the other day that not only in the case of class III and class IV posts but even in regard to posts in the higher services, so far as the Bhilai steel plant is concerned, the advertisements usually show that applications are invited from residents of Madhya Pradesh, but in the case of Rourkela, it is from the whole of India. It is not only that, but so far as people from Orissa are concerned, they even fail to get the application forms when they apply for them, let alone their appointment.

Regarding rehabilitation, there has been strong agitation about the way in which the local people, especially, the Adibasis are treated. This matter has been raised in this House, and the hon. Minister has replied from time to time that it is the responsibility of the Government of Orissa. But the Government of Orissa is only an agent of the Government of India; so, the main responsibility, or I should say, the moral and the legal responsibility rests with the Government of India. Unfortunately, in this matter, Government have not done their duty even by one per cent.

I would submit that not only have the promises that were held out to these people not been fulfilled but they are driven out from their hearth and home most mercilessly without notice; with the help of bulldozers and the police their houses are even destroyed, without any adequate arrangements being made for their rehabilitation.

I had the occasion to visit the Barsua mines, and I found that one of the important rehabilitation centres, that is supposed to have been located, was at a distance of 20 miles from the steel plant; and it is difficult for those people to whom Government have promised employment in the steel

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plant, that they should live at a distance of twenty miles, with no adequate housing and other provision made for them to live there and work in the steel plant

Regarding payment of compensation also, we find the same story as in the Hirakud area where people have not been paid their compensation even after a lapse of twelve or thirteen years. The same picture is emerging here also, and people are mercilessly turned out of their houses and their land, especially the Adibasis who are helpless. Unless the Government of India take up this matter upon themselves, I do not think that there is any hope for these people.

Shri J. R. Mehta (Jodhpur) I wanted to begin with mines and fuel, but I am switching on to steel because this House seems to have developed somewhat of an affection for that metal.

Shri Nath Pal: Concern for it

Shri J. R. Mehta: The outstanding feature of this debate has been that the recent report of the Estimates Committee on the steel projects has loomed very large in our discussions. This is quite natural because the Estimates Committee is a very important committee of this House, and has great achievements to its credit, and has developed a special knack of throwing light into the dark corners of Government administration.

I do not propose to sit in judgment of what the Estimates Committee has said, for it will be presumptuous for me to do so, nor do I propose to say anything categorical one way or the other on many of the controversial issues that have been raised because, evidently, all the relevant facts are not before the House. But I will take the liberty of giving expression to some broad reactions which have been created in my mind by reading the Estimates Committee's Report and the reports furnished by the Ministry and listening to the debate here.

One of the major grievances that has been voiced in this House is that

the Ministry or the Government has been lacking in a sense of planning, and that these steel plants should, as a matter of fact, have come much earlier than they have done. In the first place I would submit that planning is a matter with which the Planning Commission is charged. Secondly, when the First Five Year Plan was drafted, this House in its wisdom thought that stress should be laid on agrarian economy rather than on industrial development. Planning, I submit, is not made in the abstract. It has relation to factors internal as well as external, and it is clear that this House in its wisdom, and the Planning Commission, decided that the steel plants should come during the Second Plan. While on the one side we are told that we have been rather late in this respect, we have heard it asserted from several quarters in this House that it has been a wrong step on our part to bring in the steel plants and that they should be scrapped in favour of emphasis on food production. This is rather amusing, and I do not know how to balance one view with the other.

It was stated here by one hon. Member, I think it was hon. Shri Naushir Bharucha, that if these plants had come in 1954 or 1955 we might have saved Rs 320 crores in one year or so of foreign exchange. This is something like saying that if Mahatma Gandhi had started the non-co-operation movement in 1911 instead of 1921 and got independence ten years earlier, then probably by now we might have been in the middle of the Fourth Five Year Plan and been in advance of most of the countries of the world! I do not think that is a realistic way of looking at things.

Shri Nath Pal: You are misleading. That is not what he was saying.

Shri J. R. Mehta: There is another grievance which has been voiced, and that is that there have been large increases in estimates and constant variations. My submission is that in

a project of this dimension, and in a project in which we have so little experience, variations and modifications from time to time are to be welcomed rather than criticised. I think it would be a tragedy if we were to be told that no improvements or modifications would be made in the original plans. I will cite just one instance. For instance, when we knew that the gas that the coke will give out could be utilised for fertilisers, surely it would have been a mistake if we were not for installing a fertiliser plant at that stage. Hon. Members may also consider their own experience of constructing small residential houses. When we start, we estimate that it will cost so much, and as we go along, I am sure it is within the experience of hon. Members that we have to revise the estimates so often and make additions and alterations. So, in a venture of this sort, we should not be unnerved if there are variations and modifications from time to time.

There is one other point to which I shall refer, and that is that something has been said about the terms of the contracts which have been entered into with the foreign firms. My only submission is that we did not have the know-how, and we were more or less in a sellers' market. So, we had not much choice left, and we had to make the best of a bad bargain. So, what I plead is that we should have a sense of perspective and we should not be too meticulous in matters like this.

There was a suggestion made yesterday. I think it was by my hon. friend Shri Nath Pai, that he would have preferred local technicians to take charge of the job, and even now he suggested we should put them in charge of these jobs; does not matter how we blunder, but we will learn by our mistakes. I appreciate the sentiments which prompted him to say that, but I think that on serious thinking he will agree that it will be a mistake to play with such huge amounts like this.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): We are already playing.

Shri J. R. Mehta: For instance, a man who has to undergo an operation which requires skill and surgical knowledge surely should go to a specialist doctor rather than to a quack.

Shri Nath Pai: That was our whole submission.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: The very argument was advanced when the British were withholding freedom from India.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those who are expecting to get their turn should not interrupt.

Shri J. R. Mehta: There is one redeeming feature that we have done a wise thing in taking the help of three different nations for the three different plants. That in itself, I am inclined to think, should serve as an impetus to them not to make their demands on us very unreasonable.

I do not mean to say that there have been no mistakes. Probably the hon. Minister himself will be prepared to concede that there have been, but the wise thing would be not to cry over spilt milk but to profit by those mistakes for the future.

An Hon. Member: Where is the milk?

Shri J. R. Mehta: My humble submission is that we should be generous even to a fault so long as the mistakes are *bona fide*. But if anybody has made a fool of us or has played with public money or has bled us white, as Shri Nath Pai put it, then surely we should come down heavily on him and inflict perdition on him, whoever takes that risk.

Having said this, I would certainly endorse the suggestion made by the Estimates Committee that a committee of experts should be appointed to go into the controversial matters which have been raised and which they have pointed out. These matters were brought out by Shri Morarka and

[Shri J. R. Mehta]

some other friends. I find that Shri Morarka has a special intelligence service of his own so far as the steel plants are concerned. I would seriously suggest to the Minister whether it would not be profitable to put him on the board of directors of this steel concern. I am sure it would be in the interest of everybody. It would be in the interest of the concern.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Not Shri Nath Pai?

Shri J. R. Mehta: It would be in the interest of peace in this House also.

Coming to mines and minerals, I find that some very good work has been done by the Indian Bureau of Mines and by the Geological Survey of India. But I only feel that the achievements of these two departments are not being publicised, as they ought to be, so that people might profit by that.

As my time is short, I would briefly enumerate the suggestions I have to make in this matter. One is that a special committee should be appointed to look into the working of the Department of Mines and also the policy in regard to mineral development of the Government of India and State Governments. So far as mineral policy is concerned, there is just a small paragraph in the report which has been given to us. But on going through it, I do not find exactly what the policy is. It simply says that a committee under the Mines Bureau has been appointed to suggest how the scheduled minerals should be worked out. In the first place, that does not make any mention of other minerals. As we read the paragraph, it appears that they have only iron ore and manganese in their thought for the present. I do not call it a mineral policy. A mineral policy should consider about minerals that need exploitation . . .

Shri D. C. Sharma: (Gurdaspur): Gypsum in Rajasthan.

Shri J. R. Mehta: . . . whether any financial assistance is necessary, how to procure know-how, how to get technical personnel trained and so on. So I would suggest that a committee should be appointed to go into that question.

Another thing I want to mention is that the approach of the Government of India as well as of State Governments is more or less regulatory and not developmental. They want to make laws and enforce them and penalise everybody, but they do not want to encourage development and attract people to the mining side. This applies to legislation as also to the administrative machinery. So far as legislation is concerned, I will cite two examples, of how we frame laws which are not realistic. I am told the Mineral Rules provide that there should be a urinal and latrine in every mine for the labourers. I do not think in the jungles, in the hills, it is at all feasible to have that. People would generally like to go out into the jungle to attend to the elementary needs. I think even if the Minister goes there, he will prefer to use the jungle rather than a latrine or urinal built for the purpose.

Then there is another rule providing that managers of mines should in future be all matriculates. As everybody knows, in Rajasthan literacy is not very high. We had difficulty even in getting our village level workers and the qualifications prescribed had to be lowered down in their case.

I give these illustrations just to show that we are making our rules sitting here in Delhi not realising the local conditions. The tendency now is that the more complicated the laws or rules, the happier the people who make it seem to be.

I hope these suggestions would be taken into consideration by the Minister.

Shri Jagannatha Rao (Koraput): The Ministry of Steel, Mines and Power, which deals with the basic industries in the country, occupies a pride of place in the Government of India. By and large, the achievements of this Ministry during the year under review are remarkable and deserve the commendation of this House. No other country in the world has put up three steel plants at the same time. We had to do it because we inherited a stagnant economy and we wanted rapid industrialisation. Rapid industrialisation is possible only by development of basic industries like iron and steel.

In appreciating the work of this Ministry, we cannot minimise the stupendous task that faced the Ministry in going through with the construction of these plants nor belittle its achievements. When these three plants go into full production, we will be self-sufficient in steel requirements; we would also be in a position to export steel and save foreign exchange spendings for imports. Several criticisms have been levelled against planning and the work of the Ministry, mostly in respect of the steel industry. I am sure they have been made with the best of intentions and not in a spirit of acrimony. Hon. Members of the Opposition as also hon. Members from this side have made certain criticisms and remarks which are constructive. I am sure they deserve consideration for what they are worth.

One main objection raised is that had the First Five Year Plan envisaged construction of at least one steel plant, we would not have been in difficulties now. That is true. But we cannot overlook the fact that in 1948, we had neither the resources nor technical know-how. So, we could not go ahead with the construction of these steel plants. There was no foreign collaboration possible because foreign countries themselves were engaged in developing their own economy.

So, several committees of technical experts were appointed. They went

into the question, studied the technical aspects and gave their reports. We must thank the Government of India and the Planning Commission that for the first time they decided to go ahead with the construction of the three steel plants. It is true if we had proceeded much earlier, we would have been in a better position. Before the three steel plants were set up in the public sector, we had the Tata Iron and Steel Company, the Indian Iron and Steel Company and in a way, the Bhadravati Iron and Steel Works, Mysore. They were the only firms in this field. So, it is not correct to decry the Planning Commission nor the Ministry nor the Government of India for not being able to go ahead with the steel industry in the First Plan.

Now, when we come to the Second Plan, we say the Government have committed a mistake in going ahead with these steel plants because we are pressed for foreign exchange. We cannot blow hot and cold. We have to face this difficulty of foreign exchange, because if we want industrialisation, we have to go ahead with the development of basic industries like iron and steel.

The next point made is about the increase in the estimate of cost of the plants. It is said that the original estimates are very low and subsequently they have been revised to a considerable figure. It is true the original estimate has been about Rs. 353 crores which rose to Rs. 439 crores. Now, we are told that it would cost Rs. 560 crores. It is true. But we cannot help it, once the experts in charge of the planning of these steel plants estimated the actual cost of the plant and revise it later because of rise in price of structural and rise in wages in foreign countries. Later, some improvements were suggested. They also did not take into consideration the cost of the townships and other amenities and ancillaries that had to be built up. So, necessarily and naturally the cost would go up. It does not mean that there is defect in

[Shri Jagannatha Rao]

planning or that the Government had bungled

I would like to say this in this connection. Supposing the Ministry goes ahead with liberal estimates, then the criticism would be that the Ministry is not able to spend the entire amount. Therefore, the Ministry is not competent. If, on the other hand, the estimates are low and, subsequently, the estimates are increased, it is said that it is defective planning. If the estimates were originally liberal or high, it would lead to wastage in expenditure. Once, it is known to the contractors that the estimates are liberal, naturally, the tendency would be to quote high figures. So, to avoid that, the estimates were low and subsequently when it came to the actual construction the figures had naturally to be increased. Either way the Ministry faces criticism.

Shri Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): So, they must be accurate.

Shri Jagannatha Rao: It is not possible. My hon friend, Shri Narasimhan, says that it should be accurate.

Leave alone the Steel Ministry, take the case of other Ministries. There are bound to be increase in the estimates. It is not possible to have accurate estimates with rising prices. There are so many factors that determine the rise in prices. So, to say that because there is rise in the cost structure of the steel plants, the Ministry has bungled or the Planning Commission had bungled is wrong. I quite appreciate the criticism levelled by my hon friend Shri Morarka who sits by my side. (Interruption)

It was said by my hon friend, Shri Vittal Rao, that the three steel plants should not have been located in the region of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa and that they should have been dispersed all over the country. It is not an industry which can be so dispersed all over the country. The States of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa are rich in

minerals. We have got metallurgical coal and all the required material for the development of the industry. I can call this area the Ruhr land of our country. The industrial policy of the Government is to disperse ancillary industries all over the country.

When I am on this point, I would like to say that when we think of the future expansion of this industry Government will do well to bear in mind the expansion of the existing units—not only the three units in the public sector but also the private sector units including the Mysore Iron and Steel Works. They should not jump at erecting the fourth plant at Bokharo or any other place.

In the report, it is said that the requirements of steel in the Third Five Year Plan period would be to the tune of 11 to 12 million tons. Even then, the results would be cheaper and quicker if the existing units are expanded.

Am Hon. Member. Give to both.

Shri Jagannatha Rao: And, then, if necessary, we can erect the fourth. The Mysore Iron and Steel Works at Bhadravati has been doing good work and I find from the report that if proper attention is paid to the development of this unit, the same attention that has been paid to the TISCO and IISCO, this will also fulfil the requirements of the country and will ease our economy.

Shri Dasappa: Hear, hear, thank you.

Shri Jagannatha Rao: My hon friend Shri Nath Pai had a word to say against the private sector in this industry. He referred specially to the TISCO and the IISCO. He said that Government have been rather charitable and more generous to these two firms. (Interruption) I am sorry to say that I do not agree with him because they have been in the field and they have agreed to develop their

capacity, to almost double it. So, they had to take loans from Government. They were paid advances from the Equalisation Fund, interest free. It is said that because interest was not charged, it is a case of favouritism.

But, I may point out this. If interest is charged, it will be included in the retention prices. It is only a question of accounting and not one of substance. Supposing interest is not charged, then, we are not favouring these two firms. If interest is charged, the retention prices will be increased. Either the Government should agree to an increase in the consumer prices or the contribution to the Equalisation Fund would be reduced. So, I do not think it is a point which goes against this Ministry in particular.

Regarding other points, I think Mr. Somani has effectively met Mr. Morarka's arguments.

Shri Morarka: Has he? Ask him.

Shri Jagannatha Rao: Therefore, I am not going to deal with them. With reference to Shri Nath Pai's argument that Indian consultants are not associated with the steel plants, I say that it would be a good thing if the Indian consultants are available and we have the benefit of their technical knowledge. But, unfortunately we have not got the technical personnel. So, we had to requisition or hire the services of foreign firms, the International Construction Co.

Again, this practice of associating consulting engineers with big projects is prevalent only in the United Kingdom and in the United States and not even in the continental countries. This International Construction Company is connected with the Indian steel industry and their services were requisitioned. We are glad to find that one Indian firm Messrs. M. N. Dastar and Company has come up. It is not possible to change the existing consultants in the middle of the programme; and the service of this new company can be availed of for the future expansion of the industry.

Attempts are also being made to train Indian personnel, Indian engineers and operators. They are being sent to foreign countries for training.

It has also been suggested by Shri Nath Pai—and I agree with him—that the designing section should be improved to a great extent. At present, we have a nucleus of a Designs Organisation already. The Assistant Technical Adviser at Rourkela, Mr. K. M. George is there in charge of 16 engineers; and, recently, 27 engineers have been recruited. It is proposed to build a good library and laboratory and we can be sure we can have the best advantage from this Designing section in the near future.

I would also like to say this. You will find that the Rourkela plant is said to cost us about Rs. 170 crores. Subsequently, we have learnt by experience; and the cost of the subsequent plants is much less. So, in this developing economy, there are bound to be trials and errors. We have to learn. So, we find that attempts are being made every time and every step is taken to see that money is not wasted but usefully spent. Any criticism that the estimates were not correctly made and that money is being wasted is very uncharitable and it should not be levelled here on the floor of this House. We should also appreciate the difficulties and the magnitude of the task that the Ministry has to face. So, I consider that, by and large, the achievements are remarkable.

श्री जगन्नाथ राव : इस में मिनिस्टर महोदय के बोलने की जरूरत तो सामान्य नहीं होती क्योंकि श्री जगन्नाथ राव उन का काम पूरा कर चुके हैं ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : तब एक ही तरफ से प्यारा होता रहे ?

श्री जगन्नाथ राव : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, तब, कोयला और इस्पात तीनों ही चीजें

[श्री बजराम सिंह]

ऐसी ही जोकि देश के औद्योगिकरण ही नहीं बल्कि नई सम्यता के निर्माण के लिये भी आवश्यक है। स्टील के सम्बन्ध में तदन में बहुत बढ़ा हो चुकी है। इसलिये मैं तेल के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। भारत में हम अभी तक सिर्फ .५ मिलियन टन तेल ही पैदा करते हैं जबकि दुनिया में ६०० मिलियन टन तेल पैदा होता है। अगर हम देखें तो हमारा तेल दुनिया के तेल का सिर्फ .०५ परसेन्ट ही होता है, जबकि हमारी आबादी दुनिया की आबादी की १७ है। अगर हम इस हिसाब से देखें तो हम कितनी ही कोशिश करते रहे हमारा देश उस उत्पादन को प्राप्त नहीं हो सकता जिस को हम चाहते हैं। यू० एस० ए० में एक व्यक्ति पर ६०० इम्पीरियल गैलन तेल खर्च होता है, कनाडा में ५०० इम्पीरियल गैलन तेल प्रति व्यक्ति पर खर्च होता है, इंग्लैण्ड में प्रति व्यक्ति पर १५० इम्पीरियल गैलन तेल खर्च होता है, फ्रांस में प्रति व्यक्ति पर ११० इम्पीरियल गैलन तेल खर्च होता है, लेकिन हिन्दुस्तान में प्रति व्यक्ति पर ३ गैलन के कम खर्च होता है। इस से पता लगता है कि हासाली अपने खर्च का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा हम बाहर से मगाते हैं लेकिन तेल के बारे में जितनी चिन्ता हमें होनी चाहिये उतनी चिन्ता हमें होती नहीं। इस पर बहुत विचार करने की जरूरत है। मैं स्वीकार करता हूँ कि भारत सरकार के ईंधन मंत्रालय की ओर से कुछ कार्य किया जा रहा है जिस में तेल के शोध का काम शामिल है और तेल की जाच पकड़ाल का काम शामिल है, और इस से आशा की जा सकती है कि भविष्य में हम कुछ तेल प्राप्त कर सकेंगे। लेकिन जिस ढंग के उसे किया जाना चाहिये, मैं महसूस करता हूँ कि उस ढंग से उसे किया नहीं जा रहा है। देश के तेल के थोक व्यापार, देश में तेल निकालने, तेल के बाहर से मंगाने, देश के शोधन और तेल के बेचने, इन सब

कामों में थोक व्यापार करीब २०० करोड़ रुपये का होता है। हमें यह जान कर धक्कबर्ह होगा कि इस २०० करोड़ रुपये का सारा का सारा व्यापार ५ विदेशी कम्पनियों के हाथ में है, जिन में से तीन विदेशी कम्पनियाँ एक भारतीय विदेशी कम्पनी की बेटी हैं और दो विदेशी कम्पनियाँ भारतीय कम्पनियाँ हैं। अभी हम ने प्रायल इंडिया लिमिटेड में अपने ३३ १/३ परसेन्ट शेयर ले कर कुछ प्रयत्न करना शुरू किया है। लेकिन मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि इस २०० करोड़ ६० का कुल व्यापार क्यों हिन्दुस्तान अपने हाथ में नहीं ले सकता है, राष्ट्रीय व्यापार में क्यों नहीं ले सकता है, इस पर बहुत गम्भीरता पूर्वक सोचने की जरूरत है। और इस पर विचार करते हुए मैं मिनिस्टर महोदय से एक प्रश्न करना चाहता हूँ। जब वे जवाब दे तो बतलायें कि इन कम्पनियों में याभी बरमा शेल कम्पनी और स्टैनडर्ड वैड्रम कम्पनी और जो दूसरी विदेशी कम्पनियाँ तेल की हैं, जिन का मैं ने जिक्र किया, उन में कितने ऐसे लोग हैं, जिनका धर्म-ग्रन्थ उन के ऊंची तनक्वाह पाने वाले, भत्ता पाने वाले अफसरों से है, जिन का सीधा सम्बन्ध कि गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया के नीति बनाने वाले अफसरों से है, जो उन के नातेदार या रिश्तेदार हैं। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि चूँकि हमारे यहाँ की कम्पनियों के अन्दर काम करने वाले अफसरों के बहुत से नजदीकी लोग गवर्नमेंट आफ इंडिया में हैं, इसलिये वे कभी इस बात को सोच नहीं सकते कि इन कम्पनियों से इस काम को ले लिया जाये। हो सकता है कि गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से यह जवाब दिया जाये कि इन कम्पनियों को लेने के लिये हमारे पास धन की व्यवस्था नहीं है, पूँजी की व्यवस्था नहीं है, इसलिये हम इन कम्पनियों को नहीं ले सकते, जब तक हम अपने देश में इतनी पूँजी का निर्माण न कर सकें जितने में कि हम इन कम्पनियों

को से सफ़े और दूसरी चीज़ों का विकास भी कर सकें तब तक हम इन कम्पनियों का राष्ट्रीयकरण करें या इन का कंट्रोल अपने हाथ में ले लें, वह मुनासिब नहीं होगा। लेकिन मैं यहां पर यह कह देना चाहता हूँ कि कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है कि हम हमेशा के लिये जो व्यवस्थायें हम बना चुके हैं उन्हीं पर चलते रहें। अब समय आ गया है जब हमें अपने प्रीविलीजेशन के प्रस्ताव पर पुनर्विचार करना होगा। हमें सोचना पड़ेगा कि किसी प्रकार के परिवर्तन की उस में आवश्यकता है या नहीं। इंडस्ट्रियल पालिसी के रेजोल्यूशन में ही नहीं, यदि हमें अपने संविधान में भी कोई परिवर्तन करने की आवश्यकता पड़े तो उसे हमें करना चाहिये और यह करना चाहिये कि देश में यदि किसी की पूंजी जगी हुई है तो राष्ट्रीय हित में हम उसे बिना मुआवजा दिये हुए ले सकें। मैं प्रार्थना करना चाहता हूँ कि तेल का २०० करोड़ रु० का थोक व्यापार विदेशी कम्पनियों ने अपने हाथ में ले रक्खा है यदि हमें उसे राजकीय हाथ में लेना है और यदि उस के हिसाब से हमारे पास पूंजी की व्यवस्था बड़ी है, तो हम को अपने संविधान में परिवर्तन कर के इस को अपने हाथ में ले लेना चाहिये। बरना कोई ऐसा वक्त आ सकता है जबकि हमारी वैदेशिक नीति इन तेल कम्पनियों के देशों की पसन्दगी की न रहे, ब्रिटेन और अमेरिका की पसन्दगी की न रहे और लड़ाई छिड़ जाय, उस समय हमारे देश की सारी की सारी भी अर्थ व्यवस्था है, खास तौर पर जो हमारी सुरक्षा व्यवस्था है, वह कमजोर की जा सकती है क्योंकि जो तेल हम प्राप्त करते हैं उस का व्यापार इन विदेशी कम्पनियों के हाथ में है। मैं सरकार को चेतावनी देना चाहूंगा इस सम्बन्ध में कि हमें बहुत ही चिन्तित होवे की जरूरत है, न सिर्फ़ इस सम्बन्ध में कि हम अपने देश में तेल की खोज प्रारम्भ करें, तेल की खोज प्रारम्भ करें बल्कि इस सम्बन्ध में भी कि

