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7th April, 1958 (Monday)

LOK SABHA DEBATES



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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

8503

F504

LOK SABHA

Monday, 7th April 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[Mr. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

दिल्ली में स्कूल के नवन और अध्यापक

+

*१४८६. { श्री भक्त दर्शन :
श्री स० चं० सामन्त :
श्री बी० चं० शर्मा :
सरदार इन्वॉल मिह :

शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने को क्या कहें :

(क) दिल्ली तथा नई दिल्ली में सरकारी स्कूलों के नवनों तथा अध्यापकों की कमी के सम्बन्ध में वर्तमान स्थिति क्या है ; और

(ख) इस सम्बन्ध में स्थिति के सुधार के लिये वर्ष १९५७-५८ में क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (श्री बी० चं० शर्मा) :
(क) और (ख) विवरण समाजदल पर रख दिया गया है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट ६, अनुबन्ध संख्या १३१]

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या यह सत्य है कि पिछले दो तीन वर्षों से दिल्ली में मकानों के निर्माण के लिये शिक्षा मंत्रालय की ओर से जो रकम रखी जाती थी उसका पूरा उपयोग नहीं हो पाता ? क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि इस बारे में कोई पता लगाने की कोशिश

की गई है, और क्या मंत्री महोदय इसका कारण बतला सकेंगे ?

डा० फा० ला० श्रीमाली : सन १९५७-५८ में तो कोई शार्टफाल नहीं हुआ है । लेकिन उससे पहले जो रकम रखी गई थी वह पूरी तरह से खर्च नहीं हो सकी ।

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि मंत्री जी यह आश्वासन देने को कृपा करेंगे कि जुलाई से जो ऐकेडेमिक सेशन शुरू होने वाला है उसमें विद्यार्थियों को अध्यापकों की तथा बिल्डिंग की कोई दिक्कत नहीं होनी पायेगी ?

डा० फा० ला० श्रीमाली : जी हाँ, इसकी पूरी कोशिश की जायेगी ।

श्री स० चं० सामन्त : यह ज्ञात हुआ है कि विज्ञान और गणित की महिला अध्यापिकाएँ नहीं मिलती हैं । क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो मिलती हैं उनको जो सहारा देना चाहिये वह दिया जाता है या नहीं ?

डा० फा० ला० श्रीमाली : मैं आपका मतलब नहीं समझा । किस प्रकार के सहारे से आपका आशय है ?

श्री स० चं० सामन्त : हमारा मतलब यह है कि जो अध्यापिकाएँ काम कर रही हैं उनको जो फैसिलिटीज मिलनी चाहियें वे मिलती हैं या नहीं ?

डा० फा० ला० श्रीमाली : उनको तनखाह दी जाती है और सरकार के जो नियम हैं उनके मुताबिक उनको सब फैसिलिटीज दी जाती हैं । यदि माननीय सदस्य का किसी विशेष फैसिलिटीज से मतलब हो तो बतायें ।

श्री ब्रज प्रसाद : क्या वे बोनस बंटता है कि पिछले एक वर्ष के बोनस कितने भवनों का निर्माण किया गया और कहा ?

Dr. K. L. Shrivastha: In 1957-58, 46 buildings were proposed for construction. 24 buildings of a permanent type and 15 buildings which include children's homes are under construction.

Mr. Speaker: I find that the hon. Members who have tabled these questions are absent. I shall make a note of all hon. Members who are absent in deciding whether I should admit their questions or not hereafter. I shall make their questions unstarred.

Shri Tyagi: Sir, Shri B. S. Murthy has not been called. His question No. 1494.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Q. 1494 is Shri B. S. Murthy's question.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. The hon. Member cannot speak for another hon. Member. It has been deleted. A Parliamentary Secretary cannot answer his own question. May I know if the hon. Member wants to put that question?

Shri B. S. Murthy: No, Sir.

Small Savings

*1496. Shri Heda: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what is the quantum of premature withdrawals of small savings during the half year ending 31st March, 1958;

(b) whether it is an extraordinarily large amount; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. E. Bhagat): (a) to (c). Of the investments covered by the small savings scheme, Post Office Savings Bank deposits can be withdrawn at call and 15-Year Annuity Certificates are repayable in regular monthly instalments of capital and interest. The question of premature encashment does

not, therefore, arise in respect of these two. Other Savings Certificates can be encashed at any time after an initial lock-up period, which is now one year, the yield varying with the period they are held by the investors. The Certificates are on sale continuously and a separate record of encashments before full maturity of each Certificate is not maintained. The collection of this information would, therefore, involve disproportionate amount of time and labour compared with the results likely to be achieved. The net receipts, taking all these Certificates together, have, however, been larger this year than in the previous year.

Shri Heda: May I know if as a result of increase in the interest rate for the new National Savings Certificates, the holders of the old certificates came forward and cashed their certificates and asked for new certificates?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: That is true in some cases.

Shri Heda: In view of the fact that the Government increased the rate for new certificates, did not the Government think that as a natural corollary to it, it should increase the rate of interest on the old certificates also?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: There is no natural corollary in this. The rate of interest is fixed according to the conditions in the money market or capital market. In this type of securities and in all the other types of securities also, it does not mean that the previous certificates or securities should be up-graded or down-graded according to the change in the interest rates.

Shri Kashiwal: May I know whether the withdrawals from small savings have been larger or smaller in the first half of 1957-58 compared to the previous year?

Shri B. E. Bhagat: I want notice for it.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. Shri Chettiar.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: May I know why the procedure in regard to the purchase of small savings certificates is so cumbersome?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: So far as my information goes, the procedure is not cumbersome. After we received complaints about it, we have simplified the procedure and I think if anyone wants to buy these securities, he can easily do so now.

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: Is it true that about seven or eight signatures have to be obtained before the money is withdrawn?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No, Sir.

Shri Damani: May I know whether it has come to the notice of the Government that some officers somehow manage to sell National Savings Certificates by the use of force and most of the premature withdrawals are due to that? If so, may I know whether any specific instructions had been issued in this regard?

Mr. Speaker: No specific cases had been brought to their notice. What is the good of generally saying that there is so much of corruption in the Government of India? The hon. Members should bring specific instances to their notice.

Shri Damani: This fact came to my notice and, therefore, I have put this question.

Mr. Speaker: Has he given specific instances to the Minister?

Shri Damani: No, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: How is the Minister to answer?

Pandit D. N. Tiwary: May I know whether any instruction has been issued to give facilities to old depositors who want to transfer their securities in the shape of new securities?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: There are no transfers. As I said, after the initial lock-up period, anybody can encash it. They can buy new securities. Actually, some people who held these securities have done so.

Shri Tyagi: With regard to part (b) of the question, what is the exact figure of withdrawals during the six months?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: We have the net figures of withdrawal and these are given in the Budget papers. As regards postal savings, this figure is just a reproduction from the Budget figures. The total deposits amounted to Rs. 174 crores and the total withdrawal was Rs. 156 crores. The balance is the amount that is available.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: In view of the importance of spreading the small savings scheme into the rural parts of our country, may I know what steps the Government will take to simplify the procedure in regard to obtaining so many signatures while purchasing the certificates and also while making withdrawals?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I have already said that no large number of signatures is being required for purchasing or selling certificates except where it is a question of nominees. So far as the simplification of the procedure is concerned, the State Governments have intensified the drive whereby the authorised agents go to the villages and sell the certificates to all those who want to buy such certificates. The process is very much simplified now. If the hon. Member has any specific suggestion in this respect, well, certainly we would like to consider it.

Shri Tyagi: The suggestion is for the Government to make, not for us. After so much work only Rs. 18 crores or so is the net profit, and the Minister wants a suggestion from us about it.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Chettiar put one question, Shri Pattabhi Raman put another question and Shri Chettiar put a third question saying that the procedure ought to be simplified. The hon. Minister has repeatedly said that a member of signatures are not necessary. He also said that if there are any suggestions they may be communicated to him. I do not see anything wrong in it.

Shri Ramanaathan Chettiar: It has happened in my case, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: If it has happened in his case let him write to the Minister. We will go to the next question now.

Senior Services Committee of Life Insurance Corporation

+
 { **Shri Sadhan Gupta:**
Shri Shree Narayan Das:
 -1497. { **Shri Tangamani:**
Shri Sampath:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 927 on the 9th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the consideration of the Report of the Senior Services Committee of Life Insurance Corporation has been finalised; and

(b) if so, with what results?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). The matter is still under consideration.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether the members of the Corporation who were on the Committee and who gave a minority report or a dissentient note to the Senior Services Committee are the persons who have been deputed to review the report of the Committee and to make recommendations?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I do not have both the lists with me, and so it is difficult for me to compare. But, in any case, under the terms of reference the recommendation of the Board has to come to the Government for approval and only then it can be finalised. Therefore, the Government will look into all these points.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether the Government are aware that the delay in taking a decision regarding this report is creating, on the one hand, a kind of vested interest in the official who have already been appointed and on the other hand, a

sense of frustration in the officials who think they have been deprived of their legitimate postings, and as a result of it the efficiency of the Corporation is suffering; if so, is the Government expediting the consideration of the report?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is only asking why his suggestion ought not be accepted. I have heard his very long question. It is only a suggestion for action giving certain reasons.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: My question is whether they are expediting consideration of the report.

Mr. Speaker: I agree that it ought to be expedited.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Are they doing it?

Shri Sampath: Is it a fact that the report has brought about discrepancies between the provisional postings of officers made by the Corporation and seniority rankings by the Committee and, if so, how are the discrepancies proposed to be rationalised?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I will have to request the hon. Member to wait till the report is accepted and made known. But, obviously, the appointment of a committee, and, later on, the review by the Board as well as the approval by the Government will mean that all such discrepancies or anomalies should be removed as far as possible.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the Committee has recommended demotion of certain officers who were promoted wrongly and, if so, what steps are being taken to demote them?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): It has already been said that the report is under consideration, and until that consideration is over no reply can be given to this question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: Some of the recommendations might have been considered.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members are anticipating what the Government is going to do.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know when the Government is expected to take a decision on this recommendation?

Shri Morarji Desai: Before the end of June.

Shri Nathwani: In reply to a previous question on 9th December, 1957, the Deputy Minister stated that the consideration had reached a very advanced stage. Since then four months have elapsed. May I know why no decision has been taken? May we know the precise reasons for it?

Shri Morarji Desai: These four months have been very unsettling, and that is the reason for it.

Mr. Speaker: Next Question; Shri Barupal.

Shri Nanjappa: Q. 1499.

Shri Tyagi: There is Question 1498 about Fortune Tellers relating to the Ministry of Home Affairs.

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva) rose—

An Hon. Member: Shri Barupal is not present in the House.

Mr. Speaker: I called out the name of Shri Barupal.

Shri Nanjappa: I said Q. 1499.

Mr. Speaker: Why did the hon. Member get up then? It is very wrong. (*Interruption*). Order, order. I can't go on with this confusion. When I call out the name of an hon. Member, if he is present in his seat he must get up and give out the number of the Question distinctly, and others must keep quiet. If he is not present, then I will proceed to the next question. Why did Shri Nanjappa get up when I called the name of Shri Barupal?

Shri Nanjappa: I thought my name was called.

Mr. Speaker: If he was not attentive, then I will call the next question

ignoring Shri Nanjappa. I will come to Shri Nanjappa's question if there is time. We will now go to the next question. Shri Hem Raj.

An Hon. Member: He is not present in the House.

An Hon. Member: Now Shri Nanjappa may be called.

Mr. Speaker: All right. Shri Nanjappa.

Medical and Agricultural Colleges

***1499. Shri Nanjappa:** Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are proposals under consideration to bring Medical and Agricultural Colleges in the country within the purview of the University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, when the proposals are likely to be finalised?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). A statement giving the necessary information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 132.]

Shri Nanjappa: Are there any historical reasons for not transferring these colleges to the Education Department and for not making any grants towards these colleges?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: The position at present is that the Ministry of Food and Agriculture is giving some grants for conduct of research on agro-economic problems, and also some grant to the Allahabad Agricultural Institute. The Ministry of Health has stated that it does not give any grants directly to the universities as such. Therefore, both the Ministries have stated that they are unable to place any funds at the disposal of the University Grants Commission. The University Grants Commission, however, has not accepted the position. In their resolution of 30th November, 1956 they have further reaffirmed that all higher education should come

under their purview and the Ministries concerned, if they are giving any grants to higher institutions, should channel their grants to the University Grants Commission. The matter is still under negotiation and consideration.

Shri Hem Barua: From the statement it is seen that the University Grants Commission made a recommendation on 30th November, 1956 wanting these medical and agricultural institutions to be brought under its purview. May I know if the Government has so far consulted the State Governments over this issue.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The University Grants Commission does not deal directly with the State Governments. The Central Government places funds at the disposal of the Commission. I do not know how the State Governments come into the picture.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : जो नये विश्वविद्यालय अभी स्थापित हुये हैं, विशेषकर जबलपुर विश्वविद्यालय कि जहां एग्रीकल्चरल कालेज और मैडिकल कालेज दोनों बनाये जा रहे हैं, वहां की कोई दरखास्त क्या शिक्षा मंत्रालय में आई और अगर आई है, तो इन दोनों नये कालेजों के लिये क्या कोई विशेष अनुदान दिये जाने पर विचार किया जा रहा है ?

डा० का० सा० श्रीवास्तव : माननीय सचिव महोदय किसी एक विशेष कालेज के बारे में इतना चाहते हैं। मैं उनसे दरखास्त करूंगा कि वह इसके लिये प्रलग नोटिस दें।

Shrimati Benuka Ray: In view of the statement regarding the University Grants Commission's recommendations and the very great need for these colleges being brought under the University Grants Commission, what steps have the Education Ministry taken to see that the recommendations are accepted?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The Ministry of Education has written to the Ministry of Food and Agriculture and also the Ministry of Health and will continue to make their efforts.

Shrimati Benuka Ray: How long will such an effort be continued, because, after all, this is something very vital and necessary? Surely there is no integration between the two.

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: We follow the method of negotiation and not the method of coercion.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know whether the medical colleges and the agricultural colleges which are affiliated to particular universities will come under the purview of the University Grants Commission?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: No, Sir; not at present. At present the position is that the University Grants Commission does not give grants to the medical and the agricultural colleges.

Shri Shivananjappa: May I know whether the new polytechnics will come within the purview of the University Grants Commission?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Those which are higher technological institutes do come under the purview of the University Grants Commission, except those which are statutory bodies such as the Kharagpur Institute to which grants are directly given by the Ministry of Scientific Research.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : अभी माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा है कि एग्रीकल्चरल तथा मैडिकल कालेजों सीधे केन्द्रीय सरकार के अनुदानों के सम्बन्ध में नहीं आते हैं। लेकिन जहां पर ये कालेज बन रहे हैं वहां के विश्वविद्यालयों ने इन एग्रीकल्चरल तथा मैडिकल कालेजों के लिये कुछ विशेष अनुदान दिये जाने की मांग की और अगर की है तो क्या इस पर विचार किया जा रहा है ?

डा० का० सा० श्रीवास्तव : इसके लिये मैं विवेदन किया है कि कुछ नोटिस आइये।

Employment of Displaced Persons

*1561. **Shri Bangshi Thakur:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had taken a decision that displaced persons from East Pakistan will be given first preference while making appointments to the vacancies occurring in the Central Government Offices located in West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam;

(b) whether it is also a fact that decision was taken to relax the upper age limit up to 45 in the matter of their appointment and promotion; and

(c) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Age relaxations have been given as in the statement placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 133.]

(c) The decision was communicated to all appointing authorities and the Employment Exchanges for compliance.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether such a decision is applicable to Tripura also with regard to the Central Government offices therein?

Shri Datar: It is applicable with regard to the Central Government offices.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know what the actual effect is, after the recommendations have been communicated to the Governments of West Bengal, Bihar, Orissa and Assam? May I know whether the recommendations have been implemented?

Shri Datar: I cannot give any answer off-hand at this stage.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether it is a fact that relaxation has also been given in respect of age-limit in the matter of retirement? Supposing a man retires at the age of 55, will that displaced person be given an extension beyond 55?

Shri Datar: In the case of retirement, different considerations arise. If it is found that in proper cases either the displaced person's services should be extended or that he should be re-employed, then such an extension is given to him.

Shri Hem Barua: From the statement and from what the hon. Minister said, it is evident that relaxation in the matter of age-limit is given to the displaced persons. But the question is whether first preference is given to the displaced persons in the matter of appointments or not. About that, the hon. Minister and the statement are both silent.

Shri Datar: This is about the displaced persons. So far as the displaced Government servants are concerned, they are entitled to certain priorities.

Shri Ranga: Will an effort be made to present a report to the House, giving information as to the effect the various Governments have given to the recommendation made by the Government of India in giving preference to the displaced persons?

Shri Datar: Yes, Sir. I have certain figures to show that the rules that we have issued are being implemented.

Shri Ranga: I mean the effect of it. How many people have been given this opportunity?

Shri Datar: Yes; from February, 1956 to October, 1957, 4,126 persons have been employed in the eastern zone, and about 414 have been employed outside the eastern zone.

Conference of the Superintendents of Ordnance Factories

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Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
 *1562. { **Shri Prabhat Kar:**
 Shri Muhammed Elias:
 Shri Sarju Pandey:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Conference of the Superintendents of Ordnance Factories was held at Calcutta on the 12th and 13th March, 1958; and

(b) If so, the decisions taken in the Conference?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramalah): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Conference is a departmental one called by the new Director General of Ordnance Factories and among other things matters concerning the Ordnance Factories production were also discussed and the new Director General of Ordnance Factories had the opportunity of meeting heads of Ordnance Factories. This conference is of the same category as large numbers of meetings at official level held in various ministries or departments.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the report submitted by the Defence Production Committee was discussed at the Conference and, if so, whether any decision was taken?

Shri Raghuramalah: It is after all a departmental conference; not a formal conference to take any decision. Various matters concerning production, provisioning, etc., were discussed. I imagine that the report referred to by the hon. Member was discussed. It is not a formal conference.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member demands an answer, "Yes" or "No". He wants to know whether the report of the Committee was discussed there. If the hon. Minister knows it, let him say.

Shri Raghuramalah: The report is still under examination of the Government.

Mr. Speaker: Therefore, it was not discussed.

Shri Raghuramalah: Therefore, I should imagine that it was not discussed. I have no specific information as to whether this item was discussed. The information that I have is, problems concerning production, provisioning, etc. were discussed. As to what particular items were discussed, I have not got the exact information at present.

Mr. Speaker: It is easy to say: "I do not know whether this report was discussed. I want notice". By all means the hon. Member will put another question if I will allow it.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether the difficulties met with in the procurement of civilian jobs have been brought to the notice of the Ministry and, if so, what steps are likely to be taken by this Ministry in the matter of procurement of such jobs?

Shri Raghuramalah: Will the hon. Member repeat the question?

Mr. Speaker: In such a long question, nobody can bear any point in mind.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I will repeat it.

Mr. Speaker: If he repeats it in the same way, it will be useless.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: There are some difficulties in the procurement of civilian jobs because there is no healthy co-operation given by the Director-General of Supplies. So, may I know whether these points were brought to the notice of the Director-General of Ordnance Factories and of the Ministry and, if so, what steps are being taken to co-ordinate the activities of the Director-General of Ordnance Factories and the Director-General of Supplies in this matter?

Shri Raghuramalah: The very presumption of the hon. Member, to my knowledge, is not correct. There is perfect co-ordination between the Director-General of Ordnance Factories and the Director General of Supplies.

Shri Prabhakar Kar: May I know whether it is a fact that the value of civilian production has been reduced from Rs. 4.5 crores to Rs. 3.5 crores, and whether this matter was also discussed and, if so, what steps are proposed to be taken in this regard?

Shri Raghuramalah: As I mentioned, various problems relating to production were discussed. I have no

information as to whether this particular item has been discussed. I should imagine that all these things were generally discussed.

Accident at Classification Range (Bulls Eye-Chandmari) in Babina

*1543. { Shri Jagadish Awasthi:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some villagers were killed and injured at the Classification Range (Bulls Eye-Chandmari) at Babina this year;

(b) if so, the steps taken to protect the villagers from such accidents;

(c) the number of deaths; and

(d) the compensation paid?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) No.

(b) The following steps are taken:—

(i) Villagers are warned through the civil police, well in advance of the date of field firing, to get clear of the danger area.

(ii) Military personnel also ensure that no firing takes place if human beings or cattle are seen within the danger zone.

(iii) After firing is completed, Army clearance parties go over the area to search for blinds, if any, and to destroy them. Only after this has been done, that the area is declared open for public.

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

श्री जगदीश अवास्थी : क्या सरकार को यह मायूस है कि २६ मार्च को उसी बाबीना बैरिकेड क्षेत्र में एक बिस्कोट हुआ था जिसके कमरबन्द कई बच्चे मारे गये थे या हताहत हुये थे ? यदि हाँ, तो ऐसी घटनाएँ फिर न हों

इसके सम्बन्ध में सरकार क्या कर रही है तथा वहाँ पर इससे जो आतंक और भय उत्पन्न हो गया है उसको दूर करने तथा लोगों में विश्वास उत्पन्न करने के लिये कोई सुरक्षात्मक कार्यवाही करने पर विचार कर रही है ?

Sardar Majithia: I have already replied to the question that no deaths have taken place. I do not know where the hon. Member has got this information from.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know the distance of the classification range from these villages? Is there any proposal to remove the range or ask the villagers to shift to some other village?

Sardar Majithia: I shall require notice for giving the House the exact distance between the range and the villages. But I can only say this much; that while selecting the range, we take the greatest care to see that the villages are at such a distance that they do not interfere when firing takes place. This area in particular, where field firing is practised, is absolutely clear of inhabitants.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister said that no accident took place.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: He said there was no death. I want to know whether some men were wounded and if so, what is the number of such people.

Sardar Majithia: As I said, we take the greatest care. But offhand I do remember that there was one person who went into that area and was injured not in this particular range that we are talking of, but in another range. I am coming out with information which was not asked for. He was dabbling with one of the darts which did explode and he was injured, but that was because he was at fault for the simple reason that he should have informed the military police that there was a particular dart which is normally done in other cases.

Mr. Speaker: I request hon. Ministers not to go technically by the expression; hon. Members do not know

exactly that has happened and they put a question as near to the incident as possible. If the hon. Minister knows that this had happened though not in the same firing range, but elsewhere, he could have taken this House into confidence. After all, hon. Ministers are agents of this House. There is no good thinking that the question is not straight to the point and saying yes or no. The object and the spirit of the question ought to be understood.

Sardar Majithia: May I submit that this happened because I knew about this incident and therefore when the question was asked, I did give the supplementary information. Normally we call for and get the details only about the particular incident asked for.

Mr. Speaker: The question is whether some villagers were killed and injured at the Classification Range at Babina. It may not be Babina, but some other place and the department also must supply the information to the hon. Minister. There is no good merely saying "Within this range I am asked and I am not able to say about any place either to the right or to the left." Let no impression be created in the House that any information even in regard to cases other than those of a confidential nature and which ought not to be given to anybody other than in his own department, is withheld from this House. If it is withheld even from this House, which person here in this country is entitled to get this information?

Next question.

परीक्षा पद्धति

१५०८. श्री पद्म देव : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री २१ मई, १९५७ के तारकित प्रश्न संख्या २०१ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बतावे स्या करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या परीक्षा पद्धति में कोई आनूच सुधार किये गये हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो वे क्या हैं ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० क० बा० गीतानी):

(क) और (ख) : विवरण सभा-पटल पर रक्त दिया गया है। [देखिये परिसिद्ध ६, अनुबन्ध संख्या १३४]

सेठ गीतानी दास : इस विवरण से जो सभा पटल पर रक्ता गया है इस बात का कोई ठीक पता नहीं लगता कि इस समय जो परीक्षाएँ हो रही हैं और जिनके कि सम्बन्ध में देश में बहुत समय से चर्चा चल रही है कि परीक्षाओं की प्रणाली ठीक नहीं है, उस विषय में क्या सरकार कोई बात सोच रही है और अगर सोच रही है तो उसको कार्य रूप में परिणत करने के सम्बन्ध में सरकार कब कदम उठाने वाली है ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: This merely concerns the various Universities and State Boards of Secondary Education. I have said that with regard to this matter, I am collecting information. Some information is available which I am glad to submit to the House. In certain subjects in Madras, Bombay, Kerala, Mysore, Madhya Pradesh, Assam, Uttar Pradesh and Delhi, objective types of questions are included in the question papers and the percentage of marks allowed for this varies from 15 to 50 per cent in certain subjects. In Madhya Pradesh, school report cards are also used. The secondary school examination board of Bihar has set up an examination research bureau and the Government of Orissa are also proposing to set up a similar bureau. I have not got up-to-date information at present; I am collecting it from the universities and the State boards. I might also inform the House that the Ministry of Education is setting up under the All-India Council of Secondary Education an examination unit which will try to co-ordinate reform in examinations in the country.

Shri Radha Kaman: May I know whether the Government have been

considering the proposal of doing away with examinations altogether, because the modern educationists think that the examinations can be done away with for good?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I do not think there is any proposal anywhere in the world for doing away with examinations. Some kind of examinations has to be there.

Shri Hem Barua: From the statement it is seen that sessional work is taken into account in the rural institutes and technical educational centres. May I know whether this system of sessional work is going to be extended to other types of education like secondary and primary educational institutions?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Does the hon. Member ask whether this procedure is being extended to other institutions also?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: That is the general recommendation that the examination should not be merely dependent on external assessment, but internal assessment also has to be made and wherever possible it should be supplemented. That is the line on which the examination reforms are being taken up.

Central Advisory Board of Anthropology

*1509. **Shri Hem Barua:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Advisory Board of Anthropology recently met at Calcutta; and

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at in this Conference?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The minutes of the meeting have not yet been received by Government.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if it is a fact that the Education Minister at a conference in Calcutta made a statement about cultural self-determination and the effort of the Government to hitch its educational policy on to that? In that case, is it not a fact that this cultural self-determination is going to deprive the hill tribes of the benefits of modern education?

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister says he has not received the conclusions.

Shri Hem Barua: A statement was made at the conference in Calcutta....

Mr. Speaker: All that is true, but the hon. Minister says he has not received the conclusions. What is the good of asking him what happened there?

Shri Hem Barua: Dr. Shrimali made a statement in the conference at Calcutta about this cultural self-determination. My point is if educational policy is to be pitched on to this cultural self-determination and expression, we deprive the tribals of the benefits of modern education. May I know what steps Government have so far taken to bring about a synthesis between the two?

Shri Humayun Kabir: I think the hon. Member is giving expression to an opinion. Whether cultural autonomy can be maintained while at the same time modern education as given is a matter on which there may be difference of opinion.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know what were the subjects which were discussed in the conference?

Shri Humayun Kabir: As I said just now, the report has not yet been received. I have seen certain things in the newspapers. I can only repeat them, but what has appeared in the newspapers may not be authentic.

Shri C. R. Pattibhi Raman: May I know whether any indigenous school on anthropology will be evolved on this, or are we going to depend on foreign experts for the study of this subject?

Shri Mumayya Kabir: I do not think the suggestion in the hon. Member's question is justified. We have a number of well known and distinguished Indian anthropologists.

High Court Judges

*1510. Shri B. C. Mullick: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of appointment of High Court Judges was discussed at the meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council held during January, 1958; and

(b) if so, the nature of decisions taken in this regard?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). At the meeting of the Eastern Zonal Council held in January last the suggestion, that 1/3rd of the number of Judges in a High Court might be recruited from outside the State, was discussed and accepted in principle.

Shri B. C. Mullick: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that the Chief Minister of Orissa has announced in the Orissa Assembly that a decision has been finalised to appoint a Judge in the Patna High Court from one of the advocates of the Orissa High Court Bar Association?

Mr. Speaker: The question was about the decision generally. The hon. Minister has answered that a decision has been taken that a proportionate number of Judges may be taken from other States. Now, the hon. Member is going into individual cases. How are we interested in it? Mr. Panigrahi.

Shri Panigrahi: I would like to know whether the appointment of Judges is within the competency of the Zonal Councils. May I know whether the Government of India is considering this aspect?

Shri Datar: I have not been able to follow the hon. Member.

Mr. Speaker: Is it competent for the Zonal Councils under the Constitution to decide that Judges should be recruited outside the State? Or, should the Government of India take a decision?

Shri Datar: The hon. Member will find that after the Zonal Council makes a particular recommendation, the States concerned take action.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether any decision was taken to the effect that Chief Justices of High Court henceforth should be appointed from outside the State?

Shri Datar: There is no such proposal.

Shri Achar: May I know whether the question of knowledge of regional languages for the Judges of the High Courts was discussed?

Shri Datar: I could not give a categorical answer to this question. That question will be taken into account when the Government of India receives recommendations from the Chief Justices and the Chief Ministers of the States.

Shri Ranga: The hon. Minister has stated that the recommendation was accepted and a decision was taken. Was it taken by the Government of India or by the States concerned? Secondly, is this particular principle going to be made applicable only to that particular zone or to all the other zones which were not consulted while taking this decision?

Shri Datar: That is the reason why I stated that this particular principle was accepted by the Eastern Zonal Council. The component members of the Eastern Zonal Council will give due weight to the recommendations of the Zonal Council. So far as others are concerned, they will not, naturally, be governed by this recommendation, though they will treat it with some respect.

Shri Kashiwal: I had been thinking all along that the Ministry was proposing to create an All India cadre of judges.....

Shri Banga: What for?

Shri Kasthwal: May I know whether that particular suggestion will be reduced to a suggestion relating to appointment of judges only in the different zones, that is to say, one judge will not be transferred to another zone?

Shri Datar: I have not got before me the minutes of the proceedings of the Zonal Council. So, I am not in a position to state whether this particular aspect of the question was considered then.

सैनिक इंजीनियरिंग सेवा की निर्माण समिति

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*१५११. { श्री भक्त वर्मान :
श्री स० चं० साधुनत :
श्री बी० चं० शर्मा :
श्री स० चं० शर्मा :

क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री १३ नवम्बर, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १२३ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सैनिक इंजीनियरिंग सेवा की निर्माण समिति ने इस बीच अपना कार्य समाप्त कर लिया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या समिति की रिपोर्ट की एक प्रति सभा पटल पर रखी जायेगी ;

(ग) समिति की सिफारिशों पर क्या निर्णय किया गया है ;

(घ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (क) का उत्तर नकारात्मक हो, तो विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(ङ) समिति ने अपने कार्य में अब तक क्या प्रगति की है ?

प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री के जवाब-सचिव (जी एनईएसिस्ट्राफ नायकबाड़) : (क) नहीं नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) एम० ई० एस० कन्स्ट्रक्शन कमेटी में सभी अफसर हैं, और प्रचान समेत सभी सदस्यों की ओर से भी रोज के जरूरी काम की ओर ध्यान देना पड़ता है । इस कारण उनके लिये समिति के काम में अपने समय का अधिक हिस्सा देना या अधिक बार मिलना संभव नहीं हो पाया है ।

(घ) समिति न घूम फिर कर जरूरी जानकारी प्राप्त करने का काम पूरा कर लिया है, और इस जानकारी के आधार पर भिन्न संस्थाओं द्वारा काम में आने वाले व्योरे समेत वर्णन के विभिन्न दृष्टिकोणों पर विचार किया है । इस समय समिति अपनी रिपोर्ट तैयार करने में लगी है । आशा है कि अप्रैल १९५८ के अन्त तक यह रिपोर्ट सरकार को प्राप्य कर दी जायेगी ।

श्री भक्त वर्मान : क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि एम० ई० एस० के ठेकेदारों को वर्षों तक उनके बिलों की प्रदायगी नहीं होती है और क्या इस कमेटी के सुपुर्व यह काम भी किया गया है और क्या वह इस पर भी विचार कर रही है ?

प्रतिरक्षा उपमंत्री (सरदार जयकिशन) : जैसा कि जवाब में कहा गया, अभी तक रिपोर्ट हमारे पास नहीं आई । जैसा मैंने सवाल का जवाब देते हुये कहा जब रिपोर्ट आ जायेगी तो वह सभा के पटल पर रख दी जायेगी । यह सवाल तब उठेगा ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether this Committee has also considered the question of the replacement of the contract system by departmental work?

Sardar Majithia: The terms of this reference of this Committee were:

- (1) To compare the specifications used by the MES vis-a-vis CPWD, Railways and private enterprise;
- (2) To determine what changes should be made in the specifications with a view to bringing down the cost of construction;
- (3) To examine whether use of timber can be encouraged in order to meet the deficiency of iron and steel;
- (4) to examine whether the open verandah in the single officers' quarters can be closed to provide another room;
- (5) to consider whether the height of the rooms in hot places can be increased on no cost basis; and
- (6) to examine whether any improvements in the type/design of quarters can be made without additional cost.

These were the terms of reference of the Committee. The particular question which the hon. Member has put has already been dealt with by another committee, which was appointed, and the report of that committee has been submitted long ago.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know when this Construction Committee was set up and when they began their work actually?

Sardar Majithia: The Committee was appointed sometime in early 1956; to be exact, on 9th May 1956. They started work two months afterwards.

Arms Act

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- *1518. { **Shri Bhakt Darshan:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhad:
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given

to Starred Question No. 235 on the 21st November, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the Government have since finalised their proposals to amend the Arms Act; and

(b) whether proposals in this regard were invited and received from all the State Governments?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) The matter is still under consideration. (b) Yes.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि जब दो-तीन वर्षों से इस प्रश्न पर विचार हो रहा है तब कौन सी बड़ी घड़वनें हैं जिन की वजह से निर्णय नहीं हो पा रहा है ?

Shri Datar: The State Governments have been consulted as their views have to be taken into account. After the Bill has been finalised, we shall circulate it to the State Governments and ascertain their reactions. Then the Bill will be introduced here.

श्री भक्त दर्शन : पिछली बार यह उत्तर दिया गया था कि संसद के इसी सत्र में यह विधेयक पेश कर दिया जायेगा । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या इस सत्र की समाप्ति से पहले इस की प्राप्ति की जा सकती है ?

Shri Datar: That depends upon how the State Governments deal with it. As soon as we receive their views, we can proceed with it almost immediately.

सरदार ब० सिंह सद्गुप्त : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि कितनी स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने प्रार्थन ऐक्ट के बारे में अभी तक अपनी राय जाहिर की है ?

Shri Datar: We have got the views of all the State Governments.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know whether the draft has been circulated to

all the State Governments and, if so, when it was circulated and when you are expecting their replies?

Shri Datar: It will be circulated almost immediately.

Mr. Speaker: Those hon. Members who were not present in the House earlier can put their Questions.

दिल्ली में ज्योतिषी

*१४६८, श्री प० सा० बाबुलाल :

क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली की गलियों में कुछ लोग ज्योतिषी बन कर जनता को ठगते हैं और उन से पैसे ऐंठते हैं ;

(ख) इन कार्यवाहियों को रोकने के लिये सरकार क्या कर रही है ; और

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि कनाट प्लेस में निवास करने वाले लोगों को भीख मांगते फिरते हैं ?

गृह उपमंत्री (श्रीमती आल्ता) : (क) दिल्ली में पुलिस को ज्योतिषी द्वारा पैसा ऐंठने की कोई रिपोर्ट नहीं मिली ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

(ग) कनाट प्लेस में कभी कभी कुछ लोग भीख मांगते पाये गये हैं ।

श्री० प० सा० बाबुलाल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो ज्योतिषी सड़कों पर बैठे रहते हैं उन के बारे में सरकार से घाशा की जा सकती है कि किस प्रकार से बच्चों, वकीलों और डाक्टरों का अपना पेशा कमाने के लिये पंजीबद्ध होना जरूरी है उसी प्रकार से इन ज्योतिषियों को वह पंजीबद्ध करेगी ?

श्रीमती आल्ता : जी नहीं ।

श्री भक्त बर्षन : क्या गवर्नमेंट ने इस बात का पता लगाने की कोशिश की है कि दिल्ली में कुल कितने ज्योतिषी हैं और उन में से कितने ठीक किस्म के ज्योतिषी हैं और कितने धोखा बड़ी बातें हैं ?

श्रीमती आल्ता : जी नहीं । यह पता नहीं लगाया गया है ।

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether certain alm houses are going to be started for the beggars in Delhi?

Shrimati Alva: There is already one poor house where the beggars are lodged.

Shri Hem Barua rose—

Mr. Speaker: Leave the fortune-tellers alone.

Suicide at Qutab Minar

+
*1507. { Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Tangamani:
Shri Kumaran:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a woman committed suicide by jumping to ground from the second storey of the Qutab Minar, Delhi, on the 18th March, 1958;

(b) if so, the details of the incident; and

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

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Hamayun Kabir): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A young woman aged about 30-35, wife of a Government Servant committed suicide at about 11-30 A.M. on the 18th March, 1958 by jumping down from the second storey of the Qutab Minar. She left behind a six months old daughter near the steps of the second storey. The child has since been handed over to her father. The Police are still investigating the case.

(c) A notice board was fixed at the entrance of the Qutab in 1956 to the effect that "No solitary person unless accompanied by at least two persons will be allowed to go up the Qutab

Minar". This is enclosed to the extent it is possible at a public monument. The Chowkidars have also been asked to be more vigilant.

Shrimati Ha Paleyoudhuri: May I know if evidence of neighbours and those who know about the case has been taken? If not, why not?

Shri Humayun Kabir: The matter is under investigation. A preliminary report has been received from the Police. The difficulty in such cases is that if the crime is successful, no punishment can be given and it is also not always possible to find out the details about the motive.

Shri Hem Barua: Is it a fact, as given out in the newspapers, that the woman was mentally unstable and that that was one of the reasons for her committing suicide?

Mr. Speaker: Let us not prejudice the investigation. Is it always desirable to give reasons?

Shri Hem Barua: It is given in the newspapers.

