

Thursday, 10th April 1958

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Second

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(8th April to 22nd April, 1958)



FOURTH SESSION, 1958

(Vol. XV Contains No. 41 to 50)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, 10th April, 1958

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Use of Loud Speakers in Delhi

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*1576. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
 { Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that permission for the use of loud speakers throughout day and night is given in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that no check is exercised over the pitch of these loud speakers;

(c) whether it is a fact that there has been criticism in the press of indiscriminate use of loud speakers in Delhi throughout day and night; and

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

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Yes

(d) Instructions were issued to all A.D.Ms. Ilaqa Magistrates and D.S.Ps. to observe great care in issuing permission for the use of loud speakers. If any police officer finds a loud speaker being used he is also

required to enquire whether the person or persons concerned have obtained the required permission.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether the local self-government bodies have been given any right to check this nuisance?

Shrimati Alva: The Police are given every authority to check this nuisance. Not only loud speaker, but even the volume of loud speakers is being checked.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether such things are still going on in Delhi?

Shrimati Alva: I do not think that there are any complaints any more since the Police have been informed that the occasions for which loud speakers are to be used are to be specified before permission to use them is given. Loud speakers are used usually for marriages between six and nine p.m. For other public purposes also, the time limit as well as the volume is prescribed.

Shri Subodh Hansda: Has any specific order been issued to check the volume of the loud speakers?

Shrimati Alva: I have just now said that the volume is being checked.

Shri Yajnik: Under what section of the Criminal Procedure Code or the Penal Code are the Police authorised to issue permissions in the matter of use of loud speakers?

Shrimati Alva: I do not know under what law it is being authorised, but it is a public nuisance and as such the Police are authorised to check it.

सरकारी निजीकरण

*१५७७. श्री भक्त वर्शन : क्या वित्त मंत्री २५ जुलाई, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ३३० के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या प्रत्येक मंत्रालय के अनावश्यक प्रस्ताविक निर्माण कार्यों के बारे में इस बीच जांच पड़ताल पूरी हो गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक मंत्रालय द्वारा कितनी कितनी लागत के विभिन्न भवनों का निर्माण कार्य रोक दिया गया है ; और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में भविष्य में क्या नीति अपनाई जा रही है ?

उप वित्त-मंत्री (श्री ब० रा० भगत) :

(क) जो हां, १९५७-५८ के सम्बन्ध में जांच-पड़ताल पूरी हो गयी है।

(ख) लोक-सभा की मेज पर एक विवरण रख दिया गया है जिसमें यह बताया गया है कि उन बहुत सी इमारतों और दूसरे बड़े बड़े कामों पर लगभग कितना खर्च होता है जिन का बनना हर एक मंत्रालय ने रोक दिया है। [रेखिये परिशिष्ट ७, अनुबन्ध संख्या ३१]

(ग) हर काम की जांच उस की उपयोगिता के आधार पर की जायेगी और उसे उसी समय आरम्भ करने की अनुमति दी जायेगी जब यह अच्छी तरह से साबित हो जायेगा कि वह काम बहुत जरूरी है।

श्री भक्त वर्शन : क्या शासन के ध्यान में यह बात आई है कि इन हिदायतों के बावजूद भी दिल्ली में बड़ी बड़ी इमारतें बन रही हैं और धन का अपव्यय

हो रहा है जैसे कि विजय चौक के पास कुछ कीबारे और कैंटीन बनाई गई है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या इसके बारे में जो आदेश दिये गये हैं उन का कड़ाई से पालन हो रहा है ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत : दिल्ली हिन्दुस्तान की राजधानी है और आफिसों के लिये या दूसरे कामों के लिये इमारतों का बनाना कभी कभी जरूरी हो जाता है। मगर जो नीति अपनाई गई है उस में बड़ी इमारतों का बनना जरूरी है या नहीं इस पर बहुत ठीक से विचार किया जाता है और जैसा कि माननीय सदस्य इस साल के बजट में देखेंगे कि वर्कस मिनिस्ट्री के बिल्डिंग्स प्रोग्राम का जो आंकड़ा है वह जितना मांग थी उस से बहुत कम रक्कत गया है। तो यह सारी बात ध्यान में रखी जाती है और पूरी कड़ाई से रक्की जाती है।

श्री भक्त वर्शन : क्या शासन के ध्यान में यह बात भी आई है कि इन हिदायतों के कारण कभी कभी बहुत से आवश्यक भवन भी नहीं बनने पाते हैं जैसे कि डाक तार विभाग के भवन, जब कि विभाग ने इस के लिये कई करोड़ पया भी इस वर्ष के बजट में दिया था। तो क्या ऐसे आवश्यक भवनों के निर्माण के बारे में छूट दी जायेगी ?

Mr. Speaker: It was only a few days ago that the Ministry was under discussion here. I believe the question of general policy as to why so many huge buildings have got to be constructed has been gone into in detail.

श्री भक्त वर्शन : मेरे प्रश्न का दूसरा भाग्य है। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूं कि जो हिदायत दी गई थीं उन में बताया गया था कि जो इमारतें आवश्यक नहीं हैं, उन को रोक जाय, इस वजह से बहुत सी आवश्यक इमारतें भी रोक दी जा रही हैं,

जैसे डाक तार विभाग की इमारतें, तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई खान बीन की जा रही है ?

Mr. Speaker: Who is to decide? The Government has to decide as to what can be done, what is useful and necessary and what is not necessary.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I may be permitted to answer the question in English for the benefit of the House. There were two kinds of projects—new projects and projects on which sufficient work has been done. The second type of projects are those projects on which work has progressed and they were not stopped. A committee in each Ministry went into this question. The Economy Board—we have an Economy Board in each Ministry—went into the question and have drawn up the list of such works which can be postponed. They have not been stopped, they have only been postponed. Each case, if it is considered necessary, will be taken up. So the grievance that very necessary buildings may have been postponed, can always be taken up and I would request the hon. Member, if he has any one particularly in mind, to send it to us.

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या यह बात सही नहीं है कि अभी तक जिन बड़ी इमारतों में किसी तरह से काम चल रहा था, जैसे कि रायसीना रोड़ पर दो बड़ी बड़ी इमारतें थीं, और उन में काम चल सकता था कई वर्षों तक, उन को भी गिरा कर कुछ नई इमारतें बनाई जा रही हैं ?

श्री ब० रा० भगत: दिल्ली में आफिस ऐकामाइजेशन को बहुत कमी है इस लिये यह बात जरूरी हो गई कि यहां मल्टी स्टोरीड बिल्डिंग्स बनाई जायें क्योंकि दिल्ली में जमीन बहुत मंहगे है और जमीन की बचत होती है। इन प्रोग्राम को अनुसार जिन जगहों को बाबत भवनोप्य सदस्य ने बताया उन पर मल्टी स्टोरीड बिल्डिंग बनाने का प्रोग्राम चल रहा है।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : मैं यह पूछ रहा था कि जिन इमारतों में अभी कुछ वर्षों तक काम चल सकता था और जो काफी बड़ी थीं, उन को भी गिरा कर उन को जगह पर दूसरी इमारतें बनाये जाने का क्या कारण है।

बित्त मंत्री (श्री मोरारजी देसाई): ऐसी कोई इमारतें नहीं गिराई गई जो बहुत बड़ी थीं और जो फाइनेन्शली एका-नामिकल थीं। ऐसी इमारतें गिराई गई जो छोटी थीं यानी जिन में एक आदमी रह सकता था, दो आदमी रह सकते थे और जहां बड़ी इमारतें बन सकती हैं आफिस के लिये जिस का किराया बहुत ज्यादा हमें मिल सकता है और जमीन की कमी भी बराबर हो सकती है। वहीं ऐसा किया गया, और जगहों पर नहीं किया गया।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : रायसीना रोड़ पर जो दो इमारतें बनाई जा रही हैं उन की बाबत बताया गया कि वे कितनी बड़ी थीं...

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member should give instances. He should table a question relating to particular instances or write to them and get the information. Generalisation leads us nowhere.

Shri Panigrahi: Is it after this review that the prior decision of constructing another house for the hon. Prime Minister has been postponed?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That is a separate issue.

Public Services (Qualification for Recruitment) Committee

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*1578. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
 Shri N. R. Munisamy:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 231 on the 18th November, 1957 and state:

(a) the progress made in the consideration of the Report of the

Public Services (Qualifications for Recruitment) Committee; and

(b) the decisions taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). The recommendations made by the Officer on Special Duty on the Committee's Report have already been considered by the Committee of Secretaries and Government are likely to take a decision on the recommendations in the near future.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Who are the Secretaries constituting this committee which is going to consider the report? Do they belong only to the Home Ministry or to other Ministries also?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): The Secretary of the Home Ministry and also of some other Ministries.

Shri D. C. Sharma: When is the scheme going to be finalised and when will it be placed on the Table of the House?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The proposals of the Secretaries' Committee have already been received. They have suggested, I am prepared to take the House into confidence, that the services should be divided into three grades: (1) Class I and Grade I service (2) Grade II service and (3) clerical services, that recruitment for the first should be confined to graduates and the age of recruitment should be between 21 and 23, that for the middle grade, again, graduates alone should be allowed to enter the competition, but the age should be between 19 and 21, and that for the clerical services, non-graduates alone should be admitted and their age should be between 17 and 19. These are the proposals and they are under consideration.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know what will be the effect of these proposals on the present incumbents of the posts?

Pandit G. B. Pant: It does not in any way affect the present incumbents in the least. Nor will the proposals, whatever final shape they may take, be introduced immediately. It will take some time to implement them.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: What will be the age limit for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribe candidates for the posts referred to just now?

Pandit G. B. Pant: We have made a concession in the case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and they are allowed to compete upto a higher age. I hope that that concession will continue.

U.S. Aid

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Shri D. C. Sharma:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhary:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Shri N. B. Munisamy:
Shri Shobha Ram:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scheme for the utilisation of U.S. economic assistance for the implementation of Second Five Year Plan has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the main features of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b) The Hon. Members are presumably referring to the credit \$ 225 million offered by the United States from its current resources to meet India's requirements for its programmes of economic development in the next twelve to eighteen months. If so, a statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

Negotiations for a credit of \$ 150 million from the Export-Import Bank and a credit of \$ 75 million from the Development Loan Fund of the USA have been completed recently and agreements are

likely to be signed shortly. The Export-Import Bank credit of \$ 150 million is to be utilised for the procurement in the United States—with effect from 28th February, 1968—of capital equipment and machinery and services needed by India in the next 12 months or so far programmes in the Second Five Year Plan relating to Irrigation and Reclamation; Power; Transport and Communications; Mining and certain selected industries like textiles, chemical industries, the fabrication of heavy structurals and electrical equipment, and machine tools. The credit will bear interest at 5-1/4 per cent and the term will be 15 years. The loan will start to be repaid in 20 semi-annual instalments from 1964 and payment will be in dollars.

The credit of \$ 75 million from the Development Loan Fund is to be utilised for the purchase of components for the manufacture of trucks, buses and jeeps needed for India's Road Transport Development; for purchase of structural steel and other steel products required by Indian Railways; and for the purchase of machinery for India's jute and cement industries. The credit for railway steel bears interest at 3½% and for other items at 5-1/4%, the period being 20 and 15 years respectively. The loan will be repayable in rupees.

Shri Hem Barua: From the statement it is seen that we are going to have a loan of 150 million dollars from the World Bank and 75 million dollars from the U.S. Development Loan Fund. May I know the extent to which these loans are estimated to meet our foreign exchange difficulties?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The first part of the question is not correct. We are getting a loan not from the World Bank, but from Export-Import Bank. That is a different institution. As for the other part of the question, to what extent it will meet our foreign exchange requirements, we have given more than once in this House the total requirements of foreign exchange

during the Second Five Year Plan. The relationship is established.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if any part of this loan is already assigned in advance to the private sector and any assigned to the public sector?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Nothing is assigned as yet because we have not yet entered into agreement. It is our contemplation that some part of it will go to the private sector, particularly that which will go to meet the requirements of our industrial programme.

Shri Kasliwal: May I know whether the entire amount which we are getting from the Export-Import Bank will be allocated to the private sector?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No, Sir. We have five programmes, so far as the aid from the Export-Import Bank is concerned: Irrigation and reclamation: that is mostly public sector; power programme public sector; mining programme—public sector; transport and communications which is largely public sector; lastly, industrial programme which may be called to be substantially private sector.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if we are trying to get any additional economic assistance and if so of what kind from other countries?

Mr. Speaker: It does not arise out of this.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that, these loans are agreed to by the various agencies on the basis of specific projects that are submitted to them irrespective of the fact whether they belong to the private sector or public sector?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: It is not on a project basis. As we call it, it is on a programme basis. The difference is that if we agree on a project basis, that particular project is also to be approved by the agencies. If we agree on a programme basis, they approve the programme and the projects, we select.

Shrimati Ha Palchandhuri: May I know if the loan from the Asian Fund of 30 million dollars is likely to come about for the improvement of the Madras port and if so, if it is going to stand in the way of the improvement of the Calcutta port?

Mr. Speaker: The Asian Fund also belongs to the U.S.A.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: That is also from the U.S.A.

Shri B. B. Bhagat: That is a separate question. But that is not yet finalised. We had the Japanese mission which went into the question. It is contemplated that it will meet the Vizagapatam port, not the Calcutta, nor the Madras port.

Shri Panigrahi: In the statement it has been stated that capital equipment, machinery and services needed by India in the next twelve months for this programme are to be secured from the U.S.A. May I know how much of this assistance will go towards services and how much of the assistance will be towards the freight that we shall have to pay for importing the machinery? I want to know whether freight is included.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The details we have not yet worked out.

Shri Tyagi: With regard to our loan from the Export-Import Bank, have we incurred any obligation to buy from the U.S.A. our goods or we shall be free to buy from wherever we can get cheap?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Under the law, for the aid from the Export-Import Bank, we have to buy in the United States.

Shri Tyagi: The whole amount?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Yes.

Shri Heda: May I know whether, apart from 225 million dollar loan, there is another loan independently with the U.S. Government directly or a joint Cooper Kennedy project being considered?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That project has not yet materialised. But, we have under contemplation or are negotiating another wheat loan.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What factors are taken into consideration in determining the rate of interest? It is 5-1/4 per cent for certain cases and it is 3 1/2 per cent for certain others.

Shri B. R. Bhagat: Generally, for the loan from the Export-Import Bank, the rate is 5-1/4 per cent. That is determined by the rates prevailing in the U.S. Market and the rate of interest that the Export-Import Bank gives. So far as the loan from the Development Fund is concerned, there is only the railway item which has a lower interest. The others are all 5-1/4 per cent. The railway item has 3 1/2 per cent. Under the law, that is, according to the Authorisation there, for utility projects, they charge a lower rate of interest. That is the difference.

Loan From Canada

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*1582. { **Shri Assar:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an agreement was signed in regard to Canadian loan to India on the 20th February, 1958 at Ottawa; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A copy of the agreement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 32].

Shri Assar: May I know if any amount has been drawn and utilized uptill now under this agreement?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No, Sir. We have not yet drawn any amount out of this.

Shri Hem Barua: From the statement it is seen that Canada is offering a loan of 25 million dollars and we

are going to buy Canadian wheat in instalments up to 31st July, 1958. May I know the interest charged on this loan?

Shri B. B. Bhagat: The interest charged is 4-1/4 per cent.

Northern Regional Languages

*1583. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any action towards the establishment of departments in South Indian Universities for teaching Northern regional languages;

(b) if so, whether any scheme has been prepared in this regard; and

(c) the regional languages of the North which will be taught there?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) to (c). A statement giving the necessary information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 33].

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: I find from the statement that no steps have been taken as yet to establish departments of North Indian languages in the South Indian universities. May I know if directions will be issued to the University Grants Commission to take steps to establish such departments?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: No, Sir. There is no question of issuing any direction to the University Grants Commission. The University Grants Commission is already taking steps for the development of languages all over the country. In the southern States departments of other languages are being set up and schemes are being considered. Similarly, in northern Universities proposals for setting up departments for southern languages have been invited.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: I find from the statement that the only languages

that have been taken up are Hindi as the national language and Urdu as one of the northern languages. May I know why other languages like Punjabi are not taken into consideration?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This is really a matter for the university concerned. The University Grants Commission does not issue any directive. The universities make proposals and it is on the basis of those proposals that the Commission gives grants. It is for the universities to make the proposals.

लेट गोबिन्द दास : अभी तक जिन जिन यूनीवर्सिटियों में उत्तर भारत में दक्षिण भारत की भाषाएँ और दक्षिण भारत में उत्तर भारत की भाषाएँ सिखाने के लिए जो प्रबन्ध हुआ है उस की क्या कोई रिपोर्ट समय समय पर केन्द्रीय शिक्षा मंत्रालय को आती है, और क्या मैं यह जान सकता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में सिवा इन मुद्दकों के स्थापित करने के क्या कोई कार्य का बड़ाव भी हो रहा है और क्या उसका कोई संतोषजनक नतीजा निकल रहा है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : यूनीवर्सिटी बॉर्ड्स कमीशन की समय समय पर रिपोर्ट निकलती है और पार्लियामेंट के सामने भी रखी जाती है। यह एक बड़ा जनरल प्रश्न है जो सदस्य महोदय ने पूछा है। अभी इसकी पूरी इतला मेरे पास नहीं है। इस के लिये मुझे नोटिस चाहिये।

Shri Wodeyar: May I know how many students from South Indian universities have been sent to North Indian universities to learn the northern regional languages State-wise and the total expenditure incurred for the purpose in 1957-58?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: It is an entirely different question. It does not arise out of this.

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know for what South Indian languages these

departments are likely to be opened in the North Indian universities?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Proposals have been invited, and I am not in a position to say at the present actually what proposals have already been received by the University Grants Commission, but the University Grants Commission has already asked the universities to send proposals for setting up such departments.

श्री बजराम सिंह : क्या यह सही है कि आगरा विश्वविद्यालय की हिन्दी विद्यापीठ में दक्षिण की भाषाओं के पढ़ाने की भी व्यवस्था की जा रही है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : जी हाँ, आगरा यूनिवर्सिटी में एक एंस्टीट्यूट फॉर हिन्दी स्टडीस एंड लिक्विटिक्स है। उस में तामिल और तेलगू पढ़ाने का भी प्रबन्ध है।

श्री बजराम सिंह : क्या दूसरी भाषाओं के लिए भी उस में प्रबन्ध है ?

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Appointment of High Court Judges

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1584. { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Shri Mahanty:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Ramakrishna Reddy:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the question of drawing up an All India list of suitable persons from which selection would be made for appointment of High Court Judges is under consideration; and

(b) if so, when a final decision is likely to be arrived at?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) & (b). Yes, the matter is under the consideration of Government, but it is difficult to say at this stage when a final decision is likely to be arrived at.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know which of the States have accepted this scheme in principle so far?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): Most of the States.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: That means hardly one or two States remain.

Pandit G. B. Pant: I am not prepared to say that there are one or two even who have definitely declined to fall in with the rest.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: What are the broad lines of this scheme which has been given to the States for acceptance, and now that most of the States have accepted it, what further measure is being considered in the matter?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The broad lines are that the different States should prepare lists of panels of persons suitable for appointment as High Court Judges from among the judicial officers and members of the Bar, consult their Chief Justices, their Chief Ministers and also their Governors, and then let us have their final lists. All those lists will then be referred to the Chief Justice of India, and an effort will be made to prepare a consolidated list.

Shri Mahanty: May we know what is the genesis of this proposal and how the present system of appointment of Judges has come to be considered inadequate?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The States Reorganisation Commission made the recommendation that so far as possible one-third of the Judges in every High Court should be recruited from other States. That recommendation was in a way approved by Parliament. The law Ministers' Conference also gave its seal of approval. The Chief Justices of the various High Courts met recently, and have also in a way accepted this recommendation. So, there was a consensus of opinion

among all sensible persons in the country.

Shrimati Ha Palchowdhuri: Is it a fact that during the last 18 months 28 Judges have been appointed with a view to clearing up pending work, and what percentage of the pending work has been cleared up by them.

Mr. Speaker: That has nothing to do with this question.

Shri Ranga: According to this proposed scheme, who is to take the initiative in suggesting certain names from out of the panel? Is it the Chief Justice of the concerned State which wants the appointment to be made, or is it the Chief Minister there, or both of them together, or is it the Home Ministry here itself on its own accord?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The details have not yet been settled, but I imagine that the list, after it has been approved, will be circulated to the States, and it will be the States concerned, who will make the initial proposals when vacancies have to be filled.

Shri Mahanty: While considering this question, may we know whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the reported observation of the Law Commission that Judges are being appointed not on merits alone, but on other considerations?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Reports are not always correct, and even if something is said in an interim stage in a confidential manner, I think the authority from whom the report is supposed to have emanated does find material later to revise its opinion.

Shri Narayanankntty Menon: May I know whether fresh appointments of High Court Judges will be made only a decision is taken on the all-India panel system, or appointments will continue to be made till a decision is taken?

Pandit G. B. Pant: Appointments will continue to be made. The work of the High Courts cannot wait for our convenience or yours.

तेल की खोज

* १५८५. श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह : क्या इस्पात, खान और ईंधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकारी क्षेत्र में तेल की खोज का काम निर्धारित कार्यक्रम के अनुसार नहीं हो रहा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस के क्या कारण हैं ?

खान और तेल मंत्री (श्री के० दे० मालवीय) : (क) और (ख) बहुत सस्ता और मुलायम चट्टानों की बदलती हुई तहों, और ज्वालामुखी कुंए की दुर्घटना के सबब से जिस में ड्रिल पाइपों और कालरों (drill pipes and collars) के लिये कीलन कार्य (fishing operations) की जरूरत थी, ज्वालामुखी में खुदाई के कार्यक्रम में मामूली सी देर के अलावा प्रशासन क्षेत्र में तेल के पूर्वोक्षण (prospecting) का काम सूची के अनुसार घाने बढ़ रहा है।

Shri Ranga: Can we have it in English?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: (a) and (b). But for some delay in the programme of drilling operations at Jawalamukhi on account of the alternating layers of very hard and soft rocks and the accident at Jawalamukhi well which required fishing operations for drill pipes and collars, oil prospecting in public sector is progressing according to schedule.

श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह : श्री मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि कार्यक्रम के अनुसार तेल की खोज का काम चल रहा है, तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि बजट में जो रुपया दूसरे वर्ष के लिए रखा गया था वह खर्च क्यों नहीं हुआ ?

श्री के० डे० मालवीय : ज्वालामुखी के पहले कुंवे की खुदाई की समाप्ति के बाद अगर हम को तेल की ज्यादा एबी-डेंस मिलती तो हम फिर दूसरे कुंवे को खोदना शुरू करते। लेकिन चूंकि पहले कुंवे में देर हो गयी इसलिए दूसरा कुंवा तो समय के अन्दर नहीं चलाया जा सकता था चाहे कोई कितना बड़ा विशेषज्ञ और अनुभवशील आदमी होता। इसलिए दूसरे कुंवे का काम स्थगित करना पड़ा।

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: May I know whether there is any reasonable prospect of oil prospecting in the near future in the Cauveri basin to which the Russian scientists have drawn attention?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The Cauveri basin programme will be taken up some time. But there are other probable areas where we are engaging our attention at present.

श्री दलजीत सिंह : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि ज्वालामुखी में ड्रिलिंग ऑपरेशन का काम कितनी गहराई तक हुआ है ?

श्री के० डे० मालवीय : ज्वालामुखी के कुंवे में अब तक हम ६,२०० फीट तक पहुंच चुके हैं। वहां पर तेल का जो एविडेंस—प्रमाण—मिला है, आज-कल उसकी हम खोज-बीन कर रहे हैं। इस के बाद सम्भव है कि हम और गहराई तक जायें।

सेठ गोविन्द दास : क्या तेल की इस खोज का काम राजस्थान में जैसलमेर और मध्य प्रदेश में बस्तर में भी किया जा रहा है ? अगर नहीं किया जा रहा है, तो इस सम्बन्ध में इन राज्यों से क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार को इस प्रकार के कुछ आवेदन आए हैं कि इन स्थानों में भी तेल मिलने की सम्भावना है और वहां पर प्रयत्न किया जाय।

श्री के० डे० मालवीय : जैसलमेर में तेल की खोज-बीन हम कर रहे हैं, मगर बस्तर में

खोज-बीन करने की कोई वजह नहीं मानूँ पड़ती, इस लिए कि वहां प्राथमिक रूप से यह नहीं कह सकते कि वहां पर तेल की तलाश करनी चाहिए।

श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह : इस देश के कितने शिखार्षी दूसरे देशों में और किन देशों में तेल की खोज का काम सीखने के लिए भेजे गए हैं और दूसरे देशों के कितने विशेषज्ञ इस समय तेल की खोज के काम में लगे हुए हैं और वह दिन कब आयेगा, जब कि अपने देश के लोग पूर्ण रूप से इस काम में रहेंगे ?

श्री के० डे० मालवीय : हमारे यहां से बहुत काफ़ी तादाद में लोग बाहर जा रहे हैं—रूस में, अमरीका में, फ्रांस में यह काम सीखने के लिए जा रहे हैं। करीब करीब दुनिया के सभी मुल्कों के विशेषज्ञ हम को सलाह देने के लिए आते हैं, जिन से हम को सहायता मिलती है। और वह समय हम कभी भी नहीं देखते, जब कि बाहर वालों की सहायता के बिना हम तेल की खोज-बीन करेंगे। दुनिया में गालिबन कोई ऐसा देश नहीं है, जहां बाहर वालों की सहायता इस सम्बन्ध में नहीं ली जाती है।

Shri Narayanankutty Menon: May I know whether the dislocation due to the accident at Jawalamukhi has been got over and drilling has been already started as per schedule?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: We are testing these days for some evidence of oil that we have obtained in the various strata. As soon as these testing operations are finished we hope to resume our drilling programme.

श्री ए० ला० बाबुपाल : माननीय मंत्री जी ने अभी बताया है कि राजस्थान में जैसलमेर में तेल की खोज का कार्य हो रहा है। मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि जैसलमेर में अभी

तक कहां तक प्रगति हुई है और वहां तेल निकलने की क्या सम्भावना है।

श्री को० दे० मालवीय : सम्भावना के बारे में मैं अभी कुछ नहीं कह सकता, मगर प्राथमिक रूप से वहां खोज-बीन की जा रही है।

Drilling Near Cambay

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*1586. { Shri Yajnik:
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether many wagon loads of machinery and other materials have been received at the Cambay Station from the Soviet Union to enable the Soviet Experts to carry on drilling operations at a site near Cambay;

(b) whether all this drilling material has been held up at the station for many weeks for want of a suitable road by which it can be carried to the site of the operations;

(c) whether Soviet Experts have already started any drilling operations; and

(d) the time within which the drilling implements would be carried to the drilling site to enable full fledged operations to be carried on by the Soviet Experts?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) Yes sir.

(b) The drilling material was kept at the Railway Station for some time pending construction of the road and finalisation of pinpointing the drilling site.

(c) No sir.

(d) By the middle of April, 1958.

Shri Yajnik: May I know whether the Soviet experts have already gone there in any number, and whether any other technicians and labourers will be employed on the site?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: At Cambay, most of the technicians are our own people. There are only very few Russians who have gone there to advise us with regard to pin-pointing of the area or the site where we want to drill. Some more drillers are expected to arrive soon from the USSR, and then, we propose to commence our drilling operations there.

Shri Yajnik: May I know whether the road is already completed, and if not, how long it will take, and when the drilling material will be on the site?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Presumably, the road has been completed by now and most of our material is on its way to the exact point where we want to start the drilling.

Shri S. C. Samanta: May I know whether more than one site has been selected for drilling purposes, and if so, whether a double set of machinery and equipment will be necessary?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The location of the second site for drilling depends upon the result of the drilling on the first site when the drilling has been completed. We have only got one set of drilling unit there at Cambay. If we require more, the matter will be considered later on.

Shri Subodh Hansda: May I know the total price of the drilling apparatus that has arrived from Soviet Russia, and the amount that has been spent to obtain those machinery?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: I have not got the exact figure regarding the total cost involved in the purchase of drilling sets. But on an average something like Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 lakhs are required for one unit of drilling set.

Shri Yajnik: May I know the terms and conditions on which the Soviet machinery has been obtained, whether it has been obtained on loan or as part of the business contract? May I also know the terms on which the Soviet experts have been engaged?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The purchase is on the basis of a business contract.

Civil Trade Work in Ordnance Factories

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*1588. { **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri Tangamani:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether production of civil trade work done in Ordnance Factories has fallen during 1957-58;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to step up the production?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramalah): (a) The final figures for the year 1957-58 are not yet available but indications are that there will be a slight reduction as compared to 1956-57.

(b) The reasons mainly are:

(i) Reduction in demands for leather and textile items from a Government department;

(ii) Reduction in production of non-ferrous semi-fabricated stores as a result of practically no off-take by the trade; and

(iii) Increasing inflow of Service work.

(c) A progressive effort is in progress to utilise to the optimum extent the production capacity available. Investigation of the market for products is receiving fuller attention. Attempts are also planned to inform the public about what can be produced.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: In 1956, about six thousand workers were retrenched from the ordnance factories because there was reduction in the civil work. May I know whether further retrenchment in ordnance factories can be avoided even without fully utilising

the surplus manufacturing capacity of the factories for civilian job?

Shri Raghuramalah: I could not follow the question.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The hon. Minister knows it. In 1956, about six thousand workers were retrenched from various ordnance factories, because there was a slight reduction in the civilian job. May I know whether we are unable.....

Shri Raghuramalah: That is a separate question, and I believe some time back a specific question was asked on that. If the Chair wants me to answer it, I shall do so.

Mr. Speaker: Anyway, the question has been admitted, even if it had been answered.

Shri Raghuramalah: The point is that we are making every effort to see that there is no avoidable retrenchment. There are the recent efforts to step up production with a view to making the country self-sufficient. In the light of that we try to anticipate our future requirements, and where we find that the time lag between the drop in the work-load and the future requirement is very short we try to retain the personnel concerned in employment.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I also avoid supplementary questions.

Seth Govind Das: Is it a fact that in the Khemaria factory there is still a great capacity, and many machines are lying there idle, and if so, is any effort being made to utilise this and to produce such things so that there may be more labour employed and all the machines may be employed fully?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): The same hon. Member asked a question practically in identical terms a few days ago. I gave an assurance that every effort was being made, and said that there was idle capacity, that it should be

used, and every effort was being made to use that.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members will try to avoid asking the same question. Evidently, they want to emphasise.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I want to have a clarification.

Mr. Speaker: He said he won't ask any supplementary.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I agree.

Life Insurance Corporation

*1589. **Shri Promathanath Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(b) : Name of the Company

No. of shares Face value

Rs.

Richardson and Cruddas (ordy.)

5,450

54,500

Richardson & Cruddas (Pref.)

3,200

3,20,000

British India Corpn. (Ordyn.)

2,068

10,340

(c) *Prima facie*, some of the shares

(d) delivered to the Corporation were not in order.

Face value
Rs.

Book value
Rs.

37,500

37,975

Shri Promathanath Banerjee: What steps have been taken by Government against Shri Mundhra on account of whom a former Finance Minister had to remove himself from office?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: A number of prosecutions are being launched against him; other cases are also pending.

Shri Rameshwar Tanti: May I know whether it is a fact that owing to bad credit and prevailing rumours in the market, production in the Mundhra group of companies is hampered? As a large amount of LIC funds and also public money is invested in these companies, do Government propose to appoint an expert committee to go into this or to have bigger control over these concerns so that they run smoothly?

Mr. Speaker: How does that arise out of the question? This relates to

(a) whether it is a fact that all the shares purchased by the Life Insurance Corporation from Shri Mundhra have been registered in its favour;

(b) if not, the number and value of shares which have not been registered;

(c) whether there are any forged share scrips passed on by Shri Mundhra to the Corporation; and

(d) if so, the amount involved therein?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) No, Sir.

transfer of shares, whether they are registered or not. The question of further going into the matter, whether Government are going to take over charge and so on, does not arise.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In reply to part (c), it has been said that scrips worth Rs. 34,000 or so have been found to be not in order. What steps have been taken against Shri Mundhra for the supply of scrips not in order?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The matter has been given to the Special Police Establishment and they are investigating it.

Shri Mahanty: What steps have been taken also against the persons who accepted these irregular scrips?

Shri Ranga: Inquiry.

Pandit G. B. Pant: A number of prosecutions are being launched. It is

expected that the cases will be put in court, shortly. I will not be surprised if some of them have already been referred to court.

Ferro-manganese Plant in Orissa

*1591. **Shri Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have submitted any proposal for starting a Ferro-manganese Plant in Kasipur in Kalahandi District during the Second Five Year Plan period; and

(b) if so, whether the proposal is receiving the consideration of Government?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This scheme is being considered by the Planning Commission in consultation with the State Government.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether the proposed ferro-manganese plant in Kasipur will be a joint venture or will be a pure government undertaking?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): That matter is still under consideration.

Shri Panigrahi: What will be the estimated cost of setting up this plant?

Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha: The total value of equipment required for this plant will be Rs. 140 lakhs, out of which Rs. 115 lakhs form expenditure of foreign currency.

Shri Mahanty: The hon. Minister has said that the proposal is under consideration. In view of the fact that the establishment of a ferro-manganese plant was included in the Second Five Year Plan, may I know when the proposal is going to be finalised and whether there is any likelihood of the plant turning up during the Second Five Year Plan period?

Sardar Swaran Singh: I should think so. It is likely to come up during the currency of this Plan period.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know whether besides this plant at Kasipur any other licence has been given to any other private concern for establishing any other ferro-manganese plant in Orissa?

Sardar Swaran Singh: There are three 'any other's in the question the hon. Member has asked. It is highly hypothetical. If there is any specific information required, he can pinpoint it and then I might be able to reply.

Air Accident at Ambala

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*1592. { **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shri N. R. Manikam:
Sardar Amar Singh Saigal:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a collision between two Jet Aircrafts of the Indian Air Force occurred on the 29th March, 1958 at Ambala; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement giving the details so far known is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Statement

Two Hunter aircraft collided in mid-air at about 09-50 hours on the 29th March, 1958, while carrying out aerobatics practice in formation for the Air Force Anniversary display which was held on the 1st April, 1958 at Ambala. The aircraft were destroyed. The two pilots, who were the only occupants, baled out of the aircraft by using an automatic ejection device and completed their descent by parachutes successfully. One of the pilots, however, received a minor spinal injury and is undergoing treatment.

2. A Court of Enquiry has been set up to investigate the accident.

Shri Joachim Alva: After the accident took place at Ambala, have Government made enquiries from the

manufacturers of Hawker Hunters whether any such accident had occurred in the countries where they were sold, though this accident occurred through acrobatics?

Sardar Majithia: It is a pure accident and the manufacturers are not to blame in this. It is just a flying accident, an error of judgment on the part of the pilot. That is about all.

Shri Joachim Alva: Have we enquired from them for a list of accidents that have taken place in the history of Hunters?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): How does it arise?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): There is a Court of Inquiry appointed to investigate the accident. With your permission, I would like to say that these two men who bailed out, whose names are not, according to custom, given out, behaved with remarkable presence of mind and courage. It was a daring feat in the sense that they avoided a great tragedy to the villages around. As the Deputy Minister has said, it is purely a flying accident, having nothing to do with the machine.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: What was the type of these two planes and what was their cost?

Sardar Majithia: They were Hunters, as has already been mentioned. As regards the price, roughly it is Rs. 16½ lakhs each.