जो हमारे तेल का वितरण होता है वह भी इन कम्पनियों के हाथ में है और हम उसे अपने हाथ में क्यों नहीं ले सकते। मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में जल्दी करने की कोशिश की जायेगी और यह विचार किता जायेगा कि हम कौन से ऐसे कदम उठा सकते हैं जिन से कि पूंजी दे कर या बिना पूंजी दिये हुए हम इन विदेशी कम्पनियों को अपने हाथ में ले सकें, और खास कर जो तेल का वितरण है उस में कोई दिक्कत न आये।

बड़ी बड़ी बातें की जाती हैं। कहा जाता है कि हमारे यहां विशेषज्ञों की कमी है, टेकनिकल एक्सपर्ट्स की कमी है, हम टेकनालोजी नहीं जानते हैं, चाहे इस्पात की टेकनालोजी हो चाहे तेल की टेकनालोजी हो चाहे खान की टेकनालोजी हो, हम किसी तरह की टेकनालोजी नहीं जानते हैं। कल से इस सदन में चर्चा हो रही है इस मंत्रालय की मांगों पर। उस में बार बार यह बात कही जाती है कि चूंकि हम को विशेषज्ञ विदेशों से लाने होते हैं इसलिये इस काम में देरी हो जाती है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि यह एक बहुत पुरानी दलील है। क्या यह हम जानते नहीं हैं, कि यदि एक बच्चे के लिये यह कहा जाय कि जब तक वह तैरना नहीं सीख जाता तब तक हम उसे पानी में नहीं छोड़ सकते, तब तक वह कभी तैरना सीख नहीं सकता। हमारे यहां विदेशियों की तरफ से हमेशा यह दलील दी जाती थी कि हिन्दुस्तानियों को भ्रम नहीं है कि वह अपना शासन चला सकें और आज भी बड़ी दलील दी जाती है कि चूंकि हमारे पास एक्सपर्ट्स नहीं हैं इसलिये हम इन चीज़ों को चला नहीं सकते हैं, चाहे कोयले की टेकनालोजी हो चाहे तेल की चाहे स्टील की मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यदि हम इन टेकनालोजी के विशेषज्ञों को ले कर ही इन कामों को करते रहें तो हम कभी भी इस मामले में आत्मनिर्भर नहीं हो सकते।

(श्री. राजराज सिंह)

इसलिये जहाँ तक विशेषज्ञों के प्रशिक्षित होने का सवाल आता है हम इस बात की कोशिश करें कि विदेशों में जा कर हमारे लोग शिक्षा प्राप्त करें, लेकिन अपने देश में जहाँ तक इन कामों के लिये विदेशी विशेषज्ञों की सेवायें लेने का प्रश्न उठता है, भविष्य के लिये हमें निश्चय करना चाहिये कि किसी भी ऐसे महत्वपूर्ण काम में चाहे वह स्टील का निर्माण हो, चाहे तेल की खोज या तेल की शोध हो, या खानों के सम्बन्ध में, हम किसी भी विदेशी को एम्प्लॉय की हैसियत से नहीं रखेंगे। यह तो मैं ने तेल के काम के बारे में एक छोटी सी बात कही।

इस के साथ साथ तेल की जो कीमत है उस के सम्बन्ध में भी कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। अभी २० मई, १९५८ को तेल उद्योग को १० करोड़ ६० की राहत दी गई। लेकिन उस से उपभोक्ता को क्या लाभ हुआ? इस को देखने की आवश्यकता है। आज विदेशों से ११० करोड़ रुपये का तेल आयात होता है। आज जनता को इस बात को साफ तौर से बताने की जरूरत है कि इन कम्पनियों को इस से कितना मुनाफा मिल जाता है। अगर उस मुनाफे को कायम रखने की जरूरत है तो हम उस को कायम रख सकते हैं लेकिन यदि उस को कायम रखने की जरूरत नहीं है हम को सोचना चाहिये कि हम उसे कैसे कम कर सकते हैं। ऐसे ऐसे मसलों में जिन में एक एक साल में अरबों रुपये का मुनाफा कमा लिया जाता है, उन को इस तरह से टालते रहना कि टेरिफ कमिशन अभी अपनी रिपोर्ट नहीं दे सका है और जब वह आ जाय तो फिर कहा जाय कि उस पर बहुत गम्भीरतापूर्वक विचार हो रहा है और वह विचार बार महीने तक चलता रहे जिस में कि करोड़ों रुपये बाहर बचाया करता है, यह उचित नहीं है। मैं

निश्चयन करूँगा कि जहाँ तक तेल की कीमत को कम करने का सवाल है, उसे बिना किसी विवकल के कम किया जा सकता है। इस का निर्णय जल्दी किया जाना चाहिये ताकि हमारे देश के रहने वाले को, देश के उपभोक्ताओं को सास तौर पर राहत दी जा सके। अभी तक जो १० करोड़ ६० की राहत तेल कम्पनियों को दी गई उस के जरिये उपभोक्ताओं को कोई राहत नहीं दी गई, सरकार ने ही दूसरे तरीकों से उसे फिर ले लिया है। मैं मानता हूँ कि हिन्दुस्तान एक पिछड़ा हुआ देश है और सरकार को देश के विकास के लिये पैसे की बहुत जरूरत है और १० करोड़ ६० उस ने ले लिया तो कोई बात नहीं। लेकिन भविष्य में जो राहत दी जायगी तो मैं आशा करता हूँ कि वह उपभोक्ताओं को देने की कोशिश की जायेगी। हम को आज यह देखना है कि आखिर उपभोक्ताओं में आज इस तरह की सामर्थ्य की है या नहीं कि वह आज के जमाने में इन चीजों को खरीद सकें। अगर वे नहीं खरीद सकते तो यह कोशिश की जानी चाहिये कि उन को कम कीमत पर चीजों को दिया जाय। जितनी कम कीमत पर चीजों को दिया जा सके उतनी पर देना चाहिये। मैं आशा करता हूँ कि तेल की कीमत के बारे में जब सरकार की हिस्सेदारी है तो उस में ऐसा निर्णय किया जायेगा ताकि तेल के उपभोक्ताओं को ज्यादा राहत मिल सके।

इस के साथ ही कोयले का भी प्रश्न उठता है। कोयले के सम्बन्ध में भी एक बहुत ही आश्चर्य की बात है कि हम कोशिश तो कर रहे हैं इसे राजकीय क्षेत्र में लाने की, लेकिन जो लोग प्राइवेट क्षेत्र में हैं वह इस नीति पर किस तरह चल रहे हैं, इस में कितना मुनाफा उन के हाथ कमाया जा रहा है, हमें ऐसा लगता है कि

सरकार की ओर से इस तरह ध्यान देने की कोई चिन्ता नहीं है।

यह हमारा इन्स्ट्रुमल पालिसी रेबो-लूशन डार-बार बीच में घटका दिया जाता है क्योंकि हम ने मिक्सड एकोनोमी मानी हुई है, मिश्रित अर्थव्यवस्था की हमारी घोषणा है अर्थात् मिश्रित अर्थव्यवस्था हम इस देश में चलायेंगे और इसलिये जहाँ पर भी कोई प्राइवेट इन्स्ट्रुज चल रही है उन्हें खेदना नहीं चाहते। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि यदि मिक्सड एकोनोमी मिश्रित अर्थव्यवस्था का यह अर्थ है कि जो लोग अब तक शोषण करते रहे हैं उन्हें शोषण करते रहने के लिये एक पट्टा सा लिख दिया जायगा तब मैं चाहूँगा कि ऐसी मिश्रित अर्थव्यवस्था के बारे में जितनी जल्दी पुनर्बिचार कर के उसे खत्म करने का विचार कर लिया जाय, अच्छा होगा।

कोल के सम्बन्ध में मुझे यह निवेदन करना है कि इस काम में जो हमारे प्राइवेट उद्योगपति लगे हुए हैं उन की कोशिश यह रहती है कि उन की अपनी खानों का कोयला उठ जाय और वह अपना कोयला जो उन की एक मोनोपली अर्थात् निहित स्वार्थ लगे हुए हैं उन को कोयला पहुँचाने की इस तरह से कोशिश करते हैं कि दूसरे जो छोटे-छोटे धादमी इस इन्स्ट्री में लगे होते हैं वे वगैर कोयले के भूखे मर जायें।

अब हमारे यहाँ के जो कोल कंट्रोलर हैं और जिन पर कि कोयला डिस्ट्रिब्यूट करने की जिम्मेदारी है उन्होंने कोल के डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन के लिये ब्लॉक रेट का सिस्टम रखा हुआ है जिस के कि मुताबिक ७० या ७५ गाडिया या पूरी कोयले की मालगाडी जो दी जायगी वह किन्हीं सास-सास उद्योग में लगे लोगों को दी जायगी और इस ब्लॉक रेट डिस्ट्रिब्यूशन का नतीजा यह होता है कि जो छोटे-छोटे कोयले के उद्योग हैं उन को

कोयला नहीं मिल पाता। इन मोनोपली का नतीजा यह हो रहा है कि उन की खान उधर है और इधर उन का उद्योग चल रहा है और सरकार से मिल कर ब्लॉक रेट सिस्टम को बिना पर पूरी गाडी कोयले की उन को दे दी जाती है। अब इस के दो नतीजे निकलते हैं। छोटी खान वालों का कोयला उठ नहीं पाता है और जो छोटे उद्योग वाले हैं उन को कोयला मिल नहीं पाता है और इस तरीके से दोनों का नुकसान होता है। मैं निवेदन करूँगा कि सरकार को इस मोनोपली को खत्म करने के लिये गम्भीरता से विचार करना चाहिये और सरकार को यह देखना चाहिये कि कहीं हमारी इस नीति की वजह से जो हमारा मुख्य औद्योगीकरण का उद्देश्य है उस को तो कोई हानि नहीं पहुँच रही है। जैसे मैं ने आप को बतलाया इस ब्लॉक रेट सिस्टम की वजह से छोटे उद्योगों को नुकसान पहुँचता है और छोटी खानों के मालिकों का कोयला उठ नहीं पाता है। इसके लिये कह दिया जाता है कि हमें स्पीड से ले जाने की जरूरत है और अगर हम ने १० गाडिया एक स्टेसन के लिये और १० गाडिया कोयले की दूसरे स्टेसन के लिये कर दी तो वह स्पीड से नहीं पहुँच पायेगा और इस तेजी के लिये ही हम यह ब्लॉक सिस्टम लागू किये हुए हैं। मैं कहना चाहूँगा कि इस पर जरा गम्भीरता से विचार किया जाना चाहिये कि क्या उस के पीछे यह भावना नहीं है कि कुछ निहित स्वार्थों को जोकि इस उद्योग में लगे हुए हैं उन को और अधिक पनपाने के लिये और उन को ज्यादा से ज्यादा मुनाफ़ा मिलवाने के लिये इस चीज और सिस्टम को लागू किया गया है।

अन्त में चूँकि श्रीमान् आपने घटी बजा दी है इसलिये मैं सिर्फ बहुत संक्षेप में स्टील के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। स्टील के बारे में सदन में बहुत चर्चा हो चुकी है। मैं सरकार से कहूँगा कि उसके सम्बन्ध में जो

[श्री बबराज सिंह]

ऐस्टिमेट्स कमेटी की रिपोर्ट है, उसको बहुत ही गम्भीरतापूर्वक लेने की जरूरत है।

यहां पर कई माननीय सदस्यों से चर्चा की कि सन् १९५४ में इन स्टील प्लांट्स के प्राजेक्ट्स को हम उसी तरह लागू नहीं कर सकते थे जैसे कि सन् १९११ में महात्मा गांधी हिन्दुस्तान में कोई सत्याग्रह आन्दोलन नहीं खेड़ सकते थे। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि स्टील प्लांट्स को सन् १९५४ में लागू न करने का उसका मुकाबिला महात्मा गांधी सन् १९११ में हिन्दुस्तान में असहयोग आन्दोलन नहीं खेड़ सकते थे, उससे मुकाबिला करना उचित नहीं है। इस पर बहुत ही गम्भीरता से विचार करने की जरूरत है। ऐस्टिमेट्स कमेटी ने स्टील प्लांट्स के बारे में चर्चा की है कि हम करोड़ों रुपये बचा सकते हैं और हम देश का औद्योगीकरण बहुत आगे बढ़ा सकते हैं। जो हो गया वह तो हो गया लेकिन कम से कम आगे के लिये जरूर उससे सबक लेना चाहिये। मिनिस्टर महोदय ने कल अपने भाषण में यह कहा था कि हम आगे सीखने की कोशिश करेंगे लेकिन जिस गति से चला जा रहा है उससे तो ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि आगे भी सीखने और सबक लेने की कोशिश नहीं की जा रही है। जो गलतियां हम से हो गई हैं उनके लिये सफाई देना हमें चाहिए। मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि इस तरह का कोई कंट्रैक्ट करना यह हमारे देश की प्रतिष्ठा के अनुकूल नहीं और यह उसका अपमान है। इस तरह से अगर हम स्टील प्लांट बनाते हैं जो मैं कहना चाहूंगा कि यह हमारे देश को आगे बढ़ाने में समर्थ नहीं हो सकेंगे। इसलिये मेरा निवेदन है कि जहां तक यह स्टील प्लांट्स का तबाह आता है उसके सम्बन्ध में

ऐस्टिमेट्स कमेटी की जो रिपोर्ट है उस पर बहुत गम्भीरता से विचार करने की जरूरत है और सिर्फ यह कह देने से काम नहीं चलेगा कि जो गलतियां हो गई हैं वे आगे सुधारी जा सकती हैं, इससे काम नहीं चलेगा।

मैं भन्त में एक नीति सम्बन्धी बात कह कर समाप्त करूँगा . . .

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : एक प्रश्नित बात आप पहले भी कह चुके हैं।

श्री बबराज सिंह : बस केवल भाष मिनिट में मैं समाप्त कर दूँगा।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : प्रश्ना जस्टी ब्रम्स कीजिये।

श्री बबराज सिंह : मेरा निवेदन है कि स्टील, ईंधन और खान यह तीन अव्यक्त उपयोगी और महत्वपूर्ण आइटम्स हैं और सरकार को इसके लिये सोचना चाहिये कि हम अपने संविधान में परिवर्तन करके फिर देखें कि उनका हम किस तरीके से राष्ट्रीयकरण कर सकते हैं और किस तरह से देश को उन्नति के मार्ग पर आगे ले जा सकते हैं। आज भी खानों में सिर्फ ५ परसेंट की रायल्टी ली जा रही है और यह ५ परसेंट की रायल्टी पिछले ५० साल से चली आ रही है जब कि इस रायल्टी को १०, १५ या २५ परसेंट तक किया जा सकता था और उस में नुकसान होने की कोई बात नहीं है लेकिन इस काम में हम कुछ व्यक्तिगत लोगों का फायदा करने की बात सोचते हैं जो कि ठीक नहीं है। मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इस पर गम्भीरतापूर्वक विचार किया जायगा।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, may I request the hon. Minister to say something about the drilling operations in

Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur and Kangra Districts?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is that a speech without getting any tune?

Shri D. C. Sharma: I do not want any time.

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, it was not my intention to intervene in this debate, more especially because my senior colleague very elaborately stated in his opening speech most of the things that I would have stated before this House as factual statements. My anxiety was to give most of the time to the Members of the House, because we would like to benefit by their advice and all legitimate criticism. I, therefore, was almost determined not to speak.

An Hon. Member: But we were anxious.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: But as I received.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But that anxiety should not be over-emphasised.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: requests from some of my hon friends and they created an opportunity for me also, therefore, perhaps, I could not resist and I stood up.

I will very briefly recapitulate, some of the important aspects of our functioning and also the policy underlying our functioning which I have had the honour of repeating in this House on several occasions either when I got the opportunity of answering questions or in other ways. I have not much to say, and that was also one of the causes of my intending not to speak.

Now, I will take up first some of the questions regarding our mineral development programme, schemes and

policies. The Geological Survey of India and the Indian Bureau of Mines have expanded last year considerably and we have put forward proposals for further expansion. I will only refer to one important aspect which I would like the hon Members to note, because that is the background on which we have put forward our proposals. We have to produce mineral ores either through the private sector or the public sector in order to sell in the market, and mineral ores can either be exported and sold in the market or processed in the country. It is no use producing minerals and just keeping them as dumps on the mines. Therefore, the entire programme beginning from geological mapping up to the export stage has to be considered in an integrated and overall system. If we know that we will not be able to sell, say, about 10 million tons of the total mineral ore that we produce as a result of spending millions of rupees right from the processing and surveying up to mining, then the entire money will be locked up in those big dumps. Therefore, we always produce a programme in relation to the production and in relation to the selling aspect, and we do not spend more money in surveying either through the Geological Survey or through the Indian Bureau of Mines, for intensive investigations. We can prove a lot of mineral ores. Perhaps we have proved enough ore which is lying buried and which is sufficient for our tempo and which has almost increased to double or more than double, and it can last for many decades to come, if not, perhaps in some cases, for a century. Therefore, we have invested enough money in all those programmes. Gradually, there is also a programme of discovering what is the extent of our mineral resources. So, our programme is always put forward before the House for the final financial and administrative sanctions in proportion to the work that we can undertake.

18 hrs.

There is one difficulty also which has to be noted by the House. Even

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

though we produce our ores in greater quantities than in the past, they have to be transported, to the ports or loaded in ships, and there also our capacities are limited. Whether it is the road or the rail, or harbour facilities, we very carefully prepare our programme from the point of view of the capabilities of different departments of the Government to do their job in order to clear and sell our products. Another important factor which has to be borne in mind is that throughout the world there is depression in the demand for mineral ores. There are various reasons adduced for it. Perhaps the installed capacity in various countries has consumed too much capital. They have no capital perhaps to purchase the raw material or they do not purchase the ores as a policy. So, there is the dump, and the depression in the demand, either in manganese or anything else. We have, therefore, to be very careful in preparing our production programme with a view to see that at this critical time, when we are short of foreign exchange and other resources such as technical personnel, etc., we do not duplicate or waste our energy and create wealth not with a view to earning more money but to just keep it as dump. I have said this merely as an explanation because several hon. Members wanted the Government to step up its programme of survey and increase the tempo of its work. I very well appreciate the anxiety on the part of the hon. Members, and, therefore, by way of explanation, I have submitted that all these considerations are very carefully taken into account and our programme is as best or as vast as should be under the circumstances.

It is a fact, however, that we do not get enough equipment and technical personnel even to spread and complete the programme that we have chalked out. The difficulties are inherent in the situation and we have got to put up with all our limitations and do the work within the limitations that are allowed to us.

Some hon. Members made out a point that our work in the South should be increased and that its tempo is not enough. I have a long list before me and if I narrate it, it will take much time of the House. That list will show that we are already very active both in the North and in the South, in Assam as well as in the western part of the country, where our programme has been spread over in a very healthy fashion.

As the House is aware, we have attached very great importance to the production of coal. Therefore, a good part of our energy is now diverted to proving the quality and quantity of coal reserves in our country. Thereafter, we have been paying special attention to proving the quantity of non-ferrous metals of the country, because we are spending a lot of money in the import of copper and sulphur and some other non-ferrous metals like lead and zinc. Therefore, the Ministry has undertaken in a special way to prove the quantities of copper, lead and zinc and also sulphur, besides iron and coal, manganese and mica. We have enough reserves of manganese, iron, coal and mica, but even then we had to divert enough energy to prove the quantities, and we have to catch up with the demand for our steel plants so far as the proving of coal, iron and limestone are concerned. It is with this view that most of our drills and our technical personnel are engaged in work in Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, and in some other areas. We have now planned a programme for further surveys and investigations in Kashmir, Punjab, Andhra, Mysore and in certain parts of Kerala State. I assure the House that during the next year, our quantities of important mineral ores to which we are attaching great importance will have been increased sufficiently.

I would like briefly to touch some of the important aspects of the oil industry and oil business. I would first take up the distribution of oil products. My colleague, the hon.

friend, just reminded me of the export of iron ore and I forgot about it. We have a heavy programme to produce iron ore through our own department and also to export it especially to Japan under a new agreement. The operation is to start sometime in 1964, and if possible earlier. For this purpose, a Corporation has been created in the Ministry and preparations are going on fast to see that we start producing iron ore from Kiribur area and carry on the obligations which have been put on us as a result of the agreement which has been effected between us and the Japanese authorities.

I was referring to the distribution aspect of petroleum products. I only wish to state that it is a matter of time, but the Government decision is firm; they are going to set up a distributing company under their own control. The distribution of petroleum products is a very important programme for the country.

Shri D. C. Sharma. When will this happen?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is important and its significance is already very well-known to the House, and I would not like to take up the time of the House to describe in great detail as to on what lines and why it should be done and all that. It is enough for me to say just now that this distribution work will be undertaken by us in the public sector and before our two refineries go on stream, we hope we shall be in a good position to know all about this technique of distribution and we shall try our level best to do this work in competition with all those concerns which are existing here and which are undoubtedly rendering us a lot of help in the task of distribution. Obviously, if it would not have meant a lot of profit and be advantageous to the nation, we would not have taken this decision in principle to start this work in the public sector. As to how much will be done, what will be the size of the company, the size of the work we are going to handle through the company, is a matter which is still under the consideration of Government and I cannot commit myself or Government to anyone of these details.

Another question which is nearly connected with this is the question of the price of petroleum products. As the House is aware, sometime back Government and all the important distributing companies engaged in the task of selling petroleum products to us examined this question of revising the present formula which guides us in deciding upon the prices of petroleum products. This formula was handed down to us sometime back and we considered that they had obtained a little more than what they would have obtained. As an *ad hoc* measure, the House remembers that the Government and the foreign companies agreed to reduce the prices which gave us an advantage of about Rs 10 crores, by way of reduction in the totality of prices of petroleum products. That was an *ad hoc* arrangement on the understanding that if, after a new formula is evolved after due deliberation, negotiation and consideration of all the aspects, we find that we owe them some money, then we will deduct it from this Rs 10 crores that we have got and we will credit their account to that extent. But if we find, as a result of this new formula that we will be negotiating very soon, that we have to get something more, an additional saving will be surrendered to us out of the total sum that accrues after the sale of petroleum products.

As my senior Minister announced yesterday the committee which was examining the costing, set up by Government, has submitted its findings and they are now busy examining them. My first impression is that they are likely to get substantial further saving. It may not be possible for me at all to say as to what would be the precise quantum. We hope that after discussions with different companies in this matter, we shall succeed in negotiating a new formula which will and should give us a further additional sum over and above the Rs 10 crores that we have already got from them last year as a result of negotiations.