Mr. Speaker: If it is in the papers it is wrong.

जी बातचीत : मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि क्या यह सब नहीं है कि आत्महत्या से पहले उसके मासिक ने उसे पीटा और क्या उसके पड़ोसियों से इस बारे में मालूम किया गया ?

Mr. Speaker: I can only suggest to hon. Members that when a matter is under Police investigation, if they have got any particular and reliable information, they can send it on to the Police. They should not ask questions here.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: About prevention?

Mr. Speaker: The question that was asked was whether she was beaten. All such things come under Police investigation.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister has just now said that unless a person is accompanied by two others, he or she will not be allowed to go up. May I ask the hon. Minister whether some preventive measures have been taken to have some sort of a net on the ground so that if anybody falls, he can be protected?

Mr. Speaker: All hon. Members may kindly pass on their suggestions to the hon. Minister for action.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I request you, Sir, to direct the hon. Minister to answer Q. No. 1491 and Q. No. 1495?

Mr. Speaker: Yes.

Use of Regional Languages in High Courts

*1491. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Pandit K. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state in how many High Courts regional languages of the respective States have been authorised to be used in place of English so far?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Regional languages have been authorised to be used in the proceedings of two High Courts, namely the Rajasthan and Kerala High Courts.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Is the hon. Minister aware that on the original side of the Calcutta High Court even if the judges know Bengali and the witness is a Bangali and the lawyers also are Bengalis, the rules compel that the evidence of a Bengali witness should be translated into English by usually a Bengali interpreter and on the appellate side.....

Mr. Speaker: What does the hon. Member want? He is giving information and not asking for it.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I want to know whether the hon. Minister is aware of it.

Mr. Speaker: What is it that he wants the hon. Minister to be aware of? Hon. Members should elicit certain things.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I am eliciting information.

Mr. Speaker: I am yet to see what the question is.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I am asking it.

Bengali documents have to be translated into English and therefore is the hon. Minister contemplating any change in the rules?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): Such matters come within the purview of the High Courts.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The Criminal Procedure Code is there. Is no change contemplated?

सेठ गोबिन्द दास : क्या कोई ऐसे नियम हैं कि जिनके कारण यदि कोई हाई कोर्ट अपना काम वहां की अपनी भाषा में करना चाहें तो उसको करने के लिए केन्द्रीय सरकार से इजाजत की जरूरत पड़ती है, और अगर ऐसे कोई नियम हैं तो क्या इस बात का कोई विचार किया जा रहा है कि इन नियमों में इस प्रकार का परिवर्तन कर दिया जाये कि जिससे जो हाई कोर्ट अपनी भाषा में अपनी कार्रवाई करना चाहे वह कर सके ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : कास्टीटूशन में यह है कि फंसले और डिग्री वर्ग रह ता अंग्रेजी में होने चाहिए। उसके अलावा जो और कार्रवाई होती है उसके लिए प्रेसाइंट, अगर किसी खास प्रदेश से इस बात का सुझाव आये तो, इजाजत दे सकते हैं। राजस्थान और केरल में दरअसल विलोनीकरण से पहले से इन भाषाओं में काम होता आया है। इधर किसी जगह कोई खास ऐसी कार्रवाई नहीं की गयी।

सेठ गोबिन्द दास : क्या माननीय मंत्री जी को भालूम है कि मध्य प्रदेश में जब ग्वालियर

में हाईकोर्ट था तो उस समय ग्वालियर की हाईकोर्ट अपनी भाषा में काम करती थी, और अभी भी ग्वालियर में हाईकोर्ट की एक बेंच रखी गयी है। क्या ऐसे स्थानों पर कि जहां पहले वहां की भाषाओं में काम होता था, वहां की भाषाओं में काम होने की इजाजत देने का गवर्नमेंट विचार कर रही है ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : अगर कोई प्रादेशिक गवर्नमेंट यहां की गवर्नमेंट को लिखे तो उस पर सहानुभूतिपूर्वक विचार किया जायेगा।

Shri Dasappa: May I know whether any other State other than Rajasthan and Kerala has sought permission to have their own regional language?

Pandit G. B. Pant: So far as I am aware, no.

श्री बज राज सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि उत्तर प्रदेश को सरकार में केन्द्रिय सरकार के पास इस तरह का कोई सुझाव भेजा है कि इलाहाबाद हाई कर्ट में हिंदी में सब कार्रवाई की जाये ?

पंडित गो० ब० पन्त : जहां तक मुझे मालूम है कि कोई ऐसा सुझाव नहीं भेजा है।

Shri Yajnik: May I know if Rajkot High Court, which used to conduct its proceedings in Gujarati before the integration of Saurashtra in Bombay, has reverted to the English language only after its integration with Bombay?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Maybe, I cannot say.

निर्वाचनों में प्रचार कार्य

*१६५५. डा० राम सु० सिंह :

क्या बिबि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि निर्वाचन आयोग ने यह सलाह दी है कि केन्द्रीय एवं

राज्य सरकारों के मंत्रियों को सरकारी गाड़ियों में सरकारी कर्मचारियों के साथ निर्वचन के दौरान निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में प्रचार कार्य के लिये नहीं जाना चाहिये ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस पर क्या कार्यवाही की गयी है ?

बिबि उपसंगो (श्री हजरतबीस) :

(क) और (ख). जी, हां ! मुझे पता चला है कि मुख्य निर्वाचन आयोग ने हाल ही में राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्रियों को ऐसी परम्परा स्थापित करने का बांछनीयता के बारे में लिखा कि मंत्रिगण निर्वचन के दौरान निर्वाचन क्षेत्रों में सरकारी दौरे पर सरकारी गाड़ियों में न जाएँ और यदि किसी मंत्री को ऐसे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र में सरकारी दौरे पर जाना पड़े तो वह अपने दल के उम्मीदवारों के पक्ष में प्रचार न करे । मुख्य मंत्रियों ने आयोग को सूचित किया है कि प्रचलित प्रथा के अनुसार ऐसे दौरे जिन पर आपत्ति की जा सकती है सामान्यतया नहीं किये जाते हैं और भविष्य में भी नहीं किये जाएंगे ।

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether Government have any information about this direction being complied with in the case of the Maudaha bye-election in U.P. and Phalakata bye-election in Jalpaiguri and Cooch Behar Parliamentary bye-election?

Shri Hajarnavis: There is no support to the effect that this is being ignored and is not being implemented.

Shri Hem Barua: Even after the Election Commission's writing to the State Chief Ministers about this, are Government aware of the fact that Ministers in the States are moving in the constituencies, where bye-elections are held recently, actively canvassing for candidates and are using Police and military vans to overshadow the voters

Mr. Speaker: It is unfortunate that hon. Members are trying to take advantage of questions for putting across their own views about particular things. Such kind of general questions, i.e. that all ministers have gone and all ministers are bad, lead us nowhere. If the hon. Member has a particular case about so-and-so going on a particular date, the hon. Minister may be in a position to reply, but he cannot reply to such questions of a general nature.

It is also not right that such questions are shot at the Minister without any notice.

The general public outside will think as if it is the fact.

Shri Hem Barua: I have got a humble submission. In bye-elections in Assam.....

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may have a fund of information but it is not relevant. The hon. Member may know something which the hon. Minister may not know.

Shri Hem Barua: Let the hon. Minister say that.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister cannot say that. He must have notice. Therefore individual cases must be brought to his notice. He was not present there. Does the hon. Member say that the hon. Minister was present there? He has to ascertain the facts from the local officers and then place them before the House. If the hon. Member was himself a minister would he answer that question?

The Question Hour is over.

Short Notice Question and Answer

Pakistan's letter to U.N. Security Council on Kashmir

S.N.Q. { Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
No. 12. { Shri A. M. Tariq:
 { Shri N. R. Munisamy:

Will the Prime Minister be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India's attention has been drawn to a letter

reported to have been written by Pakistan's permanent U.N. representative to the Security Council recently in regard to certain administrative measures taken by India in Kashmir;

(b) whether Government regard this action of Pakistan as an interference in the internal affairs of a foreign country and as such against the International Law; and

(c) if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken by the Government of India in this respect?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): (a) Government have seen a press report on the subject.

(b) and (c). Government cannot comment on the contents of the letter as reported in the press. They are awaiting receipt of the authorised text of the letter. Their general position that Kashmir is Indian territory and Pakistan unlawfully continues to occupy part of this Indian territory by force is well known.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: May I know whether the Pakistan Government has been asked to supply a copy of the alleged letter or is it in the course of things that such letters are supplied to our Government?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Any letters that are sent to the United Nations are normally circulated as U.N. Documents and presumably will come to us that way. So far as I know, we have not asked and we do not consider it necessary to ask the Pakistan Government to supply us a copy of any such letter.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Institute for Teaching English

*1487. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the progress made with regard to the setting up of an autonomous in-

stitute to improve the teaching of English in the country?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): The Resolution about the setting up of the Institute has been issued. Action is now being taken to get the "English Language Teaching Institute Society" to run the Institute, registered.

Madras Government Technical Examinations in Civil Engineering (Higher Grade)

*1488. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether a proposal to withdraw the recognition granted in 1955 to the Madras Government Technical Examination in Civil Engineering Higher Grade is under consideration; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayan Kabir): (a) and (b). Government of Madras are conducting Higher Grade and Lower Grade examinations in Civil Engineering for private students and are awarding Group Certificates to those who have passed certain groups of subjects at these examinations.

Since the examinations are open to persons who have not studied in a recognised technical institution or are not engaged in the engineering profession, the question whether these examinations should continue to be recognised by the Central Government is under consideration.

Cost Accountancy in State Undertakings

*1489. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government owned Industrial Organisations, Corporations or Joint Stock Companies where cost accountancy cells are maintained;

(b) whether there are any such institutions where such system has not been introduced; and

(c) if so, when it is proposed to be introduced in such companies?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) to (c). Government have accepted the principle that cost accountancy should be introduced in all State-undertakings. Information is being collected regarding the implementation of this principle and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

कोषकार

*१४६० श्री क० भे० नालवीय : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि हिन्दी पारिभाषिक शब्दावली तैयार करने में उनके मंत्रालय ने कितने कोषकारों से सहायता ली ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला०

जीवाली) : पांच ।

Pilot Plant in regard to Non-Metallurgical Coal

*1492. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for setting up of a pilot plant to conduct experiments with iron ores of those regions in the country where no metallurgical coal is available to see how far coals locally available would be suitable for the manufacture of steel at Jamshedpur has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Orders have been placed on a German firm for supply and erection of the plant.

Gharchukti Kar Arrears in Tripura

*1493. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that notices for collection of Gharchukti Kar arrears have been served on a large number of Tribal Zumas in Tripura; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister in the Ministry Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Yes.

(b) Government have remitted all the arrears of Gharchukti Kar which had accumulated up to 31st March, 1952. Certain tribals have not paid their arrears from 1st April, 1952 and therefore notices have been served on such defaulters.

Derajat Bank, Kulu

*1500. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1045 on the 4th December, 1957 and state:

(a) the further steps taken to reimburse the depositors of the Derajat Bank, Kulu;

(b) the amount due to the depositors; and

(c) the amount that has been paid so far?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Due to legal and other difficulties, no concrete step has been taken so far.

(b) the deposits stood at Rs. 1.22 lakhs on 28-9-1956.

(c) A sum of Rs. 0.80 lakhs appears to have been paid between 29-4-1956 and 28-9-1956.

Personal Consumption Allowance on Tobacco

*1504. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to conduct a survey in connection with fixing of limitation on exemption of duty on tobacco for personal consumption by the growers;

(b) if so, when it will commence; and

(c) when it is likely to be completed?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No. Sir; it is not proposed to conduct a general survey in the matter. Instructions have, however, been issued to the Collectors of Central Excise, who are competent to fix the duty-free limit for personal consumption, that in the context of the Multiple Officers Range Scheme, if the Collector is convinced on the basis of statistics that by slightly increasing the limits in a particular area, a substantial number of growers is likely to be benefited, there is no objection to the Collector raising the limit.

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

प्राथमिक, माध्यमिक और उच्च शिक्षा

*१५०५. श्री ब० प्र० सिंह: क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) प्राथमिक, माध्यमिक और उच्च शिक्षा पर प्रति विद्यार्थी कितना औसत व्यय होता है; और

(ख) भारत सरकार इस में से कितने प्रतिशत व्यय करती है?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीवास्ती)

(क) १९५५-५६ में प्राथमिक और माध्यमिक स्कूलों और उच्च शिक्षा की

संस्थाओं में प्रति विद्यार्थी वार्षिक व्यय को औसत क्रमशः २३.४, ६२.२ और ४३६.१ रुपये थी।

(ख) उपर्युक्त व्यय का ३.४, ०.६ और १२.३ प्रतिशत सर्व भारत सरकार ने किया।

Seizure of Indian Currency

*1513. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Pandit K. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state whether it is a fact that on Tuesday, the 4th February, 1958, Rs 20,000 worth of Indian currency was seized by Bombay Customs authorities from the Persian Gulf bound British liner (Sardhana)?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Yes, Sir.

Commerce Graduates

2070. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of students who graduated in commerce during 1956-57 State-wise;

(b) the total number of students who have graduated so far in commerce during the past five years; and

(c) how many out of them are registered at present as unemployed?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) A statement giving the required information is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 135.]

(b) The total number of students who graduated in commerce in the last 5 years is as follows:

1951	..	5,599
1952	..	6,072
1953	..	6,772
1954	..	7,231
1955	..	7,767

(c) The number of commerce graduates registered at the various employment exchanges in the country in May 1957 is estimated at 3,787.

Allotment of Iron Sheets to Punjab

2071. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Punjab Government have requested the Central Government for an increase in its annual quota of Iron Sheets; and

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

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Allotments of iron and steel are made by the Central Government to the State Governments in lump sum quantities and categories are not specified. It is left to the option of the State Government to indent for the required categories. No separate and specific request from the Punjab Government for an increase in the allocations of iron sheets has been received. The quota given to this State, as in the case of all other States, does not meet all the requirements.

(b) Does not arise.

Oil Drilling Operations

2072. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of foreign experts are helping or are employed in the oil drilling operations by the Oil and Natural Gas Commission;

(b) if so, their nationalities; and

(c) the nature of work done by them?

The Minister for Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Sixteen Rumanians and fourteen Russians.

(c) The Rumanian Experts consist of 11 drilling technicians, 4 diesel mechanics and one Mud Chemist.

The Russian personnel consist of one Chief Drilling Engineer, one Consultant Geologist, one Consultant Drilling Engineer, one Drilling Foreman, one data interpretator, three interpreters and two parties, (consisting of 3 experts each) for Electrologging and Gas-logging operations.

Education in Himachal Pradesh

2073. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amount allocated during the Second Five Year Plan so far to Himachal Pradesh for the educational development?

The Minister of Education (Shri M. L. Shrivastha): Against the total provision of Rs. 114 lakhs for Educational Development Schemes of Himachal Pradesh during the Second Five Year Plan period, the following amounts were initially allocated from year to year:

Year	Amount
1956-57	Rs. 20.00 lakhs
1957-58	Rs. 28.81 lakhs

Rehabilitation Finance Administration

2075. Shri Bhagwati: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) what amount has been sanctioned upto 1957 to the displaced persons in the State of Assam by the Rehabilitation Finance Administration;

(b) the number of persons receiving such loan in Assam;

(c) the number of cases pending disposal;

(d) the number of cases in which attachment orders have been issued for non-payment of the loan in Assam;

(e) whether it is a fact that attachment orders are issued even against

those persons who pay their instalments but have failed to clear the loan by making full payment; and

(f) if so, the number of such cases?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Rs. 106.95 lakhs.

(b) 1541.

(c) 1952 in Assam.

(d) 389 cases were referred to Collectors for the recovery of entire loans and 221 cases for recovery of overdue instalments. The information as to in how many cases the Collectors have issued attachment orders is not available, as it is discretionary with the Collectors to enforce recovery by attachment or in some other manner.

(e) Yes, Sir. A loan may be reached under Section 14 of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948 for reasons other than default in the payment of instalments and recovery proceedings, started under Section 15.

(f) Information regarding number of such cases, if any, in Assam is not available for the reasons stated under (d) above.

Income Tax

2076. Shri Braj Raj Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state what was the amount of income-tax assessed and collected in the districts of Agra and Ferozabad in the State of U.P. separately from 1952-53 to 1957-58 (year-wise)?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The information is being collected. A statement giving the information will be laid on the Table of the House as early as possible.

Education Survey of India

2077. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) when is the field work on the Educational Survey of India to be completed;

(b) the nature of Co-operation offered by the State Governments in this work; and

(c) whether the final report will be received through the State Governments?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) The field work has been completed in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Bombay, Jammu and Kashmir, Kerala, Madras, Mysore and Rajasthan. The remaining States are trying to complete it as early as possible.

(b) the Survey is being carried by the State Governments under the direction of and with the financial assistance of the Government of India;

(c) Yes, Sir.

Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Tribes

**2078. { Shri Siddiah:
Shri Chuni Lal:**

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1195 on the 12th March, 1958 and state:

(a) whether all the official and non-official organisations working for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Union Territories and various States with financial aid from the Central Government are submitting their annual progress reports to Government regularly;

(b) if so, whether a copy of the reports for the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 will be placed on the Table; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alwa): (a) Progress Reports of a respect of Organisations receiving direct Central assistance are being received regularly except from the Akhil Bharatiya Seva Seva Sangh, who has not been paid the grant sanctioned for them during 1957-58 for want of information about the progress of expenditure in respect of the schemes for which a sum of Rs. 11.92 lakhs was sanctioned for 1956-57.

(b) and (c). The progress reports for the year 1957-58 have not yet been received, as the year is just over and it will take some time for the organisations concerned to compile their reports for that year.

So far as the reports for the year 1956-57 are concerned, the progress reports of the following organisations have already been laid on the Table of the House in reply to Unstarred Question No. 2138 in Lok Sabha on the 20th December, 1957:—

- (1) The Bharatiya Depressed Classes League.
- (2) The All India Harijan Sevak Sangh.
- (3) Iswar Saran Ashram, Allahabad.
- (4) The Servants of Indian Depressed Classes Society.

Progress reports of the following organisations are laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-648]58.]

- (1) Bharatiya Adimjati Sevak Sangh.
- (2) Indian Council for Child Welfare.
- (3) All India Khadi and Village Industries Commission.

(4) Bharatiya Lok Kala Mandal, Udaipur. A further report from the All India Khadi and Village Industries Commission and a detailed report from the Bharatiya Lok Kala Mandal are awaited.

The Central Social Welfare Board have not yet received progress reports from all the Organisations to which they disbursed grant for 1956-57. A copy of the progress reports will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

Scheduled Castes and Tribes Employees in Semi-government Bodies

2079. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to

refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 665 on the 29th November, 1957 and state:

(a) the names of the three organisations which have been advised to give effect to the special orders regarding representation of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) whether they have agreed to do so;

(c) if not, the reasons for the same; and

(d) the number of employees in each of those organisations and the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees amongst them, cadre-wise?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). Two out of the three organisations have agreed to follow Government orders on special representation in the services. It is hoped the third will also agree.

(d) According to the available information, 5,777 persons are employed in the three organizations of which the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is 124.

Classification of Backward Classes

2080. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Starred Question No. 1210 on the 25th March, 1958 and state:

(a) when the ad hoc survey was commenced to determine the criteria for the classification of Backward Classes; and

(b) what is the expenditure incurred up-to-date for the same?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) The ad hoc survey commenced in the States of West Bengal and Madras in the middle of July, 1957 and in Bombay in August, 1957.

(b) The expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 5.7 lakhs out of which half will

be borne by the State Government's concerned.

Multipurpose Schools in Orissa

2081. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of multipurpose schools at present in Orissa State financially helped by the Central Government and their location; and

(b) the amount contributed in this regard by the Central Government during 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) No multipurpose school has so far been established in Orissa but the Central grant given has been utilised for the purchase of equipment, construction of buildings, etc., for such schools to be opened.

(b) 1956-57	Rs. 1,56,750.
1957-58	Rs. 17,500.

Houses for Scheduled Tribes in Orissa

2082. Shri B. C. Prodhan: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many colonies or residential accommodation for the Scheduled Tribes have been established in Orissa State during the year 1956-57 and how many proposals are pending at present?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): The required information is being obtained from the State Government and will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

Import of Steel

2083. Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing:

(a) the contracts placed by Government during 1955, 1956 and 1957 for the import of steel on Government account by direct negotiations with foreign countries and the quantity of steel involved in each contract;

(b) the price according to different categories at which each contract was placed;

(c) the price at which steel was purchased by the Iron and Steel Controller through tenders;

(d) the outstanding quantity which remains to be delivered against the various contracts on the 1st January, 1958 separately in respect of purchases made by Government by direct negotiations with foreign countries and purchases made by the Iron and Steel Controller through tenders;

(e) the cases in respect of which extensions were granted against direct purchases by Government and from importers separately and the quantities involved; and

(f) the reasons for grant of extensions?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) to (f). The required information is being collected and a statement will be laid on the Table of the House, shortly.

Population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bombay State

2084. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the latest population figures in respect of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in Bombay have been estimated in accordance with Section 42 of the States Reorganisation Act, 1956; and

(b) if so, whether a statement giving the following information district-wise of Bombay will be laid on the Table:

- (i) total population; and
- (ii) total Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes population?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 136.]

Minerals in Bombay

2085. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the following details of minerals found in Bombay during 1957-58:

- (i) the name of the mineral;
- (ii) estimated quantity available; and

Mineral	Reserves (in tons)	Quantity extracted in 1957 (in tons)
Bauxite	28,100,000	11,104
Calcite	3,200	2,638
Chromite	67,000	—
Gypsum	6,600,000	—
Ilmenite	240,000	—
Iron	27,000,000	118,589
Limestone	1,147,000,000	620,216
Manganese	—	359,260
Steatite	2,000,000	—
China Clay	—	—
Coal	—	23,857
Salt	—	611,601
		2,061,040

(Figures for 1957 are provisional).

Multi-purpose Schools in Bombay

2086. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of multi-purpose Schools at present in Bombay State; and

(b) the amount contributed by the Central Government to the State of Bombay during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 for the multi-purpose Schools?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrinani): (a) 143.

(b) 1956-57 Rs. 4,84,500.
1957-58 Rs. 8,30,814.

Artificial Rain Making

2087. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some Scientists have approached the

(iii) quantity extracted?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): No new minerals were found in Bombay during 1957-58. The Geological Survey of India, however, was engaged during this period in investigating iron ore, manganese, mica, marble, dolomite and limestone.

The information available regarding reserves and quantities extracted is given below:

Council of Scientific and Industrial Research for financial assistance to carry out research in artificial rain-making;

(b) if so, the particulars of those scientists; and

(c) if so, the action taken on their requests?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The particulars of the persons are:—

(i) Dr. S. R. Savur, Ph.D., Retired Regional Director, India Meteorological Department and ex-Professor of Meteorology, Andhra University.

(ii) Shri C. J. Paliwal, B.A., B.T., of Parasia, Chindwara, Madhya Pradesh.

(iii) Shri C. J. Rao, Executive Engineer, Andhra Electricity Department.

(c) No action has been taken as the expert Scientific Committees of the Council did not accept either their methods or their conclusions.

Opening of Engineering College in Punjab

2088. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 119 on the 17th July, 1957 and state the place in Punjab where an Engineering college is being opened?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Patiala. The College has started functioning.

Scholarships

2089. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of students in Punjab State who have been given scholarships by the Government of India in 1957-58 for studies in India and abroad under the various schemes of the Central Government; and

(b) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students among them?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) 2,683 scholarships have been awarded for studies in India. None for studies abroad.

(b) 2,892.

Mining Lease and Prospecting Licence Applications

2090. Shri V. C. Shukla: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Prospecting Licence and Mining Lease applications received from prospectors in the years 1952 to 1956, separately for each year, for those minerals which are now included in Schedule 'A' of the Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956; and

(b) the number of Prospecting Licence and Mining Lease applications

received from prospectors for Schedule 'A' minerals, during the period from the 1st January, 1957 to 1st January, 1958?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) and (b). The information is being collected from the State Governments and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

त्रिपुरा में अस्पृश्यता

२०९१. श्री क० मे० बासवीर :
क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अनुसूचित जातियों तथा अनुसूचित आदिमजातियों के आयुक्त की १९५५ की रिपोर्ट के पृष्ठ ७२ और पृष्ठ ७८ पर त्रिपुरा में अस्पृश्यता के बारे में लिखी हुई दोनों बातों में से कौन सी सत्य है ;

(ख) क्या आयुक्त ने अपनी रिपोर्ट लिखने से पहले वस्तुस्थिति की जांच कर ली थी ; और

(ग) यदि नहीं तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह उपमंत्री (श्रीमती अम्बा) :

(क) १९५५ की रिपोर्ट के पृष्ठ ७२ पर दी हुई सूचना अनुसूचित जातिों तथा अनुसूचित आदिम जातियों के कमिश्नर को भाल इंडिया हरिजन सेवक संघ से प्राप्त हुई थी और पृष्ठ ७८ पर दी गई सूचना त्रिपुरा प्रशासन से मिली थी ।

(ख) जी हाँ ।

(ग) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

Foreign Investment in India

2092. { Shri Raghunath Singh:
Pandit K. C. Sharma:
Shri Kalika Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state what was the capital

investment of foreign countries in India in public and private sectors separately at the end of 1957?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The latest information available in the matter is as at the end of 1955. Foreign capital investment at the end of that year was as under:—

Private sector Rs. 480.01 crores.
Public Sector Rs. 0.63 crores

Department of Archaeology

2092. Shri Easwara Iyer: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of work-charged staff in the Department of Archaeology who had put in 10 years of service or more on the 1st July, 1950;

(b) whether all of them have been confirmed; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) 110.

(b) and (c). Orders regarding confirmation of staff are under issue.

Evictions in Tripura

2094. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some tribals of Lalguri are facing eviction due to non-regularisation of ownership over their occupied land;

(b) if so, the number of families which are affected or are likely to be evicted; and

(c) the steps Government propose to take in this connection?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) Only those will be liable to be evicted who have taken possession of land in an unlawful manner.

(b) and (c). Exact number of families likely to be affected is not known. But petitions from six families of Lal-

guri Mouja for the settlement of land have been received very recently and are under scrutiny. If these persons are found in lawful possession of land, they will be granted title deeds.

Bomb Explosion on Imphal Dimapur Road

2095. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was a bomb explosion at Kongpokpi on the Imphal-Dimapur Road;

(b) whether one Sub-Inspector of Police was injured thereby;

(c) whether any enquiry has been made; and

(d) if so, with what result?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) and (b). There was a bomb explosion in a house at Kongpokpi on the 13th February 1958, in which the Sub-Inspector in-charge of police station received serious injuries while extinguishing the fire.

(c) and (d). A case under Section 4 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908, has been registered and is under investigation.

Boarding House for Girls at Agartala

2096. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2080 on the 20th December, 1957 and state:

(a) the progress made in the construction of the Boarding House for Tribal girls at M.T.B. Girls Higher Secondary School at Agartala;

(b) the number of tribal girl students it will accommodate;

(c) the nature of facilities that are to be afforded to them;

(d) whether the accommodation of this Boarding House shall be exclusively open to tribal girl students; and

(e) if not, whether any number of seats will be kept reserved for them?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrinani): (a) The Boarding House is expected to be completed by the end of May, 1958.

(b) Ten.

(c) Free tuition facilities in the school and free accommodation in the Boarding House.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Yes, Sir, except when no such candidates are available.

अनुसूचित जातियों के विद्यार्थी

२०६७. श्री यादव : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या काशी विद्यापीठ, बनारस में पिछड़ी और अनुसूचित जातियों के कुछ ऐसे भी विद्यार्थी हैं, जिन्हें प्रार्थनापत्र देने पर भी भारत सरकार को अनुसूचित जातियों, अनुसूचित आदिमजातियों तथा अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के विद्यार्थियों के लिये अन्तर्देशीय छात्रवृत्ति योजना के अन्तर्गत छात्रवृत्तियां नहीं दी गई हैं ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० श्रीवास्ती):

(क) चार अनुसूचित जातियों और तीन अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के उम्मीदवारों के लिये १९५७-५८ में छात्रवृत्तियां मंजूर नहीं की गई थी ।

(ख) अनुसूचित जातियों के इन चार उम्मीदवारों के प्रार्थनापत्र नामंजूर कर दिये गए, क्योंकि बार बार लिखने पर भी उन्होंने अपने प्रार्थना पत्रों को पूरा नहीं करा। अन्य पिछड़े वर्गों के इन तीन उम्मीदवारों को इस लिये नहीं चुना गया क्योंकि उनमें आवश्यक योग्यता न थी ।

Monuments in Madras

2096. Shri Kiyaperumal: Will the Minister of Education and Scientific Research be pleased to state:

(a) the number of ancient monuments which are at present under the supervision of the Central Government in Madras State;

(b) the names of the places and districts in which they are situated; and

(c) the amount spent for protection and improvement of each monument during 1956-57?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) 430.

(b) and (c). A statement showing the details is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-650/58.]

Illicit Distilleries in Delhi

2100. Shri Rameshwar Tania: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state how many illicit distilleries were unearthed in Delhi during 1956-57?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): Twenty-six.

Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

2101. Shri Balakrishnan: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the budget provisions made for Madras in the year 1956-57 for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) the amount which was given in the year 1956-57; and

(c) the amount which was utilised by the State Government?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 137.]

I.P.S. and I.A.S.

2162. Shri M. Nayak: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the proportion of officers of I.P.S. and I.A.S. who are appointed by promotion from the Orissa State Services; and

(b) number of those officers who have been appointed by direct recruitment?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) In accordance with Rule 9 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, and Indian Police Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, the number of State Services officers appointed by promotion to the Indian Administrative Service/Indian Police Service should not at any time exceed 25 per cent. of the number of senior duty posts borne on any State Cadre including Orissa State.

(b) (i) Indian Administrative Service—63.

(ii) Indian Police Service—27.

Employees of Ordnance Field Depots

2163. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shrimati Renu Chakravarty:
Shri Jagdish Awasthi:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether Class IV employees serving in No. 1 Ordnance Field Depot have not been granted Quasi Permanency; and

(b) if so, the reason therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): (a) Non-industrial class IV employees in No. 1 Ordnance Field Depot who satisfied the prescribed conditions, have been made quasi-permanent. Industrial Class IV employees have not been made quasi-permanent.

(b) Under the general orders industrial employees are not eligible for quasi-permanency.

Production of Coking Coal

2164. { Shrimati Ha Palchowdhuri:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the pegged levels of production of coking coals fixed for 1958?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): Selected Grades A and B .. 9.0 million tons.

Grade I .. 5.5 million tons.

Grade II .. 3.7 million tons.

Total.. 18.2 million tons.

लेडी नायस स्कूल, दिल्ली

२१०५. श्री पहाड़िया : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सब है कि दिल्ली में मूक विद्यार्थियों के लिये लेडी नायस स्कूल को स्थान तथा अन्य सुविधाओं की कमी के कारण कठिनाइयों का सामना करना पड़ रहा है ; और

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

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० खोन्सली):

(क) जी हां । स्कूल को प्रतिरिक्त स्थान की आवश्यकता है ।

(ख) प्रतिरिक्त स्थान की व्यवस्था करने का प्रश्न विचाराधीन है ।

Educational Programmes in States

2167. Shri Rameshwar Tanti: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the steps that are taken to ensure the speedy and proper execution of the various educational schemes and programmes for which grants and loans are given to the State Governments; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) and (b). The speedy and proper execution of the Centrally sponsored schemes is ensured by keeping in touch with the State Governments personally and through correspondence. Periodical and regular reports are asked for from the State Governments regarding the progress of the schemes. Though the first instalment of the Central Government's grant is paid in advance, the second instalment is paid on the receipt of the figures of actual expenditure for the first six months and estimates for the remaining period.

Library Movement in Punjab

2109. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amount of financial aid and grant given to the Punjab Government to encourage library movement in the State during 1955-56 and 1956-57?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): Rs. 8,83,218.

Agra Fort

2109. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state the amount proposed to be spent for the preservation and maintenance of historical fort, Agra during 1958-59?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Rs. 25,285, according to present estimates of requirements.

Technical Education in Punjab

2110. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state the amount of grant sanctioned or to be sanctioned for the expansion of technical education in Punjab during 1958-59?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): No grant has yet been sanctioned for 1958-59. However depending upon the budget provision made by the State Government for approved schemes and progress of expenditure, an amount of Rs. 26 lakhs is likely to be sanctioned.

Urdu and Punjabi Organisations

2111. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state the total amount of grants given to various Urdu and Punjabi Organisations for the purpose of development of these languages during 1957-58 under the Scheme of Development of Modern Indian Languages?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Nil.

Secondary Education in Assam

2112. { Shri Bhagavati:
Shri Basumatari:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of schemes that have been submitted by the State Government of Assam regarding reorganisation of Secondary Education during 1958-59;

(b) whether any of these schemes has been sanctioned; and

(c) if so, what amount has been given or is proposed to be given to Assam for this purpose?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Nine.

(b) Not so far.

(c) Rs. 19.62 lakhs; proposed to be given.

Social Service Camps in Manipur

2113. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of social service camps which were organised in Manipur in 1957-58; and

(b) the total amount of money spent and the number of participants, both boys and girls?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivastava): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Judges for Punjab High Court

2114. { Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that four additional Judges were sanctioned for the Punjab High Court last year to clear off the arrears of work;

(b) whether the appointments have been effected;

(c) if so, the names of the Judges so appointed; and

(d) the number of cases pending disposal before the appointments and the number of cases pending now after the appointments?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Two temporary posts of Additional Judges have been filled by the appointment of Justices R. P. Khosla and A. N. Grover. Proposals for filling the remaining two posts are under consideration.

(d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

वर्ष उद्योग में प्रशिक्षण

२११५. श्री बहादुर : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) अब तक कितने विद्यार्थी सरकारी कार्य पर वर्ष उद्योग में प्रशिक्षण के लिये विदेश भेजे गये ; और

(ख) इनमें अनुसूचित जातियों के कितने विद्यार्थी थे ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० खोसला):

(क) और (ख). विज्ञान पांच सालों में कई नई ।

Removal of Untouchability

2116. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the Central Social Welfare Board by the Ministry of Home Affairs for removal of untouchability for the years 1956-57, 1957-58, 1958-59; and

(b) whether a copy of the progress report for the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 will be placed on the Table?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) Rs. 23,380 were allotted to the Central Social Welfare Board for this purpose during 1956-57 and Rs. 2,000 during 1957-58. For the year 1958-59, no proposals have so far been received from the Board.

(b) The Central Social Welfare Board have not yet received progress reports for these years from all the organisations to which they disbursed this grant. A copy of the progress reports will be laid on the Table of the House as soon as received.

Technical Education in Mysore

2117. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned to Mysore State for the expansion of technical education during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58; and

(b) the amount utilised so far?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Grant: Rs. 10.504 lakhs; Interest-free Loans; Rs. 2.25 lakhs.

(b) Full information is awaited from the State Government.

Monuments in Mysore

2118. **Shri Siddiah:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the temples, monuments and places that come under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, and the Ancient and Historical Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Declaration of National Importance) Act, 1951, in the State of Mysore;

(b) the amount allotted for the maintenance and special repairs of each of them for the years 1956-57, 1957-58 and 1958-59;

(c) whether the amount allotted was fully spent during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58; and

(d) if not, the reasons for the same?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (**Shri Humayun Kabir**): (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House, except in respect of temples, monuments and places that come under the 1951 Act which are mentioned in the Schedule to the said Act.

Tax on Bonus Issues

2119. **Shri Ramanathan Chettiar:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount of revenue derived from tax on bonus issues for the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 and the estimated revenue for the year 1958-59?

The Minister of Finance (**Shri Morarji Desai**): The tax demand on bonus issues for the fiscal year 1956-57 is Rs. 28.5 lakhs. For 1957-58, the tax demanded up to February 1958 is Rs. 164.4 lakhs. For the financial year 1958-59, the revenue expectation is about Rs. 150 lakhs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENT TO ALL INDIA SERVICES (MEDICAL ATTENDANCE) RULES

12 hrs.

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (**Shri Datar**): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 182, dated the 29th March, 1958, making certain amendment to the All India Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1954. (Placed in Library. See No. LT-644/58.)

CUSTOMS AND CENTRAL EXCISE DUTIES DRAWBACK (TOILET PRODUCTS) RULES

The Deputy Minister of Finance (**Shri B. R. Bhagat**): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of Section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 and Section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, a copy of the Customs and Central Excise Duties Drawback (Toilet Products) Rules, 1958, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 161, dated the 22nd March, 1958. (Placed in Library. See No. LT-646/58.)

NOTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER SEA CUSTOMS ACT

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 160, dated the 22nd March, 1958, under sub-section (4) of Section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878. (Placed in Library. See No. LT-645/58.)

WELFARE SCHEMES FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES OF ORISSA

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (**Shrimati Alva**): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, in pursuance of an assurance given on the 20th March, 1958 in reply to Starred Question No. 1116 by **Shri Baishnab Charan Mallick**, a copy of the Statement showing Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Tribes provided in the State Plan and Centrally sponsored programmes and additional schemes proposed by the Orissa Government for Scheduled Tribes under the Centrally-sponsored programme. [See Appendix VI, annexure No. 133.]

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary: Sir, I lay on the Table copies, duly authenticated by the Secretary of Rajya Sabha, of the following four Bills passed by the Houses of Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President since a report was last made to the House on the 24th March, 1958:—

- (1) The Requisitioning and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 1958.
- (2) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1958.
- (3) The Indian Reserve Forces (Amendment) Bill, 1958.
- (4) The Control of Shipping (Continuance) Bill, 1958.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS—contd.*MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING**

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 66, 67, 68 and 123 relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting for which three hours have been allotted. Hon. Members desirous of moving cut motions may hand over at the Table within 15 minutes the numbers of the selected cut motions.