श्री भक्त वरुण : इस स्टेटमेंट में कहा गया है " One of the pilots, however, received a minor spinal injury". उसको जो चोट लगी है उस के बाद भी क्या वह पायलट रहने के काबिल रहेगा, अगर नहीं रहेगा तो क्या उसको कोई कम्पेंसेशन दिया जायेगा ?

Mr. Speaker: We are going away from the main question.

Sardar Majithia: It is a premature question. I think he will be fit to fly again.

सरदार ब० सि० सहगल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जिस चैम्प का परिचय इन दोनों पायलट्स ने दिया है तथा जिस खूबी के साथ इन्होंने अपने आप को बचाया है, उस के लिए क्या उन्हें कोई पुरस्कार देने के बारे में विचार किया जाएगा ?

Mr. Speaker: It is premature.

Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development

*1594. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) further progress made towards the establishment of a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development; and

(b) whether the legal framework and the organisational set up have been finalised and approved?

The Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha):

(a) The position in regard to the proposal for the establishment of SUNFED was last stated before this House on the 17th December, 1957 in written reply to question No. 1754. Since then, the proposal has been modified. The General Assembly has now decided in favour of a separate Special Fund "as an expansion of the existing technical assistance and development activities of the United Nations and the specialised agencies". The resolution unanimously adopted by the General Assembly on the subject is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix VII, Annexure No. 34].

(b) The organizational framework of the Special Fund is being considered by a Preparatory Committee which has been in session since the 11th March, 1958.

Shri D. C. Sharma: When will this Committee, which is to go into the

question of the organisational set-up, finalise its report?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: It is expected that this Committee will finalise its decision before the 1st January, 1959. The report will be discussed in the 26th Conference of the ECOSOC. Then it will go to the General Assembly for their consideration.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether any decision has been taken with regard to the probable or actual capital of this Fund?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: It is expected that this Fund will start with approximately a capital of \$100 million.

Shri Ranga: Under the old scheme of SUNFED, each country was expected to contribute one per cent of its national income towards this Fund. Is that the same basis on which the new Fund also is going to be created? May I also know whether the USA, which was not in favour of SUNFED, is now in favour of the newly proposed scheme?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Yes, as I said before, this was a unanimous resolution of the General Assembly. So all the member-countries of the General Assembly are in favour of creating this Special Fund. About the contributions, all the countries are expected to make their own voluntary contributions, according to their choice and capabilities. India has also been asked to intimate what contribution she is going to make. This matter is still under consideration.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: What is the amount of the Fund and what is the amount that will be allotted to the under-developed countries?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: As I have said before, the amount is going to be approximately \$100 million. The Preparatory Committee will decide about the policy and the way that the Fund will be allotted to under-developed countries.

Common Police Reserve Forces

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 { **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur**
Shri P. K. Deo:
 *1594. **Shri Vajpayee:**
Shri Hem Barua:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Panigrahi:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken to bring into existence common police reserve forces for the various zones;

(b) what will be the nature of reserve forces; and

(c) where such forces will be located in each Zone?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) The Southern, Eastern and Northern Zonal Councils have set up Committees to examine the question.

(b) and (c). These questions will be considered by the Zonal Councils.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know the purpose of the setting up of the Zonal Forces and whether it is in particular to meet the dacoity menace in some of these States like Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): Most of the States have their own Reserve Police Forces at present. It was felt that some economy might be possible and greater efficiency might, perhaps, be ensured if, instead of a Special Police being organised by each State for itself, there were a common Reserve Force for the entire zone to be used in any part of the zone in case of an emergency. Of course, if there is any such emergency in Rajasthan, after such a force has been organised, I hope, its services will be available to meet such an emergency.

Shri Hem Barua: May I know if this common Reserve Force is proposed to be an overall Zonal Force or an auxiliary to the existing State Reserve Forces? If it is to be an auxiliary to the existing State Reserve Forces, may

I know how the work of the two is proposed to be co-ordinated?

Pandit G. B. Pant: No decisions have yet been taken so far as the day-to-day work goes. Every State will have to maintain its own Force. Moreover these States have got their own Reserves to meet emergencies. For such occasions (i.e. emergencies) they may have a common Force if they so choose.

Shri P. K. Deo: Who will be the controlling authority for the Force?

Pandit G. B. Pant: It has to be determined yet; no decisions have been taken.

Shri Panigrahi: May I know what has been proposed in this respect for the Reserve Force for Eastern Zone?

Pandit G. B. Pant: No decision has yet been taken. The Inspectors General of the States comprised in the Eastern Zone are considering this question. A committee has been formed for that purpose.

Shri Tyagi: In what proportion will the various States foot the bill of expenditure of these forces; or will something be contributed by the Centre as well?

Pandit G. B. Pant: There is no question of the Centre making any contribution. The States will, among themselves, decide the shares that they should contribute, the total strength of the force and other details. It is not to be a Central force.

Shri Thimmalah: May I know whether it will apply to all other zones also?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I have not been able to follow the question. Will the hon. Member please repeat it?

Shri Thimmalah: May I know whether a common reserve force will be maintained by other zones also?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I have already stated that it is hoped that if such a force is formed, then, its services will be available in case of an emergency in every State included in the zone, whenever necessary.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member wants to know whether similar reserve forces will be established for other zones.

Pandit G. B. Pant: All the zones are considering that matter—except one, I think, all zones are giving thought to the matter. But, as I said, the chickens have not been born; the whole thing is being hatched. I do not know what will come out ultimately.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: May I know whether the scheme does propose to withdraw the Central forces which are at present stationed there? What provision exists for collaboration of the inter-zonal forces because all problems are not in the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh only? There has got to be collaboration in Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh for the work. How is the force which is contemplated going to meet the situation?

Mr. Speaker: It is going one step further.

Pandit G. B. Pant: It does not in any way prevent collaboration between any two States. If any States choose to join hands in order to meet the dacoity menace or any other trouble that may probably be there in one area or on the border of two States, they are free to adopt such measures as they might consider proper.

Shri Tyagi: May I put one more question?

Mr. Speaker: No; I have allowed 10 questions.

Allotment of Steel Quotas

*1596. **Shri Yajnik:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the policy followed in the allotment of steel quotas by the Controller, Iron and Steel, to the different engineering and steel concerns in the different parts of the country?

The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Shri Gajendra Prasad Sinha): It is not clear what the Hon'ble Member has in mind in referring to "Engineering and Steel Concerns". If the reference is to Steel Processing Industries and Steel Plants, the policy is as follows:—

(a) Allotment is made by the Development Wing of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry to factories on the Central List i.e., those employing more than 100 workers and using power, according to the importance of the industry.

(b) Allotment to other steel processing factories is made by the respective State Governments on a pro rata basis calculated on the basis of their single shift assessed capacity.

(c) Demands of Steel Plants are met in full as they have been included in the "Core" of the Plan and therefore have priority.

Shri Yajnik: May I know if the small industrial concerns which are producing wires and nails and other kinds of consumer goods do continue to have the same quotas as they used to have before; or whether any reduction has taken place in the quotas assigned to the small industries?

Sardar Swaran Singh: As my colleague has already said, so far as small concerns are concerned, they are on the State list. All the State Governments have got the discretion to make allocations to them of steel which is allocated for the State sector or the State list as it is called. It is true that the supply of steel is not according to the requirements of all the industries. There have been cuts in almost all industries; but, I cannot say whether there has been any drastic cut in any particular sector. If the hon. Member has in mind any particular concern or any particular industry then, that matter can be looked into.

Pakistani Smugglers

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Sardar A. S. Saigal:
Shri Bishwanath Singh:
*1599. Shrimati Ma Palkhondhari:
Shri Asmar:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that on the 16th March, 1958 two Pakistani smugglers have been shot dead in an encounter lasting for more than half an hour at Indo-Pakistan Border 20 miles away from Amritsar and it was found that they were agents of the so-called Azad Kashmir Government; and

(b) if so, the details of the incident?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) & (b). Four persons were seen entering Indian territory from the Pakistan side after midnight on the 16th March, 1958. When challenged by the police, they opened fire which was returned by the police. In the encounter two of the four persons were killed, while the other two escaped. There was no casualty on the police side. The matter is under investigation.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: May I know whether any protest was lodged by the Pakistan Government and if so, with what result?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): The matter is under investigation; two men who were crossing the border from Pakistan were killed in the encounter.

Shri Bishwanath Roy: May I know if the smugglers had in their possession some papers addressed to some leader of Kashmir?

Pandit G. B. Pant: I am not expected to disclose these things till the investigation has been completed.

Shri Bhai Naray: In view of the fact that such incidents of smuggling and espionage are repeated in the Assam-East Pakistan border, may I know if Government have instructed the police force there to put a few bullets into the chests of the smugglers, if possible?

Pandit G. B. Pant: The question relates to the western border. But, I imagine, as far as possible, adequate steps have also been taken to guard the eastern border.

Shri Tyagi: The smugglers have no chests.

Mr. Speaker: The Question Hour is over.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Iron and Steel Quotas

*1579. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether quotas of iron and steel issued prior to the second quarter of 1955 have been cancelled; and

(b) if so, the reasons for the cancellation?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) Orders against quotas of steel issued prior to the third quarter of 1955 have been cancelled.

(b) With a view to reduce the heavy outstanding orders on the Works' books, it was decided in March, 1957, to cancel the outstanding orders against quotas prior to period III/55.

U.K. Colonial Development Corporation

*1580. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether India receives any help in the form of capital or technical assistance from the U. K. Colonial Development Corporation;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether there is a proposal to change the name of the said Corporation to the 'Commonwealth Development Corporation'?

The Deputy Minister of Economic Affairs (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The Government of India have no information.

Smallpox and Cholera epidemics in Rourkela

*1587. **Shri Kumbhar:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some persons died of Smallpox and Cholera in Rourkela Steel Plant colonies;

(b) if so, their number; and

(c) the preventive and curative measures taken by Government to avoid their recurrence?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) & (b). Cholera broke out from 27-2-58 in Rourkela Plant site. In all 62 cases of cholera and 6 of Smallpox were reported. Out of this 28 cases of Cholera and 2 of Smallpox proved fatal.

(c) The preventive and curative measures taken by the Project authorities include mass inoculation and vaccination, isolation of the infected persons, disinfection of drinking water and quarters and administration of sulpha-Guinidine.

P.T.O. Concession

*1588. **Shri N. R. Munikamy:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1128 on the 4th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the forms to avail of P.T.O. concessions have been printed; and

(b) if not, the reasons for the delay?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):

(a) No.

(b) The Pay Commission's recommendations, if any, regarding leave travel concessions will have to be taken into account before the forms are finalized and printed.

Literary Workshops in West Bengal

*1592. Shri Ghosal: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any literary workshop has been opened in West Bengal for training of authors in the technique of writing for neo literates and children; and

(b) if so, where and when?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The following Literary Workshops for training authors in the technique of writing for neo-literates or Children were organised in West-Bengal:—

| Place where organised | Period | | For Neo-literates Children. |
|------------------------|---------|---------|-----------------------------|
| | From | To | |
| Santiniketan | 7-6-54 | 6-7-54 | Neo-literates |
| Banipur | 20-1-56 | 7-3-56 | Do. |
| Banipur | 1-3-57 | 11-4-57 | Children |
| Banipur | Dec. 57 | Jan. 57 | Neo-literates. |

(Exact dates are not known yet).

Archaeological Departments in States

*1595. Shri Vajpayee: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to part (b) of Starred Question No. 764 on the 4th December, 1957 and state further response received from State Governments to Central Governments suggestion for setting up of separate departments of archaeology with a view to protecting and preserving ancient monuments?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): No further response has been received.

National Savings Certificates

*1597. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to raise finances by selling certifica-

tes, like the National Savings Certificates, for the execution of major and medium Irrigation Projects;

(b) if so, the details of this proposal; and

(c) the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a). The Government of India have no such proposal.

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

हिमालय की तलहटी में तेल सर्वेक्षण

*१६००. श्री नरसिंह बर्मान : क्या इस्पात, खान और ईंधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस प्रायोग ने उत्तर प्रदेश के हिमालय की तलहटी क्षेत्र में सर्वेक्षण व जांच पड़ताल करने का निश्चय किया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस काम के लिए कौन-कौन से स्थान चुने गये हैं ; और

(ब) इस में से प्रत्येक स्थान के सर्वेक्षण और जांच पड़ताल में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

खान और तेल मंत्री (श्री के० बे० बालबीर) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) और (ग). दो भूगर्भीय (Geological) पार्टियां हरद्वार (पश्चिमी उत्तर प्रदेश) से लेकर काठ गोदाम के पूर्व (पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश) तक सर्वेक्षण कर रही हैं। लगभग २० मील के फासले पर भूगर्भीय सारंखिक (Geological traverses) कार्य किया जाता है। इस प्रकार अब तक भूगर्भीय मानचित्रकारी के १७३ लाईन मील और ३५८ वर्ग मील पर लगभग ऐसे १२ सारंखिक के कार्य (traverse) पूरे हो चुके हैं।

उर्दू भाषा का इतिहास

* १६०१. श्री भाजवेयी : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उर्दू भाषा का इतिहास तैयार करने के लिये अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय की आर्थिक सहायता दी गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो कितनी राशि दी गई है ; और

(ग) क्या उक्त कार्य के लिये अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय द्वारा कोई समिति बनाई गई है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० जीबाली) :

(क) जी, हां। विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग ने, दूसरी पंचवर्षीय आयोजन के अधीन उर्दू साहित्य का इतिहास तैयार करने के लिए, अलीगढ़ मुस्लिम विश्वविद्यालय की आर्थिक सहायता दी है।

(ख) इस कार्य के लिये, आयोग ने विश्वविद्यालय को अब तक १४,००० रुपये का अनुदान दिया है।

(ग) जी हां।

लोहा पाइराइट्स

२२४८. श्री जे० ला० द्विवेदी : क्या इस्पात, खान और ईश्वर मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गन्धक का तेजाब बनाने के लिये लोहा पाइराइट्स के सर्वेक्षण और विकास का कार्य कहां-कहां किया जा रहा है ; और

(ख) अब तक इस के क्या परिणाम हुए हैं ?

खान और तेल मंत्री (श्री के० बे० बालबीर) : (क) और (ख). केवल बिहार के शाहबाद जिले में भ्रमगौर नामक स्थान पर यह कार्य किया जा रहा है। भारतीय खनि विभाग ने अब तक कुल ८ व्यघन छिद्रों (Bore holes) में कुल २१३७ फुट की खुदाई कर ली है। इन में से ७ छिद्रों में पाइराइट (Pyrites) पाया जा चुका है। पाइराइट में गन्धक की मात्रा ३८.६६ प्रतिशत में ४६.१४ प्रतिशत तक पाई जाती है।

भारतीय भूगर्भीय सर्वेक्षण विभाग ने भी १९५०-५१ से १९५५-५६ के क्षेत्र में काम करने के मौसम में मैसूर के चितलदुर्ग जिले में इस विषय से सम्बन्धित कुछ काम किया है लेकिन इस का विशेष उद्देश्य गन्धक का तेजाब (Sulphuric acid) बनाने का नहीं था। इस काम के परिणामस्वरूप पाइराइट का काफी बड़ा भूभंडार खोज लिया गया है जिस में लगभग १ १/२ मिलियन टन (१.५ Million tons) पाइराइट की मात्रा मिलने का अनुमान है।

पेट्रोलियम टेक्नालाजी में प्रशिक्षण

२२४६. श्री म० सा० द्विवेदी : क्या वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पेट्रोलियम टेक्नालाजी का प्रशिक्षण चालू करने के सम्बन्ध में क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) इस समय कितने व्यक्तियों को प्रशिक्षण दिया जा रहा है ;

(ग) प्रशिक्षण के पश्चात् उन्हें किन-किन विभागों में नियुक्त किया जायेगा ; और

(घ) उनकी सेवा की शर्तें क्या हैं ?

वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा और सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री हुमायूँ कबोर) : (क) से (घ). पेट्रोलियम टेक्नालाजी पाठ्यक्रम जुलाई १९५७ में इन्डियन स्कूल आफ माइन्स एण्ड अपलाइड ज्योलोजी, धनबाद, में शुरू हो गया है। इसके प्रथम वर्ष में २५ विद्यार्थी भर्ती हो गये हैं। सम्पूर्ण पाठ्यक्रम के लिये शिक्षा सम्बन्धी आवश्यक सुविधायें देने के लिये प्रबन्ध किया जा रहा है।

खान तथा इंधन विभाग, ज्योलोजी-कल सर्वे आफ इन्डिया, तथा तेल कम्पनियां इत्यादि में काम करने वाली पेट्रोलियम टेक्नोलॉजिस्ट्स को ट्रेनिंग देने के लिये इस पाठ्यक्रम को बनाया गया है। इन सब विभागों में जैसे जैसे कोई खाली जगहें होंगी, वन्हीं के अनुसार नौकरी की शर्तें होंगी।

Board of Technical Education and Training

2250. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state the names of the States which have agreed to set up Board of Technical Education and Training?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): All the States excepting Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir have set up Boards of Technical Education. The Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir are considering the matter.

Graduates from Teachers' Training Colleges

2251. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of students who graduated from teachers' training colleges in the country during 1956-57;

(b) the total number of students who graduated from teachers' training colleges during the last five years; and

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

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) 10364.

(b) The total number of students who graduated in teachers' training in the last five years is as follows:

| | |
|------|-------|
| 1951 | 4,053 |
| 1952 | 4,905 |
| 1953 | 5,659 |
| 1954 | 6,173 |
| 1955 | 8,774 |

(c) The number of trained persons (graduates as well as undergraduates) registered with the employment exchanges for various categories of teachers as on 31st December, 1957 is as follows:

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------|
| Headmaster/Mistress | 48 |
| High School Teachers | 1,674 |
| Middle School Teachers | 4,478 |
| Elementary Schools Teachers | 8,885 |
| Kindergarten Teachers | 44 |
| Other educationists | 1,324 |
| Total | 16,453 |

Field Firing in Punjab

2252. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of villages in Punjab where field firing took place during the year 1957;

(b) the time taken in each village; and

(c) the loss that accrued to the villagers?

The Minister of Defence (Shri Krishna Menon): (a) & (b). The number of villages affected by Field Firing during 1957 was 91. It is not in the public interest to give the names of the villages and time during which firing took place in each village.

(c) Roughly Rs. 1,65,000.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Women Social Welfare Workers

2254. Shri Kumbhar: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether women from the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are appointed as paid workers and trained in various Centres State-wise under the Central Social Welfare Board; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) & (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

Central Agency Section

2255. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Law be pleased state:

(a) the number of cases, both civil and criminal, conducted by the Central Agency Section before the Supreme Court during the year 1957;

(b) how the expenses incurred on Central Agency Section are apportioned between the Central Government and participating State Governments.

(c) whether any retainer fee is fixed;

(d) whether all State Governments are participating in the scheme; and

(e) what are the reasons assigned by the States which do not participate in the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): (a) Total number of cases both civil and criminal conducted by the Central Agency Section before the Supreme Court during the year 1957 was 524.

(b) The expenses of the Central Agency Section are apportioned every year between the Central Government and the participating State Governments according to the number and the nature of cases conducted on their behalf. Certain standard fees for civil appeals, criminal appeals, writ petitions, special leave petitions and miscellaneous matters are notionally charged in the first instance for matters conducted for each Government and then the actual expenses of the Central Agency are divided in the ratio of the fees that would have been chargeable to each Government for the work done on its behalf.

(c) No retainer is fixed.

(d) Five State Governments are not participating in the Scheme.

(e) The reasons given by them are as under:—

(1) According to the State of Uttar Pradesh, they did not consider it either convenient or necessary to set up a joint Central Agency for the cases coming up before the Supreme Court.

(2) According to the State of West Bengal, they stated that they preferred to work through their own agent until a clear picture of their work can be obtained by them. The State has not yet joined the scheme.

(3) According to the State of Assam, they did not participate in the scheme in the beginning but promised to inform the Government of India later on if they found it necessary to do so. This State has now been considering the question of joining the scheme.

(4) The States of Madhya Pradesh and Kerala (formerly Travancore-Cochin) originally joined the scheme but went out of it without assigning any reasons. The State of Madhya Pradesh has now been considering the question of joining the scheme. The State of Kerala has now agreed to join the scheme.

Translation into Hindi of Central Acts

2256. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Law be pleased to state whether it is a fact that the functions of the Translation Section in the Ministry of Law cover translation of Central Acts, Ordinances, Regulations etc. into Hindi and compilation of a law lexicon in all regional languages?

The Deputy Minister of Law (Shri Hajarnavis): The functions of the Translation Section in the Ministry of Law cover translation of Central Acts, Ordinances and Regulations into Hindi, but do not include, at present, the compilation of a Law lexicon in any language other than Hindi.

Second Pay Commission

2257. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Prabhat Kar:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of the Unions and Federations who sub-

mitted memorandum to the Pay Commission; and

(b) the number and names of the Unions and Federations who also submitted replies to the questionnaire?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). The number of Unions, Federations, Associations etc. of the Central Government employees who have submitted memoranda to the Pay Commission is 833.

The number of Unions, Federations, Associations etc. who have replied to the questionnaire issued by the Pay Commission is 247.

Two statements indicating the names of Unions, Federations, Associations etc. referred to above are placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. Placed in library. See No. LT-654/58.

Pensions to Government Servants' Widows

2258. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications for family pensions received from widows of Government servants since the introduction of the Liberalised Pension Rules in 1950; and

(b) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The information is being collected, and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Manufacture of Tool Steels

2259. Shri V. P. Nayar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the present position of the manufacture of tool steels for the requirements of Indian Tool Making Industry?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): The indigenous production of tool and special steels excluding spring steels is about 2,000 tons a year.

There is a proposal to set up an alloy and special steel plant in the public sector. Preliminary reports have been received from certain foreign firms and have been examined. Detailed reports will shortly be invited from some of the firms who appear willing and capable of rendering assistance.

Red Fort, Delhi

2261. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of daily visitors to the Red Fort, Delhi; and

(b) the income from sale of tickets to visitors during 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) 3659 during 1957-58.

(b) The value of tickets sold to visitors is as follows:—

| | |
|---------|--------------------|
| 1956-57 | Rs. 72,000.37 n.P. |
| 1957-58 | Rs. 72,452.55 n.P. |

Monuments in Bombay

2262. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the amount that has been sanctioned in connection with the preservation of monuments of national importance in Bombay for the year 1958-59;

(b) whether the amount is separately earmarked for each of the monuments to be preserved; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) Rs. 5 lakhs approximately.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details are being collected.

National Laboratories

2263. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hanada:

Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state the present arrangements made for accommodation of trainees, undergoing training in the National Laboratories?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Accommodation, if available, is offered in the staff quarters of the National Laboratories. Otherwise, the trainees have to make their own arrangements.

सैनिक प्रधान कार्यालय के श्रेणी चार के कर्मचारी

२२६४. श्री भक्त बर्मान : क्या प्रत्येक मंत्री २६ नवम्बर, १९५७ के प्रस्तावित प्रश्न संख्या ६६८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सैनिक प्रधान कार्यालय के श्रेणी ४ के कर्मचारियों द्वारा प्रस्तुत किये गये जापनों पर इस बीच कोई निर्णय किया गया है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वह निर्णय क्या है ;

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो विलम्ब के क्या कारण हैं ; और

(घ) कब तक अन्तिम निर्णय हो जाने की आशा है ?

प्रतिरक्षा उप-मंत्री (श्री रघुरावैया):

(क) तथा (ख). जापनपत्र में उठाये गये अधिकतम मामलों में फैसले किये जा चुके हैं । स्थिति दृष्टि से माला एक विवरण सजापटल पर रख दिया गया है [देखिये परिशिष्ट ७, अनुसूच संख्या ३५]

(ग) तथा (ब) अब तक न सुलझाये गये मामलों में काफी वित्तीय प्रयत्न हैं। जहाँ फैसले पर पहुँचने के प्रयत्न किये जा रहे हैं वहाँ कई बातों के कारण यह बताना संभव नहीं है कि अन्तिम फैसला कब किया जा सकेगा।

Education Ministers' Conference's Decision

2265. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Dr. K. B. Menon:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) how many decisions taken at the conference of the State Ministers of Education held at New Delhi on the 20th and 21st of September, 1957 with which the Ministry of Education is concerned have been implemented so far; and

(b) the nature of decisions which are yet to be implemented?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimani): (a) and (b). The Ministry is concerned with the implementation of recommendations relating to the following:—

- (i) Expansion of girls' education,
- (ii) Central assistance to all-India Hindi Organisations for the propagation of Hindi; and
- (iii) Setting up of an Assessment Board to examine the standard of the courses provided in the Rural Institutions and to advise whether diplomas could be accepted as equivalent to the first degrees of Universities for purposes of employment.

Recommendations relating to the first two items have been implemented, while the third is under consideration.

Central Pay Commission

2266. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Bhakt Darshan:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Ram Krishan:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the progress made the work of the Central Pay Commission?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): As the Honourable Members are aware, a copy of the interim Report submitted by the Commission was laid on the Table of the House on the 17th December, 1957 and was also circulated among Members of Parliament. Subsequently, the Commission issued a questionnaire in the middle of January 1958 to Ministries and Departments of the Government of India, State Governments, important public organisations, Members of Parliament etc. As many 4500 persons and institutions have been supplied with copies of the questionnaire. At the request of some of the major employees' associations and individuals, the date fixed for receipt of the replies was extended from 20th February to the 10th March, 1958. The total number of memoranda received from employees' organisations, individual employees and non-officials is approximately 5,000.

In meantime, the Secretariat of the Commission has made considerable progress in tabulating and analysing the material furnished in the memoranda and the statistical data received from the Central and State Governments and the Commission has started taking oral evidence from the 2nd March, 1958. The Commission will also find it necessary to visit some places outside Delhi during the taking of oral evidence. After this, some time will be necessary for analysing the material collected for independent study and research by the Commission. The formulation of final recommendations and the drafting of the report will also require a fair amount of time.

Indian Students

2267. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian students at present studying in the United States of America, United Kingdom and Russia; and

(b) how many of them went to these countries during the period from January to December, 1957?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) According to the latest available information, there were approximately 2,800 Indian students studying in U.S.A. (including Canada); 3,850 in U.K. and 128 in Russia as on 31st October, 1957.

(b) According to the available information, of the total number about 1,020 students went to U.S.A. and 1,177 to U.K. during January-October, 1957. In November, December, 1957, some 120 more students went to U.S.A. and 66 to U.K. No student went to Russia during that year.

हिन्दी में अनुवादित पुस्तकें

२२६८. श्री क० भे० मालवीय : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) शिक्षा और वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्रालय द्वारा १९५६ और १९५७ में कौन-कौन सी पुस्तकों तथा प्रक्रिया सम्बन्धी सामग्री का अंग्रेजी से हिन्दी में अनुवाद किया गया ;

(ख) विभिन्न मंत्रालयों में काम, पैम्फलेट और अन्य प्रक्रिया सम्बन्धी पुस्तिकाओं के, जो प्रति दिन काम में आती हैं, भलग-भलग कितने पृष्ठों का अनुवाद किया गया ;

(ग) क्या अनुवाद कार्य की वर्तमान प्रगति संतोषजनक है ; और

(घ) यदि नहीं, तो इस विषय में क्या कार्यवाही करने का विचार है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० खोसाली) :

(क) और (ख) मांगी गई सूचना लोक-सभा पटल पर रखे गये विवरण में दी गई है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ७, अनुबन्ध संख्या ३६]

(ग) जी, हां।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

हिन्दी टाइपिस्ट तथा शीघ्रलिपिक

२२६९. श्री क० भे० मालवीय : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत सरकार के विभिन्न मंत्रालयों में काम करने वाले कितने कर्मचारी हिन्दी टाइपिंग और हिन्दी शीघ्रलिपि दोनों जानते हैं ;

(ख) कितने केवल हिन्दी टाइपिंग जानते हैं ;

(ग) कितने केवल हिन्दी शीघ्रलिपि जानते हैं ;

(घ) क्या हिन्दी टाइपिस्टों और शीघ्रलिपिकों को अंग्रेजी टाइपिस्टों और शीघ्रलिपिकों के समान ही पदोन्नति आदि की सुविधायें प्राप्त हैं ; और

(ङ) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री बातार) : (क) ११९

(ख) १६१

(ग) १७

(घ) और (ङ). हिन्दी और अंग्रेजी टाइपिस्टों की नियुक्ति लोवर डिब्बजन क्लर्क के रूप में की जाती है और सर्विस में उनको बराबर की सुविधायें मिलती हैं।

हिन्दी स्टेनोग्राफरों की मांग जिसहाल बहुत कम है और उनकी नियुक्ति ऐड-हाक की जाती है।

Central Excise Department, Orissa

2270. Shri Sanganna: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the past services in the Orissa State Government of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes employees of the Central Excise Department, Orissa are not taken into consideration for promotion and such purpose; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). There are only two employees in the Central Excise Department, Orissa Circle belonging to Scheduled Castes who had rendered service under the Orissa State Government. These persons had not rendered service in 'equivalent' posts under the State Government and hence their services under

that Government were not taken into account for seniority or promotion accordance with the Government India orders. There is no Scheduled Tribe employee in the Central Excise Department, posted in Orissa who rendered service under the Orissa State Government prior to joining Central Excise Department.

बिरोजा और तारपीन का कारखाना, नाग

२२७१. श्री यदुन देव: क्या गृह-मन्त्री नाहन (हिमाचल प्रदेश) के बिरोजा और तारपीन के कारखाने के वर्ष १९५५-५६, १९५६-५७ और १९५७-५८ के व्यय और आय का अलग-अलग ब्योरा बताने में कृपा करेंगे ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मन्त्री (नाग) : नाहन के बिरोजा और तारपीन के कारखाने की १९५५-५६, १९५६-५७ और १९५७-५८ की आमदनी और खर्च का ब्योरा निम्नलिखित है :—

| आमदनी (वास्तविक आय) | १९५५-५६ | १९५६-५७ | १९५७-५८ (जनवरी, '५८ तक) |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------|----------------------------|
| बिरोजा और तारपीन की बिक्री से | | | |
| आमदनी | १४,५१,६२१ | ८,०८,१८२ | ६,६३,४० |
| सबसीडियरी प्रोडक्ट्स की बिक्री से | | | |
| आमदनी | १,२२,१८६ | ७६,८५८ | १,२४ |
| कच्चे माल (बिरोजा) के बेचने से | | | |
| आमदनी | ५,२५,३२३ | .. | .. |
| मिसकेनिशस आमदनी | ५,६८८ | ६,७४५ | १,२६ |
| कुल | २१,०४,८२१ | ८,६१,७८५ | ६६५,६५ |

| वर्ष | १९५५-५६ | १९५६-५७ | १९५७-५८ जनवरी '५८ तक |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|
| कच्चे माल (बिरोजा की कीमत) | ४,६०,७५६ | ५,३८,४६६ | ६८,३७२ |
| मिसलेनिग्रस वार्ध | ३,०५,५२२ | ३,१६,४३२ | १,४०,११८ |
| वेतन तथा भत्ते | ५२,६२६ | ३६,८५७ | ३७,६२४ |
| टूट-फूट ब्याज आदि | ७२,४०३ | ४८,४४१ | ३५,००० |
| जोड़ | ६,२१,३०७ | ६,४०,२२६ | २,८१,११४ |

Cases of Currency Smuggling

2272. Shri Raghunath Singh: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state how many cases of smuggling of Indian currency to Pakistan have been detected during the year 1958 so far?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The number of such cases detected during the year 1958 (upto 28th February) is 54.

कर्मचारियों का स्थायीकरण

२२७३. श्री मानक भाई अग्रवाल : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने ये हिदायतें दी हैं कि जिन कर्मचारियों ने तीन साल की नौकरी पूरी कर ली हो, उन्हें स्थायी कर दिया जाये ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके परिणामस्वरूप कितने कर्मचारियों को स्थायी किया गया है अथवा करने का विचार है ; और

(ग) प्रत्येक मंत्रालय में कितने कर्मचारियों को यह लाभ नहीं प्राप्त हुआ है ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री बालार) : (क) जी नहीं । सरकार ने हिदायतें दी हैं कि उन टेम्पोरेरी पदों के अधिकांश भाग को परमानेंट बना दिया जाये जिनको तीन साल से ज्यादा हो गये हैं । ऐसे परमानेंट बनाये जाने वाले पदों पर टेम्पोरेरी कर्मचारियों को उनकी सीनियोरिटी और इस विषय से सम्बन्धित नियमों के मुताबिक परमानेंट बनाया जा रहा है ।

उन टेम्पोरेरी कर्मचारियों को उस ग्रेड में क्वासी परमानेंट बनाया जा सकता है जिन्होंने तीन साल तक नौकरी पर अच्छी तरह काम किया है और जो उस ग्रेड के लिये तय की गई शिक्षा और उम्र की योग्यताएँ पूरी करत हों ।

(ख) और (ग). प्रश्न ही नहीं उठते ।

Tanjore Fort

2274. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tanjore Fort in Madras State is in a dilapidated condition; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this matter?

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

(b) It is proposed to re-construct the portions of the rampart wall in the northern end and eastern side that have fallen due to age. A sum of Rs. 10,000 has been provided for this work in the budget for the year 1958-59.

Schools in Andamans

2275. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any school for the Punjabi speaking boys in the Andaman Islands; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to open such a school there?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) No, Sir.

(b) At present there is no such proposal.

National Federation of Insurance Field Workers

2276. { Shri Assar:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Prime Minister gave an interview to the representatives of the National Federation of Insurance Field Workers on the 3rd March, 1958;

(b) if so, the demands put forward by them; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) the Main Demands of the National Federation of Insurance Field Workers are as follows:

(i) Minimum basic salary of Rs. 150 p.m.

(ii) Payment of regular and automatic increments;

(iii) No reduction in basic salary and or/total emoluments (as on 19-1-56 or 31-8-56, whichever is higher);

(iv) Withdrawal of clause 9 (b) of the Circular, "Terms and Conditions of Salaries Field Workers (Revised)", empowering the authorities to dismiss a field worker without assigning any reason;

(v) Due weightage to be given to the rights, privileges and status of ex-supervisory officers;

(vi) Minimum agents' commission of 35%; and

(vii) Joint Committee for framing Field Staff Regulations.

(c) The demands have been remitted with to the Life Insurance Corporation for consideration.

District Gazetteers

2277. Shri Kalika Singh: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to lay a statement on the Table showing:

(a) the decisions taken at the first meeting of the Advisory Board for Revision of Indian and District Gazetteers;

(b) whether the district officers have been asked to prepare lists of ancient monuments, sites or antiquities to be incorporated in the Gazetteers;

(c) whether the history portion of the Gazetteers is being re-written in the light of new material now available;

(d) whether any fund has been allotted to the district officers for meeting expenditure at the district level; and

(e) if so, what amount and for what purposes?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) to (e).—A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 37].

Foundries in Orissa

2278. Dr. Samantsinhhar: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to lay a statement showing:

(a) the total number of foundries in Orissa in the State list;

(b) the total requirement of hard coke of these foundries per month;

(c) the total monthly allotment of hard coke to Orissa State in the year 1957 for distribution to the said foundries; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to increase the hard coke quota to the Orissa State?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) 18.

(b) Approximately three wagons.

(c) The allocations were to the extent of the above requirements, but actual despatches were approximately two wagons per month on an average.

(d) There is no such proposal.