Lastly, I will very briefly deal with the programme of oil exploration and the policy. I will say nothing about the policy, which is known to the House. I

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

have nothing to report to the House except that we are trying our best to find oil in this country. I cannot take an optimistic view of the whole thing, because one does not know when the whole picture becomes depressive. It is a very tricky business. While you go on with your technical assessment of finding more and more oil, suddenly one fine morning, thousands of feet below something is known, which completely changes the picture. Our technicians, geologists, geo-physicists and drillers are putting their best efforts; some of the finest people are working in this oil exploration programme and they have succeeded in doing much more than what in this small time any other efficient team could have done. Beyond that, I cannot hold out any promise, except, as you know, we have discovered oil in Cambay and we want to prove that oil very soon. On some last occasion, I made almost a promise that by the last months of this year, we should be able to prove the quantity of oil in Cambay. In fact, that programme was built on the expectation that I would get more drills in the month of March, which I have successfully negotiated with the Rumanian Government, who had very kindly agreed to sell two drills to us in this difficult time when it is almost impossible to get drills from anywhere. The promise was made and we were expecting the drills to arrive here during the last days of March. But suddenly I find that they will not be able to sell those drills according to that programme. It might be delayed by one month, two months or three months. But so far we are told that the delay will not be more than 3 months. I am taking the House into confidence just to unburden my own difficulties and to show what difficulties sometimes we have to face.

We have completed plan to deliver all drilling equipments from the ports to the Cambay oil field. We have made a lot of preparations so that the moment the drills arrive at the port, we shall be able to send them in 10

or 15 days to the oil field and in another 15 days start drilling third, fourth, fifth wells, etc. We do not know for how long we are going to be held up in this process. Nevertheless, it will be our effort to see that we do not surrender the money that we have already asked you and we go ahead with the programme, according to the schedule that we have laid down just now.

In regard to the policy, as I said, it is well-known. In recent weeks, the Government of India have been approached directly or indirectly by important, able, experienced oil explorers in the world with a view to re-examine our policy and to see whether a fresh appraisal could be given to this task of oil exploration associating some of them in discovering oil in our country. I have said it many times and I repeat it again today: We have no doctrinaire approach in this matter. It is first and last a business proposition. So long as we see that the business proposition made to us for oil exploration or for the discovery of oil is not in the interests of the country and of the people, it will be impossible for this Government to accept that. But if proposals are made to us which will discover oil for us and give legitimate benefit to the parties that discover the oil, by all means we are prepared to sit down with them and consider any proposal that they make. So far as our present conditions are concerned, we are going ahead with our exploration programme, going ahead rather very fastly, and there is no reason to believe, so far as I can see in the technical sense, that we shall not soon get some sizeable quantity of oil produced by our own efforts.

I will not take more than 5-6 minutes now in dealing with some of the points raised by Shri Morarka yesterday. Almost a mild stir was created yesterday when my friend, Shri Morarka, stood up and criticised the Government for having made certain mistakes which have resulted in

the delay of our programme of installing the refinery in Assam immediately thereafter, my hon friend, Shri Feroze Gandhi, stood up and said something by way of explanation

Shri Morarka: Demanded explanation

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I take it that the remarks made by my friend, Shri Morarka, and the explanations offered by Shri Feroze Gandhi, on behalf of the Refinery Corporation, were motivated by entirely two different reasons. I would only refer to my friend, Shri Morarka, whose objective is not quite clear to me. I have the honour to belong to the same party as Shri Morarka, and I take it that the criticism offered by my friend of my party is always constructive and is appreciative of this big fact that we are nurturing a child under our care which is just a child, the public sector, as against the experience of the private sector, which is perhaps a century old. Now, I can quite legitimately understand the criticism of the Opposition. Their job is to ruthlessly criticize.

Shri Nath Pai: Ruthlessly!

Shri K. D. Malaviya: to mercilessly criticize. Even though it becomes morose even then it is our duty to listen to it and correct ourselves, because it is their legitimate duty in this House to criticize us as I said, mercilessly. I thought that I, as a member of the party which is ruling, have something more, a greater responsibility, some additional responsibility than the responsibility of the Opposition. But I would not like to go into it except to say that I always expect constructive suggestions from the members of my party with a view to correcting myself, with a view to modifying the policy of the Government with the help of the criticism. Frankly speaking, I do not find any such help from the speech made by my friend, Shri Morarka. I would like to read that portion and then to comment upon it, as I understand it.

8 (A) L.S.D.—7

Shri Braj Raj Singh: He may belong to the ginger group.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The ginger group is likely to inspire the Members of the Opposition also.

Shri Morarka says

"Sir I want to say only one thing more and that is about the oil refineries. I understand that the site for this oil refinery which was selected initially has been changed now. That has cost us some money."

That is right.

"The entire thing has to come again from Rumania."

Now, I do not know what, he thinks, has to come from Rumania as a result of change of site.

Shri Morarka: A team of experts.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Nothing has come so far nothing whatsoever.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I inform the Minister that the Rumanian experts returned to Rumania and they had to be called back to select the site again? That is what he meant.

Shri Morarka: Yes, that is what I meant.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I would not like to join issue with my friend Shri Feroze Gandhi. I and he have to learn from each other because we are engaged in a common pursuit, and he has to shoulder the burden of putting up the refinery in Gauhati. I, therefore, refuse to join issue with Shri Feroze Gandhi.

I beg of you to note that there are certain aspects in this, and those are some important aspects to be known, so far as the selection is concerned. A number of Rumanian experts came here with a view to recommending a suitable site for our refinery. They came here, they made some suggestions, we rejected that suggestion, they went back. After that, they had to come here again for a large number of items of the programme. It

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was not only again for a fresh appraisal or a fresh selection of site. Even if that were so, there is no harm in it. I submit that they had to be brought here, invited here, for a large number of things—for discussing the designs, for designing the loading and reloading programmes and many things. It was in our schedule to have them called and so long as the refinery programme is not completed, we have again to invite some of them, as and when required. But, as I said, it is only incidentally that the selection of site question came in again. It is not only for this purpose. Even if it was only for this purpose, I do not personally consider there was any harm in it.

Now, why did we not select the site finally when it was recommended by the expert committee? Indeed, the expert committee, as was made out by my colleague, Shri Feroze Gandhi was one of the best expert committees which was asked to make recommendations to the Government. The special selection committee was to recommend the site. For that they saw about 4 or 5 places and in order of priority they made their recommendations. Silghat came on the top of this priority. Technologically, I think Silghat was the best place for putting up a refinery. There is nothing which is wrong in the claim of the expert committee that Silghat is the most suitable place, so far as technological matters are concerned. Now, there are a large number of technical matters—frequency of earthquake, strength of the soil and all that. It is for the Government to take some considerations, other than technical considerations, the first being economic consideration. Therefore the decision of the technical expert committee, the ablest expert committee that could be secured in the country, was changed. I submit it was changed by me in my capacity as the Minister in the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel, in consultation with my own people who were not technicians—I want to say

that too to my friends—but administrators and economists. And they know why a particular site has to be selected, what are the limited circumstances in which it is not to be selected and so on. I do not want to go into the details. But I want to take the House into confidence why we rejected Silghat. According to our agreement with the Assam Oil Company they are required to build up a pipeline from Naharkatya right up to Barauni. That pipeline has to be laid by them. I would like to read out the relevant paragraph in this connection—it is paragraph 12 on page 6 of the agreement. I would only like to read the relevant portion of it. Then I will say what I have to say. It says:

"The Company shall arrange for the construction....".

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Which company?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Burma Oil Company.

"The Company shall arrange for the construction in two stages of operation of a pipeline....".

I am sorry, it is Oil India Limited.

".....or such other related facilities as the Company shall consider necessary for the transport of the crude oil to be produced up to Barauni. The first such stage shall consist of the construction of a pipeline or other related facilities as aforesaid to an intermediate locality to be approved by the Government of India and the Burma Oil Company and the second stage shall consist of the construction of a pipeline or other related facilities as aforesaid from such intermediate locality to Barauni. The timing of the commencement of each of the two stages shall be determined by the Government of India. The method of raising and providing the finance at both stages

of construction and the operation and use of the said pipeline and other related facilities shall be as agreed to between the Burma Oil Company and the Government of India; it being understood that this clause does not impose any obligation upon either party to provide the finance for any of the above purposes from their own resources save to the extent "

Now, pleased remember this

".. it being understood that this clause does not impose any obligation upon either party to provide the finance for any of the above purposes from their own resources save to the extent that the Burma Oil Company will make a loan to the company in the United Kingdom on terms to be agreed between the Burmah Oil Company and the Government of India of a sufficient sum in sterling to meet the foreign exchange requirements of the cost of the said first stage of the construction of the said pipeline and other related facilities"

Now, it was for us, under this agreement, to get the cost of construction of the pipelines from Naharkatiya oil field to as far west as we could possibly get it from them Silghat is about 80 or 90 miles east of Gauhati. Through the exchange of letters we agreed that the refinery will be located near about Gauhati and they agreed to advance a sum of ten million sterling to us. If we had accepted Silghat—it is technologically quite a feasible place—then obviously the sum involved in construction of such a pipeline would be far less than ten million sterling and the remainder of the obligation of constructing the pipeline from Silghat to Barauni would have to borne by us and we would have faced the task of finding that extra sum of money which was already agreed upon between us and the Burmah Oil Company as a loan to be given to us.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: How much would that come to?

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: What, according to the agreement, would have been the extra cost between Silghat and Barauni?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is difficult to give any estimate, but it could be about Rs 3 to Rs 4 crores

Now, the difficulty facing us was that we were in an extremely difficult position to find resources for our oil programme. The House knows that this Ministry is finding it very difficult because we are in a new field. Whether it is oil exploration or whether it is laying a pipeline or putting up a refinery, we have to find out money either by selling our goods or by other arrangements or, what you call, healthy manipulations. Here, we successfully negotiated for a loan of ten million sterling. If we had gone right on the Naharkatiya oil fields, it would have suited mostly the Assam Oil Company because they were not obliged to spend a single pre on the pipeline. That is why I said

Shri Naushir Bharucha: How many millions could you have saved?

Shri Nath Pai: Rs 4 crores, he said.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Rs 4 crores. Is that too much? I understand that if they had followed the recommendations of the Expert Committee, probably they would have got four million sterling less. That is about all. In rejecting the recommendations of the expert committee you suffer continuous disadvantages on account of the less favourable location right through your life

Shri K. D. Malaviya: That is the presumption of my hon friend that is, that we have selected a wrong place. I never presumed that I only said that technologically it is a feasible and proper place for having put up the refinery, but it is not always the technical consideration. It is a ques-

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

tion of finding resources for it, doing it within or near about the schedule and then taking other matters like security and all these questions into consideration. If I could have managed to get this first stage refinery, say at Kukrajhar or Jogigopa which was quite a nice place for the Expert Committee to recommend, I would have surely accepted it but we could not do it because the Railways could not give us a line. The sums allotted to the Railways did not include a new extension of line to Kukrajhar or Jogigopa which were the places recommended by them. We were simply refused and there was no help coming to us because the Railways would not have any money to spend except a very nominal sum and that the sum which was promised to us should be utilised to the fullest extent.

Now, we should always remember that we have to get the Barauni refinery also in time and we have to have a pipeline also up to Barauni. We have to find out money for the pipeline right from the first refinery up to Barauni. I have to work under these difficult circumstances. Therefore, I am quite sure that the Refinery Corporation has had nothing to do with this delay. I admit that there had been some delay. The mistake is mine or whatever it is. We have to face the situation. I want to say that the Refinery Corporation has had nothing to do with this delay. They are completely out of it. Left to them, they would have perhaps taken a decision earlier. My hon. friend, the Chairman of the Refinery Corporation, is thoroughly justified in saying that left to himself perhaps he would have gone ahead earlier. I am sorry, I could not have gone ahead earlier. I am sorry, I could not have gone ahead earlier because I have no money and the money that was promised to us had to be spent in the fullest with a view to relieving the burden of the second stage construction of the pipeline. But so far as the present programme was concerned it was not the concern of the Refi-

nery Corporation. Why should therefore Shri Feroze Gandhi be worried about it? He was quite clear when he said, "Look here, you have not recommended that our Export Committee should do it." I have nothing to differ from it. But if we had taken upon ourselves the responsibility of selecting a site in spite of the recommendations of the technical committee—the correct position is that it was considered on technical and economic grounds and no technical expert of the Government made any recommendation to subvert the recommendation given by the technical expert committee of the corporation on technical grounds.

Shri Dasappa: Why were you not, in the first place, associated with this team of experts? Then all these differences would not have arisen.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Government was associated.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Right from the very beginning the representative of the Government was associated with all this and nothing has happened which should upset. That is what I want to say. I will tell you why. Right from the early stages—I do not remember when—I took some of the experts who had come from Rumania into confidence and I told them, "This and this is our consideration. You must give us a site which is farther west." I said that. It is quite plain. They said, "It is our job to make a recommendation to you on technical grounds and it is for you to change the decision on other considerations than technical considerations." So far as that Expert Committee was concerned it was perfectly within its jurisdiction to make a technical recommendation. So far as Government's totality is concerned, it is perfectly within its jurisdiction to change that decision because ultimately they had to make the decision and take all the facts into consideration. I would not like to go further on this point.

The last point which is very difficult for me to solve is the point raised by my hon. friend, Shri Feroze Gandhi, regarding Demand No. 83. I must confess that it is more puzzling to me than it was to Shri Gandhi. I am not an expert. I made a mistake of frowning upon one of my ablest officers in the Department and thereafter I realised that the mistake was mine. I would try to explain what it is. I do not know whether I would be able to explain it correctly or not. On page 12 mention of 'Commerce, Steel and Mines' and 'Uttar Pradesh' is made. These are two different circles. Commerce, Steel and Mines is one audit circle about which I cannot say more than what I have said and Uttar Pradesh is a separate audit circle. It is an audit circle. This is all that I say. Commerce, Steel and Mines is one audit circle and Uttar Pradesh is another audit circle. You will see that the question asked by my hon. friend was that in the numbers there is a decrease from 390 to 336 but the estimates have gone up from Rs. 11 to Rs. 18 lakhs roughly. Actually, what I understand is that the estimate of this number 390 was given in 1958-59. Actually, only 226 people were employed either as part-time or as whole-time of the year and therefore this estimate appears puzzling. This sum of Rs. 11,95,000 has been spent by 226 people and not by 300 people. Now, this figure 336 is actually 405.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: What? It is 405? It is not 336?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No the, estimate is for 405. . .

Shri Feroze Gandhi: The printed figure is 336.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I shall refer to the printed figure also.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: The hon. Minister cannot give any figures except those that are in the Budget.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The figures are here. If you just add up 60, or 69 perhaps in A-2 higher up to 336, you will see that it is 405.

Shri V. F. Nayar (Quilon): That is not arithmetic

Shri K. D. Malaviya: What I was pointing out was that this estimate of Rs. 18,86,000 actually will go down when the actuals would come. So, this reduction from Rs. 13 lakhs to Rs. 11 lakhs is on account of the fact that only 226 people were employed as against 390. So, these estimates will also come down proportionately, and therefore, the disparity, as you would see, will not be as much. Rs. 11 lakhs is the actual money spent for 1958-59; Rs. 18 lakhs is the estimates; and most probably it may come down by Rs. 3 or 4 lakhs; and it might be only Rs. 14 lakhs

Similarly, as regards the figure of 2850, in actuality only 1800 people were employed. Although we planned to have 2850 people, yet in actuality, only 1800 people were employed, and, therefore, the expenditure involved was not Rs. 18,51,000 but was only Rs. 13,24,000. Similarly, we hope now that we shall not spend the whole amount. If actually we can get all those people, that is, all the technicians for doing our work according to our programme, then we may spend the money that we have set apart as a result of our having kept the number 2896, which is again the result of totalling of A-2. This is what generally is the picture. That is, the difference which is of relevance is actually the difference between the actual money spent last year and the estimates that we are proposing before the House for sanction. And if the estimates go down, the disparity will not be so much.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: On a point of clarification. If you will kindly refer to page 12, you will find that it gives the details of page 11 and the total amount there. Am I to understand that in the Budget which has been presented in February for 1958-59 the figure shown as 390 is not 390 but it is something else? And am I to understand that the figure shown for 1958-59 as 2850 in the Budget is not

[Shri Feroze Gandhi]

correct, and that the figure is actually something else? The hon. Minister may kindly clarify, because this is a budget statement, and there can be and should be no mistake in this paper.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I think there is no mistake. I do not think there is any mistake, except that what I have said....

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Is the figure given here right or wrong?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The figure is right.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Then, I would demand an explanation, if this figure is correct. That will be a point of order that I would like to raise. Of course, I would suggest that if these figures are correct, then Demand No. 83 should not be put to the vote of the House till such time as a proper explanation is available. You may postpone this to tomorrow. These are the details. If the figures are correct, then an explanation is required. If the number has dropped from 390 to 336, how have the estimates gone up from Rs. 11,95,000—I mean the revised estimates—to Rs. 18,86,000? Again, if the figure is correct, as the Minister states, the number goes down by 600, but the revised estimate which is Rs. 13 lakhs increases by Rs. 10 lakhs. This requires explanation before this Demand can be put to the vote of the House.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: May I say this? This figure of 390 indicates the number of people who were not employed as whole-timers for the whole of the year; they used to work part-time; they used to come and work for some time and then go. Now, therefore, this figure is actually 226 which is indicated here. Therefore, the entire expenditure....

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Will the hon. Minister kindly note that nowhere is 226 mentioned on page 12? He may refer to it himself, and see the details of Demand No. 83.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I was only referring to the fact that these figures indicate the temporarily employed people. 226 is the actual number of people employed part-time or whole-time, and the expenditure involved is Rs. 11.95 lakhs. More than that, I have nothing to say.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I would like to have your ruling on this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am looking into it, and when I have heard the Minister, I shall give my ruling.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Even then, I would suggest that this Demand be held over, because I think there is some serious flaw in this.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: There is no serious flaw in this. It is only for us to understand them.

Similarly, about the second figure....

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Has the hon. Minister understood it himself?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Whatever I have understood I have said. Basically, it is this that a number of people were shown as employed part-time; the actual shown is 226, for that, proportionately, the expenditure has gone down. Similarly, in the next year, in the actual....

Shri Feroze Gandhi: It is 336 here.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is that figure of 226 given anywhere in the statement, for which this amount is provided?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: This is the Budget of India, and there should not be any mistake in this. Some explanation must be given for it if it is to be put to the vote of the House.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Also, it means this that the Minister represents to the House....

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We shall find out where this figure of 226 can be put in. -

Shri Feroze Gandhi: In that case, I would suggest that the Demand be not put to the vote of the House, namely Demand No 83

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not accept it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Still, the reply has to come from the hon Minister, and some explanation might be given

Shri Feroze Gandhi: The Demands will be put to the vote after the hon Minister's speech. Therefore, I would suggest that till such time as a proper explanation is forthcoming, we hold over Demand No 83 for tomorrow

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But we have yet to listen to the reply of the hon Minister, and then, we can decide if a satisfactory explanation has been given or not

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Which Minister? The other Minister?

Sardar Swaran Singh: He will look into it

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Both are the same, whether he will reply or the other Minister will reply

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Whatever I had to say I have said. If there is any additional point which is there to satisfy my hon friend, I shall just collect it and give it to him

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We shall see whether a satisfactory explanation is given or not.

Sardar Swaran Singh rose—

Some Hon. Members: Does he begin his reply now?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Does the hon Minister begin his reply now?

Sardar Swaran Singh: This point will be looked into, and towards the end, the explanation might be given

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That was what I was saying. When the senior Minister makes the reply, he might

then try to explain it. If it is explained away satisfactorily, certainly, we shall put it to vote. If no explanation is given, certainly we shall consider whether that can be held over or further consideration is necessary

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I make one request? Either the hon Minister must say that the printed figures are wrong or he must say they are right, if they are right, then the House will have to consider whether the Demand is correct

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has got some time to consider over it, and then he will give us an explanation. Why should we be impatient?

Can I call another hon Member in the meanwhile?

Sardar Swaran Singh: He will look into it. If I have your permission, I shall say a few words of my own, not about this, but about the other things—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The point is whether I should call upon other hon. Members to speak or whether immediately I should call upon the hon Minister to reply

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha): In accordance with the schedule, the whole thing has to be finished by 4-10 P.M. As you know, we have a strait jacket programme, and we are already two hours behind the schedule. What will happen on the 18th April in that case, I do not know. Unless we adhere to the schedule, something upsetting will happen

Shri Naushir Bharucha: As it is, according to the schedule, the Budget should end by 18th April. What does it matter if it ends on the 19th? Heavens are not going to fall

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are other items also

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: I have already explained to my hon friend. I am very sorry. The hon Member

[Shri Satya Narayan Sinha]

was a member of the Business Advisory Committee where we discussed all those details, and I had explained at length to my hon friends that by the 28th of April, the Finance Bill must come back from the other House also, for, in the case of a taxation proposal, beyond 60 days, we cannot have it. Therefore, I requested you, and requested the House also, and we discussed there, and we allotted as much time as hon Members wanted in the Business Advisory Committee also. And therefore now, if we do not adhere to the schedule, I think something very disturbing will take place.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Let us not fear that disturbing thing for the present, but I feel now that I should call upon the hon Minister to speak because of that explanation.

Shri Assar (Ratnagiri) I have not got my chance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has my sympathy, but what shall I do? He might speak on some other Ministry.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: But in the morning when we began the discussion, the Speaker was of the view that if a full discussion was not held, he might be in a position to extend the time by one hour.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is the difficulty, he is not in a position to extend. I have looked into the record, he has not passed any orders.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: That is correct. But one hour was taken by the hon Minister in initiating the discussion.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: 35 minutes only.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Thirty-five or forty minutes have been taken by the Minister of State. Again 40 minutes perhaps have been asked for by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs for the senior Minister. That makes two hours.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has had his 15 minutes. He should not grumble.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: It is scheduled that we are to have a full 8 hours discussion, plus the Minister's reply.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Those eight hours include the Minister's reply. It was only in the general Budget discussions that we allocated the time excluding the time for the Minister. Now on Demands we have included the time that is to be taken by the Minister also. That is the procedure.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: But in the Bulletin it is not said so.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao (Khammam) When we discussed the allocation of time, it was decided that the time taken by the Ministers to reply will be taken into consideration in the total time, but our Minister had also taken some time in introducing the Demands. Therefore that time may be excluded.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: That is also included.

Sardar Swaran Singh I have greatly benefited by the observations that have been made on the floor of the House by the various sections of the House. I wish I had the time to say something on all the points that have been raised, but I propose to confine myself to some of the salient facts, assuring at the same time that whatever has been said will receive very careful consideration with a view to derive the maximum benefit out of it.

The first point that I would like to mention is about the estimates for the three steel plants. This matter has been coming up again and again before the House, and I would like to take this opportunity to clarify the position to the best of my capacity.