I propose to call the hon. Minister at . . .

The Minister of Information and Broadcasting (Dr. Keskar): Sir, I may require 45 to 50 minutes.

Mr. Speaker: I will call him at 2.15.

DEMAND No. 66—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,87,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'".

DEMAND No. 67—BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,67,58,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Broadcasting'".

DEMAND No. 68—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,06,27,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'".

DEMAND No. 123—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,97,62,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Broadcasting'".

Shri Kumaran (Chirayinkil): Sir, it has become almost a convention to open the debate on the Budget demands for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting with some reference to the working of the All India Radio. Last year, when I opened the debate on the Demands for this Ministry, I also fully observed this convention. This time, I wish to make a departure from this convention because another very important matter is uppermost in my mind at present.

It is only a few days now since the Supreme Court delivered judgment on the petitions filed by certain newspaper owners challenging the constitutional validity of the Working

* Moved with the recommendation of the President.

Journalists Act and the decisions of the Wage Board constituted under the Act. It was this Ministry that took the initiative in passing this important piece of legislation, and the working journalists of this country are very grateful to this Ministry for such action. This Act was passed by Parliament as a result of the acceptance by the Government of the recommendation of the Press Commission that Parliament must take action in respect of the working conditions of the working journalists in this country. The Press Commission made the recommendation in July 1954 and the Minister for Information and Broadcasting on September 8th, 1954, declared in this House that the Government will take up the implementation of certain important recommendations first. I concede that this legislation regarding working conditions of journalists in this country is very important and is one of the most important recommendations of the Press Commission. But we should not forget the fact that there are some other very important recommendations made by the Press Commission, which relate to this problem and also to the larger problem of establishing the press in this country on a more satisfactory basis. But, unfortunately, this Ministry has not taken up the recommendations and they are now waiting for more than three years.

The Press Commission recommended that newspapers should not be run with the profit motive, that is, that the newspapers in this country must have a more sacred motive. For this purpose, they have recommended certain modification or change in the ownership of newspapers in this country and also the diffusion and democratisation of the ownership. This is a very important thing, because, now almost all our newspapers are entirely controlled by big business in this country. This industry, just like any other industry, is now entirely controlled by the profit-seeking capitalists. The Press Commission has put forward certain suggestions for diffusion and democratisation of ownership.

One method suggested by them is transfer of ownership to public trusts. Another method by which this recommendation may be implemented was that the shares of ownership should be distributed among the employees working in the newspaper industry. But, so far, the Government has not taken any action in this regard and our newspapers are being controlled by the capitalists and they are being utilised for their own purposes.

We are boasting that we have set a socialist goal for our country and that we are going forward in the direction of socialism and that we are developing a public sector in our national economy. In the matter of the press, which is the most important medium of mass contact, entirely, the field is given to the private sector, that is big business. A very dangerous trend in this regard is the growing up of monopoly in this field and more and more chains are growing up. The papers are being controlled by big vested interests and they are utilising the press for their own purposes. The capitalists who own the newspapers are only interested in their profit, propagating their own views and furthering their own interests. The Constitution has guaranteed to the people the right of free expression and freedom of the press, but this freedom is now entirely monopolised by the vested interests and they are utilising this mass medium for their own purposes. If we are sincere in our attempt to bring about socialism, and if we are going to achieve our socialist goal, certainly this industry which is the most important industry as far as the common people are concerned, should be taken away from the hold of the vested interests and some form of democratisation and diffusion of ownership should be brought about in this industry.

Another point I wish to refer to is the recommendation made by the Press Commission in regard to the fixation of the price-page schedule. The Press Commission has pointed out that after the withdrawal of the Price-Page Control Order in 1952,

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there has been a marked tendency on the part of well-established papers to increase the number of pages and use it as a means of competition. The number of newspapers in India is very low, and it has to be increased, but under the present circumstances, new-comers cannot survive this unfair competition, and big vested interests are trying to stifle the new-comers, and thus it is hampering the growth of the newspaper industry in our country. All the economic advantages and other factors are being enjoyed by the old established papers, and the Press Commission has suggested that measures should be adopted to rectify the differences due to economic advantages and other factors. It was hoped that the Government would take action in this matter immediately after the Press Commission's recommendations were published, but so far the Government has not taken any step in this direction.

Another thing I wish to point out is in regard to the question of distribution of advertisements by this Ministry to the various newspapers in our country. In this matter also, the Press Commission has laid down certain broad principles which should be followed in distributing advertisements to the papers, but these principles are entirely neglected and violated. Advertisements are distributed according to the likes and dislikes of the officers concerned. This has given rise to complaints and discontent among the papers, especially the small newspapers and the mofussil papers. This also may be taken into consideration by the Government and I hope that a more equitable method of distribution will be adopted by the Government. In this regard the Press Commission has recommended that the distribution of advertisements must be handed over to the State Governments, and the distribution may be made by them according to local circumstances and necessities.

Another very important recommendation made by the Press Commission

was regarding the constitution of an all-India Press Council. Everybody expected that this recommendation would be implemented very soon, but the Government has not taken any step in this direction also, I wish the Government take immediate steps to constitute the Press Council, because it is necessary to safeguard the freedom of the press and help the press to maintain its independence.

Another recommendation by the Press Commission was about the reorganisation for our news-agencies, especially the PTI and the UPI. Everybody knows that these agencies are controlled now by some vested interests and, as in the case of newspapers, their only motive is profit-making. This state of affairs must be changed, and the PTI and the UPI must be reorganised and the workers who are employed in these news-agencies must be given a share in the management and running of the news-agencies.

Now I wish to offer a few remarks on AIR. Last year when I suggested that the AIR should be reorganised into a public corporation, the Minister said that it was not feasible under the present circumstances. He said that such a step would require a body of directors of the highest calibre, that we had not been able to think of a group of people to whom such an important organisation could be entrusted to run it well. This argument of the Minister is, to say the least, preposterous, because we know that this Parliament has created several autonomous bodies to deal with cultural matters, and they are doing well, they are manned by excellent people. But the Minister for Information and Broadcasting comes and says that he is the only person of sufficient calibre to deal with the broadcasting system in this country. I appeal to the hon. Minister to shed this illusion and approach the problem from a democratic and realistic standpoint.

Shri Joachim Alva (Kanara): Is it the demand of the Communist Party that there should be a corporation for the AIR, a demand which has been sponsored by the capitalists of India?

Shri Kumaran: It may be sponsored by the capitalists or the socialists. We welcome that because a corporation constituted on the lines suggested by us will be more democratic and will be more conducive to the interests of the people of this country.

Another point I wish to make is in regard to the language policy followed by the Ministry in general and the AIR in particular. Nobody grudges the fact that Hindi is given prominence in the broadcasts and in publications put out by the Ministry, but the only thing is that other languages also should be given fair treatment; at least, they may not be given step-motherly treatment.

In page 13 of the Annual Report of the Ministry for the year 1957-58, it is stated that Hindi is the national language of India. This shows the wrong attitude the Ministry has taken in this matter. It is nonsense to say that Hindi is the national language of India. We are trying to make it the official language of India. There is a lot of difference between national language and an official language. This fact must be borne in mind by the people who are dealing with language issues, because otherwise, there will be great confusion and misunderstanding in the country. That will hinder the spread of Hindi also.

Dr. B. V. Keskar: I agree with the hon. Member.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Go to their Benches.

Shri Kumaran: Yes, thank you.

There are so many national languages in India, and only the mother-tongue of a people can be the national language of that people. There are so many national languages, at least a dozen national languages in India,

and Hindi is only one of them. As I said, we are trying to make Hindi the official language of India, but it is not our national language, and I hope that this impression will be corrected by the people who are dealing with the language issue in this Ministry.

It was the other day that the Prime Minister complained that his language was murdered by the All India Radio. Radio. It was a case of murdering Hindustani and mutilating it into some form of Hindi, which was not liked even by our Prime Minister. This is a case of murdering Hindustani, but in some ways the AIR, and the Publications Division of this Ministry, are starving the other languages to death. If this is a murder in cold blood, the other thing is death by starvation.

In this connection I wish to point out that in the foreign service broadcasts of the AIR, certain languages are excluded. Now, broadcasts are being made to listeners, especially in South-East Asia. In this regard there has been a persistent demand by the people of Kerala that Malayalam also should be included in the foreign service broadcasts. I think that the Ministry will bear this in mind and will include Malayalam also in the broadcasts to listeners in South-East Asia.

Lastly, I wish to point out something about the publications put out by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry.

Recently, I happened to see a publication called *Indian Drama*. It has been published under the auspices of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. I read it with interest because I wanted to know what was written in that book about Malayalam drama. There is a chapter in that book on Malayalam drama, but anybody who reads that article will be surprised to find that that article has been written by the author to establish that there is no drama in Malayalam. The chapter is on Malayalam

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drama, but the author goes on saying that there is no drama in Malayalam but there is only Kathakali in Malayalam. That is what has been sought to be established by the author. But actually, there is very good dramatic literature in Malayalam, and it can compare very well with the dramatic literature of any other language in India. That has been completely neglected by the author of that article who says that there is no dramatic literature in Malayalam. I do not know anything about the dramatic literature of other languages in our country, but as far as Malayalam is concerned, I know that there is very good dramatic literature in Malayalam, but that fact has been suppressed and distorted by the author of that article in the *Indian Drama*. At least in future when such publications are brought out by the Ministry, people with unprejudiced minds who know their subjects well must be asked to write articles for such publications.

Last time, when I was taking part in the debate on the Demands of this Ministry, I had pointed out certain defects in the appointment of drama producers and also other producers in the radio stations all over the country. Especially, I referred to some appointments in the radio station at Trivandrum. The apprehensions which I expressed at that time have now come out true. Recently, one of the drama producers of the Trivandrum station was dismissed. He does not know what the reason was, and the people of Kerala do not know what the reason for his dismissal was. But it is said that there was some quarrel or some disagreement from the beginning between this drama producer, who was a very great writer in our language and the director in charge of that station, and this has led to the dismissal of this writer. He is a very prominent person—I might also say here that he is an anti-communist—in the literary field. Such kind of high-handedness must be stopped. If Government are

going to take writers into All India Radio and the stations connected with it, they must give them at least some freedom to work, and they must not stifle their independence and dismiss them without giving reasons.

Last time, I appealed to the Minister that some inquiry commission may be appointed to go into the working of the All India Radio. At that time however, he rejected that request by giving some excuses. This time also I repeat that request, and I hope that he will certainly appoint some commission to go into the working of All India Radio. For, there are certain things which have to be gone into and brought to light, and we must improve the standard of broadcasting in our country. So, I hope the Minister will certainly appoint a Parliamentary commission, and will not turn down the request at least this time.

Shri Sampath (Namakkal): Mr. Speaker, Sir, among the various subjects under the control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, the two most important subjects are the sole broadcasting organisation in India and an elaborate Films Division. These two powerful media are capable of both promoting as well as imperilling the growth of democracy according to the wishes of the powers that possess them. This could be understood very well if we look at the way in which the BBC of UK has been working and the purpose, for which the radio of the Nazi Germany was employed.

I strongly feel that the way in which the broadcasting system and the Films Division under this Ministry are employed is neither good nor desirable for the healthy growth of democracy. Judging from its mode of working or operation, one cannot but doubt whether this Ministry is not playing the role of the publicity agency of the Congress Party. The activities of the Congress Party are very faithfully, elaborately and even artistically covered by the radio as

well as the Films Division. Especially, the radio never fails even to focus portions of the Prime Minister's speeches which are particularly directed against other political parties in strong language. On the other hand, even casual mention is not made about the meetings, conferences and their demonstrations of the other political parties in most cases, however important and impressive they may be. For instance, the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam which I have the honour and privilege to serve and represent conducted its State conference, the year before last, at Tiruchirappalli. The open sessions of the conference were attended by over 200,000 people, both men and women. Similarly, I witnessed a month back in Delhi a mammoth procession of Sikhs marching through the streets of Delhi protesting against some frequent sacrileges committed in their sacred places. They were expressing their strong resentment in a novel way. The whole procession marched in solemn silence, which was remarkable. Now, I ask Government what harm would there have been if the Films Division had exposed some fifty to hundred feet of its film to proceedings and processions of such kind, or the radio had devoted two or three minutes of its announcement of news to the important resolution passed in such conferences. If we were to film the proceedings at our own cost, with commentaries of news value, I know there will be many hazards and obstacles caused by the Censor Board from exhibiting them.

Shri Joachim Alva: To be fair, would the hon. Member tolerate the idea of the films covering the acts of hooliganism in which the DMK has indulged in, such as spitting on Brahmans, cutting off their tuft and so on?

Shri Sampath: I fear the hon. Member has not been well informed either about the DMK or the demonstrations conducted by the DMK.

Shri Joachim Alva: The DMK are the saboteurs of Indian freedom.

Shri Sampath: This wonderful Censor Board finds always something objectionable in such ventures. Even during the recent general elections, as we are all aware, the Congress Party produced a propaganda film criticising and ridiculing the other political parties and appealing to the people to vote for the Congress. I wonder whether Government will ever allow such a venture by any other political party.

Dr. Keskar: Oh! yes, certainly.

Shri Sampath: I am thankful for the assurance. We shall try it at the next elections.

Dr. Keskar: Please do.

Shri Sampath: Is such sort of attitude and condition conducive to the growth of democracy?

In Tamil Nad, the havoc caused by the Censor Board to the film industry is but well known. Some ten years back, the Tamil cinema underwent a great change. Instead of the usual mythology and other folk-lore themes that were resorted to till then, stories dealing with modern problems wherein plantation labourers, mill hands and office clerks were heroes, instead of the usual epic heroes like Rama, Arjuna and Krishna and other princes, became immensely popular. This change was brought about by Arignar Annadurai through his stories like 'Nallathambi' and 'Velaikari'. As he happened to be the leader of the DMK, there were fears in some quarters that the popularity of his stories might contribute to the popularity and strength of his party also. As if to allay the fears of such men, the Censor Board sharpened its scissors and saw to it that no picture with any progressive social theme with emphasis on eradication of casteism and other social evils such as superstition escaped its hands without serious mutilation. This attitude scared the capital in the film industry. In the film industry, as we all know, where several lakhs of rupees are to be spent in producing a film, the money factor

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is always the decisive one. If the men in the cine field were after such progressive themes, it was because they were paying and popular. So when they found that the Censor Board was bent upon crippling such ventures, the producers once again invoked the mythological heroes and other folk lore heroes, and the cobras that could perform wonders, the horses that could fly and the sword that could slay thousands of men at one stroke, and the deva kanyas in Miami swimming suits which made the censors lay down their scissors and clap their hands in approbation. Such devices to stifle new and progressive thoughts and ideas will never help the much talked of cause of evolving a casteless society or freeing the people from the clutches of superstition and ignorance.

The hon. Member who preceded me laid emphasis on the fact that the All India Radio is giving preference to Hindi. It is certainly giving preferential treatment to the Hindi language and a step-motherly treatment to the other national languages of India. I was afraid, before the hon. Minister gave an assurance, that this Ministry also was a victim of that false and fantastic idea that Hindi was the only national language of India. I am grateful for the assurance just now given by the Minister of Information and Broadcasting and hope that it will be followed by other vociferous members of the Treasury Benches, in giving an assurance to the people in the south and other non-Hindi speaking areas that their languages are also considered and respected as the national languages of India.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur): The Prime Minister himself has given that assurance.

Shri Sampath: That does not seem to be enough, because there is a fear that the Prime Minister is often overwhelmed by other people who have loud voices.

The Ministry is doing a great injustice to the people of the south in conducting the Vividh Bharati programmes in Hindi. Especially when there is another unit in Bombay conducting the Vividh Bharati in a similar manner, this will be construed by the people of the south as an ununderstanding and aggressive attitude on the part of the Government. I appeal to the Government to replace Hindi in the Vividh Bharati programmes broadcast from Madras by the languages of the south.

In its fervour and zeal to make Hindi suddenly a widespread and glowing language, I fear that the Ministry is causing heavy and unbearable strain on that language itself. As the hon. Member who preceded me has said, a few days back our Prime Minister had to say something harsh about the people responsible for giving the Hindi versions of his speeches—that they should be convicted of some horrible crime. I am at a loss to understand, and I expect light from the hon. Minister, whether those remarks are a reflection on the efficiency of the staff of A.I.R., or remarks on the limitations of the language concerned. One should look at the stature of a language and judge for himself the limitations of it.

Lastly, in giving government advertisements, most of the magazines and dailies belonging to political parties other than the Congress, and highly critical of government policies, are completely ignored. For instance, as many as a dozen or more organisations belonging to the D.M.K. Party are conducting various weeklies, monthlies and dailies. Not even a single journal representing that Party's views is given any government advertisement. This kind of earning support for the Government through an indirect sort of subsidy is highly deplorable. If such attitude continues, then all tall talk of the Government about the temper of democracy will prove to be empty words spent for

export to foreign countries and not meant for local consumption.

Kumari M. Vedakumari (Eluru): In the administrative cup-board of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, there are so many skeletons whose presence cannot be explained by the Minister...

Dr. Keskar: There are skeletons everywhere.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: ...because these are the products of gross injustice perpetrated by the whims and fancies and the changing policies of the Minister.

First, I shall put up the case of Programme Assistants. These people are employed to see, administer and look after the programmes. They were taken because they are highly talented, and they are a highly academic and cultured people.

Dr. Keskar: Hear, hear.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: At least he accepts that they are cultured and academic and well-equipped with the artistic paraphernalia. These people are employed for this purpose. But I think a new class has invaded the Information Ministry now. These people are called Producers. After this invasion, the Programme Assistants have become fossils, because the emergence of this new type of people, Producers, has created a sort of Egyptian Mummies in this Information Ministry, because these Programme Assistants are taken as Programme Assistance, they live and work as Programme Assistance and they will automatically collapse as Programme Assistance, since they have committed the greatest sin of being Programme Assistants! This is the fortune of these people. These people, who have had a high academic career and who are a highly cultured people, are not given any promotion at all. After the Producers have been taken, these people are put as they are, though

they are talented and fit for bigger jobs. I do not know what is the policy behind the Government's objection to the progress and promotion of these well-equipped and well-cultured men. I want to know what is the objection of the Government to promoting these people. I cannot understand why they cannot be given higher jobs when they have served for so many years. There are some people who have put in 10 or 15 years of service, but they are not promoted because they are Programme Assistants. They are really dissatisfied, dejected and disappointed, and anyone would feel pity on them, because the Minister will never reply as to what is the actual fate of these Programme Assistants.

I have few words to add about the Producers. There are so many people who have entrenched themselves by currying and buttering the Ministers. These Producers can go on leave for even a year, because they can catch hold of these Ministers or some other great people and apply for leave for seven or eight months, because they are big people. Nobody can open his lips because the Minister will then sack him.

So I think in order to improve the standard and the morale of the administrative set-up, the Minister should treat all cases in an equal and impartial way. I strongly appeal and humbly request him to see that all the artists, whether belong to the higher groups, whether they belong to his group, to his State or any State, are given equal treatment.

Coming to staff artists, last year I had requested the hon. Minister to look into their difficulties. He agreed to do so. But not even one jot has been done, although one year has elapsed. I asked him about their permanency, I asked him about improvement of their deplorable position, I asked about their salary conditions and so on. But beyond merely speaking, nothing will be done to

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people who are serving for so many years. Anyhow, I would like to present the case again, because I think the Minister, who has so much power in his hands, can do something to the people who are suffering since long years. I think the programmes mainly and purely depend on the talents of the staff artists. These people are most neglected and their scales of pay are very low and they are worked to the maximum. These half-paid and half-starved people have to work and make the programmes brilliant ones. I do not know how the authorities can expect brilliant performances from these half-starved and half-paid staff artists. These people have no housing facilities; they have to come from long distances 5, 6 or even 10 miles, cycling in the wind and rain, day or night, they have to come and perform. How can we expect brilliant performances from them?

There is no permanency to the staff artists. They can be sacked even at a moment's notice by the Station Director himself. There is no clause in their terms of appointment that if an artist proves to be an excellent artist, if he has got good talents, culture and everything, he would not be sacked. These staff artists have to depend purely upon the whims and fancies of the Station Directors. I would request the hon. Minister to have such a clause inserted in their terms of appointment.

I think art is more important for the country. It is the only thing which will last longer than the ephemeral professions of a politician. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister to look to the condition of these people. If anybody faces the microphone, he will understand that what is the important thing for an artist to give a brilliant performance is his mood. He will be coming directly from his house; his child may be suffering since a long time from so many ailments; and he may not have rice or vegetables; from that

house he directly comes to the office and sings into the mike. I am not pleading for the rich people; I am only pleading the case of a poor artist whom we want to give a brilliant performance, for which we are struggling. I would again say that something should be done to these people because no such performance can be good. It cannot be made good only out of the files of the hon. Minister or out of the speeches or assurances of the hon. Minister. The hon. Minister should consider the difficulties of the staff artists and do something to these poor artists.

There has been a change in the system of contracts. They used to take every artists on one year contract basis. When renewing the contract, they used to take the record of the artist and give him yearly increments. But, after 3 years, they take away the annual increments; and the records of the artists are not considered even when renewing the contract. When anything is done, when any step is taken, it must be helpful to the staff artists.

About cadres, housing facilities and medical facilities, I have requested the hon. Minister a number of times and I think he would do something for them.

The hon. Minister thinks that the National Programmes are very popular, because, in his files, he has got so many statistics. You can say, so many programmes have been relayed from the Delhi Radio Station, and so many artists have been participating in it. You can say anything in terms of mathematics. But, when you see the quality of the programmes, do you really think that people are enjoying them so well as you are proclaiming? No South Indian artist has been given a chance for two months. And, if I ask the same thing as what the other South Indian Members are asking, I think it would be a monotonous song to the ears of the hon.

Minister. But, I think he will look into the matter.

There is a complaint that some South Indian artists are refusing to come to Delhi because it is such a long way. But you can arrange them at Madras also and have them relayed from Madras and Delhi also. I request the hon. Minister to see something is done in this respect and a change is made to give a chance to South Indian artists.

Another thing is one which has come recently. When a good programme is going on—from a good artist—and when the artist is trying to warm himself up, it is cut and somebody comes in with how a chutney is made or how many vitamins are in it and how a minister opened a Janata Hotel. The artist is abruptly stopped in the middle of his very good programme. Only unmusical people can do this. Therefore something should be done and these programmes should not be interrupted by other relays.

Coming to the parliamentary correspondents. We are hearing since some weeks, a commentary on the parliamentary proceedings. Previously, we used to hear impartial relays of the proceedings. But, nowadays, the parliamentary correspondent says, 'the Opposition Member retorted'. Why use that word 'retorted'? Then, he would say, 'the Minister began to attack him'. I think an employee of the All India Radio cannot pass remarks like this on anybody in this House. An employee is not like an artist participating who can make his remarks.....

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khadesh): It is freedom of the Press.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: He is not an artist; he is only purveying some material; he is not independent to speak whatever he likes. Because he is supporting, you can support this. I think they must only convey the news of any matter which is going on

in Parliament. An employee of AIR has no business to pass judgments on our proceedings.

Even about their appointment, something has to be done. Departmentally, they are taking an examination or having some interviews. I do not know what is the departmental name for it. They have appointed Parliamentary correspondents. Nobody knows what is there in the question papers. When they are going to appoint.....

Dr. Keskar: How can anybody know that?

Kumari M. Vedakumari: I think it must be done impartially and through the UPSC. That is a good method.

Dr. Keskar: Yes.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: So, I think the hon. Minister will look into this very important matter also. Otherwise, it will create a very bad impression.

Coming to educational programmes, I want only to mention one point. The school teachers are given some contracts; they are also given the topics on which they have to write for being relayed. But the option of the subjects should be given to the teachers. They know much better than the people who are working in the AIR. You should ask them to contribute an article on any topic which they consider would be appealing to the young and educated people. A programme assistant cannot approach a teacher and ask him to speak on something he wants. If you want to improve the calibre or standard of the educational system, I would like to point out to the hon. Minister that the teachers should be given a bit of freedom and they should be given the option. If they are not able to read well, then, it is different. There are so many teachers who cannot read the papers well. These papers can be read by the artist. I think school boards for the AIR should be evolved

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and they should be consulted whenever a programme is broadcast about the educational system. Without any prejudice or bias, I would request the hon. Minister to look into these simple matters and remedy the deplorable conditions of the staff artists. With these words, I beg to take leave of you.

Mr. Speaker: Sardar A. S. Saigal. Hon. Members may confine their remarks to ten minutes. There are a number of hon. Members who want to speak.

झरदार ज० सि० सहाय (जंजीर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना और प्रसारण मंत्रालय के बारे में जो डिमांड्स यहां पर पेश की गई हैं, उनका समर्थन करने के लिए तथा उन पर अपने विचार प्रकट करने के लिए मैं खड़ा हुआ हूँ।

द्वितीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में नौ करोड़ रुपया प्रसारण को बढ़ावा देने के लिए खर्च करने की तजवीज रखी गई है। आप अब देखें कि १९४७ के मुकाबले में १९४६ में हमारे पास कितने स्टेशन थे। १९४७ में हमारे पास केवल ६ स्टेशन थे जब कि १९४७ में उनकी संख्या २८ हो गई। इसको देखने से हम कह सकते हैं कि हमारा जो कदम है वह भाग की तरफ बढ़ रहा है और हम तरक्की कर रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही साथ आप देखेंगे कि १९४७ में हमारे पास केवल १८ ट्रांसमीटर थे जब कि उनकी संख्या आज ५३ तक पहुंच चुकी है। इनमें से ३१ तो मीडियम वेव के हैं और २२ शार्ट वेव के।

इसी तरह से अगर आप समाचार बुलेटिनों की तरफ देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि १९४७ में हमारे यहां से ५२ समाचार बुलेटिन प्रसारित हुआ करते थे और जितने भाषाओं में ये प्रसारित हुआ करते थे उनमें स्वामीय भाषाओं तथा दूसरी भाषाओं शामिल थीं। लेकिन आज अगर आप भाषावाणी

से समाचार बुलेटिनों के प्रसारण को देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि ४६ बुलेटिन १६ भाषाओं में घर के सिव और बाहरी विदेशों के लिए प्रसारित होते हैं। अब आप देखें कि आप और क्या क्या करना चाहते हैं आप शक्तिशाली ट्रांसमीटर लगा रहे हैं। आपने बम्बई में १०० किलोवाट का एक ट्रांसमीटर बम्बई में लगाया है, ५० किलोवाट के ट्रांसमीटर बम्बई, महमदाबाद, जालन्धर, लखनऊ, बंगलौर, कलकत्ता इत्यादि में आप लगा चुके हैं। १९४८-४९ के लिए आप ने कहा है कि आप एक सी किलोवाट ट्रांसमीटर दिल्ली में लगाना चाहते हैं, ५० का टिरुची में तथा इसी तरह के और कई जगहों पर लगाना चाहते हैं। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आप ने जबलपुर में या छत्तीसगढ़ में भी कोई ट्रांसमीटर लगाने पर विचार किया है? माननीय मंत्री जी ने छत्तीसगढ़ का दौरा भी किया था। क्या उस दौर के बाद आप ने यह जरूरी नहीं समझा है कि वहां के जो स्थानीय गाने हैं, कविताएँ हैं तथा जो दूसरे लोक गीत हैं उनको प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए वहां पर एक ट्रांसमीटर लगाया जाए? मैं चाहूंगा कि या तो आप रायपुर में, या बिलासपुर में या छत्तीसगढ़ में ट्रांसमीटर लगाने पर विचार करें जिससे वहां के लिटरेचर इत्यादि को बढ़ावा मिल सके। जिस जगह को आप ठीक समझते हैं, वहां पर आप ट्रांसमीटर लगा सकते हैं।

१९४८-४९ में अगर आप देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि भाषावाणी के प्रसार के लिए आपने २१५ लाख रुपया खर्च करने की तजवीज रखी है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं आपका ध्यान उस तरफ दिलाना चाहता हूँ जहां पर आपने परमार्नेट रिखीविज सेंटर्स की बात कही है। आप इन परमार्नेट रिखीविज सेंटर्स को त्रिवेन्द्रम में, जालन्धर में, श्रीनगर में, शीमाग में, जम्मू, कश्मीर

इत्यादि में लगाने का विचार कर रहे हैं। इसके साथ ही साथ आप यह भी कहते हैं कि वो पहले से ही सेंट्स हैं उनको और अच्छी जगहों पर लेजाना आप चाहते हैं जब हम इस और देखते हैं तो हमारा ध्यान कम्युनिटी लिसनिंग स्कीम की तरफ भी जाता है। १९५४ तक तो कम्युनिटी रिस्वीवर्स की मेनटेनेंस इत्यादि की सारी जिम्मेवारी स्टेट्स के ऊपर थी। उस वक्त तक केवल, ५,३७१ रेडियो सेंटों की ही व्यवस्था की जा सकी थी। इसके बाद १९५४ में यह तय पाया गया प्लानिंग कमिशन तथा वित्त मंत्रालय की सलाह से कि ५० फी सदी तक स्टेट्स को मदद दी जाये, लाउड स्पीकरों की खरीद के लिये, रेडियो सेंट्स की खरीद के लिये तथा दूसरे सामान की खरीद के लिये। इस तरह से १२५ रुपये तक मदद देने का आपने फैसला किया। इसके साथ ही साथ आपने यह भी कहा कि गांव वालों को भी इस काम के लिये रुपया देना पड़ेगा। आपने यह भी कहा है कि एक रिस्वीवर के लिये जो विलेजर्स का शेयर होगा वह कोई ६३ रुपया होगा। मैं समझता हूं कि यह भी ज्यादा है और उनका शेयर जो है वह इससे ज्यादा ही पड़ेगा। आपको इस पर विचार करना चाहिये कि क्या इसको कम नहीं किया जा सकता है या सेंटों की कीमत कम नहीं की जा सकती है? अगर आपने सेंटों की कीमत कम की या फिर विलेजर्स के शेयर को कम किया तो मैं समझता हूं कि ज्यादा फायदा हो सकेगा। ३१ मार्च, १९५७ तक आप २५,०३६ रेडियो ही दे सके हैं। आपको ३१ मार्च, १९५८ तक ११,१६६ रेडियो सेंट और सप्लाय करने थे। भाया ये दिये गये हैं, या नहीं इसका कुछ पता नहीं है। १९५८-५९ के लिये आपने योजना बनाई है कि आप १२,१०० रेडियो सेंट सप्लाय करेंगे। दूसरे प्लान के लिये आपने जो टारगेट फिक्स किया है वह ६०,००० रेडियो सेंटों का है। स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स ने इस दिशा में कितना कार्य

किया है और कितनी सफलता उनकी मिली है, इसका विवरण मैं आपसे जानना चाहूंगा। ऐसा मालूम पड़ता है कि इस दिशा में स्टेट गवर्नमेंट्स को कितनी सफलता मिलनी चाहिये थी उसनी नहीं मिली है। किस तरह से सफलता प्राप्त की जा सकती है, मैं चाहता हूं इस पर आप विचार करें। अगर आप गांव वालों को जो ६३ रुपये देने पड़ते हैं, उसमें कुछ कमी कर सकें तो आपको काफी सफलता मिल सकती है तथा गांवों के लोगों को भी इससे और अधिक फायदा उठाने का मौका मिल सकता है। इस तरह से और भी अधिक रेडियो सेंट काम में आ सकेंगे।

आपने यह फैसला किया है कि गांवों में जो घरों में रेडियो सेंट रखे जाते हैं उनके लिये लाइसेंस फी को घटा कर १५ रुपये से १० रुपये कर दिया जाये। यह जो कदम उठाया गया है इसका मैं स्वागत करता हूं और ऐसा अच्छा कदम उठाने के लिये आपकी सराहना करता हूं। लेकिन इसके साथ ही साथ मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूं कि सहरी लोगों के लिये आपने जो फीस को बढ़ाया हुआ है, उसको भी कम करने पर आप विचार करें।

अब मैं आपके केन्द्रों द्वारा जो आदिवासीयों के लिये प्रोग्राम बाडकास्ट किये जाते हैं उनके बारे में थोड़ा सा अर्थ करना चाहता हूं। उनके लिये आप २२ भाषाओं में प्रोग्राम बाडकास्ट करते हैं। हमारे यहां भी आदिवासी सेंटर हैं और उनके बारे में भी आपको कुछ करना चाहिये था। हमारे यहां छत्तीसगढ़, बस्तर, बिलासपुर, अम्बिकापुर, रायपुर के इलाके हैं। उन इलाकों की भाषाओं को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये आपने क्या कदम उठाये हैं, यह मैं आपसे जानना चाहूंगा। आपने अपनी रिपोर्ट में कहा है—

Most of the tribal areas are inaccessible by road and there-

[सरदार भ० सि० सहगल]

fore the A.I.R. staff goes to these places to make recordings of tribal music. Programmes are pre-recorded sometimes for months together.

मंस टुगेवर पहले रिकार्डिंग कर लिया जाता है। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि वहां आपने किसी रिकार्डिंग की है? मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूं कि जो छत्तीसगढ़ का इलाका है, वहां पर आदिवासी बहुत भारी तादाद में बसते हैं। उनकी भाषाओं को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिये आपको विशेष तौर से कदम उठाने चाहियें। आपने कहा है कि नागपुर के गोंड, मरिया, भूड़िया इत्यादि ट्राइबल लोगों के लिये आप प्रोग्राम मध्य प्रदेश के लिये रिले करते हैं। मैं जानना चाहूंगा कि वहां के लोगों के लिये आप और किन किन भाषाओं में प्रोग्राम रिले करते हैं। आपकी रिपोर्ट को देखने से पता चलता है कि इन तीन भाषाओं के अलावा आप किसी और भाषा को बढ़ावा देने की योजना नहीं रखते हैं। मैं चाहता हूं कि आप सास तौर पर छत्तीसगढ़ के इलाके की जो आदिवासियों की भाषाएँ हैं, उनको प्रोत्साहन देने की ओर विशेष ध्यान दें। मैं यह भी चाहता हूं कि उनकी भाषाओं को बढ़ावा देने के लिये वहां पर आप एक सेंटर की स्थापना करें जो बिलासपुर में हो जो कि सेंटर में है।

15 hrs.

आपने विविध भारती कार्यक्रम शुरू किया है और उसमें आपको काफी कामयाबी मिली है और उससे बहुत सी बातों की प्रगति भी हुई है। विविध भारती द्वारा दो बातों की प्रगति होती है। एक तो जो हमारे सहरी सुनने वाले भाई हैं और जो कि प्रख्यात गानों के सुनने वाले हैं तथा जो मामूली गानों को सुनना चाहते हैं और जो कि रीजनल स्टेज के प्रोग्राम हैं यह उनकी प्रगति कर देता है। दूसरे हमारे व्यापारी लोग जो कि चाहते

हैं कि दोपहर के पहले खरीद रों के लिये कुछ बातें उनकी रली जाएँ उसकी भी प्रगति हो जाती है और यह व्यवस्था सराहनीय है। विविध भारती प्रोग्राम में सब जगह की चीजें सुनी जा सकती हैं। अभी हमारे एक भाई ने ऐतराज किया था कि विविध भारती का प्रोग्राम भाल इंडिया रेडियो से जाली हिन्दी में ब्रडकास्ट होता है। यह तो ठीक है कि वह हिन्दी में प्रसारित होता है और हिन्दी जानने वालों की संख्या भी तो इस देश में बहुत अधिक है और यही कारण है विविध भारती प्रोग्राम देश में करीब करीब हर जगह पोपुलर हो रहा है और कामयाब हो रहा है। इसके बारे में मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट में यह दर्ज है :

"The Vividh Bharati has evoked enthusiastic response from listeners from all parts of the country. Preliminary survey of listening shows that the programme has been very well received and is on the way to becoming popular throughout the country."

इसलिये हमारे कुछ भाइयों का यह ऐतराज कि यह पोपुलर नहीं है क्योंकि यह सिर्फ एक ही भाषा में ब्रडकास्ट किया जाता है ठीक नहीं है और मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट से उनका वह ऐतराज गलत साबित हो जाता है।

अब मैं देहाती प्रोग्राम के बारे में कहना चाहता हूं। इस प्रोग्राम में जो जगहों की रीजनल भाषा है उसमें वहां के प्रचलित लोक गीतों का प्रसार होता है। इसके साथ ही साथ रूरल प्रोग्राम में गांवों के तमास कायाँ जैसे उनके कलचरल प्रोग्राम गाने, नाटक और खेल आदि की चीजें भी प्रसारित की जाती हैं। इसके अतिरिक्त मेरा निवेदन है कि रूरल प्रोग्राम कमेटी में तथा दूसरी कमेटियों में हेल्थ डिपार्टमेंट, रूरल हेल्थ डेवलपमेंट और स्टेट्स नर्नलमेंट के

श्रीमों को जो कि वहाँ के लोकल मामलों में विलक्षणता सेते हैं या जिन्हें कुछ तमझूँ है उन्हें आप इन कमेटियों में रखें। उनका सहयोग लेकर यदि आप इस कार्य को करेंगे तब इस काम में आपको और अधिक सफलता मिलेगी। सन् १९३६ में आकाशवाणी के ६ मुख्य स्टेशन थे जहाँ से कि यह करल प्रोग्राम ब्रॉडकास्ट किया जाता था और तब करीब ३० से ६० मिनट तक यह प्रोग्राम ब्रॉडकास्ट किया जाता था जब कि आज २८ स्टेशन से करल प्रोग्राम ब्रॉडकास्ट किया जाता है और जो करीब ४५ से ७५ मिनट तक किया जाता है यदि इस का एवज निकाल कर देखा जाय तो पता लगेगा कि बाल इंडिया रेडियो प्रतिदिन इस प्रोग्राम को २५ घंटे भारत की प्रमुख २ भाषाओं में रिले करता है...