अन्य देशों पर ऋण

२२७६. श्री. वल्लभ बेह : क्या बिस्व मंत्री यह बताने को कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत ने किन किन देशों को ऋण दिया है ;

(ख) प्रत्येक देश में कितना ऋण लेना है ;

(ग) इन ऋणों की प्रदायगी कब प्रारम्भ होगी ; और

(घ) प्रत्येक ऋण कितनी किस्तों में चुकाया जायेगा ?

बिस्व मंत्री (श्री. जोरारजी बेसाई) :
पूछी गई बातों का विवरण इस प्रकार है :—

| (क) देश का नाम | (ख) बकाया ऋण की रकम | (ग) और (घ) ऋण की प्रदायगी की शर्तें |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------|

| | | |
|----------|--------------|--|
| १. बर्मा | १५ करोड़ रु० | |
|----------|--------------|--|

यह रकम बराबर बराबर की २४ समान्ती किस्तों में प्रदा की जायेगी और प्रदायगी का काम १-४-१९६० से प्रारम्भ हो जायेगा ।

| | | |
|---------------|-----------|--|
| २. इंडोनेशिया | ५ लाख रु० | |
|---------------|-----------|--|

इस रकम की प्रदायगी की शर्त अभी तक नहीं हुई है ।

भारत सरकार ने नेपाल को ३,१०० टन चाय उधार दिया है, जो बिस्व के रूप में वापस किया जायेगा ।

Bharat Sewak Samaj Camps

2230. { Shri Elayaperumal:
Shri Hem Raj:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the various categories of camps which are held by the Bharat Sewak Samaj;

(b) the number of such camps held during 1957 state-wise;

(c) the number of such camp held for boys and girls separately;

(d) the amount of money spent on each such camp; and

(e) the amount of voluntary labour put in those camps?

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

(i) Big camps for Boy Students.

(ii) Big Camps for Girls Students.

(iii) Local Camps for students.

(iv) Rural Youth Non-Students Camps.

(v) Organisers' Training Camps.

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha [See Appendix VII, annexure No. 38].

(d) The amount of money spent on each camp can only be furnished after audited accounts are available. A statement showing expenditure on a typical camp of each category is however attached.

(e) The normal period of manual labour in a Labour and Social Service Camp except an Organisers' Training Camp, is four hours per day per camper. It may be increased to five hours but not more. For the Organizers' Training Camp, manual work of three hours per day per camper is expected.

Local Voluntary Labour is also enlisted from the villagers wherever possible.

Machine Tools Factory, Ambarnath

2231. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Tangamani:
Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan:

Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether production in the Machine Tool Factory at Ambarnath has increased during 1957-58 as compared to 1956-57; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

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

(b) By more than 2½ times.

Conversion of High Schools in Manipur

2232. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three high schools in Manipur are being converted into Higher Secondary Schools in 1958; and

(b) if so, which are those Schools?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) No, Sir; only one.

(b) It is a Government High School and the name will be placed on the table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Neyveli Lignite Project

2233. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the number of accidents that took place in Neyveli Lignite Project from the year 1956 to 1958;

(b) whether any amount has been paid as compensation; and

(c) if so, the amount paid?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and (b) Yes.
 Fuel (Bardar Swaran Singh): (a) (c) An amount of Rs. 1,446 was paid as compensation, as follows:—

| Name of the individual involved in the accident | Date of accident | Nature of injury | Amount of compensation paid under Workmen's Compensation Act. |
|--|------------------|------------------------|--|
| 1. Shri D. Sachidanandam (A skilled worker). | 18-2-56 | Temporary disablement. | Rs. 96/- |
| 2. Shri P. V. Ahmed (A daily rated worker employed by a private contractor). | 14-2-57 | Loss of life | Rs. 1,350/- (Amount paid by the private contractor to the mother of the deceased) |

Multi-purpose Schools in Himachal Pradesh

2284. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the number of multi-purpose schools to be opened in Himachal Pradesh during the Second Five Year Plan period?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): Twenty-two.

Traffic on New Delhi Roads

2285. Shri Kamal Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is congestion on the road leading to New Delhi Railway Station; and

(b) if so, the steps contemplated to ease the situation?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) There is no congestion on the road connecting Connaught Place and New Delhi Railway Station but there is some congestion on the road from Sadar Bazar to the New Delhi Railway Station on account of heavy and slow moving traffic, particularly at the time of arrival and departure of trains.

(b) It is proposed to post traffic constables to patrol and regulate traffic in the congested area.

Hostels for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

2286. Shri Siddiah: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of hostels run or aided by Government in the Union Territories for the students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(b) the number of students staying in those hostels and the annual expenditure incurred for the maintenance of those hostels; and

(c) the number of students not belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who have been admitted in those hostels?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) to (c): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Scheduled Caste Officers in Ordnance Factories

2287. Shri Sadhu Ram: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste Gazetted Officers in the Ordnance Factories as on the 28th February, 1958;

(b) the number of Scheduled Caste Gazetted Officers as on the 1st January, 1950; and

(c) the measures adopted by Government to fill up the reserved quota?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramalak): (a) Nil.

(b) Nil.

(c) Direct recruitment to the Gazetted grades in the Ordnance Factories Organisation is made through the Union Public Service Commission. At the time of sending requisition for such recruitment, indication is given as to the posts reserved *inter alia* for Scheduled Castes. Due to non-availability of suitable personnel, the UPSC were not in a position to recommend suitable candidates belonging to the Scheduled Caste for recruitment to man the posts reserved for them. No special measures can be taken by this Ministry, as recruitment is required to be made on the recommendations of the UPSC.

12.00 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

AMENDMENTS TO CENTRAL EXCISE RULES

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): Sir, I beg to lay on the Table, under Section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, a copy of each of the following Notifications making certain further amendments to the Central Excise Rules, 1944:—

- (1) G.S.R. No. 159, dated the 22nd March, 1958.
- (2) G.S.R. No. 197, dated the 28th March, 1958.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 651/58].

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER SEA CUSTOMS ACT AND CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT

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 each of the following Notifications:—

- (1) G.S.R. No. 98, dated the 4th March, 1958, containing the Customs and Excise Duties Drawback (Trailers) Rules, 1958.
- (2) G.S.R. No. 99, dated the 4th March, 1958, containing the Customs and Excise Duties Drawback (Bus Body) Rules, 1958.
- (3) G.S.R. No. 100, dated the 4th March, 1958, containing the Customs and Excise Duties Drawback (Crown Cork) Rules, 1958.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 652/58].

NOTIFICATION ISSUED UNDER SEA CUSTOMS ACT,

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, a copy of each of the following Notifications:—

- (1) G.S.R. No. 101, dated the 4th March, 1958.
- (2) G.S.R. No. 102, dated the 4th March, 1958.
- (3) G.S.R. No. 103, dated the 4th March, 1958.

[Placed in the Library. See No. LT 653/58].

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS*—contd.

DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 99, 100 and 137 relating to the Department of Atomic Energy for which two 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.

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

We are commencing now at 12 o'clock. When will the hon. Prime Minister reply?

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): I think, possibly, it may not be necessary for me to reply at all unless it is to answer questions, one or two. I should like to make a statement to begin with and would take about ten minutes or so in the end. I will not take too much time of the House.

Mr. Speaker: I will decide later on if the hon. Minister wants some time. The hon. Members are already aware of the time limit for speeches. We have only two hours. The time limit would be proportionate. We had 15 minutes when it was 5 hours. For two hours, it will be one-third—five minutes—subject to enlargement of course.

Motion moved:

DEMAND NO. 99—DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,32,000 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 'Department of Atomic Energy'."

DEMAND NO. 100—ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,03,23,000 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 'Atomic Energy Research'."

DEMAND NO. 137—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,75,75,000 be granted to the President to complete the sum necessary to defray the charges which will come in course of pay-

ment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1959, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Department of Atomic Energy'."

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Mr. Speaker, I have been the Minister in charge of this Department of Atomic Energy for some years and I have tried to understand and follow its development. But as a layman, I cannot pretend to know much about the scientific side of it or about the highly complicated and intricate work that is being done in connection with it. I see from the numerous cut motions that some hon. Members have tabled numerous proposals and suggestions which presumably flow from some intimate knowledge of atomic energy and how it should be worked. I confess I cannot meet them at this particular level of personal knowledge and have to rely, therefore, on scientific colleagues and advisers.

Fortunately, we have some very eminent scientists connected with our energy establishment and they have done good work and shown good results which have attracted attention in other parts of the world. Anyhow, I welcome the great interest taken by the hon. Members in this development of the atomic energy in this country.

It is many years ago when we first formed the Atomic Energy Department—before that it was called something else—because we realised even at that early stage the importance of this. Normally speaking, the development of atomic energy has taken place in the countries which are industrially advanced. They have the resources for it. It is somewhat unusual for a country like India which is on the threshold of industrial advance and is struggling to bring about what might be called the industrial revolution here which took place a hundred or more years ago elsewhere it is rather unusual for a country in this position to launch out into an atomic energy programme. We did so not because we wanted to show off that we have got something big—that would have been foolish—but because

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

of the definite realisation that this was of the highest importance looking at the future. We were on the threshold of the atomic age in the world. For us, this had overlapped, if I may say so, with our being on the threshold of the industrial age in India. But it is impossible for us to go through the slow processes of the industrial age, having arrived at somewhere far behind, while the other countries have gone on to the atomic age. So, we thought that we must give thought to this matter.

Fortunately, we had able nuclear scientists. Otherwise we could not have done it. It is not a question of money. Money is the least part of it. Indeed in anything worthwhile that has been done in the country, let us remember that, though money is important, it is of the least importance compared to trained men. That is the real thing. It is they who produce things and money.

But there was another aspect of this question which led us to think in terms of atomic energy development and this was the question of power supply. It is well known that you can almost judge of a country's progress by seeing how much power it produced and consumed. Our sources of power, thermal, and hydro-electric, are there of course, but the principal source of power in India still continues to be cow dung. It is well to remember this. People do not realise it. I forget the exact figure but probably 80 per cent of the power—or maybe, more—used in India comes from cow dung. That is of course the primitive state of our economy.

The other day, my colleague who was then the Minister of Irrigation and Power, spoke about the untapped sources of power in India. Of course there are untapped sources, very big sources. But I think he was somewhat optimistic about those untapped sources. Not that he was not justified in being optimistic. You can take either view.

For instance, one source was the river Brahmaputra, more especially at the place where it takes the turn to India from Tibet. It is a potential source of enormous power.... (Interruptions.) I agree. I did not hear what the hon. Members said.

Shri Hem Barua (Gauhati): Five million k.w.s.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It may be so. But in order to reach that turn of the Brahmaputra there, it would require enormous efforts on our part. It is relatively easier perhaps for the Tibetan authorities and the Chinese Government to reach there: It is more in their territories than ours. Anyhow, it is difficult to get there and having got there, it is difficult to get out of there, I mean—to get out the power that you produce there.

But apart from that, the normal calculations about the coal and hydro-electric power depend upon how much we use and at what rate we consume. For instance, if we consume this power at the present rate—which is of course a very low rate—it may last us 200 or 300 years or more. But if we consume at the rate of the U.S.A. today then all the potential power will last us 30 years and not more—maybe 31 or 40 years. Of course we are not going to consume at the rate at which the U.S.A. consumes because we cannot. We may arrive at some middle figure between this and that.

But the point is that we have not got inexhaustible supplies of power in India and that was one reason among many others which forced us to consider the possibility of using atomic energy in future as power for civil purposes.

This was mentioned for the first time, I think, by the Chairman of our Commission, Dr. Bhabha, who has been speaking at some length about this subject. He spoke, I think, last year at Dublin at the British Association meeting too, working out the figures. People are somewhat doubtful and credulous about the feasibility,

about the economic aspect of it. He showed even then that in places far removed from the coal fields or the places where hydro-electric power is produced, this was a feasible proposition. It was not feasible in the economic sense right in the coal field because coal was cheap there.

But ever since he made that calculation other developments are taking place which indicate the probability of this power being produced from atomic energy in a cheaper way, and it seems now quite a feasible proposition in most places. I have no doubt that further advances will make it more feasible still.

In a country like India whose power sources are very limited at the present moment, it is of the highest importance to get something like that. The use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes is far more important for India than, let us say, for the United States of America because they have got tremendous other sources of power, and cheap power. So, not only for the obvious reason that we are on the new source of energy which is going, probably, to transform world conditions in the future and therefore we should know about it,—not know it by reading text books from other countries, but we ourselves, our scientists, discoverers and research workers should know about it; that is important—but, apart from this, it is important because we hunger for more power in this country. Hon. Members are making demands for electricity there and electricity here, which are completely legitimate and understandable. You can really measure the advance of any part of the country by the electric power available there. Because of that too, and looking into the future we thought it desirable to carry this work on.

What is this atomic power? This is a part of nuclear physics. Nuclear physics is and should be a part of the basic training in physics in any university. But, if we want every university in India to take up this atomic energy work in detail, well,

they just have not got the equipment or the personnel, and we will spread out our very limited resources in trained men as well as equipment with the result that there will be no result at all—just spread out fine lectures delivered here and there. Therefore, we have to concentrate our available talent, our available equipment which is exceedingly expensive,—these reactors—in this Atomic Energy Establishment that we have got, expecting that the universities will do a good job of work in teaching nuclear physics and thus supply people from there to these specialised agencies of the Atomic Energy Establishment where they can do higher work, and that specialised agency again supplying their trained men for work in the universities, for teaching work and the rest.

I am laying stress on this because, first of all, it is very important that our universities should have up-to-date teaching and equipment for nuclear physics. That is the basis out of which every other thing will come. And, they have not got it today. They are ambitious—some of them—and want to do atomic energy work. I like their ambition, but they have not got the facilities for it. They make demands on the Atomic Energy Commission: "Give us this equipment; give us that; give us lakhs and lakhs of money." I want to make it clear that we cannot, financially or in terms of personnel, spread ourselves all over India in regard to higher atomic energy work. But what we do is for special research projects. The Department gives money and, maybe, supplies some equipment too if necessary.

So far as the study of nuclear physics is concerned, which we should like all universities in India to have in an adequate degree, that is not the function of the Atomic Energy Department as such. The University Grants Commission should look into it and do it. We must not get mixed up in the two because that may mean lack of success at both ends.

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Now, in this Atomic Energy Establishment, may I say—of course, it does not need saying, perhaps, but I should like to repeat it—that we are not in the slightest interested in atomic bombs and the like, except in so far as we wish to avoid them and not be targets for them? Anyhow, all our work on atomic energy is for the peaceful use.

We have drawn up some kind of a long range plan, which is not complete, in regard to the development of atomic energy. Even during the last year the programme has expanded rapidly. The scientific and technical staff of the Atomic Energy Establishment, which is the heart of the research and development activities of the Department, now exceeds 600. A year ago it was 320. These figures only include graduate scientists and engineers and those with higher qualifications. It is expected that this number will increase by another 300 during the current year—that is, it will come to 900 senior scientists.

To feed this recruitment, the Department has started a training programme from last August, admission to which was made after a very rigorous selection by interview. The total number of applicants exceeded 7,000. On these, 1,400 were called for interview, and over 1,100 actually appeared. The number selected was about 200 of whom about 176 will finish their course. These trainees are given not only courses in basic physics, chemistry and mathematics to fit them for the more advanced courses which come later in the year; there are tutorial classes for small groups of students. This training, I should like the House to note, is necessary chiefly because the training received in the universities was found not to be adequate, and it is our desire that the preliminary training should be made adequate in every university, instead of some universities having inadequate training there and wanting to do some direct atomic energy work also, which also will necessarily be inadequate.

Now, so far as the scientific work of the Trombay Establishment is concerned, this has also increased in breadth, variety and intensity. Our first reactor, the House may remember, is called Apsara—the Water Nymph.

श्री स्वामी (देहरादून) : क्या वह अप्सरा जो ऋषियों के लिए हुआ करती थी ?

श्री जवाहरलाल नेहरू : जी हाँ वही ।

श्री स्वामी : वह आप के साथ लग गई ।
(हँस)

श्री जवाहरलाल सिंह (फिरोजाबाद) : किस ऋषि के लिए है ।

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: It is a suitable name because it is called, I think, "Water Cooled Reactor". This Apsara reached critically, as the phrase goes, for the first time on the 4th August, 1956. It was worked at very low power levels till the end of January, 1957, so as to check its operations. Since then its utilization has increased rapidly. Demand on the use of the reactor becomes so great that it is worked on two shifts a day, and it is expected shortly to go into three shifts operation. Requests for irradiation of biological specimens and radio isotopes from various centres in India have been met to a large extent, and an Isotope Division has been established for which special facilities are under construction. This is expected to produce radio-active iodine, radio-active phosphorus and certain other isotopes required for biological and medical investigations. When the Canada-India reactor goes into operation, the full range of radio-active isotopes including radio cobalt will be produced. A new radio chemistry laboratory has been constructed which is designed to deal with radio-active substances like plutonium and the fission products. Some of these substances like plutonium are so toxic that the maximum permissible dose for ingestion into the system is much less than ten-millionth part of a gram. More of it will be dangerous. Therefore, extremely drastic precautions

have to be taken in handling such substances. Most of the work with plutonium is done in glove boxes which are now being made at Trombay. These glove boxes—the hands never touch them. The gloves are inside and manipulated by hands from outside.

This work with radio-active substances requires a constant watch to ensure that the workers are not exposed to dangerous radiation levels. All the necessary instruments for health protection are now being made by the Health Physics Instrumentation Division. Indeed, most of the electronic instrumentation used in the Trombay establishment or the Atomic Minerals Division is now made in the Establishment, especially in the Electronics Instruments Section. This saves us a good deal of foreign exchange.

The Health Physics Section has organised a Film Badge Service for the workers not only in Trombay but elsewhere in India. Each person wears a film badge and this film in the badge is processed weekly and a record kept of the radiation dose received by each worker. This service is available to hospitals in the country where radium and X-rays are used at a nominal charge and it is being availed of by a large number of hospitals and other institutions not connected with atomic energy.

Now, the construction of the Canada-India reactor made progress during the year though difficulties were encountered with the steel shell. The top of the steel shell is a hemisphere, some 140 feet in diameter, and is one of the largest containment vessels in the world. It is now expected that the Canada-India reactor will be ready towards the end of 1959. When this reactor goes into operation, India will possess one of the best isotope producers in the world, with which it will be possible to produce all neutron-induced isotopes including radio cobalt.

A storage block for the used fuel elements—there is a cut motion on used fuel element and therefore I am

mentioning it—is being designed so that the intense radiation emitted by them can be used for studies on the effects of radiation on the preservation of food and other biological experiments. Studies are also being made on the use of radiation for killing weevils, insects and other organisms which lead to the destruction of foodgrains in storage. The construction of the uranium plant for producing uranium metal of atomic purity was undertaken during the current year, and the building is nearly complete. A laboratory plant for converting this uranium metal into fuel elements for the Canada-India reactor and other natural uranium reactors is also under construction at Trombay. This will have the necessary facilities for running the fuel elements in aluminium cans and other minerals such as beryllium and zirconium. The Department is in close touch with, and carefully follows, all developments in this rapidly advancing field all over the world.

The scientific personnel of the Department have attended scientific conferences, visited laboratories and atomic installations and established contacts with scientists in other countries. The Department has friendly co-operation with similar organisations in all those countries which are most advanced in this field. A number of distinguished scientists and mathematicians from Canada, France, Japan, Poland, Soviet Union, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Yugoslavia and other countries have spent varying periods at the Trombay establishment and the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, giving seminars and lectures.

The House knows that we propose to produce our own heavy water, to begin with, in connection with the fertiliser plant at Nangal. Some time ago I made a statement in the House in regard to the constitution of the Atomic Energy Commission. It has been constituted by a resolution of the Government of India. About two years and a half ago, in August, 1955, there was the first great conference on the peaceful uses of atomic energy in

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Geneva. It was rather a remarkable conference on this new subject and a very successful one. It was presided over by our own eminent scientist, Dr. Bhabha. Now, a second conference is going to take place in September this year at Geneva. Meanwhile, the International Atomic Energy Agency has been established. This came into force in July 1957. There are 62 member-States in it. The first general conference of the Agency was held in Vienna in October 1957.

This, Sir, is an attempt to give an account to the House of the various activities we are indulging in. It is difficult for me, and perhaps for the House also, to go into the details of this intricate business, but I hope that what I have said and the pamphlet we have placed before the hon. Members of the House will give them a broad idea of our activities.

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): Mr. Speaker, I am afraid that unless we release some atomic energy through speeches, in five minutes we cannot do any justice to the number of subjects which are covered in this Demand. I do not propose to enter into any discussions of a technical nature for fear that I may invite the Prime Minister's sarcasm once again, but there are many subjects which we ordinary men can understand and in which we can certainly offer our opinion.

First of all, I must say that the report to which the Prime Minister just now referred, that is, the annual report, does not help us in understanding the exact position of the working of the Atomic Energy Department. We know that this is a new department, a department dealing with several new subjects which we do not know, and a department through the activities of which a very wide vista will be opened. In such a report we expected that Government will give us some more information than what is usually given by way of routine in the matter of the administration of some other departments. I would very much request

the Prime Minister to give us some more details.

I shall come to some of the points which have been referred to by the Prime Minister himself. Let us take in brief the report on the Isotopes Division. Here we are told that they have succeeded in experiments in making the radio phosphorus and radio sulphur. We want to know what further uses to which they are to be put and what efforts have been made to co-ordinate the activities of the other Ministries if there are any. We know that some of these radio-active isotopes are used in modern medicine. We know also that the Health Ministry,—if we ask them to give us information—has precious little information about them. Therefore, when we are told that an electron defraction unit has been completed and the equipment is now being set up, we are interested to know and are also entitled to know, although we are laymen and although we do not have any claims to have equal knowledge with the Prime Minister, as to what further uses it will be put. I shall again refer to the report on the Biology, Medical and Health Group and the research made in respect of it. Here I find that four subjects are listed. No doubt all the four are important. Here we do not know what is India's position today in the application of the therapy in which radio-active isotopes are used in medicine. These subjects do not give us any indication, nor do we get idea as to which institutions are being tried for the use of these isotopes. Maybe it is a very difficult process, but when we know for certain that such killing diseases like cancer or malignant tumour can be cured or at least cures can be attempted by the use of radio-active isotopes, we must be told in the annual report about it. It must not be of a routine character and we should be told that these are the works which have been done.

Taking the report as a whole, just now the Prime Minister said that we are having about 600 scientists. I was

trying to find out before he spoke how many scientists are there. I am glad that he has at least given the information. But in regard to this very important matter of survey and prospecting for atomic minerals as they are called, we find that a very brief survey has been made. The report says:

".....a brief exploration of the submarine deposits near the Kerala coast and the lake bottom deposits in the adjacent terrain was undertaken. This preliminary survey has indicated additional resources of valuable minerals in the same assemblage as present in the beach sands."

For a long time, we know that at a particular place in Kerala they have these beach sands being washed at regular intervals by tidal flow. It must be that somewhere in the Indian Ocean there must be deposits; I do not know. But considering the importance of that, and when we are told that a very brief exploration has already revealed that there are other deposits of these minerals, is it not also necessary for us to know the character of the brief exploration which has already been made? Could we not be taken into confidence and told that these are the indications? Like that, there are several other points which I will not have the time to discuss here.

But I want to make one point and that is about one of the organisations under the administrative control of the atomic energy department dealing with the mineral sands industry. Here the Prime Minister who answered some of my questions earlier in the session has given us some information which is very revealing. You know that in order to develop the activities in this direction, that Government of India in partnership with the Government of the then State of Travancore-Cochin floated a private limited company. From one of the answers of the Prime Minister, I find that in the first eight months of the new company functioning under the aegis of the Government of India, the production has gone down. The production of

ilmenite, for example, in the eight months in the year preceding the year in which the Government of India took over, was 80,000 tons while in the eight months of the year of the Government of India's taking over, the production came down to 52,000 tons.

Not merely that. We also find that production in respect of monazite was confined to one plant. It happens to be in my constituency and even if I do not have any intimate knowledge of the working of the atomic energy establishment, I must claim that I have some intimate knowledge of the working of these factories. There in the Travancore Minerals Plants No. 1 and No. 2, I am very sorry that the Prime Minister was made to say in answer to a question of mine that the production of monazite has been dispensed with in one plant because it is not situated at an advantageous position. These two production units are not even half a mile apart and the sands are from the same source. Yet the Prime Minister was made to say that. As reported in the Press, the Prime Minister is expected to go to Kerala some time this month and he is visiting an establishment within a mile of this place. I would very much like him to see this factory. He is made to say that because of the particular locational situation of the factory, they are not recovering Monazite which is wrong. I shall be glad if he will make some enquiry into this matter.

There is another thing which is very revealing. I find from the report that the Government of India are considering the production of Zirconium. There is a scheme for that. I do not know whether the site has been decided upon, but I find at page 10 it is said:

"The question of setting up a plant for large scale production of Zirconium is under consideration."

From an analysis of the beach sands as given by the Prime Minister himself in answer to a question of mine on 11th February this year, I find that Ilmenite is 60 to 75 per cent and Monazite is 3 to 4 per cent. This is the composition of the beach sands of

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Kerala: Ilmenite 60-75 per cent; Monazite 3-4 per cent; Zircon 8 per cent; Rutile 5-5 per cent; Sillimanite 7 per cent and Garnet 1/3 per cent. This is the result of the analysis. We know that Rutile is not now being taken to the capacity of the plant and in regard to Zirconium there has been no attempt. When we consider the setting up of a production unit for Zirconium, as I find from the report, I very earnestly request the Prime Minister to consider whether it is not advantageous to have the factory along with the Travancore Mineral Concern, for the simple reason that we may not have to go in for producing Zirconium from unknown sources. It may be a by-product in the factory which takes Monazite and Ilmenite and which also takes them from sands which consist of about 3 per cent of Zirconium. So, I would earnestly request the Prime Minister to consider whether the factory could not be located there.

I want to say that my visits to the factory have given me the impression that all is not well with the management of the factory. I am very sorry to say that I do not know how a private limited company owned by Government could keep the proceedings of the directors' meeting as a secret even from this House, because I have been told that this is probably offending one of the sections of the company law. Even then, when two Governments come into partnership with no private agency with them, I feel that in a matter like the recovery of atomic minerals, even such information ought to be given to the House. I do not know how the Chief Administrative Officer has been appointed. I do not know what experience he has had in managing such factories. If I may be permitted to say to the House, my experience with him, I am very sorry to say, is that he has had little knowledge of any of these factories. It is natural also. But this officer and the other officers, when they are appointed on better considerations; not

merely on some experience in some factories. When this a very technical matter, I find that the entire management of the factories has been left to him by the orders of the Board of Directors.

Therefore, I would like the hon. Prime Minister to look into this aspect also and give us some idea. We have been told at the time when this company was constituted that the Government of India have plans for their development. But what we have known from actual experience of at least the first year of its working is, or what it would suggest to us is, that the working has not shown any efficiency. On the other hand, the production, may be owing to many reasons, has definitely gone down and the same system of trading in Ilmenite continues. I have been told that the ordinary price which is now realised for Monazite is about £ 4-10-0 to £ 5. I do not know whether this is a competitive price or not, because I find that throughout the world, our Ilmenite is bought only by two firms, namely, du Pont and National Lead. One year the du Pont buys it and the National Lead keeps away; the next year the National Lead buys it and du Pont keeps away. There seems to be some monopoly over the purchase of our Ilmenite. I do not know whether this is the proper price. It will help not merely the Government of India, but it will also help the Kerala Government if we can find a better price for this.

Also, in the matter of surveys I would request the Government of India to kindly let us know some more details. I do not want to take the time of the House any further by discussing the prospect of power being produced from atomic energy. I think that such subjects will have to be reserved for a future occasion. I would also request you that at least from next year in the matter of discussing this very important subject the House should be given some more time so that some of us who are interested, although we are laymen, could give some more suggestions.

however valueless they may be; from among them Government will certainly get one or two suggestions.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy (Rajampet): The Prime Minister, while making his statement this morning has adequately answered some of the critics who still hold the view that India need not have embarked on this programme of atomic energy utilisation.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): Who holds that view?

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: I will certainly tell you. It will certainly be interesting to reveal that only a few weeks back when I was having a private conversation with one of the foreign diplomats in Delhi, he confronted me with a rather amusing question whether it is not a costly luxury for India to embark upon this atomic energy programme. There are certain other people in our country too, although not in this House, who hold similar views. The answer to these people is two-fold. Firstly, we are not embarking on a programme of building weapons of destruction by atomic energy. Secondly, we realise that atomic energy has got a great future, the peaceful utilisation of atomic energy has got a great future. This realisation has been expressed in the resolution of the Government on scientific policy. If I may be allowed to quote that particular sentence in this resolution, on page 2 of the resolution, it is stated:

"Science has developed at an ever-increasing pace since the beginning of the century so that the gap between the advanced and backward countries has widened more and more. It is only by adopting the most vigorous measures and by putting forward our utmost effort into the development of science that we can bridge the gap. It is an inherent obligation of a great country like India with its traditions of scholarship and original thinking and its great cultural heritage to participate fully in the march of science, which is probably mankind's greatest enterprise today."

This statement will particularly apply to the utilisation of atomic energy. Therefore, I need not elaborate on this point much longer. Suffice it to say that those who hold the view that atomic energy need not be pursued in this country will find themselves in a hopeless minority, at least in our country.

Shri Nayar has said something about the utilisation of isotopes and other articles that are produced by the reactors. I need not go into the details within the limited time allotted to me. I would confine my remarks to the power potential through atomic energy. Before I do so, I should like to express my very great appreciation and complete agreement with what the Prime Minister told us this morning, namely, that it is of utmost importance for us to build up a scientific base by way of training technical personnel, by way of doing fundamental research in atomic energy and so on, before we embark on a particular programme of development or utilisation of this power.

In this connection, may I submit to the House the procedure that is followed in the United Kingdom for the purpose of training the scientists in atomic energy. Here I might also say that the organisational set-up of our Atomic Energy Commission is almost similar to that of the United Kingdom. I think that is a very good arrangement and I should think that in respect of the establishment or institution for the training of scientists also, the arrangement found in U.K. should be followed here.

In U.K. in Harwell there is what is called a reactor school. In this school are taken students from Universities. Engineers and science graduates are taken and given intensive training for a period of fourteen weeks, not only in theory but also in the practical application of the theoretical knowledge that they have acquired. Also, in Calder Hall, where the first atomic power station was set up, there is a school which gives training to these youngmen sent from

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industries, universities, hospitals and so on. Such a system should be followed in our Trombay establishment. There should be a school which is capable of giving intensive training for a short period to scientists who have got a theoretical background of atomic energy.

Now we find from the Report that has been given to us that there has been an increasing utilisation of the products of the reactor, both by the industry, medicine, agriculture, biology and so on. It is very gratifying to know that we are obliged to have a third shift also in our reactor Apsara in order to meet the demands that are made on this reactor. Shortly we are going to have two more reactors, which would be useful in doing fundamental research and also in producing certain products. These reactors should be fully utilized by having a training establishment attached to this reactor and I hope before long the Atomic Energy Commission would take a decision to pursue this procedure with some vigour.

I was making a reference to the production of power through atomic energy. I was hoping that the Prime Minister would announce to this House this morning that a decision has been taken regarding the setting up of a power station at Trombay or at some other place. In the Report we are told that the Government is still considering this question and they have not yet been able to come to a decision. We have read also what Dr. Bhabha had to say about the atomic power stations. He has made a statement in Dublin recently. He gave us a very interesting talk on the subject in the Central Hall here where he conclusively proved the utility of power stations in our country, with particular reference to the conditions in our country. Since those arguments are very valid and convincing, I do not see why there should be so much of delay in taking a decision. Dr. Bhabha told us that if we take a decision today, we might in five years' time be able to set up a power station. Therefore, the time

lag is quite considerable between the decision and the actual setting up of the power station. I hope Government will be able to come to a decision very soon.

I would like to refer again to the position in the United Kingdom with regard to the development of power through atomic energy. As I have submitted to the House already, Calder Hall power station was the first atomic power station in the world. The experience of the Calder Hall power station has shown one thing to the authorities in the United Kingdom. It has proved conclusively that although this particular power station at that time was supposed to have been a very efficiently designed one, within these eighteen months it has already become out of date with the result that they are already constructing a power station in the U.K. on the northern coast of Scotland at a place called Dounreay where the efficiency of operation of the power station is supposed to be hundred times more than that of Calder Hall, i.e., whereas in Calder Hall one ton of uranium fuel produces heat equivalent to ten thousand tons of coal, this other power station at Dounreay with one ton of uranium fuel will produce heat equivalent to one million tons of coal. Already within a period of eighteen months there has been a great deal of development and improvement in the designing of these power stations. I am sure by the time we are able to set up our first power station, it is quite possible that other developments might take place and a more efficient design of power stations would have been discovered. Even so, it is not a loss for us to take an early decision and set up a power station.

According to the U.K. Report on the peaceful uses of atomic energy, they have programmed to set up nineteen power stations by 1965. They hope to produce nearly 15% of the power consumption in 1965 through atomic power stations, i.e., the U.K. Commission has very well realised the importance of these atomic power stations.

We have only to follow suit and we should make a very vigorous attempt with regard to these power stations.

I would like to say one word again about these power stations. The designing of these power stations and reactors should be based on our own experience although we might take the experience of other countries also into account. The experience of our own reactors constitutes the fundamental side of our research in this direction. Each country has to design its own reactor taking into account the availability of atomic fuel, the availability of a particular type of moderator and also the heat exchangers and so on. I am sure that in our Trombay establishment research in this direction is taking place keeping in view the availability of raw materials etc. in our own country. Before long, I am sure, through the efforts of our young scientists we would have designed a particular reactor which should be most suitable to our country.

In the U.K. already the ZETA reactor, which is based on the fusion of the nucleus, is being experimented upon. It is expected that before very long a power station may be built based on this principle of fusion. Now if this becomes successful—and they expect to succeed in the matter of five or six years or at the most ten years—then the amount of power that can be produced, and cheap power at that, is enormous and we would have been well on our way to produce power which would be cheaper than the power produced even in the conventional stations.

While speaking on power I might make another submission also. It might be that in the beginning the cost of power produced in atomic power stations might be much higher than in the conventional stations. In that case, we can equalise the rates on the basis of supply of this power to the national grid system. We can equalise the rate by an increase in the rates of power available in the hydro-electric and other power stations and a decrease in the

rate of power from these atomic power stations. That is the principle adopted in Andhra State where a complete grid between hydro-electric stations and thermal power stations has been formed and, as you know, thermal power is much costlier than hydro-electric power. The Andhra Government thought of reducing the rates of thermal-electric power and slightly increasing the rates of hydro-electric power, i.e., equalise the rate all over the State.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): We can subsidise it from national resources also.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: But this is a much easier thing to do because the burden placed on hydro-electric power is very much less. I do not know. I am just making this suggestion for whatever it is worth and I hope it should be pursued.

Now I would like to make a reference to the liaison committees that are formed in the U.K. We do not have any such committee in our country. The Government, in its Scientific Policy Resolution, has again stated in the concluding paragraph the necessity of associating scientists in policy making. I may quote these words:

"The Government of India have decided to pursue and accomplish these aims by offering good conditions of service to scientists and according them an honoured position, by associating scientists with the formulation of policies, and by taking such other measures as may be deemed necessary from time to time."

I think so far no practical shape has been given to this declaration. I might make a reference again to the position as it exists today in the United Kingdom, where there is a committee consisting of scientists as well as policy-makers so that the scientists may give their experiences to the policy-makers and the policy-makers may also understand the point of view of the scientists. This committee has been in existence in England since 1939. It has been

[Shri Viswanatha Reddy]

reconstituted again and made more broadbased in 1956.