So far as the increases in the initial figures are concerned, they were

given some time towards the end of 1955 or beginning of 1956, and we can divide under two broad categories the increases that have taken place. One category relates to a number of items which were not included in the initial estimates that were prepared. If they were not included it was not due to the fact that there was any doubt about the cost to be incurred on that score, they were purposely kept outside the advice of the consultants who prepared the preliminary reports, because these related mostly to items which are Indian responsibility, our responsibility. In that category come townships, development of mines and a number of other things, a list of which I have placed before the House on a number of occasions. Surely we did not require a consultant to tell us that so much would be spent upon the township, or so much would be required for development of a mine, or for incurring other expenditure in the matter of arranging water supply or the like. It would have been extremely wasteful if we had insisted on elaborate reports from the consultants on these items which could easily be looked after by us. It was enough if it was known that these were the items which were not being included in the estimates. Therefore, the increase on that score cannot be said to be either on account of any omission or any want of planning or any want of foresight. This alone accounts for a figure of Rs 140 crores or so. This has been clearly brought out in a number of replies that I have given from time to time.

Then, besides this, there is the question that even with regard to the content that was in the actual physical plan that was the subject matter of the original estimates, there have been increases. But I would like to make this point absolutely clear that it is not that there have been these changes from time to time. In fact, my predecessor, as early as December 1956, made a statement on the floor of the House in which he gave the figures with regard to Rourkela and Durgapur. He made a statement

indicating that for Rourkela the revised estimates for the items which were the subject matter of the various estimates would be Rs 170 crores, and for Durgapur it would be Rs 138 crores. He also indicated the various items that were not being included therein. He also promised that a similar revised estimate would be given for Bhilai.

Thereafter in August 1957, I repeated the same figures with regard to Rourkela and Durgapur which had been given earlier to the House by my predecessor, and I also supplied the missing information with regard to Bhilai, because by that time complete estimates had been prepared even with regard to Bhilai, and I gave the figure of Rs 131 crores. Therefore, the explanation which the House is entitled to ask is as to how this Rs 128 crores in Rourkela became Rs 170, in Bhilai from Rs 110 crores it became Rs 131 crores and in Durgapur from Rs 115 crores it became Rs 138 crores. These are really the revised estimates as compared to what was contained in the earlier estimates which were not elaborate, and then these were the estimates which emerged as a result of fuller examination, and the House is perfectly entitled to ask that there should be some explanation as to why these have gone up.

I would like to make one thing clear, that is that the figures that were given to the House in 1956 December and later in August 1957 were the new figures with regard to all the three plants which were repeated. There has not been any upward revision at all with regard to these estimates.

The third point that remains to be answered is what are these increases due to? These increases are due to factors which can be broadly grouped under four heads. They are, firstly, additions and improvements. Secondly, they are more costly foreign supplies of structures and refractories. Thirdly these are due to increases in

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

price in Europe. Fourthly, they are due to under-estimation by consultants which was the case particularly in point in the case of Rourkela.

What does this really mean? Additions and improvements had to be undertaken when we thought that those additions and improvements would be necessary for the better performance of the plant, or for better economic return. If we swear by the earlier figure that has been given by way of estimate as a sort of mantra, that it is not to be exceeded, and shut our eyes completely to the possible modifications which might result in improvements or the like, that would not be in the national interests, and I am not sorry for making these additions and improvements, although as a result thereof the figure that works out goes up. I will presently give the broad amounts which have been added to the original indications or rough estimates on account of these various factors.

The second point that I submitted in this connection was more costly foreign supplies of structures and refractories.

It is a well known fact that the cost of some of these imported articles is higher. We originally thought that it would be possible to have all the refractories and structurals or a certain quantum thereof from internal resources, but we overjudged our own capacity and when we actually settled down to work out the details, we came to the conclusion, which was a painful one, that we could not have all the refractories and structurals raised inside the country and we had to import them. That pushed up the prices.

16 hrs.

Thirdly, if there is a time-lag when the original estimates are prepared between that period and the period when we placed orders after detailed project reports are there, and if in the meantime the world prices

rise up, nobody is going to show any concession to us by supplying us equipment at an earlier price merely because that happened to be the price in the estimate. We cannot ignore the hard facts of life and we had to pay a higher price on account of increase of prices in Europe and elsewhere.

Then the fourth point has been highlighted and doubts have been expressed as to why there should be under-estimation by consultants, as has been mentioned from time to time by me with regard to the estimates that were prepared in regard to Rourkela. That is a valid point and some explanation is due. I would request the hon. House to bear the interest of the exchequer and the interest of the project in mind and not be misled by mere sentiments. The consultants' explanation with regard to this is that if we make our estimates rather on the liberal side taking into account all the various factors that may ultimately emerge, which may reflect a higher cost, and then on the basis of that we go out and tender and ask others to quote, there is a risk that that becomes really the floor and others are likely to quote a price much higher than that. When we introduce an element of competition we go out on tender on the basis of the estimate which has been given to us by the consultants—the estimate given to us by the consultants is the basis for this purpose—a basis which is not a secret matter, which is known to every supplier. Then a greater possible criticism might be saved as the estimate will not be much increased but ultimately it was quite likely that the price that the country had to pay would have worked out to a much higher figure. That is the explanation which they gave, and I have no reason to doubt that there is strength in this explanation.

We have also to remember that after all, this is a phenomenon which is of significance in relation to Rourkela. In Rourkela, quotations

were invited on a competitive basis and when those quotations came and contracts were either concluded or we were on the point of negotiation, a reassessment was made that the original indication that was given was on the low side and as a result of the actual things coming up, the quoted prices are higher. Therefore, I submit that there was absolutely no point in that. (Interruption).

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: Surely, the fluctuations must be within limits.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I know what is in the mind of my hon. friend, Shri Naushir Bharucha. He has drawn all his inspiration—and quite rightly—from the observations of the Estimates Committee. That is a rather delicate matter, when one has to differ from the findings of a body like the Estimates Committee. But the House and the hon. Speaker also have prescribed a certain code of dealing with what is contained in that Report, and hon. Members and the House should be content to comply with that code in the sense of permitting the Ministry to give their comments upon the various recommendations and then let the process evolve of either convincing the Estimates Committee who may later on modify that or be convinced themselves. But before that process could be gone through, hon. Members showed impatience to raise those very points and adopt those very arguments on the floor of the House, and no option is left for me but to put forward my counter-viewpoint, even though at first sight it might have been rejected by the Estimates Committee. I have no doubt that when all these facts are properly explained to the Estimates Committee they will appreciate this viewpoint and even if they do not, I will have no other option but to....

Shri Oza: A word of explanation, Sir. Is it true that the Report of the Estimates Committee is shown to the Ministry before the publication of the final report?

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is sent to the Ministry so that they might check the factual points that are mentioned there. The report is not shown with a view to affording the Ministry an opportunity to give their arguments as to why particular conclusions that have been arrived at should not be arrived at. If instead of Rs. 118 crores it is stated as Rs. 110 crores or some facts are mis-stated, they are checked. What I mean to say is that showing to the Ministry does not mean that the Ministry has got a second chance of actually pointing out any fresh material which might justify a revision of their conclusions. That is why I am using this guarded language in saying that before utilising the normal process that is envisaged for developing proper relationship between these parliamentary committees and the Ministries with whom they have to deal, the hon. Members in their wisdom have chosen to adopt those very reasons to attack the Ministry and there is no other option for me but to take up my position with regard to the various points that have been put forward in the Estimates Committee's Report.

Shrimati Benu Chakravartty: On a point of order, Sir. I want to know whether it is open to the hon. Minister to say that what has been recommended by the Estimates Committee is something which he categorically rejects. He can ask for time for consideration. But can he say just now that he categorically rejects the findings of the Estimates Committee?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He has explained his difficulty. When the Estimates Committee comes to a conclusion, the conclusion is sent to the Ministry. The Ministry has its own explanation, its own reactions. Then, when they come to the Estimates Committee, they also consider whether there is some force in the reply which has been sent. They can also modify their position. The Minister is explaining that before the Ministry had any time just to put its

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views before the Estimates Committee and for the Estimates Committee to reconsider or modify their conclusions, these conclusions have been taken up by the hon. Members and they have been put forward here to attack the Ministry. Therefore, he says he has no option. The opportunity that he might have taken to explain to the Estimates Committee has not been yet afforded to him. Therefore, there is no option for him but to put his case here, because if he does not put his case, what shall be the result? A conclusion will be drawn that he had no case to make out or that he had no defence to put forth. Therefore, he can naturally put forward his own point of view, the Ministry's point of view.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: As far as I know, the Estimates Committee, after it has considered the Ministry's point of view, publishes its report. Then the Ministry considers it. It is only after a period of time again that it is revised by the Estimates Committee in the course of one year or two years when they examine how far the Ministries have implemented their recommendations, and, if not, why not. That is the procedure. If any criticism is made or anything is said arising out of the Estimates Committee's recommendations, is it open to the Minister to say that he takes a rigid position as to what he has done, whether it is right or wrong? I plead with him not to take that position.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think the hon. lady Member has probably understood me a little more rigidly than what I wanted to be. I was replying to the interruption that was put in by my hon. friend, Shri Bharucha. He said: 'You are advancing this argument. This argument has already been rejected by the Estimates Committee.' I said that merely saying that it has been rejected by the Estimates Committee is not a matter which is conclusive so far

as I am concerned. What I said was that, in all fairness, the hon. Members should not have adopted the reasonings of the Estimates Committee as their own. On some occasion, they dig up these things and adopt them as if they were their own. Some explanation is due from me, and the Estimates Committee cannot be quoted against me as a conclusive rejection of my suggestions. That is the point I am trying to make.....

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava (Hissar): The report of the Estimates Committee is never conclusive.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Even in this particular context without going to the general matter, I would draw the attention of the House to appendix XVII on page 141 of the report of the Estimates Committee which clearly gives all the differences between the original estimates of the three steel plants and the revised estimates and also the reasons. In the case of Rourkela, four points are listed; in the case of Bhilai three points are listed and in the case of Durgapur also seven reasons are given as to why these increases were there. Unfortunately for myself, the Estimates Committee in their wisdom thought it fit to shove it on to the Appendix only to be unearthed by some research student. They do not find a prominent place in the body of the Estimates Committee's report so that the country and everybody could judge for themselves as to whether there was any strength in the reasons that were given for the pushing up of the estimates.....(Interruptions.)

Shri Supakar: Unfortunately, the Estimates Committee did not get any reply from the Ministry in time. It takes several months for the Ministry to reply to a query by the Estimates Committee; that is the unfortunate state of affairs.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I would be very sorry if that is the state of

affairs; that will certainly be expedited. . . (Interruptions.)

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order That is certainly a thing to be considered, that can be done on a different occasion. For the present we cannot take that into account

Shri Supakar: If the reply is not sent in time it can only be given in the appendix

Sardar Swaran Singh: It is far from me to make the slightest suggestion that the Estimates Committee's recommendations are not entitled to great weight. They are entitled to very great weight

Shri Nath Pal: They are not much to his liking

Sardar Swaran Singh. Even so, I attach the greatest weight, because there are many people for whom I have the greatest respect and regard although I may not have a liking for what they say My liking or not does not come in the way of having a fairly objective approach in these matters and I derive very great benefit from what is contained there

I was mentioning this only to point out that so far as the estimates part is concerned, there is absolutely no reason for us to be apologetic in this Every care was taken to ensure that we get the best return for the money, and sticking to certain estimates merely because that happened to be mentioned at an earlier stage would not have been in the interest of the country The matter of revision of this thing, is therefore, a minor matter Before I pass on to the next point, may I submit the case of the Tatas who have got very great experience? A large number of Members feel that we should depend upon steelmen who are Indians (Interruptions)

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Private sector has given you ICC

Sardar Swaran Singh: . . . that is, Tatas and the Indian Iron or both of

them, and for both of them unfortunately the hon. Lady Member has not got great regard either for their capacity or performance. I do not know how the two ideas are reconciled

Now, I was mentioning that in their first estimate in 1955 they indicated a figure of about Rs 100 crores by way of expansion and subsequent experience has indicated that the actual expenditure is about 30 to 33 per cent above their original estimates

Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava: That was so in all the schemes—Bhakra—Nangal, DVC, everywhere the estimates required revision

Sardar Swaran Singh: My respected friend rightly points out that this had happened in other places too

It may be, Sir, that those who might take a more strict view might say that this should not become a matter of habit I can claim some credit that with regard to these, at any rate, for the last three years, certain figures which were given still hold the ground and there had not been any upward revision thereof

Now, I would pass on to some other points that have been raised Things have been said about certain contracts, certain points have been thrown up and certain contracts that have been concluded have been criticised In that sphere, again I am on a somewhat delicate ground The Estimates Committee has been examining those contracts and it has given a report The Auditor-General has also noticed those contracts, some of them, and they have been included in the Audit Report which has been prepared by the Auditor-General That Audit Report is to go to another august body of this House, namely the Public Accounts Committee The Public Accounts Committee will examine those contracts in the light of further comments or amplifications that might be put forward by the Ministry or by the Hindustan Steel Then the Public

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Accounts Committee will put forward its view-point. Therefore, it will not be perhaps very wise for me to say something categorically about the specific points that have been raised about two contracts which have worried very much my hon. friends belonging to the Bombay group though they might belong to different parties.

They have picked up two contracts and have taken a fancy for them, but they have never even shown the House the courtesy of pointing out as to what was the total number of contracts, for instance, which the Hindustan Steel negotiated, what was the value like, what was the number like, what was the complexity like and what is really the total impact of these two things which have been highlighted and on the basis of which huge theories have been built about everything being rotten and what not.

I submit, Sir, we have to view this in a correct perspective and not take an exaggerated view merely by picking up one or two things. I do not claim infallibility. There must have been mistakes. Those mistakes can always be gone into. It is one of the functions of the Audit, which is as much a part of the entire system that we have adopted in the country as the Ministry itself. If the Audit or other organisations bring out points which require looking into, then they have to be looked into and we have to derive benefit out of them.

I will be failing in my duty if I were not to put forward my version of these two contracts which have been the subject matter of considerable argument and considerable criticism on the floor of the House. These contracts are the Duggal contract and the Hochtief Gammon contract. These are the two contracts which are mentioned from time to time.

With regard to the Duggal contract, this was awarded, I think, more than

about 2½ years ago. This was awarded to this firm because their quotation happened to be the lowest. It was generously conceded by my hon. friend opposite that there were some adverse criticism against this firm by the Public Accounts Committee of Punjab, but he was charitable enough, at the same time, to concede that the report was not before the authorities who awarded this contract about 2½ to 3 years ago, and therefore they need not have been influenced by what is contained in the report which came at a later date. My hon. friend Shri Bharucha more strictly said that we ought to have embarked upon a very sifting enquiry to find out what are the antecedents of this firm.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: This gentleman has now been again given the Great Iron Foundry, after all this has happened.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I do not say that the original contract was wrongly given. Therefore, this second argument will arise only if all of us come to the conclusion that the original decision was wrong. So far as this firm is concerned, again, it is not a very palatable thing for me to. . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Probably, the Punjab Speaker has also written to our Speaker that the Public Accounts Committee of Punjab is proposing to go into it again.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes; I was going to refer to it.

Shri Nath Pal: Yesterday I refrained from mentioning it. I have got it. It is a very unusual thing, and you are the better authority on it. It is the most unusual thing—the Chief Minister of Punjab asked the Public Accounts Committee. One would like to know whether he is justified in asking them to reconsider the strictures they had passed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But that would be a different thing—whether

the Chief Minister had asked that and what the Speaker there has done. We are concerned only with the point whether the Public Accounts Committee does go into it again or not, and if it does go into that, what is the result of that investigation. We will be concerned only with that question.

Shrimati Benu Chakravarti: On a point of order. Again I feel that it has been done after the Estimates Committee of Parliament produced this report. The date that has been given there, in the Punjab Chief Minister's letter, is immediately after that. That is 19th February, 1959—the Secretary of the Punjab Vidhan Sabha. The whole matter is requested to be gone into. We feel that there is some sort of pressure which has been brought upon them. I could have understood the Speaker asking them. Now, the whole thing, after having been exposed by the Estimates Committee of Parliament, is being re-sited again. It seems there are considerations for this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Anyhow there will be no justification for us to sit in judgment of what is done there. We will not go into that.

Sardar Swaran Singh: That was exactly and precisely the line that I wanted to take. I can say at this stage that it was pointed out by the hon. Member himself that the adverse remarks which the Public Accounts Committee of Punjab made came to light after the contract was awarded.

Shri Nanshir Bharucha rose—

Sardar Swaran Singh: My hon. friend is very impatient. Does he want to have a second speech? I do not mind. Therefore, the short question that remains is, was there anything about Duggal which ought to have put us on our guard and should have impelled us to make any enquiry beyond what is normally made. . . .

श्री अ० न० तारिक (जम्मू तथा काश्मीर) : मैं भी एक छोटा सा सवाल करना चाहता हूँ

شادی لے - ایم - تاویق (جسوں د
کشمیر) : میں بھی ایک چھوٹا سا
سوال کرنا چاہتا ہوں -

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मेरा सवाल है कि वक्त के बारे में बहुत धिक्कायत हो रही है और अब तो उनकी तकरीर सुन ही लेनी चाहिये ।

श्री अ० न० तारिक : एक छोटा सा सवाल है । मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि स्टील प्लांट्स के सिलसिले में मैसर्स वैनन इंफरली की बम्बई और कलकत्ता की जो फर्म है उसका क्या रोल रहा है और उसको कितने कांटेक्ट मिले हैं ?

شادی لے - ایم - طارق : ایک
چھوٹا سا سوال ہے - میں پوچھنا
چاہتا ہوں کہ اسٹیل پلانٹس کے
سلسلہ میں مہسوز گیمن فزکولی کی
بمبئی اور کلکتہ کی جو فہم ہے اس
کا کیا رول رہا ہے اور اس کو کتنے
کانٹیکٹس ملے ہیں -

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह : मैं इसकी इनफार्मेशन जरूर कोलेक्ट करूंगा । बहुत से कांटेक्ट हिन्दुस्तान स्टील वाले खुद ही दे देते हैं और मुझे पता नहीं होता है । अगर मैम्बर साहब इसमें दिलचस्पी रखते हैं और उनके एंटी-सिडेंट्स के बारे में भी जानना चाहते हैं तो मैं पता कर दूंगा ।

I would not take long on that. I was going to say that it is not very much to my liking to make out special pleas in favour of contractors, and on an earlier occasion, I made it clear that it is perhaps not fair to the Government that they should be called upon to go into these contractual obligations in a very detailed manner, because the object in the mind of the hon. Members is that we get the best return for our money. In that context, it is always better if these contractual things are left to be sorted out between the contractors or the supplier, whoever it be, and the organisation with whom they had contracted, and it is always a little unequal atmosphere if we try really

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to go into the pros and cons here. But so far as this particular case is concerned, if we exclude those adverse remarks of the Public Accounts Committee of Punjab, which were not there when the contract was awarded, then the fact remains that Duggal was a firm of first class contractors registered with the Public Works Department. It was a first class contractor with the railways; it had done considerable work for the port authorities; it had also done considerable work even in relation to a refinery in Bombay. It was a well-reputed firm. Therefore, those people who were responsible at that time in awarding the contract accepted the quotation of a firm which had considerable engineering and construction experience and it was actually registered as a contractor in a number of governmental organisations. Therefore, to say that we should not have dealt with them or that we should have undertaken a special enquiry about the antecedents of that firm is only anticipating too much and I am not at all convinced that those who awarded the contract at that time need have undertaken more than what is the customary thing to be done.

Still the other question remains as to why after the contract as given to him, another additional help was given to him in the form of German carpenters. That is a valid point which requires explanation, because normally, if a contract has been entered into and terms have been settled, he is expected to execute the work according to the contracted specification and normally, the question of help does not arise. So far as that general proposition is concerned, I have no quarrel with that and it is sound.

But in this particular case, I would place before the House the facts of the situation. I would like to mention that in the case of Rourkela, the bunker is a huge construction. It has to take the coal, iron ore and lime-

stone before it is taken to the blast furnace. We have made a departure from the normal specification and decided that it should be a reinforced concrete structure. It may be that we were under the influence of criticism that had come from some of our very honoured visitors. We thought that if we could use reinforced concrete in constructing the bunker, there would be saving in the matter of steel. Reinforced concrete bunker was a thing which was being attempted for the first time in the country. Not only that Duggal & Company had no experience of it, but no one in the country had any experience about the construction of reinforced concrete bunkers. It is always mentioned as if those carpenters were brought here for the purpose of planing the wood or for doing ordinary unskilled work that a carpenter normally does. But to pour concrete, a certain shuttering has to be erected, which is very complicated. I have a grievance against the three hon. Members who criticised, because in spite of my invitations, they have not yet thought it fit to visit the place, so that they might see for themselves the complicated nature of the work. I hope they will go there one of these days and then most of these doubts which have gripped them on account of theoretical considerations will certainly be removed. Here was a complicated structure of a bunker which had not been attempted anywhere in the country before. No one in the country had any experience about the complicated shuttering and we did not want to take any risk, although Duggal will not admit it. His line throughout has been, "I was all right; you developed cold feet unnecessarily and you more or less put these carpenters on me. I could have done without them." But somebody had to exercise his judgment at that time.

Three courses were open. Either we cancel the contract and ask somebody else to do the work again, or we leave him to do the work or we give some help to him, so that the

work may be done within time and without undue delay. Out of these three alternatives, somebody had to exercise his judgment. In retrospect, it has clearly been proved that as a result of choosing the alternative we did, viz., we strengthened the organisation by giving him specialised carpenters, who according to the terminology of certain countries, could be called engineers.

Shri Nandhir Bharucha: Not a word about the bunker has been mentioned by the Estimates Committee.

Shri Nath Pai: Let us hear him.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Are you saying what I am saying is not correct? You are quite correct when you say that the Estimates Committee might have come to a different conclusion if all these facts had been there. If that is the point, then I readily concede that.

The point that I am developing is this. Out of the three alternatives that were open, cancellation of the contract and bringing in a new party, permitting him to go ahead with whatever resources are available here and we taking the consequences if we do not succeed and, thirdly, our decision to strengthen him by providing him the technical know-how and all those things, although in the ultimate analysis we had to incur additional expenditure, we carefully weighed that and we came to the conclusion that this alternative which has been chosen was the best in the circumstances, because otherwise there would be inordinate delay. The quotations that we were receiving at that time were much higher than the tendered amount that we had accepted in this case. And I have no doubt in my mind that if we had gone for re-tender, the country would have had to pay much more. It is not a case of ordinary carpenters; it is the case of specialists who were imported to strengthen the organisation which

had to do the complicated shuttering to be put up there.

Shri Nath Pai: I have refrained all this time. You should give me a chance.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Let me finish this Duggal matter. Then I will be perfectly at your disposal. I will give in myself.

Shri Nath Pai: raised the point that I said on the floor of this House that this man was behind the schedule or that he was not going ahead according to schedule and that he required some help. The Resident Director, Shri Ganapathi, has in some letter which he quoted, said "he is all right" and the work is perfectly according to schedule or that he has done well. That does not require any elaborate explanation. You have only to look to the time to which I was referring and to the time to which Shri Ganapathi was referring. If he had gone behind the schedule and if with the help of additional hands in 1957 he pulls up and makes up all the deficiencies and whatever delay was there is cut down, he does all that and after a year and a half the Resident Director comes to the conclusion that he has done well and he has made up everything, that should be a point in our favour rather than one on which I should be called upon to give an explanation. One thing that is behind the schedule in 1957 need not always be behind the schedule. If it is behind the schedule, I would be sorry. And I have no hesitation in saying that I hold no brief for the contractors. I do not know whether I should say that, but I do, think that the hon. Members who have been such vehement critics do know that I at any rate was not responsible for the finalisation of this contract. But I do not make any plea on that score. What I meant to say was that I hold no brief to defend the contractor. But I would be failing in my duty if I do not give him his due. I would say that even when he was behind

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the schedule, even at that time there were other contributory factors also. One was that when excavations were undertaken it was found that the quantity of lean concrete was really much more than what we originally thought would be required. When detailed drilling and excavations were made and firm foundation was to be reached it was found that the ground had to be excavated and much more lean concrete had to be poured, which meant more work. That was one of the reasons why he was behind the schedule. This is so far as the Rourkela project is concerned.