श्री आश्व (मालेगांव) : यह २५ घंटे का दिन कब से हो गया ?

सरदार अ० सि० सहगल : बाल इंडिया रेडियो द्वारा जो हिन्दी में भाषण प्रसारित किये जाते हैं और उन भाषणों को लेकर जो समाचार बुलेटिन निकलते हैं उसके सम्बन्ध में ४-४-५८ को एक पत्रकार ने पत्रकार सम्मेलन में प्रधान मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान उनके सात किले के १५ अगस्त के हिन्दी भाषण की ओर दिलाया था और उस प्रश्नकार के प्रश्न का जवाब देते हुए प्रधान मंत्री महोदय ने यह कहा था :

"A Correspondent: I heard your Red Fort speech (in Hindi) on Independence day. Fifteen minutes later, I heard the A.I.R. Hindi news bulletin. The two were entirely different.

Mr. Nehru: This is murder of the language. It is much worse than murdering an individual."

इस तरह की चीज अगर बाल इंडिया रेडियो में होती है तो वह हमारे लिए बड़े खर्च की चीज है मैं चाहता हूँ कि यह जो छोटी छोटी हमारी कमजोरियाँ हैं उन को

दूर किया जाय। इन सबों के साथ इस मंत्रालय की जो खर्च की मांगें हैं उनका मैं समर्थन करता हूँ।

Shri Ansar Harvani (Fatehpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I consider the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting as one of the most important Ministries. While the Ministry of External Affairs has to keep our neighbours in good humour and has to raise the stature of this country in the international world, while the Home Ministry has to look after internal security, while the Ministry of Food and Agriculture has to increase our food production, the task of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is two-fold. On the one hand it has to reach the warmth and glow of freedom to the far-off villages. On the other, it has to function as a live-wire machinery of Government and create that atmosphere in the Government and to reach public opinion to them.

I wish that our hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting was raised to the stature of a full-fledged Cabinet Minister so that he could sit in the Cabinet where he could convey public opinion to the Members of the Cabinet on the one side and he could know the mind of the Cabinet to give the news on the other side.

Sir, as I pointed out, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has got to be a live-wire machinery. But I feel that it has not reached that stature. It is a pathetic sight to see in the Central Hall our friends of the Press roaming around, and hanging about the other Ministers just to fish out news. It is another sight to see our Ministers cultivating the pressmen on the social level so that better publicity may be given to the activities of their Ministries. That proves that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has not been feeding the Press in the way it ought to have fed it. That means that the Ministers are not getting the publicity through the channel of the Ministry

[Shri Ansar Harvani]

of Information and Broadcasting in the way in which they ought to get. Therefore, something should be done about it. I do not mean to say that the hon. Minister of Information and Broadcasting should become a little Dr. Goebbels, although Berlin is not far off from Paris where he was educated. But certainly I want him to play a much more effective role than what he is playing today. I want him to be sought after by the Press. But today unfortunately I feel that he is not sought after as he ought to have been sought after by the Press.

Sir, one of the greatest achievements of the Ministry in recent years has been the appointment of the Press Commission and the publication of its report. But I hang my head in shame when I see that most of the important recommendations of the Press Commission have yet got to be implemented. Some minor recommendations have been implemented, e.g., the appointment of a Registrar of Press. But the appointment of a Registrar of Press is meaningless without a Press Council. The hon. Minister may point out that the various parties have not reached an agreement and therefore the Press Council has not come into existence. That shows the failure of the Ministry. The Ministry ought to have brought about an agreement between the various parties, if the parties themselves had failed in arriving at one, and Government is strong enough to implement such an agreement.

Recently we saw the pathetic sight of the Wage Board Award being rejected by the Supreme Court. I bow my head to the decision of the Supreme Court. But then there must have been something wrong somewhere for the Supreme Court to come to that decision. I feel that the Government is still strong enough to implement its decision in some way or other. The press barons express their inability to implement the Award of the Wage Board. But

Government has the power to call for their balance-sheets; Government has full powers to appoint one of the Commissions like the Chagla Commission to inquire into the assets, liabilities and financial condition of the press barons. The press barons have enough money with them to build huge structures in Delhi; the press barons have enough money to employ their own sons or other peoples sons-in-law as advisers or managers; the press barons have enough money to snatch an editor from a Marwari newspaper to another newspaper. But the press barons have no money to pay the starving working journalists on whose sweat and blood they have been living all these years. I appeal to the hon. Minister to come forward and save the starving pressmen, the dying pressmen from this condition. It is a shame to us that we should allow the pressmen to live in this way. They will lose their confidence in parliamentary democracy if we do not come to their rescue. We live on the press and the goodwill of the pressmen. If we lose the goodwill of the pressmen we will lose their faith in the future of parliamentary democracy. That is about the Press Commission.

I now come to the All India Radio. It is one of the greatest instruments of publicity, propaganda and cultural programme of the Government.

What is the position of the All India Radio? When we go through the Budget provision we find that most of the money of the All India Radio is spent on the administrative machinery. I will give you the figures. In the Directorate-General of All India Radio the Budget estimate figures for 1958-59 are: Pay of officers—Rs. 4,42,000; Pay of Establishments—Rs. 5,13,200; Allowances, Honoraria etc.—Rs. 4,81,500; Other charges—Rs. 3,15,000; and Allowances to Artists—Rs. 2,98,000. So we find that most of the money is spent on establishment and services and the least amount is spent on the artists.

and on the allowances. If we compare these figures with the figures of the British Broadcasting Corporation because I do not want to compare the All India Radio with the American broadcasting system, which is a commercial thing.....

Dr. Keskar: Sir, the hon. Member is committing a mistake. The Directorate-General does not broadcast programmes. For allowances to artists and money spent on programmes he should look to the expenditure at different stations and not to the budget of the Directorate-General.

Shri Ansar Harvani: They also pay for the artistes.

Dr. Keskar: That is for certain All India programmes, and not for the general programme; for that you must look to the various stations.

Shri Ansar Harvani: In B.B.C. we find that they spend 55.61 per cent on programmes, 23.47 per cent on engineering, 7.88 per cent on premises and 4.13 per cent on management and services.

There is one other thing. In the old days the British Government used to be very fond of ICS officers. If an ICS officer was not found to be a very good administrator he was shuffled out and even made a headmaster. But, when in 1936 the Britishers decided to have a broadcasting system in the country they brought a very good Englishman, from there—Mr. Lionel Fieldon—who later became the first Director-General. He trained a brilliant professor from Punjab, who later on became the permanent representative of Pakistan in U.N.O. and today he is the Assistant General Secretary in the United Nations Organisation. He left another non-official, who was an educationist, whom the ICS officers in some way shuffled out and today he is not to be found.

I have nothing to say about the incumbents of the Directorate General of All India Radio. They may be very

brilliant people—they are brilliant people—but I feel that the Directorate-General of All India Radio should be presided not by an ICS officer but it should be presided by someone who has real cultural background, by someone who has educational background, by someone who has not just the experience of 20 years as a Magistrate or Collector and some years in an office pushing files. The task of running the radio is not that of file pushers. The task of running the radio is the task of a real genuine educationist and culturist. I have nothing to say against the persons who hold that position, but I hope that point will be considered by the hon. Minister.

Then, Sir, there is another point to which I wish to draw the attention of the hon. Minister, and that is about publication. We find that there is a publication organisation in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, a publication organisation in the Ministry of Education, a publication organisation in the A. G. C. R's. Office and almost all the Ministries are having their own publication organisations. We have also a Publication Division. I do not understand why these organisations cannot be co-ordinated and brought under the direct control of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I do not understand why the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting cannot be an all-pervading organisation giving publication and publicity to the various Ministries. I do not understand why the Ministries are not impressed to seek the help and aid of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to get their publications done. There must be something wrong somewhere, and that is why most of the Ministries are running their own independent publication organisations.

Then, Sir, one word more and I have done, and that is about our publicity on Kashmir. There is a gallant lady in this city. I may have not admiration for her wisdom but I certainly admire her tenacity. With the

[Shri Anwar Harvani]

minor resources of a business house at Ahmedabad, she is doing much more harm to our affairs in Kashmir than we have been able to do with the huge resources of India in Kashmir affairs. Therefore, I will ask the hon. Minister to intensify this publicity about Kashmir and bring out a journal on Kashmir. The Kashmir Government also brings out a journal—*Kashmir Today*. Why can't we co-ordinate these two publications? Why should there be two units, one unit attached to the Trade Commissioner here and another unit attached to Ministry of Information and Broadcasting? Therefore, the activities on Kashmir should be co-ordinated; that is the request that I have to make to the hon. Minister.

About advertising I have to point out that while these Press barons express their inability to pay to the poor working journalists, they have been cheating the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting by 15 per cent commission which they are getting. Members of the Eastern Newspaper Organisation get 15 per cent commission from the Government for their advertisements. We have got our own huge organisation, we have got our own studio and our own men. Why should we run to these agencies who charge 15 per cent from the Exchequer just for collection? That is the point which I would like the hon. Minister to consider.

In the end, Sir, I support the Demands relating to this Ministry.

Shri Goray (Poona): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I have no intention referring to any murders in the A. I. R. or to point out any skeletons in anybody's cupboard. I want to make a few suggestions because I think that the A. I. R. has some special functions to perform in a country like India where communications are either very few or non-existent and distances are great.

Internally, I think that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting must help to bring about a renaissance in the

country, and externally, it must project the fast changing patterns of life that are taking place here. In my humble opinion, these are the two criteria by which the success of this Ministry must be judged, and I am sorry to say that, though this Ministry has done some good work by way of encouraging the artistes, by way of encouraging classical music, it has not lived up to the mark.

Sir, so far as India is concerned, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting is yet a small organisation. The report that has been submitted to the House says that up to 31st December, 1957, the total radio licences were of the order of 13,47,000. If we compare this figure with that of the United Kingdom, we find that United Kingdom has about 70 lakhs of radio licences for sound only and 72 lakhs for television and sound combined. I do not want to say that our Ministry should make as much progress as United Kingdom has done, because it is an industrially advanced country; but we have to take into consideration that this vast net-work that United Kingdom has, or the United States of America has, or countries like Canada and Australia have, are run on totally different lines than those that we have adopted for our own development.

Sir, it may be argued that just like us the United Kingdom has also a monopoly. It has a Corporation, but still it is a monopoly. No doubt the Corporation in the United Kingdom have consistently fought for the maintenance of this monopoly. But, at the same time, they have taken good care to see that this monopoly does not give rise to abuse or misuse of power. They have always submitted themselves to Commissions after Commissions. I am not very fond of Commissions. I do not say that a Commission should be appointed to enquire into the administration of the AIR or the whole of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, because I suspect that

there are certain skeletons in the cupboard. But I consider that Commissions are necessary because they serve as mirrors; they serve a purpose by inducing us to become introspective and to find out if there are any faults and to find out ways and means of improvement.

In the United Kingdom, from 1923 to 1949 there were no less than four Commissions. The first Commission was the one which was presided over by Sykes. The second was that of Crawford. The third was the Ullswater Commission and the fourth was the Beveridge Committee. In the report of the Beveridge Committee it has been pointed out as follows:

"The problem as it presents itself to us is that of devising internal as well as public and external safeguards against misuse of broadcasting power. We have to ensure that whatever authority has charge of broadcasting shall have within it effective organs of self-criticism and of response to criticism from outside in continual operation, shall have within it a force making for increasing devolution of authority, shall have within it a force keeping access to microphone open to all who are worthy of such response. We have to ensure that, if for any reason these internal safeguards prove ineffective in the broadcasting authority as first established, there shall be effective means outside the authority of bringing the failure to light and to correction".

13.33 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

I do not understand why our Ministry has always fought shy of having a Commission. Every year almost, there is a demand that there should be a Commission and every year almost, I think the Minister in charge of this Ministry has refused to accept that idea. Therefore I would like to know what the built-in safeguards in

our country are, against the misuse of power or abuse of power.

In the United Kingdom you will find that in addition to these Commissions or Committees appointed from time to time, there are about 30 advisory committees which are constantly watching the working of that particular Corporation. Besides that, you will find that there are audience research committees, and it is said that every day they interview about 4,000 listeners and try to find out what the cross-section of public opinion thinks about their performances. This incessant watchfulness on the activities of a particular Ministry does prevent misuse of power and abuse of power and it keeps the Ministry in constant and very close and intimate touch with the public opinion in the country. I think that our Ministry is not aware of the dissatisfaction in the country about the way they are broadcasting about the programmes that they are evolving and about the way that they function.

I would also like to point out this because some people will ask, "Are there any abuses of power? Is the Ministry abusing or misusing its power?" So, I would like to add an explanation. The Press Commission has remarked about the working of this particular Ministry in the following words:

"A scrutiny of collection of photographs, press releases and Government periodicals shows a tendency to ignore the fundamental achievements or objectives and to spotlight the dignitaries, to emphasise persons and not what they have done. The Information Directorate and Government publications should eschew such a stultifying tendency".

These are the words of advice and I think that if the Ministry takes these words to heart a lot of improvement can be effected.

Dr. Keskar: It is not regarding this Ministry only.

Shri Tyagi: The whole Government?

Shri Goray: This Ministry is included in that.

Shri Tyagi: Is it in regard to the whole Government Policy?

Shri Goray: I would say that this particular reform is very necessary because the face of India is changing. We have to meet new challenges. We have to fulfil the second Five Year Plan and perhaps this Plan will be followed by another, and the political face of India, as I said, is changing too. The whole of India is no longer dominated by one single party. In West Bengal, for instance, or in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Bombay and in Kerala, new parties which challenge the domination of the Congress are coming up. If you want to reflect all the changing moods and patterns in the country, whether they are economic or political or otherwise, then you will have to evolve this broadcasting and information machinery into a finely sensitive organisation. It cannot be continued in the same old rut.

Just now, an hon. Member referred to the fact that a lot of discrimination is made between parties and parties. There also, I would like to point out that in the United Kingdom, whenever elections come near, they see to it that the Government party, the party in power, and the opposition parties are given equal chance. For instance, in 1945, they said that any party which set up 20 candidates for the Parliament will be given one broadcasting programme. Now, I think this is something that our Government should copy so that there will be no discrimination. I remember a very funny case. In Bombay State, when two members of the Praja-Socialist Party left the party, immediately, the same evening, that particular item was broadcast. The Government benches very well know what is happening to the Congress now, what sort of discipline is there, what sort of mutual recrimination is there, and still we find that so far as the AIR is concerned they show as if they do

not know anything about it. But as soon as something happens to other parties at once it is broadcast throughout India.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That means that the AIR is giving preference to other parties!

Shri Goray: Yes, that is so.

Shri Tyagi: In West Bengal, when Shri Siddharth Ray resigned, his resignation was broadcast immediately.

Shri Goray: When it becomes too much, then I suppose something of that sort is done. So far as the different departments working under this particular Ministry are concerned, I would like to point out this.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Normally ten minutes are given, as announced by the Speaker. I have allowed 15 minutes to the hon. member.

Shri Goray: There is a report in my hands. It is about the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. It gives in Appendix II, the list of publications brought out by this Ministry from April, 1957 to March, 1958. It will be quite interesting to go through its pages. What do you find there? You find that under the head, General Publicity—English, 74 pamphlets have been published. But when you go to other languages, you will find that hardly half a dozen publications have been brought out. I do not know why English continues to be our mother-in-law even now. (Laughter). You will find that in this list there are certain items: No. 12, *Children of India*, No. 14, *Food Grains*; No. 17, *Irrigation, Improved Seeds and Land Reclamation*; No. 20, *The Andaman and Nicobar*; No. 30, *Fisheries*; No. 33, *Hygienic Living*; No. 36, *New Era of Science*; No. 44, *Bhagrat Pamphlet No. 2, Population and Food Production*; and so on. Should not all these pamphlets which give facts and figures by way of information reach our masses and our villages in their own languages? But all these pamphlets on very important subjects are brought out in English. I do not know what is the use of these things. I

have heard that hundreds of copies of the Yojana printed in English are distributed free, because nobody would buy them. It is worthwhile to examine whether all these propaganda materials are really serving any useful purpose or whether simply they are a sort of prestige publication which serve no useful purpose.

There is a department of Registrar of Newspapers for India. Here we find the interesting information that this one department situated in Delhi is dealing with 8,517 newspapers including periodicals. Language paper editors have reported to me that when they try to correspond with this particular department, it takes nearly six months or even a year to get a reply for the simple reason that there are not enough people who know the languages. Therefore, I would say that instead of having this over-concentration of power in one department, why don't you have branches all over India which will deal with the particular languages—Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada or Bengali,—in places like Calcutta, Bombay, or in the heart of the place where that language is spoken?

Dr. Kekar: The hon. Member has not understood the working of the Registrar. The Registrar's office is established by law simply to register the newspapers and periodicals and get their annual return. He has got nothing else to do. It is the State Government which deals with the papers in regard to the other matters.

Shri Goray: While on this point, I would like to mention that a new challenge is coming up before you. So long we were thinking that something will be done about the price-page schedule, but nothing has been done. One of our Members has suggested that perhaps it is due to the fact that tremendous pressure is being brought to bear on this Ministry by the owners of the chain newspapers in this country. Yet another difficulty has arisen in the way and that is about the fate of the working journalists, after the Supreme Court decision.

I hope that the hon. Minister in charge of this Ministry in collaboration with the Minister of Labour would do some thing to counteract the effect which has been produced by the decision of the Supreme Court and very soon something will have to be done to ameliorate their fate.

About the research department....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now the hon. Member must try to conclude.

Shri Goray: I had lot of points to deal with, but I will conclude in two minutes. There is no doubt that the Ministry has given a good deal of encouragement to the writers and the artistes, but care should be taken to see that while they are giving encouragement to the artists, their liberty should not be tampered with. It must be seen that they do not lose their inspiration to contribute to the culture of this country. In this case, I am reminded of the words uttered by a great poet about another great poet in England when he got some sort of Government patronage. He said:—

"Just for a handful of silver.

He has left us,

Just for a ribbon to stick in his coat".

This should not happen, because I am afraid that some of our foremost writers have in a way begun to get stale and fade away after they have been absorbed in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. The only test is whether AIR has succeeded in becoming part and parcel of our daily life, whether the Indians feel that AIR is part of their daily life. I think that test will prove that we have yet great leeway to make.

Perhaps if a simple survey were taken, we would find that instead of AIR becoming a part of our life, Radio Ceylon or Radio Goa has become part of our life. That is an indication of our failure and I think very fervent efforts will have to be made to remedy the situation.

Shri Tyagi: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am in agreement with some of the Members who have emphasised the

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importance of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry. It is a pity that this Ministry should have been left as a Ministry without active participation in the Cabinet, because it is through this Ministry that the country gets information and I think seen from this angle the portfolio carries with it the highest importance. But unfortunately the manner in which the Government is being composed is such that my feeling is that subjects are not given much importance as persons and it is a pity.

My advice to the Prime Minister is that he must try to run the Government in an absolutely impersonal way and subjects must have their due importance. For instance, unfortunately when the Defence Minister died.....

An Hon. Member: Education Minister.

Shri Tyagi: I am sorry, but that was the case with the Defence Minister also. When he died, that portfolio was kept with the Prime Minister, but he delegated it to a small man for practical work. Likewise, the Education Ministry, which is a very important portfolio, was split into two and now the portfolio does not enjoy the rank of a Cabinet portfolio. I therefore suggest that it may be examined whether this portfolio deserves to be a Cabinet portfolio. I think subjects must be dealt with according to their importance.

Sir, I have no cut motion to press, but I have some positive proposals to make. I will come to that later, but lest I should forget, I must say that the latest ruling of the Supreme Court has created a sort of scare amongst the journalists and I hope Government will soon take some steps to mend matters, because after all, they are the markers of the conscience of the nation. Laws are not so effective as really the conscience of the nation is. This is the most precious thing in a nation—its own conscience—and that is built by journalists. If these journalists starve or are not

well off, the tendency would be to seek quarters from where they can get a little better means to just carry on their life and pull on. The result would be that their impartiality would be lost and with the loss of impartiality of journalists, the conscience would be lost. Therefore, it is very important.

I will deal with one point which strikes me because the portfolio is not of the Cabinet rank. Without any set rules and regulations, the subject of information has in practice been divided into so many sections. Each Ministry is dealing with the subject. How can a Minister of Information or the Ministry of Information give proper information to the country if the Ministry does not know what happens in the Cabinet, if neither the Secretary nor the Minister ever peeps into the Cabinet. How are they to know what is the policy? There are many matters of importance on which policies change from day to day. But the Information Ministry for its functioning depends on some Deputy Secretary of another Ministry, wherewith some employee of this Ministry is also attached. The information that the nation is receiving today is through their hand-outs; and not through one mouth piece. It is a pity. I have some personal knowledge. Perhaps now the time has come when some bold step must be taken....

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Ferozabad): By?

Shri Tyagi: By the Government, the Treasury Benches. What do you mean? Am I not entitled to address the Government?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Why not?

Shri Tyagi: Then why do you question me?

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): It is only an aside.

Shri Tyagi: My submission is that there must be real co-ordination of work between Ministries which are

badly lacking and I want to give the benefit of my personal experience to the House as well as to the Treasury Benches.

For instance, there are numerous journals and periodicals issued by various Ministries. There is one monthly magazine—*Kurukshetra*; Rs. 10,200 per issue is the cost of this journal. It is being issued independently of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting. I do not know whether even their permission is sought. It is issued by another Ministry. Then there are *Gram Sevak*, *Bhagirath*, *Social Welfare* (English), *Social Welfare* (Hindi), *Samaj Kalyan*, *Metric Measures*, *Travellers in India*, *Yojana*, *March of India*, *Kashmir*, *Ajkal*, *Bal Bharati*, etc. There are a number issued from each Ministry. It is in a chaotic state.

The Department of Information has been split into so many divisions. It is not one mouth-piece. It has so many voices under one roof.

An Hon. Member: Vices?

Shri Tyagi: I say "vices" and not "vices". I hope this matter will be taken care of and looked into. I wish the Information Ministry is made a Cabinet Ministry. It must be an all-unified Ministry. Information must be correlated and co-ordinated. It is not like a small branch issuing some pamphlets here and another there.

Now I must congratulate the Minister and the Ministry that they have kept the traditional neutrality of the department, although some members of the Opposition might, for opposition's sake, criticize it.

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Shri Tyagi: But I know that the Department of Information and Broadcasting has kept high traditions of neutrality and non-alignment. So many elections have come. I challenge....

Shri Khadilkar (Ahmedabad): Neutrality of the ivory tower?

Shri Tyagi:.....anybody to disprove this claim. They have never biased their news or expressions in any way with any political motive. People who do not get many votes and get defeated think it is perhaps on account of the radio broadcasting. Anyway, that is one thing which they have maintained and I am proud of it. Our Government has maintained that high tradition.

There is one suggestion which I have to make, and that is this. Perhaps we can make a better use of the radio, as an instrument, for propagating education, for which we are spending huge amounts. This is my concrete proposal and you might please, look into it. I have been pressing for the past few years for this proposal. We are spending a large sum of money on University education. In Universities the number of students in a class has become as big as 500 or 1,500. Then, the education in Universities is only through lectures by professors. So, my proposal is to open an AIR University which for the purpose of examination may be affiliated to some regular University. Now, only those young people who attend the classes have the right to get degrees and higher education. Elder ones like me, who have lost their youth in follies have no means to get education.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Follies?

Shri Tyagi: There are men in profession and business. There are many people who, for want of money, have got themselves enrolled as clerks etc. Their educational career is lost. Let them also get some facility for getting further qualified educationally. So, my proposal is that for those who are employed and who are earning there must be some facility for education. Therefore, let there be an AIR University where lectures can be given. Each student might easily pay Rs. 10/- per month or so as tuition fees to this University and get himself enrolled. Let there be lectures for an hour fixed for that purpose according to a

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schedule—at such and such hour economics—lectures by such and such professor shall be held. You may bring the best professor and pay him sumptuously, say Rs. 400-500 per lecture. I do not mind that. Even then it will be cheaper for thousands and thousands of students who are working either in factories or in farms or in offices or villages. They cannot afford Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 per month on education in towns. Now, under this scheme, if they have a radio receiving set, they can learn their lessons at their own houses. I have seen many students seeking some tuition at the time of the examination for which the teachers are paid Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 per month. That can also be saved if students appearing for a particular examination are grouped together.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: How do you realise the fees?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Only those students will be allowed, who pay the fees.

Shri Tyagi: If those students want to take a degree, they will have to apply and get themselves registered. They will be entitled to sit for the examination of, say, the Delhi University, like other college students. They will be at par with others. Naturally, in order to qualify themselves, such students will have to pay the fee and abide by all the rules and regulations. Thereby, without many buildings, without incurring expenditure on staff, you will be giving education to thousands and thousands of people and the proposition will be paying. You will not have to spend even a pie on account of this scheme.

I think that in that way we could make a better use, a much better use, of our radio, without incurring more expenditure towards education and we can just divert our funds to other constructive channels and thereby make education cheaper.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The following are the selected cut motions relating to various demands under the Minis-

try of Information and Broadcasting which hon. Members may move, subject to their being otherwise admissible:

Demand No.	No of Cut Motions
66	1397, 1398.
67	1242, 1249, 1399, 1400, 1401, 1402, 1403, 1404, 1405, 1419, 1420.
68	1406, 1421, 1422.

Failure to implement the main recommendations of the Press Commission

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to take steps to bring about diffusion of ownership of newspapers

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to arrange special programmes once a week in all Radio Stations for removal of untouchability

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Delay in opening a 20 K. W. Transmission Station at Fakirpada in Orissa

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to appoint a Commission to enquire into the working of the All India Radio

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to take steps to convert All India Radio into a Public Corporation

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to make advisory Committees more representative and effective

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Corruption in All India Radio

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Discrimination in the selection of artistes and writers in All India Radio

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Need to include Malayalam in broadcasts for listeners in South-East Asia

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Prominence given to Hindi and step-motherly attitude shown to other languages

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to include popular poems, songs, and dramas with progressive content in broadcasts

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Working of the Music Artistes Screening Committee

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to co-ordinate Plan publicity between the State and Central Governments

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure to prevent exhibition of crime thrillers and obscene pictures imported from U. S. A.

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the demand under the head 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Failure of the Censor Board to improve the standard of Indian films

Shri Kumaran: I beg to move:

"That the Demand under the head 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting' be reduced by Rs. 100."

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: All these cut motions are now before the House.

A list indicating the numbers of the selected cut motions will be put on the Notice Board and will also be circulated to Members to-night for their information.

की मजदूरी प्रत्यक्ष : (बाह्य दिल्ली स्थित अनुसूचित जातियाँ) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय के सम्बन्ध में जो वाद विवाद चल रहा है उस के सम्बन्ध में मुझे कुछ कहना है। मंत्रालय की ओर से जो विवरण प्रकाशित हुआ है, उसे मैंने धाबोपान्त पड़ा। पढ़ने के बाद मैं ने उस में कुछ विशेष बातों को पाया उन में से जिसे मैं समझ सका हूँ कि सब से अधिक सराहना के योग्य है वह स्वरांकन व्यवस्था है। स्वरांकन व्यवस्था में जो हमारे देश के नेता हैं, उन कलाकारों की जो कि हमारे देश के सर्वोत्तम कलाकार हैं, उन सब की बाखूरी प्रकृति की जाती है। उन का रेकार्ड किया जाता है और रेकार्ड करने के बाद उन की जाइनेरो तैयार की जाती है। पिछले एक वर्ष से यह कार्य चल रहा है। इस व्यवस्था में कुछ बड़े रेकार्ड तैयार किये जाते हैं। वे २० मिनट तक के हैं जो कि एक भाषण के लिये पर्याप्त होते हैं। इस में पूज्य बापू गांधी जी के रेकार्डों को भी तैयार किया जा रहा है, साथ ही सरदार पटेल, सरोजनी नायडू और विध्वंस कवि रवीन्द्रनाथ टैगोर तथा अन्य कलाकारों के रेकार्ड तैयार किये जा रहे हैं। यह वास्तव में बहुत प्रशंसनीय और सराहनीय कार्य है। यह ऐसा कार्य है कि जिस से भाने वाली जो पीढ़ियाँ हैं वे उन की वाणी को सुनेंगी, बाद करेंगी और शिक्षा ग्रहण करेंगी। मैं वस्तुतः माननीय मंत्री महोदय को इस के लिये बन्धुवाद और बधाई देना चाहता हूँ।

रेडियो लाइसेंस के सम्बन्ध में यहां पर्याप्त कहा गया। गांवों के लिये आप ने कुछ छूट दी। किन्तु मैं चाहता हूँ कि शहर में सुनने वाले लोगों को भी लाइसेंस के लिये जो शुल्क लिया जाता है उस में छूट मिलनी चाहिये और जिस प्रकार पहले १० २० प्रति वर्ष के हिसाब से लिया जाता था, ठीक उसी तरह से अब भी लिया जाना चाहिये। जैसा विवरण में दिया गया है,

तब १९५७ में रेडियो की संख्या बहुत बढ़ गई है और मैं समझता हूँ कि उस से भाव भी काफ़ी बढ़ी है। इस दृष्टि से देखते हुए भी हमें रेडियो लाइसेंस की जो फीस है, उस में कमी करनी चाहिये। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहूंगा कि वे इस सम्बन्ध में पूरा पूरा ध्यान दें कि आज आवश्यकता इस बात की है कि रेडियो फीस कम की जाय।

साथ ही मैं मंत्री महोदय से यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम बहुत दिनों से जनता रेडियो की बात सुनते आ रहे हैं किन्तु इस सम्बन्ध में कोई प्रगति नहीं हुई है। आज लोग रेडियो सुनना चाहते हैं किन्तु सस्ते रेडियो के अभाव में वे सुन नहीं पाते हैं। करोड़ नहीं पाते हैं। मैं यह चाहता हूँ कि सरकार सस्ते रेडियो देने की व्यवस्था करे। जहां तक ग्रामीण जनता का सम्बन्ध है, विवरण में दिया गया है कि गांवों में रेडियो दिये जाते हैं, दिये भी गये हैं किन्तु मैं चाहता हूँ कि सुदूर गांव में जहां हरिजन लोग चौपाल बनाते हैं और शाम को इकट्ठा होते हैं, उन में से प्रत्येक चौपाल को सरकार की ओर से चाहे केन्द्रीय सरकार की ओर से चाहे राज्य सरकार की ओर से, रेडियो सेट दिया जाना चाहिये ताकि वे भी समझ सकें कि संसार में क्या हो रहा है और सामाजिक कार्यक्रमों को भी समझ सकें।

विविध भारती कार्यक्रम के सम्बन्ध में, जोकि पिछले एक वर्ष से चल रहा है, मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह बहुत सराहनीय है। पहले लोग रेडियो सीलोन के कार्यक्रम काफी सुनते थे, लेकिन अब वह कार्यक्रम सुनना जरा छोड़ दिया गया है। किन्तु मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो विविध भारती का कार्यक्रम है उस में ऐसे संगीत न सुनाये जायें जो सुनने में बड़े कर्ण कटु होते हैं और जिन की भाषा और भाव बड़े विषय से होते हैं, जिन को भाई और बहन एक साथ बैठ कर नहीं सुन सकते, जिन को माँ और पुत्र एक साथ बैठ

कर नहीं सुन सकते। कम से कम ऐसे सिनेमा संगीतों को तो न सुनाया जाय। जैसा कि विवरण में दिया गया है मैं मानता हूँ थाप ने कुछ सरल और सुगम संगीत तैयार किये हैं। इस में कहा गया है कि ७,००० सुगम संगीत तैयार किये गये हैं। कुछ मुझे भी सुनने का अवसर मिला है। उन में से अधिकतर तो बहुत अच्छे हैं, बहुत सुन्दर हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि थाप जो थाप का सुगम संगीत कार्यक्रम है और उन के रेकार्ड तैयार कराने का कार्यक्रम है उस को चालू रखें। मैं कोई कारण नहीं समझता कि जब दूसरे रेकार्ड तैयार करने वाली कम्पनियां थाप से कुछ अधिक अच्छे गीत दे सकती हैं और लोगों को आकर्षित कर सकती हैं तो हमारा जो यह मंत्रालय है वह उसी तरह के आकर्षक और सुन्दर गीत क्यों नहीं दे सकता। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह का जो सुगम संगीत है, उसे अधिक प्रोत्साहन दिया जाय और विविध भारती कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत उस सुगम संगीत को सुनाया जाय।

ऐसा देखा गया है कि सास तौर से पिछले दो वर्षों के अन्दर आवाज तेज होती गई, यह कहा गया कि सिनेमा संगीत जो है वह अस्थीलता की पराकाष्ठा पर पहुँचता जा रहा है और इतना भद्दा और गन्दा है कि उसे सुना नहीं जा सकता। लेकिन मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि जो केन्द्रीय फिल्म सेन्सर बोर्ड है वह उन फिल्मों को किस तरह से रिलीज करता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस तरह के जो गीत हों वे निकलवा दिये जाने चाहियें। पिछले कुछ दिनों से मुझे कुछ फिल्मों देखने का अवसर मिला है। मैंने देखा है कि आजकल नम्र नृत्य होते हैं। जो तारिकायें होती हैं वे अपने शरीर को अच्छे नम्र रखती हैं और उनके साथ नृत्य किये जाते हैं। विदेशी और भारतीय नृत्यों को सम्मिश्रण कर के एक नये 'संयुक्त नृत्य' की रचना की जाती है जो कि

बहुत बुरा है और वर्णसंकर है। वर्णसंकर चीज कभी अच्छी नहीं हुमा करती। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो इस प्रकार का वर्णसंकर संगीत और नृत्य तैयार किया जा रहा है उसको रोकना चाहिये। या तो उसे भारतीय होना चाहिये या फिर अगर वह विदेशी है तो उसे विदेशी ही रहना चाहिये। उसमें भारतीय और विदेशी धुनों का सम्मिश्रण नहीं होना चाहिये। मैं समझता हूँ कि थाप मेरी प्रार्थना पर ध्यान देंगे।

मैं चित्रों के सम्बन्ध में भी एक बात कहना चाहता हूँ। हमारे यहां जो चित्र बनते हैं वे आवश्यकता से अधिक लम्बे होते हैं। उनमें मैंने देखा है कि पूरे तीन घंटे तक उनको देखते रहना आवश्यक हो जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि जो फिल्में बनें उनकी लम्बाई कम की जाय ताकि सिनेमा अच्छे बनें और बुरी बातें उनमें देखने को न मिलें तथा जिस तरह के संगीत का मैंने जिक्र किया उस तरह का संगीत उन में सुनने को न मिले। मैं समझता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस और सास ध्यान देंगे।

मैं दिल्ली प्रसारण केन्द्र से प्रसारित होने वाले देहाती कार्यक्रम के सम्बन्ध में विशेष तौर से कुछ बातें कहना चाहता हूँ। मैं पिछले दस वर्षों से देहाती कार्यक्रम को सुनता आ रहा हूँ। मेरा निर्वाचन क्षेत्र देहात है। यहां से हरियाना संगीत और हरियाना कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किया जाता था, पिछले दो ढाई वर्षों के अन्दर उसमें कुछ परिवर्तन हो गया। पहले तो यह एक घंटे का कार्यक्रम होता था। इस एक घंटे के कार्यक्रम में आधा घंटा तक हरियाना संगीत या हरियाना कार्यक्रम होता था जिसमें नाटक नौटंकी आदि हुमा करती थी, जिसको हमारे यहां दिल्ली और रोहतक के लोग बहुत पसन्द करते थे। किन्तु मैंने यह देखा है कि पिछले दो ढाई साल से यह कम बबल गया है और एक लिचड़ी कार्यक्रम प्रसारित किया जाता है।

[जी नवल प्रभाकर]

वह दो भाषाओं में होता है, १५ मिनट तक ब्रज भाषा में होता है और १५ मिनट तक हरियाणा की भाषा में होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप चाहे जो प्रोग्राम प्रसारित करें उसे एक ही भाषा में प्रसारित करें, चाहे आप ब्रज भाषा में प्रसारित करें। मैं ब्रज के गांधी में गया और वहाँ के लोगों से मिला। आपके इस कार्यक्रम को न तो ब्रज के लोग पसन्द करते हैं और न हरियाणा के लोग पसन्द करते हैं। ब्रज के लोगों को हरियाणा की भाषा बड़ी अटपटी मालूम होती है और हरियाणा के लोगों को ब्रज भाषा अटपटी लगती है। मैंने माननीय मंत्री जी को इस सम्बन्ध में एक बयान हुआ एक पत्र लिखा था परन्तु मुझे दुःख के साथ कहना पड़ता है कि उसका कोई उत्तर अभी तक प्राप्त नहीं हुआ। तो मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्री महोदय इस ओर ध्यान दें। मैंने मंत्री जी से इस विषय में बात भी की थी और उन्होंने आश्वासन दिया था कि वह ऐसा करेंगे कि एक दिन ब्रज भाषा में प्रोग्राम करेंगे और एक दिन हरियाणा की भाषा में कार्यक्रम करेंगे। परन्तु मैं देखता हूँ कि इस बीच में उसमें कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ है। मैं यह देख रहा हूँ कि हरियाणा भाषा में जो कार्यक्रम होता है उसका दिन प्रति दिन ह्रास होता जा रहा है। मैंने यह भी देखा है कि राजभाषा के कार्यक्रम के लिये तीन व्यक्तियों को लगाया गया है लेकिन हरियाणा की भाषा के कार्यक्रम के लिये एक ही आदमी लगाया गया है। तो हरियाणा भाषा के प्रति इस तरह का अन्याय नहीं होना चाहिये और मैं मंत्री जी से कहूँगा कि वह इसके ऊपर अधिक ध्यान दें। हमारे यहाँ जो देहाती जनता है इसमें इस कारण काफी असन्तोष फैल रहा है। उस असन्तोष को ध्यान में रख कर समझता हूँ कि वह इस ओर ध्यान देंगे।

मैं कुछ शब्द आपके प्रकाशन के सम्बन्ध कहना चाहता हूँ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : बस तो यह हो लिया। दस मिनट से ज्यादा तो बस नहीं है। आप स्वीकर साहब ने कहा है कि दस मिनट से ज्यादा बस न दिया जाय।

14.00 hrs.