"Membership in 1956 comprised 173 Members of Parliament and representatives of 100 scientific and technological institutions. The aims and objects of the committee are:

- (1) To provide Members of Parliament with authoritative scientific information from time to time in connection with the debates;
- (2) To bring to the notice of Members of Parliament and Government Departments the results of scientific research and technical development which bear upon questions of current public interest;
- (3) To arrange for suitable action through parliamentary channels wherever necessary to ensure that proper regard is had for the scientific point of view; etc. etc."

I need not go into further details of this proposition. Such a committee, if established here which would consist of Members of Parliament as well as scientists and also people belonging to the universities and other scientific institutions, would be a very good base for the propagation of scientific ideas in our country and also for the shaping of proper policy with particular reference to atomic energy. Also in industry England is in a very fortunate position, naturally because it is very much advanced in industry. Today in England industry is in a position to manufacture not only reactors but also atomic power plants and supply to any country in the world which is prepared to pay for it. In our country such a possibility might be only a very distant possibility. However, to whatever uses the tracers and the isotopes can be put in industry can be made available to the industry. They are made available but the difficulty of the industry is that the liaison between the Trombay establishment and the industry is, I think, not well planned.

I think some efforts should also be made in that direction to create liaison between the industry and the Trombay establishment.

Finally, may I say with gratification that during last year's debate on this subject several hon. Members, particularly Shri S. V. Ramaswami, who was then a private Member, made a suggestion that private prospectors should be encouraged in trying to find atomic minerals. This year's report reveals a very good development in this direction. Several facilities are given to private prospectors in discovering atomic minerals, analysis of ores etc., and I am sure these facilities will continue to be given to these private prospectors, so that our available resources of atomic minerals might be discovered at a very early date and we may be in a position to set up a large number of power stations in a short period.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Goray. I also propose to call Shri Naushir Bharucha and Dr. Sushila Nayar.

Shri Goray (Poona): Mr. Speaker, Sir, those of us who have read the history of the last War written by Churchill and recollect that how on a particular night in 1945, Sir Winston was called away from a Potsdam dinner and was shown a communication from President Truman saying that the baby was born safely, would agree with me that this baby was not an ordinary human baby, but was a force, a new energy of incredible and incalculable potentialities.

The world as it were was thrust on to a threshold of a new era, an era perhaps of total and terrible destruction, or of reconstruction of the whole world. So far as the other nations who were foremost in the use of atomic weapons are concerned, nations like Russia, U.S.A., U.K. and France, they have not as yet eschewed the use of atom for purposes of

But India certainly has committed herself to a policy of peace, because, as this report says, when our Prime Minister inaugurated the Atomic Energy establishment at Trombay in 1957 he had said that whatever might happen, whatever the circumstances, we shall never use atomic energy for evil purposes. With this commitment in view, let us try to understand what we have been doing for the last ten years.

In 1948 we had made a small beginning, and after a lapse of ten years we have constituted an Atomic Energy Commission. The immediate tasks that confront this Commission are to devise ways and means by which the fuel shortage in this country can be made up. Sir, this fuel shortage was mentioned by the late Dr. Saha in words that are pregnant with meaning. He said that India is facing along with other countries an energy famine. Now it is worthwhile trying to understand what the Atomic Energy Commission is doing to relieve us of this energy famine.

A few days back we had a very illuminating talk by Dr. Bhaba and in this talk he told us that though we are inclined to think that we have enough of coal, enough of oil and enough of hydro-electric power, the facts were the other way about. The same note was struck by Dr. Bhaba when he spoke in 1957 in Dublin. Sir, the shortage of electricity is so acute that we find our plans to electrify the railways from Calcutta to the stations near about the centres of the core of our Plan stalled and perhaps after all in spite of our efforts to save the core of the Plan, it will be very difficult for us to provide transport. Therefore, it becomes necessary to find out ways and means of overcoming this shortage.

In the United Kingdom we find that they have fixed a target of 5 million K.W. of energy in the next ten years. I have no figures from the U.S.A. and other countries, but I am quite sure that aware as they are of the rapidly depleting resources of power which according to their scientists will be

completely exhausted within the next one hundred or one hundred and fifty years, they also must be making great efforts in that direction. Here in this report we find that all that we have succeeded in doing so far is to set up one small reactor in Trombay. The other reactor, the Canada-India reactor, is lagging behind schedule; the third reactor the Zerlina is in the stage of blue-prints. I think that is not a very encouraging picture.

Of course, the first reactor that we have in Bombay bears a very romantic name, Apsara, and I hope the other two reactors also will be given names equally romantic. But what we are concerned with is that we should aim at the early achievement of some target which will give us hope that if we run short of other sources of energy, of fuel, of electricity or coal, we will have something to fall back on. Therefore I would urge upon the Government and upon the Atomic Energy Commission to make the best possible efforts, maximum efforts, to find out ways and means of producing electricity and power with a view to relieving us of this famine of energy.

Sir, in this report I find that so many other uses of atomic energy have been mentioned. But beyond mentioning these uses nothing concrete has been told to us. We have been told that atomic energy is useful in agriculture, in metallurgy, in medicine and in so many other fields. But how far we have proceeded along those lines, how far we have been successful in making use of atomic energy, we are not told. I agree with the Prime Minister when he says that we are all laymen, but even laymen should be told what is happening. Some of us may eventually gather sufficient knowledge and information to participate in these debates with more information, with more knowledge, with more insight and interest.

Sir, I think that while we are launching on a big programme of atomic energy, it will be worth-while to chalk out some policy even now as regards the relations that would exist

[Shri Goray]

in days to come between the private industry and the Atomic Energy Commission.

I have got a report of the hearings before the Joint Committee of the Congress in the U.S.A. You will find that they have had detailed discussions about the relations that should exist between the Atomic Energy Commission and private industry. They have said that up to December 1955, about 602 private enterprises had asked for access to information and they were given access permits. Of course, in our country where industry is still in its infancy, there will not be many firms or many enterprises which would be in a position to make use of this knowledge. But, I suppose that we should have some policy laid down just now. We should anticipate what will happen after five or ten years. From now on, we should be alert in laying down some policy that would govern our relations with the private or public sectors.

In the Constitution of the Atomic Energy Commission, defining the powers of the Chairman, it is said in clause (b) that the Chairman shall have power to overrule the other Members of the Commission except that the Member of Finance and Administration shall have the right to ask that any financial matter in which he does not agree with the Chairman, be referred to the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister. I somehow feel that too much power is being given to the Chairman. Why should he have the power to overrule the other Members of the Commission, I fail to understand. Because, the Members of the Commission, I suppose, will be people who have knowledge, who have efficiency and who have been appointed Members because they deserve to be members. Therefore, I think that clause (b) of section 6 concentrates too much power in the hands of the Chairman and though at present we have a brilliant scientist like Dr. Bhabha in the Chair, I do not think that for all time

to come, this sort of a clause should be there.

In his talk to the Members of Parliament, the late Dr. Saha had pointed out that in the United States Atomic Energy Act, section 22 (b) lays down that no Member of the Commission shall engage in any business, vocation or employment other than that of serving as a Member of the Commission. Dr. Saha went on to remark that it is well known that none of the Members of the Indian Atomic Energy Commission has been a whole-time man and each one of them has at least one whole-time job in addition to other part-time jobs of a serious nature. I do not know how far the same is true today. But, I think this is a good warning. If this Constitution of the Atomic Energy Commission is going to be followed by an Act, I would submit that some provision of this nature should be made a part of that Act.

Shri Joachim Alva: (Kanara): What is the remedy when the Chairman disagrees with the other Members of the Commission? Whose voice prevails? Is it like the Cabinet?

Shri Goray: The majority voice should prevail.

The last point that I would like to dwell on is this. In this report, it has been said with some pride, which of course, is understandable, that when Dr. Bhabha addressed the world Atomic Energy conference in Geneva in August, 1955, he made a public reference to the possibility of obtaining power for peaceful purposes from fusion reaction. This is something for which we should be proud. But, what Dr. Bhabha pointed out, most probably, was taken up by the U.K. and as my hon. friend just now pointed out and not by us. It is U.K. which is going ahead with fusion reaction. We are sticking to fission reaction. If Dr. Bhabha has understood how fusion reaction also could be harnessed, we should not lag behind other countries in harnessing that power. How far that is possible at the stage at which we are working today, I do not know. But, when a

problem has been understood and grasped and he had the courage to state it, I suppose, we in our country also should make every attempt to take advantage of that.

I thank the Atomic Energy Commission and the Minister in-charge of that for keeping India abreast of modern times. One of our drawbacks throughout the ages has been that we have always been negligent so far as science was concerned, whether it was pure science or applied science. I hope that, with the creation of the Atomic Energy Commission, we shall never again lag behind other countries.

Mention was made of China. In China, I do not know what they are doing about atomic energy. They seem to be silent over it. So far as China is concerned, it is known that their coal resources are about 25 times our coal resources. While we have got 60 million tons of coal, they have got 1500 billion tons of coal. Situated as they are, with that peculiar political system being there, I won't be surprised if China were to announce to the world that they have manufactured an atom bomb. That is not impossible. Therefore, let us not feel that we are the only nation amongst the undeveloped nations of the world to have progressed so far as atomic energy is concerned. There may be other nations, we do not know. Therefore, the best policy would be to catch time by the forelock and go ahead not only with energy from fission reaction, but also energy from fusion reaction.

Mr. Speaker: Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan. I will call hon. Members in the following order: Dr. Sushila Nayar, thereafter Shri Naushir Bharucha.

Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan (Pollachi): Sir, at the outset, I would like to congratulate the hon. Prime Minister for taking directly under him the responsibility of promoting atomic energy research and thus providing the scientists an inspiration.

There were three approaches that were possible for atomic energy development. First, we could have adopted the crash programme as it is called, that was announced by the U.K. in 1955. That involves an effort over the next ten years to achieve a position in which the incremental additional nuclear power plants would constitute a substantial portion of the new generating capacity. The next approach we could have adopted was a passive one, just wait for other countries to develop atomic energy and afterwards follow them. That would only mean that we defer investment of any substantial nature in atomic power development. There is a third approach, which we have adopted, an approach, may I call, the pilot plant phased development. We have taken only pilot plant development before we commit our resources to any full scale reactor programme. This was necessary and I must really congratulate the Prime Minister for the policy decision that he has taken in this regard, because, power development through atomic energy is a very costly business and we could not afford the crash programme that was adopted by the U.K. The hon. Member said that we have lagged behind, and, because of the shortage of power supply in the country we should have gone ahead with the power development as they have done in the United Kingdom, but I think we have made a wise decision in keeping ourselves to the pilot plant scheme.

I must also congratulate the hon. Prime Minister on another policy decision he has made regarding the development of this nuclear energy and keeping this nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes. He made this

[Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan]

remark: "Whatever might happen, whatever the circumstances, we shall never use atomic energy for evil purposes." This is an attitude morally sound, and I hope in future we will, by our moral stature, show the world a way of life that everybody will come to appreciate.

The scientists have painted a rather gloomy picture about the depletion of the fossil fuel in the whole world. In the United States the *per capita* consumption of fuel is about nine tons per annum, and at this rate of consumption it is estimated that within a foreseeable time there will be a depletion of the fossil resources of the whole world. So it has become necessary to develop this atomic energy resources not only to provide power for the power-hungry world, but also to keep up the power civilisation in which we are today.

The coal resources of our country are meagre. It is estimated that 40,000 million tons of coal is available in India. That means about 100 tons per head of the population. Also, our hydro-electric power is very limited. It is estimated that 40 million K.W. only could be generated. That means about 120 million tons of coal, according to Dr. Bhabha. That means only one-third ton *per capita* per annum. Now, he has also made a remark which I shall quote here:

"We, therefore, come to the inescapable conclusion that the reserves of hydro-electric power and conventional fuels in India are insufficient to enable it to reach a high standard of living comparable even with the present standard of the industrially advanced countries."

So, we have taken up this pilot project in which we have made considerable advance. We should be justifiably proud of the achievement of the first reactor that was built in Asia—the Apsara. It was engineered in the country and it was designed and built

with the collaboration of our industry. We can be very proud of the achievement because at the time this development was taken up, we were not given sufficient knowledge from the outside world and in no way had we been helped in the development of this nuclear reactor.

Just to produce all the materials required for the full atomic programme, we have taken up intensive development of pilot projects. I would like to mention a few. A plant at Alwaye has been designed to produce rare earths of thorium and uranium cakes. A plant has been designed and built to convert uranium salt into reactor grade uranium metal. Also, a small plant has been constructed for the fabrication of fuel elements. A plant for the production of beryllium oxide has also been constructed. So, this is by no means a small achievement, because it is very easy to talk but it is very difficult to promote this work and to see it through.

We have also taken, a policy decision to produce, as the Prime Minister has said, heavy water at Nangal. According to Dr. Bhabha it will be ten to twenty tons per annum. He also adds that the cost of production of this heavy water at Nangal would be probably the lowest in the world—about 20 dollars per pound.

We have also undertaken to produce graphite that could be used probably as a moderator in the refinery in Assam. We have also undertaken to produce zirconium oxide which can be used as a canning material. I do not agree with the hon. Members who say that nothing has been done and that our progress has been very slow.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Who said that? Nobody said that. Why imagine?

Shri P. R. Ramakrishnan: I had the impression from the hon. Member that we could have gone with the same rapid speed of development as the United Kingdom and that we have failed to achieve that rapid development.

In regard to providing technical personnel for the development of the atomic energy scheme, I perfectly agree with the hon. Prime Minister when he said that we should not dissipate our energies by charging the universities with the responsibility of producing results. We have a broad base which we have contemplated at Trombay, and we are doing our best to get all the personnel needed. But I also feel that even though there is a broad-based research base, we should also have feeder bases outside, feeder channels for this atomic power development. For this I would like to suggest that in the colleges where nuclear physics is being taught, some scholarships may be provided for doctorate and post-doctorate degrees. They could have access to Trombay, they could come there and could get whatever information or facilities they would like to get to do this kind of research. They should have access to do this kind of research. I think this would be a very good scheme for getting future scientists, a sort of scout scheme, because our country is very vast, we have very good universities spread out throughout the country and we shall be able to get scientists from all over India instead of trying to recruit them through the U.P.S.C.

There is a policy decision now going to be made about the size of these power units that are going to be built. Because our country is too large, if we could undertake a smaller type of power unit with a capacity of 20 to 30 megawatts, I think it would be most suitable for our country. Of course, in other parts of the world, where industry has advanced to a great extent and where there is tremendous concentration in one particular area, they could think of 200 or 300 megawatt units, but in our country it is necessary that we should develop smaller units, because if we develop bigger units, then we will have to spend a lot of money for the grid system for carrying power to distant areas. So, I think in the

development of these power units we should concentrate on smaller units than on larger units.

I would like to conclude my speech with the remark that Dr. Bhabha has made during one of his speeches that the energy problem of the world would be solved if fission is replaced by fusion.

Dr. Sushila Nayar (Jhansi): I would like to join the other hon. Members in paying a compliment to the Prime Minister for the lead that he has given in encouraging scientific research in the country. And it is in line with that approach that he has taken up the responsibility for atomic research, which is very fortunate for the Atomic Energy Commission and for the furtherance of research in this field. He made mention of the fact that a number of people are being trained, and an elaborate method of selection was followed to select the candidates for such training.

I would like to bring to his attention the fact that for proper training in atomic physics we have to do a good deal to strengthen the basic training in general physics, which at the moment is not what it can be and what it should be. I am sure he is conscious of this as he is the chairman of the Indian Council for Scientific Research also, but I do hope that while efforts are being made for promoting research and training in atomic energy, we will not forget the need for improving the facilities and the training in physics in all our universities, which is the basis on which any further advanced research in atomic energy can be built.

In this connection, I would also like to mention that I was very glad to meet a large number of our Indian students who were being trained in different parts of the world, quite a number in the United States of America in nuclear physics. I do hope that the Prime Minister and the Atomic Energy Commission have given sufficient thought to advanced planning so that as soon as these trainees return to India, their services can be immediately utilised, and they do not suffer

(Dr. Sushila Nayar)

the fate which many other trainees of ours seem to be suffering on their return from advanced training in various fields such as medicine, chemistry and so on; for months and months, they are not able to get a job, and when they get a job, very often, it is not particularly fitted to make use of the specialised training that they had. This is a very specialised subject and a very specialised training that these people are having, and I, for one, would like to say a word of gratitude to all those countries who are taking pains to train these students of ours, and I do hope that we shall make full use of the training that they will come back with.

Mention was made of the radio-active isotopes. I had really stood up to say a word or two on the medical aspects of atomic energy and these radio-active isotopes. Now, it is well known that these radio-active isotopes have revolutionized certain fields of medical research and medical treatment. For instance, in cancer of the thyroid, even when that cancer has spread to other parts of the body in the form of secondary growths, radio-active iodine can reach them and can cure the person of that disease. Similarly, other isotopes have also a very important role to play in diagnosis as well as in certain special treatments, into the details of which I am not going for lack of time and also because it would not be proper.

I want to bring one thing to the notice of the Prime Minister, and that is that it is very necessary that these isotopes are made available and that all the facilities for scientific research and their proper use are made available in suitable medical centres on a regional basis. I hope that if these facilities are made available on a regional basis, they will benefit the people, that is, the patients, as well as they will lead to advancement throughout the country in the field of medical research.

The next point that I would like to mention is the disposal of radio-active waste. The Prime Minister had made it very clear, and we are very happy about it, that India is not at all interested in the destructive uses of atomic energy. However, the fact remains that the disposal of these atomic research plants, that is, the disposal from Trombay is radio-active. I was asked in several countries last year how we were making the discharge from the Trombay works harmless before discharging it into the sea. This is a problem that is facing scientists throughout the world, and I do not know if anybody has found a satisfactory solution. It is, therefore, very important for us to be aware of this fact that at the moment it seems almost impossible to deal with this discharge and remove the harmful effects of the radio-activity that are there. The Prime Minister mentioned something about certain uses that are made, but even after making those uses for certain purposes, for destruction of weevils and so on, the ultimate discharge that is being let into the sea has got sufficient amount of radio-activity, and indeed, to prove harmful and to prove dangerous. And it is in the interests of humanity that so long as we are not able to find a satisfactory way of dealing with the discharge of atomic research plants, even the researches and experiments for peaceful purposes in the field of atomic research should be restricted as far as possible.

Everybody knows the harmful effects of radio-activity. Not only the present generations, but the future generations are mortgaged as a result of the radio-activity. It is, therefore, extremely necessary that we do give utmost attention to research in this field, as to how we can mitigate and counteract the harmful effects of the radio-activity of these discharges in India; and of course, if we are successful, it will no doubt help other people in other parts of the world also.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): But have any scientists stated that it is likely to cause such bad effects?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Of course there are books and books written on it. There is a beautiful book which the hon. Member might refer to, and that is called *No Place to Hide*. It just describes how after you have done research and made use of this atomic energy in any shape or form, it becomes like one of those proverbial *rakshasas*; you just do not know how to get away from it, how to deal with it, have to destroy it, and how to do anything with it.

An Hon. Member: Frankenstein.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Therefore, the scientists are worried about finding an effective protection against this monster of radio-activity.

We have ourselves made a strong plea against the experimental blowing up of atomic bombs, and we are all very happy that Russia has taken the first step in declaring that they are not going to have these nuclear tests. And we hope the others will follow suit. Why did we do that? We did that because the fall-out from these nuclear tests was filled with radio-active material which was considered dangerous for humanity. Similarly, I wish to point out that the discharges from these research plants are equally dangerous, and equally harmful for the present generation and for the future generations. The Prime Minister has great humanity in his heart. In the name of that humanity, I plead that he takes sufficient care that we do not go ahead increasing atomic research till such time as we have found an effective way to deal with the waste of atomic plants which is today dangerously radio-active.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): I think by now the House is agreed on the point that on account of the very meagre resources in fuel which this country possesses, it is very necessary to develop the nuclear form of energy. It is also appreciated that if it were possible to exploit one ton of uranium fully—I

emphasise the word 'fully'—it will be equivalent to 2½ million tons of coal. Under the Five Year Plan, we want to have 60 million tons. It would mean that the same work could be done by nearly 25 tons of uranium. Virtually it means from the point of view of the conveyance capacity of railways that you could do the work with one wagon what would otherwise require 3 million wagons.

Therefore, so far as the economics of the production of atomic power is concerned, I do not think there can be two opinions. The hon. Prime Minister has recognised the importance of this subject and has constituted an Atomic Energy Commission. I am of the opinion that in order to emphasise the importance of this subject, it is necessary to have a separate Ministry of Nuclear Energy. Unless we have a separate Ministry of Nuclear Energy, I do not think we will be in a position to take decisions quickly, promptly and on a higher level.

The hon. Prime Minister has referred to some of the cut motions which I have tabled. Perhaps in dealing with a technical subject, one cannot avoid cut motions containing technical terms. But it is very necessary to understand at least the part of the work that the Atomic Energy Establishment is doing, particularly in the physics group, if we are to direct the resources, the very meagre resources, in talent as well as money, that we have placed at the disposal of the Atomic Energy Establishment in the manner most desirable. So far as the physics group is concerned, there are four broad divisions, namely, theoretical physics and applied mathematics, nuclear physics, reactor control division, air monitoring, health physics and electronics division. Just examine in detail—though they are broadly stated terms—the subjects which are being dealt with. What I fear is that our experiment resources are being diffused at a time when it is necessary to rationalise our experiments, to contain them and to focus them on our immediate requirements.

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

For instance, so far as the reactor physics section is concerned, we are dealing with several subjects like study of the types of reactor, damage to material by radiation, inter-action of neutrons with solids and behaviour of elementary particles. In the case of the neutron physics section, we are dealing with behaviour of neutrons in moderating material, inter-action of low energy neutrons on matter. In nuclear spectroscopy, we are dealing with disintegration of nuclei by beta and gamma emission and study of the emergent spectrum of neutrons from different moderators.

These terms may frighten a layman. But when you examine them, what is it that emerges out of them? I shall presently explain it. First, for instance, the Establishment is studying different types of reactor. If we decide upon a particular type of power reactor, then we must necessarily limit our experimentation with different types of reactors. How many different types there are? May be over a hundred, and we cannot afford to sequester our energy in experimenting with any and every type of reactor. Surely, it is time, therefore, that we must confine our experiments only to certain few types which are immediately necessary for our requirements.

Then take the question of damage to material by radiation and inter-action of neutrons with solids. There are tens of thousands of solids and materials. If we start experimenting with them, there will be a vast field that will be before us and we will be lost in that vast field. We will keep on experimenting and we will not arrive at some practical results.

Take, again, the question of behaviour of neutrons on moderating materials. There are various moderating materials and if we keep on experimenting with them. What will happen is that we will branch out and fan out into various types of experiments without being able to concentrate, focus and pinpoint our experi-

ments to the immediate requirements.

Take also the question of disintegration of nuclei by beta and gamma emission. This is a vast subject in itself—nucleonics. How are you going to experiment with all these things? Of course, so far as the Administration Report is concerned, it simply mentions these vague terms. We do not exactly know what is being done under these heads. If I may say it without meaning any disrespect to the Atomic Energy Department which prepares the Report, it has managed to compress the maximum of words into the minimum of thought. It has said so many things and conveyed so little. What I say is that we require certain specific information. Probably the Prime Minister may think that we are entering into technical details. I can assure you that what I speak here is only with a nodding acquaintance with the science. An average science student knows much more than what I am speaking here. But I think it is due not only to this House and to the hon. Prime Minister, but also to our brilliant band of scientists who are trying to transform our economic condition that one speaks here with more than a nodding acquaintance with this subject.

The point I am making is this—and I want an assurance from the Prime Minister that this point is being looked into—that unless our experiments are focussed and concentrated on particular issues, the tendency in the scientist is to get away and run off at a tangent with experiments. I shall give you a historical illustration on this subject. During World War I, when Mr. Lloyd George wanted a better type of explosive, he set scientists to work on it. And do you think that the scientists produced a better type of explosive? No. They simply fanned out into various experiments on subjects interesting in themselves but not at all connected with the technique of a better explosive, until Dr. Weizman did it and we had the T.N.T.

Therefore, it is no use telling us: 'Do not scientists, who do this work know what they have got to do?' I say it is an inherent tendency in the scientists to run off at a tangent. They are simply so much absorbed in knowledge that they even accumulate a lot of useless knowledge which, for practical purposes, is not quite required at the moment. Therefore, I say that there is need for having rationalisation of experiments and some method whereby we 'contain' experiments and restrict them to our immediate requirements.

I emphasise the fact that we must have a flexible long-term Master Plan. I have looked into the Administration Report and all that we are told is that our objective is the development of atomic energy as a source of atomic power and to promote its use in agriculture, industry, medicine and biology. This is very vague. I shall presently explain why I say so. For instance, if we start in the field of experimentation of radiation on biology subject, we will launch ourselves immediately into the vast field of nuclear medicine. It is such a vast field that all our energy will be dissipated and we will fail to produce what is immediately required. The same thing can be about industry.

Therefore, I would ask the Prime Minister to consider this point. Let us have a long-term Master Plan, a flexible Master Plan, with emphasis on the word 'flexible'. What should that be? Our purpose should be very precisely defined. What has been stated in the Report is not the purpose; this is merely a statement of broad objectives. The purpose and ingredients of the Master Plan should be that we should have atomic energy power stations—I am coming to that in a little more detail presently—then use of nuclear energy for irradiation of seeds and preservation of food by sterilisation with radiation. Then we should have extremely limited uses of radio-isotopes in industry and we must drastically limit our field of research in biology. What is the

reason? The reason is that today our requirement is food. A big quantity of food is wasted in storage and, therefore, if we can use microscopic doses of radiation to sterilise the food so that it is preserved longer, that will be an immediate practical contribution. Therefore, rather have experiments in biology with the objective of finding out how radiation is causing mutations in genes, I would ask the Prime Minister to concentrate on this. I would ask the Prime Minister to concentrate all the energy on irradiation of seeds, seeds which produce better quality of crop which is our immediate requirement. The thing is still in its infancy. Concentrate all your experimental power, your personnel, your finance, all these on these things and you will have immediate results.

With regard to radio-isotopes in industry, of course, there are important uses, neglected for the present. Our industry is very crude too, very elementary; our industrialisation stage is small and you do not require these things right now. Do not waste your energy on this.

Dr. Sushila Nayar mentioned the use of radio-iodine in medicine. Of course, to a certain extent, you may have to experiment on this. But the vast field that opens up nuclear medicine has got to be set aside and postponed until we have satisfied our immediate requirements.

So, I will give one other illustration. We are spending lakhs of rupees in building high altitude cosmic rays research station at Gulmarg. Why? Because at higher altitudes, you get the cosmic rays in more or less their pristine purity. The atmosphere of the earth prevents the cosmic rays from coming to the earth in their pristine purity. As a result, you cannot study them effectively.

Now, very probably, the plan for high altitude Cosmic Ray Research Station was developed at a time when the Sputniks were not thought of. The principle is that the higher you go, the intensity of cosmic rays in-

[Shri Naushir Bharucha]

creases sharply, it also changes with the magnetic latitudes. But, apart from that, today's Sputniks and Explorers will give you such important and full data on cosmic rays that 20 of your stations at Gulmarg will not give. Therefore, I am asking whether it is worthwhile going full force ahead with your Cosmic Ray Research Station at high altitudes because what is the altitude at Kashmir? It is only 12,000 ft. In balloons experiments have been carried out at 30 kilometers where the cosmic radiation is 100 times more powerful. What you are going to get is only 3 or 5 times more powerful at 12,000 ft. And the detailed data that you will get from the Sputniks and Explorers will be still more instructive. Therefore, the question is whether you should not rationalise our programme.

I am not blaming the scientists for that because nobody can foresee technical developments which suddenly make certain things out of date. But, now that we have seen it, should we not lay emphasis on exchange of information rather than on experimenting and finding out for ourselves by trial and error method and at the expense of so much money? I think these are points which require to be closely looked into.

I am also aware of the fact that before we take to electricity generated by atomic energy, we have got to take certain decisions on policy. I do not know whether the Atomic Energy Commission has taken them. For instance, in a power reactor, you have got to think of the fuel, the core, the moderator, the control rods, the coolants and the shield. The important thing is about the type of fuel you have got to use; whether you have to use the thorium-based fuel. Has the Atomic Energy Commission considered whether we shall go in for Thorium and adopt Thorium—U 233 cycle or whether you are going in for U 238—Plutonium cycle. The idea is: are we going to make use of the material we have in hand. I wish a decision

on the type of fuel we are going to use is soon taken. That is necessary because until that is done, you cannot design the reactor for electricity generation. Similarly, once that is decided, you have to decide upon the moderator, the type of moderator you are going to have and the type of control rod material you are going to use; and experiments must be confined to these few types only. What I am objecting to is fanning out all over the field of sciences trying to get a knowledge of everything and attempting to having a comprehensive, integrated plan. That should not be. Our requirements are specific and our resources small.

The last thing is that while we are having our atomic power plants, let us not design them by the dozens. It simply cannot be done because I will tell you why. By the time we have our first power plant, it will be nearly 1962. And the experiments that are being conducted at Harwell on ZETA—Zero Energy Thermonuclear Assembly—have proceeded so far that the prophecy of Dr. Bhabha that it will take 20 years to get power from controlled fusion will to an extent be shortened—I would not be surprised if it is by 5 years. U.K. has been experimenting on it for the last 10 years already. Probably, Russia has been experimenting since 1952. It is conceivable that the remaining 10 years may be compressed into 5 so that by the time we have our first reactor on fission basis, it would be out-of-date. Therefore, we have to think of this point whether we are going to have too many reactors or what. Our policy must be definite. Therefore, I said that our Master-Plan should be flexible. (Interruption.)

There are many more matters on which I wanted to speak. But, I would like to conclude as my time is up, by telling the hon. Prime Minister that the cut motions have been tabled, not with the object of censuring any Department because we are convinced

that the work that is being done is being done under circumstances in which only brilliant scientists can function; but it is to focus the attention of Government and focus the attention of the Atomic Energy Commission to the fact that these are the points which exercise our mind (*Interruption*).

I hope, Sir, these points will be taken into consideration.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Mr. Speaker, I shall endeavour to reply in brief the points raised. The last speaker made a suggestion that there should be a separate Ministry for Nuclear Research, so that decisions may be taken quickly and at a higher level. Broadly speaking, I do not know any higher level here than Government and the Prime Minister and I do not know how the creation of a Ministry would expedite any decision or make working more easy. As a matter of fact, it was with this very purpose—that the work of this Atomic Energy Department should not get tied up in the normal routine of Government that the Prime Minister here, and sometimes in other countries also, has directly taken charge of this. So, I can assure Shri Bharucha that whatever other failings may be there in this Department, it does not suffer, as other Ministries often suffer from delay. Things are done pretty fast.

Secondly, Shri Bharucha laid great stress on not wasting our energy in collecting useless knowledge or in experimenting about all manner of things, but said that we should rather concentrate on special objects of enquiry which might prove useful.

To begin with we do necessarily concentrate; we cannot help it. But, when Shri Bharucha refers to useless knowledge, I think, he is on some dangerous ground. There is always the same argument usually between scientists and non-scientists, industrialists and others as to what is useless knowledge and what is not, what is pure science and what is applied

science. Everything in applied science would normally come out with some research in pure science. You cannot divide these. Anyhow the fact is that we do concentrate on specific things.

But some of the matters he referred to are research in biology or medicine or other things. That type of research is not primarily the work of the Atomic Energy Department. The Atomic Energy Department produces the isotopes, equipment etc. for it. And, this research should take place in a hundred establishments in India wherever it can be, in hospitals, in agricultural institutions etc. So, that is the place.

I entirely agree with Shri Bharcha that tremendous field for research is open and should take place. The Atomic Energy Department will help in supplying the isotopes and the equipment which they are making. But, I may add that in addition to this, although it is not in a sense the primary work of the Atomic Energy Establishments, as a matter of fact they do research work in these very fields which Shri Bharucha mentioned, whether it is agriculture or biology. They do it and they will continue to do the same but they cannot spread themselves out over all this. It should really be done by a host of people all over the country in other establishments. Now someone asked—was it Shri Nayar, I do not know—about the Government taking a policy decision about the construction of power station. In a sense, the Government has taken a policy decision but it is naturally subject to two or three factors: the feasibility of it and the finances. It is not that we shall do this on this particular date. We have taken this decision and we intend to do it and will certainly do it. The exact date, the location, the feasibility have all to be considered in terms of other factors.

Dr. Sushila Nayar warned us about the disposal of waste. I want to assure her that so far as Trombay is concerned, there is no waste of that type.

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

The criteria laid down for the future are so strict that I am informed that there will not be the slightest risk. Indeed one tends rather to take extra measures of safety. I am told that the water that comes out of this after all this is so treated that it is, broadly speaking, less radio-active than the normal amount of radio-activity in the water we drink. The amount of precautions taken is very great indeed. It is said that the workers engaged in nuclear research work and such other industries are better protected than probably in any other industry in the world.

One of the hon. Members said something about the scholarships. No doubt, the Atomic Energy Establishment is thinking of providing scholarships for nuclear engineering at the Roorkee University. This might be done elsewhere too later on.

We have at present in Trombay a group working on the design of a power reactor of 10-20 M.W. with beryllium oxide as a moderator. We are also considering making a strong effort on research for fusion reaction. We have not quite started on it but this will depend on a number of factors and if we feel that from researches on this we are likely to get fruitful results, we may take it up.

Then there were many suggestions made about consulting others. Our Atomic Energy Establishment is connected, or its chief scientists are connected with a large number of establishments in India. There are many liaison committees and the like. They are connected with the universities. I shall certainly be happy if this connection grows.

An hon. Member suggested, I think, some kind of a Committee of Members of Parliament. Well, I am not myself quite sure of what a Committee of Members of Parliament as such will do in this matter. But I can assure the House that any Member of Parliament who wants to dis-

cuss this matter alone or in a group can certainly do so. We shall be very happy to arrange for this whenever an occasion offers.

Secondly, a complaint has been made that enough information has not been supplied. It is rather difficult to know what type of information might be supplied. I may inform the House that Dr. Bhabha and I were discussing this very subject as to what should be put in this pamphlet for the House. We had to draw the line somewhere in the sense that it should not be too technical. Some hon. Members of the House may certainly understand all the technical implications but it was not meant for an isolated Member but to every one. I told Dr. Bhabha: "Please do not make it too technical. Otherwise it will be above the knowledge of many Members." Even the Member in-charge might get into difficulties. It is not because one wants to keep anything secret. There is no secret about it so far as we are concerned. But there is the difficulty about the technical aspect. Shri Bharucha, having made some special study, no doubt understands much more than many others. Anyhow, I shall be very happy to provide any kind of information that is in our power.

Shri Nayar said something about the production having gone down in the plants in Kerala. Apart from the fact that the previous production was of all the three plants, the third plant is still not functioning. There has been much difficulty because of this. A bit of the old Madras State went to Kerala and that bit of old Madras had one of these plants. Even now, after a year's effort, there is no full agreement between the Madras and Kerala. The Madras Government, the Kerala Government and the Atomic Energy Establishment about the new set-up, as to who should provide the additional director and what should be the shares of each Government. I think that we are now on our way to an agree-

ment. Dr. Bhabha visited Trivandrum for this purpose. So, this has created some difficulties in settling down. I believe that sometime in the past there was also a strike which made a difference.