Shri Nath Pal: I will only ask him about one or two points. He himself said that they were lagging behind. Yesterday I have pointed out two aspects of it. I had referred to Gutehoffnungshutte (GHH) and John Sheaffer, apart from amassing a profit, have charged Rs. 1100 per carpenter per month, which comes to a total of Rs. 12 lakhs of rupees. I have said this and I had asked the question on the subject. Apart from the salary of these carpenters they were deducting from the staggering fee Rs. 5,000 per month which the carpenters were supposed to receive as salary. This is above all other commission that they have received and that in collaboration. I ask him, if you say that you brought me because the work is lagging behind, are we not justified in asking you as to why Shri Ganapathy, your Resident Director, gives this certificate? That you have been kind enough to try to explain. But the wording is that "their work up-to-date is quite satisfactory". Not only in 1957 but all along and the final work. I would like you to hear this wording, "Their work up-to-date is quite satisfactory and has not resulted in any delay in the erection of the work entrusted to them." The certificate is very categorical.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: In the background of his statement.

Shri Nath Pal: The certificate was procured on the 7th January after we had raised the matter on the 28th November in this House. The certificate mentions that there has not been any delay at any time.

Sardar Swaran Singh: For one thing, it is really for Shri Ganapathy to say as to what really did he mean by all those words. But I would be disinclined to accept—I am very reluctant to do so—the construction that my hon. friend is placing on this because Shri Ganapathy was not even there when the additional carpenters came.

Shri Nath Pal: I have got the records before me.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. Let us hear him.

Sardar Swaran Singh: We should accept that with regard to the relevant period of time. At what point of time that letter was given. I have tried to explain it as best as I could. It is true that the exercise of judgment is involved in selecting one of three alternatives that I have placed. But I would respectfully submit that it was an exercise of discretion which had to be exercised by someone and in retrospect I cannot say that it has been unwisely exercised.

With regard to the other point, I am sorry that I did not reply in my main reply. To say that just to secure employment for about a handful of these specialist carpenters who had to come all the way from Germany and do the work here because according to the original contract whenever these foreigners are supplied the supplying firm has to be paid something so that they make their services available to us will not be charitable. That is a part of the general contract. Now, my hon. friends may have their complaints against that contract itself. That is a separate issue and I need not go into it. No separate commission or

anything was however charged for this and it is very difficult to imagine that merely to make the services of a few carpenters available in the off chance of getting some little amount by way of compensation for sparing those people, they should unnecessarily foist these people on us will, I think, not be a charitable construction of the conduct of the consultants

Shri Nath Pai: I will produce the documents

Shrimati Benu Chakravarty: I want to ask one question of the hon Minister. Is it at all a fact that Uttam Singh Duggal had really finished the work before even the arrival of the German carpenters? He has alleged that. He says that the hon Prime Minister actually went there and saw it completed and the carpenters arrived after that. If that is a fact then certainly the entire question takes another complexion. Not only that, he has also stated here, "That Resident Director's chit is added to this note to prove our contention, that is, that we have finished everything according to schedule"

Sardar Swaran Singh: As to these individual positions that the contractor might take from time to time, I would beg to the hon lady Member not to go into these details as to on which point of time was he behind time or on which he was not. If I have any experience of contractors—and I can claim some—there will be interminable disputes even hereafter. This may not be the end. They might go to arbitration. They might ask that they have spent more or that they have incurred more expenditure. It may perhaps not be very fair to the country that I should go out of the way to trace the progress from day to day and should be called upon to say as whether on any particular point of time the progress was according to schedule or not. After all, this hon House is concerned with broad issues that are before us and there are other forums where we can sort out these matters of detail. That is

so far as the Duggal matter is concerned

So far as Hochtief Gammon is concerned, if I have understood the criticism correctly, and I tried my best to analyse and find out the particular thing that has worried hon Members making this criticism, the position is this. One is the general thing that has been criticised namely that they were one of the partners in the consultant firms, who had drawn detailed drawings and designs for the civil works, and, therefore, later on, the contract should not have been awarded to them. On general grounds, if we can avoid it, we should certainly avoid it. I do not join issue on that score, because I think it is a sound principle that if we can keep out those who are responsible for detailed drawings and the like at the initial stages, it would be good. But I would beg to the House to keep in mind the circumstances and the background in which this contract was given.

The rolling mill contract, so far as the civil work is concerned, is the highest in value and the most complex of all. It has got a number of sections, the blooming mill section, the rolling mill section, the cold roll section, the hot strip section and a number of such things. The value is of the order of about Rs 8 crores. I forget the exact figure.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: It is Rs 7.78 crores.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Here, my hon friend has it on his finger tips. His inspections are generally very informative.

That was really a very complex type of work. Most of the detailed drawings with regard to that had already been completed by these people, one of whom later on became a contractor.

Personally, I wish we could avoid that. But the alternative was this.

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There were two other firms who were also quoting for this. One was a firm whose hands were full elsewhere in our own steel plants. The other was a firm from U.K., and not only were their quotations on foreign exchange alone very much higher as compared to this, but our foreign exchange position being tight at that time, the matter was considered, and we thought that this was enough, after all, when the element of competition had been introduced, and those quotations were there, and the examination of quotations was objective, and the association of another Indian partner was assured, we thought that there was no risk in giving the contract to Hochtief Gammon; Gammon is the Indian partner, and Hochtief is the German party. This contract was given to them. At the same time, it was assured that so far as the consultancy work of supervision and the like was concerned, they would have nothing to do with the consortium, and that will be done by the remaining three firms. Therefore, this was really the thing that was done. To save foreign exchange, to save money and to utilise experience and to utilise equipment that was here, this contract was awarded to this firm in which the Germans and Indians were partners

One thing still remains to be explained, and that has been highlighted a great deal, and it has also been picked up by the vigilant hon. Members of this House because it is a 'catchy' point and it can easily be understood. They say that the figures given with regard to the price of the equipment appear to be lower, but the hire charges given over a long period are more than the actual price itself. In the first instance, the whole contract was one contract, and this was one of the items. I think it was a wise thing to separate this from the main thing, because in the main item there were other escalation clauses and the like, in which there

could be increases if the quantity is increased, and so on, there were a number of other items which would really affect the ultimate picture that emerges. Even with regard to this, it was calculated and some opinion also was taken that if it is worked over that period, taking into account the expenditure that is to be incurred on maintenance, renovation and a number of other things that had to be done, the cost was not very much on the high side. There may be a difference of opinion, but so far as the Estimates Committee is concerned, I have to check up, but the hon. lady Member is here. I think they got some evidence from people connected with the Irrigation Ministry also to give them advice as to whether the hire charges are of the right type or not. I do not know, but subject to correction, I would venture to submit that according to the information in my possession, it was given to them that the hire charges were not on the high side, and I may also add that we have been letting out on hire certain equipment of ours to the various contractors who are operating in the field, and I am constrained to remark that the charges that we get from those who use our equipment are, if anything, higher as compared to the hire charges that we are paying to this contractor. This much I would like to say with regard to these hire charges.

I am sorry that I have taken a little longer over these two contractors, but on the last occasion I purposely did not want to go into these details because I thought there were other bodies looking into it and I would best leave it to them.

Now I will pass on to the other basic point which has been raised with regard to the role of consultants in these three steel plants. In a way let us not develop, while approaching this problem, a sort of complex that a person who is connected with

the supplier will necessarily play us false. I think that while dealing with organisations of some repute that perhaps will not be a very charitable interpretation to place. For instance, take the case of Bhilai. We have got the Soviet group of experts who are our consultants. The fees that we pay this Soviet group of technicians who are our consultants are practically of the same order as we pay to our consultants who are giving us this technical advice in the projects of Rourkela and Durgapur. I have had no difficulty, and the House also has not ventilated any point of grievance that the Soviet technicians also belong to the Soviet Government and the supplies also come from them therefore they would in some way fall in their duty in advising us on the technical suitability of the material that comes to us. No one has alleged that, and I can say that that has not been our experience either. We take a little precaution and we get a second advice, because the International Construction Co., make some odd check of certain things where there are matters of doubt, but we principally accept the advice and go by the advice of the Soviet group of technical advisers who function as our consultants. In the same way, we have this German firm of Krupp-Demag whom we have appointed as our consultants, I have tried really to reach the bottom of the thing that might be worrying the hon. Members. I think what they have tried to make out is that as they are suppliers also of certain parts, therefore it may be that they did not give us good advice with regard to the estimates, and therefore we might have suffered. Purely from that angle I tried to find out about the rolling mills because that is the main thing regarding which there has been criticism. I find in the rolling mill itself, the part that has gone to Krupp-Demag who are separate suppliers, the pushing up with regard to these two items has been comparatively small, and the main increase in the estimates has been on electrical instruments and equipment of that type either on ac-

count of improvement or for a variety of reasons

Shri Supakar: That is only Rs 5 crores on electricity

Sardar Swaran Singh: The hon. Member knows quite a bit from the Estimates Committee's Reports. I wish he had told all this to his colleagues there.

Shri Supakar: On the whole the estimate has jumped from Rs 48 to Rs. 72 crores.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I may refer to page 141 of the Estimates Committee's Report, and all this is explained there with regard to Rourkela. The increase is accounted for as follows:

	Rs. in crores
Increase on account of increases in level of wages, prices of raw materials and freight between the date of the estimate and the date of the tender	11 69
This is an item with which the consultants are not concerned. Increase on account of improvements and additions	11 26
Cost of inland transport, not included in the estimates contained in the detailed project report	5 11

Now, a great point was made by my hon. friend from Bombay, for whom I have great respect. He waxed eloquent by saying that here is a body of consultants..

Shri Nanshir Bharucha: He is wrong. I am not from Bombay city. I am from East Khandesh.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I thought East Khandesh is still in Bombay.

Shri Nath Pat: It is

Shri Nanshir Bharucha: He referred to Bombay City.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I did not say 'Bombay City'

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

I was saying that he made a big point saying that here is a body of consultants; they do not know that the cost of the land upon which the plant is to be constructed has to be included. I would respectfully submit that I do not require consultants or, for the matter of that, anybody to tell me that the cost of the land upon which the plant has to be constructed has to be included. I know it has to be included. I do not want to pay one per cent. or two per cent. to another consultant on Rs. 50 lakhs or so, the value of land, to tell me that this should be included there, so long as the items for which he gives me estimates are enumerated and I also know that this has to be done. It was not that these things were not known to us. So if later on these items which were not included originally are included—and about which we knew that they would have to be included—I do not see anything wrong. Take, for instance, the cost of township. We were not to keep our people in helicopters flying there. We knew that the township was going to be developed. We do not require a consultant to tell us that to township has to be constructed.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Why were they not given in the revised estimates?

Shri Nath Pal: It is an amount of Rs. 120 crores—unaccounted ancillaries.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am sorry for the embarrassment in which the hon. Member finds himself. I cannot help it. I think he has overstepped his point.

Shri Supakar: The point is: why were these matters not put before the House—details of this amount of Rs. 120 crores. We are not concerned whether the consultants had put it in the estimates or not. The only point is why these matters have not been brought before Parliament in time?

Sardar Swaran Singh: Perhaps the hon. Member was not giving me his indulgence and attention when I tried to develop that point. In fact, that is the main argument with which I started. So far as the House is concerned, we have kept it informed at all stages and in great detail, and every time this caveat has been entered the figure that is being given does not include X, Y, Z. So on that score—I may have weaknesses and there may be other mistakes—I think the hon. Member has got absolutely no grievance.

Then there is another—

'Difference between revised estimates (based mostly on contracts concluded) and estimates in the detailed project report—Rs. 13.94 crores'.

These are all also explained in the Estimates Committee's Report, as is given in the appendix. The point I was trying to develop was that with regard to these agreements with consultants that we have entered into, probably this thing has been in their mind that some of the consultants being suppliers of some of it, probably our interests were not watched. I have already submitted that even with regard to Rourkela, the increase in the two supplies of equipment from Krupp and Demag separately, when compared with others, is of a smaller order in terms of increase in other sectors.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: May I point out that the hon. Minister is quite wrong when he says that the estimates for the township were placed before Parliament? The Estimates Committee at page 51, paragraph 144 of their Report distinctly say:

"The Committee do not appreciate why estimates of important items like townships, iron ore mines and quarries, electrical works, railway works etc. were not originally indicated to Parliament".

Sardar Swaran Singh: He is quite correct, but he has not perhaps understood the implication of what is mentioned there. It was mentioned there that this did not include the township. The Estimates Committee say that the estimate of township also should have been given. As to whether it should be Rs 13 crores or Rs 15 crores, I think my hon friend will appreciate that that is not a major point. So long as I say that the township is going to be there, the mere fact that I have not said that it will be Rs 15 crores or Rs 13 crores or Rs 12 crores is a comparatively minor point.

In the case of Durgapur, we have got the International Construction Company. They are not connected with any suppliers at all. Therefore, to go into a broader perspective and try to make out that our interests have not been safeguarded is, I submit, not correct.

With regard to Durgapur, a point has been raised that apart from the fees we had paid to the consultants, that is the International Construction Company, we are also paying another sum of Rs 14 crores to ISCON.

This being a technical matter I do not blame anybody. But, there is, if I may say so, a little confusion about the rules of the consultants and ISCON. I have tried to explain on a number of occasions that ISCON are our contractors and suppliers and they are not our consultants. The International Construction Company are the consultants and it is their duty to see that the work which is done by our suppliers the ISCON is according to certain specifications etc.

Still the question remains as to why when everything is enumerated while finalising the deal with ISCON, why this sum of Rs 14 crores or so was given as a separate head—when everything was separately given for blast furnace so much, for rolling mill so much, for coke-oven so much. I would submit that this is not a very difficult thing to explain. So

far as these items are concerned, they have gone into the price structure of the various units, both in the case of Bhilai as well as in the case of Rourkela. It is convenient to say this for things which had been separately negotiated. Merely paying for something is not enough. Somebody has to organise the whole thing and to see that everything is carried out in unison, to see that everything is properly carried out in time. And, that organisation was provided by the consortium. In the consortium itself there were different suppliers of different things. Certain things were calculated. This was more a matter of accounting than a basic thing. Certain amounts were separated as due to certain items.

The consortium had also to provide the organisation which ensures that the thing is constructed. You may collect the bricks, you may collect the mortar, you may collect the cement, but the house will not come up. Somebody has to supervise and see that it is constructed. There will be an architect or engineer who will supervise that. Roughly, the International Construction Co., who are our consultants are the architects, the engineers who supervise and ensure that something which is produced is according to the specifications, according to the terms of the contract. The suppliers are those who supply certain things, work them out and hand them over to us. So, over and above the various items that had gone, this was a sort of convenient item or head which can be spelt out. One can be wise after the event and say that we could have asked them to actually allocate it to the various items.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: So that we would not have worried you about it.

Sardar Swaran Singh: Just as you are not worrying me about Bhilai because all that is there in the details.

Shri Nath Pai: But it is a question of crores.

Sardar Swaran Singh: What I mean to say is that we have to make a clear distinction between the contractors' function and the consultants' function. The contractor has to produce the thing, organise it and give something to me according to the terms of the contract; and the consultant is to advise me as to whether that is according to specification or not. Therefore, the two functions are entirely different. A lot of confusion has been made on that score.

Shri Nath Pal: The hon. Minister has been kind enough to explain certain things. I would ask....

Sardar Swaran Singh: I think we are already running against time.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There will be a number of opportunities (Interruption.)

Sardar Swaran Singh: Some small minor points have been left out which I would like to explain....

Shri Nath Pal: This is not a minor point.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order

Sardar Swaran Singh: Before I come to that aspect, I would like to move from the mere defensive and to say a few words in high appreciation of the great deal of thought given to this by some of the hon. Members. I have greatly benefited by a number of suggestions. I would only recapitulate some of the things that have been said about which I would like to indicate the lines on which Government has been thinking with regard to these problems.

The Designs Organisations has been stressed by more than one hon. Member. This matter is of the highest importance and we cannot over emphasise the importance of the Designs Organisation. We have made a beginning in a small way and it is our intention to strengthen that still further. We will try to mobilise

whatever local talent is available but it is a new line. I will not at all be ashamed to have foreign collaboration where necessary....

17 hrs.

Shri Nath Pal: But kept it limited to where necessary.

Sardar Swaran Singh: But where necessary, will be the subject matter of a dispute between you and me.. (Interruptions.) It is our intention not only to organise this in an effective way but with such foreign collaboration that might be available to organise it well and also to have that co-operation which has been pointed out by some hon. Members between this and the Heavy Engineering Corporation that is going to be set up near Ranchi. It is our objective that with regard to our new expansion programmes or with regard to whatever new plants that may be set up we should be able to have as much of the indigenous content in those plants as is possible and to that extent we will strain every nerve to ensure that we will utilise to the maximum whatever technical know-how or machine manufacturing capacity is available in the country. There will be complete co-ordination between the Heavy Engineering Corporation and this designs organisation. The possibility cannot be ruled out that it may be located at such convenient place where there can be more frequent consultation and almost day-to-day collaboration between the two.

The hon. Member Shri Dasappa and another pointed out that there should be an advisory council for advising the Government on various matters connected with steel—distribution, export, import policy. I think it is a very valuable suggestion. The Estimates Committee also have made some suggestions with regard to that matter. The hon. lady Member will

be happy that it is not always that I differ from the Estimates Committee. It is with the greatest reluctance that I have to join issue with them..... (Interruptions.)

Shrimati Boma Chakravarty: This you will accept.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am giving some thought as to what the pattern should be. I think it will be possible to have an advisory council to advise on these general questions about distribution and the like.

Very grave doubt was expressed by my hon. friend Shri Bharucha about the cost that may work out with regard to steel. He gave some calculations and he put them in a dramatic form. But he must have slept over that and I think he must be having second thoughts about it. That there should be any doubt that we will not be able to produce steel at a competitive price—I think—it is a defeatist attitude which I cannot too strongly counteract. If he attempts any calculation even with the figures which Shri Bharucha took even then he will find that the steel will be economic....

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Let us have the figures.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I am prepared to sit with him and explain it to him. What is the calculation he gives? Rs. 200 and odd crores and on this some flat rate of depreciation should be calculated and some flat rate of interest is added and he says: how can you go ahead? I may tell him this. We have not spent more than what the Tatas or the Indian Irons have spent. We are not spending more than what other countries are spending. Our manpower is not more costly. We are trying to get the latest technological development. Our iron ore is rich. We have got very able people in various spheres and in Parliamentary work there are people like Shri Bharucha. There may be less able people in other spheres but I think there are able men sufficiently advanced to possess the know-

how. I have absolutely no doubt on that score. I think it will be an extremely competitive price so far as our steel is concerned. An absolutely wrong colour is attempted to be given to our great venture upon which we have embarked, namely, industrialising the country. We cannot go even a step further unless we have this basic industry of steel.

Some indications of cost were given even by the consultants. They were quite attractive. And, if I may say so, even with all the mistakes which in the wisdom of the hon. Members might have been committed by us, the price will be competitive and economic, and any shake of confidence in which he was not prepared to give even a counterfeit rupee to me is not justified. Let him retain all the counterfeit rupees and all the counterfeit arguments, I will be content with genuine arguments and genuine money to carry on the work upon which I have started. Honestly, Sir, I am generally very restrained, but when we are going ahead with these plants, when huge developmental and construction activities are going on and we are already producing, I cannot imagine anybody saying that everything should be voted down, not a pie should be given, we should close the shop and leave everything. I have also got some experience. The hon. Member may have more, but I can claim a little. If he thinks that everything should be held up, no progress should be made and we should only wait for the judicial enquiry, I think that would be a sad day for the country. There are various bodies which can go into the matter and examine it with care. After all, we have to go through certain procedures which are accepted, and if by going through those procedures, in the ultimate analysis, it is found that somebody has committed a mistake, then you can say that he has committed a mistake. If somebody has committed an offence or something like that, by all means come down on him with a heavy hand. But to say that we should call a halt, we should

[Sardar Swaran Singh]

stop the movement of the hands of the clock and we should call it a day, something more negative than that, I have still to imagine. And, coming from the hon. Member, I was really surprised.

Then, suggestions were made about organising the laboratory. We are taking good care to ensure that the three steel plants are properly equipped and they will have well equipped laboratories. It is our intention to have good arrangements there.

Something was said about the development of smaller low shaft furnaces. I had occasion to say something about this even in my opening remarks. A pilot plant has already been installed, and depending upon the experience thereon it is our intention to make increasing use of the know-how and experience we might gain.

So far as plans for our expansion are concerned, I cannot more than agree with what has been said by a large number of hon. friends that we should first concentrate on expansion of existing plants before we go over to the fourth plant. That, I think, is a very valid argument, a valuable suggestion. I only want to assure the House that we have taken good care to ensure that the services and other arrangements in the 'one million' steel plants in the public sector are planned in such a manner that the expansion will be a natural process. Most of the underground communication pipes etc. have been so planned and so designed that the expansion will be a natural process. Therefore, we would like, naturally, to concentrate on the expansion of these. We have also initiated some preliminary steps because our experience indicate that we should initiate such preliminary action much earlier, and it is in that connection that we have already appointed a firm of Indian consultants to make a project study with regard

to the Bokaro steel plant so that we have enough of data to draw up a detailed project report if and when a decision is taken that we should have a fourth steel plant. We should think of these matters in a long-range manner rather than tackle the whole thing in a rather hasty and quick manner.

With regard to production in the two blast furnaces some doubts have been expressed. I tried to explain that to some extent in my opening remarks. My latest information is that the Rourkela blast furnace production yesterday was 630 tons. In Bhilai it is a little over 800 tons. Bhilai has been better, and it has touched even 1000 tons on certain days. But, on the average, this is roughly of the order of 800 tons. I said that there was some defect in the tilting arrangement. I think that has been rectified and now we can look forward not with that pessimistic tone but with some confidence that the production there will be stepped up.

I will not take any more time except to refer in passing.....

Shri Nath Pal: We are ready to sit. Only answer our points.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I will attempt to answer but I cannot have the same eloquence which my hon. friend opposite can bring to bear. I can place certain facts before the hon. House and it is for them to draw whatever conclusions they intended to.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): How about the production of coal in the public sector?

Shri Dasappa: rose—

Sardar Swaran Singh: Shri Dasappa will naturally like me to say something about Bhadravati.

Shrimati Renu Chakravarty: Do not leave out Durgapur.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If all the individual demands are to be touched upon, perhaps it would be difficult.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I will not take long. So far as Bhadravati is concerned, the matter of expansion of Bhadravati has not only been approved but we have taken every step to encourage the Project so as to see that Bhadravati is expanded. They have actually expanded in the first Plan period. Certain schemes have been approved. Even with regard to the expansion of the other facilities also, I am glad to inform the House that the Chief Minister has already informed me that he agrees in principle to the formation of a Corporation, because that is the normal pattern that is suitable for running these organisations. The Tariff Commission also had suggested that it should be a Corporation. So far as the actual physical work is concerned, that has not at all suffered merely for want of formation of this Corporation. There are certain plans with regard to the expansion thereafter which are now in the final stages. I have every hope of its being a success. But even there, I may tell the hon. House even now that the amount of Rs 3 crores which was estimated first, is now about Rs 5 crores. On a detailed planning, it costs about Rs 5 crores. That, I think, is the general experience, when we sit down and go into the details. I am not at all perturbed by that increase. But I have no difficulty really about Bhadravati expansion. I can assure the hon. Member that so far as the Bhadravati expansion is concerned it will receive, and it has already received, all possible help and sympathy that it deserves.