जी नवल प्रभाकर : मैं अभी दो मिनट में समाप्त किये देता हूँ।

मैं आपके प्रकाशन के सम्बन्ध में कह रहा था। मैं अधिक नहीं कहूँगा। आपके यहाँ से जो "योजना" प्रकाशित होता है वह दो भाषाओं में, हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी में, प्रकाशित होता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि वह प्रकाशन जो कि पालिश है यह साप्ताहिक कर दिया जाय क्योंकि इसको काफी पसन्द किया जाता है। और मैं यह भी चाहूँगा कि जो अन्य प्रादेशिक भाषायें हैं उनमें भी इस "योजना" का प्रकाशन होना चाहिये। इससे काफी लोगों को लाभ होगा।

अन्त में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि आप जो भी साहित्य प्रकाशित करें वह सस्ता होना चाहिये और आप सस्ता साहित्य प्रकाशित करेंगे तभी देश की गरीब जनता उसको खरीद सकेगी।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय मंत्री जी को फिर धन्यवाद देता हूँ और जो दिल्ली से देहाती प्रोग्राम प्रसारित किया जाता है उसकी ओर मैं उनका ध्यान पुनः दिलाता चाहता हूँ और आशा करता हूँ कि वह इस ओर ध्यान देंगे और इस कार्यक्रम में परिवर्तन करने की चेष्टा करेंगे।

श्रीमती उषा नेहरू (सीतापुर) : श्रीमान् जी, मैं आपकी बहुत मशकूर हूँ कि आपने मुझे इस महकमे के बारे में अपने थोड़े से खयालात आपके सामने रखने का मौका दिया।

में बराबर माननीय सदस्यों की इसीसे दुन रही थी और मैं समझती हूँ कि हमारे मिनिस्टर साहब बहुत कुशलचित्त हैं कि कितना हम समझते हैं कि उन पर अपोजीशन की तरफ से हमला होगा वह नहीं हुआ ।

श्री बजराम सिंह : वक्त ही नहीं मिलता ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : वह कमी प्राप तो पूरी नहीं करना चाहती ?

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : वह तो मैं कैसे कर सकती हूँ क्योंकि मैं भी तो इस सरकार का एक हिस्सा हूँ । लेकिन अगर ज्यादा अपोजीशन होता तो ज्यादा अच्छी स्पीचें होतीं ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : वक्त नहीं दिया गया ।

डा० केसकर : टाइम तो बिजनेस एडवाइजरी कमेटी देती है, कोई क्या करे ।

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: They say, the Ministry is so unimportant.

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : शुरू में एक भाई ने उभर से कहा कि उन्हें बाइकास्टिंग स्टेशन से यह शिकायत है कि वहाँ ज्यादातर कांग्रेस पार्टी का प्रोपेगेंडा होता है । वह न जाने कौन कौन रेडियो स्टेशन सुनते हैं । हम भी बाइकास्टिंग सुनते रहते हैं और कांग्रेस वालों को तो बराबर यह शिकायत है कि हमको रेडियो स्टेशन नोटिस ही नहीं करता । और उधर से यह शिकायत है कि उनका क्या नहीं किया जाता । तो मुश्किल तो यह है कि हमारी भी उन से यही शिकायत है कि वे कांग्रेस पार्टी का जरा भी विचार नहीं करते और न रेडियो से कांग्रेस पार्टी का प्रोपेगेंडा होता है । इसलिए मैं उन से . . .

श्री बजराम सिंह : प्रधान मंत्री को वक्त मिलता है ।

डा० केसकर : प्रधान मंत्री को निकाल दीजिये ।

श्री बजराम सिंह : निकल भी जायेंगे ।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अभी से तो नहीं ।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : दूसरी बात यह कही गयी है कि हिन्दी में ज्यादा प्रोपेगेंडा होता है । तो यह तो भारत के सारे लोगों को अच्छी तरह से मालूम है कि इस देश की जो राष्ट्र भाषा है वह हिन्दुस्तानी है तो जब मुल्क ने हिन्दुस्तानी को राष्ट्र भाषा मंजूर किया है तो रोज रोज यह शिकायत क्यों की जानी चाहिए कि साहब सब कुछ हिन्दी में हो रहा है । लेकिन मैं कहती हूँ कि जो रीजनल लैंग्वेज हैं वे ज़िन्दा रहेंगी और फूलेंगी फलेंगी क्योंकि इसको हम लोग अच्छी तरह समझते हैं और अपोजीशन वाले भी खूब समझते हैं कि कोई मुल्क ज़िन्दा नहीं रह सकता अगर उस मुल्क की रीजनल लैंग्वेज खत्म हो जाय तो रीजनल लैंग्वेज तो हमारे सिर पर है लेकिन हिन्दुस्तानी जो है वह तो हमारी राष्ट्रभाषा है । इसको हमें नहीं भूलना चाहिए और न इस की शिकायत करनी चाहिए ।

एक बात हमारे भाई त्यागी जी ने कही । वह मैं नहीं समझ सकी । उन्होंने न मालूम क्या कहा । बहरहाल मेरा समझ में आया कि उन्होंने यह कहा कि हमारी जो सारी मिनिस्ट्रीज है । उन सब का बोझ इनफार्मेशन और बाइकास्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री पर पड़ता है । यानी जो सारे मिनिस्ट्रीज के प्रबन्धन हैं, पत्रकार्य हैं उनका काम हमारी इनफार्मेशन और बाइकास्टिंग महकमे को करना होता है तो यह तो मैं जरूरी समझती हूँ कि हमारा जो इनफार्मेशन और बाइकास्टिंग का महकमा उसको ऊंची जगह और पब्ली मिलनी चाहिए । यह जरूरी भी है ।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू]

यह मुहकमा सब कुछ कर सकता है। इसके द्वारा मैं बड़ी सक्ति है। मैं समझती हूँ कि हर मुहकमे में कोमोडोरेशन होना चाहिए और जब ऐसा होगा तो हर मुहकमे की सारी बातें इसा मुहकमे से छाया होंगी क्योंकि इनफार्मेशन और वाइकास्टिंग का मुहकमा ही सरकार का गाउब फीस है। जो त्वाणी जो कह रहे वे मैं नहीं समझ सकती।

श्री स० ब० बनर्जी (कानपुर) : वह जस्टीफाई कर रहे ने कि डिप्टी मिनिस्टर की पोस्ट की जरूरत है।

श्रीमती उमा नेहरू : किसी ने यह भी कहा था कि हर मुहकमे में आई० सी० एस० आफिसर रखा दिया जाता है। यह शिकायत और यह गिला तो मुझे भी है। अंग्रेजों के वक्त में तो आई० सी० एस० का राज था। अंग्रेज यह समझते थे कि अगर उनको हुकूमत करनी है तो आई० सी० एस० वालों को उन्हें प्रभाव रखना चाहिए। लेकिन इस वक्त तो भारतीय राज्य है। मैं वाइकास्टिंग मुहकमे के बारे में ज्यादा नहीं जान। लेकिन मैं ने गजब तो यह देखा कि डिफेंस डिपार्टमेंट ने यह होता है कि वहां पर कंट्रोलमेंट बोर्ड है और कंट्रोलमेंट सरचिस है कंट्रोलमेंट वालों की। वे लोग डिप्टी डाइरेक्टर तक तो हो सकते हैं लेकिन अगर डाइरेक्टर की जगह होती है तो वहां आई० सी० एस० आफिसर रखा जाता है। अब ज्यादा आई० सी० एस० वाले तो रहे नहीं इसलिए डाइरेक्टर की जगह होने पर आई० एस० प्रफ़र रखा जाता है। तो यह चीज ठीक नहीं है क्योंकि जो भी लड़के किसी सरचिस में जाते हैं वे यह नहीं चाहत कि आसमान पर टंगे रह जायें। अगर वह डिप्टी डाइरेक्टर हो सकते हैं तो वह डाइरेक्टर भी होने चाहिए। लेकिन उनको डाइरेक्टर नहीं बनाया जाता और ऊपर से लाकर एक मादमी उस जगह पर रख

दिया जाता है। मैं समझती हूँ कि सरकार को इस पर गौर करना चाहिए और इसको प्रलय करना चाहिए।

अब इन सब बातों के बाव में यह कहना चाहती हूँ कि सब लोग इस बात से बाकिफ हैं कि यह जो इनफार्मेशन और वाइकास्टिंग मुहकमा है यह कितना जरूरी और महत्व का मुहकमा है। लेकिन इस के साथ ही जो लोग प्रभाव पड़ते हैं खबरें सुनते हैं और रिपोर्टें बगैरह देखते हैं, उन को यह अच्छी तरह से मालूम है कि १९४७ से आज तक इस मुहकमे में कतनी तरक्की—कितनी उन्नति—हुई है। मैं ने सोचा था कि मैं आप को तरक्की के बारे में सिलसिलवार बताऊं कि कितने वाइकास्टिंग स्टेशन खोले गए ह, कितने नए ट्रांसमिटर लगाए गए, बगैरह, लेकिन मुझे बोलने का मौका देर से मिला और मुझ से पहले मेरे आई श्री सहगल ने आप के सामने पूरी हालत बयान कर दी है।

मैं इस मुहकमे के काम को खती हूँ, स्टेशनों से गानों, फ़ोक-सांग और मौसमी गानों को सुनती हूँ लेकिन मेरे सामने यह स्थाल ज्ञास तौर से है कि इस मुहकमे के जो लोग मिलते रहते हैं और इस का शिक करते रहते हैं, ने सब जो भी मित्रा घाते हैं मिला और शिकायत करते हैं, जैसे कि अभी मेरी बहल कुमारी वेब कुमारी ने की। वह शिकायत नहीं होनी चाहिए। इतना सुनकर मुहकमा है और उस में यह शिकायत नहीं रहनी चाहिए। जिन लोगों ने, जिन कारीगरों और वर्कर्स ने इस हुकमे को मुहकमा बड़ा और शानदार बनाया, आज ने अपना सबिस की सिम्बोरिटी का प्रश्न हमारे सामने लाते हैं। आज वे हम से कहते हैं कि हम सालों से काम करते हैं और हम अब भी टेम्पोरेरी हैं। ३ अप्रैल को जब यह प्रश्न आया, तो मिनिस्टर साहब ने बताया कि होम मिनिस्टर

और पब्लिक सर्विस की दिक्कतें हैं। इस बात का इरादा है कि इस सिसिबे में एक खंडर बने, लेकिन वह आज तक पूरा नहीं हुआ। मैं उम्मीद करती हूँ कि मिनिस्टर साहब बतायेंगे कि उन्होंने सर्विसिज के बारे में क्या किया है।

जहां तक सर्विसिज का ताल्लुक है, चाहे होम मिनिस्ट्री हो, चाहे कोई मिनिस्ट्री हो, हमारा यह फ़र्ज है कि हम अपने वर्कर्स को सिक्योरिटी आफ़ सर्विस दें और उन को तरक्की का मौका दें। मैं अच्छी तरह से जानती हूँ कि टेम्पोरेरी तौर पर रखना फ़ायदे की चीज़ होती है कि जब चाहा अलग कर दिया, लेकिन मैं समझती हूँ कि यह ग़लत बात है और इसे हम को बन्द करना है। मिनिस्टर साहब इस के बारे में बतायेंगे। मैं बताना चाहती हूँ कि पिछली दफ़ा मिनिस्टर साहब ने खुद कहा था कि इस बारे में फ़िक्र करने की बात नहीं है, कोई डिफ़िकल्टीज इस में नहीं आने वाली हैं और सब चीज़ें तय हैं। उन्होंने ये यह भी कहा कि Financial regulations came in the way. All these have been smoothened out and in future there will be no difficulty.

यह आपने बताया हम को था और हम समझते थे कि सब चीज़ें स्मूदन घाउट हुई होंगी और आप के कारीगर खुश होंगे। मैं इस बारे में ज्यादा न कह कर मिनिस्टर साहब से कहूंगी की वह इस मामले को देखें और अगर होम मिनिस्ट्री या पब्लिक सर्विस कमिशन बीच में आते हैं, तो उन को उन से लड़ना होगा, क्योंकि भारत के आजाद होने के बाद हम यह ग़वारा नहीं कर सकते कि भारत के ग़रीब, वर्कर्स, पैजेन्ट्स, और किसान परेशान-हाल हों। भारत तभी खुशहाल हो सकता है, जब यहां के पैजेन्ट्स और वर्कर्स खुशहाल होंगे, जब हम उन लोगों की मदद करेंगे और उनको खाने को रोटी मिलेगी।

बाहिर में मैं फिर मिनिस्टर साहब से प्रार्थना करूंगी की वह सर्विस बायों की तरफ़ ज़रा ध्यान दें। मैं यह भी पसन्द करूंगी कि हमारे रेडियो स्टेशन के जो भी प्रोग्राम हों, वह वर्कर्स और पैजेन्ट्स के ख़ाल से बनाये जायें।

Shri Khadihar: Since independence we see that all round in the different regions and different centres new radio stations are being opened, but we have got to consider whether all the material that is broadcast, that is given or doled out to the people, has been improved or attuned to the changed circumstances that we are facing today. I would request some of the hon. Members here to listen for five days continuously to different programmes on the radio and see if they feel satisfied that the radio is being used as an instrument of education in a broad sense, doing some healthy entertainment service or serving the purpose of the nation, making the people acquainted with the different developmental aspects of our programme. If I were to confess, I must say I have done this.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: Continuously?

Shri Khadihar: For eight days you try to listen to it.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharya: Have you tried continuously for eight days?

Shri Khadihar: Yes. Of course, certain aspects of the programme I have got to neglect. If a survey is taken you will find that the record of this Ministry from this angle, is as another hon. Member suggested, a record of utter failure.

Why I say is this. Let us take one aspect of the problem. Our Minister knows it very well. He constituted a Commission for enquiring into the conditions in the newspaper industry. Recommendations were before him, and it was stated by the Commission while making those recommendations that they should not be implemented piece-meal but they must be taken

[Shri Khadilkar]

together. What has happened? What is the record? Firstly, we all know what has happened as regards the wages of those who are serving the newspaper industry.

As regards the price-page schedule, every time he promises but that promise, I do not think, is likely to be fulfilled during the remaining period of four years or so till the next elections.

As regards the advertisement policy, what do we find? If you just open the local language papers the district papers, small papers, you will find usually that they are not given any patronage regarding advertisements—advertisements, for instance, regarding the Janata policy. They are being advertised in papers which the common mass of people cannot understand because English is not their mother-tongue.

Regarding the policy so far as the working journalists are concerned, the Minister might say: "What can we do? We appointed a Wage Board, the Wage Board gave an award, the Supreme Court found some fault and today things stand where they are." And what are their wages? I am not worried about the people who are fortunate enough to serve in the press gallery here in the Lok Sabha, but you go to the district places. Their emoluments, monthly emoluments, today hardly exceed the emoluments of charpatis of the Lok Sabha. This is the position, and our Minister for Broadcasting sits hands folded. In a way he confessed his impotence before the present situation as it is without doing anything.

Dr. Keskar: Sir, the Working Journalists Act is administered by the Labour Ministry, and though I am sitting hands folded, it is not on that account.

Shri Khadilkar: Well, this is a very strange thing that the Act has to be administered by the Labour Ministry. That is all right, but he must have

something to administer. If the very Act is challenged, who is ultimately responsible? The Labour Minister says: "After all, what can I do?"

Dr. Keskar: Then, tell him, not me.

Shri Khadilkar: Therefore, I would suggest that the over-all responsibility for looking to the conditions of the working journalists, looking to the conditions in the newspaper industry, doling out patronage regarding advertisement, all this responsibility must be shouldered, and boldly shouldered, by the Minister sitting opposite. It is no use taking shelter.

For instance, what is the state of the industry. Let us look at it from the democratic point of view. Today, the bigger papers, papers with larger circulations, papers that are produced from different centres are amassing circulation, and the smaller papers, papers which served during the struggle for freedom are being wiped out. We are talking that the regional languages will be encouraged, Hindi or Hindustani will be encouraged. Let him give figures as to how the patronage is given. I will give him a challenge here. Let him give his figures as to how much patronage of advertisement from the Government goes to the English press and what proportion goes to the Indian language press. Let him give the figures and convince this House. I am confident that hardly a few crumbs reach them.

Let me come to another aspect of it. Because of the present state of the industry, it has not remained a one-man job. Formerly, in the early stages of journalist history, journalism in India was looked upon as a mission, it was not looked upon as something like an industry or business. Today, the big capitalist interests have entered into that industry. They have established their monopoly of circulation; and, therefore, what the people should read, in what light they should view the national scene and so on are

controlled by these big capitalists, these chain-paper people. At the same time, because of the patronage that they enjoy and because of the favourable terms of business they get today in the market, the Indian regional language press is practically being wiped out.

We are saying that we do not want concentration of power, we want to build up democracy, and we want to reach the people. But the vehicles that are supposed to reach the people are being shut out. What has the Minister done so far in this behalf? I have several times asked him, 'What about the price-page schedule?' He has said, 'It is ready, but I am afraid such and such a newspaper magnate is likely to run to the Supreme Court. So, I must take all care.' Then, he says, 'I have submitted this and that.' But ultimately this recommendation of the Press Commission has not been implemented. Today, it is the language press which is being run with little sense of mission; it is the press belonging to the Opposition Party which sustains democracy. Were it not for these, we would have found one party and one voice and we would have heard that voice on the broadcasting station. Therefore, that press which is performing a useful function, and where the Opposition is serving in a small way, should be kept alive. Is the Minister conscious of it? No. Therefore, I would humbly submit that the recommendations of the Press Commission ought to have been implemented. If they are not implemented today, then some way must be found out in order to save democracy, because unless the small press is kept alive and it educates the people in the new tasks, nothing is likely to happen, no progress is possible and one monopolistic party structure will rule over this country.

There is just one more point that I would like to touch, and that is in regard to selection of speakers for broadcasts. Let him give me figures as to how speakers are chosen.

Shri Ferose Gandhi (Rai Barail): It is not him, but her. It is Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha who is here now. Dr. Keskar has gone away.

Shri Khadilkar: I am sorry. Let the Ministry give me figures.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If the hon. Member addresses the Chair, there would be no such difficulty.

Shri Khadilkar: I have studied this problem of how different talks are broadcast on the radio station. Men who have hardly any acquaintance with planning or with social services, or with the historical events which we celebrate on some important occasions are being invited from distant places simply because they happen to hold particular posts in particular Congress Committees. That is the situation that prevails. Even when speakers belonging to the Opposition agree regarding the objective, yet they are not selected because their political affiliations are taken into consideration. I would like to know whether selection of speakers on topics like planning, social services, social work etc. is done without taking into consideration the political affiliations of the persons concerned. As far as I have been able to study this problem, I am convinced that every time a small lecturer in a college who has just graduated, and who is supposed to be politically neutral is invited. I cannot understand this neutrality, when we have got a definite ideal before us. And this is my charge against this Ministry. If this Ministry is supposed to propagate our ideal, namely to build up socialism, is it taking people who can talk about socialism, about what is being done regarding labour, what is being done regarding social services, what is being done regarding housing and so on? That voice must reach the people, and then only the people will be enthused about it. But, as under the old British tradition which we have inherited, we say that we are neutral about it. I cannot understand this neutrality. This neutrality is a treachery to our national objective.

[Shri Khadilkar]

and it cannot be pursued by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, because that is a Ministry which is supposed to discharge a big function, I mean, educating the people. I have studied what the position is in other nations that are being built up. There, this department serves a very useful purpose, most educative purpose, such as giving a new vision and a new outlook as to enthuse the people; since the normal voice cannot reach the people. This voice should reach the people. That is the provision that is made for this department in other countries. But here, 'hand-folded', our Minister says 'I am not responsible for this. I am helpless before this.' This is the history and this is the record of this Ministry.

Therefore, I would say that unless these improvements are made, I do not think it will serve any useful purpose. It might broadcast Ministers, it may give information or disinformation, but whatever is wanted by the people will never reach them.

Mr Deputy-Speaker: Shri Jagdish Awasthi. The Minister was to have been called at 14.15, but I have extended the time. Therefore, hon. Members should take care to finish within ten minutes.

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi) rose—

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I shall call the hon. Member later.

श्री जगदीश अवास्थी (बिल्हीर) :
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, इस मंत्रालय के सम्बन्ध में मैं बहुत ही संक्षेप में दो तीन बातों की ओर ध्यान आकर्षित करते हुए कुछ निवेदन करूंगा।

पहली बात मुझे यह निवेदन करनी है कि जब मैंने इस मंत्रालय की पिछले साल की रिपोर्ट को पढ़ा, तो मुझे ज्ञात हुआ कि इस मंत्रालय के प्रकाशन विभाग ने लगभग ७३

पुस्तकों का प्रकाशन किया, जो कि संक्षेप में बी और हिन्दी तथा प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में लगभग इतनी ही पुस्तकों का प्रकाशन हुआ। एक तरफ तो संघेजी भाषा के प्रति देश में जो चर्चा हो रही है, उस पर रोष प्रकट होता जा रहा है और दूसरी तरफ भारत सरकार का प्रकाशन विभाग संघेजी भाषा में अधिक से अधिक प्रकाशन कर के जनता की भावनाओं के साथ खिलवाड़ करता जा रहा है। इसमें तो मतभेद हो सकता है कि संघेजी भाषा कब हटे, लेकिन इस विषय में कोई मतभेद नहीं है कि इस देश से संघेजी भाषा को निश्चित रूप से जाना है, चाहे आज जाय, कल जाय या दस, बीस, पच्चीस वर्ष के बाद जाय। इसलिए इस मंत्रालय की यह जिम्मेदारी है कि संघेजी भाषा में कम से कम प्रकाशन हो और प्रादेशिक भाषाओं और हिन्दी के प्रति उदारता की नीति और उदार दृष्टिकोण अपनाया जाय। मैं चाहूंगा कि भविष्य में निश्चित रूप से संघेजी भाषा के अपेक्षाकृत हिन्दी और प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में अधिक प्रकाशन हों।

इस के बाद मैं मंत्रालय का ध्यान उस पुस्तक की ओर आकृष्ट करना चाहूंगा, जो कि उस के प्रकाशन विभाग के द्वारा प्रकाशित हुई है और संघेजी में जिस का नाम है "Eighteen Fifty Seven" उस का हिन्दी रूपान्तर है "अठारह सौ सत्तावन"। मैंने गत वर्ष भी इस सम्बन्ध में बहुत कुछ निवेदन किया था, लेकिन गृह मंत्रालय इस विषय में बिल्कुल मौन रहा। इस पुस्तक को इस सदन के कई माननीय सदस्यों ने पढ़ा होगा। मैं समझने में असमर्थ रहा हूँ कि एक तरफ भारत सरकार ने १८५७ के स्वतंत्रता युद्ध में आहुति देने वाले वीर पुरुषों के प्रति श्रद्धांजलि प्रकट की, देश में समारोह मनाया गया और दूसरी तरफ हम देखते हैं कि इस पुस्तक के लेखक महोदय ने इस प्रकार के साथ व्यवहार किया है, जो न केवल तथ्यों की दृष्टि से अनुचित है, बल्कि अपर देखा जाय, तो उन में हमारे

नैसर्गिक हीरोज—हमारे राष्ट्रीय महान् पुस्तों—के प्रति बड़े ही अपमानजनक विचार व्यक्त किये गये हैं। यह पुस्तक मेरे हाथ में है और ज्यादा समय न होने के कारण इस की कुछ ही पंक्तियां बहुत सीधता में पढ़ कर सुनाना चाहूंगा।

बी कीरोज गांधी : फाड़ना नहीं ।
(Laughter)

बी जगदीश अक्स्थी : धंवराइये नहीं, वह नहीं होगा। अब गुस्सा उस मीमा तक नहीं जायगा।

इस पुस्तक में प्रारम्भ में ही प्रस्तावना में लिखा गया है—

“..... उस समय भारतवासियों का राष्ट्रीय चरित्र बहुत गिर गया था। विद्रोह का संचालन करने वाले नेता कभी भी एक दूसरे से सहमत नहीं होते थे। उन को एक दूसरे से ईर्ष्या थी और वे एक दूसरे के खिलाफ चालें चलते रहते थे।”

आगे लिखा गया है—

“अधिकांश नेताओं ने व्यक्तिगत कारणों से इस संघर्ष में हिस्सा लिया। झांसी की रानी की भी अपनी शिकायतें थीं.....”

इतना ही नहीं, आप देखें कि इस पुस्तक के उपसंहार में लेखक महोदय ने क्या विचार व्यक्त किये हैं—

“अबध के देशभक्त अपने राजा और देश के लिए लड़े, परन्तु वे स्वतंत्रता के समर्थक नहीं थे, क्योंकि वैयक्तिक स्वतंत्रता की कोई धारणा उन के सम्मुख नहीं थी। इस के विपरीत यदि उन का बस चलता तो वे पुरानी व्यवस्था को पुनर्जीवित करते और उस सब को प्रस्थापित करते जिस की कि वह व्यवस्था अतिमिथि थी। अंग्रेज सरकार

में अक्षय रूप से एक सामाजिक क्रांति कर दी थी। उस ने स्त्रियों की कुछ असमर्थताओं को हटाया था, उस ने कानून की दृष्टि में मनुष्यों की समानता स्थापित करने का प्रयत्न किया था.....”

ऐसी बहुत सी चीजें इस में हैं। मैं पढ़ना चाहता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में आखिरकार भारत सरकार की नीति क्या है। अगर इन इतिहासज्ञ महोदय को सचमुच अपने विचार व्यक्त करने थे, तो वह करते, लेकिन कोई आवश्यकता नहीं थी कि भारत सरकार उस विचार-धारा की एक पार्टी बन कर इस पुस्तक का प्रकाशन करती। जब मैं ने प्रश्न किया, तो मुझे बताया गया कि इस पुस्तक के प्रकाशन में अंग्रेजी संस्करण पर ४२,००० रुपया खर्च किया गया और हिन्दी संस्करण पर ७,००० रुपया खर्च किया गया। आखिरकार एक मूल में दो जवानें रख कर भारत सरकार क्यों बोलती है? मंत्रियों ने भाषण दिये। बड़ी बड़ी अट्रॉजिलियां प्रकट की गईं, लेकिन इस पुस्तक को देखिये कि कितने अपमानजनक विचार उन के प्रति व्यक्त किये गये हैं। मैं इस मंत्रालय से जानना चाहूंगा कि इस पुस्तक के सम्बन्ध में उस की क्या नीति है। मैं, यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि इस पुस्तक में जिस प्रकार के शब्दों का—जिस प्रकार की भाषा का—प्रयोग किया गया है, वह मिस म्यो द्वारा व्यक्त विचारों से कम नहीं है। मुझे वह दिन याद आता है, जब मिस म्यो ने “मदर इंडिया” लिख कर भारत के प्रति अपमान प्रकट किया था। वही विचार आज इस पुस्तक में व्यक्त किये गये हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि इससे अधिक सज्जा की बात कोई नहीं हो सकती। यह केवल हमारी भावनाओं से ही नहीं, तथ्यों से भी सम्बन्ध रखती है। निश्चित रूप से इस पुस्तक का प्रचलन बन्द होना चाहिए। मिस म्यो ने जो पुस्तक लिखी थी उसमें आप सब को मालूम ही है कि भारतीयों का कितना अपमान किया गया है। यह पुस्तक भी बिल्कुल

[श्री कमलेश बजज्यो]

ही ब्रिटिश कैम्प में बैठकर लिखी गई है। ऐसा माना जाता है कि तन्त्रों के आधार पर या वास्तविकता के आधार पर इसमें कोई बात नहीं लिखी गई है। इस प्रकार की दोहरी नीति चल करके अब आज के समय में भारतीय जनता को झंझरे में नहीं रखा जा सकता है।

अब मैं आकाशवाणी के प्रोग्रामों के सम्बन्ध में कुछ कहना चाहता हूँ। जो साप्ताहिक हिन्दी तथा अंग्रेजी में प्रसारित होते हैं, उनमें जितने स्टाफ को रखा गया है उस धोर में आप का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। मुझे पता नहीं यह बात कहां तक सत्य है कि स्टाफ में बहुत अधिक वृद्धि कर दी गई है। केवल हिन्दी समाचार जो प्रसारित होते हैं उस विभाग में ३०-३५ आदमी रखे गये हैं जिन की बिल्कुल भी आवश्यकता नहीं है। आज हम इकोनामी की बात करते हैं और कहते हैं कि समय बहुत नाजुक है और हमें एक एक पैसा बचाना चाहिये और कठिन परिस्थितियों में हमारी सरकार तथा समाज को चलना पड़ रहा है। ऐसी हालत में ३०-३५ आदमियों को बिना काम के रखना कहां तक उचित कहा जा सकता है? इस छोटे से कार्य के लिये इतने अधिक आदमी रखे गये हैं। इसी तरह से और भी विभाग हैं जहां पर बहुत अधिक आदमी रखे हुए हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस सब की जांच हो और विभागों में प्रफेसरों की जो बाड़ सी आ गई है वह समाप्त होनी चाहिए। इसकी आप खानबीन करें और मुझे विश्वास है अगर आपने ऐसा किया तो काफी बचत आप कर सकेंगे। आज मैं देखता हूँ कि जहां पर तीन या पांच आदमी काम कर सकते हैं और अच्छी तरह से कर सकते हैं वहां पर तीस या पैंतीस आदमी नियुक्त कर दिये गये हैं।

रेडियो विभाग में साहित्यिक कार्यक्रम करने के लिए कुछ प्रोड्यूसर नियुक्त किये गये हैं। इसमें कोई शक नहीं है कि रेडियो विभाग बहुत से जो हमारे देश के साहित्यिक हैं उनकी सेवाएँ प्राप्त करता है और उनको

अपने पास रखता है। लेकिन मुझे यह जान कर बड़ा आश्चर्य हुआ है कि संजनक रेडियो स्टेशन में एक साहित्यिक महोदय को रखे हुए तीन वर्ष हो गये हैं और उन्होंने इन तीन वर्षों में सिवाये अपने दस्तखत करने के और कोई कार्य नहीं किया है। ये महान साहित्यिक पुरुष हैं और इनका नाम भी बड़ा है और उनको रखा भी जाना चाहिये लेकिन उनसे कुछ काम भी लिया जाना चाहिये। यह देश का पैसा है जो हम व्यय कर रहे हैं और इसका उचित ढंग से व्यय किया जाना चाहिये। जो प्रोड्यूसर्स होते हैं वे जितने भी साहित्यिक अथवा सांस्कृतिक कार्यक्रम होते हैं उनको मनमाने ढंग से चलाते हैं और जिस कलाकार को चाहें बुलाते हैं और जिस को चाहें नहीं बुलाते हैं। मैं चाहता हूँ कि सभी साहित्यकारों का सहयोग प्राप्त किया जाये ताकि कोई भी पक्षपात की शिकायत न हो। इन प्रोड्यूसर्स की सहायता के लिए मैं यह भी चाहता हूँ कि एक क्षेत्रीय सलाहकार समिति हो और उससे राय लेकर लोगों को बुलाया जाये। आज बहुत सी शिकायतें सुनने को मिलती हैं कि साहित्यकारों को रेडियो स्टेशन पर नहीं बुलाया जाता है। मैं चाहता हूँ कि मंत्रालय जो मेने सुझाव दिया है उस धोर ध्यान दे और यदि उसने ऐसा किया तो यह बहुत उत्तम होगा और शिकायत का कोई मौका बाकी नहीं रह जायगा। कितनी बार किस कलाकार को बुलाया जाये तथा कितना एमार्जेंट दिया जाये, कितना पैसा दिया जाये इस पर भी नियंत्रण रहना चाहिए। किसी किसी को बीस बीस मर्तबा बुला लिया जाता है और किसी को एक बार भी नहीं।

अब मैं इस मंत्रालय का शिक्षा विभाग से जो सम्बन्ध है उसकी ओर आपका ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। सूचना तथा प्रसारण मंत्रालय और शिक्षा मंत्रालय, इन दोनों मंत्रालयों को अगर काम की दृष्टि से देखा जाये तो देखा प्रतीत होता है कि नौ

बस नहीं है कि वे मंत्रालय पुष्कट रूप से काम करें। इन दोनों में समन्वय स्थापित होना चाहिये। यदि ऐसा हुआ तो जो भाषका व्यव बड़ रहा है तथा मंत्रालयों तथा मंत्रियों की जो बाड़ सी भा गई है, वह कम हो जायेगी और कार्य की दृष्टि से भी तथा मितव्ययिता की दृष्टि से भी यह अच्छा रहेगा कि इन दोनों मंत्रालयों को एक में मिला दिया जाये।

इस विभाग द्वारा सुगम संगीत का कार्यक्रम भी प्रसारित होता है। उसमें बड़ी सुन्दर वाणियां सुनने को मिलती हैं। महात्मा कबीर की सुन्दर वाणी सुनने को मिलती है। महात्मा कबीर के भलाया और भी कई सन्त और कवि हुए हैं जिन की वाणियां सुनाई जानी चाहिये जैसे गुदनानक, रई दास इत्यादि। इनकी कोई वाणी सुनने को नहीं मिलती है। इस प्रकार के जो कार्यक्रम हैं उनमें उन महापुरुषों को भी शामिल किया जाना चाहिये तथा उनकी रचनाओं को भी शामिल किया जाना चाहिये जिनको जाने या भनजाने में निरादर की दृष्टि से देखा गया है भ्रमान को बचह से। मैं चाहता हूं कि हम इस सम्बन्ध में उदार दृष्टिकोण अपनायें और सब के साथ न्याय करें।

श्री भवत बर्लन (गड़वाल) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, क्योंकि समय बहुत कम है, इस बास्ते एक ही मुख्य विषय की ओर मैं माननीय मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान आकर्षित करूंगा। लेकिन उस मुख्य विषय की ओर ध्यान से पहिले यहां पर एक दक्षिण भारत के माननीय सदस्य जोकि इन्डियन युनैट कडम से सम्बन्ध रखते हैं, उन्होंने दक्षिण भारतीय रेडियो के ऊपर और रेडियो की भाषा नीति के ऊपर जो प्रालोप किया है, उसके बारे में बोझा सा कहना चाहता हूं। मैं समझता हूं कि प्रत्येक समझदार सदस्य का वह कर्तव्य हो जाता है कि वह उसका प्रतिवाद करे। पिछले वर्षों में यहां पर जब इस मंत्रालय के सम्बन्ध में बाद-बिबाद हुआ था उस समय भी यह प्रश्न उठाया गया था और वह विस्तृत स्पष्ट रूप से बतला दिया

गया था कि जहां तक बुनावों का सम्बन्ध है प्राकाशवाणी ने अत्यन्त निष्पक्षता के साथ अपने कर्तव्य का पालन किया है। जहां तक भाषा नीति का सम्बन्ध है, प्रास इंडिया रेडियो उसी भाषा नीति का प्रवलम्बन कर रहा है जोकि केन्द्रीय सरकार की नीति है, और जिसका जिक्र कि संविधान में किया गया है। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं इतना ही कहना चाहूंगा कि यदि किन्हीं प्रांतों में भड़चन पड़ रही है तो उनका सहानुभूति के साथ अध्ययन किया जाना चाहिये। मैं हिन्दी के उन समर्थकों में से हूं जोकि इस बात का प्रवल कर रहे हैं या प्रवल करना चाहते हैं कि हिन्दी के विकास का मतलब कहीं भी यह नहीं है कि हम अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं को किसी प्रकार से हानि पहुंचावें। हम तो यह चाहते हैं कि सभी भारतीय भाषाओं का विकास हो और उस में योगदान देना सब भारतीयों का कर्तव्य है। इसलिए मैं माननीय मंत्री जी के विशेष तौर से अनुरोध करता हूं कि जैसा कि यहां पर कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने बताया है, अगर कोई भड़चन पड़ती है तो उसको खानबीन की जानी चाहिये और अगर कोई ऐसे कारण हैं जिन से कुछ असन्तोष होता है तो उनको दूर किया जाना चाहिए। इतना कह कर अब मैं अपने मुख्य विषय पर आता हूं।

पिछले वर्ष में ने माननीय मंत्री महोदय की बघाई दी थी कि प्रेस प्रायोग की रिपोर्ट के ऊपर उन्होंने बहुत सहानुभूति के साथ कवम बढ़ाया है। सन् १९५२ में उसको स्थापना हुई थी और सन् १९५४ के मध्य में उसकी रिपोर्ट आई और अब चार बरस होने को आ रहे हैं। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने इस समय में कुछ समय पहले बड़े दावे के साथ कहा था कि जितनी भी कमिशन की रिपोर्ट निकली हैं उनमें सब से अधिक तेजी के साथ और सब से व्यापक ढंग से अगर किसी की सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित किया गया है तो वह इस प्रायोग की रिपोर्ट है। जहां तक माननीय मंत्री महोदय की भावना का सम्बन्ध है और जहां तक कि मंत्रिमंडल की भावना का भी

[बी वक्त बोलें]

सम्बन्ध है, मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में कोई दो रायें नहीं हो सकती हैं कि वे पूरे दिल से उसकी सिफारिशों पर धनस करना चाहते हैं। लेकिन व्यवहार में देखा गया है कि जो मुख्य-मुख्य सिफारिशें थीं उनके बारे में अभी तक भी कोई जबरदस्त कदम, कोई ठोस कदम नहीं उठाया गया है। इन चीजों से शब्दों में मैं आपको यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि वे कौन-कौन सी मुख्य सिफारिशें हैं, जो प्रेस आयोग ने की थीं। उसने आठ मुख्य सिफारिशें की थीं।

पहली सिफारिश प्रेस रजिस्ट्रार की नियुक्ति के बारे में थी। उस की नियुक्ति हो गई है। उस के द्वारा प्रतिवर्ष हम को पत्र-व्यवसाय के सम्बन्ध में आंकड़े मिलने लग गये हैं। लेकिन प्रेस कमीशन ने अपनी रिपोर्ट में जो जो अधिकार प्रेस रजिस्ट्रार को देने की सिफारिश की थी मैं समझता हूँ उस से बहुत कम अधिकार उस को दिये गये हैं। चूँकि यह डिटेल का प्रश्न है, इस बास्ते इस में मैं इस वक्त नहीं जाऊँगा।

दूसरी सिफारिश स्वामित्व के प्रसरण (डिप्यूचन आफ़ प्रोनरशिप) के बारे में थी। इस के सम्बन्ध में अभी तक कोई विशेष क़दम नहीं उठाया गया है। मेरे पास आंकड़े हैं जिन को मैं यहाँ पेश करना चाहता हूँ। प्रेस आयोग की रिपोर्ट में बताया गया था कि पाँच मासिक २६ समाचार पत्रों को मिलाते थे और हमारी जितनी सक्यूलेशन थी, जितनी ग्राहक संख्या थी उस की ३१.२ प्रतिशत उन के हाथ में थी। इसी प्रकार से १५ मासिक ऐसे थे जिन के पास ५४ समाचारपत्रों का स्वामित्व था और ५०.१ प्रतिशत ग्राहक-संख्या को वे नियंत्रण करते थे। लेकिन इस बीच में हालत और भी बकतर हो गई है। अब हालत यह है कि पाँच मासिक ३७.१७ प्रतिशत सक्यूलेशन को कंट्रोल करते हैं, १० मासिक ५६.५ प्रतिशत ग्राहक संख्या का नियंत्रण कर रहे हैं

और जिन १५ का मैं ने पहले जिक्र किया है वे १५, जोकि पहले ५०.१ प्रतिशत सक्यूलेशन का नियंत्रण करते हैं आज १४.६ प्रतिशत सक्यूलेशन का नियंत्रण कर रहे हैं। इस का मतलब यह हुआ कि वह जो टैब्लो है यह बढ़ती चली जा रही है। कमीशन ने यह कहा था कि प्रेस काउंसिल की स्थापना होनी चाहिये और प्रेस काउंसिल पाँच बर्ष का मौका दे मासिकों को कि वे लोग स्वयं डिप्यूचन करें और देखें कि वे कैसा करते हैं या नहीं। उस के बाद यह देखा जाये कि प्रेस काउंसिल क्या कदम उठा सकती है। लेकिन इस के बारे में अभी तक कोई भी कार्रवाई नहीं की गई है।

तीसरी सिफारिश प्रेस काउंसिल के बारे में थी। इस के सिलसिले में मैं अधिक कहना नहीं चाहता। पिछली बार की संसद् के कार्यकाल में राज्य सभा में वह विधेयक पारित हो गया था और दुर्भाग्य कुछ ऐसी बात हुई कि उस को लैप्स होना पड़ा। हमारे माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने कई बार मेरे प्रश्नों के उत्तरों में तथा अन्य प्रश्नों के उत्तर में यह आश्वासन दिया था कि उस को जल्दी फिर पेश किया जायेगा और विभिन्न स्वर्यों के बीच बातचीत चल रही है। पता नहीं वह कुछ दिन कब आवेगा जबकि वह पेश किया जायगा। प्रत्येक भत्र में हम सवाल उठाते हैं और हमें आश्वासन दे दिया जाता है। मैं आशा करता हूँ माननीय मंत्री महोदय ज़रूर इस सम्बन्ध में आज निश्चित घोषणा करने में समर्थ होंगे।

चौथी बात, जिस के कि सम्बन्ध मैं श्री लाडिलकर ने भी उल्लेख किया, वह मूल्यानुसार पुष्ट-सूची अर्थात् प्राइस वेज शेड्यूल के बारे में है। मैं इस के सम्बन्ध में ज्यादा जोर देना चाहता हूँ। हमारे हिन्दी और भारतीय भाषाओं के जो समाचारपत्र हैं वे बड़े समाचारपत्रों के सामने प्रति-योगिता में टिक नहीं सकते। उन के लिए

एक ही चारा है और वह यह कि प्राइस फेस सेट्यूल हो जिस का कि अधिनियम इस संसद् में स्वीकृत हो चुका है और जिस के कि बारे में मुझे पता है कि बहुत कुछ प्रगति हो चुकी है और एक सेट्यूल भी तैयार हो गया है ; लेकिन पता नहीं क्या अडचनें पड़ती हैं, किस तरीके से माननीय मंत्रियों को प्रभावित किया जाता है या कहाँ पर धोर डाला जाता है । कोई न कोई बात जरूर है, कुछ दाल में काला जरूर है, जिस से कि यह निर्णय होने के बाद और दो वर्ष समाप्त हो जाने के बाद भी उसे कार्यान्वित नहीं किया जा रहा है ।

पाँचवें प्रेस आयोग ने सिफारिश की थी कि विज्ञापनों की नीति के सम्बन्ध में कुछ परिवर्तन किये जायें । दो विधाओं में उन्होंने सिफारिश की थी । एक तो यह कि जो हिन्दी और अन्य भारतीय भाषाओं के समाचारपत्र हैं उन को अधिक से अधिक विज्ञापन दिये जायें, खास कर उन की ग्राहक-संख्या के अनुसार । इस सम्बन्ध में मैं मंत्री महोदय को थोड़ी-बहुत बर्बाद देना चाहता हूँ कि उन्होंने ने उस दिशा में एक कदम उठाया है, लेकिन अभी तभी संतोषजनक प्रगति नहीं हुई है । इस सम्बन्ध में मेरे पास आंकड़े हैं । सन् १९५६-५७ में कालम इंचेज के हिसाब से कुल १६८५०१ वर्गीकृत विज्ञापन दिये गये थे, क्लासिफाइड ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स दिये गये थे जिन में से अकेले अंग्रेजी के १२७११०, हिन्दी के १४७५० और रीजनल लैंग्वेज के २६६५१ कालम इंचेज थे । सन् १९५७-५८ में कुल १०३२०६ क्लासिफाइड ऐडवर्टाइजमेंट्स दिये गये जिस में से अंग्रेजी के समाचारपत्रों को ६४५६७ यानी आधे अधिक से दिए गये और हिन्दी को ११८७७ कालम इंचेज दिये गये और रीजनल लैंग्वेज को २५७३२ कालम इंचेज दिये गये । यह मैं मानता हूँ कि भारतीय भाषाओं के समाचारपत्रों को पहले से अधिक प्रोत्साहन दिया जरूर रहा है लेकिन जितना, हमारे हिन्दी और अन्य

भारतीय भाषाओं के समाचारपत्र पाने के अधिकारी हैं उतना उन्हें नहीं दिया जा रहा है ।

प्रेस कमिशन ने इस सम्बन्ध में यह भी सिफारिश की थी कि टेलिस्कोपिक रेट विद ऐन अपर लिमिट जारी किया जाय । बड़े-बड़े समाचारपत्रों को विज्ञापन देने के सम्बन्ध में कोई नियम होना चाहिये जिस के कि अनुकूल उस की ग्राहक संख्या हो और उस के अनुसार उस का वितरण करना चाहिये । मुझे आशा है कि अपने जबाबी भाषण में मंत्री महोदय उस पर कुछ प्रकाश डालेंगे ।

छठी बात यह है कि अखबारी कागज के बारे में न्यूजप्रीट के बारे में कमिशन ने यह सिफारिश की थी कि एक स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कॉरपोरेशन बना कर उस के हाथ में यह चीज दे दी जाय । बाहर के देशों से जो हम अखबारी कागज मंगाते हैं उस को और हमारे देश में जैसा नेपा पेपर मिल्स में जो अखबारी कागज बनाया जाता है उन सब को ले कर इन का एक ही मूल्य स्थिर किया जाय और कागज एक ही मूल्य पर सब समाचारपत्रों को दिया जाय । स्टेट ट्रेडिंग कॉरपोरेशन को यह काम दे दिया गया है ; लेकिन अभी तक पूरा अधिकार नहीं दिया गया है । इम्पोर्ट्स के बारे में कुछ कदम उठाये गये हैं ; लेकिन अभी तक वह पूरे नहीं हैं और उन पर पूरी तरह से अमल नहीं हो रहा है । प्रेस कमिशन की सब से बड़ी सिफारिश यह थी कि बाहर से, विदेशों से, जो हम अखबारी कागज मंगाते हैं और हमारे देश में जो कागज का उत्पादन होता है उन दोनों का मूल्य एक प्रकार का हो और वह सब समाचारपत्रों को दिया जाय । इस पर अभी तक अमल नहीं हुआ है ।

सातवीं बात हमारी संवाद-समितियों के पुनर्गठन को से कर है । पी० टी० आई०

[श्री भक्त हसन]

के सम्बन्ध में यह कहा गया था कि उस के लिये एक पब्लिक कीरपोरेशन होना चाहिये, लेकिन अभी तक उस के सम्बन्ध में कोई कदम नहीं उठाया गया है। मंत्री महोदय इस मांग के बारे में सदा यह कहते रहते हैं कि यह उन का प्राइवेट एफ़ेयर है, वे ऐसा चाहें करें। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस प्रकार की नीति शिथिलता की नीति है और उस में काम चलने वाला नहीं है।

य० पी० धर्मा० के बारे में कमीशन ने एक ट्रस्ट बनाने की सिफारिश की थी जोकि अब तक नहीं बना। मुझे जहाँ तक पता है यू० पी० धर्मा० का जो पहले संगठन था और अधिकार क्षेत्रों में वे अधिक लोगों के हाथ में थे, जबकि अब कोई एक करानी सज्जन हैं, उन एक अकेले धारणी के हाथ में इस का सारा कामकाज है। सिफारिश यह थी कि उस के लिये एक ट्रस्ट होना चाहिये लेकिन उस के बजाय एक धारणी के हाथ में यह सारा काम है और उसी का यह परिणाम है कि जो वहाँ पर जनरल एडिटर काफ़ी वर्षों से बहुत शोषण के साथ काम कर रहे थे उन को २४ बंटे का नोटिस दे कर हटा दिया गया।

अन्तिम बात जो मैं कहना चाहता हूँ वह सुप्रीम कोर्ट का एवार्ड है और जिस का कि जिक्र मेरे माननीय सदस्यों ने भी किया है। सुप्रीम कोर्ट ने अभी हाल में एवार्ड दिया है और जिस के कि बारे में माननीय मंत्री जी मैं उठ कर महाश्वरत करते हुए कहा कि वह अब और रोजगार मंत्रालय का कार्य है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि वह अधिनियम तो बाब में कार्यान्वित करने के लिये अब व रोजगार मंत्रालय को दिया गया था; पहिले तो सूचना व प्रसारण मंत्रालय ने ही उसे स्वीकार किया था। अतः यह मंत्रालय उस की जिम्मेदारी के अपने को मुक्त नहीं कर सकता। इस सम्बन्ध में मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि

हमारे अब और रोजगार मंत्रालय के मंत्री महोदय कुछ दिनों के अन्दर एक सम्बन्ध बनाने वाले हैं और विभिन्न संस्थाओं को नियंत्रण दे चुके हैं। उन के उद्देश्य की सफलता की मैं शुभ कामना करता हूँ, मगर मुझे ज्यादा विश्वास नहीं है कि सफलता मिलेगी ऐसा। कांग्रेस पहले भी करने की कोशिश की गई थी, लेकिन उस में सफलता नहीं मिल पाई थी। अतः मैं यह निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि उस का प्रमोटमेंट होना चाहिये और जो कानून उस के लिये बना था जो अधिनियम बना था, उस का संशोधन भी संसद् में आना चाहिये। गवर्नमेंट को दूसरा कदम तत्काल उठाना चाहिये और उसके बीच में जब तक कि कानून बनता है तब तक उस को अपने अधिकार के द्वारा अन्तरिम सहायता देने की एक निश्चित योजना लागू करनी चाहिये और तभी जा कर हम अमजीबी पत्रकारों के प्रति कुछ न्याय कर सकते हैं।

डा० सुशोभा नायर : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका धन्यवाद करती हूँ कि आपने मुझे बन्द मिनट इस समय दिये। इस मौके पर मैं दो तीन बातों को तरफ़ मंत्री महोदय का ध्यान दिलाना चाहती हूँ। उससे पहले सिर्फ़ एक चीज़ जो कि सामने के विरोधी पक्ष से हमारे एक भाई ने अभी बड़े जोरों से कहा उसका भी मैं जवाब देना चाहती हूँ।

आपने बड़े जोरों से इस चीज़ का विरोध किया कि न्यूटैलिटी की क्यों बात करते हो। न्यूटैलिटी निकम्मी चीज़ है और मंत्री महोदय का यह कहना कि न्यूटैलिटी की भावना रखने वाले बक्ताओं को वह रेडियो के लिए इस्तेमाल करते हैं यह सत्य है और बड़े जोरों से सच्यों में उन्होंने उसका विरोध किया। इससे प्रकट होता है कि हमारे प्राण के जो नेताचन हैं जैसे हमारे विरोधी पक्ष के भाई जो कि अभी बोले थे उनके दिमाग में ऐसी बात बैठ गई है कि पोलिटिकल ब्लूज़ और पोलिटिकल

कमर यह हर चीज के लिए आवश्यक है और उसके बगैर जीवन चल ही नहीं सकता था। सही बात यह है कि आज देश में राजनीति है और वह रहेगी लेकिन जो रचनात्मक काम हैं उनको बहुत ज्यादा आवश्यकता है और शिक्षा और तालीम को बहुत ज्यादा आवश्यकता है। उस शिक्षा और तालीम में राजनीति का घाना आवश्यक है, ऐसा मेरी समझ में तो नहीं है।

सीधी बात है। आज हम लोगों का जीवन क्या है? हेल्थ, एजुकेशन को देखिये, कितनी मोटी-मोटी चीजें हैं जो कि हम लोग नहीं जानते हैं। सोशल एजुकेशन को देखिये, यह कितनी सीधी सी बातें हैं जो हम लोग नहीं जानते हैं। हमारे एक पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर के यहां दक्षिण से एक देवोजी आई हुई है। उनके पास सुबह से शाम तक लोगों का तांता लगा रहता है कि हमको प्रसाद दे दोबिये, हमारी बोमारी अच्छी हो जायगी, रोग अच्छा हो जायगा और उस लाइन में मैंने और लोगों के अलावा पार्लियामेंट के मेम्बर भी खड़े हुए देखे

श्री बलराज सिंह : उस पक्ष के मेम्बर थे या इस पक्ष के थे ?

अ० सुखलाल नायर : भाल इंडिया रेडियो के यह दो मुख्य कार्यक्रम मेरी समझ में हैं। आज रेडियो का शिक्षा के कार्यक्रम में कितने महत्व का स्थान है इसके बतलाने को आवश्यकता नहीं है सब लोग उसको जानते हैं। भाल इंडिया रेडियो एनक्रामेशन एंड ब्राडकास्टिंग की मार्फत ब्राडकास्टिंग वरीएट के और बहुत से काम होते हैं लेकिन उन सब के मकसद हेतु मुख्यतः दो हैं। एक तो उद्देश्य मनोरंजन अर्थात् इंटरटेनमेंट का है और दूसरा उद्देश्य शिक्षा का एजुकेशन का है। जहां तक इंटरटेनमेंट का सवाल है मैं अभी महीदय से कहना चाहती हूँ कि उसका खासा अच्छा प्रोबाम है और उसमें सुचारु हो सकता है जब तक जहां तक शिक्षा का एजुकेशन

का सम्बन्ध है, मुझे नम्रता से कहना होगा कि इन दस वर्षों में रेडियो जितना काम कर सका था वह नहीं कर पाया है। सीधी बात है कि चाहें हेल्थ मिनिस्ट्री हो, चाहे इंडस्ट्रीज का विभाग हो अथवा चाहे कोई और ही गवर्नमेंट का विभाग हो, जहां तक जनता को साथ से जाने का सम्बन्ध है, जनता को साथ ले जाने के लिए जनमत तैयार करने का सम्बन्ध है उसमें विजुएल एड, भाषों और कानों से सुन कर जो एम्प्रीशन पड़ सकता है दिमाग पर, वह काम रेडियो की मार्फत बहुत बढ़िया तरीके से हो सकता है। दूसरे देशों में यह काम टेलिविजन से भी होता है। हमारे यहां टेलिविजन नहीं है तो उसमें कोई बहुत दिल छोटा करने की बात नहीं है। रेडियो से हम बहुत काम ले सकते हैं। इसके लिए मेरा यह निवेदन है कि एक अच्छी खासी योजना एनक्रामेशन एंड ब्राडकास्टिंग मिनिस्ट्री को बनानी चाहिए और उसमें सही तरीके से समय का विभाग हो ताकि आध. समय शिक्षा को ही हो और आधा समय मनोरंजन को मिले। मनोरंजन में भी ऐसी चीजें चुनी जा सकती हैं जिन का दिमाग को आगे और ऊंचा से जाने से सम्बन्ध हो और उसके साथ ही साथ वह शिक्षा का भी साधन बन सके। मगर उस के अलावा कम से कम आधा समय व्यवस्थित ढंग से हेल्थ एजुकेशन के लिये, सोशल एजुकेशन के लिये होना चाहिये। ऐडल्टरेशन की बात हम फूड और ड्रग्स के सम्बन्ध में करते हैं ऐडल्टरेशन का कानून कहां तक सफल हुआ है। खाली कानून से वह सफल नहीं हो सकता जब तक उस के पीछे एक ऐक्टिव जनमत हमारी जनता में जागृत न हो। उसे करने के लिये हमारा यह मंत्रालय बहुत काम कर सकता है।

इसी प्रकार से हम आज भारत में सोशल हाईजीन की बात करते हैं। मगर जो हमारे सिनेमा होते हैं, जो हमारे गीत होते हैं उन में काफी धस्लीलता पाई जाती है। सेन्सर बोर्ड बने हुए हैं, लेकिन सेन्सर

[डा० सुशीला नायर]

बीड्स को जिसना ऐक्टिव होना चाहिये, जिसना काम करना चाहिये, उसना, मैं मंत्रालय से कहूंगी, धाज हो नहीं रहा है और रीजनल डंग पर जो काम होना चाहिये वह भी नहीं हो रहा है। तो अगर मंत्री महोदय व्यवस्थित डंग से यह काम करें तो देश की जनता की बहुत बड़ी सेवा हो सकती है। पार्लियामेंट को उसमें लागे की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं। यह नहीं कि कभी एक घुन धाई और चार, छः टाक्स करवा दी हेल्थ के बारे में, कभी चार, छः करवा दी किसी और विषय के बारे में। नहीं, हर, हफ्ते हर महीने बाकायदा लगातार एक कम्पेन चलना चाहिये। स्माल पाक्स हम हटा सकते हैं, निकास सकते हैं, यह हम अपनी जनता के विभाग में ठीक से बुझा दें कि यह किस तरह से हो सकता है और होना चाहिये। मैं अभी हमीरपुर जिले से आई हूँ। घर, घर गांव-गांव, मैं देवी जी की पूजा हो रही है। चेक फंसी हुई है बच्चों में। किसी के विभाग में नहीं आता है कि इसे हम रोक सकते हैं या रोकने के लिये हम क्या करें। यह सारे काम यह मंत्रालय कर सकता है। यह मंत्रालय कोई अलग से है, वह वाटरटाइट कम्पार्टमेंट है, ऐसा मैं नहीं समझती। दूसरे जिसने मंत्रालय है, सात तौर से सोशल सचिव के, उन सब का यह माउन्टपैस है, सेवक है और इस मंत्रालय की मार्फत वह बहुत काम कर सकते हैं और उनको करना चाहिये। इस लिये उनकी योजना हो, उनकी एक प्लानिंग हो, आपस में मिल कर बिचार पूर्वक सारी चीज को तैयार करना चाहिये।

मैं एक चीज बड़ी नम्रता से कहना चाहती हूँ। मंत्री महोदय ने कहा विरोधी पक्ष के एक साथी की बात के उत्तर में कि यह जो जर्नलिस्ट्स का सवाल है वह लेबर मिनिस्ट्री से सम्बन्धित है। मुझे भी इस चीज का दुःख हुआ कि जो हमारी गवर्नमेंट तय करती है उस बजट को वह

एनकोर्स नहीं करवा सकी, किसी भी कारण से हो, लेकिन जब हमारी जनता की जवाब मिलता है कि एक मंत्रालय से सम्बन्धित है या दूसरे से तो हमारे लिये बड़ी कठिनाई हो जाती है। गवर्नमेंट तो एक है। ज्वारेंट रिस्पांसिबिलिटी या सम्मिलित जिम्मेदारी है तो उस में आपस में मंत्री महोदय सलाह कर के जवाब दें बड़ी सुधी से, लेकिन हमें यह जवाब अगर न मिला करे कि दूसरे मंत्री का, दूसरे खाते का यह काम है तो हमारे लिये और जनता के लिये बड़ी आसानी हो जायेगी।

एक छोटी सी चीज जो फारेन ब्राडकास्ट्स होते हैं उनके बारे में कहूँ। उस के अन्दर कोई अच्छा प्रोपेगेंडा नहीं। सामान्य हमारी जनता को बहुत से फारेन ब्राडकास्ट्स बिनाये पिलाये जाते हैं, यानी उनके माइन्ड को उस की खुराक दी जाती है। उस के बारे में क्या हो सकता है, मैं नहीं जानती। असबमर पावरफुल ट्रान्समिटर की मार्फत बाहर के अनडिजायरेबल ब्राडकास्ट्स को रोका जाता है, जो कुछ भी हो, लेकिन मैं समझती हूँ कि हमारी सरकार को यह देखना चाहिये कि अच्छी से अच्छी चीजें हमारी जनता को मिलें और खराब चीजें उन को न मिलें रेडियो सुनते समय कई दफा हम अपने यहां की बात सुनना चाहते हैं, वह नहीं आती क्योंकि बाहर के जो ट्रान्समिटर हैं बहुत पावरफुल होते हैं। हिन्दुस्तान के अलग-अलग हिस्से हैं। दिल्ली को आप छोड़ दीजिये हिन्दुस्तान के किसी और हिस्से का प्रोग्राम आप लेना चाहें तो वह नहीं आता है इस सम्बन्ध में एक बात कहूंगी

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : अब तो माननीय सदस्य को खत्म करना चाहिये। समय के वक्त तो माननीय सदस्य ने कहा था पि पांच मिनट या उससे भी कम।

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I have not tak five minutes.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Ten minutes are over.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: This was the last sentence I wished to say. Had I not been interrupted, I would have finished.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: How could I foresee that?

डा० सुशीला नायर : मैं बहुत जल्दी खत्म कर रही हूँ ।

करीब दस मील का एक टैप उन्होंने तैयार किया गांधी जी के बारे में । भलग भलग लोगों के अनुभव थे । उनके वर्रन अनुभवों को रेकार्ड करवा के । बहुत बैल्युएबल मैटीरियल है, उनमें से कई ऐसे लोग हैं जो जिन्दा नहीं हैं कि उनकी बाणी छाप सुन सकें । मैं मंत्री महोदय से निवेदन करूंगी कि अगर वे उन रेकार्डों को बी० बी० सी० से ले सकें और उनका मही उपयोग हो सके, तो देश के लिये वह बहुत भूमूल्य चीज होगी क्योंकि उन्होंने उस में से जो ब्राडकास्ट किया है वह बहुत ही सुपरफिशल है, बहुत ही पर्फेक्टरी तरीके से तैयार की हुई चीज है और उस का सही उपयोग अपने देश में किया जा सकता है । मैं आशा करती हूँ कि इस मैटीरियल को उपलब्ध करने का मंत्री महोदय प्रयत्न करेंगे और उसमें सफलता प्राप्त करेंगे ।

Dr. Samantsinhar (Bhubaneswar): **Mr. Deputy-Speaker,** Sir, at the outset I thank the Ministry for the effective steps to revive the Indian culture through the radio and also particularly for the selection of new programmes last year. I may mention the talks given by Prof. Haldane regarding the 'unity and diversity in life'. Similar interesting programmes should be selected in future also and they should be broadcast through the radio.

Of course I share the views of my hon. friends regarding the conditions of the working journalists. We must

think out some effective measures to remove their hardships. Journalism has become a good profession in the country and it will provide employment to numerous people. It has also become a very profitable industry in the country. In view of that, the

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condition of the working journalists—those who are practically maintaining the industry and through whose effort the industry is growing—should be improved. These profit-making proprietors should be made to see that the condition of the working journalists is improved immediately, and this Ministry should take effective measures to remove their grievances in collaboration with the Labour Ministry.

At the same time, Sir, I see that there is actually no proper co-ordination between the different Ministries. Though there is the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, I see that other Ministries give periodical information in the papers. All these things should be co-ordinated and everything should be done through the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

Sir, radios have gradually become very popular among the people. Therefore, the prices of radios should be brought down and the people should be supplied with cheap radio sets. I also fully agree with the idea given by Shri Tyagi regarding the Air University. That is a very novel idea, and I hope the Ministry would take some effective measures to see how this can be put into practice.

Now I would like to draw the kind attention of the Ministry to some of the grievances relating to my part of the country. There are some difficulties experienced in the only radio centre in Orissa—Cuttack. I have heard some allegations made against that centre. I hope some enquiry will be made with a view to remove those difficulties.

[Dr. Samantnihar]

At the Cuttack Centre there is no drama producer. The programme assistant working there is working as programme assistant cum drama producer. That programme assistant is not well versed in drama. Therefore, in the choice of casts and dialects there is no proper selection with the result the drama is not getting popular there. I request that a drama producer may be posted at Cuttack Centre so that selection of casts and dialects can be done properly.

As regards the National Programme, Hindustani music is given more time. I request that other classical music, including Odissi and other Karnatic etc., music, should be given more time as is given to Hindustani music.

I do not know what happens in other centres, but at Cuttack there is a Programme Advisory Committee. That Committee is there only in name; their advice is not actually taken by the radio staff there. This Committee sits only once in six months or ten months. The agenda is prepared by the Station Director. He includes the items to be discussed at the meeting of the Committee. The members are not given any previous intimation about the subjects to be included in the agenda. Therefore, the subjects put down by the Station Director only are discussed at the meeting. The Advisory Committee's advice is not taken with regard to the well-being of the station or the programmes that would please the public.

In the selection of artistes I hear very serious complaints. I hear that talkers and artistes are not being selected properly. I do not know whether it is correct or not, but I am told that the officers there take a percentage of the artiste's remuneration. I request the hon. Minister to enquire into the matter and see whether these things are correct or not.

As regards Odissi songs in the name of Odissi they are giving some other songs which are not actually Odissi. All those songs that are written in Oriya language are not Odissi. Odissi

is a very typical one. Other songs should not be included and given out in the name of Odissi; only genuine Odissi songs should be included under this item.

The Gongahali programme and the programme for women are also not popular. They are not according to the choice of villagers and women-folk. They should be according to the likings of the villagers. The problems which they face should be served through the radio, and not what the announcer wishes. I, therefore, request that these things should be properly scrutinised and effective steps taken in these matters.

On the whole, Sir, I am glad that during the last few years this Ministry has done very good work, and for that I congratulate the hon. Minister.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I do not find the name of Shri Bhattacharyya in the list that is with me. But if he is anxious to speak he may have five to six minutes.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Sir, just before the sitting began I approached the Speaker and submitted in the usual form intimation of my desire to participate in this debate. I do not know how my name has been, unfortunately, left out.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He may speak now.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, it is just in the fitness of things that the Ministry's failure to implement the main recommendations of the Press Commission has occupied a major part of this debate. Most of the speakers have referred to it. The policy that the Ministry has pursued with reference to the Fourth Estate has not been just. It has always been vacillating, as a result of which it has pleased none neither the newspaper proprietors nor the working journalists. As I have said, the main recommendations have not been implemented, and what little was done has now

been undone as a result of the Supreme Court decision.

I do not know whether the Ministry is going to move again to set up a National Wage Board for this purpose or whether the Government will take the initiative in attempting to arrive at a negotiated settlement by calling all the parties together. Of course, that is left to them, but up till now no movement has been made to that effect.

Though it belongs to a different Ministry, I take this opportunity to express myself on the same as the matter is very urgent. The judgment of the Supreme Court has not solved the problem, it has only created the problem the result of which will gradually unfold itself. That is why I ask the Ministry to be very considerate but to be very active in having something done to fill up the vacuum that has been created by the Supreme Court judgment.

As regards the other things I have to say this much. Reference was made to the appointment of the Press Registrar. The Press Registrar should not be an officer merely to have statistical collections. His functions should be wider and should be spread out to include more important things to be done with reference to the interests of the newspapers and the newspaper workers.

Coming to the report of the Ministry that has been circulated to us, I have something to say. In the previous years' report I find at page 7 that the programme section contained something about Sanskrit. It says that "the Sanskrit programme introduced in April, 1949 aim at acquainting the listeners with the cultural traditions embodied in Sanskrit". In the present year's report I do not find that item. I do not know whether it is an omission in preparing the report itself or whether the item has been omitted altogether. Anyway, that is not proper, because the Sanskrit Commission itself has suggested that the A.I.R. should take up imparting lessons in Sanskrit just as it has been imparting lessons in Hindi. There is

something more to be said about it. The Prime Minister had suggested some time ago that every citizen in India should learn the National Anthem. In that matter the A.I.R. can do much. It may introduce some service to teach this. The A.I.R. may at least once a week teach it through suitable persons as is being done in the case of music. If that is not found possible, approved records of National Anthem might be broadcast every week from all the stations.

Regarding the item *Gandhi Charcha*, I say that the different broadcasts made under this heading should be brought together and published in Hindi and English. That would help people to get an insight into Gandhiji's mind and activities which are not usually narrated in the biographies and which it is essential that the people should know in order to understand him properly.

There is another important thing I should say. The Tagore Centenary is coming a few years hence. This Ministry has a great responsibility to prepare the people's minds for that big event. Propaganda should be made from different stations so that the people might know what is going to be done and the way things are going to be done. That should be begun from now and the people's minds should be prepared for it.

Regarding film censorship, I have a grouse against the Board of Film Censors. They approve films as universal release which I think should not be approved at all. These films have no relation to our social life and I say these are against the traditions and customs of our social life. I give my own experience over this thing. A film prepared under the Films Division, called "*Gotama the Buddha*", was being shown in Calcutta. I was invited by the Films Division to see it. Half the film was shown depicting how the Lord prevailed over the forces of evil led by Mara. After that, an interval came, and in the interval parts of foreign films were shown, which were full of huggings, kissings and killings. I called the Film Divi-

[Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya]

sion man and asked, "What is this? Is it a supplement to what we have just seen,—the Lord prevailing over the forces of evil?" He said, "What can we do, Sir? This is under the control of the owners of the Cinema houses. They would do it in spite of all other things".

I give you another example. I had gone to see *Pather Panchali*, a film which was advertised as being specially meant for the school children. The school children were coming in numbers to see it. In fact I had gone there with my own children. Before the film show began, parts of foreign films began to be shown as trailers which contained scenes akin to scenes which are found in the *Bathing Beauty*. I hung down my head in shame. My children were with me. I called a representative of the management and asked, "You advertised that the show was meant specially for children and I came here with my children to see *Pather Panchali*. Why are you showing these things to me? I did not come to see these things." He said, "This is part of our duty that we do. But, if you are offended, you may take it up with the Board of Film Censors." So, I should like to know why they allow such films as universal release.

Recently there has been another children's film in Calcutta and letters have appeared in my own paper stating how the audience reacted to what they saw as trailers to that film. One correspondent stated, "I went there with my mother, and I say I could not see what was being shown there as parts of the trailer." One gentleman says, "I went there with my children and I was expecting to see the children's film. I was scandalised to see what was being shown as trailer." I commented upon it, and the reply came from the House-owners starting—"You do not attack us. If you have anything to say, you take it up with the Board of Film Censors. They allowed this film as universal release and we are free to exhibit it in any

place anywhere that we like". That is a thing which ought not to be done. In the case of *Pather Panchali*, which I mentioned just now, I took it up with the Director of Publicity, Government of West Bengal, and they wrote to different cinema houses saying that so long as *Pather Panchali* was being shown nothing inconsistent with that should be shown in the cinema houses along with that film. Of course the cinema houses had to obey.

So, I would say that in the matter of permitting and approving films for being shown as universal release, much care should be taken so that these do not introduce what we do not tolerate in our own society, what is not current in our own society. Conduct and customs that we do not approve of accept in our own society, should not be exhibited in the films and put before our own people and pervert the younger minds in a way that should not be done.

श्री बजरत्न सिंह : मैं प्रश्न पूछना चाहता हूँ। क्या यह सही है कि देश में लगभग ३० लाख रेडियो रिसेवर हैं और लाइसेन्स केवल १३ लाख को दिए जा सके हैं? बाकी १७ लाख के लाइसेन्स जारी करने के लिए क्या कदम उठाए जा रहे हैं, जिसमें ३ करोड़ रुपए का राजस्व इकट्ठा किया जा सकता है? रेडियो रिसेवरों की संख्या में उत्तरोत्तर बढ़ती रही होने के साथ-साथ क्या सरकार रेडियो रिसेवरों की लाइसेन्स-फीस कम करने का विचार कर रही है? आकाशवाणी से

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह तो सवाल की तकरीर बनती जा रही है—स्पीच बनती जा रही है।

श्री बजरत्न सिंह : बस यही एक प्रश्न है। आकाशवाणी से बाइकास्ट किए जाने वाले समाचारों में, जिन के लिए १५ मिनट नियत हैं, निम्न किताबों का प्रकाशन अंग्रेजी के विषय में समाचार देने में नहीं होना

है और क्या यह सही है कि बीसतन एक बीसहई और कभी-कभी एक तिहाई तक समय प्रधान मंत्री का भाषण या उनके सम्बन्ध में समाचारों में खर्च किया जाता है ?

Dr. Keskar: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to all the hon. Members who have contributed to this debate by making very interesting suggestions and also by criticising the various activities of this Ministry. Criticism is a very useful and essential duty; more especially it is the duty of Members of Parliament to keep the Ministries on the alert and to point out what they consider to be the shortcomings or the defects in the working of any particular Ministry. I hope I am not expected to reply to all the points that have been raised here within the short time at my disposal, because a number of criticisms and points have been made by Members which would require a very detailed reply on my part and the putting forth of statistics, which it is not possible to bring before the House at such short notice. I have noted all the points made here. I will reply to the important points here and as regards the others, I will look into them and let the hon. Members know the facts or counter-facts that might be available regarding the matters that hon. Members have raised here.

I will first take up the most important point which Mr. Kumaran has made, namely, regarding the recommendations of the Press Commission and that is a point which has been repeated by many hon. Members. I will take it up here and briefly point out as to what we have been doing regarding the recommendations of the Press Commission. Last year, during the course of the debate, we had occasion to mention at great length what the Government is doing about the recommendations of the Commission. I did not want to repeat all that, but in view of the fact that charges have been levelled that the Government has not carried out the recommendations of the Commission, it becomes incumbent on me to mention briefly, or rather repeat, what

has been said then with some additional information. There were only about five or six points on which the Commission specifically asked the Government to take action. If hon. Members refer to the report of the Commission, they will find that the Commission has made many recommendations of which only a few were meant for the Government. For example, Mr. Bhakt Darshan and some other Members referred to the question of diffusion of ownership and the monopolistic tendencies in the present day Press. If they read carefully the report of the Commission, they will find that the Commission had expressly written there that this should not be done by the Government directly, but should be arranged after various enquiries have taken place and this is not something about which Government has to pass some legislation and try to do it.

The other question is regarding the news agencies. The Commission have expressly stipulated that their request is to the news agencies and not to the Government. They have not asked Government to take direct action in this matter and I might inform the House that we consulted legal opinion and there is a grave doubt as to how far the Government can take over or nationalise or in any other way control the news agencies, whatever might be considered desirable. It is quite possible that the recommendations of the Commission are such and we ourselves feel that they are in the right direction, but it is not proper for Government to do anything which would be against the spirit and letter of the Constitution. The Press Commission also has not asked us to do it directly.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur): Government can take a certain attitude.

Dr. Keskar: Government has certainly taken a definite attitude and I had occasion to mention during the last two debates what our attitude is.

There are five different important questions about which the Commission expected the Government to take

[Dr. Keskar]

some action directly. The Press Registrar, for example, is a small thing to which reference has been made. We have established a Press Registrar and he is working. No doubt some Members would like the Registrar to have more powers. We do not want to risk in that direction, unless the office of the Registrar is placed on the most stable footing. After he has some experience of the work, after sometime if we find that some useful work regarding the Press might be done by giving the Registrar more powers, then certainly that would be considered. I do not think at this stage, it would be proper for us to equip the Registrar with too many powers. It might lead to resistance and criticism and make the working of this useful office very difficult at the very beginning

Then there is the question of the Working Journalists Act. Many Members have referred very strongly to what I said. It is a fact that the Act is being administered by the Ministry of Labour and therefore, it might be better if the question is raised at length during the course of the debate on the demands relating to the Labour Ministry. That does not mean that I am not interested in the matter; I am certainly interested and we have also some responsibility in the matter, but when another Ministry is having that responsibility and the debate relating to that Ministry is coming up only tomorrow . . .

An Hon. Member: Today.

Dr. Keskar: I am sorry; it is coming up today after this and I think it is better if it is taken up in detail during the course of that debate, rather than I should take upon myself the duty to reply on behalf of the Labour Minister. It is possible that I might say something which might not fit in with what he might have to say. Therefore, I am not at all unreasonable in requesting the House that the question might be better taken up in the course of the debate on the Labour Ministry demands.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): There is no co-ordination.

Dr. Keskar: There is full co-ordination, but it is not proper that I should reply on behalf of the Labour Minister when he can do it himself.

The other question is regarding the price-page schedule. I know hon. Members have been exercised over this matter. We have passed an Act regarding the price-page schedule. This question has been exercising the mind of the Government very seriously and we are looking into the various conditions which will help in fulfilling the objective for which the Act was passed and when they can be promulgated. I said in reply to a question on the floor of this House last month that in everybody's interest—it is not the interest of proprietors only; but it is a question concerning the future newspapers, their circulation and standing and also, guarding the spirit of competition about which the Press Commission also has referred—we felt that we would not be right in trying to hurry up the thing and that is why we have been considering this matter seriously. I may, however, inform the House that very soon we are going to take a decision regarding this and we will place it before the House.

Much has been said about the Press Council. The Press Council, if hon. Members remember the recommendation of the Press Commission, has been recommended as an advisory body which will pass opinions, without any statutory power of punishing anybody, about journalistic ethics. It is also considered desirable by the Press Commission to empower the Press Council to make an enquiry, for example, into the question of ownership and certain other related matters.

13:29 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

As the House is well aware, we took up the question of having an Act passed regarding the appointment of the Council. A number of difficulties cropped up to which I have referred

before, but I might repeat them here. During the course of the debate on the Act in the Rajya Sabha, we found that the two wings who are concerned in the formation of the Council—the working journalists on the one hand and the proprietors on the other—were both extremely critical, and in fact totally opposed, to our proposals which were practically the same as the proposals of the Press Commission. On the side of the journalists, we were told that they objected to the composition of the Council as recommended by the Press Commission, because they felt that by such a Council, the proprietors will get a majority in the Council, because the editors who were recommended to be given a certain number of seats by the Press Commission were the henchmen of the proprietors and therefore, they cannot be considered to be really hundred per cent. working journalists.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: There are editors who belong to the working journalists' section.

Dr. Keskar: I am not quoting myself; I am quoting what I have been told by the Federation. I personally entirely agree with you. But that is what we were told, and the Federation expressed its entire opposition to the legislation, if the composition of the Council is kept as it is. What they suggested was—it was not a specific suggestion; it is probably what they intended—that the editors should be bracketed with the proprietors and the 13 members out of the 25 in the Council, who were to be selected as working journalists, should be entirely working journalists or certified by them as working journalists if they are editors. Be that as it may . . .

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: If I am excused for an interruption, I should say that the Ministry should have consulted the editors' body, the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference. I believe that was not done.

Dr. Keskar: I am not prepared to admit that the All India Newspaper Editors' Conference represents either the editors or the proprietors. We

have gone very carefully into the question and we certainly feel that in the two bodies, there are 3, 4 or 5 persons who represent either the proprietors or the Federation, and they have been consulted. That does not mean that we do not pay heed to the recommendations or suggestions of the All India Newspaper Editors Conference. Of the members of the AINEC, some are members of the Federation; some are members of the proprietors. In both the bodies they are represented. Therefore, all the different viewpoints have been before us quite adequately. Now, in view of the fact that the proprietors were already against the legislation saying that there is no need for a statutory council and the working journalists expressing a total opposition to the composition of the Council as it is, when the Bill lapsed and the question of taking it up again during the present Parliament came, we felt on careful consideration that it is not worthwhile for us to pursue the question of a Press Council, unless the differences between both the groups are narrowed down to some extent. After all, what is the Council for? The Council is not going to be armed with statutory powers to punish this man or that man. The Council will have advisory capacity in evolving a code for journalistic profession. If both wings of the journalistic profession feel that this Council is based on wrong premises, it will not be proper for Government, in the face of opposition from both sides, to proceed with the matter. That may not be the opinion of the hon. Members. That is our opinion. We do not feel that it is proper for us to try to say "Well, both of you are wrong; we are right, because we are fortified by what the Press Commission said". There must be—I would not say a "compromise"—some agreement or at least the differences should be within very narrow limits, before we try to proceed with that legislation. Government is not prepared to try to pass a legislation, which is meant for the press world, with which both the wings are in complete disagreement.

Shri Panigrahi: Has the Government ignored the idea completely?

Dr. Keskar: The Press Council is not Government's idea; it is the Press Commission's idea and we have been thinking of implementing it only in the interests of the press and unless the press wants it, we are not going to take it up. That does not mean that we have dropped it; we are prepared to take it up. As I said last time when the question was posed here, we will certainly try to see that the question of the Council is taken up. Some talk had to be had with both the groups, if possible, and it is possible that after the very important question of the Working Journalists Act and matters connected therewith are dealt with, we might also take up this question with both groups.

The other point to which reference has been made is the news agency. I have already said that the Press Commission's recommendation is not specific. We have got a member of the Press Commission here, who can tell us more about it. It is addressed to the agency, not to the Government. We have passed on the recommendations of the Commission to the agencies concerned. Government felt that the recommendations are in the right lines and the agencies should try to do something about it. But I feel that it will not be proper for us to try to force it on the agencies by any legislation or any other force. As I said, the legality of any such action is itself doubtful. Government, therefore, does not propose to go in that direction. I have noted what has been said about the United Press of India by one or two hon. Members and I will certainly see what can be done about it.

The question of diffusion of ownership also stands in the same category. Hon. Members will see that these are only recommendations with which Government has nothing to do, as far as the Press Commission Report is concerned. It is quite possible that Government has not done as much as the House expected it, or as the Government itself tried to do. So, one

of the accusations of ~~an~~ hon. Member opposite that we have failed is entirely out of place. Whether we have failed on account of incompetence or because of the conditions prevailing in the press industry is a different matter. But I myself feel that we have tried to do what we could. We have been trying it and we will be trying it. But, at the same time, we do not propose to take up these aspects of the Press Commission's recommendations which the Government should not directly deal with.

Hon. Members want contradictory things to be done by Government at the same time. They want Government to take strong action regarding various press matters. At the same time, they want Government not, shall I say, to influence the press or put any restrictions on the press or do anything which will come in the way of the freedom of the press. Now, we are as jealous of the freedom of the press, as the members opposite. Therefore, I am not prepared to take any step in the direction of control or guidance of the press industry unless I am convinced that it does not infringe on the freedom of the press in any way, and I hope hon. Members will not press Government to do things for which the very next day they will accuse us by saying that we are trying to put pressure on the press for this thing or that.

Shri Joachim Alva: Do Government propose to take up PTI and UPI so that India can have a first rate national agency when there are first class boys prepared to run it? Or do they propose to allow the newspaper barons to monopolise it as they like?

Dr. Keskar: Government is not connected and has nothing to do with PTI. As I said, the agencies are not run by Government. But Government would certainly like to see that these agencies are working well, independently as *bona fide* news agencies and if we can help it, we will certainly help it. If tomorrow Government takes steps in order to regulate those agencies, hon. Members will be the first to come and criticise me on the

floor of the House. So, I have to look to that day.

Shri Goray: How do you know that?

Dr. Keskar: I know it by experience. I know it already.

The other point made by the hon. Member is about Hindi. Now, I would not refer too much, because when I come to All India Radio, I would like to take it up again.

श्री भक्त बर्बन : प्रत्यक्ष सहोदय, मंत्री सहोदय ने विज्ञापन प्रकाशनी न तिका जिसका कि मैंने अपने भाषण में उल्लेख किया था, कोई जिक्र नहीं किया है।

Dr. Keskar: I will come to that separately. Advertisement also is no doubt something about which the Press Commission has made a few suggestions. It is something which also concerns the other aspects of the Ministry's work. I will take it up separately. There is a tendency to drag in the present linguistic controversy into anything or any subject that comes up. Now, the hon. Member, as also two or three other hon. Members, referred to the question of Hindi and said that we are trying to give special preference to Hindi. We are certainly not doing anything of that kind. There was also the question of taking Hindi as the national language. Now, it is possible that some people in a general and vague way may have mentioned Hindi as a national language. But the official and correct attitude is that it is the recommended language to be the official language of the country; not even the inter-State language of the country.

Shri Jagadish Awasthi: Are you going to minimise the publication of English books?

Dr. Keskar: When I come to books, I will refer to that. I am talking only as far as this Ministry is concerned. And the Government as a whole has made it very clear that Hindi, as in the Constitution, will be the inter-State official language for the Centre. That is all, nothing more.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: In your report for this year, submitted to us,

on page 13 it is stated: "To popularise Hindi, the national language of India....." Is this correct?

Dr. Keskar: It means what I have said. Its interpretation is that, but in order to see that no further vagueness or incorrectness arises hereafter, we will refer to it exactly in the way that I have referred now. But let there be no mistake about the intention. There is no intention in fact. One hon. Member said that all the languages are national languages. That is entirely true and if hon. Members were not so prejudiced against All-India Radio, they will see that if there is one body in the country which has done as much as it could to popularise and encourage all the regional languages, it is the All-India Radio, even more than any other institution in any part of the country. I am prepared to show it by facts and figures as to how much different languages, specially some of the languages which had had the misfortune of being backward, have been helped by the radio to come forward because it is the only medium in this country which utilises 95 per cent of its time in languages and not in English. The radio prides itself on the fact that it does not give any important place to English but to the languages. So, there should not be any accusation that we are trying to give too permanent a place to Hindi. Certainly, we do try Hindi to be known in those provinces where it is not known. I think that is as it should be. No doubt, certain hon. Members might not like it, but we feel that when there is a policy laid down in the Constitution, it is our duty to follow it and we shall certainly be doing that. We are not trying to do that at the expense of other languages. We are trying to do that so that other people may come to know Hindi.

I might also mention here that we are trying to bring Hindi people in contact with great works and other things that are in the other languages. This kind of exchange between different Indian languages is being

[Shri Kaskar]

tried on a large scale only by the A.I.R. and I think this kind of having a sort of inter-provincial cultural and literary exchange that we are now having is the first venture of its kind.

There was a mention of the Censor Board. The Censor Board is a much maligned body and I think I must pay a tribute to the very difficult and delicate task that they have to carry out. Hon. Members ought to remember that it is a statutory body and most of its members, except the Chairman and the regional officers, are all respectable and well-known citizens, who are taken from a cross-section of society—from every aspect of every profession.

Shri Radha Raman (Chandni Chowk): That is the pity of it.

Dr. Keskar: That may be the pity of it, but I think that is the right thing. The hon. Member might not agree, but I think that is the only way in which we can see whether a particular film or films are really according to the general standards prevailing in our country or not. It is possible that the hon. Member or some hon. Members might not agree with a particular film. They might say that this should have been cut and this should not have been there. Well, opinions will always differ. We have tried to come to some lowest common multiple or highest common multiple that should be there. It is possible that most of us might not agree with that particular decision, but there has to be some agreement somewhere and it has to be left to a group of persons, who are objective and who are doing it according to certain lines laid down. The directive which is laid down is very clear. The directive is only about certain things, which according to the Constitution alone the Government can ask the Censor Board to do.

A number of hon. Members want that we should try to cut all undesirable films. If tomorrow the Government begins doing that the first thing

will be a protest on the floor of this House because there must be some definition of what is an undesirable film or what is a vulgar film. Hon. Members ought to remember that the power of Government is limited by Constitutional limitation and there are only four categories of reasonable restrictions which the Government can ask the Censor Board to keep in view. If there had been no such restriction, it would have been possible for us to ask the Censor Board to cut out all undesirable films.

An hon. Member felt that certain films were indecent. There might be various interpretations of what is decency and what is indecency. We have to see that we make a synthesis of the various points of view and try to find out the mean. I myself am not very happy sometimes, but then we have to go by certain rules and keeping that in view we do not have the Constitutional powers to control films as we like. I think on what the Censor Board is doing really it deserves our commendation and not condemnation.

Shri Panigrahi: What are those four kinds of restrictions?

Dr. Keskar: According to the Constitution, there are only four categories on which reasonable restrictions can be imposed by Government.

Now I will come to the points made by Kumari Vedakumari.

Shri Joachim Alva: I would like to know as to what you intend doing about damaging trailers to which Shri Bhattacharyya referred.

Dr. Keskar: If I have to cover every point then I may have to leave out the All-India Radio and other important matters. I have to keep to

some time schedule, otherwise the Speaker will pull me up. I have noted all the points.

Mr. Speaker: Let the hon. Minister proceed. Let him finish as early as possible.

Dr. Keskar: Regarding the point made by Kumari Vedakumari, I can say that she is very much annoyed with All-India Radio and the Ministry. But I think that it was not necessary that she should have quoted wrong facts in order to support her point, whatever annoyance she might have felt about this Ministry. All the facts that she has stated about Programme Assistants are entirely wrong. Hon. Members know, that on the floor of this House year before last and the year before that a very long debate took place during the Budget discussion about the question of Programme Assistants and a very heated exchange took place. Programme Assistants are permanent officials of the All-India Radio. They were originally recruited, as they have been even now, for administrative purposes, when All-India Radio did not have a division of labour because it was just at the beginning of its expansion. They were forced to do all sorts of work like programme production and many other things, which they could or could not do. But my point is that they are all permanent people and it is very wrong on her part to say that these people remain permanently Programme Assistants. In fact, there are a number of Station Directors of the All-India Radio, who had been Programme Assistants. Programme Assistants have been gradually promoted beyond this stage to that of Station Directors and a number of them have risen higher and they are rising higher. In fact, I had told this House last year that we had got a programme cadre scheme for the All-India Radio, which scheme, I am glad to inform you, has already been passed and is in the stage of implementation. Under this scheme the whole cadre will be recruited only at the lowest stage and

by promotion on merit a person will go to the highest stage. This was taking place before also, but naturally some of the officers had to go again before the Public Service Commission for that purpose. The blame that a particular person remained a Programme Assistant and could not go higher should not be put on the Ministry, because up to this time this has been done by the Public Service Commission. Really speaking, it is possibly a reflection on the Commission and not on the Ministry. It is a travesty of facts to say that a Programme Assistant remains a Programme Assistant with all the rules and regulations, which the hon. Member herself knows very well.

I would like to say a few words about the other question of staff artistes to which she referred. I remember the other day Shri Hem Barua raised this question and I think it is right that I clarify the position. I have got every sympathy for staff artistes and the production staff, but we have to remember that the work of the staff artistes and the production staff is of directly producing programmes for the radio. If we want that the programmes remain up to a standard, that they have a variety and that they attract the public, then it is essential to see that the staff artistes produce the programmes as required. Suppose there is a musician. He might be a very good musician. Suppose after five years that musician's form falls off. He is not able to sing or play. If tomorrow we have got a permanent staff of staff artistes, every year, the Ministry will have to recruit a large percentage of new staff of artistes with the old ones still remaining and not being able to go on in the same form as they were doing before. This problem has faced other broadcasting organisations also in the world. It is the rule everywhere that direct producers of programme, whether they are producers or whether they are staff artistes, they are on contract which contract is renewed if their work continues to be good. We have thought over this

[Dr. Keskar]

question very seriously. Though I have every sympathy for the staff artistes and would like to do for them as much as I can, there is no escape from the fact that it is not possible to put the direct producers of programme on a permanent basis. I might tell the hon. House that if tomorrow all the staff artistes or producers of programmes are put on the permanent staff, within two years, not only will the standard of programmes go down, but I do not know what will happen to the structure of the programmes.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: May I know whether in renewing the contract after two years or three years, you are taking into account the previous record?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, Sir. That is taken into consideration and should be taken into consideration.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: More consideration should be given for the good record. Are increments given according to that record?

Dr. Keskar: The hon. Member is generalising from a particular case or cases that she might be knowing. If she has any case; let her bring it up.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: I am not referring to any particular case. I am speaking about the general problem.

Dr. Keskar: This is not the forum for individual cases. I might remind the hon. Member who has been on the staff of the All India Radio.....

Kumari M. Vedakumari: He need not refer to my job.....

Dr. Keskar: I am only saying because she knows from inside. When she was there, five years back....

Kumari M. Vedakumari: I know the difficulties of the staff artistes. That is why I am asking about that.

Dr. Keskar: I have noted all the difficulties. My point is, it is not possible to make them permanent. That is what I am saying.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: I am not asking for permanency. I am only asking for amenities.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order; what is the use of going on like this?

Dr. Keskar: I am sorry if I have heard wrongly. I think she said about their permanency.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member was there; the hon. Minister is there.

Dr. Keskar: What I was driving at was, a few years ago, for the staff artistes, there was no rule, nor any committee to see whether they are on merit or not. We have taken steps to see that regular credential committees see into the work of the staff artistes when the contracts are renewed. Formerly, as the hon. Member knows very well, the staff artistes' contracts were renewed by the Station Director. Now, it is done by the Director General, after going into the record of the artistes. We take steps to see that the artistes are dealt with on merit and not dealt with according to personal whim or humour. Nothing is absolutely fool-proof. It is possible that particular artistes might have some grievance. This is not the forum for ventilating the grievances of individual officers or artistes.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: It is not ventilation of individual grievances; it is a general question.

Dr. Keskar: The hon. Member made reference to the question of the Parliamentary correspondent here. I am very strong in my view on this matter, that the question whether a particular officer has been selected rightly or wrongly cannot be debated on the floor of the House. This is not the forum in which I am prepared to reply because, otherwise, Members of Parliament will be made into tourers.

what I may call recommendators for various persons. This is not a position which I would wish.....
(Interruption).

Some Hon. Members: No, no.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: That is a bad word.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: That would apply not only to Members but to Ministers also.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): What is the provocation for the hon. Minister for speaking in this vein on this?

Some Hon. Members: 'Touting' is not correct.

Dr. Keskar: I withdraw the word, Sir. My meaning is that Members should not try to take up the question of individual persons.

Kumari M. Vedakumari: We are not taking up the case of individual persons. We are asking for justice in these cases.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I was present when the Lady Member spoke. I do not think she took up a particular case. All that she said was, that the proceedings of Parliament were not reported correctly. It seems somehow the persons—not the old set who were reporting the proceedings, but the present set who are there—there seems to be a change. They even say, the Minister attacked and the other persons responded, this man gave a hit and so on. Hits and attacks are unnecessary. They seem to indicate a particular line, an attitude of partisanship. The other newspapers might do as they like. So far as this is concerned, it is only a factual indication, not his own opinion. That is all that the hon. Lady Member was saying. I do not know how touting and other things come in here.

Dr. Keskar: May I say a few words, Sir?

Mr. Speaker: Yes. What is the hon. Member's speech to which exception is taken by the hon. Minister and the word 'touting' used?

Dr. Keskar: I am prepared to withdraw it if you consider it wrong.

Mr. Speaker: I have no objection. But,.....

Dr. P. Subbarayan (Tiruchengode): The use of 'tout' was unfortunate.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Not only unfortunate, but also unparliamentary.

Mr. Speaker: I also felt that there was no provocation in the speech of the hon. Lady Member to have invited all this: hon. Members ought not to be touting for this and that. It is rather unfortunate. Hon. Members are entitled to bring in proper cases. If there is a bad appointment, hon. Members are entitled to say that he is unfit for the job and persons have, without reference to qualifications, appointed such and such big officers. It is in the interests of the public: not because a particular person is interested. Here, of course, in ordinary cases, we are not going into minor details about appointments. But, if a man is not fit for the job and reports improperly, incorrectly and takes a partisan attitude—that is all, I think the hon. Lady Member was referring to. A general accusation that hon. Members ought not to take up or tout does not seem to be quite relevant. The hon. Minister will go on.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: What is your ruling about expunging the word 'tout'? It should be expunged.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister has already withdrawn.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Withdrawing is not the same as expunging.

Mr. Speaker: I feel it is stronger for the reason that hereafter nobody will use it. If it is expunged, nobody knows that it is a word which should not be used. If it is withdrawn, it is better.

Shri Takumala Rao (Kakinada): I would like to draw your attention to one thing, Sir. The hon. Minister says that no such cases should be brought up here on the floor of the House and this is not the forum in which these things can be discussed. I should like to draw your attention to what happened in the L.I.C. scandal. So many persons were discussed. It is the right of this House to agitate for any redress of grievances, whether individual or general if it affects the public interest.

Mr. Speaker: I am afraid all that is hypothetical. No particular individual has been referred to. His conduct in the matter of reporting has been referred to; not his appointment. The same man may change the method of reporting. There would not be any difficulty. When that matter arises, let me see. I am not accepting the proposition that he ought not to bring in these matters here at all. Proper cases may arise.

Dr. Keskar: What I said was, the Member might have a right to refer to any case. I do not contest it. But...

Shri Feroze Gandhi: Why don't you apologise to the Lady Member?

Dr. Keskar: I am not prepared to give any explanation regarding particular officers on the floor of the House. I did not say that Members have no right. Members have the right to bring up anything they like.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: He should apologise for what he said.

Mr. Speaker: That is only adding a bit of humour to this.

Shri Feroze Gandhi: He is not apologising.

Dr. Keskar: Coming to Shri Ansar Harvani, he was raising the question that the A.I.R. was spending too much on administration. Probably, he has taken up the question because, he is looking at the Directorate General of

A.I.R. He quoted some figures. If he totals up all the figures, of all the stations, he will find that we are of course spending a little more than the B.B.C., but our figures are not so high as he made them out to be. For example, we are spending nearly 68 per cent on programmes, 20 per cent on engineering and about 10 or 11 per cent on administration. Certainly, I am one of those who feel that there should be a reduction in the expenditure on administration. But, we are in this country just establishing our broadcasting. Secondly, we have also to remember that the B.B.C. has got one important station which is equal to 10 or 20 stations. We have got to run 20 stations. It is also not possible for us in this country to combine all the stations; otherwise, there will be a hue and cry. Regional stations will have to be there, and therefore, if there is a slightly greater expenditure on administration. I do not think we should consider it as unreasonable.

16 hrs.

I want to refer, though I have taken more time, to one or two important matters which had been mentioned by hon. Members here—the question of a corporation for All India Radio and the appointment of a commission. A number of hon. Members have mentioned this matter. This has come up many times on the floor of the House and we have discussed it quite at length. Broadly speaking, I have nothing new to add to that, but at the same time, in view of the fact that reference has been made again and again, I would like to repeat here very briefly the reasons why I consider that there is no case for making a corporation of the All India Radio today.

There is a misconception in the minds of certain hon. Members who think that because the Government is running this body, it should be taken away. They think that if it

is taken away from the Government, there will be no influence of Government on this, it will be run objectively and impartially. I think there cannot be a greater misconception. After all, if there is a corporation tomorrow, it will be a Government corporation, it will be run by Government, it will be controlled by Government. It would have to be carried out by the Government in most ways. But there is one big difference. Parliament will have nothing to do with it.

Shri Kumaran: Ultimate control will be with Parliament.

Dr. Keskar: Hon. Members themselves have been preaching on the floor of the House that we should not interfere with the working of autonomous corporations in their day to day activities.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: It is only Government which has said that, not the House.

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): If Government is concerned, then automatically Parliament is concerned.

Dr. Keskar: It is concerned in this sense that the Government will have always a watch on every corporation, whatever might be its activities. It can control it where it considers it is not going in the right way. That right cannot be taken away because the Government is providing money for the purpose.

My point is, it should not be considered that the AIR by simply being made into a corporation will become something which will be away from Government, and therefore in very objective and impartial hands.

The second point is the objective and impartial people. My hon. friend Shri Goray quoted at length and he gave very interesting statistics regarding the B.B.C. The conditions in England and India are not the same. We cannot repeat what has

been done in England. There is a body of governors who are looking after it there. Here if we appoint the same sort of body, the hon. Member will see that the body will be accused of partisanship, of bias, this and that. Simply because broadcasting, as facts are today, as the position is today, is a very important medium, it can be utilised or used or misused for political purposes, for propaganda purposes, the state of parties being what it is in our country. We are not like England where the parties have got no basic differences. Their differences are not so deep as here where each one thinks that the other party must be finished or thrown out of the country. We differ to such an extent. To consider that we can find a body of men in this country who will be completely objective and impartial, and who will try to run it in an impartial way, is putting too great a burden on Government.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Out of these 400 million people?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, Sir. Why 200—350 millions of people. Naturally, the hon. Member will consider X, Y or Z to be very impartial and objective. The Government might not consider him to be so, and there we are. I think if we keep the conditions in our country in view, the best thing is for the radio to be run directly by Government.

I will put the reasons forward. The reasons are: first of all, even if it is run by Government, it is directly under the control of Parliament. All its day to day activities are controlled by Parliament. Shri Goray was saying if it was a corporation, it would not be misused.

Shri Goray: Let me explain myself. I read out a passage in which the Beveridge Committee had said that there are built-in safeguards against the misuse of power. Have you got anything like that? That my question.

Dr. Keskar: The best weapon is Parliament which will see, and which will bring the Government to book if the Government misuses the radio for any purpose. Even for small things happening on the radio, there are questions in Parliament, and Members take interest, but I am coming to other points. What I mean is that making a thing into a corporation is not liable automatically to make it not possible to be misused. It may be as well misused there, or it can be misused while here. But here, in my opinion, the chances are less, because there is direct control by Parliament on Government, on the working of the All India Radio, and therefore Parliament can on the floor of the House bring up any matter which they feel is being wrongly dealt with by the radio in its day to day activities, while, on the other hand, if it goes away, and only once in a year, for example, you have to discuss the work of the radio, it will not be such a strict control as you can have here.

The other point regarding Shri Goray's thesis about the commission is connected with this. He mentioned that there have been four commissions of inquiry dealing with the BBC. This is entirely true, but there have been commissions for the simple reason that the BBC is an autonomous corporation whose day to day working cannot be looked into by Parliament, and therefore there have to be commissions every two or three years, just as, if the Government wants to appoint, for example, in the LIC or any other corporation, they might appoint a commission of inquiry. But the All India Radio is a department of Government which is being controlled by Parliament directly. There are bodies appointed under the Constitution by Parliament which look regularly and periodically into the working of the All India Radio as they do in the case of other Government

departments—for example, the Estimates Committee and the Public Accounts Committee. Now, hon. Members might have seen that year before last the All India Radio was looked into by the Estimates Committee for four months. They went into the whole working, they appointed various sub-committees to look into the various aspects of radio, and they have presented a very big report, and a detailed report, to this House about the working of the All India Radio. They made more than 75 different recommendations as to what changes or improvements could be brought about.

Shri Ranga: Is there any consultative committee of Parliament associated with your Ministry?

Dr. Keskar: Yes, there is a Programme Advisory Committee, a Central Programme Advisory Committee, which has got more than seven Members of Parliament on it.

My point is a Government department whose working is looked into day to day by Parliament does not need a commission of inquiry going into it, and I do not think it is necessary at all. Certainly, if tomorrow the AIR were to be made into a corporation, I agree with Shri Goray that there will have to be after two or three years a commission of inquiry to suggest ways and means of improving it or making it better. So, I do not think such a commission of inquiry is at all necessary for a body which is a Government department and whose working Parliament is looking into regularly for this purpose.

I do agree that hon. Members opposite especially are very critical because the Government is running the radio. I personally am not very happy that the Government has to run the radio, but as I said, what alternative is there? The alternative is, as I said, to give it to objective and impartial persons. Well, I am

not able to find out a body to which it could be given, because, it is to be remembered that this is a very important organisation, and as Shri Goray has rightly said, we should see that it is not misused. I think in the present conditions we cannot think of any better way than to have it directly day to day under the control and the nose of Parliament to see that it does not run badly, and Members can certainly bring up the matter on the floor of the House.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister should conclude now.

Dr. Kesar: Only five minutes.

The question of Radio Ceylon and Radio Goa which came up last year, is here again this time. We are told many times that Radio Goa, and more especially Radio Ceylon, is very popular and very powerful and we are not so popular, we are not functioning so well.

First of all, I do not agree with this contention. No doubt, I agree there are a large number of listeners of Radio Ceylon. Such listeners are found in the urban areas. Because we are as much interested that our radio becomes popular as any Member opposite can be, we have made an analysis and find that the largest number of people who want to listen to Radio Ceylon are the adolescents and children in families; the others are not so very fond of it. The main reason being that the advertisement quantum and some of the other bizarre things which have been found in it makes it more attractive to them. Now, I do not think that that should be an argument for us to turn our radio into something of that type in order to make it as popular as some people think it to be.

An Hon. Member: You should not do it.

Dr. Kesar: But I would submit to hon. Members, and more especially

to my hon. friend, Shri Goray, that the popularity of Radio Ceylon to which so much reference is made is not so great, and is highly exaggerated, because we must remember that large numbers of financial and advertising interests are at the back of it, and day in and day out, from Bombay, Calcutta and some other centres, commercial interests are dinning it into the minds of everybody that Radio Ceylon is very popular. And why? It is because some people want that the radio should be run on commercial lines and by private interests and should not be in the hands of a corporation like the BBC or of Government.

Shri Goray: Does the Minister understand me to mean that we should imitate Radio Ceylon? I did not say that.

Dr. Kesar: The hon. Member said it is more popular. I do not agree that it is so popular as it is made out. I agree that large numbers of people are listening to it, but the other point regarding Radio Ceylon that we have to remember is whether we want our broadcasts to maintain a certain standard or simply because somewhere else, some other organisations like Radio Ceylon, Radio Luxembourg or Radio Monaco or somebody else puts out stuff of that type or the commercial stations in the USA are also putting out that stuff, we should go on imitating them. I feel, and I am sure my hon. friend Shri Goray will agree with me, that we should try like the BBC, to which he made a reference, to keep up a certain standard and I do not think that we should try to imitate others.

But the problem has been exercising us as to how we can try to cater to the tastes of those of our listeners who want to have an alternative lighter type of programme, because everybody does not want to listen to serious things. But our main difficulty has been equipment, because to have alternative channels we must have large numbers of transmitters.

[Dr. Keskar]

We have now been able to get, a few and that is how we have started about six months back the All-India Variety Programme, which already has made a very good start; and I am sure that after the trial and error of the first few months and years we shall be able to build it up on a bigger basis.

Some hon. Member from the South was saying that the All-India Variety Programme is in Hindi. Naturally, there will be a lot of Hindi in the All-India Variety Programme, but we certainly would like to have the southern version of the All-India Variety Programme, southern in the sense of being fully southern. At present, it has got a certain southern quantum. But that will come when we have got more transmitters. There appears to be a wrong impression prevailing in the south as such that the transmitter in Madras, 100 k.w. should be used for this programme. But hon. Members do not realise that an all-India programme of power cannot be put on only one transmitter; it must have two powerful transmitters in two different places; and until we get more transmitters it will not be possible to put through that programme. But I think that is a step in the right direction. And I am sure that we shall find our programmes becoming as popular as hon. Members would like them to be.

Lastly, I would like to draw the attention of hon. Members to the development of the radio at a glance. I make bold to claim that the All India Radio has been progressing steadily, and though it might not be as quick as we would like it to be, its progress has been continuous. For example, I would like hon. Members to see the total number of licences from 1947 to 1957. We began with 75,000, and then went up to 3,18,000. Then 4,08,000, 5,48,000, 6,85,000 and then up to 7,58,000. Every year, there is an increase of a lakh or more, sometimes one and a half lakhs. Of

course, that is not sufficient. Shri Goray was saying that there are seven million sets in the U.K. I agree. But the economic conditions in our country are different; our people cannot afford to have radio sets costing Rs. 200 and Rs. 250; in a country like this where newspapers are not able to have a higher circulation than 100,000 to say that the radio alone should be in millions is too much to ask. Can you tell me of even a cheap paper which sells more than 100,000 copies or so? Why not? Nobody is able to say anything to blame the newspapers, but every blame must be put on the radio for not expanding quickly!

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: The newspapers do not have circulation beyond that figure because of the lack of newsprint.

Dr. Keskar: I regret I do not agree with Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya, whatever he may say. I know of newspapers which have got all newsprint at their command, and which are not able to command, I am sorry to say, more circulation.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): They are selling it in the blackmarket.

Dr. Keskar: But this fact is known to all people that our licences are going up by one lakh or a little more every year. My point is that the radio is the only one which is steadily increasing its licences, and in view of the economic standard in our country, it is not possible to expect it to expand more quickly. I would like to add that probably with cheaper sets it might be possible for use....

Shri Banga: That is the point.

Dr. Keskar: . . . to do that, and a move can be made in that direction. If I had more time, I would have said about cheaper radio sets. But I do agree that a cheaper radio set is the direction in which we should go.

in order to see that the radio expands more quickly, and in that way also, have a wider network. I am optimistic in that direction.

Shri Sonavane (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes): We want to know about the reduction of the licence fee and the cheap radio.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, next year.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: You mean the reply or the reduction of the licence fee?

Mr. Speaker: God willing.

Some Hon. Members: What about cheap radio sets? What about the other points?

Mr. Speaker: There are many things. Some of the things are, of course, allowed to lie over.

I shall now put the cut motions to vote.

The cut motions were put and negatived.

Mr. 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, 1959, in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demands Nos. 66, 67, 68 and 123 relating to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting."

The motion was adopted.

[The motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.]

DEMAND No. 66—MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 12,37,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'.

DEMAND No. 67—BROADCASTING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,67,58,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Broadcasting'."

DEMAND No. 68—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,06,27,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Expenditure under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting'."

DEMAND No. 123—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON BROADCASTING

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,97,62,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay on Broadcasting'."

MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 72, 73, 74 and 126 relating to the Ministry of Labour and Employment for which 6 hours have been allotted.

[Mr. Speaker]

Hon. Members desirous of moving cut motions may hand over at the Table within 15 minutes the numbers of the selected cut motions.

Hon. Members are already aware of the time-limit for speeches.

DEMAND No. 72—MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 16,01,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

DEMAND No. 73—CHIEF INSPECTOR OF MINES

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 21,12,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Chief Inspector of Mines'."

DEMAND No. 74—MISCELLANEOUS DEPARTMENTS AND OTHER EXPENDITURE UNDER THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,06,82,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Miscellaneous Departments and Other Expenditure under the Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

DEMAND No. 128—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 10,59,000 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, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Labour and Employment'."

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): Last year, when I heard the speech of the Labour Minister, I found a note of optimism and an assurance for the future and an elucidation of the policy and practice of the Labour Ministry. I was really encouraged at that time, but I am sorry to say that during the past one year, we have not found any change so far as the working of the Labour Ministry is concerned.

I do not want to deal with the policy as such, because, I know, as the Labour Minister said last time, it is a national policy; it is not the policy of a particular party, but it is a policy which has been enunciated both in the First Five Year Plan and in the Second Five Year Plan. But I want to place it before the House and to know from the Minister whether that policy has been properly pursued.

The Labour Ministry is supposed to look after the interests of labour, their interests so far as security of work is concerned, their wages and, in general, their social security. I am sorry to say that although in the Report for 1957-58 of the Ministry, there have been given so many figures and statistics, yet we find that in most of the important matters, it is stated 'the matter is under consideration'. Now, I would point out to the House that so far as the Ministry is concerned, there has been, if I may say so, a lack of initiative to either resolve the disputes or to secure amenities for the workers or even to ensure full implementation of agreements or awards.

It is expected—and it is an accepted canon—in interpreting beneficial pieces of legislation, that the interpretation should be such as to see that the effect of it may be beneficial to the beneficiaries. Naturally, the role of the Labour Ministry should be such all the time that whenever an agreement is reached, whenever an award is made, whenever a statute is enacted, these are implemented in the interest of the worker. I am sorry to say that that is not the experience of the working class in general. I may say that it is easy for the employers to approach the Labour Ministry; it is easy for the representatives of the Federation of Chambers of Commerce to meet the Labour Secretariat; but it is very difficult, if not almost impossible, for the representatives of workers to meet even the Labour Secretariat for a discussion for putting forward their grievances. Naturally, if this be the position, it needs a change. I know that so far as the hon. Labour Minister is concerned, he was a trade unionist, and he knows the difficulties of trade unions; he knows also that today the trade union movement as a whole in this country is not so strong. Naturally, the Secretariat of the Labour Ministry is required to look after the interests of trade unions and see that the workers are not exploited and employers do not get an upper hand.

I say that even the existing laws, as a result of which workers have got some meagre benefits, have been changed to the detriment of workers. Take, for instance, section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act. The provision in the original Act was changed because the employers were misusing section 33. Subsequently, at the insistence of the employers and the Federation of Chambers of Commerce, section 33 has been changed to the detriment of the employees' interests.

Then take the case of the Payment of Wages Act. Previously, the withholding of increment was debarred. I may refer to the answer to a question

asked of the Railway Ministry, whether the punishment of withholding of increment was still imposed by the General Managers of Railways on their staff. The reply was:

“Yes, except on the Central and Western Railways where the punishment of withholding of increment is not imposed on staff who are subject to the Payment of Wages Act.”

Subsequently, what has been done? Under sub-section 5, withholding of increment or promotion, including stoppage of increment at EB, reduction to a lower post on the time scale or lower stage of the time scale or suspension, will not be considered as barred under the Payment of Wages Act.

Now, at certain times legislators legislate certain Acts with a specific intention. Subsequently, if at the insistence of the employers, these laws are changed to the detriment of the interests of the employees, what is the Labour Ministry for? I would request the hon. Minister to see that so far as the interest of labour is concerned, if it is not possible to grant them further rights, at least the existing rights and privileges are not taken away either by coming out with new legislation or by imposing certain rules.

Now I would like to deal with the work pertaining to the Conciliation Officers and the Regional Labour Commissioners. It is being said, as it was said last time, that we encourage collective bargaining. Most of the time we have seen that if there is a dispute, the employers do not agree to sit with the employees' representatives and conciliation officers have no power to have joint conciliation proceedings with a view to settle disputes. It is quite true that if a bipartite settlement is arrived at, it is good, but you know that the attitude of the employers being what it is, it is necessary for the third party to intervene, and for that there are labour laws.

[Shri Prabhat Kar]

But in spite of the existence of this type of legislation, employers do not sit along with workers' representatives for the settlement of disputes.

Now, this particular matter, the power to make the employers sit with employees' representatives for the settlement of disputes, should be provided. Before any action is taken by the workers, before a strike or lock-out takes place, it is necessary in the interest of the community that all efforts should be made for the settlement of disputes, and we are all for that. But if no proper attempts are made by the Labour Ministry for the settlement of disputes, who is at fault? Is it the worker who wants to settle the dispute, which could not be settled because of the adamant attitude of the employer? If there is a strike, I know that the usual point made will be that some third party, some outsiders, have provoked the strike and it is a political strike.

Now I will show how this particular directorate of the Ministry functions. It is being said that a settlement is the accepted solution of a dispute. It is being said that directions have been given to the regional labour commissioners and conciliation officers to settle disputes. I will refer to two cases. I received a letter. It is dated 19th March. It says that 'standing instructions have been issued to conciliation officers that they should deal with cases expeditiously, and if there are any specific cases of delay, they may be brought to the notice of the Regional Labour Commissioner and to the Ministry, if necessary'. It is signed by the Secretary of the Labour Ministry. I shall give you a particular case. These letters have come from the Ministry—many of them have come from the Private Secretary to the Labour Minister himself. It will be surprising to see that starting from June 1957 up till 11th March, 1958, the answer is 'the matter is under consideration'. I can quote the numbers of the letters and the dates from 1st

June, 1957 to 11th March, 1958; and all the letters are signed by the Under Secretary, one or the other and also by the Private Secretary to the hon. Labour Minister. All of them say, 'I am directed to say that the matter is under consideration'.

Now, they say that standing instructions have been given to expedite the solution of the disputes. Yet, from June 1957 to March, 1958, the letters go on in the same stereotyped form, 'the matter is under consideration'. The last letter is dated the 11th March, 1958.

The Minister of Labour and Employment and Planning (Shri Nanda): I thought that the hon. Member was going to give us those two cases. I would like to have the information so that I can look into them.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I can give him the numbers of these letters and the dates—the letters that have been received from the Government of India. As I said, I have got the originals of these letters. The letter dated the 14th January, 1958, says, 'I am directed to say that the matter is still under consideration'.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member may give the numbers of the letters and may send copies later on.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Yes.

Mr. Speaker: What is the subject-matter? The hon. Member said that it is only a single matter.

Shri Prabhat Kar: It is the bonus dispute between the Banks and their employees. The employees' representatives were asked by Minister to meet the Secretary.

The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali): It is pending in the Supreme Court.

Shri Prabhat Kar: It is not that; it has nothing to do with the Supreme Court. Anyway, nowhere was it said

that the matter is pending in the Supreme Court and so it will not be taken into consideration. In every letter it is said that it is under the consideration of the Government of India. I could have understood it if it had been said that the matter was before the Supreme Court and so it could not be taken up. But, now the hon. Deputy Minister says that the matter is before the Supreme Court. But, I can say, so far as this is concerned, it is not before the Supreme Court.

Next, I am coming to another instance. This is an instance of the dismissal of an employee. It will be surprising to note that from 7th March, 1956 till the 12th March, 1957, letters were written and every time the reply was that the matter was under the active consideration of the Government of India. Subsequently, the particular case was referred to the Tribunal and the Tribunal gave a judgment in favour of the worker. Even after that, the employer has not implemented the award. Nothing has been done so far regarding the implementation of the award inspite of a reference to the Government. This is the way in which the Labour Ministry is functioning. Naturally, if this is the way in which the Ministry is functioning—not the Directorate—then, how do you expect that the workers will have faith in this machinery?

Apart from this I can say further that today we find the delay in the whole affair. An employee has been dismissed in the year 1948; the matter was before the Tribunal and from there it went to the Appellate Tribunal and the case is pending before the Supreme Court. The Labour Minister might say, 'what can we do; the matter has been referred to the Supreme Court?' We are here to look after the interests of the workers. If today we find that certain provisions of the Constitution are going against the interests of the workers, the Labour Ministry should take the initiative to see that this kind of delay does not arise. If necessary, even some change may be

made in the Constitution to take the industrial disputes out of the purview of the Supreme Court, because, in this case, an employee who had been dismissed in 1948 was reinstated by the Tribunal in the year 1949 and the case is still pending.

Mr. Speaker: The responsibility of the Government is restricted to the powers given to them under the Constitution and the obligations imposed. The hon. Member can get the Constitution modified as much as any other Member. I am willing to receive any Bill here in the Notice Office. It is quite clear that a Bill either on behalf of Government or by any non-official Member can be brought in. The hon. Member should not accuse Government.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I am not accusing.

Mr. Speaker: The limits of discussion are laid down. Under the Constitution, the Government is bound to work. To ask the Government to go beyond the Constitution is not proper. Any hon. Member can try to modify the Constitution.

Shri Prabhat Kar: There is also the human aspect of the thing. Here an employee had been dismissed in the year 1948 and it has been found that the dismissal was wrong and he was ordered to be reinstated. The reinstatement is still pending. The case is pending before the Supreme Court. There is something wrong somewhere and it must be remedied by the labour Ministry. It is not the technicalities of the matter that I want to point out. This is a fact and it is that we must move in such a manner that this may not happen.

I would say that this is not a particular case; it is not a single case; there are so many cases pending in the Supreme Court. At least the Labour Ministry should see that these papers are ready and the matter is taken up. This should not be

[Shri Prabhat Kar]

treated in the same manner as any other ordinary case. In a labour dispute the time factor is the most important factor because justice delayed is justice denied. Last time it was said that there will be implementation as a whole.

I would give another instance. In the banking industry, an award came into force in 1954 and it is going to be over by 1959. But, today, in the year 1958, it has been brought to the notice of Government that there have been Banks who have not implemented the award. The Conciliation Officer had sent a report; but, nothing has been done up till now for the implementation of the award. By 1959, the award is going to expire and all these four years the Government have not taken any step to see that the award is implemented.

I would only say a word about the attitude of the Labour Department. If there is a strike, the strike is declared illegal. But, if there is a lock-out, it is not so. In how many cases has the Labour Department declared lock-outs as illegal and punished the employers? In how many cases have the employers been punished for not implementing the award? We hear sermons so far as the employees are concerned that they should not go on illegal strikes. But, in how many cases have steps been taken against the employers who have gone on declaring illegal lock-outs. No steps are taken and the employers are at large. They come out in the open and say, after all we have paid a few hundred rupees and the whole matter is over. This should not be the attitude of the Labour Department.

The Labour Department's first and foremost duty is to safeguard the rights of the workers. For that, unless and until the attitude is changed—it is not enough to implement the law in its words—unless and until the human value is taken into consideration, unless and until the

workers are considered to be weak—they are naturally weak when they have got to fight against a very powerful opposition, nothing can be done. The Labour Ministry must come to the help of labour and not say, 'what can we do?' and hold the scales of the balance. We have seen that every time when a matter is referred to the Labour Ministry, it is only the employer's version that is being put forward and not the workers' version, as if that is the only version and it should be taken into consideration.

Sir, I come to the next point about security of service. If we look into this matter, what do we find? There is less security in the working conditions in the mines. In spite of the points raised by the trade unions that the Chief Inspector of Mines derelicted his duties, nothing has been done. From 1st January, 1956 till 28th February, 1958, there have been 6175 mine accidents, involving 672 deaths, and injuries to 5980 persons. Although the number of accidents is 6175, the number of prosecutions launched is 974. We find that 324 mines were without a qualified manager. 170 accidents happened because the mines were without proper repair. There were 424 offences of a minor nature. Apart from increase in wages and security from retrenchment, the workers do not get secure working conditions. They go to work and meet with accidents.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member must conclude now.

I have to call the other gentlemen thereafter. Otherwise, there is a sort of a talk that I have not allowed the hon. Members to speak. He has taken 22 minutes.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I will take two minutes.

Mr. Speaker: I will not allow any other hon. Member on this side to

speak. They must among themselves adjust.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I will finish in two minutes. In spite of all these accidents, the Labour Ministry had not thought about the security of the workers. As a result thereof, we see a repetition and a recurrence of these accidents.

Lastly, I would say this. The Labour Minister was a trade unionist and he knows the difficulties. He should direct the Labour Ministry as to how it should function smoothly. It is not enough if letters are written saying that the matter is under active consideration or interpreting the employers' views. The problem cannot be solved that way.

I would also request him to take this matter into consideration. There should not be any discrimination between one union and another because of politics. He has said that it is not being done. I would only say this. We have got in our possession documents and if necessary, I can show it to the hon. Minister. I am very sorry to say that in these documents there is mention of the name of the hon. Deputy Labour Minister. I would only appeal to him that today, under the planned economy, especially when he is the Planning Minister, it is necessary that we should take the workers into confidence. It can only be done if we do them justice. We should not try to import politics into this particular platform also. If we do so, it will be at the cost of the nation. It is not the question of any single party. It is the Plan. The workers are anxious to fulfil the targets of the Plan and they extend their hands in co-operation. They want that certain minimum rights and privileges should be granted to them. I have sat with the hon. Minister on several occasions. From his last year's speech and from my experience in other meetings, I know he is making a sincere effort to settle these problems amicably. But I do not know why all these things happen in spite of him being in

the head of these affairs. I do not know why delays occur in the Labour Ministry. So far as the implementation part of the policy is concerned, I request him to take these factors into consideration.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Mr. Speaker, today we are discussing the Demands of the Labour Ministry. To me there is no such problem as labour problem. It is essentially a human problem and we must deal with it as such

Sir, I am extremely happy to note that the Labour Minister is doing his best to see that the Ministry runs efficiently. But, unfortunately, he has to shoulder the burden of the Planning Ministry also, because planning is very much connected with labour. Because of this reason he cannot possibly give much time to the working of this Ministry, and he has to depend on the Deputy Labour Minister or the officials of the Ministry.

I pay the same respect to my hon. friend, the Deputy Labour Minister. But, unfortunately, sometimes he forgets that he is the Deputy Labour Minister of the country and that he has to treat the labourers alike. Sometimes he deals with cases as though he is the Deputy Labour Minister of the Indian National Trade Union Congress. That is the main reason why the Opposition and other people feel so much sore about it; otherwise we have no quarrel.

We feel that the success of the Second Five Year Plan depends on the active co-operation of the labourers. The other day I had been to Bhakra and I saw—that wonderful piece of art, I should say—the Dam constructed by our workers. I know that the working class of this country can do miracles, and they will do it. About 100 to 150 people lost their lives, but they constructed that wonderful piece of art—I should say, that is the pride of our country. Therefore, labour has to be associated

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

with the Second Five Year Plan, labour has to play a very vital role as a particular of all industries. If the Labour Ministry and the labourers, and the Labour Ministers and the Trade Union leaders work like two wheels of a train I feel the life of passengers will be safe. I wish that this attitude is taken in the labour policy of the Government.

I am sorry to say that in regard to certain strikes recently, the strikes have been dealt without any intention of solving them. I am sorry to point out that the strike in the Security Printing Press at Nasik was prolonged. Is it the intention of the Labour Ministry or the Labour Minister to prolong a strike, break the morale of the workers, break their solidarity, starve them and smash their union? I definitely feel that that is not the policy of the Labour Minister.

But why does it happen? Why is it that no immediate action is taken to settle disputes? Why should there be any dispute at all? If there are only disputes they should be solved. My submission is that the Labour Ministry should have a policy and they should deal with matters urgently and expeditiously in the larger interest not only of the employees but of the nation as a whole, because the success of the Second Five Year Plan depends on the efficient working of labourers and their active support.

Sir, today I feel happy because the scheme of workers' participation in the management has been implemented in certain factories. I feel that this scheme should be implemented in all the industries, whether in the public sector or in the private sector. But there is some difficulty about the unions. The other day the hon. Minister replied that they were not going to have the scheme implemented in those industries or factories where more than one union exists. I realise this difficulty, but something should be decided to deal with the

unions. If there are two unions in a particular industry, as long as there is more than one union that particular industry will not be able to work efficiently because the workers are divided. They should be united under one banner. By some democratic method it should be decided. I realise that the entire working class of this country is divided into many camps. The All-India Trade Union Congress, the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, the UTUC and the INTUC. As a worker myself I say that the forces of unity are much stronger than the forces of disruption. On the 27th March, 1958, the workers under the fold of the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, the UTUC and the AITUC joined together and observed a Demand Week. That forcibly proved that the forces of unity are definitely growing stronger. So, if the workers could unite, if these organisations could unite on that particular day, if the leaders of those organisations could unite, I can say that unity is much stronger. At the 15th Labour Conference, many issues like rationalisation, wage-board, etc., were discussed. I say that these are all signs of unity in this country, and I wish the Labour Minister also takes this matter seriously into consideration, and see that the working classes of this country are not disrupted by some people. But actually this unity should be forged. The united organisation can be forged if the labour policy of our Government and the Labour Ministry changes a bit. So, I feel that this should be done, because labour today is not merely a commodity. It is a living force, and it is an integral part of the society. I wish that the labour will have to be given due dignity and status in the society. So, my submission is that there are many matters which require immediate attention of our hon. Minister.

There are the Labour Officers, the Conciliation Officers and the Regional Labour Commissioner and the Chief Labour Commissioner. I have been

working in the defence industries and in the ordnance depots. These conciliation Officers are working in the defence industries and in the railways in the public sector. I feel very much about them, because certain Labour Officers or Conciliation Officers are so helpless in the matter. The Defence Ministry or the Railway Ministry or any other Ministry is so strong that it does not listen to the Regional Labour Commissioner or the Conciliation Officer, and the poor Conciliation Officer's position is just like that of a helpless widow in an orthodox Hindu family. He cannot do anything. He simply curses his fate and the fate of others. So, I feel that something should be done to see that the Conciliation Officers also function effectively in the public sector. I specially mention about the defence industries because anything can happen in the Defence Ministry in the name of security and secrecy. So, these Conciliation Officers must function efficiently in the public sector also.

I now refer to the recent amendments, 4A and 4B of the Government Servants' Conduct Rules. I remember I met the hon. Minister along with certain Members of Parliament and placed before him that at a time when there is no legislation to have recognition, when the recognition is not a statutory obligation, how the Government can possibly impose this amendment on the Central Government employees. Amendment 4B says :

"In any union which does not seek recognition within six months of its registration, no worker can become a member of that union".

This is something against the spirit of the Constitution where you have the right to the workers to form their unions and associations. So, my submission is that the hon. Minister should consider the recent amendments to the Government Servants' Conduct Rules and see that they are scrapped, because they are not in conformity with our labour policy.

If our labour policy and whatever the Labour Minister says is correct, this is something against the spirit of the these situation. So, I wish that these amendments are withdrawn. They must be withdrawn.

Then I should also say something about unemployment. From the figure of employment exchanges; about 181 employment exchanges are seen to be functioning. I realise the difficulty of the employment exchanges. The very name is a misnomer. If there is no employment, what is to be exchanged. The poor managers of the employment exchanges—what can they do? I have got the figures I am quoting them, subject to correction, of course. The figure on 1st January 1958 is 9,39,731. That is the number of registered unemployed. There are no statistics of the unregistered unemployed, because all the rickshaw-pullers in the country are unregistered unemployed. The vacancies are 34,000 or 54,000. We were told that in the second Five Year Plan, 8 million new jobs would be provided. I remember that day—12th February, 1956—when this came out as a headline in the newspaper. How happy were those unemployed who were actually visiting the employment exchanges daily to get their cards registered! But what happened after that?

On 12th February, 1956 we came to know that 8 million new jobs would be provided. But on the 15th September, 1956, 6,000 ordnance workers lost their job. Today nearly 25,000 textile workers are on the streets, because 26 mills have been closed. What a sad commentary on our second Five Year Plan! So, I want that this closure must stop. We cannot possibly enthruse the workers to give their best for the second Plan when they are facing closures. When they are facing unemployment and starvation, can we possibly ask them to sacrifice more? It will be bad on our part. Somebody asked me, when we are getting 8 million new jobs, why this retrenchment? I told him

[Shri S. M. Banerjee]

it may be homoeopathic medicine; it will aggravate the disease and then cure it. I could not say anything more.

So, I would request the hon. Minister to consider this aspect. When the country is in need of 65 lakhs of technical workers under the second Five Year Plan, can we not possibly ban retrenchment? If retrenchment cannot be banned, can we not possibly see that it is minimised or that alternative jobs are provided? This can be done if the textile workers are trained in an alternative trade and if the jute workers are trained in an alternative trade. I can tell you, they can be suitably employed. It is most unfortunate in this country that a man who is a textile worker only knows that job.

Another point which I wish to say is about the working of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation. When it was inaugurated by the hon. Prime Minister at Kanpur, I listened to his speech and I was happy that our workers will be given treatment. But what happened? When I went to the dispensaries, I found that there were bottles of medicine numbered from one to ten. No. 10 medicine was not available. I asked the compounder, "What will you do for it?" He said, "I will give two doses of No. 5." This is actually happening and they are of different colours. I am not telling you a joke; it is a fact. I would request the hon. Minister to visit the dispensary. This has actually begun to be a certificate-giving institution. A man who is not sick gets a certificate that he is sick, because he wants leave. So, I would request the hon. Minister to look into this matter.

About the housing scheme, I am happy that the entire housing scheme has been successfully implemented to a great extent. We have got about 4,000 houses in Kanpur. In U.P. the number to be completed was 6,764, the number completed is 4,636 and the number under construction is

1950. But what about the rent? May I submit respectfully to the hon. Minister that the minimum rent is Rs. 10. I agree Rs. 10 is not much, but what is their income? The Central Government employees get Rs. 7 or Rs. 3 as city allowance and house rent allowance; but the textile worker does not get anything. The result is he has to pay Rs. 10 plus Rs. 3 for electricity and I may assure the hon. Minister that most of the quarters are occupied by the middle-class employees instead of the working classes for whom the quarters were constructed. The cost of one house is Rs. 2,600 or so and I would request the hon. Minister to make a proper assessment. If the rent is reduced, the houses will be occupied by the workers to a greater extent.

17 hrs.

So, lastly I would say that today we wish to co-operate in the working of the Second Plan, in the successful implementation of the Second Plan. We want that the Plan should be successful and those saboteurs who want to sabotage the Second Plan, we want to give them a crushing defeat. That is our intention. I request our hon. Minister to protect the rights of the workers. The workers will protect the Second Plan. If that is not done, I would repeat the immortal slogan given to us by the AITUC, especially by our colleague Mr. Dange: "organise and unite; demonstrate and protest; negotiate and settle; and if that fails, strike peacefully as a last resort". That is the last thing. We are not interested in strike. We do not come from the family of strikers. We are not born strikers.

So, I would request the hon. Minister to consider these points and give some answer to them so that we may also say: we have got a Labour Minister, whose heart bleeds for workers, because he is a trade unionist first and Minister last. That

is my submission. I would request the hon. Minister to reply to these points, if he thinks fit.

Mr. Speaker: I propose sitting for an hour, if possible; at least for half an hour more. I have given enough time to the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, as we found that Ministry was interesting. As many hon. Members want to speak, I do not want to cut short the time allotted for the Labour Ministry. Six hours have been allotted for Labour Ministry. We started at 4.30. If we sit, say, up to 5.30, one hour, tomorrow we can finish it in five hours, by 5 o'clock. So, I request hon. Members to sit for half an hour more.

Dr. Melkote (Raichur): The year that has passed, 1957-58, from the economic point of view, has not been a very good year to the country as a whole and so the labour has also suffered with its adverse attacks. There was a rising cost of living and, therefore, the living standards went down and so the workers as a whole have suffered a lot. Apart from this, there were the drought conditions in different parts of the States. From the employment point of view, due to the difficulties in getting the foreign exchange component, the employment potential also went down considerably, thereby affecting labour to a very great extent.

In spite of all these things, I would like to congratulate the Labour Ministry for the various measures that they have ushered in during the course of the year. It should also be said to the credit of the working class as a whole that they have behaved well. Last year the number of strikes were not very many and, generally speaking, peaceful conditions existed in the industries. But due to various other factors, there have been a certain amount of closures, particularly in the textile industry. The Labour Ministry, during the last one year, held a tripartite labour conference. There was also the Productivity

Council, where certain decisions affecting the vital interests of labour were taken. Participation of workers in the management was one such vital factor that was discussed threadbare. Where the management were afraid of consulting the workers previously, today it is not merely a demand for consultation, it is a demand for determination and decision. And the Productivity Council has come out with a scheme wherein the workers could participate in the management of the industries. But even so as an experiment, I am sure that the workers have welcomed it—I am very certain about it—and the managements, for what I know though feeling rather not very happy, have also consented to implement the same. When this has to be implemented a question naturally arises whether the management will implement in the same way they have been dealing with the affairs of the workers so far? One would feel and question whether they are very honest about their intentions. Instead of saying things which are not very good to say at this juncture, when a beginning has not been made, let me only hope that the workers will have a very fair deal at the hands of the management in all those factories where these experiments are going to be made so that the future good of both the industry and the workers could be secured.

Once a person shoulders a responsibility that responsibility weighs him down and instead of asking or making demands which are not tenable, he would look at them in a more sober manner. Take for instance, how the hon. Members of the Opposition, the Communists on the other side, have been speaking recently. They have been saying that they would not resort to any strike and that they would be the last persons to go on strike. It is a very welcome feature. They appear to have changed. It is possibly because they are now shouldering the responsibility of running the Government in Kerala. The future should be extremely good. The recent demands that

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they have made—in the fourteen point charter of demands they have included a 25% increase in their wages and other things—all this is nothing very new to us in the INTUC. They have done this with an amount of fanfare, going to the hon. Prime Minister in processions and to the different chief ministers in the States. But may I bring to the notice of this House that these demands have already been passed by the INTUC several times and for several years and if now the hon. Members of the Opposition feel that those demands were correct, they are only following in our footsteps now. In a way this is all to the good of the workers. That is extremely welcome and in the sentiments expressed by the communists in the matter of wage increase, strikes etc. I join and feel that if they work in this manner in this country, the future of the worker in industry is safeguarded.

I was speaking about the Council for Productivity, wherein the management would give scope for workers to participate in the decisions of the management. But attached to that is a natural corollary—the code of conduct of the workers. I should not merely say 'code of conduct of the workers' It is said 'code of conduct' and one would naturally feel that the code of conduct is to be observed both by the management as well as by the workers. Responsibility, as I said, brings in its wake certain changes in attitude and therefore if a factory has got to work efficiently with the minimum cost and the maximum of productivity, it is necessary for the management to extend their hand of friendship most willingly so that form the workers side they reciprocate the same and bring about a change in the country which would give more production in all spheres of activity, thus ushering or at least helping in ushering in a socialistic pattern of society.

During last year, as I mentioned earlier, there were various other de-

velopments. The food situation was rather very bleak. Living conditions were rather made very difficult for the workers. But the recent trend in food situation though it has slightly improved and the figure given of the index cost of living are welcome since prices show a downward headway but I still feel that these changes in Index if one pursues continuously year after year for the months of December and January one could see that the price structure goes down every year—and I do not know whether this is not a manipulated matter by the leaders and other interested in this trade. During the months of December, January and February the crops are harvested and when the crops come into the market the price structure goes down or is made to go down so that merchants might grab at the produce and purchase it at a lower price to the detriment of the kisan and the workers to raise it again in the months of August and September when the produce gets depleted when the traders get all the profit for himself. To improve this situation this is the occasion for referring to the question of establishing warehouses or co-operative societies. What I want to point out is this. This price structure of food going down,—though welcome, should be sustained. Measures towards the price control of these commodities are necessary.

We have accepted last year to constitute a Pay Commission and it is going into the structure of pay scales etc. The duty of the Pay Commission should be to see that there is a redistribution of income. This country has a socialist policy and the goal is a socialistic pattern of society. If a socialistic pattern has got to be ushered in, it is necessary that redistribution of incomes take place at various levels according to the needs of the socialistic pattern. The industrialists, big capitalists and magnates and others always howl against the increase of pay structure, demanded

by the wage-earners, and this is nothing new. But, it has also been found by experience in other countries that increase in the pay structure of the wage-earners conduces to the betterment of the agricultural classes elsewhere. But it is said that what was being done now was not to benefit the poorer sections, the agriculturists who do not get the benefit of the interaction of this rise. It is said that the wage-earners are making impossible demands and higher wages. But, as I said before a rise in the pay or the wage-earners reflects itself in bettering the conditions of the agriculturists as well, later. This aspect should be kept in mind by the Labour Ministry and it should not yield to any threats from vested interests. It should be remembered that the Labour Ministry is the watch dog of the labourers, the working classes. There are two watch dogs in the organisation of the Government, one the medical man in the jail who protects the life of the convicts and the second is the Labour department of the Government who protect the interests of the workers. Whether it is the public sector or the private sector, it is the Labour department which should protect the interests of the workers even if it be against the interests of the Government or the interests of the private managements, for the well-being of the country. The Labour Ministry should keep this in view and tackle this problem properly for the benefit of the working classes.

Last year, apart from constituting the Pay Commission, there were ushered in a number of important fiscal measures which would help in the redistribution of income. Another tax, the Gifts tax, is being introduced which would be welcomed by the working classes, when it would be ushered in. We will support the Government when it introduces that act. In these several measures which have been introduced by the Government, the Labour Ministry must have played a considerable and vital part and they are all welcome. Therefore, it is our

duty to tender our thanks to the Labour Ministry for having adopted last year so many measures for the betterment of the working class in spite of its being a very difficult year.

There are various grievances relating to the working classes which, it is necessary to voice here. The Labour Ministry has been working ceaselessly for bettering the condition of the working classes. But, in spite of it, there are plenty of lacuna which have got to be rectified. There is, for instance, the housing condition of the workers. I am aware that the Government is not getting sufficient finances for this work. It is said that if the houses are not constructed, it is because the State Governments are not utilising the full amount of money that is made available to them or also because the managements are not coming forward to pay their share of the money. Therefore, it is said the workers are being denied the right to a good habitable houses for themselves. Merely saying this is not sufficient. It does not satisfy the workers. The Labour Ministry here has got to go to the root of the problem and find out why these things are not being utilised, because the sooner it is done, the greater would the comfort accruing to the workers.

There is again the question of the wage board. While mentioning this, I should not forget to mention the question of the wage board set up for the working journalists. The Supreme Court has given a ruling which has affected them very adversely. Just a few minutes back, this matter was discussed when discussing the Demands of the Information and Broadcasting Ministry, but it is the Labour Ministry that took it up when the Government constituted a wage board. The Supreme Court has never given a ruling which works adversely to the interests of the working journalists. If, therefore, they are affected adversely in a way which was never meant by Government, it becomes necessary for us to see to what extent we should

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nullify what has been ruled by the Supreme Court, or to put it the other way, whether it should not be possible to bring another enactment here by the Labour Ministry to see that the enactment would help the working journalists in a manner that would help them justly according to the present cost of living. I should add a remark in this connection that in the wake of this ruling by the Supreme Court, very many of the newspapers have already taken action against many responsible journalists who have devoted their life and given their service to the nation. They have been discharged. It should be the duty of the Labour Ministry to see that this is stopped and that those retrenched are taken back, and something should be done in the meanwhile which would protect their interests. Otherwise, the services of a very intelligent class who have done yeoman service to the country's interests would be lost to us. Not only would the journalists suffer by it, but their services would be lost to the paper magnates themselves and to the country. I am sure the Labour Ministry will keep this question in the forefront and do the needful.

From the INTUC there have been various demands made for the setting up of wage boards. Two or three have already been set up in cement, sugar and textiles. There has been a demand for setting up wage boards for iron and steel, chemicals, engineering and other industries. It is quite right. The time is ripe for setting up these wage boards, and it should be done as early as possible.

The closure of the textile mills is a factor which is affecting the interests of the workers to a very large extent. It is said about 25 or 26 textile mills have closed down due to the heavy excise duties that have been imposed upon them. I do not know to what extent this is correct. My own knowledge is this that many of these textile mills would have in any case closed down because they were being mismanaged, but they have taken this

opportunity to close down and say something against the Government. But quite apart from that, it is also a fact that the recent tax structure has affected them, and though benefit has been given to some mills, textile mills in South which usually bring out cloth of the medium and coarse varieties have been hard hit. One such instance is the case of the Hubli Mills where the management, no doubt, has not been very careful, and judicious, but due to which, 2,000 workers have been discharged from the factory. It is a very big affair which brings out only the question of their livelihood, but also affects the Government in the matter of law and order. I therefore feel that something should be done in order to protect the interests of the workers, and the sooner it is done the better.

With regard to problems like agricultural labour, closer co-operation of labour with management and other subjects like raising contribution to the provident fund from 6 1/2 to 8 1/3 per cent. etc., I am sure other speakers will take them up, but I will only say this much that we on our side who plead for these things realise that when the national income is going up and investments by the private sector in the last two years have already reached the target meant for the whole Second Five Year Plan period, it is up to all of us to see that justice is done to the workers and all factors adversely affecting the workers are eliminated. As my time is up, I do not want to say anything more than this. I thank you for giving me this opportunity.

Shri Keshava (Bangalore City): At the very outset, I would like to congratulate the Minister and the Ministry concerned on the specific forward step that they have been able to achieve so far as participation of labour in management is concerned. Though it is a very difficult task, yet very good progress has been made in that direction. However, there is still a lot of hard work ahead.

If I might bring one instance in the public sector to the notice of this august House, in Ambala, in the workshop connected with the Defence Ministry, there was a challenge thrown to the workers there whether they could participate in the management and be in charge of the workshop. The challenge was accepted by the workers. Schemes were asked to be forwarded by the CWE; they were processed by the workers and forwarded, and they were accepted and approved by the CWE. Subsequently, they were authorised to take charge of the workshop affairs themselves. They did it for about two and a half months. After the successful working of the good workshop—it is very well equipped—the officers opened their eyes and saw that labour could rise to the occasion and participate successfully in the management as well as the others who were managing it till then could. Under these circumstances, I am very much constrained to bring it to the notice of the House that those things were put an end to, and the labour that was engaged in that workshop—about eighty of them—was transferred to the various corners of India. If that is the way in which the progress that we have claimed to have achieved,—namely the participation of labour in management—is to be responded by the authorities concerned in the public sector, I am afraid I do not know where we shall be landed.

There is one other matter which I am constrained to draw your attention to. Of course, my colleague in the Opposition, Shri S. M. Banerjee, was pleased to tender a very hearty encomium on the housing facility afforded to the workers. Thousands of houses have been built in Uttar Pradesh in Kanpur and other places.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I did not mean the whole of India.

Shri Keshava: But I regret to submit that in the south of India, houses

for the workers and lower income groups have not been coming up to the extent that they should have, and that too, in spite of efforts on the part of the workers concerned by themselves. To cite a specific instance, in the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd. in Bangalore, not even one house has been built for the past several years. They say that they have a scheme for constructing houses for workers, and about 200 houses have got to be built. But not even one of them has come up for about two to three years in the past. I do not know the reasons behind it, and why the enthusiasm and the necessary effort on the part of the management are not there in this particular case. One hon. Member was making a reference to the fact that it was because the States were concerned. Dr. Melkote was pleased to refer to it. Because of that, there is some lethargy in the implementation of the programme and the schemes. But I shall give an instance where it is the Central Government that is concerned, and not any State Government. I refer to the ITI. Only recently, I paid a visit to the colony of the workers of the ITI. It is a beautiful colony. Some very good work has been done there, but unfortunately, in the Hindustan Aircraft Factory in Bangalore, very little attention is paid, even apart from housing, to any other aspect of the welfare activities of workers concerned. The conditions of the workers working in HAL in Bangalore when compared with those of workers in factories in the neighbourhood, are far from being satisfactory—they are not even comparable at all.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon (Mukandapuram): Last month some of the workers were given houses of their own for sometime—in the jails!

Mr. Speaker: That too a provisional one.

Shri Keshava: That was a provisional arrangement afforded by Government in the government guest house.

[Shri Keshava]

Even so far as the other matter—about the strikes being few and far between last year—is concerned, I have also a suggestion to make. I am not satisfied with the active way in which the Labour department is tackling the problem when strikes are likely to come off. If only the Labour department is the first to get into the field immediately there is any possibility of a strike, the situation will be different. But what is happening today in our country is that we do not see the Labour department going into the field where strikes are likely to occur; they go there after the strike has occurred, and for conciliation and settlement of the problems. My respectful submission to this House is that if only we interest ourselves in preventing the evil rather in solving the problem after it is created, I think we will have less number of strikes in our country; perhaps there would not be any strike at all if we tackle it in the proper way in which it should be tackled. The instance connected with the HAL is another instance of this kind. I agree with what Shri S. M. Banerjee was pleased to say, that it is not the labour problem that we are faced with today in our country, but it is a problem of humanitarian relationship. In fact, that is the proper thing that has got to be tackled by us. If only the management of HAL was pleased to tackle it in that humanistic way, if the labour officers of the Labour department had helped them to do so. I am sure even these labour strike and lock-out could have been avoided. It is a very important concern where crucial matters are involved and every care and caution ought to have been taken by Government in preventing the lock-out.

One other suggestion I would like to place before the House is this. We are now deprived of appeals against the tribunal's decision. Matters are taken to the supreme Court. As my hon. colleague in the Opposition was pleased to mention, the agents of

employers have more easy access to the Secretariat than the agents of the trade unions. In this instance, I find that in the Supreme Court the cost of litigation is enormously heavy and labour unions of the ordinary type cannot at all cope with the cost involved in trying to seek redress through the Supreme Court. I would like to urge and suggest to the Labour Minister if it is possible to evolve a way out of this difficulty for the labour unions, that is, find out if we can negotiate and have a reduction in the court fees prescribed for taking cases to the Supreme Court so far as trade unions are concerned.

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: Expense is not in court fees, but in lawyers.

Shri Keshava: There are inexpensive lawyers, but that by itself is not so much the matter for consideration.

One other matter I would like to bring to the notice of this House is so far as the application of the Payment of Wages Act is concerned in respect of several industries, particularly those connected with the public sector. It is a matter of concern for all of us and the hon. Labour Minister has assured us on the floor of this House more than once that the several laws that we have been pleased to pass in this House for labour welfare will certainly be made applicable to the public sector. But, what is it that we see? As a matter of fact, the inspecting officer goes for inspection and finds that the concern is emphatically on the wrong side. But, he simply reports it to the Chief Labour Commissioner without whose permission or sanction no prosecution can be launched. Naturally, as one sister department is going to be put up against another sister department—perhaps, that is the manner in which they treat the matter—the Chief Labour Commissioner is unwilling to authorise any steps being taken or any prosecution being launched against the industry that is complained of by

the Inspector of Labour. I am sure this is not a matter which is insurmountable. If only the Labour Minister is pleased to take it into his head, I would like to throw a suggestion to him that we can evolve a sort of machinery by creating at the very high level a labour official who must necessarily take notice of cases of this kind—interdependent on the several departments of Government in the public sector.

If that is taken into consideration, I am sure, he should immediately take notice of this matter and try to interfere in the industry concerned and see that something is done in the matter complained of against that concern. This could easily be brought about by the hon. Minister concerned, if he is only pleased to agree with me. In that manner, we can set at rest the criticism against the Government that in the public sector we have not been able to implement the several reliefs that are legitimately due to the employees in several concerns.

I think it is more than 5.35; I would like to continue tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker: No, no. I am not going to allow that. The hon. Member may continue his speech now and finish it. I will start with another Member tomorrow.

Was he not prepared to speak? He may coach up another hon. Member.

Shr Keshava: So far as discrimination of one union from another, a point which was made much of by my hon. friend opposite, who just preceded me, I think, it depends upon the way in which the unions conduct themselves. In fact it is the human nature, the method of approach that brings about that responsive treatment in a different manner. If the unions behaved in a particular manner satisfactory to the entire national interests, I am sure there will not be any room for any such complaints of discrimination. It entirely depends upon the way in which the unions conduct themselves. There lies the key for the troubles. If the unions conduct themselves in the proper way, there will not be any difference at all so far as the Government is concerned. Even now, as matters stand, I do not think my hon. friend, except making a vague general statement of that kind, has been able to put his finger on any particular type of discrimination that he could call into question. There is nothing of the kind. I do not think that I have got any more points.

Mr. Speaker: We have taken one hour for this Ministry. Six hours are allotted for this Ministry. We will close this debate at 5 o'clock tomorrow.

17.37 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, the 8th April, 1958.

(Monday, 7th April, 1958)

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PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

The following papers were laid on the Table—

- (1) A copy of Notification No. G. S. R. 182, dated the 29th March, 1958, under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, making certain amendment to the All India Service (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1954
- (2) A copy of the Customs and Central Excise Duties Drawback (Toilet Products) Rules 1958, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 161 dated the 22nd March, 1958 under sub-section

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

- (4) of Section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 and Section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944.
- (3) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 160, dated the 22nd March, 1958 under sub-section (4) of Section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878

(4) A copy of the statement showing Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Tribes provided in the State Plan and Centrally sponsored programmes and additional schemes proposed by the Orissa Government for Scheduled Tribes under the Centrally sponsored programme, in pursuance of an assurance given by the Deputy Minister of Home Affairs on 20th March, 1958 in reply to Starred Question No. 1116 by Shri Baishnav Charan Mullick.

PRESIDENT'S ASSENT TO BILLS

Secretary laid on the Table Copies, duly authenticated by Secretary of Rajya Sabha of the following Bills passed by the Houses of the Parliament during the current Session and assented to by the President since the last report made to the House on the 24th March, 1958:—

- (1) The requisition in and Acquisition of Immovable Property (Amendment) Bill, 1958.
- (2) The Criminal Law (Amendment) Bill, 1958
- (3) The Indian Reserve Forces (Amendment) Bill, 1958
- (4) The Control of Shipping (Continuance) Bill, 1958

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS

Discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting concluded. All the Demands were voted in full. Discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of Ministry of Labour and Employment commenced. The discussion was not concluded.

AGENDA FOR TUESDAY, 8TH APRIL 1958.—

Further discussion on Demands for Grants in respect of Ministry of Labour and Employment.