Previously it was in the old Travancore-Cochin State. One part having gone to Madras, that Government naturally wants its own share in this thing, in the directorate and in the finances.

There is one thing more which I may mention. The recent developments have shown the cost of producing power.

I am informed that in view of these developments it is expected that the cost of power from atomic stations would be round-about 2.6 nP per unit of electricity, which, I believe, is much lower than the cost of generation of electricity from thermal stations in most parts of India not near the coal fields. If we are to take part in these developments in future, I think it is necessary to set up at least one atomic power station, to begin with, working on natural uranium. After that we can go on to other processes. It is expected, if we start soon, that the first atomic power station might go into operation in 1962.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Members have desired that all cut motions, except cut motion No. 956 should be treated as moved. I shall treat all the cut motions except cut motion No. 956 as moved subject to their being otherwise admissible. The numbers are:

1517, 1518, 1519, 1520, 1521,
1522, 1523, 1524, 1525, 1526, 1532,
1533, 1534, 1535, 1536, 1537, 506,
507.

Need to furnish fuller information to Parliament regarding International Atomic Energy Agency.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to "contain" and rationalise research programme relating to reactor physics, neutron physics, nuclear spectroscopy, health physics, etc.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to go slow with High Altitude Cosmic Rays Research Station at Gulmarg in view of fuller data likely to be available from Sputniks and Explorers.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Disposal of nuclear "wastes" from the Apsara.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to construct or procure from abroad a cyclotron for research and training at Trombay.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Delay in the construction of Canada-India N.R.X. Reactor.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to lay basis of a sound indigenous electronics industry.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for expediting Heavy Water Projects.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to organise research on the lines of "ZETA" (Zero Energy Thermonuclear Assembly) Experiments at Harwell, U.K.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to expedite construction and to procure basic requirements of an Atomic Power Plant.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to place Atomic Energy Commission on a statutory basis.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for comprehensive legislation for regulation, development and control of radio-active minerals and use of radio-isotopes.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for preparation of a flexible long-range Master Plan on development of nuclear energy.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to place exploration and prospecting of radio-active minerals on broader basis.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for preparing documentary films, explaining atomic structure, fission, reactors, uses of radio isotopes, etc.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for fuller information in the Administrative Report of the Atomic Energy Department for the Year 1957-58.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Absence of co-ordination in the atomic research works of different institutions.

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy Research be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need to provide necessary expense to modernise and, run the nuclear research work in the Science College at Calcutta.

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Department of Atomic Energy be reduced by Rs. 100.

Mr. Speaker: Now, I shall put all the cut motions to the vote of the House.

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 Demand Nos.—99, 100 and 137 relating to the Department of Atomic Energy.

The motion was adopted.

(The Motions for Demands for Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below—Ed.)

DEMAND NO. 99—DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 8,32,000 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 'Department of Atomic Energy'".

DEMAND NO. 100—ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 3,03,23,000 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 'Atomic Energy Research'".

DEMAND NO. 137—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 4,75,75,000 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 Department of Atomic Energy'".

MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up discussion and voting on Demands Nos. 78, 79 and 127 relating to the Ministry of Rehabilitation for which 5 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.

Hon. Members are already aware of the time-limit for speeches.

Motion moved:—

DEMAND NO. 78—MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 37,08,000 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 Rehabilitation'".

DEMAND NO. 79—EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED PERSONS AND MINORITIES

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 18,77,56,000 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 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities'".

DEMAND NO. 127—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF REHABILITATION

"That a sum not exceeding Rs. 19,25,00,000 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 Rehabilitation'".

Shri Sadhan Gupta (Calcutta-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I shall confine myself mostly to the problem of East Bengal Refugees, and if I have time I shall have something to say about certain problems of the West Pakistan refugees also.

Sir, I had my roots in East Bengal until the other day, true not my economic roots but a deep sentimental attachment which is natural to one's home, one's village. And, through that connection and frequent visits to my village home I know something of the problem of the present refugees and their psychology.

From my knowledge of their psychology and their problems, I should like to say, with the fullest responsibility, that it is a matter of great regret that the Government lack the essential which is necessary for a satisfactory solution of the problem of rehabilitation. Sir, I am not talking at present of the Government's moral obligation, which no Government of our country can deny to these refugees on account of their great contribution to our struggle for freedom. I am not even referring to the great contribution they have made to the economy of West Bengal after they have come down to West Bengal from their homes. But I am referring to the first essential, the elementary sympathy which is lacking in the Government.

What is necessary, Sir, is a human approach, a sympathetic approach to the problem. Instead of that, we find all kinds of slanders, all kinds of allegations against refugees and

against those who are presumed to guide them in their struggle for rehabilitation.

We, Members of Parliament, are flooded with papers which give ample evidence of the unsympathetic attitude. The papers have said how the refugees have become a burden on West Bengal, how the refugees in camps are being better treated than the average man in our country. Figures are given to show that Rs. 125 per month is being spent on a camp refugee family of five units, while the corresponding figure in the case of the average man in India is only Rs. 105. It is also stated how refugees flock to Sealdah Station—allegedly in the hope of earning certain rehabilitation benefits.

Sir, much as my temptation is to refute all these charges in detail, I shall refrain from doing so because I do not have a Minister's time to do it. I do not have even the time to advert to these charges except to deny that these charges are really not true. These charges spring out of a refusal to see the proper things, the refusal to see the proper conditions of the refugees and the proper motives which guide them in their actions.

As an example of the absurdity which these charges imply, I shall only give an illustrative instance of refutation—the question of the refugees in Sealdah. If any one sees the squalor, misery and inhuman conditions in which the Sealdah refugees are living, it would be idle to say that they are there for earning rehabilitation benefits, because no Sealdah refugee even got any benefits and they cannot be expected to have rehabilitation benefits. Yet, they flock to Sealdah from the camps, where they are supposed to be well treated, where Rs. 125 per family is supposed to be given. That they do abandoning all hopes of doles which they are supposed to be so magnanimously given in the camps. That is as much time as I have to refute these slanders against the refugees.

This is the position. There is no sympathy, as we find from the papers circulated to us. Is it any wonder that in the practical application of this attitude disasters occur as far as the rehabilitation of refugees is concerned? What is the attitude adopted? It is somehow to get rid of them, somehow to wash the Government's hands off them by sending them to some places and let rehabilitation take care of itself. Today an agitation is going on in West Bengal against this kind of rehabilitation. The Government is trying to send, for example, the refugees in Bankura District for rehabilitation in Rajasthan. On refusal, they stop their doles. They tell them, in effect, "Go and cultivate lands in Rajasthan or starve here". That is what they say. This is the story in Bankura District. There is a similar story in every other District. Not only for Rajasthan; in some cases it may be Bihar, in some cases Orissa, in some cases Madhya Pradesh and so on.

14.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Dandakaranya is also in the offing although it has not yet featured as a rehabilitation site. Against this kind of attitude the agitation proceeds and the Government brands that agitation as political; it ascribes motives to those who lead the agitation against this kind of rehabilitation. I am coming to Dandakaranya later on; but how about the rest of India where rehabilitation is sought to be given—Bihar, Orissa, or Rajasthan for the matter of that?

This idea of rehabilitation outside West Bengal is not a new idea; it has not been mooted for the first time. As a matter of fact, ever since refugees started coming in large numbers the attempt was to send them out of West Bengal. The experience of those days have been woeful. There has been large-scale desertion—let us not forget that. Even in those days when the refugees deserted, it was said that

they deserted because although they had full rehabilitation they did not want to do any work; they deserted on account of certain political motives. Those were the allegations made in those days.

But, after that, in 1954 the problem was thoroughly scrutinised by a Committee of Ministers consisting of the then Finance Minister, Shri C. D. Deshmukh, the then Rehabilitation Minister—who is now the Food Minister—Shri Jain and the Chief Minister of West Bengal, Dr. B. C. Roy. What does the Committee of Ministers say in their report? Sir, I am quoting:

"The rehabilitation of East Bengal displaced persons in States outside West Bengal has presented several difficulties and we are convinced that except in respect of Andamans the efforts in this direction will not yield any substantial results. We have, therefore, to find ways and means of re-settling these persons in West Bengal."

Then the Report adds:

"After some time desertions from Bihar and Orissa have been heavy mainly because of the marked reluctance on the part of displaced persons to be rehabilitated in States outside West Bengal where conditions are different from what they have been used to, and greater effort is necessary to make such schemes a success. Experience has shown that large-scale rehabilitation of East Bengal refugees in these States is not possible. And we do not think the question should be further pursued".

That is the categorical statement of the Committee of Ministers. So, what can be cleared up? It is a complete condemnation of such rehabilitation plans, that is to say, rehabilitation plans which presuppose the sending of refugee population outside West Bengal for rehabilitation. It is a com-

[Shri Sadhan Gupta]
plete vindication of the desertions.
It says:

"We are convinced that except in respect of Andamans, efforts in this direction will not yield any substantial results".

It further says:

"Experience has shown that large-scale rehabilitation of East Bengal refugees in those States, that is to say, in the States of Bihar and Orissa, is not possible and we do not think that the question should be further pursued".

Now, if this is the rehabilitation potential in Bihar and Orissa, can the rehabilitation potential in Madhya Pradesh be any better, or, can rehabilitation potential in Rajasthan be any better? If Rajasthan contains so much fertile land that the East Bengal agriculturists can go and eke out their living there, why do gentlemen from Rajasthan come out and spread themselves all over India in search of their fortune and why do some of them try to make their fortunes by selling spurious shares to the Life Insurance Corporation? To this, the reply of the hon. Minister is, "Well, all that was said was said three years ago." Three years have passed today. There are new circumstances. There is considerable influx of displaced persons and all that, and there will be others perhaps. All that may be true; there may be considerable influx, but how does it improve the rehabilitation potential in Bihar, Orissa and Madhya Pradesh or Rajasthan? That is the question. About this has any explanation been given so far?

The Committee of three responsible Ministers had scrutinised it. How does it change owing to these circumstances? How does Rajasthan now become suitable, not to speak of Bihar and Orissa? If large-scale rehabilitation was not possible in Bihar and Orissa it follows that after the influx a lar-

ger-scale rehabilitation is certainly not possible.

Now, I come to the Dandakaranya scheme which is supposed to be a panacea. We and the Ministry are not far from the seat of a once renowned emperor who had schemes of a very peculiar kind—I mean Muhammad Tughlak. This Dandakaranya scheme seems to have all the inspiration of Tughlak in it. All the aspects do not seem to have been considered, and the Government seem to be recklessly hastening into a scheme which does not, in view of what has been said regarding this area, seem to promise any scope for rehabilitation of the refugee agriculturists.

Shri Braj Rai Singh (Firozabad): They are not themselves going there.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: The proposed rehabilitation site in Dandakaranya is a plateau of between 1,500 and 3,000 feet in the Eastern Ghats region. I emphasise the words Eastern Ghats region as I will refer to certain official documents—as Shri Khanna is very fond of official documents—regarding the Eastern Ghats region. The Balimela area has been selected as the initial site for rehabilitation. This place is 140 miles from the nearest rail-head Salur, and the road runs through the heart of a jungle country which is infested with tigers, wild buffaloes and bisons. The nearest stream is one and a half miles away. Drinking water has to be collected from a spring behind the forest shed and while collecting drinking water,—please mark that—the villagers blow palm-leaf horns to scare away the wild animals. Surely this is not an ideal rehabilitation site for refugee families. I can understand that adventurous pioneers may be attracted to it; refugee pioneers may be attracted to it but who would consent to take families there with their women and children and expose them to the depredations of wild animals? Surely, you cannot clear all this dense forest in a day and drive away all the wild animals. Our experience is that when a dense forest is removed in a very short time, the wild animals carry

as their depredations inside the villages which are constructed. It is said that official shikarees would be appointed. I wonder what the shikarees can do when so many wild animals are at large.

Then, there are no communications. As I said, the nearest railway is 140 miles away. An all-weather road is proposed to be constructed but unless an all-weather road is cheap and frequent transport facilities are guaranteed, the refugees are not likely to take to it. Who will go to a place from where they cannot come out at all? Even Malkangiri which is the headquarters of the taluk and which is a much bigger town than Balimela is not served by a regular bus service today, and I do not know whether a regular bus service can be provided. Even if it is provided, I do not know whether the fare can be economic enough for the refugees to come and go from that place. Nothing short of a railway can open up that area, and it is not before six years that a railway will come into existence. But apart from this, the value of the site itself is doubtful. I am not carrying on a malicious propaganda. I want to quote chapter and verse from official documents. The other day, Shri Khanna quoted from an official document, a West Bengal document, a press note, obviously motivated by political considerations. But I am quoting some other official documents which Shri Khanna will not perhaps dispute, because he is so fond of official documents.

The Gazetteer of Koraput district which was published in 1941 refers to Malkangiri taluk. It says:

"Generally speaking the soil is of very poor quality and after the forest has been cut out and the natural humus has been subjected to the withering heat of two or three summers, there is very little virtue left in it".

Then, the 1951 Census report of Orissa, Part I, says:

"No information is available regarding the extent of scouring

of the soil, the extent of erosion by action of wind, the loss of tonnage of soil per acre of cultivated area, the acreage of ravine land formed due to erosion" and so on.

Even in the absence of such information, there is no difficulty in coming to the conclusion that soil erosion has been going on on account of such reasons as the formation of fissures and nullahs. Then what follows is important:

"Over-grazing and extension of cultivation, the extraction of stumps and roots and the destruction of forests and scrub jungle done in the interest of intensive cultivation scheme or grow more food campaign expose the bare land to the quick work of water and wind, with the result that the top-soil which is generally fertile is lost".

Now, that is exactly what is going to happen on a larger scale. Stumps will have to be rooted out and the forest will have to be cleared, because it is no longer a mere grow more food scheme. It is a question of settlement of thousands of refugees and tribesmen.

Then the report goes on to mention about the inland division, and particularly the Eastern Ghats region. The Eastern Ghats region is the region where Dandakaranya lies or at least where the site of rehabilitation lies. The reports say:

"The problem, however, is different in the inland division."

It is about the problem of erosion.

"The problem, however, is different in the inland division, particularly in the Eastern Ghats region. Where the steeply inclined hill slopes and the undulating surface soils are subjected to rapid erosion by heavy rainfall and stream activity, this again is aggravated by deforestation".

[Shri Sadhan Gupta]

Deforestation is a very significant phenomenon in Dandakaranya. The Kaya hill tribes there practise shifting cultivation which results in an extensive deforestation. From all this evidence of official reports, it is quite likely that the soil would erode in no time. The top soil would wear away; the fertility would be lost and the result would be that thousands of refugees will have to trek back to West Bengal and cause a much greater waste of public expenditure than has happened now. These things and more do not seem to have been considered by the Government and they are rushing headlong into the scheme, which does not seem to be a feasible scheme so far as agriculture is concerned. Still, if the refugees hesitate and if we stand for them, we are accused of political motives. We can assure the Minister and everyone who thinks that way that our roots among the people of West Bengal are too deep to need any claptrap of that kind. We can say that among the refugees in particular, our roots are very deep because we have not been with them for the first time when they came. We have been with them ever since they have been in East Bengal and therefore, we do not need to win them over by any such device.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Is he concluding? He must conclude if another Member of his party is to speak. Two other Members from his party have expressed their desire to speak. If he is the only speaker, he may continue.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Mrs. Chakravarty is not here. I am the only speaker.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Mr. Nayar also wanted to speak.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: If there is time left, he may speak. I demand with all the sense of responsibility and with all the emphasis in my command to approach this whole problem with a sympathetic and humane approach. You must understand that it is natural for East Bengal refugees to remain in West Bengal; there is nothing unnatural in that. But they are not averse

to going out of West Bengal if the possibility of rehabilitation in West Bengal is exhausted.

The Committee of Ministers in 1954 recommended emphasis on land reclamation in West Bengal for the purpose of rehabilitation of refugees there. But suddenly in the cool heights of Darjeeling they effected a change to say that the emphasis should be on rehabilitation outside West Bengal. They do not consult the refugees; they do not consult other political parties who are among them or other organisations working among them; they do not consult even this House and they make this change and try to enforce it. What has happened to the recommendation about land reclamation? Why is it not feasible today to abide by that recommendation?

From what I know, there are 19 lakhs acres of land in West Bengal which are uncultivated. We want to know how much of it is available for cultivation of food crops or cash crops. We need not grow only paddy for rehabilitation. We can set up cotton cultivation; we can set up sisal-grass cultivation; we can set up sabai grass cultivation. All that can rehabilitate the refugees. What will be done to carry out the directions of the committee of Ministers? We want a satisfactory answer and not merely an *ipse dixit* saying that it is not possible or it has been found to be impossible. For instance, it has been admitted, I understand, that at least 2 lakhs of acres are available in West Bengal today for cultivation. I understand also that if a proper Kangsabati project is set afoot, that alone would irrigate 250,000 acres in Bankura and Midnapur districts. If even half of this land is utilised, a large portion of the agricultural refugees can be rehabilitated in West Bengal. The other way of rehabilitating them is, of course, by the promotion and development of industries—large-scale, medium-scale, small-scale and cottage industries. What is being done

about it? So far as I know, over Rs. 100 crores have been spent, but what has come out of it? Most of it has gone down the drain through official corruption, nepotism, etc. Loans have been given in many cases to non-refugees. Sometimes loans have been given to refugees in small instalments and by the time the second instalment is given, the first instalment is eaten up. This is the way money is wasted. If you rationalise the spending, you can help in promoting and developing industries of all kinds—small-scale, medium-scale, large-scale and cottage industries and you can create employment for the entire displaced population in camps and perhaps many more can be rehabilitated than are in the camps. What is needed is some seriousness and not an attitude of somehow getting rid of them in Rajasthan or some other place where agricultural conditions are entirely different from what they are used to and then deriving the profound satisfaction that the problem of their rehabilitation has been solved.

If you want to develop Dandakaranya, I feel the only scope of development of Dandakaranya seems to be as an industrial and mining centre and not much as an agricultural centre. But whatever way you want to develop it, do it through volunteers. If displaced persons volunteer, get those volunteers. But do not force them on the point of starvation and ruin to go to Dandakaranya or Rajasthan or to any other place. Explore all avenues of resettlement in West Bengal and if it is found impossible after a genuine attempt, then the refugees themselves would be too glad to go elsewhere where other rehabilitation facilities may be given. If you proceed this way, the solution will be easy. Otherwise, you cannot expect the refugees to accept your dispensations and you cannot accept us, political parties in West Bengal, to look on with equanimity while you send them far away to their destruction.

I have something to say on certain aspects of West Pakistan refugees. There is the question of allotment of houses. I understand that in many cases, the Government are profiteering in the allotment of houses. For instance in the Chembur colony in Bombay, I understand the Government has purchased land at Re. 1 per square yard and now in calculating the value of the property, they are charging Rs. 15 per square yard. This kind of profiteering should not be the Government. Again, the rules providing for the transfer of tenements are absolutely impossible for poor refugees. For example, it is said that they are required to pay 20 per cent of the price cash down and 20 per cent of the arrears of rent. Arrears of rent have accumulated in many cases due principally to the fact that rent has been on many occasions enhanced with retrospective effect. That is the difficulty which the refugees feel. Then, the rest of the money is to be paid in 7 years. Even in the case of low income group people, the price is realised in 20 years, whereas for the refugees who are much worse off, and who are undoubtedly in the low income group, it is realised in 7 years.

Then there is the question of the Faridabad Development Board. In the Faridabad Development Board, I understand that the Chairman and the Secretary of the Board are related to one another and the result is that they administer the Board as they like.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I certainly object to an insinuation of that nature. I am the Minister in charge and I take full responsibility for every decision taken.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: You can answer.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: That is not proper. The officers cannot defend themselves here. You can say anything about the policy that has been laid down by the Ministry and I take full responsibility for that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: No reference must be made against the officers as the Minister is here to take responsibility for the decisions taken by the officers.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I understand that the Faridabad Development Board, in granting the scales of pay and dearness allowance to its employees, follows the principle of "heads I win; tails you lose". Where the Central Government scale of wages is higher than the Punjab Government scale, it gives the Punjab Government scale. If the Punjab Government scale of dearness allowance is higher than the Central Government scale, it gives the Central Government scale. Although they are Government servants, for all practical purposes they do not receive the same scales of pay or dearness allowance. And the greatest anomaly is that the officers pay for their houses 10 per cent or the standard rent, whichever is less. For the ordinary employees, they have to pay the standard rent, although it is more than 10 per cent. Then, in the matter of hire for furniture also, the officers are charged at a lower rate.

Lastly, regarding the allotment of shops in the Sarojini Market, I understand that the excuse given for not allotting the shops to the present allottees is that the land on which it stands belongs to the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry. Is that an excuse? Can't the two Ministries settle it between themselves when it is the same Government? It is certainly possible for the Works, Housing and Supply Ministry to transfer the land to the Rehabilitation Ministry and thereby do justice to the refugees.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri (Nabadwip): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the Rehabilitation Ministry has done a Herculean job; although bitter criticisms have been levelled against it even in West Bengal recently, yet I will say that lacuna happens in all administrations. Some of the criticisms perhaps may be justified in some cases, but, on the whole, one must say that the Rehabilitation Ministry has done something that is unprecedented in the world, because the number of

refugees that have come to India was also unprecedented. The refugees have fled from East Pakistan to West Bengal, devoid of all. As the previous speaker has stated, they have come devoid of all, therefore, it is bound to create a certain amount of economic problem to Bengal. At the same time, once they have been accepted by Bengal, they have also done something towards the betterment of Bengal. They have established some productive units and improved the economy of Bengal as much as they possibly could.

Just now the speaker opposite has said that sympathy is wanting and that they have been treated as a burden. The Government has not shown any pack there. If you look at the agitation that has gone on in Calcutta and round about Calcutta, what is it that you find? There are 32 lakhs of refugees in Bengal. Out of this, the total number of displaced persons in camps in West Bengal is 2.61 lakhs. Hence, it is not as if all the displaced persons are agitating. Only 2.61 lakhs people are agitating; not all. And I will say as a responsible citizen—I have seen it with my own eyes—that the refugees are being exploited with promises that cannot be fulfilled, because Bengal has reached saturation point, exploited with hopes that this will be done or that will be done if they hold hunger marches, women exploited and made to agitate with their babies in their hands. Who have treated the boys that have died in the heat of the sun or who have caught illness? Not the people who have exploited them, not the people who have incited them. It is the passers-by, it is the people who saw these things happening that came and gave them some relief.

If the refugees do not want to go out of Bengal, there are many reasons. The administration is there; various things have to be settled in these camps. People who have settled there do not want these camps to be dissolved. Then, if the administration is wound up, perhaps, other jobs will have to be found for them.

Having said that the refugees do not want to go, there are one or two things which I want to bring to the notice of the Ministry. The Dandakaranya Scheme is, of course, a good one, although the member opposite has asked: is it the only panacea? Though it is not a panacea, it is certainly some sort of remedy. When saturation point has been reached in regard to land, when refugees cannot be settled there, if you take the refugees to other States, wherever you put them, naturally you will have to displace the other people and consequently their economy will also suffer. The people in those places will say: here are our boys who could not find jobs, but all those refugee boys who come from other places are given employment. But in the Dandakaranya Scheme you will be clearing places, virgin soil where you will hardly have to displace anybody to acquire land for rehabilitation of refugees.

But I find that Shri Fletcher, the Chief Administrator, has said that Dandakaranya Scheme cannot be ready before next October. Till that time, all that is possible must be done for them, because till next October they cannot be left to die. Whatever is possible must be done for them when Shri Fletcher comes to Calcutta and other places to recruit people for the scheme. There is one thing which I would like to point out to the Minister. Our trained boys and young men should be given preference in going to Dandakaranya to do the work, because Shri Fletcher said that he does not wish to have contractors. He wishes to get the work done by co-operative societies. So, here one channel of employment can be found for the refugees at once and I hope this will be considered when the Dandakaranya scheme is taken up.

The problem is a colossal one. There is no doubt about it. Even Dr. R. Norris Wilson from USA, when he saw our refugee problem, said that he has seen nothing like this anywhere else in the world. So, you will

realise that what has to be done has to be done quickly. The agitation that has recently started will not really help the refugees; nor will the heart-burning of the Government help the refugees. We have to get along with the schemes as quickly as possible.

I have personally seen the position in various places, particularly in my own district. I have come to the Minister time and again for many things. I wanted help from the Minister in so many matters. And I have always seen the Minister showing human sympathy in all such matters. I have seen him visiting so many women's camps.

I find from the little booklet that you have circulated that you are giving some aid to the municipalities in West Bengal, particularly in Nadia. But I would like to bring to the notice of the hon. Minister the case of the Shantipur and Nabadwip municipalities where there is a large concentration of refugees. I do not think that any grant has been envisaged for Shantipur and Nabadwip. I hope it will be considered when the question of next allotment comes.

There is one thing which I wish to emphasize here.

The border raids have increased lately. In February there have been as many as 36 such raids. It is practically two a day sometimes and people live in a condition of instability and terror, caused by dacoities and thefts. There are refugee concentrations even in the border area of Nadia, as I hope the House knows, and when the refugees are made to feel unstable you can realise the demoralisation and the sense of agitation and fear. Therefore I will say that the first thing to stabilise the atmosphere is to try and put up small industries there as quickly as possible so that the atmosphere for employment and stability may quickly grow. There are refugee colonies there but the main difficulty

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri]

is that they have no means of employment. There I will also say that since the main difficulty is the want of employment, there should be no two opinions about the Dandakaranya Scheme because this is the only scheme which is really going to help the refugees to find employment.

About stopping of migration or sealing of borders if there has been such talks I am very sorry because I do not think that any thing has been said about the sealing of borders but there has been more strict visas and permits have not been granted. We have said that henceforth all people who come to India will be treated as people who come from other countries and find rehabilitation for themselves. But can we say so? Can we really take this attitude? Let us put forward the Dandakaranya scheme and that will automatically solve this problem even if more refugees come. Only about four years ago India had to take some responsibility for refugees who migrated from the Central Asian area of the U.S.S.R. So how can India today say that she will not extend her hand to her own brothers? That is not possible and I hope that the Dandakaranya Scheme will really prove a panacea and a real solution.....

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

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I have two more minutes? Because it will surely show that that is the only scheme that can really help the refugees and agitation and hunger marches will not. The Dandakaranya Scheme, when it comes through, should be put in such a way that it is made attractive. Shri Fletcher, the Chief Administrator, has himself said that unless all arrangements are ready to take in the refugees, he is not going to take a single person there. There should be no false propaganda about this. That which is unjust can really profit no one, but that which is just can really harm no one. Justice, in every case,

should be tempered with sympathy and human understanding and the Dandakaranya Scheme, when it comes through, will not only be just and tempered with sympathy but it will also mean adventure and all hon. Members of Parliament and the whole Government will be with the refugees who go there. They will not be there alone. They will have adventure and endeavour on their side and the whole country and the Members of Parliament will see to it that their wants are satisfied, the whole cross-section goes there and they do not feel isolated and that a little Bengal is created there so that they may not feel displaced in any way.

There are one or two small grievances, which I would like to bring to the notice of the Ministry. One is that large tracts have been acquired in West Bengal for rehabilitation and for three or four years I had been corresponding in the matter but the Government, if it is going to have watertight compartments, I cannot help it,—has replied that the land was acquired by the Eastern Command. If the Defence Ministry has done this and people have not got compensation or anything for their lands up to now, it is very hard and conditions in Nadia, particularly in Dhololia and Amghata—and there are one or two others, I would bring particularly to the notice of the hon. Minister as compensation has been given only to Carew & Co. and nobody else has got it uptill now.....

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: May I, through you, request the hon. Member to bring it up when the Demands of Defence Ministry come up?

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: I realise that. I have mentioned that myself that if the compartments are watertight, I am helpless. But refugees have been settled there. True, the Defence Ministry acquired the land but the poor peasant does not get anything. I have a letter here to say,

"We get answers to letters, but no money." So, that is one thing which I would request the Ministry to look into and treat the problem with every sympathy and consideration. I am sure that with his help and with his great vision this scheme will go through and the refugees will not suffer.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya (West Dinajpur): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir I am alarmed to find a report in the newspapers today that the Ministry of Rehabilitation is going to be wound up by October next and even a berth has been suggested for the hon. Minister-in-charge. The impression in popular mind will be that the Government takes into consideration only the resettlement of the refugees of West Pakistan and the problem of East Pakistan is not given so much importance, (Interruption).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member might be allowed to proceed.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: I hope the hon. Minister-in-charge will deny that report and give the much needed reassurance to the people that refugees of East Bengal are going to have his continued attention as long as they require it and as long as the Government is in, a position to extend it to them.

Of course, the question of refugees touches a very delicate chord in all hearts. It is a human problem and a distressing problem. These people are the unfortunate victims of an unexpected reversal of fate and have now become the more unfortunate pawns in the game on a political chessboard. That is my grievance and that is what I deplore.

Sir, There is a saying in Sanskrit:

“मित्रम् व्यसनं सम्पातम्
स्वस्थानम् परपेक्षितम् ।
अन्यास्ते ये न पश्यन्ति
देशभंगम् कूलक्षम् ॥”

"Blessed are those who do not see their own land turned to foreign domi-

nation, who do not see their near ones suffering from distress, who do not see the breaking up of their country and who do not see the destruction of their race." All these misfortunes have fallen to the lot of these people. Therefore they deserve sympathy, not only sympathy but as I have already stated, continued consideration for as long a period as they may require it.

One thing I would suggest—I take the cue from the previous speaker, Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury—that the borders of India have got to be kept open for them for an indefinite period. On that point the Government must be clear in its mind and we want to impress it upon them that there must be no question and no thought of sealing the frontiers or taking any step to stop their coming over to India when they find it necessary. That must not be done and this must be accepted as a policy. When they come, they come not as rich beggars but they bring with them human material which, if properly utilised, can add to the national progress and to social progress as well. That is a point which I hope the Ministry will take into consideration. We want them to prosper. We want them to be resettled in the normal social life and to get out of the epithet 'refugee' as early as possible. We want them to be normal social beings with ourselves and not to be characterised as refugees for very long. That is my position. They must become normal citizens of India and not be classified as refugees and put in a certain water-tight compartment. That is a point which also has to be taken into consideration. And what I say, I say with the object of having them resettled in the social life of the country as quickly as possible. That is why I have supported their settlement in the Dandakaranya scheme, and I do support it now.

15.00 hrs.

So far as the question of taking them out of West Bengal is concerned, I

[Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya]

may say something from my own experience. If I remember aright, as far back as 1952 there was a meeting in the University Institute of Calcutta, organised by the refugee organisations. In that meeting Dr. Syama Prasad was the President and Dr. Meghnad Saha moved the resolution in the interest of the refugees. I was present there. I was called upon to address the meeting. As far back as that time a resolution was adopted by that conference that the refugees who have come to West Bengal might be resettled in areas contiguous to West Bengal. The position was accepted that their resettlement in West Bengal was not wholly possible, therefore they have got to go outside. West Bengal. Of course, the limitation was there in the resolution—I remember it even now—that the areas must be contiguous to West Bengal. Whether that is possible or not is to be considered now. In any case the position was accepted at that time, with Dr. Syama Prasad as the President and Dr. Meghnad Saha as the mover of the main resolution, that they might have to go out of West Bengal for their resettlement.

Recently I was present, as a visitor, in the West Bengal Legislative Assembly when the resolution of no confidence in the Ministry was being moved. Dr. P. C. Ghosh, for a long time a Congress leader and also a member of the Working Committee but now a leader of the P.S.P. (An Hon. Member: And ex-Chief Minister) and also ex-Chief Minister of West Bengal, seconded the resolution. And in his speech he made it clear that he was not opposed to the refugees going outside West Bengal. He stated it clearly. It was published in the papers and it may be found in the reports in the newspapers if any one is anxious to find it out. That is the position that has been accepted even by parties in opposition to the Government.

Therefore, my submission is that this question must be considered and decided with a rational mind, with a point of view that should take into consideration the interest of the refugees

as a whole, and not temporary expedients that might suit this party or that party, or that might be in the interest of some party for gaining advantages over the Government in a certain difficult condition.

But the main question, as I have stated in the beginning which I shall repeat, is this that these refugees must be settled in normal life as soon and as quickly as possible; and for that the Government has to accept a liability which, I think, they ought not to try to limit by any way or any process now. They ought to accept it as something like an unlimited liability till this class, which has come to us to be known as refugees, is completely integrated in the society and they become normal social beings as we are and become full-fledged citizens of India as we ourselves are.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarbadi (Ludhiana): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I shall limit myself to the problems of the displaced persons from West Pakistan. I quite appreciate the enormity of the problem that confronts the Rehabilitation Ministry in regard to the refugees from East Pakistan. But that does not mean that the problem pertaining to the refugees from West Pakistan has been solved. Therefore I take strong exception to what has been stated in the Report for 1957-58 that the rehabilitation problem of the refugees from West Pakistan has been nearly solved.

There must be some tests from which we should judge whether this problem has been solved or not. Obviously, there can be three tests from which we should see the problem: Firstly, whether the refugees from West Pakistan have been given their dues, or what they are entitled to in accordance with the rules of the scheme which the Rehabilitation Ministry has framed; secondly, whether they have been put on avocations where they can have a security of living as every citizen of India is entitled to; and, thirdly, whether they have got a roof to live under.

If from these tests we see the problem of the refugees from West Pakistan, I would submit that this problem is as alive and as active today as it ever was, and it requires all the attention, sympathy and consideration as it was entitled to a few years back. Applying the three tests which I have mentioned, let us look at the figures which the Report gives.

The total number of claimants having verified claims, according to the report, is 4,60,000. And how many have been paid by now? (These figures are up to 31st January, 1958.) Leaving aside the highest priority claimants who have been satisfied to the extent of 82 per cent, or other priority claimants who have been satisfied to the extent of 65 to 67 per cent, we have yet a very large number of claimants in the general category and other claimants who have not been satisfied even to the extent of fifty per cent. In the case of general categories, the total number of claimants is 1,56,000 and a little more, while 70,000 have been paid off, which comes only to about fifty per cent. In the case of the other claimants who are not entitled to any cash payments but who must take property by open auction, out of 2,38,000 only 1,12,000 have been paid off, that is less than fifty per cent. Taking the entire total, it is conceded that there are two lakhs claimants who have to be paid off.

Not only that. The total pool, according to the Rehabilitation Ministry, comprises Rs. 100 crores. According to their own figures, only Rs. 19 crores has been yet auctioned or adjusted against the claims. And that also includes those properties which have been auctioned on competition, at twice or thrice the reserve price. So the Rehabilitation Ministry have got on their hands near-about Rs. 81 crores of accumulated property of the pool which has yet to be distributed to the claimants and given to the displaced persons. This is in relation to the claimants who have verified claims.

Leaving that aside, let us see the conditions of the agriculturist class. According to the report here, again,

we have the figure of the total number of agricultural allottees which is 4:77 lakhs in Punjab. Only 2:49 lakhs, which again comes to nearly 50 per cent have been given permanent rights and half the number are yet to be given permanent rights even in half the number are yet to be given permanent rights even in Punjab. Still, it is said that rehabilitation work is over and the Rehabilitation Ministry, so far as West Pakistan is concerned, should be liquidated.

Taking another figure, only 19,353 rural houses have been allotted. The claimants who have been given land, you will find, are 2:49 lakhs. How many have not been given rural houses, the report does not show. This clearly shows that their number must be very colossal. Because, the latest number is nearly 4½ lakhs and the rural houses that have been allotted,—only a cover or shelter—are only about 20,000. Where do the rest go? What has happened to them?