Special mention has been made with regard to the location of the alloy and tool steel plant. With regard to that, all that I can say is that no final decision has been taken one way or the other, and it will depend upon weighing all the relevant considerations. Therefore a firm decision has

yet to be taken as to whether it should be located in one place or the other. We will see the overall economics in the matter of its best location, and it is only thereafter that a final decision will be taken.

Before I sit down, there are one or two things to be said. Something was said about the Board of Directors of Hindustan Steel. I think that we should not really say anything which may shake the people who have to take difficult and delicate decisions, people who are able and competent, who are good engineers, technical men though they may not have done steel. But how many men there are who have done steel and who can be posted there? Shrimati Renu Chakravartty suggested that we could even pick up some of our junior metallurgists and the like,—

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Senior.

Sardar Swaran Singh:and make them directors. The real fact is that there is a very great shortage of the right type of steel men. I would like to be as brave as Shri Nath Pai and I would very much like that every post is filled by an Indian. But we have to face the facts of the situation, much as we may require sentimentally and psychologically and the like, for which I have every sympathy. I do not think we have got the technical type of steel men who can be put as directors. I am in the search of a man.....

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Not one, but two, three....

Sardar Swaran Singh: Yes, two or three men. If I have to pay a higher salary to them, I hope I will have the support from hon. Members opposite. ...

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Certainly

Sardar Swaran Singh:because the salaries paid in the private sector are of the order of Rs. 7,000 or Rs. 8,000 or even Rs. 10,000. Indians doing steel work in India are paid such huge salaries in the private sector. (Interruptions). I am only trying to warn hon. Members that when I come forward with a proposal, probably this type of inducement that is now being offered to me will disappear, and I will be again put on the mat. You will not get a steel man for less than Rs. 7,000... Even if it is a difficult decision for me to take, I will not hesitate to take that decision and I will then come to the House. In the meantime, we are trying to take advantage of whatever talent is available.

Something was said about the retention price. Normally we have the recommendation of the Tariff Commission. I know that the Tariff Commission has come in for criticism on some occasions here. I think having created an organisation statutorily, we should not shake everybody's faith in the working of the organisation by trying to criticise it every time. On suitable occasions, we may differ from the recommendation of the Tariff Commission. I for one have not hesitated to differ when I can justify it. But we should have some organisation which in a more or less judicial manner examines it and makes a report. On that report, there should be a bias in favour of its acceptance unless there are overriding considerations, for in which case, a resolution can be published by the Government disagreeing from that. Steel being a controlled commodity, every little item on the expenditure side is taken into account at the time of fixation of prices.

A good point was raised by Shri Morarka, who generally has great insight in these matters, particularly figure work. I must confess I am not very good at figures, but I do give

some thought to these matters in a little more basic manner.

An Hon. Member: You have a good figure. (Interruptions).

Sardar Swaran Singh: Even that is being grugged. I give up the plural, but even the singular is denied to me!

So far as the retention price is concerned, sometimes retrospective effect is given. Actually we were proceeding on the basis of a five-year development programme. It is only a matter of calculation. You can give it over three years or four years. So long as the total that is to be given as a result of the Tariff Commission recommendation is not exceeded, it is more a matter of calculation as to whether you give it over the remaining period of two years or you spread it over five years. For instance in the case of excise duty, we never gave it with any retrospective effect, although there was a hint in the Tariff Commission recommendation that even that should be spread over five years, although it has been imposed later. We said, no; we will give only from the period in which the additional excise duty was imposed, because that was capable of calculation. There are other items which are not capable of calculation like, for instance, increased price of coal dependent on increased wages, additional bonus, additional cost of electricity, etc. There are 101 items! All these items are listed and they are not vague. Every item is known and there is an agreed formula that depending on these various items, the price can be altered. That has been consistently followed.

Shri Nath Pal: The Minister may answer the question on the capital of the International Steel Construction Company, ISCON.

Sardar Swaran Singh: I have not looked up the figure, but I can assure him that whether it is smaller or larger capital is a very very little matter, because we have entered into contracts with others who have no capital at all. You can say that they have the backing of the whole of the country. Therefore, these are very minor matters.

Shri Morarka: May I say a word?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I should think he has said enough when he was given an opportunity.

Shri Morarka: Just now the hon. Minister referred to the question of the retention price and he paid a compliment about my figure work

Shri Feroze Gandhi: He was referring to your figure!

Shri Morarka: As the hon. Minister himself stated, the sum total is first determined and then that total is distributed over 3 or 5 years, as the case may be. But in the recommendation of the Tariff Commission there is a difference in the sum total also, the large "sum total" has been calculated and then spread over five year period.

Sardar Swaran Singh: We will try to understand the viewpoint from him. He is a valuable colleague and I would like to benefit from him. I do not want to say that straightaway I reject his views.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Malaviya may explain the figure now.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I tried to understand these figures. I have satisfied myself that so far as the numbers are concerned, there is no mistake in these numbers. The only thing is if by some explanatory note this could have been split up, even I could have understood it much more precisely. The estimate of expenditure of Rs. 13.65 lakhs has been shown for 390 posts. Apparently, there seems to be some discrepancy, because for 390

posts it is Rs. 13.65 lakhs and for 336 posts it is Rs. 18 lakhs. The numbers do give the impression of some discrepancy. But when the estimates were made for 1958-59 they represented only the expenditure that was likely to be incurred after making due allowance for delay in obtaining expected sanction. Sanction for 390 posts are incomplete. Recruitment has to be made to fill the sanctioned posts. This means that the provision of Rs. 18.65 lakhs do not represent the entire expenditure for 12 months of the financial year on all the 390 posts

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I say....

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I do not want to be disturbed. If you will permit me to have my say then you are at perfect liberty to say what you want

That situation arose because in November, 1957 when estimates were drawn up *ad hoc* provision was made. The position has changed with effect from 1959-60. Now the Ministry of Finance do not accept any provision for inclusion in the budget estimates unless the necessary adjustments for the sanctioned post has been obtained in advance completely. So, the provision of Rs. 18.65 lakhs represents the entire expenditure on 336 posts which are already covered by the expenditure sanctioned. Hence the apparent discrepancy which you see.

Lastly, although the number is 390 as against 336, the fact is that 390 does not represent the actual 12 months' work. It was only an estimate made in advance on certain expectations of posts being filled and all that. But what is relevant is that though Rs. 13.65 lakhs were estimated only Rs. 11.95 lakhs were spent. Now Rs. 18.65 lakhs have been estimated for 336 completely planned out posts.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Doubts can arise when the estimated amount is Rs. 13.65 lakhs and the revised estimate is Rs. 11.95 lakhs. It was also

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anticipated by the hon. Minister that in the actuals it might be even lower. Then why should Rs 18.86 lakhs be budgeted for the next year? That is what is being asked for, when the numbers are not clearly given. If there had been an increase in number, the House would have understood it. But even now the numbers are not being given. The numbers are put at 390 and the revised estimate is Rs. 11,95,000 and it is anticipated that it might go lower than that if the number is brought down to 336. The estimated amount that is asked for now from the House is Rs. 18,86,000. The explanation given, so far as I could follow it, is that 390 men were not employed throughout the year.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes. But let us believe.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Some idea should be there.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I tried to find out the numbers. Those numbers have not been indicated here in any place. I tried to find out those numbers. They were 226. This is all that I can find out even at these places. If I get more time, I can perhaps give greater details. But perhaps these estimates now are for 226 and not for 390. When the estimates were made they were made for 390.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: But the House should, in the first instance, be satisfied. So far as these are concerned, if he wants more time he might come up tomorrow.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The number 226 that I have given is the firm number.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: May I submit that the budget estimates for 1958-59 were prepared several months before the Budget was presented.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: In November

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Exactly in November, as the hon. Minister has stated. What I want to understand is that if they provided for Rs 13,65,000 for 390 people, then how is it that for

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now he should read 226 instead of 390 according to the explanation given.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I will come to that. I compare that 336 with Rs 18 lakhs, that is, an increase of Rs 5 lakhs over the estimate, if the figure given by the hon. Minister is correct. Am I to understand that for 226 or whatever he said the estimate will still remain at Rs 13,65,000? Let him answer that. I am concerned with the number and the amount. If the number is reduced.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the number 226 is substituted for 390, what objection shall he have then?

Shri Feroze Gandhi: I am explaining that. The budget estimate for 1958-59 is Rs 13,65,000. Am I to understand that Rs 13,65,000 was also for 226?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The estimate of Rs 13,65,000 was for how many exactly? We do not know so far.

Shri Satya Narayan Sinha: And at what time?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That is not known. Now, the only figure that the Ministry can give is that it was 226. The hon. Member wants whether the same estimate would have remained if the original estimate of the number would have been 226 instead of 390. But now we are more concerned with the revised estimate. Now the number is 226 and the revised estimate is Rs 11 lakhs. When they want the number to be increased to 336 will there be something radically wrong if the budget estimate is Rs 18 lakhs.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: We want to understand it.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It will not be radically wrong.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: You have not explained A-2. It has not been explained. There is a difference of Rs. 5,80,000/-.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have explained it.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: A-2 has not been touched even

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have already stated that what is relevant here is that the amount is correct and that the actuals that have been shown are quite correct

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon Minister has to ask the hon Members to vote for this amount. There ought to be a satisfactory explanation for A-2 also. He has said that instead of 390 it should be 226 but so far as 2850 is concerned, what was the exact number there. There Rs 18 lakhs had been asked for and Rs 13 lakhs is the revised estimate. Now Rs 23 lakhs are being asked for in the estimates while the number is being decreased, so far as these numbers are concerned

Shri Nausahir Bharucha: May I point out that even the explanation as given by the hon Minister, assuming that it is correct, is not fair to the House because the Government take a large sum by the vote of the House and then employ a smaller number of employees. We give you Rs 13 lakhs for employing 390 and you spend Rs 11 lakhs and employ only 226. The point is that by misrepresenting to the House that the Government are going to employ 390 men you get Rs 13 lakhs and of course, then it turns out that only 226 persons are employed, while Rs 11 lakhs are spent.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I think there is no harm if we hold it over and some more explanation is given. Even the hon Finance Minister might look into it. The difficulty is this. I am told

and I am advised that because the President gives sanctions to whatever is contained here, we cannot change the figures, either the numbers or the amount here. Therefore, there ought to be some more explanation. A note might be circulated, or something like that may be done

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is for you to take a decision, but so far as I am concerned, I am satisfied that the actual expenditure shown here in the estimates is correct.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: We must also be satisfied.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I gave the figure of 226. If I am required to give the equivalent figure for A-2, I give it now, it is 1600. But I do not see what is doubted here.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have tried to explain the doubt. When we ask the House to vote for an estimate of Rs 23 lakhs for 2222, is there a justification for it when we find that for 2850 there is the revised estimate of Rs 13 lakhs? The Minister is asking for Rs 23.88 lakhs or about Rs 24 lakhs for 2222. Either he should give the explanation that all the wages have been doubled or something must be done.

An Hon. Member: He should spend only Rs 13 lakhs.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is only after November 1957, that is, it is only this year that we are required to give the actual figures. Previously, these figures were calculated on the basis of the work that we had before us; and, therefore, these figures should be considered firm namely, the figures which we have now given, namely 336 and 2222, but the other figures which I have quoted were 226 for 390 and 1600 for 2850. That is what we have found out after calculation here.

Shri Nausahir Bharucha: That is exactly what is wrong

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Therefore, I do not see any discrepancy so far as the

[Shri K. D. Malaviya]

figures 226 and 336 are concerned, and the figures 1600 and 2232 are concerned. I have given an explanation as to why these figures should now be considered firm rather than the figures supplied last year.

Shri Nath Pal: The discrepancy is as big as a mountain.

Shrimati Benu Chakravarty: May I also ask the hon. Minister to tell us one thing? This year, we have been given these figures. If we accept what the hon. Minister says, that the figure in the first column should be 226 instead of 390, that means that 226 is the revised figure, and should apply to the revised estimates. I presume that is the understanding. Then, I should like to know whether that will be applying to all the figures which are going previous to that

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: It is the amount that is revised, not the numbers. That is the difficulty. The numbers are not revised; they should be the actuals. That has been done. But the only explanation that came was that they were not whole-time workers. My only option now is

Shri Ferose Gandhi: May I point out that non-whole-time workers cannot be put in this category of 'Pay of Officers' and 'Pay of Establishments'. If they are non-regular establishments on daily wages, they must be paid out of contingency.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have not said that.

Shri Ferose Gandhi: The Chair said that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I thought that someone had suggested that they were not whole-time workers. I think the Minister had suggested it.

Shri Ferose Gandhi: But in this account, there cannot be any temporary hands of a non-regular establishment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If this is the only explanation that the hon. Minister can put forward, then I have no option. The House might decide whether to accept it or not.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Then, this point of order may be raised. Assuming for a moment that according to him the revised figures tally proportionately well with the amount he has asked for, then the question arises that the Budget has not been properly presented.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It has been properly presented. I do not accept the hon. Member's statement.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The House voted Rs. 13 lakhs for 390 persons. Therefore, he has no right to say that he would appropriate only Rs. 11 lakhs to employ 226. It means that really he is exceeding the limit of the budgeting indirectly.

Shri K. D. Malaviya: It is not like that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If he is asking for Rs. 18 lakhs for 336 persons, it is for the House to decide whether to give it or not.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Then, he will spend Rs. 17 lakhs to employ 107 persons. . . .

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then, the hon. Member can come forward with this point. But so far as this is concerned, now he is asking for Rs. 18 lakhs.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: For how many people?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: For 336.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: He cannot employ less afterwards and say that he has spent so much.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We shall see that afterwards, whether he employs the full contingent or employs a lower number. We shall see that afterwards. Now, I think it should be for the House to decide.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: It is for you to decide, not for the House. If you are convinced that the explanation given by the hon. Minister is not satisfactory, there is no harm in the Demand being held over. The hon. Minister can circulate a note this evening and this Demand can be put to vote tomorrow. I really feel that there is something wrong in this estimate.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I have heard the hon. Member. That is all right, so far as he raises the objection. I had also certain doubts which I expressed myself, but if this is the explanation that the hon. Minister can give and he has given it, now it is for the hon. Members to decide whether that is sufficient or not. What should I do? *Division No. 6*]

Therefore, I will now enquire from the Hon. Members whether they want to press any particular cut motion. Or, should I put them all together?

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: You can put all the cut motions to the vote except No 1126 which we want to press for division.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the Demand under the head Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel be reduced by Rs. 100 (Increase in the price of kerosene)".

Lok Sabha divided: Ayes 21; Noes 85
[17.41 hrs.

AYES

Bharucha, Shri Naushir
Braj Raj Singh, Shri
Chakravarty, Shri Ramtari Renu
Bilas, Shri Mohammed
Ghosal, Shri
Imam, Shri Mohamed
Kar, Shri Prabhat

Kumbhar, Shri
Mohan Swarup, Shri
Mukerjee, Shri H N
Mullick, Shri B C
Nath Pai, Shri
Panigrahi, Shri
Rajendra Singh, Shri

Rao, Shri T B Vittal
Reddy, Shri Nagi
Singh, Shri L Achaw
Sugandhi, Shri
Supakar, Shri
Tangamani, Shri
Verma, Shri Ramji

NOES

Achar, Shri
Ajit Singh, Shri
Ashanna, Shri
Bahadur Singh, Shri
Bekliwal, Shri
Balmik, Shri
Banerji, Dr R
Barmen, Shri
Bisappa, Shri
Bharгава, Pandit Thakur Das
Birendra Singh, Shri
Bose, Shri
Brahm Purkash, Ch.
Brajeshwar Prasad, Shri
Chanda, Shri Anil K
Chaturvedi, Shri
Chettiar, Shri R. Ramenathan
Chuni Lal, Shri
Daljit Singh, Shri
Das, Shri N. T
Das, Shri Ramdhanil
Das, Shri Shree Narayan
Dasappa, Shri
Deb, Shri N. M
Dube, Shri Mulchand
Dwivedi, Shri M. L.
Gandhi, Shri Feroze
Gounder, Shri K. Patiswami
Jain, Shri M. C.

Jyotishi, Pandit J P
Kashwal, Shri
Kotaki, Shri Lildhar
Khan, Shri Sadath Ali
Kureel, Shri B N
Lachhi Ram, Shri
Lahiri, Shri
Maiti, Shri N B
Majaviya, Shri K D
Mandal, Dr Pashupati
Mathur, Shri Harish Chandra
Mehta, Shri J R.
Mishra, Shri Bibhuti
Mishra, Shri L N
Misra, Shri R R
Morarka, Shri
Nanjappa, Shri
Narasimhan, Shri
Nasiker, Shri P S
Nehtu, Shri M. Uma
Ora, Shri
Padam Dev, Shri
Patel, Shri Rajeshwar
Pattabhi Raman, Shri
Pragi Lal, Ch
Radha Raman, Shri
Raghubir Sahai, Shri
Raju, Shri D S

Ram Saran, Shri
Rane, Shri
Rao, Shri Jagannatha
Reddy, Shri K. C
Reddy, Shri Rami
Roy, Shri Bishwanath
Sahu, Shri Rameshwar
Sagol, Sardar A. S.
Samantainhar, Dr
Sarbaji, Shri Ajit Singh
Shankaraya, Shri
Sharma, Shri R. C
Shukla, Shri V C.
Siddananjappa, Shri
Siddiah, Shri
Singh, Shri H P
Sinha, Shri Gajendra Prasad
Sinha, Shri K. P
Sinha, Shri Satya Narayan
Subbarayan, Dr. P
Suman Prasad, Shri
Sunder Lal, Shri
Swarn Singh, Sardar
Thomas, Shri A M
Tiwari, Shri R S
Tula Ram, Shri
Umrao Singh, Shri
Venkatesubhaiah, Shri

The motion was negatived

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I take it that withdrawn with the leave of the House.

All the other cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The question is:

"That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts shown in the fourth column of the order paper, be granted to the President, to complete the sums necessary to defray the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March 1960, in respect of the heads of demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 81 to 84 and 130 relating to the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel".

The motion was adopted.

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.]

DEMAND No. 81—MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 36,98,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

DEMAND No. 83—EXPLORATION OF OIL

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,02,63,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Geological Survey'".

DEMAND No. 83—EXPLORATION OF OIL AND NATURAL GAS

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,10,34,000 be granted to the

President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas'".

DEMAND No. 84—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 24,81,40,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

DEMAND No. 130—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL, MINES AND FUEL

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 22,06,60,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel'".

MINISTRY OF WORKS, HOUSING AND SUPPLY

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up discussion on Demands Nos. 95 to 99 and 136 to 138 relating to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply for which 4 hours have been allotted.

Hon. Members desirous of moving cut motions may hand over at the Table within 15 minutes the number of the selected cut motions. I shall treat them as moved, if the members in whose names those cut motions stand are present in the House and the motions are otherwise in order.

**DEMAND No. 95—MINISTRY OF WORKS,
HOUSING AND SUPPLY**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 57,97,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply'."

DEMAND No. 96—SUPPLIES

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 2,59,19,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Supplies'."

DEMAND No. 97—OTHER CIVIL WORKS

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 24,74,12,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Other Civil Works'."

**DEMAND No. 98—STATIONERY AND
PRINTING**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,12,63,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Stationery and Printing'."

**DEMAND No. 99—MISCELLANEOUS
DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE
UNDER THE MINISTRY OF WORKS,
HOUSING AND SUPPLY**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,09,05,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply'."

**DEMAND No. 136—DELHI CAPITAL
OUTLAY**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,71,17,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Delhi Capital Outlay'."

**DEMAND No. 137—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON
BUILDINGS**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 7,53,92,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Buildings'."

**DEMAND No. 138—OTHER CAPITAL
OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF WORKS,
HOUSING AND SUPPLY**

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 6,55,39,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending

[Mr. Deputy Speaker.]

the 31st day of March, 1960, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply'."

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: We have got a half-hour discussion today. The Member concerned is present. So if we continue with the discussion on this Ministry, we will have to sit till 8-30. There are hardly 20 minutes left. So I would suggest that we may straightway take up the half hour discussion and start discussion on this Ministry tomorrow.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We took the decision that we would sit till 6 P.M. to discuss the Demands.

Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Now hardly 15 or 20 minutes are left. The Minister also will not be fresh now.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is the Minister making any opening remarks or should the House proceed with the discussion?

The Minister of Works, Housing and Supply (Shri K. C. Reddy): The debate may proceed.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We will sit up to 6 P.M. for discussion of the Demands.

श्री मोहन स्वर्ण्य (पीलीभीत) : उपाम्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आप का बहुत आभारी हूँ कि मुझे बोलने का मौका दिया गया। पिछले साल भी मुझे वर्क्स, हाउसिंग एंड सप्लाय की डिमांड्स पर बोलने का अवसर मिला था। इस वर्ष भी मैं इस सम्बन्ध में कुछ विचार प्रकट करना चाहता हूँ। इस मिनिस्ट्री में तीन डिपार्टमेंट शामिल हैं—वर्क्स, हाउसिंग और सप्लाय। जहाँ तक वर्क्स का सवाल है, पिछले साल बहुत करते हुए कुछ लोगों ने पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० को पब्लिक वेस्ट डिपार्टमेंट कहा था, लेकिन अगर उस को प्लंबर विदाउट डेंजर कहा जाय, तो कुछ बुरा न होगा।

यह देखा जाता है कि जिस वक्त ठेके लिये जाते हैं, उस वक्त दस परसेंट तो वैसे ही माजिन रखा जाता है, ताकि लोग झुले तौर से दस परसेंट की बचत कर सकें।

उपाम्यक्ष महोदय : कभी आप ने भी कंस्ट्रक्ट का काम किया है ?

श्री मोहन स्वर्ण्य : किया नहीं है, लेकिन और लोगों को देखा है। यह ग्राम तौर पर देखा जाता है कि सामान चोरी चला जाता है, मैटीरियल गायब हो जाता है। रिश्तत का यह हाल है कि शुरू से ले कर आखिर तक—ओवरसीयर से ले कर चीफ इंजीनियर तक ठेकेदार को रुपया देना पड़ता है। ऐसे सूरते-हालात में ईश्वर ही जाने कि मकानों की कंस्ट्रक्शन कैसे होती है। रोजाना हम और आप यह सब देखते हैं। मैंने १७ मार्च, १९५९ को क्वेश्चन नम्बर २०३८ पूछा था, जो कि टनकपुर में डाकखाने की बिल्डिंग के बारे में था। वह डाकखाना तीन चार बरसों से बन रहा है और अभी तक सिर्फ दीवारें जरा उठ पाई हैं। वह जगह मेरी कार्टीज्युएन्सी में है। मैंने उस के मृतालिक तहकीकात की है और मुझे बताया गया है कि बहुत सा सामान गायब हो गया है और उस में इंजीनियरिंग डिपार्टमेंट का स्टाफ भी शामिल है। यह बात मुझे बताई गई है। मुमकिन है कि यह सलत हो। मुझे बताया गया है कि साईट से लोहा और सरिया गायब हो गया है और इमारत अभी थोड़ी सी बनी है। मिनिस्टर साहब ने उस वक्त यह जवाब दिया था—

"That Executive Engineer, C.P.W.D. had invited tenders for the remaining work left out by the previous contractor. The cost of work as now estimated has exceeded the original estimate and these tenders are now under scrutiny. The actual building work is expected to start and be completed during the financial year 1959-60."

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, यह दशा है उस जगह की और अभी तक वह बिल्डिंग बन नहीं पाई है। इस तरह की एम्बल्स बहुत सी दी जा सकती हैं।

बरेली-मेरठ नेशनल हाईवे पर एक ब्रिज बना है। श्री लाल बहादुर शास्त्री ने उस का उद्घाटन किया था। एक साल पुल बना और दूसरे साल उस का एक पोर्शन गिर भी गया, हालांकि पुल अभी अंदर कंस्ट्रक्शन था। पिछले जाइंग में ने देखा कि गिरे हिस्से की मरम्मत की जा रही थी। आप देख सकते हैं कि नेशनल हाईवे की यह दशा है।

सतीमा में बंगाली कालोनी बन रही है। उस की भी यही दशा है। इसी तरह मैं यह बताना चाहता हूं कि मिंटो रोड पर कुछ क्वार्टर बन चुके हैं, जिन के बारे में बताया जाता है कि वे पिछली बार के जमाने में बने थे। वे अच्छे खासे क्वार्टर हैं, लेकिन कहा जाता है कि अब उन को तोड़ दिया जायगा और उन की जगह पर वहां मल्टी-स्टोरीड बिल्डिंग बनाई जायगी। दो एक इंजीनियर साहबान से, जिन का कि इस से वास्ता है, मैं ने पूछा तो उन्होंने कहा कि उन की लाइफ नहीं रही। मैं कोई एक्सपर्ट नहीं हूं, लेकिन एपैरेंटली वे क्वार्टर अच्छे खासे हैं। आप जानते हैं कि दिल्ली में एकामोडेशन की कितनी कमी है, लेकिन जब मैं देखता हूं कि अच्छी खासी इमारतों को गिराने की बात की जाती है, तो दुख सा होता है। दिल्ली में मल्टी-स्टोरीड बिल्डिंग बनाने के लिये काफ़ी जगह खाली पड़ी हुई है। तो फिर क्या बजह है कि मिंटो रोड की अच्छी खासी इमारतों को तोड़ा जाये ?

17.48 hrs.

[SHRI BARMAN in the Chair]

कृषि भवन के सामने एक इमारत पिछले साल लोड़ी गई। अब वहां एक मल्टी-स्टोरीड बिल्डिंग बनाई जा रही है। जहां तक कृषि

भवन का सवालुक है, पिछले साल बारिश की वजह से वहां पर पचास हजार गैलन पानी भर गया। एक दफा मुझे कृषि भवन जाने का इतिफाक हुआ। मैंने देखा कि हजारों फाइलें पानी में भीगी पड़ी थीं। वहां पर एक प्राविजन स्टोर भी था। उस का सारा सामान सड़ गल कर खराब हो गया था। वहां कई दिन तक पानी भरा रहा। इसी तरह मिंटो ब्रिज के नीचे भी कई दिन तक पानी भरा रहा। आखिर यह कैसी प्लानिंग है ? इस डिपार्टमेंट के क्या बंग हैं, क्या तरीके हैं और कैसे एक्सपर्ट हैं, जो इस तरह के मकानात बनाते हैं कि सड़क तो ऊंची है और उस पर बने हुए मकान नीचे हैं, जैसे कि कृषि भवन और उद्योग भवन हैं। मैं मिनिस्टर साहब से जानना चाहता हूं कि यह कैसा प्लानिंग है। वह इस का स्पष्टीकरण करें। कृषि भवन के समीप एक बिल्डिंग है, जिस में पहले खाद्य मंत्री रहा करते थे। शायद श्री जयरामदास दीलतराम वहां रहे थे और फिर मुंशी साहब भी रहे थे। उस मकान को तोड़ने का इन्तजाम हो रहा है और उस जगह पर एक मल्टी-स्टोरीड बिल्डिंग बनाई जायगी। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि यह क्या तरीके हैं कि दिल्ली में मकानात की कमी हो, पैसे का अभाव हो और दूसरे देशों से कर्ब लिया जाता हो और फिर भी बनी बनाई इमारतों को तोड़ने की बात हो। इस डिपार्टमेंट में इस कदम करवाने हैं कि कुछ कहा नहीं जा सकता है। मैं चाहता हूं कि एक हाई पावर कमीशन बिठाया जाय, जो कि करवाने के मुतालिक जांच-पड़ताल करे कि यह धावत और ये तरीके कब तक जारी रहेंगे और वह कमीशन तरीके बताए कि सेंट्रल पी० डब्ल्यू० डी० में उम्मा तरीके से काम किस तरह से किया जाये।

आहिर है कि यहां पर मकानात की कितनी कमी है। मैं देखता हूं कि हर रोड मैकड़ों धावती—बलास फ़ोर एम्पसाईड—साइकलों पर साहबरा और गाड़ियाबाद जैसे

[श्री मोहन स्वर्ण]

दूर इलाको से वफतरो में आते हैं और शाम को छ बजे बेचारे वापस आते हैं। जो आदमी सुबह चार बजे से उठ कर आफ्रिस अटेंड करे और शाम को छ बजे वापस जाये, उसकी दशा क्या होगी ? गवर्नमेंट इस बारे में कुछ नहीं सोच रही है कि हाउसिंग की कमी को किस तरह दूर किया जाये।

जो रिपोर्ट हमारे सामने है, उसमें बताया गया है कि पाच सौ रुपए और उससे ऊपर पाने वाले आफ्रिसर्ज के लिए एकामोडेशन की डिमांड ४,६०७ यूनिट है, ऐबेलेबिलिटी २,२६३ यूनिट है और कमी २,३४४ यूनिट है। पाच सौ रुपए से कम पाने वाले आफ्रिसर्ज के लिये एकामोडेशन की डिमांड ३६,२६७ यूनिट है, ऐबेलेबिलिटी १६,७५१ यूनिट है और कमी १६,५१६ यूनिट की है। क्लास कोर की डिमांड १७,४५४ यूनिट है, ऐबेलेबिलिटी ६,५५२ यूनिट है और शार्टेज १०,६०२ यूनिट है। इसी तरह वर्क-वाजर्ड स्टाफ की डिमांड ८,००० यूनिट है, ऐबेलेबिलिटी १,६०० यूनिट है और शार्टेज ६,४०० यूनिट है। मैं नहीं जानता कि मकानात की यह कमी कब तक पूरी होगी और लोग कब तक इस तरह परेशान रहेंगे। मैं देखता हू कि दिल्ली में हजारों आदमी बेघरबार रहते हैं, सबको घर सोते हैं। बल्कि मैंने तो स्टुडेंट्स को लैम्प-पोस्ट्स के नीचे पढ़ते देखा है, क्योंकि उनके पास मकान नहीं होते हैं। आदमी चौक में जिस जगह पर किसी जमान में टावर था और जहाँ आबकल तोप रखी हुई है, वहाँ पर हम बैगर्ज और दूसरे लोगों को रात को सोते देखाते हैं। आखिर यह कभी कब तक रहेगी और कब तक हम परेशान-हाली में रहेंगे ?

अब मैं हाउसिंग की तरफ आता हू। हाउसिंग के बारे में पाच तरह की स्कीमे बनाई गई हैं। एक तो इन्स्ट्रियल हाउसिंग की स्कीम है, दूसरी कम आमदनी वाले ग्रुप वालों के लिए, तीसरी गन्दी बस्तियों के

निवासियों के लिए, चौथी बागानों के जो अधिक है, उनके लिए और पांचवीं नुन हुए बानों के लिये। रिपोर्ट को देखने से पता चलता है कि ये पाच तरह की स्कीम हैं जो कि तैयार की गई हैं। इनके अलावा दो और स्कीम हैं जो कि बिचाराधीन हैं, एक के तहत ६,००० रुपये से लेकर १२,००० रुपये तक जिनकी आय है, उनको सहायता देने के बारे में और दूसरी के तहत राज्य सरकारों को हक दिया गया है कि वे अपने कर्मचारियों के लिए सहायता लेकर स्कीम बना सकती हैं और उनको सहायता रुपया दिया जा सकता है और वह रुपया लाइफ इनश्योरेंस कारपोरेशन के एकाउण्ट से दिया जाएगा। उसी के साथ साथ नो-आफिट नो लास बेसिस पर मकानों के लिए स्कीमे रखे ताकि उनको सहायता दी जा सके। लेकिन मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हू कि जब सैकिण्ड फाइव ईयर प्लान आया था, उसमें १२० करोड़ रुपये का प्राविजन रखा गया था लेकिन रिजर्वल है कुल ८४ करोड़ रुपया ही उसमें रखा गया है हाउसिंग के लिये। मैं समझता हू कि हाउसिंग के लिये कम रुपया रखना मुनासिब नहीं था। इसका कारण यह है कि हाउसिंग की बहुत ही एक्यूट प्राबलैम है और उसका कोई न कोई हल निकलना ही चाहिये और वह हल रुपया कम करके नहीं निकल सकता है। इस वास्ते मैं समझता हू कि जो रुपया कम किया गया है वह मुनासिब नहीं है।

इन्स्ट्रियल हाउसिंग के अन्तर्गत एक लाख पाच हजार मकान बनाने की व्यवस्था की गई थी और ३१ ६४ रुपया इस काम के लिए निर्धारित किया गया था लेकिन कुल ७८,५०० मकानात ही बन पाये हैं। जो इनकम ग्रुप के लिये भी २३ ६४ करोड़ रुपये का प्राविजन था दिसम्बर १९५८ तक के लिये। ६ २५ करोड़ रुपये का प्राविजन १९५८-५९ के बजट में किया गया था। इस सबसे ६०,००० मकान बनने थे लेकिन

कुल ३२,००० मकान बन पाये हैं। इस तरह से इंडस्ट्रियल हाउसिंग और सो-इनकम ग्रुप दोनों में जब हम मकान बनने की रफ्तार को देखते हैं तो पता चलता है कि वह बहुत ही धीमी है। अगर रफ्तार इसी तरह से धीमी रही तो मैं समझता हूँ कि आप इन कामों को पूरा नहीं कर पायेंगे।

अब मैं स्लम्स के बारे में कुछ कहना चाहूंगा। इस काम के लिये कुछ करोड़ रुपया, रखा गया है। कलकत्ता, बम्बई, ब्रह्मदाबाद मद्रास, कानपुर और दिल्ली इन छह शहरों के लिए कुछ रुपया रखा गया है और कुछ स्कीमें बनाई जा रही हैं। लेकिन जब हम दिल्ली को देखते हैं जो कि मुल्क की राजधानी है, कैपिटल है, तो इन स्लम्स को देख कर हमें शर्म आती है। आप मोतियाबादा जायें, जमना बाजार कालोनी जायें, जो हालत इन बस्तियों की है, उसको देख करके लज्जा आती है। इस तरह से जहाँ तक स्लम्स का सवाल है—

Shri K. C. Meddy: May I point out, Sir, that the Delhi slum clearance work has been under the Ministry of Health and not under the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. From next year onwards it is going to be transferred to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply—the Delhi slum clearance work.

श्री मोहन स्वप्न स्लम्स के भूताल्लिक मैं थोड़ा सा ही कहना चाहूंगा कि इनको हटाने की ज. बात की जाती है तो वे दूर नहीं होते हैं, बल्कि सरक जाते हैं, एक जगह से दूसरी जगह रख दिये जाते हैं और जिन जगहों पर स्लम्स होते हैं, वहाँ पर मल्टीस्टोरीड बिल्डिंग्स बना दी जाती हैं। इन लोगों को अच्छे मकानों के बने की व्यवस्था नहीं होती है, हा यह अवश्य होता है कि ये एक जगह से हट कर दूसरी जगह बन जायें हैं। इस तरह से इन स्लम्स की जो हालत है वह ठीक नहीं है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन लोगों के लिए मकानों की व्यवस्था की जानी चाहिये।

पिछले साल मैंने कहा था कि लाल किनारे के रैम्पाट्स में जो सासी और भात लोग रहते हैं, इनको पाम में ही जो मिलिटरी की लाल बरेक्स हैं, उनमें शिफ्ट कर दिया जाए और वे लोग भी इन बरेक्स को छोड़ने के लिए तैयार हो सकते हैं और जब इनकी जरूरत होगी डिफेंस के काम के लिये, तब इन्हें उन्हें वापिस दिया जा सकता है, लेकिन इस पर कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया गया, इस सुझाव को अभी तक भी इम्प्लेमेंट नहीं किया गया है और न ही यहाँ रहने वाले लोगों को कोई सहूलियतें दी पहुँचाई गई हैं।

अब मैं रूरल हाउसिंग पर आता हूँ। पहले मैं रूरल स्लम्स का जिक्र कर देना चाहता हूँ। अनेक गावों में ऐसे स्लम्स हैं, ऐसी गन्धी जगहें हैं, जिनमें कि धादमी बसते हैं और वहाँ पर धादमी बरसात के दिनों में नहीं पहुँच सकते हैं, और वहाँ से लोग धाना चाहे तो नहीं घा सकते हैं। रूरल स्लम्स के लिए कुछ भी प्राविजन इसमें नहीं रखा गया है और न ही इसके बारे में किसी बात का रिपोर्ट को पढ़ने से पता चलता है। पता नहीं कौनसी कोशिश इन रूरल स्लम्स को दूर करने की की जा रही है।

जहाँ तक गावों में हाउसिंग का ताल्लुक है, गाव हिन्दुस्तान की डेमोक्रेसी के एक यूनिट हैं और यह देख कर मुझे दुःख होता है कि गावों में हाउसिंग की तरफ कोई तबज्जह नहीं दी जा रही है। पहले तो १५०० गावों को डिबेल्प करने की बात थी। इनमें से ५०० गाव अब चुने गये हैं। और उनको १९५७-५८ में शामिल किया गया था। लेकिन रिपोर्ट में बताया गया है कि ५०० गावों के बारे में ही स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स से रिपोर्ट आई है कि उनको डिबेल्प किया जाए। रिपोर्ट को देखने से यह जाहिर नहीं होता है कि कितने गावों में मकाना बनाये गये हैं, कितना रुपया खर्च किया गया है। इन सब बातों के बारे में रिपोर्ट बिल्कुल साइडेंट है . . .

Mr. Chairman: I think the hon Member is likely to take some more time. He may continue tomorrow. We will now take up the Half-an-Hour Discussion.

18 hrs.

***GHAT TO GHAT BOOKING BETWEEN MAHENDRA GHAT AND PAHLEZA GHAT**

श्री राजेन्द्रसिंह (छपरा) सभापति महोदय, इस सदन के सामने दो प्रश्न हैं। पहला तो यह है कि जब आप बिहार के भौगोलिक और प्राकृतिक नक्शे की ओर देखेंगे तो आपको पता चलेगा कि बिहार के मध्य से गंगा बहती है, बिहार के दो भागों को गंगा विभक्त करती है। इन दोनों भागों का सम्बन्ध स्थापित करने में तथा एक भाग से दूसरे भाग में पहुँचने में हमको गंगा को पार करना पड़ता है। यह भी याद रखने की चीज है कि पटना जो कि बिहार राज्य की राजधानी है, वह गंगा से ऊपर बसा हुआ है। जिन लोगों को उत्तर बिहार में पटना जाना होता है उन्हें गंगा को पार करना पड़ता है। इसी तरह से दक्षिण बिहार में लोगों को जब उत्तर बिहार जाना होता है तो गंगा पार करनी पड़ती है। तब प्रश्न उठता है कि इसको पार कैसे किया जाता है? रेल का जहाज इस नदी में चलता है और वहाँ एक साधन है जिससे कि लोग उत्तर से दक्षिण और दक्षिण के उत्तर बिहार से सम्बन्ध स्थापित करते हैं। कोई भी भाद १ हिन्दुस्तान में एक स्थान से दूसरे स्थान जाना चाहता है तो यह उसकी इच्छा पर निर्भर करता है, उसकी मर्जी पर निर्भर करता है कि जिस तरह से चाहे जाये, जहाँ चाहे जाए और जहाँ से चाहे जाए। उसके ऊपर कोई भी किसी प्रकार का प्रतिबन्ध नहीं है कोई उसके रास्ते में रुकावट नहीं है। मगर यह अभाग्य बिहार बहुत से हालात में बहुत से दृष्टिकोणों से केन्द्रीय सरकार की धोर से उपेक्षित रहा है। मगर मैं समझता

हूँ कि यह और भी ज्यादा तकलीफ की बात है कि रेलवे की धोर से भी बहुत से अंशों में, बहुत से भागों में यह उपेक्षित रहा है।

सभापति महोदय, यह गौर करने की बात है कि अगर भादमी पटना के उस पार जाना चाहे तो जहाज का टिकट उसको नहीं मिल सकता है। उसके ऊपर यह बात, जब रेल लादी जाती है कि अगर तुम जहाज पर सफर करना चाहो तो तुम को रेल का टिकट कटाना पड़ेगा। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ और इस सदन के सामने अपनी यह शिकायत रखना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सही नहीं है कि अगर मैं दिल्ली का निवासी हूँ और गाजियाबाद जाना चाहता हूँ तो मैं एक टिकट कटा सकता हूँ गाजियाबाद का और जा करके वापस टिकट लेकर आ सकता हूँ या नहीं आ सकता हूँ? आप मानेंगे कि मैं ऐसा कर सकता हूँ। मगर पटना का भादमी अगर पहलेजा घाट जाना चाहे तो उसके लिये यह कर सकना मुश्किल नहीं है और अगर वह इस तरह की हिमाकत करेगा तो उसको सजा भुगतनी पड़ेगी। अभी हाल ही में इस सदन के अन्दर एक सक्त सा कानून बनाया गया है जिसमें यह दर्ज था कि जो लोग बिना टिकट सफर करते हुए पाए जायेंगे, उनको सक्त सजा मिलेगी कभी सजा मिलेगी। अगर कोई भादमी पहलेजा घाट से पटना जाना चाहता है तो हालांकि उसकी कोई मंशा नहीं है, कोई स्वाहिस नहीं है कि वह आपका कानून तोड़े या बिना टिकट के जाय, लेकिन पहलेजाघाट से पटना जाने में वह सजा का भागी बनेगा, उसको दंड मिल सकता है, उसको नाना प्रकार की कानूनी यातनायें दी जायेंगी। यह कहा तक सही है? मेरी रेलवे के अधिकारियों से बर्बायें हुई, उन्होंने कहा कि इसमें हमारा कुसूर नहीं है कुसूर प्रान्तीय सरकार का है। मगर मैं सोचता हूँ कि यह रेलवे मंत्रालय की एक लपड़ी वाली

*Half-an-Hour Discussion.

है। सन् १८८५ ई० में जबकि यहां पर बर्तानिया सल्तनत थी, उसने एक कानून बनाया था कि जो प्राइवेट फेरी सर्विस है उसको पब्लिक फेरी सर्विस में किस तरह से लाया जायेगा, उसके ऊपर कलेक्टर का क्या अधिकार होगा, और क्या कमिश्नर का अधिकार होगा। वह बहुत पुराना कानून है। गंगा के प्रवाह में न जाने कितना पानी बंगाल की खाड़ी में पहुंच गया होगा क्योंकि करीब ६० या ७० वर्ष गुजर चुके हैं। इन ७० वर्षों के अन्दर हिन्दुस्तान से बर्तानिया सल्तनत गई, अपनी सल्तनत कायम हुई, हमने अपने स्वतन्त्र भारत के लिये एक संविधान की रचना की, मगर वह कानून वहां वैसे का बसा पड़ा हुआ है। आज मैं सदन के सामने पूछना चाहता हूं कि जब हर भारतीय को यह अधिकार है कि वह अपनी रुचि के मुताबिक, स्वतन्त्रता के साथ, बिना किसी प्रतिबन्ध के, जितनी चाहे यात्रा कर सकता है तब अन्तर्गत बिहार के यात्रियों के साथ यह क्या अन्याय है कि अगर वह अपने घर से पटना को, बिहार की राजधानी को, जाना चाहे और राजधानी से वापस अपने घर को आना चाहे, तो उसके ऊपर यह प्रतिबन्ध लगाया जाता है कि वह नदी को नहीं पार कर सकता है? यह दलील दी जाती है कि यह तो प्रान्तीय सरकार के हाथ में है और इससे प्रान्तीय कर जोखिम में पड़ जायेगा इसलिये इस बात को रक्खा जाता है। लेकिन मैं आपका ध्यान संविधान के ७वें अनुबन्ध की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं। उसकी पहली सूची के खंड २४ में कहा गया है :

"Shipping and navigation on inland waterways, declared by Parliament by law to be national waterways, as regards mechanically propelled vessels; the rule of the road on such waterways."