Taking another figure to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister of Rehabilitation, there are 56,000 persons who have been settled outside Punjab on 5:63 lakh acres of land. Out of them, I find, only 2:38 lakh acres have been permanently settled. Here again, permanent rights have been given to a half and a half remains yet to be given.

I would not like to deal further with this point except to say that this does not include the colossal problem of Kashmir refugees which still faces the Rehabilitation Ministry. About 150,000 people have been displaced from the territories of India which are now in the occupation of Pakistan. These people are not being given any rights, any grants simply because of the plea that that land is still India's land and as such, they are not entitled to any permanent rights. They have spread out. Some of them have been sent to Ganganagar; some have been given land in Kashmir. Most of the land in Kashmir, I am told, is in the occupation of unauthorised persons—land which should have gone to the dis-

[Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi]

placed persons. Only 5,000 families were given economic units of 8 acres of wet land or 12 acres of dry land. Leaving aside these 5,000 families, the rest have been settled only on 1 or 2 acres, which cannot be considered to be an economic unit sufficient for the living of the refugee families which have been settled there. The problem of displaced persons from Kashmir is also as acute and as alive as any other problem. I do not understand why it is not being dealt with in the manner in which the problem of the refugees from West Pakistan has been dealt with. Simply to remain with the idea that some time later, we may be able to have that occupied area to ourselves is a dream. You cannot go to war; you are not going to war; we should not go to war. The problem that pertains to Kashmir should be taken into consideration. I am sure some hon. Member from Kashmir will take up this problem—I hope my sister Shrimati Krishna Mehta will take it up—in all its seriousness with the Minister of Rehabilitation.

Leaving aside the figures which I have mentioned that only Rs. 19 crores worth of property has been distributed and Rs. 81 crores worth still remains to be distributed, let us see the figures regarding composite property which the report itself gives. We have got up to 31-12-57 285,907 composite properties listed for the purpose of examination, besides other claims. Out of this 27,822 were urban properties and 2,44,703 were rural properties. The total figure is 2,85,907 urban and rural properties that have been listed for examination. So far, the Rehabilitation Ministry has decided only 1,22,410 properties that are on the list, leaving half of the work still behind. Besides, you have got more than 22,000 people in the infirmaries and other Homes. How can you say, with all these figures, with all this work that is yet to be done, with all these persons who have to be rehabilitated and provided an avocation, with all these people who have to be given security of living and a roof to live

under, that the rehabilitation problem from West Pakistan is solved? I concede and I do appreciate that the Rehabilitation Ministry has done its best. The refugees are most grateful to the Government of India. They have gone to any extent to help them, to rehabilitate them. My grouse before you is that the problem is not yet solved. It is yet alive and consideration should yet be given.

Coming to another aspect of rehabilitation, four townships were opened for the rehabilitation of refugees. We have got Faridabad near by, where most of the people have come from the North West Frontier Province. We have got Niloheri, Hastinapur and Rajpura. Let us see the conditions in each of the townships. The conditions in these townships can be taken as the criteria to see whether the people have been rehabilitated properly. These are towns which are directly under the Rehabilitation Ministry. Are the people happy there? Each one of these townships is being run at a loss at present. For the last 7 or 8 years, they have not been able to put them on a self-sufficient basis. Leaving that aside, let us see whether the people there are happy and satisfied. I do not want to take the case of the other townships. I shall only refer to Faridabad which is only 18 miles away. Out of the population of 30,000, we consider 7,000 are adults who are employable. I ask the Rehabilitation Ministry, how many have been employed so far. Leaving aside 1,700 who have been employed in the private factories there and 1,300 who have been employed in the Government Offices there and power house and others, you have 3,000 to 4,000 people who are absolutely unemployed, who are brought here daily on trucks and who work here for Rs. 2 or Rs. 1-8-0, not even getting the minimum wage. That is the condition here in Faridabad which is near Delhi. Then, again, those who are in employment here, you are retrenching without giving them alternate employment. I would request the Deputy Minister to see that

these people who are being retrenched are re-employed somewhere either in the Ministries or other services. But more retrenchment is still going on and with very great credit it is stated in the report of the Rehabilitation Ministry that we have reduced expenditure to this extent by retrenchment. At whose cost? At the cost of the refugees who are your liability.

My submission is that the problems of West Pakistan refugees are still there and they need consideration. I know and I very much appreciate that the hon. Minister is very keen to solve them, and he is doing that in the right spirit. I have got full faith that he will solve them. But, he should not say that the problem is solved. He should say, we are trying to solve it, we will solve it, it may take some time before it is solved.

I will try to draw your attention and through you the attention of the House to one or two things which obviously may....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There are no minutes left.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: I will just explain. The most important thing to which the report itself refers is this. The hon. Minister has been pleased to say that there are certain problems which need solution by negotiation with Pakistan. Trust property is one of the items to which he has referred. In 1954, you would recollect, because you were in the Committee then, the trust properties were excluded from taking any compensation from the evacuee pool. The trustees understood that they would be compensated by the Government otherwise. Now where is that commitment? I beg the hon. Minister, who was of course Adviser then, to look into the proceedings then. Does not the Government stand committed to the statement that the trust properties would be duly compensated by the Government but that they would not be given any share out of the pool because the pool was meant for the refugees? And it

was given up. Therefore, my submission is that trust property is a very important problem. You are isolating each of the problems with Pakistan. As I said in my speech in a previous session, unless the problems are made on whole there would not be a settlement, because in isolation the case of Pakistan is: heads I win, tails you lose.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Is the hon. Member referring to the educational trusts or religious trusts?

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Both the trusts. Trusts are excluded.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I do not deal with religious trusts.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: I would not distinguish between what pertains to the Ministry of Rehabilitation and what pertains to the Ministry of External Affairs. I take them together. So, my submission is that should be decided, a human approach should be made, and the Rehabilitation Ministry should take it into consideration that it is their moral duty to rehabilitate the refugees.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Bimal Ghose. One now and the other next time. The other Ghose also was getting ready.

Shri Bimal Ghose (Barrackpore): It is with a sense of deepening frustration and helplessness, if not hopelessness, that one participates in this discussion on the Demands of the Rehabilitation Ministry. This feeling stems from the fact that although years roll by the refugees are as far from being rehabilitated as ever. As you may know—and I refer to East Pakistani refugees only—of the displaced persons who came over, 50 per cent. or somewhat less did not come to the Government for any assistance, and it is these people who have been really rehabilitated. Of the people who sought Government assistance, none has really been rehabilitated. That is not my assessment. The

[Shri Bimal Ghose]

First Five Year Plan Review which was published in 1957 states:

"Although four lakh families were settled on land and one lakh in urban colonies and concentrations, their rehabilitation was far from complete. Due to paucity of suitable land, often uneconomic holdings and marginal lands were allotted. In townships and colonies essential amenities could not be provided. Conditions of unemployment continued in their colonies."

And that state of affairs still continues.

So, what is the Minister's explanation? He says that Bengal is saturated, we cannot do anything more in Bengal, the refugees must be taken outside. Now, let us examine this problem. There are two points that arise. The first is the question of further rehabilitation in Bengal. On that question, as the hon. Minister knows, there are differences of opinion. I am told that even the Chief Minister, when the Bettiah refugees came back and saw him on 17th April, last year, stated that if the refugees were to be given agricultural land of only five acres and if further rehabilitation was sought through industrialisation, all the refugees who had come over to Bengal could be settled in Bengal.

The Bastuhara Sammelan which is now organising a sort of demonstration in Calcutta has sent a memorandum to the Prime Minister wherein it is stated that about two lakh acres of land are still available as cultivable waste and further that the Agriculture Minister stated in the West Bengal Assembly during the discussion of the Budget in 1956-57 that cultivable waste land was very much more than that. My point is this, that that may or may not be true. We have all the time told the Government: let us sit down and examine the proposition. There appears to be differences of opinion on this question. Even the Chief Minister in his

recent statement, which the hon. Minister has circulated to us, has stated that although there may be lands, they may not be all available for the refugees and for the refugees there would be only marginal and sub-marginal land. That proposition also deserves to be examined. All that we have stated is: let us sit down, all the parties including the Opposition parties, the representatives of the refugees' organisations and Government representatives, and find out what is the scope for further rehabilitation in West Bengal, as since the time of the late Dr. Meghnad Saha there has always been a disagreement on that question. On the question of sending the refugees outside West Bengal, as Shri Bhattacharya has mentioned, my leader Dr. Ghosh has stated that he is not against any refugees being taken outside Bengal provided certain conditions are fulfilled.

Why do not the refugees want to go outside Bengal? In the statement to which I referred, it is stated:

"The unwillingness of the refugees to move out of West Bengal has grown, not out of any nostalgia for the provincial climate—physical, social and cultural—but has grown out of a bitter sense of frustration induced in them by the Government of West Bengal and the Government of the States where they have been sent out to settle down. The Union Ministry of Rehabilitation also cannot escape responsibility for going back on the promises given to the refugees at the time of sending them outside of West Bengal."

The position is this that the refugees at first had volunteered and were only too anxious if they could be rehabilitated even outside Bengal, but their experience when they were sent out was so bad that they are now frightened to be sent out again.

Then, take the Dandakaranya scheme. In this context as to whether

the refugees should be sent over there or not, I may refer you to a resolution which was passed by the West Bengal Assembly unanimously. The resolution was proposed by a Congress Member, who was the erstwhile secretary of the West Bengal Provincial Congress Committee. While expressing interest in the scheme, the resolution stated:

"The House is of opinion that—

- (a) the West Bengal Government should ascertain from the Government of India the details of the proposed scheme for the development of Dandakaranya;
- (b) thereafter call a conference of the representatives of the different parties and groups in this House and place the scheme before it for consideration; and
- (c) the implementation of a scheme when finally approved should be undertaken by a statutory body in which the West Bengal Government should be adequately represented."

Now, I ask the hon. Minister if these conditions have been fulfilled before the refugees were asked to go to Dandakaranya. The hon. Minister might say that conditions have changed, or that the Congress Party is not insisting. If the Congress Party is not insisting, or is backing out of the resolution which they themselves moved, that is no reason why the Opposition parties which had supported that resolution should also go back on the stand that they had taken. Therefore, it is not quite correct to say that the refugees are unwilling to go.

I had recently been to Calcutta. I met Dr. Ghosh. He stated that the position was this. Dr. Banerjee told him: "What can we do? We told the Government that before refugees are sent to Dandakaranya, we must be assured that they can be rehabilitated there, but the Government does

not do anything of that kind, and they say that they must be sent to Dandakaranya".

Firstly, we want to be satisfied what the position is in West Bengal. If we feel that refugees cannot really be settled in West Bengal, we are then willing that they should be taken out, but before that we should be assured that the conditions in which they are to be rehabilitated are really favourable, and we ourselves want to be sure about that and not just take the word of the Government for that.

Another thing which the hon. Minister says is this. He says that the problem could not be solved because he did not know the size of the problem, refugees were all the time coming along. Thank God, and thank the hon. Prime Minister also, that the hon. Minister is not charged with the Food or Employment Ministries, because I am sure he might have contended that he would not be able to solve the food or employment problem unless the population of the country was frozen and he knew what the size of the problem was. To put it that way it sounds ridiculous and absurd, but the tragedy of the rehabilitation problem is that a similar argument is offered and a lot of reasonable men think that there is a lot of sense in it.

But there is no sense. Even so, I would like to remind the Minister of this that since October, 1956, the position has been tightened up with regard to the issue of migration certificates. What has been the position since October, 1956 up till now? The camp population in January, 1957, in West Bengal was about 2.28 lakhs; at the end of 1957, I find it was about 2.12 lakhs or 2.11 lakhs. Where has there been any improvement? The Minister knew the size of the problem since October, 1956, because he himself—by 'he' I mean Government—was not issuing migration certificates. But there has been no improvement since then. Even the inmates of homes and infirmaries continue to be about

[Shri Bimal Ghose]

the same, that is, about sixty thousand. So, where is the improvement that the Minister has been talking about?

Apart from rehabilitation, there is another problem to which I really wanted to devote myself this evening, and that is the question of relief and rehabilitation benefits to future migrants. I hope the Minister will not say that that is a subject with which he is not directly concerned, because I am sure that he himself had taken the initiative in the matter. In answer to a question asked last month, it was stated that Government had come to a decision that relief and rehabilitation benefits would not be given to any future migrants, except in special cases. You may remember that last session Shrimati Renu Chakravartty and myself had brought in an adjournment motion on this subject, and the Prime Minister reacted rather curiously.....

Shri Sadhan Gupta: Furiously.

Shri Bimal Ghose: Furiously and curiously also.

He lost his temper; and he used also intemperate language. And you may be almost sure that whenever he does any of those things, he has a weak case. Otherwise, he never loses temper or uses intemperate language.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I do not think these conclusions are very fair.

Shri Bimal Ghose: This raises a moral question also. I stated at that time that at the time of Partition, the Government here, or the Congress leaders here, had given an assurance to the Hindus and to the members of the minority community left in East Pakistan that their future would be looked after. I would like to refresh your memory in that regard as to what was stated on many occasions.

On 15th August, 1947, the Prime Minister stated:

"We think also of our brothers and sisters who have been cut off from us by the political boundaries and who unhappily cannot share at present in the freedom that has come. They are of us and will remain of us, whatever may happen, and we shall be sharers in their good and ill fortune alike."

There was no question of time-limit here. But the Prime Minister wanted to insinuate last session that we could not shoulder this burden indefinitely. He might have changed his position today, but in August, 1947, there was no question of time-limit.

Sardar Patel stated at that time:

"But let not our brethren across the frontier feel that they are neglected and forgotten. Their welfare will claim our vigilance, and we shall follow their future in full hope and confidence that sooner than later we shall be united in common allegiance to our country."

Sardar Patel had also sent a message to a convention which was held in August, 1947, at the Calcutta University Institute Hall and which was presided over by the late lamented Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, in which he stated:

"We cannot fully enjoy the freedom that we have got until and unless we can share it with the Hindus of North and East Bengal. How can we forget the sufferings and sacrifices which they cheerfully endured for freeing our motherland and from foreign domination? Their future welfare must engage the most careful consideration of the Government and the people of the Indian Union in the light of Development that may take place hereafter."

So, there is no question of any time-limit here.

It may be said that things have changed. But let us come even to 1950. When there was a discussion on the Nehru-Liaquat Ali Pact in the Provisional Parliament, the Prime Minister stated:

"To the people of East and West Bengal and Assam, I would make a special appeal, for they have suffered most from these tragic upheavals. The whole of India has not only sympathised with them but has shown that sympathy in many ways. Their cause has become the cause of the whole country. So far as refugees are concerned, the Government of India has undertaken unlimited responsibility for their welfare."

The words are 'unlimited responsibility for their welfare'.

"...But while we shall undoubtedly look after to the best of our ability those unhappy persons who come as refugees, and try to rehabilitate them...."

So, it is not merely unlimited responsibility for those who had come over to India, but also for those who come as refugees.

"...it is clear that this is no satisfactory solution of this great problem. The only solution is to produce proper conditions to live in their homelands, wherever they may be."

I agree. But he also pointed out in that very statement the reason why the East Bengal Hindus were coming away. He said:

"They leave everything they possess and go to distant places rather than live always with fear and insecurity as their companions. Unless this fear and insecurity are removed completely and normal civilised conditions of life prevail, this problem will not be solved in spite of all agreement."

Now, I want to ask the Minister whether it is his contention that there is no fear and insecurity in East Bengal for the Hindus there. Although the Prime Minister himself admitted that he did not feel that this problem would be ever solved unless satisfactory conditions were created, yet from the speech which he delivered only yesterday, I do not think we can conclude that those conditions had been created in East Bengal today. So, if it is proved first that those conditions have not been created, and if as a result they have to come over, and if as the Prime Minister said that as long as they come the Government of India should be responsible for them, then why is it that today they are going back on it?

I had stated on that occasion when we wanted to move the adjournment motion, that we had incurred a debt of honour. I ask the Minister, 'Was it or was it not a debt of honour? Are we discharging that debt today? If not, why not? What are the conditions that have changed?'. We must also realise that these East Bengal Hindus who have come over, who are coming over, and who were forced to come over here were doughty fighters in our independence fight and were also helping to develop the economy of West Bengal. I am reminded of what the late lamented Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, stated at the time of his resignation on 19th April, 1950, in the Provisional Parliament:

"Let us not forget that the Hindus of East Bengal are entitled to the protection of India, not on humanitarian considerations alone, but by virtue of their sufferings and sacrifices made cheerfully for generations, not for advancing their own parochial interests but for laying the foundation of India's political freedom and intellectual progress."

We seem to be forgetting all that.

[Shri Bimal Ghose]

One of the reasons advanced as to why there should be a change in policy is that it is too big a burden and we have not financial resources. When the Second Five Year Plan was formulated, we had provided finances for refugee rehabilitation. Are we going beyond those provisions?

It was stated in the annual report of this Ministry for 1956-57, that:

"The programme for the rehabilitation of East Pakistan displaced persons under the Second Plan was prepared on the assumption that about 1.71 lakhs families remained to be rehabilitated at the beginning of 1956-57, and that the annual migration during the Second Plan period would be of the order of 20,000 families."

It is true that in 1956, a lot of refugees came in, about 1.81 lakhs or so. But take 1956 and 1957 together. It is much less than 20,000 families per year.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Take 1955 and 1956 together.

Shri Bimal Ghose: I am talking of the Second Plan period and not 1955. The estimate was for the Second Plan period. Certain provisions were made. Certain assumptions were made. Then the migration certificate procedure has been tightened up and there is no immediate prospect of a large-scale migration to India. Then what has happened having provided, all that, to justify our going back today upon the position that we had taken up at the beginning of the Second Plan period? Not only that. It had been agreed that the financial provision for the rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan should be reviewed in the third year of the Plan—that is of the Second Plan—in the light of the then prevailing conditions, provision of additional funds being made, if needed

at that stage. In the third year of the Plan, we should have reviewed to find out if we needed more money. But what is being done is that no benefit should be given to future migrants. I do not understand what has happened to justify this attitude. Looked at from the point of the moral liability and looked at from the point of view of financial liabilities that we said we would take up, I find no reason why there should be a change in this policy. It is really very depressing that the future refugees—people now in Pakistan—should now be faced with this position, because refugees draw the conclusion that this Government is unsympathetic, that this is the attitude to those displaced persons coming from East Pakistan.

Now, I read also in the papers today that the Ministry is going to be wound up. I do not understand this. The hon. Minister is a friend of mine. I do not mind his becoming the Governor of Orissa or Punjab or anywhere else or even, as somebody has suggested, the President of India. If he is made that, I have no objection. But do not wind up the Rehabilitation Ministry. I want an assurance on that point.

Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya: Let him be made the Governor of Dandakaranya.

Shri Bimal Ghose: The Rehabilitation Ministry, whether he presides over it or not, should not be wound up.

I will conclude by saying that I have been greatly distressed by the speeches made by the hon. Minister during the last few days in the other House and in this House. It appeared to me that he was trying to emulate my good friend in the other House, Shri Bhupesh Gupta, but it is a field where I am very much afraid he will never be able to excel him.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The following are the 45 selected cut motions relating to various Demands under the Ministry of Rehabilitation which will be treated as having been moved, subject to their being otherwise admissible:—

Demand No. No. of Cut Motion
(Disapproval of Policy)

78 1501, 1502.

(Token)

167, 1498, 1505, 1506, 1507,
1508, 1540, 1541, 1542,
1543, 1544, 1545, 1546,
1547, 1548, 1549, 1592,
1593, 1594, 1595, 1596,
1597.

79 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173,
174, 175, 176, 177, 178,
1499, 1500, 1509, 1510, 1511,
1512, 1513, 1514, 1515,
1516.

Sending of East Bengal refugees to Dandakaranya, in the name of rehabilitation

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced to Re. 1.

Sending of East Bengal refugees out of West Bengal without exploiting the rehabilitation potential in West Bengal.

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced to Re. 1.

Failure to remove corruption in the administration of the Rehabilitation Department

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to regularise all the so-called 'Squatters' Colonies' in and around Calcutta

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Inadequate hospital facilities for the refugees in West Bengal.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to instal medium-size industries for refugees in Taherpur, Rana-ghat and Gayaspur in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to implement scheme for establishing mills and factories to rehabilitate refugees in Taherpur and Gayaspur in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to provide jobs for refugees in various Townships in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Dandakaranya Scheme

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Condition of refugees in various camps outside the State of West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to rehabilitate majority of refugees from East Pakistan

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Absence of a comprehensive policy of rehabilitation

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Condition of refugees in Tinneh Camp in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Condition of refugees in Rabindra-nagar Colony in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Condition of refugees in Coopers Camp in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Condition of refugees in Sealdah Station, Calcutta

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Condition of refugees in various Permanent Liability Camps in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Treatment by the Officers in various Permanent Liability Camps in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to solve the problems of refugees from East Bengal

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to demand land from Pakistan to rehabilitate refugees from East Pakistan

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to fulfil the demands of refugees about the payment of instalments on government loans in 20 years

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for an enquiry into the Sindhu Resettlement Corporation's administration

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Profiteering by the Government in Housing Scheme for refugees

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to solve difficulties of Punjabi and Sindhi Refugees of Punjab, Gandhidham, Kalyan, Chembur and other colonies

Shri Assar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Ministry of Rehabilitation be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to liquidate the camps of refugees from Eastern Pakistan

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to provide shelter to the refugees of Sealdah Station, West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to remove grievances of refugees of Charbatia camp of Orissa

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to give training to the refugees for acclimatising them to the industrial avocation

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to employ refugees in Steel Plants of Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to provide building material in lieu of house-building loans

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to raise confidence regarding Dandakaranya Scheme

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to rehabilitate Eastern Pakistan refugees to industries of West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to supply adequate medical facilities in the refugee camps of West Bengal

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Tendency to attribute political colour to all sorts of refugee movements

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to check the grabbing of share by the middlemen in the loans granted to the refugees

Shri Ghosal: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to prevent the wastage of money voted by Parliament for Rehabilitation purposes

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Failure to prevent the grant of loans to non-refugees and to undeserving persons resulting in deprivation of genuine East Bengal refugees

Shri Sadhan Gupta: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for proper medical facilities for various refugee camps and colonies in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Scanty arrangement for the treatment of T.B. patients amongst the refugees in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for more homes and infirmaries for the displaced women and children in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for amenities in various refugee camps in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Need for sanitary arrangements in various refugee camps in West Bengal

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Working of the Department of Rehabilitation Finance

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Harassment of refugees in securing loans

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Delay in giving loans to refugees

Shri Prabhat Kar: I beg to move:

That the demand under the head Expenditure on Displaced Persons and Minorities be reduced by Rs. 100.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: These cut motions are now before the House.

The list indicating the selected cut motions will be put on the notice board and also circulated to members tonight for their information.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): The problem of rehabilitation can now be clearly divided into two broad divisions, one of which has almost come to an end. That is about the West Pakistan refugees. I know there are yet some problems about their compensation and some problems about the Kashmir refugees. But the main problem with which this Ministry is now concerned is about the rehabilitation of the East Bengal refugees, and this problem has now practically boiled down to two main issues. One is the rehabilitation of the refugees, particularly the camp refugees outside West Bengal, and the other is

[Shri A. C. Guha]

of putting a target date for future migrants.

On the first point, this is not the first time, but repeatedly, on many occasions even among the refugees themselves, that I have categorically mentioned that the refugees must be prepared to go outside West Bengal. There is no other alternative. There may be some marginal land in West Bengal, but such rehabilitation schemes have almost failed. It is now almost admitted even by the West Bengal Government that 19 lakhs of refugees, who were claimed to have been rehabilitated in West Bengal, really have not been properly rehabilitated. I think only a few months ago, the Minister in charge of Rehabilitation in West Bengal himself stated that further assistance would be needed if these 19 lakh people were to be rehabilitated properly.

Why have these rehabilitation schemes failed? I know there are some administrative lapses and administrative defects, but most of these schemes have failed because of the bad sites available for rehabilitation. In many cases, I have been trying for years to get some agricultural land for some agricultural refugee colonies. My hon. friend, Shrimati Renuka Ray, was then the Minister. On one occasion, she almost implored me to be excused for her inability to procure the agricultural land in spite of her best attempts. I could realise her difficulties. So I know it is not possible to find proper land in West Bengal for the rehabilitation of refugees now awaiting rehabilitation. They must be prepared to go outside West Bengal. If political parties have been organising demonstrations, I think they are not helping the refugees, they are not helping the economy of West Bengal and they are not helping the orderly development of West Bengal. But that does not absolve the Government of their responsibility. It is the responsibility of the Government who have

taken charge of these refugees to make them properly rehabilitated.

I was rather surprised when the hon. Minister made a plea in the other House in regard to the Sealdah situation. Last year also he made a similar plea here that some assurance from the political parties would be necessary, that there won't be any more squatting at Sealdah platform and then only it would be possible for Government to clear up the Sealdah platform. I do not think this Government should take up such an attitude. They are not so weak that they can function and discharge their duties only on the sufferance of the Opposition parties. Irrespective of what the Opposition parties may do, they should carry on their duty. Rather, they should be prepared for it, as in a political situation the Opposition parties will naturally take advantage of the administrative defects and failures of the Government. It is no use abusing them or blaming them. So the Government should take the responsibility of rehabilitating the refugees outside West Bengal.

I am also a Bengali and I have not any less feeling about the solidarity and integrity of Bengalis than anybody sitting on any side of this House. I would not suggest any measure which would ultimately mean a sort of diaspora of the Bengalis. But I would surely suggest that good, well-planned schemes should be set up in consolidated areas where Bengali refugees can be settled in large numbers. From that point of view, Dandakaranya should be welcomed. I think there are enough potentialities there. It is no use quoting some Imperial Gazetteer or some Administration Report about that land. I think in these days of scientific progress it is not impossible for the Government to develop Dandakaranya. It is not a desert. Even deserts can now be made habitable and cultivable. I have nothing to object to providing also industrial and other rehabilitation schemes in Dandakaranya.

I do not know why the Andamans scheme has been slowed down. In 1957, I think, not a single family has been sent to the Andamans. Last year, on this occasion, I categorically said that it is not true that the East Bengal refugees were averse to going outside West Bengal. If there has been any aversion, that is due to wrong schemes and defective schemes. They have suffered because of these defective schemes. But, they have taken to the Andamans schemes and readily and the Andaman Scheme has been rather popular with the East Bengal refugees. And I hope.....

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: May I tell the hon. Member that my Ministry is not concerned with the Andamans scheme. It is a colonisation scheme of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Shri A. C. Guha: I know that; but when I am dealing with rehabilitation, I should also mention that as an alternative. That is another possibility, where the East Bengal refugees could be rehabilitated. I think it is the duty of the Minister in-charge of Rehabilitation to take up the matter with the concerned Ministry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Minister only fears that he may not be able to make a reply to it.

Shri A. C. Guha: But he can take it up; he can take up the issue with the other Ministry concerned with this and make it possible for the refugees to be sent in larger numbers there.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Eighty per cent of the refugees of East Bengal are taking part in that colonisation scheme. Eighty per cent of the quota is going to West Bengal. What else do you want?

Shri A. C. Guha: I do not mind 80 per cent or 50 per cent. I do mind the numbers. If out of 10, you give 80 per cent, it is only 8; but, if out of 10 lakhs you give 50 per cent. I will be quite happy. It is the number and not the proportion that I want. I think

the hon. Minister is intelligent enough. I am not concerned with the proportion; I am concerned with the number.

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: You cannot have it to the detriment of the local population.

Shri A. C. Guha: It is not to the detriment of the local population.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Let this remain as a debate.

Shri A. C. Guha: I think there have been some schemes in Rajasthan. As far as I know these things are quite acceptable. And, there should be no opposition from anywhere, from any side, to refugees being sent to Rajasthan. But, I would not suggest any scheme in Saurashtra; and I think nothing should also be attempted in Mysore. Saurashtra has left a very bad taste with the refugees. They have suffered very badly from some previous Saurashtra scheme. And, Mysore is also too far and the number that can be settled there may not be large. So Mysore scheme may be abandoned. But, Rajasthan has got enough potentialities and Dandakaranya has got enough potentialities and the Andamans also has got enough potentialities. These three schemes with whatever may be possible in Bihar and Orissa—I do not suggest contiguous areas; that is not possible; but whatever may be possible—may also be taken up.

I would like to make it quite clear that refugees must be ready to go outside West Bengal and anybody hampering that is doing harm to the cause of the refugees and to their economic development and the social and ordinary batterment of West Bengal.

Then, about the fixing of the target date. I think there is no case for fixing the target date. My hon. friend, Shri Bimal Ghose has quoted a number of cases from old statements. I would like to make another quotation wherein the Prime Minister stated...

Shri Sealdah Gupta: Is it an old statement or a new statement?

Shri A. C. Guha: It is an old statement of April 1951.

"But if terror-stricken people come to us for refuge, we cannot say no to them or refuse to give them the help that they stand in need. India and Pakistan may have become two different countries, politically and otherwise separate from each other. But large numbers of people live in each country, who have intimate associations and often relationship with people in the other country, and if they are in trouble, they look to this friendship and relationship."

He has taken that responsibility. It is not a political responsibility. It is not even a question of humanitarian consideration. It is a moral obligation that this Government and that this nation have taken. It is not a party question. The entire nation has taken this moral obligation of giving help and succour to the terror-stricken from East Bengal or of any territory of Pakistan.

I hope the hon. Minister being in-charge of minority affairs also is quite conversant with the situation at present prevailing in East Bengal. What has been going on there has been termed the closed-door operations of the military. I do not want to make any horrible description of that thing here. I think the hon. Minister is quite aware of the situation. I am sure he cannot give us this assurance that the people there are not terror-stricken at present. As the Prime Minister put it if these terror-stricken people now come for shelter and refuge, will Government say, 'No' to them? That will be a violation of the solemn moral pledge which this Government and this nation took for themselves. I do not say it is a pledge given to the minorities of East Bengal; it is a moral pledge we gave to ourselves, this nation gave to itself. I

think there is no case at all to say 'No', to these people and to stop migration at all.

In this report I find that during the whole of 1956 only 2781 migration certificates have been issued. I do not know how many of these were issued on the condition that they would not get any rehabilitation loan.

An Hon. Member: Only 8,000 people?

Shri A. C. Guha: Yes, 8,000.

It has been contended that the migration applications have also come down. But, why? Because they know that migration certificates are not given, and because also they have made the conditions so difficult. They have to submit along with the migration certificate application certain photographs. They have to present the applications in person at some district headquarters. They have to attach two or three photographs of each member of the family which an ordinary villager cannot afford easily. They have made the conditions so difficult even to make an application for a migration certificate. Certainly, they cannot say that the urge for migration has gone down. That is not the real case. Let us not delude ourselves; let us not live under any illusion.

Only one more point. Now, I come to Sealdah. I am sorry if on any occasion I have to contradict the statement made by the Prime Minister. On two occasions he has stated on the floor of this House that all the people at Sealdah station have not come from East Bengal at all. First he said that on 18th March, 1956. There was some interruption and he had made it clear that about 54 per cent or 52 per cent have not come from East Pakistan. He has also said that Sealdah station was cleared in last November. I wish the Prime Minister could have been properly briefed in this matter. He repeated this statement twice last time, I think, on the 8th April, only two days ago. He said that

Sealdah had been cleared in last November but it was cleared in November 1956 and as regards the composition of the families of the persons in Sealdah station, we have got a note circulated by the Rehabilitation Ministry wherein we find that out of 6846 persons, 3,138 are without any documents. That does not mean that they have not come from East Bengal. An overwhelming majority of these 3,138 persons did come from East Bengal. They cannot have migration certificates because they must have crossed over the border without migration certificates due to the strictness in issuing the certificates. The figure of 2700 migration certificates, I think, is also technically correct. Really speaking, the hon. Minister cannot say that there have not been fairly widespread migrations without certificate through the open frontiers of East Bengal and West Bengal and East Bengal and Assam, in different parts of Cooch-Behar and Dinajpur and in 24 Parganas, and in Murshidabad because of the strictness in issuing the migration certificates.

16.00 hrs.

The problem is there. It is no use being blind to that. Again with regard to Sealdah station, it is no good making a mathematical calculation. I would invite you to go to the Sealdah station and visit the place yourself. Any man with a human sense, will say that this is a horrible place to see. The hon. Minister himself will say so. It is a shame on our administration that this situation has been allowed to continue. I would not like to take any of these mathematical calculations as to how these 6800 had been composed or how many of them have migration certificates or how many of them have migrated from other places. I have myself gone to the Sealdah station. It is very close to my house and I have myself inspected the place and I have talked with them. Many of them have deserted after two or three years because they were rehabilitated on their own cost. Sealdah must be cleared irrespective of any assurance

being given or not given by any political party. It is a slur on the national honour. They may take necessary steps so that there will not be any subsequent squatting on the Sealdah platform. They should take that step also, I think. But it must be cleared of this filth and dirt. A number of them are suffering from infectious diseases, small-pox, cholera and the like. With these words I again appeal to him to do the needful.

श्री अचित राम (पटियाला): उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम इस मसले को दस बरसों से जिसकस करते आ रहे हैं। रिहैबिलिटेशन के शायद यह चौथे मिनिस्टर हैं और पाचवें पता नहीं कब आयेंगे। पहले जब यह कहा जाता था कि यह मसला हल हो गया है तो हम को यह बुरा लगता था और हम कहते थे कि आप ऐसी बात क्यों कहते हैं। अब वह आवाज आती है एक बैस्ट पाकिस्तान से आये हुए रिफ्यूजीस का मसला हल हो गया है और मैं आपको यकीन दिलाता हूँ कि अगर यह हल हो गया है तो इसमें ज्यादा और खुशी की कोई बात नहीं हो सकती है। अगर ऐसी बातें हैं तो अगर डिपार्टमेंट बन्द भी हो जाता है तो कोई भी आदमी ऐसा नहीं होगा जिसको इससे खुशी नहीं होगी। इसमें किसी को खुशी नहीं है कि यह बन्द न हो। लेकिन मैं यह अवश्य कहूँगा कि आज दस बरस के बाद हम जरूर यह कहने की स्थिति में हो गये हैं कि हमने सिचुएशन को कंट्रोल कर लिया—यह तो हम नहीं कह सकते हैं कि इसको बिल्कुल ही अपने कंट्रोल में कर लिया है—लेकिन बहुत हद तक हम जस्टिफाइड होंगे अगर हम कहें कि इस मसले को हमने कंट्रोल कर लिया है। लेकिन अगर कोई कहता है कि मिनिस्ट्री जारी रहे तो वह यह इसलिए कहता है कि उसको दुःख है, उसको तकलीफ है। उसका काम हो जाना चाहिये और फिर बाह्य मिनिस्ट्री बन्द हो जाने, उसको कोई रंज नहीं है। आपने यह कही है कि बैस्ट

[श्री प्रविश राज]

पाकिस्तान से जो भाई भाये हैं और ईस्ट बंगाल से भाये हैं और उससे जो सिन्धुएशन पैदा हो गई थी, उसको कुछ हद तक कंट्रोल कर लिया है। हम यह भी कह सकते हैं कि और भी रिफ्यूजी ईस्ट पाकिस्तान से आने के लिए तैयार हैं लेकिन उनको माइग्रेशन सर्टिफिकेट्स की दिक्कत पड़ रही है। लेकिन इन तमाम बातों के बावजूद इस बयान को हम तसलीम करेंगे कि सिन्धुएशन कंट्रोल में है।

ईस्ट बंगाल के मूतालिक जब मैं सोचता हूँ तो मैं पाता हूँ कि तमाम पार्टिस के स्टेटमेंट है कि बंगाल के जो रिफ्यूजी हैं वे बाहर जा सकते हैं। कोई भी आदमी यह नहीं कहता है कि वे बाहर नहीं जा सकते हैं। मूखालिफ ग्रुप वाले भी और इस ग्रुप वाले भी यही बात कहते हैं। लेकिन वह हो क्या रहा है? वहाँ पर इतना एजिटेशन चल रही है कि हजारों की तादाद में आदमी गिरफ्तार किये जा रहे हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि यह हो क्या रहा है, कहां पर नक्स है या कहां पर कमी है। आग के पास रुपये की कमी नहीं है। खन्ना माहब के आने से पहले हो सकता है रुपये की कमी रही हो लेकिन अब तो रुपये की कोई कमी नहीं है। पहले अगर इस तरह की शिकायत की जाती तो मैं मान सकता था लेकिन आज मैं इस बात को नहीं मान सकता हूँ। रुपये की न कमी रही है और न है। आपने दंडकारण्य स्कीम शुरू की है और कोई भी उसके खिलाफ हो ऐसा जान नहीं पड़ता है। कोई जाहिरा तौर पर इस तरह की बात नहीं कहता है। मैं तो कहूंगा कि ३०,००० स्कोवेयर मील बंगाल का रकबा है और ८०,००० वर्ग मील दंडकारण्य का रकबा होगा और आपने एक न्यू एंड ग्रेटर बंगाल फाईंड आउट कर लिया है। बंगाल में इतनी फसिलिटीस होते हुए भी जो एजिटेशन चल रही है, उसका कारण क्या है? इसके

बारे में जब यहां पर बहस हुई थी उस वक़्त मैं यहां पर हाज़िर नहीं था। आपका जो स्पीच ईस्ट बंगाल रिफ्यूजिस के बारे में थी, उसको मैंने पढ़ा है। यह मांग की गई थी कि एक कमेटी बनाई जाए। मैं यह नहीं कहता कि आप कमेटी ही बनायें। आप कमेटी न बनायें। इसके बारे में कोई सीक्रेट बात नहीं हो सकती है। आप तो साफ-साफ बात कते हैं। आप क्यों नहीं सब पार्टियों के प्रादमियों को दावत देते, उनके साथ बातचीत करते, उनको वहां ले चलते और उनको स्थिति से परिचित कराते और जो ठीक है वह करते? बंगाल के बारे में रेजोल्यूशन पास हुआ है कि सबकी मर्जी से काम हो। इसके बारे में सभी एक मत हैं। जब ऐसी बात है तो आप हिचकचाते क्यों हैं और क्यों नहीं आप वे आउट ढूँढते हैं? अगर आपने ऐसा किया तो इससे सबको सैटिसफ़िकेशन होगा। मैं जानता हूँ कि आप नेकी करना चाहते हैं और कर भी रहे हैं, लेकिन यह सबको मालूम होना चाहिये कि आप नेकी ही कर रहे हैं बंदी नहीं। आज तो ऐसा ही मालूम हो रहा है कि आप बंदी कर रहे हैं, नेकी नहीं कर रहे हैं। हजारों की तादाद में आदमी जेलों में जा रहे हैं, ऐसी हालत में कैसे किसी को यकीन हो सकता है कि आप नेकी कर रहे हैं। यह एक सीरियस मामला है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इस पर सीरियसली गौर करें। आप देखें कि वहां की पब्लिक क्यों खिलाफ हो रही है और क्यों वे लोग जेलों में जा रहे हैं। उन लोगों के लिए आपने कैम्प खोले हैं, उनको रिहैबिलिटेड करने की हर कोशिश की है, बस्तियां बसाई हैं और करोड़ों रुपया खर्च किया है, ये सब किस काम आयेगा अगर लोग ही संतुष्ट नहीं होते हैं। यह मामला विचारणीय है और मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप इस पर सीरियसली गौर करें और इसका कोई हल निकालें। आप स्पीच देने में बहुत तेज हैं। सरदार

पटेल और पंडित नेहरू भी स्वीचों में इनकी बहुत दुहाई देते थे और देते हैं लेकिन आप तो उनसे भी स्वीच देन में बढ़ कर हैं और उनसे भी बड़ी स्वीच देने वाले हैं। आपसे बढ़ कर और कौन स्वीच दे सकता है। लेकिन यह स्वीच देने की बात नहीं है। आपमें ताकत भी बहुत है। मैं यह भी जानता हूँ कि आपके दिल में दर्द है। मैं यह भी मानता हूँ कि आप यह भी नहीं चाहते हैं कि वहाँ कम्युनिज्म फैले, लोग तंग हों और आप मजा देखें। इस बाज का मैं खयाल तक नहीं कर सकता हूँ कि आप ऐसा चाहेंगे। अगर आपने कोई टारगेट डेट फिक्स की है तो उसको आप एडजस्ट कर सकते हैं और सबको तसल्ली होनी चाहिये कि कोई ऐसी वैसे बात नहीं है। मैं जानता हूँ कि आप वहाँ के नान-मुस्लिम्स को तकलीफ़ हो, इसको बर्दाश्त नहीं कर सकते हैं एक सैकड़ के लिए भी। आप इतना रुपया खर्च कर रहे हैं, इतना कुछ कर रहे हैं और मैं जानता हूँ कि आप करेंगे भी लेकिन जो बावैला उठ रहा है, उसकी तरफ़ भी आपका ध्यान जाना चाहिये और उन लोगों को तसल्ली कराई जानी चाहिये। आप कोई न कोई रास्ता निकाल ही सकते हैं। आप लोगों को इकट्ठा करके उनको कह सकते हैं कि कोई ऐसी वैसी बात नहीं है और अगर आपने उनको ठीक तरह से समझा दिया तो कोई बजह नहीं है कि उनको तसल्ली न हो। इनका ही मैं ईस्ट बंगाल के बारे में कहना चाहता हूँ।

अब मैं वैंस्ट पाकिस्तान की तरफ़ आता हूँ। आप कई बार कह चुके हैं कि काम बन्द होने वाला है। जब आप मे पहले के मिनिस्टर साहिबान कहते थे कि काम बन्द होने वाला है तो मैं बुरा मनाया करता था। लेकिन आज जब आप कहते हैं तो मुझे खुशी होती है कि आपके दिल में तसल्ली हो गई है कि काम कुछ बन गया है और

अगर बन्द भी हो जाए तो कोई बात नहीं है। लेकिन मैं समझता हूँ कि आप भी इसको खेयर करते हैं कि यह अभी खत्म नहीं हुआ है। आप हंसी से बात करते हैं कि एक तरफ़ तो आप कहते हैं कि मिनिस्ट्री बन्द न हो और दूसरी तरफ़ कहते हैं कि क्लेम जल्दी-जल्दी से निपटायें जायें, ये दोनों बातें कैसे हो सकती हैं। अगर काम वाकई खत्म हो गया हो तो आप कहें कि मिनिस्ट्री को बन्द कर दो तब तो ठीक है अगर खत्म न हुआ हो तो आप कहें कि बन्द कर दो तो बात समझ में नहीं आती है। गवर्नर फवर्नर बनाने की बात की जाती है। मैं तो कहूँगा कि यू शुड रिप्यूज दू बी ए गवर्नर और न ही आपको यह आफर की जानी चाहिये। आपको कोई लालच तो है नहीं आप तो यहां पर मिशनरी काम करने के लिए बैठे हैं। हां अगर यह कहा जाए कि आपको फुल-फ्लैज्ड कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर बना दिया जाए तब तो बात समझ में आ सकती है। गवर्नर फवर्नर की बात समझ में नहीं आती है। -

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : यह एडवाइस मੈम्बर साहब प्राइवेटली मिनिस्टर साहब को दे सकते हैं।

श्री अश्वित राम : आपकी बसातिन से ही देता हूँ। हमारे जो मिनिस्टर हैं—बिलिटेशन के हैं उनके बारे में हम कहें कि बड़ा अच्छा उन्होंने काम किया है, उससे हमें बड़ी खुशी है, और उनको कैबिनेट मिनिस्टर बना दिया जाए। गवर्नरशिप न तो आफर की जानी चाहिये और न ही इनको कबूल करनी चाहिये। जबतक एक भी आदमी बचा है जो रिप्यूजी है, जो रोटी के बगैर है, जो कपड़े के बगैर है और दुखी है तब तक इनको उनकी फिफ़ होनी चाहिये।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : मैंने कहा है कि मैम्बर साहब प्राइवेटली प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब को कह दें जो उनकी राय हो। अगर वह

[उपाध्यक्ष महोदय]

मुझ से उम्मीद रखते हैं कि मैं कहूँ, तो मैं इन्कार करता हूँ और मैं उन तक इस बात को नहीं पहुँचाऊँगा।

श्री अश्वित राम : मुझे आप से बहुत उम्मीदें हैं और मिनिस्टर साहब से भी हैं। मैं इनसे एक सवाल पूछता हूँ। आप कहते हैं कि आपने सब मसले हल कर दिये हैं। काश्मीर से जो डेढ़ लाख के करीब रिपयूजी आये हैं क्या आपकी आत्मा गबाही देती है कि आपने उनको बसा दिया है? आज उनको कम्पेंशन नहीं मिला है, कुछ नहीं दिया गया है। वैंस्ट पाकिस्तान से जो लोग आए उनको आपने रुपये में से तीन आने या दो आने दे दिये हैं। पाँच अरब की पहले बात थी, बाद में वह एक अरब हुई और ८० करोड़ आपने मिलाया और कुछ तो उनको दिया, तीस परसेंट या कुछ कम दिया। लेकिन इनके वास्ते आपने क्या किया है? इनके साथ आपने कौन सा इन्साफ किया है? Just put this question to yourself कि आप

अपने फंड्स में उनको रिहैबिलिटेशन बैनिफिट दे? आप मानते हैं कि जो लोग इस तरफ छोड़ कर गये हैं रिपयूजी वगैरह उनकी जमीनें भी उनको नहीं मिली हैं For any reason I do not want to enter into. वे उनको मिली नहीं हैं। क्लेम उनके आप लेते नहीं, किराया उनसे मांगते हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है कि यह कौन सा इन्साफ है। आपके अन्दर ड्राइविंग फोर्स थी और आपने रिपयूजी प्रावलैम को हल किया जो अभी कुछ बाकी है और बिना ड्राइव के कुछ नहीं हो सकता था। अगर यही ड्राइव आज भी आपके अन्दर है तो आपको नींद नहीं आ सकती है। उनकी प्रापर्टी का कुछ भी हुआ है, उनको क्लेम मिलना चाहिये। आप कहते हैं कि मुल्क हमारा है और इसे वापिस मिलना चाहिये।

आपको मुल्क छोड़ने का हक तो नहीं है, आप उसको छोड़ नहीं सकते हैं तो ऐसी हालत में क्या आपको क्लेम देने का हक नहीं है? आप इनकी सिक्वोरिटी क्लेम एप्लीकेशंस इनवाइट कर सकते हैं और इनवाइट की जानी चाहिये। जब मुल्क आपको मिल जाएगा, हम जायदाद ले लेंगे। उस वक्त आप प्रापर्टी सम्भाल सकते हैं। इसका मैं समझता हूँ आप कोई न कोई हल निकाल ही सकते हैं। मैं मजैस्ट कलंगा कि आप सिक्वोरिटी क्लेम एप्लीकेशंस इनवाइट करें। उनकी सिक्वोरिटी होंगी और बाद में आप इसको वापिस कर सकते हैं। डेढ़ लाख आदमी हैं, ३०,००० क्लेम होंगे, १०,००० या इसके करीब आप दे सकते हैं और यह तीन करोड़ की रकम बनेगी। आप करोड़ों रुपया खर्च करते हैं और इन पर भी आप कुछ खर्च कर सकते हैं। इनको भी कुछ तसल्ली आप दिला सकते हैं। ये लोग भी देशभक्त हैं, इन लोगों ने भी अपनी जानें खोई हैं और वहाँ से यहां आये हैं।

अब मैं वैंस्ट पाकिस्तान के रिपयूजीयों की बात कहता हूँ। उनको आपने ठाई आना या तीन आना रुपये में दिया है और आपको शान्ति मिली है। आप कानूनों को तथा कायदों को छोड़ दें। मैं आपसे पूछता हूँ कि आपका दिल क्या कहता है? इन कूरल क्लेमेट्स के बारे में आप क्या सोचते हैं? मैं समझ सकता हूँ कि पहले थोखे बाजी इन्होंने की होगी, मकान भी सम्भाल लिया गावों के अन्दर और साथ ही अपने क्लेम भी ले लिए। अब मैं पूछता हूँ कि क्या आज दस बरस के बाद आप यह पता नहीं लगा सकते हैं कि किस किस आदमी ने जमीन पर कब्जा किया है और किस किस ने नहीं किया है? उससे कायदा उठाता है या नहीं आपने कायदा रक्खा था कि जिसका कोई जमीन

का क्लेम नहीं होगा उसका क्लेम माना जायेगा। आपको साफ पता लग सकता है कि जहाँ ८० हजार, ६० हजार, या ४० हजार आदमी हैं उन आदमियों ने जमीन पर कब्जा किया है या नहीं, उनको जमान ऐलाट हुई है या नहीं। आपको पता लग सकता है कि कितनी आदमी जमीन के पजेशन में है या नहीं। जहाँ जमान के पजेशन में नहीं है, उसको क्लेम दिया जाय। आपको किसी तरह यकीन तो होना चाहिये। ऐसे भी लोग हैं जिन्होंने दस्तावेजों दी लेकिन वह जमीन नहीं ले सके। आप मिनिस्टर हैं, आपने कहा जाय कि आपको ५० एकड़ जमीन दी जाती है, आप उस पर हल चलाइये। ना क्या आप उस पर जा कर हल चलायेंगे आप वहाँ पर कब्जा नहीं करेंगे? इसी तरह में उन लोगों का गुनाह है कि वह लोग जमान पर कब्जा नहीं कर सके। इसलिए उनका क्लेम न दिया जाय यह इन्फाक् नहों। इस तरह में आप लोगों को आति नहीं मिल सकती और...

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय : आप मिनिस्टर माहब का न गवर्नरी पर जाने देने हैं न हल चला देने हैं, उनका यहाँ है जकड़ कर रखना चाहते हैं?

श्री अचिज राम : न चाहता हूँ कि वह थोड़ी देर यहाँ पर काम करें और उनकी तसल्ली कर के फिर जायें। इस वास्ते आपको चाहिये, मैं कोई लिमिट मुकर्रर नहीं करना, आप खुद तसल्ली कर लें कि हाँ यह आदमी है, इसका जमान नहीं मिली है न वह जमान पर गया है। उसके मकान थे, दो मकान थे, तीन मकान थे, चार मकान थे, अब आखिर वह क्या क्या? इसलिये आप तसल्ली कर लीजिये अगर आप को तसल्ली है तो मुझे भी तसल्ली है।

दूसरी बात मार्केट्स वगैरह के बारे में है, छोटी बातें हैं, कमला मार्केट है, सरोजनी मार्केट है। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि

एक तरफ तो गवर्नमेंट को रुपये की जरूरत है, दूसरी तरफ लोग रुपये बेते हैं तो वह लेती नहीं है। एक तरफ कहते हैं कि पया हमारे पास नहीं है। दूसरी तरफ जब कहा जाता है कि पया हम से लो, तो कहते हैं कि हम नहीं लेते। फिर कहते हैं कि यहाँ तमाम मास्टर प्लैन बनेगी। मिसाल के तौर पर कपला मार्केट का मामला ले लीजिये। कमला मार्केट इस वास्ते नहीं दी जा सकती कि यह मास्टर प्लैन में है। जिन्होंने दिल्ली का देखा है उनको मालूम होगा कि कमला मार्केट के साथ हरिहर टेम्पल है, उसी के साथ मस्जिद है। मैं कहता हूँ कि अगर हिन्दुस्तान की गवर्नमेंट मास्टर प्लैन पर अमल करने के लिये हरिहर टेम्पल का गिराती है, मस्जिद को गिराती है तो कमला मार्केट को भी गिरा सकती है, इनमें कौन सा अन्तर है, कौन सी बात है? इसलिये उसके वास्ते यह कहना कि ग्रान बेल्ट में आती है, यह ठीक नहीं है। फिर ग्रान बेल्ट वहाँ है भा नहीं, वह दूर है। वह लोग कहते हैं कि पया हमसे ले लीजिये, अगर आप को हिलाना हाँ होगा हम को, ना देखा जायेगा। मकान दे दिये जायें, घास दे दी जायें, वह वहाँ चले जायेंगे। आप इस बात के लिये तैयार हैं, तो कौन सा दिक्कत है? हम जानते हैं कि उनका वहाँ कोई जमान देने का तैयार नहीं था पंडित जी। इस हाल में भाग खड़े थे, मैंने कहा : पंडित जी ! आप कह क्या रहे हैं, आप किनकी आँखों से देखते हैं, किन के कानों से सुनते हैं? उन्होंने फोरल जैला किया कि वह जमीन मिलेगी। कहते हैं कि हमने ऐंशमेंट किया था। मैं पूछता हूँ रेडो साहब से, हाउसिंग मिनिस्ट्री से, कि ऐंशमेंट दिखायाओ वह कहाँ है। वह कहते हैं कि हमें छोड़ो, हम लेना नहीं चाहते। वह कानों को लेना नहीं चाहते, हम देना नहीं चाहते, लेकिन ऐंशमेंट किया है। हमारे पास कोई ऐंशमेंट नहीं है। लेने वाले लेते नहीं हैं।

[श्री अचित राम]

मेरी समझ में नहीं आता ऐसा कोन प्राधमो हो सकता है जो न ले। जहां सपा साहब ने इतना बड़ा काम किया है, वहां थोड़ा और करें। यह सराजनों मार्केट है। वहां के लोगों के पास कोई प्रापर्टी नहीं है, उन्होंने सब प्रापर्टी सरेंडर कर दी।

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: I think there is some misunderstanding.

जिस वक्त हमने फ्लैट्स बनाये दूकानों के ऊपर तो हम फ्लैट्स दूसरे लोगों को एलाट करने लगे थे। यह मेरे पास पढ़ेंगे तो मैंने यह कहा कि अगर आप फ्लैट लेते हैं अपनी रिहाइश के लिये और आपके साथ कोई दूसरी रहने को जगह है तो वह दे दीजिये और फ्लैट ले लीजिये। यह बात है। यह नहीं कि बल्लेम रद्द किया गया या उनमें कोई बाज ले ली गई। क्योंकि हम मल्टिलपल एलाटमेंट के हक में नहीं हैं।

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव (हिमाचल) : अगर आपके कहने का मतलब यह कि उन्होंने फ्लैट सरेंडर कर दिये और मरवानात सरेंडर करके ले लिये, तो आपके लिये ठीक नहीं है कि आप उनको फ्लैट्स न दें।

श्री अचित राम : मैं अर्ज कर रहा था कि यह छोटी छोटी बातें हैं। आखिर इसमें कौन सी बात है? कमला मार्केट की बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती। कोई मुझे समझा दे। वहां मन्दिर है, मस्जिद है, हरिद्वार टेम्पल है। कोई वजह तो बतलाइये कि वहां क्यों नहीं देते हैं। लोग रुपया देने को तैयार हैं आप उनको मकान दीजिये। इस बास्ते मैं अर्ज कर रहा हूँ जैसे कस्बों के बारे में कहा

Are you satisfied in your mind that you have rehabilitated all the people? उसी तरह से मैं पूछता हूँ : Do you feel satisfied that all the displaced persons have got gainful occupation?

मैं नहीं कहता कि आपने बुरा काम किया है। आई मस्ट ऐडमिट इट कि आपने बहुत से मामले हल किये। लेकिन अभी तक सैटिस्फैक्शन नहीं हो सका। इसलिये मैं कहूंगा कि इस मामले को भी वैसे ही निबटाइये कि लोगों को गेनफुल आकुपेशन मिल जाये। आज यहां पर शरणार्थियों की बेकारी का जो स्टैन्डर्ड है वह इस बास्ते हुआ कि पार्टिशन ने उनको बेकार किया। इस बास्ते उनकी पोजीशन मुल्गनिफ है। डोन्ट पुट दैम आन दैट लेबेल।

बाकी रही क्लेम की बात। मुझे इस बात का दुख है कि मेरे पास विधायक आती हैं और कहती हैं कि हमको कुछ नहीं मिला। मैं कहता हूँ कि आपका नम्बर नो प्रायोरिटी पर था। ठाई हजार प्रायोरिटीज पड़ी हैं। मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि आप और कामों को छोड़ कर जरा इस तरफ तवज्जह दें। जिनको आपने प्रायोरिटी कैटेगरी में रक्खा था उनको तो कुछ दें। दस हजार रुपये के क्लेमों वाले करीब आधे लोग पड़े हैं, उनको ही कुछ दे दीजिये, लेकिन प्रायोरिटी इन लोगों में शुरू कीजिये। आज आपको पता है कि लोगों की क्या हालत है? पहले तो आपने रुपये में तीन आने दिये, मार्केट में वह डेढ़ आने में बिकता है, डेढ़ आने का उनको नुकसान होता है। आज दस बरस बाद कुछ मामला हल हुआ। मैं अर्ज करूंगा, मैं अपील नहीं करूंगा क्योंकि आपके दिल में तो उनके लिये काफी हमदर्दी है, हमारा फर्ज है कि हम उनकी तरफ ध्यान दें। जब लोग कहते हैं कि हमें यकीन नहीं होता। लेकिन जब यकीन होता है तो आप में कहते हैं। इस बास्ते मेरी आपसे प्रार्थना है कि यह छोटी छोटी बातें हैं, गंगानगर का छोटा सा मामला है, काश्मीर वालों के लिये मीटिंग में जाने हैं और हम कुछ सहायता मांगते हैं तो आप कहते हैं कि हम रुपया नहीं दे सकते, ऐक्ट नहीं है। आप ऐक्ट लाइये,

हम सपोर्ट करेंगे। क्या बजह है कि प्राज उनको लोन नहीं मिलता ? जमीन उनको मिलती नहीं, लोन उनको मिलना नहीं, बनेम उनको मिलता नहीं, तो आखिर वह कहाँ जायें ? मैं कहूँगा कि किसी की बात आप सुनें या न सुनें, आप अपनी सुन कर जो फैसला कोजियेगा, वह हमें मंजूर है ।

Shri Sanganna (Koraput-Reserved-Sch. Tribes): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me a chance to participate in this debate and say a few things about the Dandakaranya Scheme. When I met the hon. Minister at Bhubaneswar in the month of November last, I made a request to him to visit the Dandakaranya Scheme. He was kind enough to say that he would be visiting the same very soon, but I do not know whether he would be able to do it, because from the news today it seems that the Department will be wound up and he is going to be appointed as Governor of Orissa. If that proposal materialises, I am sure that he will give his experience and also advice about the implementation of the Scheme.

From the Report given by the Government, it seems that about 32 lakhs of people from East Bengal have been accommodated already and the remaining people have to be accommodated in other States—it seems those who have been accommodated already have been given accommodation in Assam, Tripura and other adjoining places. But from experience I see that the men who have been accommodated in Orissa are not sticking to the soil. It may be due to the fact that the people who have been accommodated are not given the vocation that is suitable for them, or, the people who have been dealing with them may not have been fair in their dealings. For instance, at Amrada Road, the refugees have been staying there for a long time, but after sometime there has been some disturbance and they vacated the place once for all. So in order to accommodate these people, the persons who are kept in charge of

the camps must be very co-operative and at the same time very friendly. Unless the refugees are tackled in a friendly way, I am afraid that they cannot be accommodated in a place which may be quite new to them and also foreign.

In Orissa also there are other camps where the people are very happy. For instance, in the district of Phulbani, there is a camp where the people are well accommodated and they have taken to the vocation of the local people there. So far as the Bengali population is concerned, there is not much difference between the Oriyas and the Bengalis. As a matter of fact, there is sweet relationship between the Bengalis and the Oriyas. So, as Shri Guha has said, if the refugees are accommodated in Orissa, I think there will be no difficulty. So far as the refugees from East Bengal are concerned, most of them are agriculturists. If these people are to be accommodated in Orissa, I think it could be done very easily, because the land in Orissa is quite suitable for the cultivation by these agriculturists coming from East Pakistan. Moreover some of them are artisans. They can be accommodated in the industrial programme of the Orissa State. They can be accommodated in the industrial areas like Hirakud project and the Rourkela plant project. If these people are absorbed there, I think there will be no complaint from them as to the way of life they are to lead. At the same time, if the people go there, they must have a sense of equality. If they have to impose themselves upon the people who are already residing there to the detriment of their interests, I think there will be trouble. For instance, if the people go there and create some political disturbance, I think there will be friction between the local people and the new arrivals. So, in order to have a cordial relationship there must be some co-ordinating authority so that there can be no difference of opinion between the people who are to be rehabilitated there and the people who already live there.

[Shri Sanganna]

So far as the Dandakaranya scheme is concerned, I think the Government have stated that the scheme has to be implemented not only for the displaced persons but also for the uplift of the Adibasis. So, if this scheme is to be implemented with that object also in view, I welcome it. But some critics from the Opposition have said that if these persons are rehabilitated in the Dandakaranya scheme they will be affected in every way. I assure the House that there will be no such difficulty, because the persons who sponsored the scheme are very efficient ICS officers. Shri S. V. Ramamurthi and Shri V. S. Hejmadi are able administrators and they have got first-hand knowledge. So, unless these people have been thoroughly satisfied, they could not have recommended this area for the settlement of the displaced persons. As a matter of fact, Shri Ramamurthy is a person who hails from the very State near this area where the Dandakaranya scheme is to be implemented, and so he must be more conversant with the local conditions there, where these persons are to be rehabilitated.

When the hon. Minister visited Orissa to acquaint himself with the facts of the State, he had a long discussion with the concerned Minister there and the Chief Minister of Orissa. In that discussion he has stated that in order to improve the arrangements in respect of the Dandakaranya scheme, he is out to do anything that is possible within the resources of the Government of India. If the Rehabilitation Ministry is to be wound up, I think the other Ministries must come to the rescue. Unless they come to the help of the Government of Orissa, it is not possible to implement the scheme.

From the report given by the Government of India it seems that they want some contribution from the State concerned, because there is the question of the development of roads. I hope the Government of India will not

be strict in this respect, because the Government of Orissa has very limited resources. As a matter of fact, the Government of Orissa is troubled so much about the filling up of its deficit that is coming up in the Second Five Year Plan. They have been adopting so many methods which are of course congenial to the spirit of the welfare State. Even then, if the Government of India want some contribution, I request them to realise that it is not possible for the Orissa Government to give any financial contribution. I think even the other States will also not be in a position to contribute.

So far as the Government of Orissa is concerned, the area in which the Dandakaranya scheme is located is very fertile and at the same time it is full of minerals. When the Government of Orissa is going to part with this tract of land, I think no better contribution is necessary. The area is full of the fauna and flora. I think it is a good place for development into a natural sanctuary. When the Government of Orissa is going to give up this entire plot of land I think no further or no better contribution is necessary. Moreover, in the matter of implementing the Dandakaranya scheme, communications play an important part. The hon. Minister may not of course have a first-hand knowledge about it, but, at the same time, he must have found out from the facts and figures the actual position. In order to approach the Dandakaranya area, communication from all sides must be developed. From the report I have seen that there is a proposal for constructing a railway line from Raipur through Kotpad, through Jeypore and Koraput to Vizianagaram. Of course this may not be adequate. If this line is extended to Malkangiri where the Dandakaranya scheme is to be located, I think the line must start from Rajnandgaon on the Nagpur-Howrah line—a place between Gondia and Bhilai. I think if the line is constructed from that place, the whole of Jagdalpur area and the whole of Koraput district will be connected very safely.

At the same time, the Government of Orissa as well as the Andhra Government are facing the problem of rehabilitating the people who have been displaced by the Machkund hydro-electric project. They have been striving hard to rehabilitate these people. On account of the difficulty of communications they are not able to do it. I think if the schemes that have been taken up by the Government of Orissa and the Andhra Government are integrated with the Dandakaranya scheme, it will be good, and I hope the amount that they are going to spend in rehabilitating those people will be available also for the implementation of the Dandakaranya scheme.

Moreover, the people who are in charge of the project are not given any special allowance or protection, I do not know about the Government of India, but in regard to the other States, I think their servants are not given any special allowance just as is given in the case of special projects like the Rourkela steel project and the Hirakud dam project and other steel projects of the Government of India. Unless these people are given some special allowance, it is not possible for the authorities to implement the scheme with zeal. So, in order to have the scheme implemented successfully, I think the officers there must be given all kinds of protection. We have seen that they are very much isolated from one place to another. It is very risky because it is so much infested with wild animals and unless the people have some special protection, they cannot implement the Dandakaranya scheme and at the same time, their lives also will be risky.

About the improvement of communications, an air strip is also necessary. It seems the Government of India is going to have one air strip at Koraput and if necessary, they may also construct other air strips. In this connection, I may suggest the location of the second air strip at Rayagada, a place between Visakhapatnam and

Nagpur. I think if Rayagada is taken up as the second air strip, the area adjacent to that air strip is Kalahandi and the whole area will be benefited. I think the whole area can be surveyed at close quarters and there will be no difficulty of communications. From Koraput, it can be approached that way.

So far as the other transport facilities are concerned I can suggest a steam-launch route from Rajahmundry to Kunavaram across the river Godavari. If the steam-launch is extended up to Motu, I think the materials that will be required at the preliminary stages for the implementation of the Dandakaranya scheme can be transported easily at less cost than transporting materials to Motu in the rainy season by primitive methods. I think if the suggestion is taken into consideration, the Dandakaranya area will be connected even by water from Motu to Rajahmundry and from there extend the transport by the mainline. This has also been stated by me at the time of my giving evidence before the Inland Water Transport Commission and they appeared to have appreciated my idea. So, I request the hon. Minister to take up the matter with the Inland Water Transport Commission before he goes out for something big.

Of course the hon. Minister has got much sympathy towards Orissa, because whenever I represented the difficulties of the refugees in Orissa, he was very much appreciative of the difficulties and he said that he would be in a position to do as much help as was possible within the resources of the Government of India. In order to safeguard the interests of the adivasis, the hon. Minister will be kind enough to protect them, because when the implementation of the scheme takes place, I think there will be so much temptation from the plains people to exploit the adivasis. So, in order to prevent the adivasis from being exploited, he must make a special arrangement. The adivasis are so sensitive and they are very much

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afraid of the plains people, because they have been under exploitation for centuries together. I think that unless the Government comes to their rescue, the methods that have been adopted so far may not be sufficient.

With these words, I conclude.

Shri Subiman Ghose (Burdwan): In venturing to discuss the problem of the refugees, I touch a delicate subject. It has been made all the more delicate, because when we from this opposition side, particularly from West Bengal, speak something, it is our misfortune that some motive is ascribed to us or some political game is seen through it; Our Rehabilitation Minister is never tired of repeating the Bettiah episode. Of course, it is an exploded theory and everybody now is able to see the game, namely, that the Rehabilitation Minister wanted a handy weapon to kick up a row to cover his defects and he has got it.

I would not have minded this, but another misfortune is that our Prime Minister is also thinking on the same lines. In his reply to the budget speeches, as Finance Minister, he said:

"It was fantastic that any political party, whether it was the communist or the praja-socialist party, should encourage people to make the demand that they should not be rehabilitated outside West Bengal. Such a demand made their rehabilitation impossible."

He then discusses the condition of Sealdah Station and ultimately comes to the conclusion:

"Thus rehabilitation question has been made a political question."

When this charge has been levelled by the Prime Minister, I think it requires careful examination. I shall refer to one book by name *The Great Challenge* published by the West Bengal Government on 22nd April

1957. In this book, we find the writing of the Chief Minister of West Bengal, the Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal and also the writing of our Rehabilitation Minister. The headline seems to be a very courageous one: "Unprecedented Challenge" and most probably it is in consonance with the gallantry that is being exhibited by our Rehabilitation Minister. He says: that 40 lakhs of refugees have arrived in West Bengal and more than 30 lakhs are concentrated in the State of West Bengal alone. I do not know what is the meaning of "concentrated". It means perhaps that they are remaining in West Bengal.

In this connection, I want to point the writing of the previous Rehabilitation Minister of West Bengal. She says:

"To plan in any satisfactory manner when the future is unknown is difficult and almost impossible. Yet, to the extent possible, plans have been made and are under implementation in West Bengal to create new avenues of employment and to turn waste lands and marginal and waterlogged areas into homesteads and cultivable land."

This has been written on 22nd April, 1957. Now, as a matter of fact, the refugees want to know the quantum of the wasteland, marginal and waterlogged lands, that have been reclaimed since 22nd April, 1957 and how many refugees have been rehabilitated on these lands and how many houses have been erected. That the refugees want to know, because if this gives an indication, it indicates that wastelands, marginal and waterlogged lands are still available in West Bengal.

In the Delhi Edition of the *Hindustan Standard* today, I find there is an editorial beginning with the heading "Good Augury". It says:

"Dr. Roy is understood to have assured the Advisory Committee that unwilling refugees would not

be coerced by the Government to leave West Bengal for purposes of rehabilitation; and secondly, distribution of doles to many of the camp refugees who had declined to go outside the State would be restored."

Lower down, it says:

"Hitherto the Government policy for drafting refugees outside West Bengal for resettlement had been based on the ground of non-availability of surplus land inside the State. Dr. Roy is understood to have made it clear to the Committee that agricultural land for cultivation was still very scarce in the State; nevertheless, the Government had now been able to secure some waste land, about 1.37 lac acres. In West Bengal for those refugees who would agree to be resettled there."

Perhaps, had I not disclosed that it is the name of Dr. Roy that is connected with this, the hon. Rehabilitation Minister would have thought that it is the voice of the leftist parties. The Chief Minister of West Bengal said that he does not want to take them outside Bengal. They are not our words; he says that in view of the fact that there is availability of waste land and marginal and water-logged areas. So, it cannot be said that we are playing a political game in not asking the refugees to go outside Bengal. It is absolutely wrong. It is not our political game. It is said by everybody and it is also said by the hon. Chief Minister of West Bengal.

Then I come to another point. On 12th August, 1957 when I spoke on the Rehabilitation budget, I spoke something regarding Purulia and I did refer to Dandakaranya. My misfortune was that without understanding my viewpoint, the Rehabilitation Minister found a peculiar delight in hitting me below the belt. Purulia has come to West Bengal before that.

Here I want to point out one fallacy. In the hand-out that was given to us yesterday it is stated that in West Bengal the population per square mile is 1,000. I submit that the theory is fallacious. If you exclude Calcutta and the industrial belt, what will be the population per square mile? I can give one concrete example. In Purulia which has come after the States Re-organisation the square miles is 3,200 and the population is 11 lakhs. It comes to about 340 per square mile. The population of the adjoining district of Burdwan may also be taken into account. Before the influx of the refugees, population per square mile was 750 or a little more than that. Its square mile is 2,600. Its population was about 19 lakhs to 20 lakhs. Even after this, Burdwan has accepted two lakhs of refugee population. While considering this, I fail to understand why 5 lakhs of refugees cannot be rehabilitated in Purulia, because when the population is taken into consideration, you will see that a vast tract of land is lying fallow there in which the refugees can be rehabilitated. My offence was I told that in order that a compact body may be set up some portion of Manbhum or Santhal Parganas may be taken....

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: How can it be taken?

Shri Subiman Ghose: At once the Rehabilitation Minister saw that I am after a States re-organisation. But did I claim an inch of Bihar to Bengal? Did I say that for the rehabilitation of refugees Bihar should give some areas to Bengal? I did not say that. Bihar is a part of India and if some portion is required, I do not know where is the harm.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: You make a proposal to the refugees if you are a revolutionary.

Shri Subiman Ghose: The difficulty is that my voice will be a voice in the

[Shri Subiman Ghose]

wilderness. I refer to the hon. Minister again "The Great Challenge" in which it has been written:

"In selecting States for resettlement care is now being taken to get areas as near as possible so that they may preserve their own community life and not feel lost in a place where climatic and social conditions differ materially from their own."

It is for this reason that I said that if some portion is required, it might be taken. But I think it has put out of temper one of my hon. friends. I might also be charged....

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: I have not gone out of temper. I have real sympathy for the East Bengal refugees and, as a matter of fact, for all the refugees. But I would like my revolutionary friend to suggest that to those refugees and turn them into revolutionaries to fight their case in East Bengal, rather than dumping them on other parts. You may put suggestions to employ their energy.

Shri Subiman Ghose: Again my hon. friend says that he is not out of temper. But he is calling me a revolutionary. I do not know. I welcome that anyway. Anyway, I give up that contention. But what is the harm in rehabilitating the refugees in South of Purulia, where seven lakhs of people can be rehabilitated? Where is the harm?

But, without any thought being given to that, motive was ascribed to me by the hon. Minister. He did not answer why rehabilitation cannot take place within Purulia. In this connection, I again refer to "The Great Challenge". All sorts of statistics have been given there—what is the total square miles, what is the population, what is the number of refugees there in all the districts etc. But Purulia has been left out. I fail to understand why this Government, as also the West Bengal Government, will not take into consideration this Purulia

question. Several lakhs of people can be rehabilitated there. This is not a political game of the opposition parties. It is a political game of the Government, because they are afraid that Purulia being a border district, the refugees should not be rehabilitated there.

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

Shri Subiman Ghose: I will conclude now. Otherwise, I would have discussed many more matters. I now come to Dandakaranya. Much was said last year in the hand out. The Rehabilitation Minister gave us to understand that it will take three years, the scheme will take three years to gain momentum. Then he gave us a hand-out this year, painting a very rosy picture, saying he is out to construct the second paradise at Dandakaranya....

An Hon. Member: Where is the first paradise?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Will the paradise be on the border of Bihar or where?

Shri Subiman Ghose: If you are afraid of Bihar, I do not want Bihar. Even in Bengal, if you apply your mind, you will find sufficient land. In answer to S.Q. No. 893 on 4th March, the hon. Minister stated that the areas suitable for the rehabilitation of displaced persons in the vast tract have yet to be determined after a detailed survey. Even then he will say that the Dandakaranya is ready for rehabilitation. In the last budget speech, he said "after the monsoons I am going to shift 500 families to Malkangiri taluka". May I respectfully ask the hon. Minister: is the monsoon over? Have 500 families been rehabilitated there?

Shri Mehr Chand Khanna: Monsoon has not started!

Shri Subiman Ghose: That is the protection that you can take. Another protection you can take. The monsoon of which year, he has not said. Sir, I would like to remind him of what the poet, Wordsworth, had said: "Wisdom often comes nearer when we stoop than when we soar".

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member wants to end with that, I think.

Shri Subiman Ghose: One last point I wanted to touch was about the future immigrants, whether near-about a crore of people left in East Bengal will be received as refugees or not. Now the Government wants to say, "Oh, they should not be accepted". But I would remind them of the writing of Gandhiji and the speech of our Prime Minister—my friend, Shri Bimal Ghose, has left out the emotional portion of our Prime Minister's speech—because the Prime Minister said, "We shall be ever with you". If it means anything, then that "ever" has not yet been exhausted and a dead-line has not been drawn 'thus far and no farther' you will be accepted'. It will be absolutely cruel on the part of the Government not to accept these persons.

श्रीवरी कृष्णा मेहता (जम्मू तथा काश्मीर) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष जी, पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आये हुये लाखों शरणार्थियों को बसाने का जो काम भारत सरकार ने किया है वह एक गानदार मिसाल है, जिससे किसी का इन्कार नहीं होना चाहिये। यह एक देखने की बात थी कि जब वह लोग अपना सब कुछ खोकर यहां शिविरों में आकर रहे थे तो उनको कितनी बातों की आसानियां पहुंचाई गईं। लेकिन जो अपना धन जन खो कर आने हैं चाहे उनके लिये लाख करो पर उन्हें तमस्वी नहीं होंगे। और तमस्वी हों भी कैसे, क्योंकि जो दरजा उनसे छीना गया है वह उनको मिलता नहीं। मिले भी कैसे। यह बड़ी दिक्कत की बात

है। मैं मंत्री जी को क्या कहूँ। यह तो सब जानते हैं। पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय ने इन लोगों के लिये काफी किया, बस्तियां बनाई, उपनगर बनाये, शिक्षा का प्रबन्ध किया, उद्योगों का किया। फिर भी छोटी छोटी मांगें उनके पास आती रहती हैं। वे मांगें होती तो छोटी हैं परन्तु मनुष्य के जीवन से उनका घना सम्बन्ध होता है। कहीं पानी नहीं है, कहीं बिजली नहीं है, कहीं कारोबार नहीं है। ऐसी बहुत सी चीजें हैं जो उनको तंग करती हैं और मिनिस्ट्री के लिये भी यह प्रति दिन की दिक्कत है। इन चीजों की तरफ जल्दी से जल्दी ध्यान देना चाहिये। मैंने देखा है कि जहां कहीं भी उनके उपनगर और बस्तियां हैं वहां पर वे लोग ज्यादा से ज्यादा उद्योग चाहते हैं। क्योंकि अगर उनके पास काम नहीं होता तो घटी हुई घटनायें उनके दिमाग में चक्कर लगाती रहती हैं। दूसरे परिवार का प्रत्येक सदस्य चाहता है कि वह ज्यादा से ज्यादा मेहनत करके आगे का अपना जीवन बदले।

मुझे गत वर्ष पलवल, पंजाब, जाने का मौका मिला था। मैं ने वहां के बसे हुये शरणार्थियों का देखा। उनके पास कोई उद्योग नहीं था। वे बड़ी कठिनाई में थे। यहां तक कि पानी की भी उनको बड़ी दिक्कत थी। चाहे हम कितना भी कहें तो भी पश्चिमी पाकिस्तान से आये हुये शरणार्थी ठिकाने लग चुके हैं। अब पूर्वी बंगाल से आये हुये शरणार्थियों के लिये आप सब कुछ कर रहे हैं। मैं कहूंगी कि आप उन्हें हर तरह की आसानियां दें, परन्तु साथ साथ ही कोई उद्योग भी होना चाहिये ताकि वे अपने पर भरोसा कर सकें और उससे पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय को भी आसानी हो जायेगी। जैसा मध्यम दरजे के उद्योगों का विस्तार करने के लिये २० यांजनायें स्वीकृत हो गई हैं और १० अन्य योजनायें विचाराधीन हैं। छोटे पैमाने के कुटीर उद्योग शुरू करने के लिये सन् १९५७-५८ में कई लाख रुपये की लागत की १६ योजनायें स्वीकृत की गई हैं। इस तरह

[जीमती कृष्णा मेहता]

पुनर्वासि मंत्रालय ने जो काम किया है उससे बड़ी आसानीया हो जायेगी। मैं कहूँगी कि जल्दी से जल्दी यह सब कुछ होना चाहिये।

अब मैं उन शरणार्थियों का जिक्र करना चाहती हूँ जो कि काश्मीर के उस हिस्से से आये हैं जो भारत का अंग है और जिस पर पाकिस्तान ने हमला करके लाखों लोगों को बेघर बना दिया है। काश्मीर के लोगों की मुक्ति की भाव में काश्मीर की मुस्ली जनता को उल्लाड़ कर आज भी आक्रमणकारी की हैसियत से वह अपना नाजायज कब्जा जमाये बैठा है और मंगला बांध का निर्माण करके लाखों लोगों को उजाड़ने की कोशिश कर रहा है। जो लोग उस हिस्से से भारत की शरण में आये हैं उनके लिये बहुत कुछ किया गया है। इसमें कोई इन्कार नहीं कर सकता। परन्तु जब तक उजड़े बूये के लिये पूरी तरह से ठिकाना न हो, चाहे लाख सहायता दी जाये वह नहीं के बराबर है। जो शरणार्थी आये हैं वे अधिकतर भ्यापारी वर्ग के हैं। करोड़ों की सम्पत्ति उनकी वहाँ रह गई। यहाँ तक कि जो डाकखानों में उनका रुपया था वह भी उनको नहीं मिल पाया, हानाकि उनके पास किताबें हैं। परन्तु बेकार। किसी का अगर मिला होगा तो उसकी हाशियारी से या उसके रूमाल में। आज भी बहुत सी कठिनाइयाँ उनकी बनी हुई हैं।

बहुत से जम्मू काश्मीर में बसा दिये गये हैं। वहाँ भी आपकी कृपा से अच्छा प्रबन्ध हो गया है। राज्य सरकार ने काफी मेहनत की है तथा हमदर्दी दिखाई है। लेकिन अभी भी उनकी कुछ दिक्कतें हैं। जो दिल्ली में तथा भारत के अन्य हिस्सों में हैं उनकी भी अभी भी कुछ कठिनाइयाँ हैं। अभी दिल्ली में भी बहुत से रजिस्टर तक नहीं हुये हैं। और भी बहुत सो ष-हूँ दिक्कतें हैं। उनसे इसने क्यों का मकामों का किराया शायद

सात किस्तों में मांगा जा रहा है। इसलिये कि वे लोग गैर दाबंदार हैं। ठीक है जो दे सकते हैं वे दें मगर उनसे इन्साफ़ में लिया जाये। परन्तु मैं नहीं समझ सकती कि वह कैसे देंगे। १५० रुपया वेतन पाने वाला जिसके परिवार में ५ आदमी खाने वाले हैं और दो उनमें अनाथ होंगे क्योंकि जिनके मां बाप वहाँ मारे गये हैं वे भी अपने रिश्तेदारों के पास ही रहते हैं। वे कैसे रुपया देंगे, कहाँ से लायेंगे। इन में कुछ विधवा स्त्रियाँ भी हैं। मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि यह कैसे होगा। माननीय मंत्री जो उन पर कुछ रहम करें और उनके लिये कुछ माँचें, कुछ रिलीफ़ का प्रबन्ध करें। जो सात किस्तें आप कह रहे हैं उनको १४ कर दीजिये तो भी कुछ आसानी हो जायेगी।

कुछ शरणार्थी देहरादून में जा कर बसे हैं। उनके कोई ५०० परिवार वहाँ होंगे। वे यॉल कैम्प में थे। उनको कुछ रुपया दे कर वह कैम्प बन्द कर दिया गया था। उनसे अब वह रकम लौटाने का कहा जा रहा है। वे कहाँ से दे सकते हैं। उन में से अधिकतर विधवायें हैं। कम से कम आपको यह करना चाहिये कि आप उनकी आसानी देखें कि किमके पास है और जिनके पास हो उसमें नें।

राजस्थान के गंगानगर इलाके में भी कुछ रहते हैं। उनको थोड़ी सी जमीन दी गई थी। वह उसका मालिया और आवि-याना बराबर देते हैं। लेकिन अब सन् १९५२ से आज तक का मालिकाना उनसे मांग रहे हैं जो काफी रकम बनती है। उन्होंने बंजर जमीन को बड़ी मेहनत से काफ़्त के लायक बनाया है। ये बड़ी झमेले की बातें हैं। जब तक वे गैर दाबंदार हैं तो उनसे मालिकाना क्यों लिया जा रहा है। उनकी जमीन के आस पास जो जमीन है वह भी औरों को दे रहे हैं। उनको जो जमीन दी गई है वह

उनके लिये काफी नहीं है। अगर उनको घासपास की जमीन भी बिक जायेगी तो वे उस छोड़ी सी जमीन में क्या करेंगे। आपको कुछ सोचना चाहिये इन सब के लिये वे लोग अपना सब कुछ छोड़ कर भागें हैं। वे लोग काफी जमीनों के मालिक थे। जब तक इनका इलाका इनको नहीं मिलता तब तक इनके लिये कुछ ठोस प्रबन्ध होना चाहिये। उस इलाके के लिये काश्मीर की जनता बेचैन है। मैं कहूँगी कि आप उनके लिये कमेटी बनाइये जिसमें काश्मीर के कुछ सदस्य भी शामिल हों। वह कमेटी जा कर इस बात की जांच करे कि किसके पास क्या आमदनी है। अगर यह कुछ नहीं होता है और उन बेचारों का इस प्रकार से निकाला जाता है और उनमें स्वयं की मांग की जाती है, तो मैं कहूँगी कि यह तो उनको फिर से उजाड़ना होगा। इस पर जरूर ध्यान देना चाहिये। जब वे लोग आकर फरियाद करते हैं तो बड़ी बेचैनी होती है। मेहरबानी करके आप इस पर जरूर गौर कीजिये और उनकी जो दिक्कतें हैं उनको दूर करने का कोई ठोस कदम उठाइये ताकि वे लोग फिर से कह सकें कि हमने आपकी मेहरबानी से इतना कुछ पाया।

17-00 hrs.

CLOSURE OF TEA GARDENS IN ASSAM

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House will now take up Half-an-hour discussion regarding the closure of tea gardens in Assam.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram): This half-an-hour discussion has been raised due to the inadequate and unsatisfactory reply given by the hon. Deputy Minister in reply to Question No. 1025 on the 18th March, 1958. The question specifically asked was whether Government will make any efforts to save those gardens from closing so that the labourers employed in them may not starve consequent to the

closure of those gardens and the reply given was that details were being ascertained. The hon. Deputy Minister further admitted that six tea gardens were on the point of closing, and according to the information of the Government of Assam, which had been furnished to the Central Government, about 1,598 workers were likely to be thrown out of their jobs. He further admitted that these gardens were going to be closed because of lack of finance, mismanagement and lack of replantation and so on.

I think that it is a very serious matter when mismanagement exists in our tea gardens because the plantation industry is one of the biggest organised industry in India, which employs over one million workers, who are primarily agricultural workers and on whom depend about five million other persons. About Rs. 75 crores have been invested in this industry and it has made over three million acres of land accessible which were previously inaccessible. There are about eight lakh acres of land on which tea is grown and that land is such where nothing else can be grown. Besides, due to this tea plantation industry, some help is also given to the plywood and transport industry and these two industries also employ a large number of workers. If those workers are allowed to be thrown out of work in that way, a serious situation will be created not only in Assam and in South India, where those workers are employed, but in other parts of the country also because in Assam this industry comes to about 49 per cent. in West Bengal to about 25 per cent. and to about 26 per cent. in other parts of the country, particularly in South India. It will create a situation in that way particularly in Assam.

According to the information, which was supplied here on the 18th March, already two gardens have been closed and that information was supplied by the Government of Assam to the Government of India about six months ago. Over two thousand workers became

[Dr. Ram Subhag Singh]

unemployed about six months ago and the Government of Assam arranged test relief work for them. Later on, that work was also withdrawn. So, those workers, about two thousand of them, and their families are virtually starving. There is information—I do not know whether that information is correct or not, but I have learnt on reliable authority—that some of them are facing actual starvation condition.

Besides, there are other 80 gardens which are on the verge of closure. My point is that when there was a lack of finance, the Government ought to have known that. When there was mismanagement, they should have known that also. When there was lack of replantation and that was not known to the Government then there is something seriously wrong in the source which gives information to the Government of India, because this industry earns about Rs. 100 crores of foreign exchange and it also gives revenue in other ways, for instance, agricultural income-tax and other taxes to the State Governments which come to about Rs. 1 crore and about Rs. 5½ crores to the Government of India in the shape of duties, cesses and other things. In that way, if we allow closure of these gardens or if we allow mismanagement and lack of re-plantation in them, not only will the workers be thrown out of their jobs, but the Government will be losing a great portion of their revenue.

This is happening because 64 per cent. of the gardens are owned by foreigners, particularly the British people. Due to various circumstances, especially the high duty, these people are shifting their capital perhaps to East Africa where there is no duty. I do not say that there should not be any duty. On common tea, we charge the same duty as on quality tea. Common tea is grown in 85 per cent. of the tea gardens. The remaining tea is quality tea. Most of the quality tea gardens are owned by the foreigners. Cost of production per pound is about Rs. 1-6-0 for this common tea and Rs. 1-10-0 for quality tea. The sale

price is Rs. 1-6-0 for common tea and Rs. 1-10-0 for quality tea. This disparity is allowed by the Government. This also comes in the way of proper management of the tea gardens.

What I want is this. If there is such a good industry in the country in which so many workers have been employed, and if you allow them to be closed, not only will these workers be thrown out of their jobs, but they will create difficult conditions in the areas they come from. Most of the workers come from eastern U.P., Bihar and Madhya Pradesh including Orissa. These are scarcity-stricken areas. Most of them have settled in the tea plantations. They are in wretched conditions no doubt. This dawn of freedom has not improved their conditions any further. During the pre-Independence period, they were living in terrible conditions. They were beaten also and very cruelly treated by the tea garden owners. At that time, they were having security of their work because that industry was not suffering on account of lack of re-plantation, etc. But, now due to lack of re-plantation they are going to be thrown out of their jobs. They will not only create political problems there in Assam and in other parts of the country where they will go, but they will bring degeneration to our society. Our idea is to open up new opportunities for employment for our population. But, we are not looking after our gardens properly. Therefore, we ourselves are creating unemployment in our plantation industry.

There is the Tea Board. They are having good sources of revenue. They send their delegations to foreign countries to promote our tea export and they do good propaganda, I believe, in America, etc. But, they do not care for increasing our production here in the country. The net result is that 40 per cent. of our gardens have become superannuated. This information is also known to the Government and the Planning Commission for a long time. But, they have not so far

taken any steps to see that something is done for re-plantation of these tea gardens. For re-plantation work they charge a cess, but I want that some portion of that cess should be utilised for replanting new bushes. You may allot some money straightaway to those people or to your own agency there, because the life of one tea garden is about 40 years, and if we do not replant, that garden will become superannuated. Today their percentage is 40. After some time it will become 50 or 60 per cent., and the percentage will go on increasing day by day. Therefore, I want some legislation should be enacted.

The Government of Assam pointed out this fact to the Government of India about six months ago, and the Labour Minister went there. He called a meeting and discussed the problems. They wanted that something should be done by the Government of India, but so far nothing has been done. They also wanted that they should be authorised to legislate for taking over such gardens as were not properly managed, but they have not been authorised to make that legislation. For that purpose, it is necessary that the Tea Board should be directed to see that it devotes some of its energy for properly maintaining those tea gardens and doing something for replanting new bushes. The Government of Assam should be authorised to legislate so that they may give directives to such tea gardens which are not being properly looked after and if any one violates them, then the State Government should be authorised to take over those gardens and properly manage them.

Here, the Labour Ministry and so many other Ministries are involved. They should have moved in the matter long ago, but thus far they have not moved. Therefore, I request the Government to direct the Tea Board to devote some of its funds for replantation work and I also request the Government to authorise the State Government to legislate on the subject.

Pending that legislation, the Government of India should do something so that all the capital which has been invested in the tea industry by foreign people and their profits may not go to East Africa, because now those foreign owners—I do not say all the foreign owners, but most of them—are not interested in properly managing the tea gardens or properly replanting them, and they are shifting their capital from here to East Africa where they are opening up new plantations. Because they are finding good ground there, they are doing it. Therefore, I request our Government to see that all facilities are given and proper care is taken so that this industry which is one of the biggest in India is properly managed, so that it may give employment to 15 lakhs of our people on whom so many others also depend.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Tantia. He may put a question or two.

15-14 hrs.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia (Sikar): My hon. friend Dr. Ram Subhag Singh has mentioned most of the points about tea. I want to add something to that.

The tea industry just now is one of the foremost industries of India, bringing the biggest amount of foreign exchange, but unfortunately in the years after freedom the Europeans who own 85 per cent. of the tea trade have been shifting their business to East Africa. Although it is just now only 7 crores of lbs. there against 64 crores of lbs. of our tea production, it is increasing there slowly. The reason for this is, as Dr. Ram Subhag Singh has said, that there is no tea export duty there at all in East Africa, while we have got a duty of six annas per lb. here. Unfortunately, the export duty is the same on the best tea and the very commonest tea, though there is a difference of Rs. 5 to Rs. 6 even per lb. in the price between the grades.

This industry was started before 70 years with labour imported from

[Shri Rameshwar Tantia].

Palamu, Ranchi and Dumka. They left their houses and went to Assam at a time when it was said that the people who went there did not return because the water there was oily, there was black fever and all that. Now, it may be a question of the closure of only six tea gardens. But if this continues to be the position, then it will become a case of the closure of sixty tea gardens, because the gardens which are situated in Cachar, Dooars and Tarai etc. cannot face competition with East Africa. The tea industry is not only confined to India but also elsewhere. India produces 64 crores lbs. while Ceylon produces 38 crores lbs. Africa produces 7 crores lbs., Japan produces 13 crores lbs. and so on. So, there is competition from most of the countries. In other countries where they have to face competition, there is some relief given; they give some subsidy to the exports. But on the contrary, in our country, the duty is so uneconomic that if it continues like that then within a period of ten years we shall be facing a situation when the exports will go down very much. In 1953-54, we exported 48 crores lbs., in 1954-55 we exported 46 crores lbs. but in 1955-56 we exported only 40 crores lb. And the value went down from Rs. 148 crores to Rs. 109 crores. So, our Ministry should see that this important industry where 9,70,000 workers are employed, where Rs. 41 crores are paid as wages to them every year, and where Government get Rs. 5 crores by way of internal duty and Rs. 15 crores by way of export duty does not go down.

There is another important point which I would like to mention, and that is in regard to the common tea. It is sold at Rs. 1-8-0. But the consumers do not get any tea below Rs 8 a lb., because there is a profit of Rs 1-8-0 or Rs. 1-4-0 which goes to the Blenders. There are only two firms in India who control most of the internal tea markets and they are the Brooke Bonds and the Liptons. So, something must be done in this

regard, and some relief should be given to the small traders and blenders so that other people also could come into the trade, and the consumers can get tea at a reasonable price.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Now, Shri Hem Raj. He may just ask a question. No speeches can be made now.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: But Shri Rameshwar Tantia made a speech.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Shri Rameshwar Tantia had given notice, while others have not. Moreover, he was the supporter of the request for the discussion.

श्री हेमराज (कागडा) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं दो बातें अपने मंत्री महोदय से पूछना चाहता हूँ। उन दिन इस सलाल के जवाब में यह कहा गया था कि 'जो छोटे छोटे-स्माल टी-गार्डन हैं, उन के बाग़ाबे बन्द हो रहे हैं। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि प्लान्टेशन एन्कवायरी कमेटी ने कुछ सिफारिशें की थीं कि स्माल टी-गार्डन को मदद होना चाहिए। खास तौर से पंजाब में जितने भी टी एस्टेट्स हैं, वे सब छोटी छोटी हैं। उन के मुताबिक यहाँ एक डेलीगेशन भेजा गया था और उस के बारे में जवाब दिया गया था कि रिपोर्ट ग्रैंडर कन्सिडरेशन है। इस वक्त पंजाब की हालत यह है कि वहाँ पर तास लाख पींड चाय तैयार हुई, जिस में से बीस लाख पींड ग्रीन टी मार्केट में पड़ी है और वहाँ के बागीचे फ़ौरन बन्द होने वाले हैं। मैं यह पूछना चाहता हूँ कि इन मिलसिले में हमारी सैटर का मिनिस्ट्र क्या कर रही है ?

Shri Kasliwal (Kotah): I just want to ask the Minister why he should not examine the question of workers' participation in the management of these tea gardens which have either closed down or are threatening to close down.

Shri Dwarikanath Tewari (Cachar): I just want one minute to speak. I shall give a concrete example of mismanagement. There are three closed gardens in my constituency.

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur): Which is the hon. Member's constituency?

Shri Dwarikanath Tewari: Cachar. There are three gardens there, which have been closed down for the last ten months. As to why they closed down, I shall just give you an inner picture.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: That picture may take too long.

Shri Dwarikanath Tewari: I shall take only two minutes and not more than that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member has doubled his time now.

Shri Dwarikanath Tewari: In the tea gardens, the crop is hypothecated. On hypothecation, the management takes money from the banks. The closed tea gardens at Santhalia and Chencorri drew about Rs. 1.60 lakhs and Rs. 1.65 lakhs respectively from the bank, and they spent this Rs. 3 lakhs odd in the stock exchange. They never paid it to the workers there. So, it is not a question of lack of finance. Finance is there from the bank. These are good gardens and there are also bad gardens. But still the money went in the stock exchange. In the stock exchange, they tried to corner some big assets, and they had failed.

So it is not only the lack of finance but also something else, speculative interests, that are there. I think that the Government of India should look into this matter.

Shri Panigrahi (Puri): Have those States where the tea gardens are closing asked for financial aid from the Centre to manage them? Will the Central Government provide such financial assistance?

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know from the hon. Minister whether Government would, in the large interest of the employees and the country, like to nationalise those tea gardens which have been closed due to financial difficulties or mismanagement?

सरदार ब. सि. सहगल (जंजगीर):
उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, एक क्वेश्चन पूछ लेने दीजिये।

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Then the House shall have to sit longer.

Sardar A. S. Saigal: We may sit for five or ten minutes more. It does not matter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I am told that the half-hour limit cannot be exceeded.

सरदार ब. सि. सहगल: मेरा सवाल यह है कि जो नेबरज मध्य प्रदेश और दूसरी जगहों से आ कर काम कर रहे हैं, हमारे पास उनकी सिक्योरिटी क्या है ?

Shri Bhagavati (Darrang): May I know if it is not a fact that in the Hapjan tea estate in the Lakhimpur district of Assam, 42,500 lbs. of graded tea and 3,376 lbs. of loose tea worth more than Rs. 1 lakh were lying in the factory undespached against the total dues of nearly Rs. 20,000 payable to the workers?

The Minister of Commerce (Shri Kanungo): It is right and proper that the House should take cognisance of any possible distress, and the discussion is an example of such concern. But I beg to submit that the problem is not as serious as it is envisaged.

We have 6500 and odd estates in India covering an acreage of nearly 7 million, out of which, only 6 gardens have closed down for a short time. It is quite possible that among this large number of estates, there will

[Shri Kanungo].

be good, bad and indifferent managements and it is certainly not alarming that 6 estates have closed down. Taking the industry as a whole, as against a production of 3,83,000 and odd lbs. in 1933, we have come up to 6,44,000 and odd lbs. in 1954, and production is keeping up the increase. Therefore, on the whole the tea industry is healthy.

The reasons which the hon. Member who sponsored the discussion advanced to take care of the situation were lack of finance, mismanagement and the question of replantation. I will take the last first. Replantation is not such a problem as it is made out to be. It is a fact that a tea bush is a wasting asset. Normally, the life of a tea plant is taken as 60 years. But there are plants, as recorded by the Plantation Enquiry Commission, which at the age of over 80 give very good crop. It all depends upon the management, agricultural management and agronomical care of the estates. There are estates where plants of less than 30 years age also do not give good yields. It is not necessarily due to lack of attention but also due to climatic factors, soil fertility and various other factors. Out of a total of 7 million acres, the Plantation Enquiry Commission had computed that about 21,000 acres had been replanted. But there is a little confusion about it which we are trying to check up because the Commission has taken into account only one form of replanting. In this House we have made mention that there are three forms of replanting and infilling is the most common form. Judging infilling, I think, the volume of replantation is much more than has been recorded by the Commission in their report. But, we are checking on that.

In another debate in this House. I mentioned that we are fully cognisant of the recommendations of the Commission and that is why we are trying to organise a Directorate of Development where we will have technical personnel who will be able

to check on the good husbanding of the tea estates and offer advice. After that we have to get the right personnel over there for we will have to put in regulatory action, if necessary. Regulatory action is necessary because of various factors.

I am not going into the question of repatriation of capital from the tea industry in India to other countries. We have not got the full facts before us today. It is a fact that new areas in Africa are growing tea and are in the market and we have to face competition. How much of it is repatriated capital from India and how much is fresh investment from other sources is not known yet. We will try to get that information. But, whatever it is, the problem is that we have to face keener and keener competition and I think we are in a position to hold on.

One of the arguments advanced was that the incidence of excise duty is a handicap to our competitive capacity in the world market. I would only mention the announcement of Shri Morarji Desai during the course of the debate on the Demands of this Ministry in which he said that the problem of adjustments of duty on common tea is under the active consideration of Government. We are fully apprised of it and we are taking care of it.

But, apart from the duty aspect of it, the question of finance is also being tackled. We had a conference last year with the tea interests in Calcutta and with the financing banks and others and we are trying to evolve a certain procedure by which finance could be made available through the State Finance Corporations etc. The matter is still under discussion. As I have said earlier, the problem of closure is not likely to be as acute as is being anticipated. (Interruptions.)

In a huge industry with 6500 and odd units, it will always be possible to find a few closing down for the time being or changing hands and all that sort of thing. On the whole, I think, when the Tea Board is fully

equipped with its technical personnel—the Directorate of Development—and when the marketing conditions are also improved, for which the Tea Board is constantly on the alert, there will be no question of anticipating any large-scale closures or unemployment.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The House now stands adjourned to meet at 11 A.M. tomorrow.

17-30 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 11th April, 1958.

(Thursday, 10th April, 1956)

| Subject | | COLUMNS | WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd. | | |
|---|---|-----------|-------------------------------------|--|---------|
| ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS | | 9179-9215 | Subject | COLUMNS | |
| SQ. No. | | | U.S.Q. No. | | |
| 1576. | Use of Loud Speakers in Delhi | 9179-80 | 2248. | Iron pyrites | 9220 |
| 1577. | Government Construction Programme | 9181-84 | 2249. | Training in petroleum technology | 9221 |
| 1578. | Public Services (Qualification for Recruitment) Committee | 9184-86 | 2250. | Board of Technical Education and Training | 9221-22 |
| 1581. | U.S. Aid | 9186-90 | 2251. | Graduates from Teachers Training Colleges | 9222 |
| 1582. | Loan from Canada | 9190-91 | 2252. | Field firing in Punjab | 9223 |
| 1583. | Northern Regional Languages | 9191-93 | 2254. | Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Women Social Welfare Workers | 9223 |
| 1584. | Appointment of High Court Judges | 9193-95 | 2255. | Central Agency Section Translation into Hindi of Central Acts | 9223-25 |
| 1585. | Oil prospecting | 9196-99 | 2256. | Second Pay Commission | 9225-26 |
| 1586. | Drilling Near Cambay | 9199-9201 | 2258. | Pensions to Government Servants' Widows | 9226 |
| 1588. | Civil Trade Work in Ordnance Factories | 9201-03 | 2259. | Manufacture of tool steels | 9226-27 |
| 1589. | Life Insurance Corporation | 9203-05 | 2261. | Red Fort, Delhi | 9227 |
| 1591. | Ferro-manganese plant in Orissa | 9205-06 | 2262. | Monuments in Bombay | 9227 |
| 1593. | Air Accident at Ambala | 9206-08 | 2263. | National Laboratories | 9228 |
| 1594. | Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development | 9208-09 | 2264. | Class IV Employees of Army Headquarters | 9228-29 |
| 1596. | Common Police Reserve Forces | 9210-12 | 2265. | Education Ministers Conference's Decision | 9229 |
| 1598. | Allotment of Steel Quotas | 9212-13 | 2266. | Central Pay Commission | 9230 |
| 1599. | Pakistani smugglers | 9214-15 | 2267. | Indian students | 9231 |
| WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS— 9215-45 | | | 2268. | Books translated into Hindi | 9231-32 |
| S.Q. No. | | | 2269. | Hindi typists and stenographers | 9232-33 |
| 1579. | Iron and Steel quotas | 9215 | 2270. | Central Excise Department, Orissa | 9233-34 |
| 1580. | U.K. Colonial Development Corporation | 9215-16 | 2271. | Resin and Turpentine Factory, Nahan | 9234-35 |
| 1587. | Smallpox and Cholera epidemics in Rourkela | 9216 | 2272. | Cases of currency smuggling | 9235 |
| 1590. | P.T.O. Concession | 9216-17 | 2273. | Confirmation of employees | 9235-36 |
| 1592. | Literary Workshops in West Bengal | 9217 | 2274. | Tanjore Fort | 9236-37 |
| 1595. | Archaeological Departments in States | 9217-18 | 2275. | Schools in Andamans | 9237 |
| 1597. | National Savings Certificates | 9217-18 | 2276. | National Federation of Insurance Field Workers | 9237-38 |
| 1600. | Oil Survey of Himalayan Foot-hills | 9218-19 | 2277. | District Gazetteers | 9238-39 |
| 1601. | History of Urdu Language | 9219-20 | 2278. | Foundries in Orissa | 9239-40 |
| | | | 2279. | Loans due from Foreign Countries | 9240 |
| | | | 2280. | Bharat Sewak Samaj Camps | 9241-42 |
| | | | 2281. | Machine Tools Factory, Ambarnath | 9242 |
| | | | 2282. | Conversion of High Schools in Manipur | 9242 |

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—contd.

| U.S.Q. No. | Subject | COLUMNS |
|-----------------------------|---|---------|
| 2283. | Neyveli Lignite Project | 9242-43 |
| 2284. | Multi-purpose Schools in Himachal Pradesh | 9243 |
| 2285. | Traffic on New Delhi roads | 9243 |
| 2286. | Hostels for scheduled castes and scheduled tribes | 9244 |
| 2287. | Scheduled Caste Officers in Ordnance Factories | 9244-45 |
| PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE | | 9245-46 |

The following papers were laid
on the Table :—

- (1) Copies of two Notifications,
under Section 38 of the
Central Excises and Salt
Act, 1944, making certain
further amendments to
the Central Excise Rules,
1944 :—
- (2) Copies of four Notifica-
tions under sub-section
(4) of Section 43B of the
Sea Customs Act, 1878
and Section 38 of the
Central Excises and Salt
Act, 1944.
- (3) Copies of three Notifica-
tions under sub-section
(4) of Section 43B of the
Sea Customs Act, 1878.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS 9246—9391

Discussion on Demands for
grants Nos. 99, 100 and 137
in respect of the Depart-

Subject

COLUMNS

ment of Atomic Energy
concluded.

Eighteen cut motions—of
which sixteen were on
Demand No. 99 and two
on Demand No. 100—were
moved and negatived.

The Demands were voted in
full.

Discussion on Demands for
Grants Nos. 78, 79, and 127
in respect of the Ministry of
Rehabilitation commenced

Forty-five cut motions—of which
twenty-four were on Demand
No. 78 and twenty-one on
Demand No. 79—were moved

The discussion was not con-
cluded

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUS- SION

9391—9404

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh raised
a half-an-hour discussion
on points arising out of the
answer given on the 18th
March, 1958 to Starred
Question No. 1025 regarding
closure of Tea Gardens in
Assam

The Minister of Commerce
(Shri Kanungo) replied to
the Debate

AGENDA FOR FRIDAY, 11TH APRIL, 1958.

Further discussion and voting
on Demands for Grants in
respect of the Ministry of
Food and Agriculture.