इस ७वें अनुबन्ध की १री सूची में यह साफ कहा गया है कि किस विषय में संघ की सरकार को कौनसा अधिकार प्राप्त है। उसमें कहा गया है कि जलपथ पर अगर यांत्रिक

शक्ति का उपयोग किया जाय तो संघ सरकार को यह हक हासिल है कि वह कानून बना कर घोषणा करे उसके ऊपर उसका अधिकार चल सकता है। मेरा इशारा नाव की ओर नहीं है, फंदी बोट की ओर नहीं है, मेरा इशारा केवल जहाज की ओर है जो कि यांत्रिक शक्ति से चलता है।

मेरे प्रश्न के उत्तर में कहा गया था कि बिहार की सरकार ने लोगों के इस पार से उस पार जाने का इन्तजाम रक्खा है इसलिये रेलवे लोगों को सीधे टिकट कटाने की इजाजत नहीं देती। मेरे बहुत से दोस्त, चाहे वे इस पक्ष के हों या दूसरे पक्ष के, पटना गये होंगे। पटना के गोलघर से, एक किनारे से देखा होगा कि जिस दिन से गंगा में बाढ़ आती है, पानी उसके किनारों में भर जाता है और किसी के लिये भी पांच महीने तक काठ की नाव पर गंगा पार करना अपनी जान के साथ खिलवाड़ करना होता है। इसलिये उसको जहाज पर ही नदी को पार करना होता है। गर्मी के दिनों में गंगा का घाट बहुत बढ़ा हो जाता है। उसमें बहुत सी धारायें हो जाती हैं। वे धारायें ऐसी नहीं होतीं कि आदमी एक नाव से नदी को पार कर पटना पहुंच जाये या पटना से उस पार पहुंच जाये। उसको अनेक धारायें पार करनी होती हैं। बहुत से सोते होते हैं, बालू के ढेर होते हैं। अगर एक आदमी नाव से ही पटना जाना चाहे तो उसका सारा दिन गुजर जाता है। वह मेरा ही तजुर्बा नहीं है, हमारे दूसरे साथी जो बिहार से आते हैं और मेरे जैसे ही बदनसीब हैं, जिनको गंगा के किनारे रहना होता है, उन सब का यह तजुर्बा होगा।

दूसरी बात यह है कि पहले हमारे यहां सड़कों का बहुत उत्थान नहीं हुआ था, सड़कों द्वारा यातायात के साधन में उस समय बहुत प्रगति नहीं हुई थी, मगर इधर काफी प्रगति हुई है। सारन जिले से, जहां से मैं आता हूं, मुजफ्फरपुर जिले से, चम्पारन जिले से, दरभंगा जिले से लोग पहले रेगमाड़ी से आते

[श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह]

वे । इन जिलों में रेलगाड़ी की यात्रा की सुविधा कैसी है, इस विवरण में मैं नहीं जाना चाहता । इस धोर जो प्रगति हो रही है उसको हमारे रेलवे मंत्री महोदय धन्यजी तरह से जानते हैं । दूसरे लोगों को भी यह माकूम है । वहां के लोग बस से आते हैं । वे सीधे घाट की ओर जाते हैं और घाट से पार कर पटना की ओर जाना चाहते हैं । अगर मुजफ्फरपुर या दूसरे चार पांच जिलों से आने वाले घाट से पार करें तो उनको २०००० जर्मना देना होगा, उनको दो या तीन मास की कैद की सजा भी हो सकती है । इस तरह से उन लोगों को बड़ी मुश्किल है । मुझे इसका तजुर्बा है । लेकिन आप मेरी बात को तो छोड़ दीजिये । यह २ करोड़ निवासियों का प्रश्न है । आज हमारे मंत्री महोदय कह देंगे कि हमने भोकामा का पुल बना दिया है । इस के लिये बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद । भोकामा का पुल सरकार ने बनाया । वह कांग्रेस की सरकार है, उसके बारे में मेरी कुछ भी राय हो, लेकिन भोकामा का पुल बनाया और समय से पहले बनाया, इसके लिये रेल मंत्रालय को बहुत धन्यवाद है । मगर इस से उत्तरी बिहार की केवल आधी आबादी को ही फायदा हुआ है । लेकिन यह जो चार जिले हैं उनको यातायात के मामले में कोई फायदा होना सम्भव नहीं है । मेरे दोस्त बिभूति मिश्र जी चम्पारन से आये हैं, पंडित द्वारका नाथ तिवारी जी हैं, इन दोनों से राय ले लीजिये । यह सम्भव नहीं है कि हम लोग बरीली से जा कर पटना पहुँचें । मेरे जिले की आबादी ४० लाख है, मुजफ्फरपुर की आबादी करीब ४० लाख है, दरभंगा जिले की भी करीब २६ लाख है । इसी तरह से चम्पारन भी है । जितने लोग इधर से पटना को जाते हैं उतने ही लोग पटना से इधर को आते हैं । लोगों की घाटी ब्याह का सवाल है, आपस के सम्बन्ध हैं, सरकारी नौकर हैं, पचास तरह के रिश्ते हैं । उन सब का यह प्रश्न है।

हम केवल यह सुविधा चाहते हैं कि लोगों को इजाजत हो जाय कि पटना से पहलेजा घाट तक वे बिना किसी प्रतिबन्ध के यात्रा कर सकें ।

एक और सवाल उठ सकता है । यहां कहा जायेगा कि हमने यह घाट प्रान्तीय सरकार को दे दिया है, और प्रान्तीय सरकार के कर के ऊपर इसका बुरा असर पड़ेगा । दस दिन की बात है, एक भादमी को २ लाख ७० हजार का ठेका घाट का दिया गया । सब से कम बिड ७४ हजार का था । इस बात से जाहिर है कि प्रान्तीय सरकार को पैसे की कमी नहीं है । वह दूसरे तरह से पैसे की बरबादी कर रही है ।

पंडित डा० ना० तिवारी (केसरिया) : इस बात को यहां लाने से क्या फायदा ?

श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह : आज आप को वह सरकार प्रिय है आप इसलिये ऐसा कह रहे हैं अगर मुझे प्रिय नहीं है तो क्या कल ? लेकिन और वह दूसरा सवाल है । आप देख लीजिये, समापति महोदय, कहीं पर भी एक्सेस फेयर नहीं लिया जाता है । ज्यादा किराया लेना जुर्म है । हमारे यहां के आधे भादमी के साथ यही अन्याय नहीं है कि वह इस पार से उस पार तक रेल की यात्रा नहीं कर सकता है बल्कि उसके साथ यह भी है कि वह बाढ़ के दिनों में ज्यादा से ज्यादा ८ या १० मील की यात्रा करता है, गर्मी के दिनों में मुश्किल से ३ या ४ मील की यात्रा करता है । मगर ३२ मील का किराया हमको देना पड़ता है । अब यह कितनी बड़ी रीर इंसाफ़ी और अन्याय हमारे साथ होता है । अब ब्रिटिश गवर्नमेंट के खमाने में जो हमारे ऊपर अन्याय होता था वह तो होता ही था लेकिन यह बड़े आश्चर्य और दुःख का विषय है कि आज जब कि खुद हमारे

देखवासियों की हुजुमत है तब इस तरह का
अन्याय हो ।

अब आप कहेंगे कि साहब जहाज चलाने
में ज्यादा पैसा खर्च होता है और सभ्य
है कि ऐसा हो और ज्यादा पैसा खर्च
होता हो लेकिन वह ज्यादा पैसा मैं समझता
हूँ कि आपकी बवइतजामी की वजह से
खर्च होता है । और चूँकि अब समय नहीं है
इस लिए मैं इस बारे में चर्चा नहीं करना
चाहता लेकिन यह कितने घरे की बात है
कि ६ मील की तो मैं यात्रा करूँ और ३२
मील का मुझे किराया देना पड़े । मैं समझता
हूँ कि उड़ीसा के बाद अगर सब से कम
आप किसी प्रान्त की है तो वह हमारे
बिहार प्रान्त की है । अब जहाँ देश की
व्यक्तिगत आय २५० करोड़ रुपये से
ज्यादा होती है वहाँ बिहार में लोगों की
व्यक्तिगत आय केवल १५० करोड़ से कुछ
ही ज्यादा होती है ।

६ मील का सफर करने पर मैं ३२
मील का किराया दूँ यह कहा का इसाफ
है ? अब उनकी यह दलील कि स्टीमर के
चलाने में अधिक व्यय लगता है, मैं समझता
हूँ कि सिर्फ दलील के लिए ही दलील है ।

सभापति महोदय अब माननीय
सदस्य अपनी बात समाप्त करें । वे १५ मिनट
के चुके हैं ।

श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह ठीक है मैं ही अकेला
बिहार के सम्बन्ध में बोलने वाला हूँ । मैं
आपकी आज्ञा से केवल दो मिनट और
बूँगा ।

अब यह कहना कि पैसा ज्यादा खर्च
होता है मेरे पास बक्त नहीं है नहीं तो मैं
आँकड़े देकर दिखाता कि सैकड़ों हमारी
संस्थानल रेलवे लाइनें हैं जिन पर कि गाड़ी
चलाने से रेलवे को घाटा होता है । हमारे
वहाँ खुद जहाँ पर संस्थानल लाइनें होती हैं
वहाँ गाड़ियाँ चलाने से घाटा होता है लेकिन

फिर भी रेलें वहाँ पर चलती हैं । रेलवे
सिर्फ एक राष्ट्रीय यातायात या लाभ का
ही साधन नहीं है मगर इसके साथ ही साथ
इसका एक राष्ट्रीय पक्ष भी है लोकोत्तर
पक्ष भी है । अब सभापति महोदय, चूँकि
आप मुझे और अधिक समय देने को तैयार
नहीं हैं हालाँकि मुझे अभी बहुत कुछ निवेदन
करना था, मैं अपना स्थान ग्रहण करता हूँ
और धायद मेरे एक आश माननीय मित्र
भी कुछ निवेदन करना चाहें ।

मैं भ्रन्त में केवल यही रेलवे मंत्री
महोदय से निवेदन करूँगा कि बिहार के
साथ यह अन्याय नहीं होना चाहिये और
मैं आशा रखता हूँ कि जिस तरह के अन्धकार
महोदय ने कृपा करके बिहार निवासियों
की तकलीफ रखने के वास्ते सदन में आश
बटे की चर्चा की अनुमति दी उसी तरह
रेलवे के मंत्री महोदय भी इन प्रश्नों के
ऊपर कोई बचे हुए स्थान से विचार न
करके एक मुक्त मानस और निस्पृह होकर
रोशनी डालेंगे और बिहार के साथ जो
अन्याय हुआ है उसको वह वापिस लेंगे
और इसके लिए बिहार के निवासी रेलवे
मंत्री महोदय के बहुत ही अनुग्रहीत रहेंगे ।

पंजित हा० ना० सिवारी सभापति
महोदय मैं आपके द्वारा मिनिस्टर महोदय
से यह जानना चाहूँगा कि यह जो पाबन्दी
लगाई है वह कितने दिनों से लगाई है ?
मुझे याद है कि कुछ वर्ष पहले घाट टूट घाट
बुकिंग होती थी । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ
कि अब से यह बद की गई और किस
वजह से बद की गई । इसका बैरिफिकेशन
हो जाना चाहिये ।

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur):
May I know if restrictions like this
exist anywhere else or they exist only
at Patna to which the hon. Member
has referred?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री साहजदाब खान)
आवरणीय सभापति महोदय, मेरे मुखज्वा

[श्री शाहनवाज खाँ]

शेस्त श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह ने जो घाट टू घाट महेन्द्र घाट और पहलेवा घाट के लिए पैसेजर्स न बुक करने का सवाल उठाया है उस सवाल के बारे में इसी सदन में क्वेश्चन अवर में मैं कई बार जवाब दे चुका हूँ। हकीकत यह है कि घाट टू घाट बुकिंग का जहा तक सवाल है तो पटना की साइड पर एक महेन्द्र घाट और दिग्गा घाट है और गया के उस पार पहलेवा घाट है और इन दोनों घाटों के दरमियान जो फीरीङ्ग या कट्टी बोर्ड्स चलती हैं उनके लिए ठेका या जो सीज है, बिहार गवर्नमेंट ने पटना गेजेट फीरी सविस के साथ एक खास मुआहिदा करके उनको इसका ठेका दिया है। इस ठेके के कारण जो बहा मुसाफिरो को तकलीफ उठानी पड़ती है उनसे रेलवे मन्त्रालय अच्छी तरह से बाकिफ है और हमारी तमामतर हमदर्दी उन लोगों के साथ है। हमने एक बन्त बिहार गवर्नमेंट से यह पेशकश की थी कि रेलवे को इसके लिए इजाजत दी जाये ताकि हम घाट टू घाट बुकिंग कर सकें। बिहार गवर्नमेंट ने हमको यह कहा कि अगर हम आपको इसकी इजाजत दे दें तो जिन कम्पनियों के साथ हमारा मुआहिदा हुआ है, उसकी खिलाफतर्जी होगी। और जो बिहार गवर्नमेंट का नजरिया था उस नजरिये को मिनिस्ट्री आप ला ने भी अपहोल्ड किया और उसकी तारीफ की। तो यह हमारी कठिनाई है। यह बात नहीं है कि हम बहा के लोगों के लिए कुछ नहीं करना चाहते। हमारी हमदर्दी उनके साथ है।

मैं सदन को यह भी बता दू कि दिसम्बर सन् १९५४ में बिहार गवर्नमेंट ने रेलवे मिनिस्ट्री से यह कहा था कि आप हमारे एजेंट बन कर पावर फीरी सविस को चलाइये रेलवे विभाग ने उस चीज को भी मंजूर किया और जो शरायत बिहार गवर्नमेंट ने हमारे सामने रखी ह्यब उन शरायत की

बिना पर एस्टिमेट्स बनाकर बिहार गवर्नमेंट को भेज दिये। बिहार गवर्नमेंट का नजरिया यह था कि आप हमारी तरफ से फीरी चलाइये और जितने अखराजात होते हैं अगर नफा होता है तो वह हमको क्रेडिट कर दें और अगर घाटा होता है तो वह हम पूरा कर देंगे। हमने अपना एस्टिमेट बना कर और अपनी दूसरी जो छोटी मोटी शरायत होती थी वह सब बिहार गवर्नमेंट को भेज दी। रेलवे ने जो एस्टिमेट लगाया वह यह था कि यह जो पावर फीरी सविस रेलवे भ्रमण से अपरेट करे और उससे जा भ्रामदनी भ्रायेगी यह ३ लाख ८ हजार और ५०० रुपये सालाना होगी और उसके ऊपर जो खर्चा भ्रायेगा वह ४ लाख ५८ हजार ८०० रुपये अर्थात् उसमें लगभग डेढ़ लाख रुपये का घाटा रहेगा। यह हमारा अनुमान था। तो हमने जो यह अन्दाजा लगाया था कि डेढ़ लाख का घाटा रहेगा इससे बिहार गवर्नमेंट पूरे तौर पर इतिफाक नहीं कर सकी। हमने जो अन्दाजा लगाया था इसमें रेलवे ने एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव चार्ज के लिए ६२ हजार की एक रकम लगायी थी। यह खर्चा कुल भ्रामदनी का २६ ८५ फीसदी है। बिहार गवर्नमेंट ने इस बात पर ऐतराज किया कि यह रकम बहुत ज्यादा है और एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव चार्ज २६ ८५ फीसदी के बजाये ७ ५ चार्ज किया जाये। हमें यह पता नहीं कि उन्होंने यह ७ ५ किस बिना पर कहा। लेकिन मेरे क्वाल में यह कोई बड़ा मसला नहीं है और हमने अपने रेलवे के जनरल मैनेजर को लिखा है कि वह बिहार गवर्नमेंट के साथ जहा तक जल्द हो सके बात चीत करके इस मसले को हल करे ताकि बहा पर जो लोगों को तकलीफ हो रही है वह दूर हो। मुझे उम्मीद है कि जल्द ही कोई तस्फिया हो जायेगा और मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि यहा पर जो बिहार के नुमायन्दगान हैं, जो कि बिहार के लोगों की यहा नुमायन्दगी करते हैं, वह भी बिहार गवर्नमेंट से कहें कि इस छोटी सी रकम

के ऊपर ज्यादा धड़कन न डालें और हम भी अपनी तरफ से ढील करने की कोशिश करेंगे।

इन अल्फाज के साथ मैं उम्मीद करता हूँ कि जल्दी से जल्दी कोई भ्रमली कदम उठाया जायेगा।

पंडित डा० ना० तिवारी : एक सवाल का जवाब तो मिला ही नहीं। मैंने पूछा था कि यह घाट टू घाट बुकिंग कब से बन्द हुआ है। मुझे याद है कि जब मैं कालिज में पढ़ता था उस वक्त तो यह बुकिंग होता था। यह कब से बन्द हुआ है और क्यों बन्द हुआ है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : इस वक्त तो मैं इसका जवाब नहीं दे सकता। ठीक तारीख मुझे याद नहीं है।

श्री बिजुति मिश्र (बगहा) : हम लोग जो चम्पारन से आते हैं उनको दो नदियाँ पार करनी पड़ती हैं, एक गडक और दूसरी गंगा। बरसात के दिनों में हमें बड़ी दिक्कत होती है। चम्पारन, मुजफ्फरपुर, दरभंगा के लोग हाजीपुर तक आते हैं। रेल में हमें को ज्यादा वक्त लगता है और वस में कम वक्त लगता है। रेल में दस घंटा लगता है और बस में पांच साढ़े पांच घंटा ही लगता है। बरसात में हाजीपुर से पटना तक के छह मील के लिये ३० मील का किराया लगता है। तो बरसात के लिये तो यह रियायत कर दें।

दूसरी बात यह है कि हमारे चीफ मिनिस्टर अक्सर यहां आते रहते हैं मिनिस्टर साहब खुद उनसे मिल लें। आपने जनरल मैनेजर को कहा है कि वह वहां जायेंगे तब चीफ मिनिस्टर से बात करेंगे इसमें बहुत समय लगेगा। आजकल तो पीपल्स गवर्नमेंट है। क्यों न मिनिस्टर साहब हवाई जहाज से जाकर चीफ मिनिस्टर से बात कर लें। वहां बैठे जाने का रास्ता बहुत टेढ़ा मेढ़ा है।

महेन्द्र घाट पर जहाज पर चढ़ने की जगह नहीं मिलती। इंजीनियर के लिये बाला लेवे में दो साल निकल गये। हमें महेन्द्र घाट पर तेल रखने की जगह नहीं मिलती। यह सब मामला है किया जाये।

श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह : मैं भी वही कहना चाहता हूँ जो कि अभी मिश्र जी ने कहा है। यह जो सोनपुर से पटना तक एक्सप्रेस फेयर लगता है इस पर मंत्री जी ने रोशनी नहीं डाली। कृपा करके इस पर भी रोशनी डाल दें। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इसके बारे में भी कुछ उत्तर दें।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : मैं इस सिलसिले में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि जो प्राइवेट फेरी सरविस वहां चल रही है घाट टू घाट बिहार गवर्नमेंट की तरफ से उसमें अपर क्लास के लिये ७५ नये पैसे किराया है और रेलवे फेरी का किराया जो मोहतरिम दोस्त ने कहा वह ३२ मील का चार्ज करते हैं, वह किराया भी ६६ नये पैसे है। तो जो प्राइवेट फेरी चार्ज करती है...

पंडित डा० ना० तिवारी : यह फिगर गलत है। फेरी १६ नये पैसे चार्ज करती है।

श्री शाहनवाज खाँ : मैंने तो अपर क्लास के लिये कहा कि उसका किराया ७५ नये पैसे है।

श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह : जो फिगर मंत्री महोदय ने दिया है वह गलत है। सोनपुर से महेन्द्र का किराया १६ नये पैसे है। मैंने टाइम टेबिल से बैरीफाई किया है कि प्राइवेट फेरी का किराया ३ घाने है। मिनिस्टर साहब कहते हैं कि ७५ नये पैसे यानी १२ घाने है। यह किराया नहीं हो सकता। वह हमारा विरवास करे। हम चार चार घादमी वहां के यह बात कह रहे हैं कि मंत्री जी को गलत फिगर दिये गये हैं। इस पर गौर करके आप ऐसा कदम उठाइये ताकि बिहार के लोगों को मालूम हो कि यह सर-

[श्री राजेन्द्र सिंह]

कार उनके साथ मन से हमदर्दी रखती है,
केवल मौलिक ही नहीं।

Mr. Chairman: Have you got any-
thing more to add?

Shri Shahmawaz Khan: All that I
have got to say now is that on the
15th of next month I propose going

to Patna. I will personally go and
pay my respects to the Chief Minister
and try to do whatever is possible.

15-30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till
eleven of the Clock on Wednesday
the April 1, 1959/Chaitra 11, 1881
(Saka).

DAILY DIGEST

(Tuesday, March, 31, 1959/Chaitra, 10, 1881 (Saka))

ORAL ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
1565.	General Agreement on Tariff and Trade	8681-83
1566.	Dicalcium phosphate	8683-85
1567.	Productivity Councils	8685-92
1568.	U.S. Trade Mission	8692-95
1569.	Production of raw film	8695
1570.	Drainage system in Delhi	8695-96
1572.	Legislation for preven- tion of strikes	8696-98
1573.	Recognition of Trade Unions	8699-8701
1574.	Second atomic reactor	8701-03
1576.	Export of Tea	8702-03
1578.	Socialistic pattern of Society	8704-09
1579.	Chemicals and allied industries	8709-10
1580.	Hard and soft board	8710-12
1581.	Transfer of work-charged staff of C.P.W.D. to Indian Institute of Technology	8711-14
1582.	Closure of Rehabilitation Ministry Offices	8714-16
1583.	Newsprint factory in U.P.	8716-19
1584.	Radio Station at Gwalior	8719-20
1585.	Uranium	8721

S.N.Q.

No.	Food scarcity in N.E.F.A.	8721-24
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WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
1571.	Employees' State In- surance Scheme	8724
1575.	Manufacture of Carbon black	8725
1577.	"India 1958" Exhibition	8725
1586.	M/s Chhaganlal Textile Mills (Private) Ltd., Chalisgaon	8725-26
1587.	Exchange of slat for chemicals with Japan	8726
1588.	Inspectorate of Mines	8726
1589.	Trade Agreement with France	8727
1590.	Displaced persons from East Pakistan	8727-28
1591.	Employees' Provident Fund Scheme	8728

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS—contd.

U.S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
2524.	Jute mills	8728
2525.	Automobile and textile Industries	8728-29
2526.	Medium wave Antenna Mast at Trichy	8729
2527.	Industrial Estates in Mysore	8729-30
2528.	Merger of dearness allowance with basic pay	8730
2529.	Chemicals for medicines	8730-31
2530.	Automobile production centres	8731
2531.	Import of photo goods	8731-32
2532.	Indians in African Countries	8732-33
2533.	Village Housing pro- jects in Orissa	8733-34
2534.	Import of nylon	8734
2535.	Works-cum-Production Committees	8733-35
2536.	Ground-nut oil quotas	8735
2537.	Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.	8735-36
2538.	Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd.	8736-37
2539.	Cotton Mills	8737
2540.	Sample count of popula- tion	8737
2541.	Brass and Metal Work- shop at Kumbakonam in Madras State	8737-38
2542.	Hotel workers	8738
2543.	Provident Fund Benefit for Indore Mill wor- kers	8739
2544.	Consumption of foreign cotton by textile mills	8739
2545.	Industrial production and employment in non-Government fac- tories	8740
2546.	Tungsten Carbide tips	8740-41
2547.	Import of paper	8741
2548.	Appointment of officers in Publications Division	8742
2549.	Director, Publications Division	8742-43
2550.	Keahoram Cotton Mills, Calcutta	8743

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd.

U.S.Q. No.	Subject	COLUMNS
2551.	Educated unemployed in Himachal Pradesh .	8743-44
2552.	Export of electric goods .	8744
2553.	Employment exchanges, Agartala .	8744-45
2554.	Documentary on Cotton Industry .	8745
2555.	Technical Training Centres .	8745
2556.	Passports for U.S.S.R. .	8745-46
2557.	Indians in Japan .	8746
2558.	Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals (Private) Ltd. .	8746
2559.	Export of leather goods .	8746-47
2560.	Production of paper .	8747-48
2561.	National Tribunal for Cantonment Board Employees .	8747-48
2562.	Employees' State Insurance Scheme .	8748-49
2563.	Film "Naked Earth" .	8749
2564.	Accident in Saunda Colliery .	8749-51
2565.	India's contribution to U.N.O. .	8751-52

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

8752-53

The following papers were laid on the Table :

- (i) A copy of each of the following statements showing the action taken by the Government on various assurances, promises and undertakings given by the Ministers during various sessions of Second Lok Sabha:
- (i) First Statement . Seventh Session, 1959.
- (ii) Supplementary Statement No. IV . Sixth Session, 1958.
- (iii) Supplementary Statement No. VIII . Fifth Session, 1958.
- (iv) Supplementary Statement No. XVII . Fourth Session, 1958.
- (v) Supplementary Statement No. XIX . Third Session, 1957.
- (vi) Supplementary Statement No. XXIII . Second Session, 1957.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE—contd.

- (a) A copy of Annual Report of Hindustan Shipyard (Private) Limited for the year 1957-58 along with the Audited Accounts under sub-section (1) of Section 639 of the Companies Act, 1956.
- (3) A copy of Notification No. G. S. R. 308 dated the 14th March, 1959, under sub-section (3) of Section 25 of the Rubber Act, 1947, making certain further amendments to the Rubber Rules, 1955.

REPORT OF ESTIMATES COMMITTEE PRESENTED

8753

Report of the Committee presented.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 8754-8919

- (i) Further discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Steel, Mines and Fuel concluded; and the Demands were voted in full.
- (ii) Discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply commenced. The discussion was not concluded.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION

8919-32

Shri Rajendra Singh raised a half-an-hour discussion on points arising out of the answer given to Unstarred Question No. 112 on the 11th February, 1959 regarding ghat to ghat booking between Mahendra Ghat and Pahleza Ghat.

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shah Nawaz Khan) replied to the debate.

AGENDA FOR WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1, 1959/CHAITRA 11, 1881 (Saka)—

Further discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply; and also discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs.