

Thursday, 1st May 1958

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Second Series

Volume XVI, 1958

(23rd April to 5th May, 1958)



FOURTH SESSION, 1958

(Vol. XVI Contains Nos. 51 to 60)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, 1st May, 1958.

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven
of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

माध्यमिक कक्षाओं में तीन भाषाओं का
पढ़ाया जाना

+

*१६४७. { श्री भक्त वरदान :
श्री बं० बा० शर्मा :
श्री बाजपेयी :
श्री रघुनाथ सिंह :

क्या शिक्षा मंत्री २६ नवम्बर, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ६४१ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि माध्यमिक कक्षाओं में तीन भाषाओं के अनिवार्य रूप से पढ़ाये जाने के लिये केन्द्रीय शिक्षा मंत्रणा बोर्ड की सिफारिश को कार्यान्वित करने में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री : (डा० बा० बा० श्रीमाली) : एक विवरण लोक-सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [देखिये परिशिष्ट ८, झनूबन्ध संख्या ७८]

श्री भक्त वरदान : इस विवरण से ज्ञात होता है कि अभी तक कई राज्यों ने इस सम्बन्ध में कोई निर्णय नहीं किया है जैसे पंजाब, आन्ध्र प्रदेश, बम्बई, हिमाचल प्रदेश मणिपुर आदि। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि

इन राज्य सरकारों ने क्या कोई कारण बतलाये हैं—आधिक कठिनाइयाँ हैं या और कोई कारण है—जिन के कारण से वे अभी तक अन्तिम निर्णय नहीं कर सकी है ?

डा० का० बा० श्रीमाली : जैसा कि स्टेटमेंट से मालूम होगा अधिकार राज्यों ने इस उसूल को मान लिया है परन्तु किसी न किसी कारण से देरी हुई है। कहीं कहीं इस को बोर्ड आफ एजुकेशन को पूरना करना है, किन्तु उन्होंने लिखा है कि जितनी जल्दी हो सकेगा वह इस स्कीम को लागू करेंगे। हम लोगों को इस से सन्तोष हो जाना चाहिये कि अधिकतर राज्यों ने इस फार्मूले को मंजूर कर लिया है कि हर एक बालक को सेकेन्डरी स्टेज तक कम से कम तीन भाषाएँ सिखाई जायें।

Shri E. V. K. Sampath: May we have the answer in English?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I said that it should be a matter of great satisfaction that most of the State Governments have agreed to implement the recommendations of the Central Advisory Board with regard to the language formula. The Central Advisory Board had recommended that three languages should be taught at the secondary stage. May I explain it in detail. The second formula was (a) the mother tongue or the regional language, or a composite course in mother tongue and regional language, or a composite course in mother tongue and classical language; or a composite course in regional language and classical language; (b) English or a modern European language; (c) Hindi for non-Hindi speaking areas or another modern Indian language for Hindi speaking areas.

This is the formula which was recommended by the Central Advisory Board of Education and has been agreed to in principle by most of the State Governments. Now it is in the process of implementation. It is obvious that each State Government will modify it to some extent, but I am glad to note that most of the State Governments have agreed to this in principle and are implementing the scheme.

श्री भक्त बर्मान : माध्यमिक स्तर में जो तीन भाषाओं का फार्मुला लागू किया जा रहा है मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसके अनुसार अंग्रेजी कौन सी कक्षा से पढ़ाई जायेगी, यानी ६वीं कक्षा से ८वीं कक्षा तक या ९वीं कक्षा से ११वीं कक्षा तक। यह मैं इस लिये पूछ रहा हूँ कि कुछ वैज्ञानिक और शिक्षा विशारद लोग इस बात की कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि वह ६वीं कक्षा से पढ़ाई जाये, और मैं समझता हूँ कि इस से विद्यार्थियों पर बहुत बोझ पड़ेगा ?

डा० का० ला० अ.म.ल. : इस मामले पर कई बार विचार हो चुका है। यहां पर शिक्षा मंत्रालय की कॉन्फरेंस में भी इस विषय पर विचार हुआ था और यह निर्णय हुआ था कि अंग्रेजी अनिवार्य रूप से सेकेन्डरी स्कूल में पढ़ाई जानी चाहिये। लेकिन इस पर कोई निर्णय नहीं किया गया कि किस स्टेज से उसे पढ़ाया जाना चाहिये। इस मामले में हर एक स्टेट गवर्नमेंट को सुविधा दी गई थी क्योंकि इस मामले में कोई एक राय नहीं हो सकती थी।

Shri Tangamani: From the statement we find that certain States like West Bengal, Mysore, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Delhi and Tripura have accepted this in principle. May I know what is the third language which is being taught in these States where Hindi is the mother tongue?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: If the hon. Member wants information about each individual State, I should have to ask for notice.

Shri Tangamani: In a Hindi-speaking State like Uttar Pradesh, what is the non-Hindi language that is being taught?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: I said that if information is wanted with regard to each State, I shall have to ask for notice.

श्री बाजपेय : संस्कृत आयोग की सिफारिशों को ध्यान में रखते हुये इस तीन भाषाओं के फार्मुले में संस्कृत के पठन पाठन का क्या स्थान रहेगा ?

डा० का० ला० अ.म.ल. : संस्कृत भाषा कमिशन की रिपोर्ट पर सरकार विचार कर रही है, अभी इस पर कोई निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है।

श्री पद्म देव : प्रश्न यह किया गया था कि जिन प्रान्तों की प्रान्तीय भाषा हिन्दी है, किसी ई.ड.ब.जु.प्र.ल. प्रान्त के बारे में नहीं, वहाँ तीन भाषायें कौन सी होंगी।

डा० का० ला० अ.म.ल. : जहाँ पर हिन्दी ही मातृ भाषा होगी वहाँ कोई दूसरी भारतीय भाषा होगी और जहाँ पर लोगों की मातृ भाषा हिन्दी नहीं है, वहाँ वे हिन्दी सीखेंगे। यह तजवीज थी।

Shri Dasappa rose—

Mr. Speaker: This has been coming up in one form or another. Next question.

Foreign Exchange for Studies Abroad

*1948. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have relaxed the rule issued in June, 1957 putting certain restrictions on the release of foreign exchange for studies abroad after considering the report of the Committee appointed on the subject; and

(b) if so, what is the present position?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 79.]

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj: May I know what will be the position of the students who have already secured admission in foreign universities like Oxford and Cambridge, admission to which is difficult to secure? Will their cases be considered very sympathetically while giving foreign exchange for students who go abroad?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Certainly there are definite restrictions imposed on students going abroad. If the students have got admission, certainly their cases will be looked into, on the merits of each case.

Shri Damani: What are the general principles observed for allocating foreign exchange for students?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: The conditions are that they are able to secure admission in one of the foreign universities, in subjects for which foreign exchange is earmarked, or going on Government scholarships?

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: What was the amount allotted in 1957 in respect of foreign exchange for students going abroad?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Information regarding the amount is not with me. I shall supply the information to the hon. Member if he wants.

Shri Joachim Alva: May I know why foreign exchange is given for a degree of Bar-at-Law if it is taken contemporaneously with a degree course?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: If the hon. Member were to go through the statement he will find it mentioned that only for a Bar-at-Law course no foreign exchange is given. If the Bar-at-Law course is taken contemporaneously with any other degree course, then foreign exchange is given.

Mr. Speaker: Why should that be done merely because another degree is tacked on to it? That is what he wants to know.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): If a person goes for a specific purpose, it is allowed. If he takes Bar-at-Law also, what is the harm? I do not see any harm in it. No extra money is given to him.

Shri Tangamani: From the statement we find that foreign exchange is allowed to graduates and post-graduates in arts, science and technical studies except for medicine, which is only for post-graduate courses. When an exception is made in the case of medicine, may I know why no exception is made in the case of graduates where such a course is open in this country?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: In the case of medicine, facilities for undergraduates are available in India. As the foreign exchange position is still quite difficult, it is the intention of Government to conserve foreign exchange as far as possible. Therefore it was considered desirable that only post-graduate students should go abroad.

Shri Tangamani: That means that there are no facilities here for arts and science graduates.

Shri Morarji Desai: The point is that for medicine, the course in foreign countries is very long, as it is here also, and it will require much larger amount of foreign exchange if a man is to take the complete course in medicine. Therefore it is desirable that he should take the preliminary course here and then go abroad for post-graduate studies.

Shri Prabhat Kar: For the ordinary post-graduate studies in arts and science, why should foreign exchange be granted to students when the same facilities are available in India?

Shri Morarji Desai: That is not given without scrutiny.

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj: How much foreign exchange is generally available to an individual who is allowed to go abroad?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: It depends on the course of study and the student's need. It varies from case to case.

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj: Are there any particular rules according to which you give foreign exchange to the students?

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: Foreign exchange is given to the students according to the general rules. There are no specific rules for them only. The general rules are the guiding principles.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: May I know whether.....

Mr. Speaker: Next question. I have already allowed a number of supplementaries.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I had started asking a question, when you called the next question.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member ought not to have started asking a question without my permission. I am sorry; I have allowed a number of questions.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: Very often you have allowed an hon. Member to ask a question when he has started. If you do not wish.....

Mr. Speaker: All right. Hon. Member may ask the question.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: No, Sir. I do not want to ask it now.

Mr. Speaker: She does not want to ask it. It is rather strange. The hon. Member can become angry. Very well. Next question. (Laughter). Has she asked the question?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I was ready to obey your orders. If you wish, I will ask it, otherwise not.

Mr. Speaker: Normally, after a number of questions have been asked, I proceed to another question. In exceptional cases, where an hon. Member feels that something which has not been elicited ought to be elicited, I want to see whether there is an emphasis. I found that the hon. Member was particular and therefore I allowed her.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I thank you very much, but I do not want to ask the question.

Mr. Speaker: Similar incidents will be repeated in the House. If an hon. Member wants to ask a question after I have passed on to another question, I consider whether I should allow it or not. But if this is the manner in which she should treat the Chair, I will not call her.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I am trying to be as obedient as is possible.

Mr. Speaker: Whenever I am satisfied in my mind and am convinced that sufficient number of questions have been asked about a particular matter and if still an hon. Member wishes to ask a question, I consider it. Now, when I have allowed her, in between she makes up her mind not to ask the question. I am surprised. She herself was a Speaker.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: What are your orders? Do you wish me to ask it?

Mr. Speaker: How many times have I to tell her?

Dr. Sushila Nayar: I simply wanted to ask if the Government has any proposal before it not to allow any undergraduate students to go abroad and confine foreign exchange only for post-graduate students.

Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha: There is not so rigid a proposal but we see that most of the foreign exchange is utilised for studies, facilities for which are not available in India, so that those students can get the facilities abroad.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

*1950. **Shri B. C. Mullick:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the speech of the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs delivered in Lok Sabha on the 19th December, 1957 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to send a team of Members of Parliament and others to study and enquire into the present conditions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and the difficulties or handicaps due to which their progress is not so effective; and

(b) if so, when.

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) A team of Members of Parliament and others has been appointed by the Committee on Plan Projects to evaluate the working of the schemes relating to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Does not arise.

Shri B. C. Mullick: Who are the members of the Committee?

Shrimati Alva: The members of the committee are: Shrimati Renuka Ray, M.P., Leader, Dr. M. S. Goray of the Delhi School of Social Work, Shri H. C. Heda, M.P., Thakur Phool Singh, Shri Viyogi Hari and a financial and administrative official.

Shri B. C. Mullick rose—

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: May I know whether there are any representatives from the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes?

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Member elbows out another hon. Member in whose name the question stands and before he can get ready to ask another question. When he is standing, another hon. Member has elbowed him out. I must protect the rights and privileges of every hon. Member.

Shri B. C. Mullick: Let him ask his question.

Mr. Speaker: There is something strange today.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: May I know as to how many representatives there are from the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes on this committee?

Shrimati Alva: It is not necessary to have any special representative of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, because this committee is for Plan projects. This team has now been appointed. It will go round evaluating the Plan projects under the Second Plan. Wherever they come across the problems of the scheduled castes and the scheduled tribes, they will give their opinion and evaluate that work also.

Shri Kamalnayan Bajaj: May I know whether the Bren guns which are manufactured in India... (Laughter.)

Shri Goray: Has the Kerala poison come so far?

Mr. Speaker: At least we must have a free laugh.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: May I know whether the Members of Parliament belonging to scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are incapable of serving on this committee?

Shrimati Alva: They are quite capable.

Mr. Speaker: Such things ought not to be elicited. If the hon. Minister says yes, what will happen?

Shri Thimmaiah: May I know whether this committee was to examine the conditions of the scheduled castes people only in the project areas or it will examine the conditions of all the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes people in the country?

Shrimati Alva: I do not understand the import of this question. The scheduled caste members would be interested parties and therefore any two or three M.Ps. would serve the purpose.

Shri Thimmaiah: My question is whether it is confined only to the project areas.

Shrimati Alva: It is confined to the Plan projects under the Second Plan.

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy: The question was whether the team will tour round the country and evaluate as to how far removal of untouchability has been achieved. In view of this, is it not necessary that a member of the scheduled castes should also be associated with this committee?

Shrimati Alva: I have explained the position about the scheduled castes members being associated with it.

Shri Thimmaiah rose—

Mr. Speaker: All these are suggestions.

Shri Tangamani: On a point of order, Sir. The question that was asked is whether the Government propose to send a team of Members of Parliament and others to study and enquire into the present conditions of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes. But the hon. Deputy Minister is giving a reply to some other question. She is referring to a certain team which has been set up. The question is whether a team is going to be set up for studying the conditions of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes.

Mr. Speaker: No study team is going to be set up.

Shri Basumatari: May I know whether there is any proposal to set up a Commission just to ascertain the standard of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, just as in the case of the Backward Classes a Commission was set up some years back?

Shrimati Alva: There is no such proposal.

Retirement Age

*1952. { **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Council of Health have recommended to Government that the age of superannuation in the case of medical officers may be raised to 58 years; and

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

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

(b) The matter is under consideration.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know if these recommendations pertain only to medical officers or to all?

Shri Datar: The resolution was passed by the medical officers' conference recently in this respect. The matter is under consideration.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know what will be the effect of their recommendations on the personnel who are retiring this year?

Shri Datar: That is a matter under examination as to what would be the repercussions on the acceptance of such a proposal.

श्री भक्त वर्मान : इसी तरह पर उत्तर प्रदेश की सरकार ने अपने यहां के कर्मचारियों के रिटायरमेंट की एज को ५५ से ५८ बरस बना दिया है क्या केंद्र सरकार की सभी सेवाओं में और दूसरे राज्यों में भी इस नियम को लागू किया रहा है।

Shri Datar: It is true that the U.P. Government have taken a certain decision. But this question was examined by the Government of India and they have been sticking to their own decision.

Indemnity Bond for Travel by I.A.F. Planes

*1953. **Shri Naushir Bharucha:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an indemnity bond was taken from members of Lok Sabha absolving the Government of any responsibility for any accident, when they were taken to Ambala for the Air Force Display on the 1st April, 1958;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Ministers are also required to sign similar indemnity bonds?

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

(b) and (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 80].

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I would like to know if the Government is aware of the fact that the Members of the Parliamentary Committee who went to witness the Air Force Display were really discharging their official duties.

Sardar Majithia: Well, they were invited by the Indian Air Force, and they saw that Air Display.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The question is this, whether the Government . . .

Mr. Speaker: Why should he not also ask separately whether they have been charged or not.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: No, Sir. They say in the statement which has been laid on the Table of the House that in certain cases an undertaking bond is taken and in certain other cases an indemnity bond is taken.

Mr. Speaker: What does he want to know whether these hon. Members have been taken free of charge or charged?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The Members of Parliament on the Defence

Consultative Committee were taken by air to Ambala to witness the Air Force Display, and they were made to sign on indemnity bond that if an accident happened during journey the Government is not responsible. So I am asking, when Members of a Parliamentary Committee are taken for witnessing the Air Force Display, whether it is not a fact that the Members are simply discharging their official duties.

Mr. Speaker: The Hon. Member is suggesting, I take it, that no indemnity bond should be taken from them and they must take the risk along with the officers.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: No, Sir, Government must take the risk. Government must compensate the Members' families and dependents if any accident occurs. That is the idea.

Sardar Majithia: Well, Sir, even the officials sign the respective bonds, the only difference between the two being that in the case of the officials they will get whatever pensions they are entitled under the rules. Otherwise, they cannot prefer any claim besides that against the Government or anybody. So there is that discrimination between the two. And in any case, if any Member feels not confident in travelling by the Air Force plane, he certainly may not travel by that.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: This is a matter of opinion. Hon. Members want the Government to take the risk and then pay compensation. Let us not contemplate any such danger to our Members!

Literary Workshops in Punjab

*1954. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for organising literary workshops in Punjab for the training of

authors in the technique of writing for neo-literates and children; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) A workshop for Children's Literature is being conducted in Chandigarh.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 81.]

Shri Daljit Singh: May I know what amount has been sanctioned for this proposal?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Sir, the hon. Member will find this information in the statement.

Shri Kumaran: Is it the view of the Government that literary production is a matter just like the production of commercial goods and is it the reason why the unpoetic name "literary workshop" has been adopted?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: It is not a very happy word; I told the House previously also. But since the question was "literary workshop" the answer was given in that form. I have already told the Ministry that we must think of some other word, because this does not fit in our context of things, and I hope we will be able to find a more suitable word for this purpose. But the whole idea is to bring the authors together in one place and to stimulate their ideas for the production of literature for children and neo-literates for which there is a great dearth in our country.

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I know if this expression "literary workshop" has been borrowed from the American language or from Queen's English?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes, it is very popular in the United States and this is a term which we have borrowed in our vocabulary. But, as I said, I am not very happy about this word, and I think we will be able to find a more suitable word.

Advance Against Foodgrains

***1955. Shri E. V. K. Sampath:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision has been taken recently to relax the provisions restricting advances against foodgrains by scheduled Banks; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): (a) Recently with effect from the 1st April, 1958, advances against foodgrains to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh at each of the offices or branches of a scheduled bank opened on or after 1st January, 1958, and located at centres within a radius of 20 miles of which there is no office of any other scheduled bank, are not being taken into account for computing the permissible credit limits for the bank.

(b) The relaxation has been made in order to facilitate the opening of branches in the rural areas.

Shri E. V. K. Sampath: May I know whether this relaxation is indicative of any improvement in our food position or whether there is no need to check hoarding through curbs against advances by banks?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: No, Sir. The relaxation, as I said, is merely to encourage the banking facilities for the rural areas or semi-urban areas under the conditions given in part (a) of the answer. So far as the question of any improvement in the food situation is concerned, the Reserve Bank has gone into the matter recently in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Ministry and they have streamlined and evolved a regulating machinery so far as advances against foodgrains are concerned.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Previously the limit was fifty thousand rupees. Now this limit is relaxed to one lakh. May I know how this is going to facilitate, as the Minister said, the opening of the branches in the rural areas?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The limit has been relaxed only in the case of branches in those areas where there are no branches at present. This is obviously to facilitate new branches coming up to cater to the needs of the areas. So far as the limits of other banks are concerned, even the present regulation stipulates that no fresh credit limit in excess of fifty thousand rupees in any individual case is to be given. So that limit is applicable to all except in the special cases.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know how many new branches have been opened in the rural areas as a result of the relaxation of this limit?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The relaxation has come into effect only from the 1st of April, 1958 and one month is quite too early a period to say anything on this.

Shri Bimal Ghose: May I know if any applications have been received by the Reserve Bank by now for the opening of branches? Because, if branches are to be opened, applications have to be made to the Reserve Bank. Within this one month have any applications been received by the Reserve Bank for the opening of branches?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: For that I require specific notice and then we may be able to supply that information.

Shri C. D. Pande: May I know whether in making such advances, preference will be given to the original producer of foodgrains, as in various areas there are farmers who want to mortgage their grain with the bank, and they should be given preference over the businessmen?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: The present system provides for advances against the pledging of warehouse receipts. All those farmers who put their grain in the warehouses under the Agriculture Ministry, that is, the Central Warehousing Corporation, will be provided with all facilities.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May know whether this embargo on

advances against foodgrains is going to be a permanent feature or whether there is any near or distant possibility of lifting this embargo, considering the level of prices as they are going down just now?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: That depends upon the conditions in the market. As long as there is an inflationary pressure on the food situation and as long as advances against these foodgrains are going to add to that pressure, there must be some regulatory machinery. But it will be regulated or streamlined to suit the particular conditions, as has been done recently by the Reserve Bank, in consultation with the Food and Agriculture Ministry.

Shri Ramanathan Chettiar: What is the total amount of advances by Scheduled banks against foodgrains as on April 1, 1958 and what is the percentage that the Scheduled banks are advancing against foodgrains?

Shri B. R. Bhagat: To the first part of the question, I am prepared to give the answer. At the beginning—not at the end—of April 1958 the total advanced against foodgrains by Scheduled banks was Rs. 14.08 crores which is, I think, very much less than Rs. 43.11 crores at the end of May, 1957. That system has worked and it has effectively checked the inflationary pressure. As to percentage of the total advanced by Scheduled banks, I will have to work out and for that, I need specific notice.

Mr. Speaker: Next question.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy: May I ask one question?

Mr. Speaker: I have allowed a number of questions. It is not a matter which can be disposed of in the Question hour.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Only one question.

Mr. Speaker: I am sorry. I have allowed three questions to Shri Prabhat Kar. This is an endless matter. This ought to be discussed.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Only one question.

Mr. Speaker: Then I will have to allow Shri Viswanatha Reddy also. Next question.

भूगर्भ में जल का पता लगाने का यन्त्र

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*१२५६. { श्री ब० प्र० सिंह :
{ श्री इलज्जत सिंह :

क्या इस्पात, खान और ईंधन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या भूगर्भ में जल का पता लगाने के लिये कोई यंत्र निकाला गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या इस का प्रयोग किया जा रहा है ?

खान और तेल मंत्री (श्री के० दे० बालवीर) : (क) और (ख) ज़मीन के नीचे के पानी की तलाश करने के लिये अभी तक कोई नया औज़ार नहीं निकाला गया है। जियोलाजिकल सर्वे आफ इंडिया के जियोलाजिकल इन्वेस्टीगेशन्स जियोफ्रिजिकल सर्वेज और हाइड्रोलॉजिकल टेस्ट्स में काम में आने वाले यन्त्रों का इस्तेमाल, जो मामूली तौर से सब जगह किया जाता है, यहां भी हो रहा है। फिर भी जियोलाजिकल सर्वे आफ इंडिया के जियोफ्रिजिक्स सेक्शन ने अपने कारखाने में एक औज़ार इलेक्ट्रो-मैग्नेटिक पूर्वेक्षण यन्त्र बनाया है। इस यन्त्र को अभी तक केवल कच्चे खनिज पदार्थों की तलाश—खोजबीन—के काम में लाया जाता है, लेकिन अनुकूल स्थितियों में ज़मीन के नीचे वाले पानी का पता लगाने में भी इस का इस्तेमाल किया जा सकता है। किन्तु इसे आविष्कार नहीं कह सकते क्योंकि इस प्रकार के यन्त्र अन्य देशों में इस्तेमाल किये जा रहे हैं।

(a) and (b). No new machine has been devised to test underground water. The Geological Survey of India have been using the standard instruments employed in geological

investigations, geophysical surveys and hydrological tests. However, the Geophysics Section of the Geological Survey of India has designed an Electro-magnetic prospecting equipment, which has so far been used only for prospecting for ore bodies but would be used for location of ground water under favourable conditions also. This is, however, not an invention, as similar equipment is in use in other countries also.

श्री ब० प्र० सिंह : इस यंत्र की विशेष उपयोगिता को समझते हुये क्या सरकार इस के लिये चेष्टा करेगी कि इस तरह का यंत्र शीघ्र ईजाद हो ?

श्री के० दे० बालवीर : यह तो हमारे यहां—जियोलाजिकल सर्वे आफ इंडिया के जियोफ्रिजिक्स सेक्शन में ही बनाया गया है और इस के सब मौलिक आघार दुनिया भर में मालूम हैं। हम कोशिश कर रहे हैं कि पानी की तलाश में भी इस का इस्तेमाल करें।

Shri Achar: Can this machinery be made available for the use of ordinary people to sink wells?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: No. This work of geophysical survey is conducted by the Geological Survey of India. We have only designed this instrument. Still we are not sure whether this can be utilised on a large scale. We are not sure of its results. We are just trying to examine whether it can serve usefully in regard to water also.

Shri Kamal Singh: May I know how far Exploratory Tube-well Sunk by the Food and Agriculture Ministry have served the purpose of giving information about underground water?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: This does not arise out of the question.

Punjab University Camp College

*1960. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi University have proposed that the Punjab University Camp College

should be transferred as a unit under them;

(b) if so, what arrangements about absorption of the college teaching staff have been made so far; and

(c) when a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) to (c). This Ministry has not received any formal proposal from the University of Delhi in this behalf. It is, however, understood that the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi has consulted the members of the Academic Council to such a proposal. The matter is, therefore, still under consideration.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know whether, if at all the Delhi University takes up the Camp College, provision will be made for the study of Geography and Psychology in the Camp College which are not taught in the Delhi University at present?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This is really a matter for the Delhi University to decide. The Delhi University is an autonomous body. I am quite sure that they take into account the interests of the students, the parents and society as a whole.

Shri Vajpayee: In view of the fact that the next session is going to begin in July, when will a final decision be made in the matter?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I can only say that the Government is making every effort to arrive at a final decision as early as possible.

Dr. Sushila Nayar: In view of the fact that the Camp College has provided educational facilities for a large number of working students and employment for a large number of displaced teachers, will the Government see to it that the interests of the staff as well as of the students are preserved?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: Yes, Sir.

Delhi Administrator

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*1961. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri Nath Pai:
Shri Jadhav:

Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to appoint a non-official to head the Delhi Administration;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Delhi Administration Secretariat is being re-organized; and

(c) if so, what are the details of the new set-up?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) to (c). In consequence of the reorganisation of States, Delhi has ceased as part 'C' State and has become a Union Territory. Recently a Municipal Corporation has also been established which would deal with certain subjects like primary education, medical science, etc which so far were dealt with by Delhi Administration. In view of these changes and in order to improve efficiency it was considered desirable to re-examine the administrative set-up of Delhi. Such a review is at present in progress. Final decision has not yet been taken as to what the precise form of changes and reorganisation should be.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: My question was whether it was a non-official administrator or an official administrator.

Shri Datar: An official administrator is there. There is no proposal to have a non-official administrator.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि जो माननीय मंत्री जी ने उत्तर दिया है, यहाँ के प्रशासन में उस का निर्णय कब तक हो सकेगा ?

Shri Datar: It will take some time.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : माननीय मंत्री श्री ने कहा है कि नान-ऑफिशियल प्रशासक रखा जायगा। क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि वर्तमान प्रशासक या चीफ कमिशनर का कार्य-काल कब तक है ?

Shri Datar: I have not said that a non-official is going to be appointed. My hon. friend has entirely misunderstood what I have said. I stated that there is no proposal to have a non-official administrator for Delhi.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : वर्तमान चीफ कमिशनर का कार्य-काल कब तक है, यह मैं जानना चाहता हूँ।

Shri Datar: He will be there for some time. I cannot tell when he will be replaced.

Shri Rameshwar Tantia: May I know whether if such an administrator will be appointed, it will be in consultation with the Delhi Corporation?

Shri Datar: There is no such question before the Government at all. In view of the re-organisation of States and the establishment of the Municipal Corporation, Government are considering what changes are necessary in the secretarial set up of the Delhi administration.

दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय

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*१९६२ { श्री भक्त बर्मान
श्री नेक राम नेगी

क्या शिक्षा मंत्री १३ नवम्बर, १९५७ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ११७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय भवन में जो भाग लगी थी उस की जांच और इसके लिये उत्तरदायी व्यक्तियों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही करने में इस बीच क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० अ० वाला) : दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय के रजिस्ट्रार ने बताया है कि इस केस में पुलिस अधिकारियों ने

एक घावमी को गिरफ्तार किया था, परन्तु सेशन कोर्ट दिल्ली ने उसे जमानत पर छोड़ दिया था। उस पर काफी शक था, परन्तु पर्याप्त प्रमाण न होने के कारण उसका चालान नहीं किया जा सका।

श्री भक्त बर्मान : श्रीमान्, इस घारणा में कहाँ तक सत्यता है कि स्वयं विश्व-विद्यालय के कुछ कर्मचारियों का भाग लापाने में हाथ था ?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The matter is still under investigation. I cannot say anything.

श्री भक्त बर्मान : इस भाग के लगने के कारण जो जरूरी कागजात जैसे कि परीक्षापत्र इत्यादि जल गये थे उनको दुबारा तैयार करने के बारे में क्या कार्रवाई की जा रही है ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीवाली : जो जल गये थे, वे फिर कैसे तैयार किये जा सकते हैं ?

Educated Unemployment

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~1963 { **Shri Prabhat Kar:**
Shri S. M. Banerjee:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 60,000 teachers are to be appointed during 1958-59 under the Scheme to relieve educated unemployment; and

(b) if so, the estimated number of teachers to be appointed in each State?

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

(b) Does not arise.

I would, however, explain why I am giving a negative reply. Though there is a proposal the question is with regard to employment of teachers in 1958-59.

I would like to inform the House that the Government has a proposal under consideration. The scheme is to provide for the appointment of 60,000 teachers—15,000 in 1958-59, 20,000 in 1959-60 and 25,000 in 1960-61. That is, the whole scheme will be spread over three years of the remaining Plan period. That is the proposal under consideration.

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या मैं जान सकता हूँ कि दिल्ली में इस प्रकार के कितने अध्यापक रखे गये हैं ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : अभी रखने का सवाल पैदा नहीं हुआ है। अभी तो यह स्कीम विचाराधीन है सरकार के और जब स्कीम लागू हो जायगी तो दिल्ली के प्रश्न पर भी जिस तरह से दूसरे राज्यों के प्रश्न पर विचार किया जायगा, विचार किया जायगा और उस तरह से उसको भी प्लान्ट किया जायेगा।

श्री नवल प्रभाकर : जो अध्यापक हैं उनको क्या ट्रेनिंग दी जायगी या बगैर ट्रेनिंग के उनको अध्यापक मान लिया जायगा ?

डा० का० ला० श्रीमाली : पिछली बार जब यह योजना लागू की गई थी तो अध्यापकों के ट्रेनिंग कोर्स रखे गये थे—एमरजेंसी कोर्सिस—और इस बार भी यह विचार है कि पेशतर इसके कि इनको अध्यापन का काम सौंपा जाय, इन को ट्रेनिंग दी जाय।

Shri Damani: May I know whether any data has been collected as to how many primary, middle and high schools are going without teachers? Has Government enquired into this matter?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: This does not arise out of the question.

Shri Thimmalah: May I know on what basis the number of teachers to be appointed is allocated to each State?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: It will be according to population, but in this scheme we are taking special care to see that the States which are backward in the matter of educational expansion receive special consideration.

Shri Tangamani: Out of these 15,000 teachers who are going to be appointed in 1958-59, may I know how many have so far received appointment orders?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The scheme has not yet started. It is still under consideration.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know when we may expect the final decision on the scheme?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: At an early date.

Shri Subbiah Ambalam: May I know whether any provision has been made for teachers of single-teacher schools who were recruited two years ago and who will now go out of employment because all of them have to qualify for training before re-employment?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: I am afraid this does not arise out of the question. This is a scheme for providing employment to those people who are educated and who are unemployed. If these people also come into that category, certainly they would also be appointed under this scheme.

Shri Venkatasubbalah: At the time of the formulation of the scheme, has the Government got any data before it regarding the number of school-less villages in the country?

Dr. K. L. Shrimall: The House is aware that the Government of India at present is engaged in conducting a survey which would reveal information with regard to the school facilities which are provided both in the urban and the rural areas.

Shri Bangshi Thakur: May I know whether it is a fact that there are one lakh matriculates unemployed in the City of Calcutta alone?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Yes, Sir. Government are aware that there is a great deal of unemployment not only in Calcutta, but in other parts of the country also.

Utilisation of Natural Gas Found in Assam

*1964. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a joint Franco-German firm has offered to set up a factory for production of synthetic rubber from natural gas produced at the Naharkatiya oil field in Assam;

(b) if so, whether Government have accepted that offer; and

(c) what will be the estimated cost of setting up that factory?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No.

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

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know the estimated quantity of natural gas to be produced at the Naharkatiya oil fields?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: The estimated quantity of gas which is to be produced at Naharkatiya, along with crude oil, is about 32 million cusecs a day.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: May I know whether the Government of India is having any plan of its own for manufacturing synthetic rubber out of this gas?

Shri K. D. Malaviya: Yes, Sir. The Government of India have asked an Italian consultant to advise them on the question of the utilisation of this gas so far as the manufacture of various things like fertilisers, synthetic rubber, power and all that is concerned. That report is expected some time next month. The Assam Government have also asked for information from some experts—perhaps the Italian experts and also Japanese—and those preliminary reports are already with us. We are examining those reports also.

Conference of Organisers of International Voluntary Work Camps

*1958. **Shri Ghosal:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether any youth organisation of India was invited to participate in the Conference of Organisers of International Voluntary Work Camps held in January, 1958 in Delhi; and

(b) if so, how many?

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

(b) It has been ascertained from the Indian Organizing Committee for Training Projects in Work Camp Methods and Techniques in South East Asia, New Delhi, that twenty-nine organizations interested in Youth Welfare Activities were invited to participate in the Conference.

Shri Ghosal: What was the basis of this invitation?

Dr. K. L. Shrimali: Invitations to attend the Eleventh Conference of the Organisers of International Voluntary Camps were issued from the UNESCC headquarters, Youth Section, Paris, on the recommendations of the Co-ordination Committee for International Voluntary Work Camp Methods and Techniques, Paris. The Indian organising committee had supplied the names of Indian work camp organisations to the Co-ordination Committee at Paris for this purpose.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION AND ANSWER

Demonstration for accommodation by Telephone Revenue Staff, Lucknow

S.N.Q. No. 18. **Shri Vajpayee:** Will the Minister of Transport and Communications be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that members of the Telephone Revenue Staff staged a demonstration on the 26th April, 1958 to voice their demand for having accommodation;

(b) whether it is a fact that no accommodation has been provided to these employees transferred from Delhi to Lucknow;

(c) whether it is a fact that following the demonstration twelve members of the staff were taken into custody and that this led to a protest strike by the entire staff; and

(d) if so, the details of the occurrence, and the steps taken by Government to remedy the situation?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Shri S. K. Patil): (a) Yes, on 26th April, 1958.

(b) to (d). A major portion of the staff dealing with the Telephone Revenue work of the U.P. Circle had been transferred to Lucknow in November, 1956 and April, 1957. The remaining portion was transferred early in April, 1958. The officials who were transferred to Lucknow were all volunteers and no commitment of finding residential accommodation was made as normally Government does not undertake the responsibility of providing residential accommodation to its employees.

It is a fact that following the demonstrations 13 members of staff were taken into custody in the early hours on Saturday the 26th instant and two of them were taken into custody later in the day.

The details of the occurrence are that demonstrators belonging to the office of Accounts Officer Telephone Revenue, Lucknow staged a demonstration in the Pandal in the compound of the Telephone Exchange on the occasion of cut-over of the additional capacity. The demonstrators were shouting slogans when the Chief Minister arrived there and continued to shout slogans even when the function started with singing of the 'National Anthem'. On account of their loud shouting and demonstration the function could not continue and had to be concluded abruptly. Thereafter the Chief Minister and other officers went out of the Pandal, but they were mobbed by the demonstrators with the result that it was with difficulty that they could go to the first floor of the Exchange to see the equipment. Thereafter during the night the Police

arrested 13 officials who admitted having taken part in the demonstration. Two more officials were arrested on Saturday. The arrests have been made under Sections 147/447 of the Indian Penal Code and Section 7 of the Criminal Law Amendment Act of 1932.

As a result of the incident there was a pen down strike in the office of Accounts Officer Telephone Revenue, Lucknow on 26th April, 1958. In the Telephone Revenue Accounts Office in Delhi also, there was a sympathetic pen down strike from the afternoon of Monday the 28th April, 1958 to 29th April, 1958.

I may inform the House that as the arrested persons and the General Secretary All India Administrative Employees Union Class III and Class IV have expressed regret and have felt sorry for all that had happened, the District authorities have decided to drop the cases against them. The persons concerned are being released. This is without prejudice to any action which the departmental authorities may take against the arrested persons or against those who went on pen-down strike.

It may be stated in this connection that though Government have no responsibility for providing residential accommodation to its employees especially those who go out to other places as volunteers, but in order to help these employees, who have been transferred to Lucknow, the State Government have been requested to allot houses for them as far as possible. The Central Government has also decided to rent out houses and to provide bachelor hostel residential accommodation for these officials on no loss basis i.e., the charges incurred on renting out the houses and the other incidental charges will be pooled and shared equally by the residents of the particular house.

Shri Vajpayee: Is it not a fact that the Deputy Director-General of Post Offices gave an assurance to the employees on 3rd April that they

would be provided with hostel accommodation in Lucknow?

Shri S. K. Patil: I do not know this particular thing. But generally, as I said in my statement, Government are not bound to give any accommodation when people volunteer to go to a particular place.

Shri Vajpayee: Is it not a fact that the inspection quarter of the Post-master-General, comprising of five bed-rooms is generally vacant at Lucknow, and if so, may I know why the employees are not housed in that quarter?

Shri S. K. Patil: These are small particulars which I do not know. If the hon. Member brings them to my notice, I shall enquire.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Bren Guns

*1949. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) whether the cost of a Bren Gun manufactured in India is more than that of the imported one;

(b) if so, whether this high price is due to low production; and

(c) the steps being taken to bring down the cost in consonance with the level of production?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Raghuramiah): (a) Bren Guns are not being imported at present, but the cost of indigenous production of the gun is high compared to the estimated cost of production in U.K.

(b) The high cost is partly due to the low level of production.

(c) Government are examining the matter.

Administrative Tribunals

*1951. **Shri Ram Krishan:** Will the Minister of Law be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question

No. 1446 on the 4th September, 1957 and state:

(a) whether the Law Commission has submitted its report on the scheme for setting up of administrative tribunals; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Law (Shri A. K. Sen): (a) No, Sir. I should add that the question of setting up administrative tribunals has not been specifically referred to the Law Commission. The Law Commission's Report on the general question of the reform of judicial administration which will *inter alia* contain their views on the question of the setting up of administrative tribunals, is still awaited.

(b) Does not arise.

National Anthem

*1957. { **Shri C. K. Bhattacharyya:**
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Dr. Pashupati Mandal:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state what steps have been taken to help the citizens of India to learn the singing of the National Anthem?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): 1. The State Governments have been requested to make some provision in the programme of work of Schools and Colleges to explain to the students the significance of the National Anthem and to practise its singing as a part of the school routine.

2. In certain States, instructions have been issued to Text Book Committees and publishers of Language text books used by Primary and Secondary Schools to include the National Anthem in the language text books used by Primary and Secondary Schools.

3. A pamphlet entitled "Our National Songs" has been published by the Publication Division explaining the origin, adoption and usage of the

National Anthem and giving its correct version.

4. The following approved versions of the National Anthem have been commercially released through Gramophone Companies:

- (1) Choral version
- (2) Orchestral version
- (3) Band versions.

National Book Trust

*1959. Shri Manabendra Shah: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Book Trust has undertaken the work of publishing any of the Indian Classics so far; and

(b) whether any plan to translate good books from foreign languages has been drawn up?

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

(b) No, Sir, but the matter is under examination.

Northern Higher Technological Institute, Kanpur

*1965. { Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Panigrahi:

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

(a) whether the American experts are being invited to help in the establishment of the Northern Higher Technological Institute at Kanpur;

(b) if so, the number of such experts;

(c) the amount likely to be spent on them; and

(d) the period for which they are likely to be engaged?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayan Kabir): (a) to (d). The question of securing technical assistance from the U.S.A. is under consideration.

I.A.S., I.F.S. and I.R.S.

3057. Shri V. C. Shukla: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to lay on the Table a statement showing the total number of persons in the I.A.S., I.F.S., I.R.S. and other Central Administrative Services, separately for each cadre, who are Science graduates or hold post-graduate qualifications in science or other technical degrees?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha as soon as possible.

Indian Students in Universities in U.S.A.

3058. Shri R. Narayanasamy: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian students at present studying in the Universities in U.S.A., who have gone there without the aid of the Government of India scholarships; and

(b) what are their economic conditions at present?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimall): (a) According to the available information, approximately 2,000 Indian students were studying in U.S.A. on 31st October 1957, of which 68 were government scholars.

(b) Precise information in regard to the economic conditions of these students is not available. Some of these students took part-time employment around the campus and vacation jobs and about 900 students were enjoying financial assistance of some kind or another.

It may, however, be added that, while applying for passport in India for going abroad, the students, and

for that matter all applicants, have to furnish satisfactory evidence of their and/or of their guarantors' financial position by producing either a certificate from a bank or a certificate from a revenue authority regarding the value of landed property in their possession or in the possession of their guarantors. Further, these students while in U.S.A., are permitted by the Reserve Bank foreign exchange equivalent of Rs. 12,000 per year for maintenance exclusive of tuition fees. Emergent cases are granted interest-bearing repayable loans from the Ambassador's Emergency Fund created under the Partial Financial Assistance Scheme of the Government of India. The rules of this scheme have been published in this Ministry's publication No. 196.

Basic Education

3059. Shri Ram Krishan: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants given to various States during 1957-58 for the development of Basic Education (State-wise); and

(b) the total amount of grants to be given for this purpose during 1958-59 (State-wise)?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 81-A.]

Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

3060. Shri N. R. Munisamy: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount set apart for all categories of N.E.S./C.D. Blocks for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the year 1957-58 has been utilised;

(b) if so, the number of N.E.S. and C.D. Blocks started during this period in Madras and Andhra Pradesh; and

(c) the agency for implementing the programme in the States?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) The Ministry of Community Development who are concerned with these blocks have reported that the schematic budget for N.E.S./C.D. Blocks, which is spread over a period of three years, is provided for the entire areas comprised in these Blocks and no distinction is made in allocation or expenditure of funds between any class or creed with the result that it cannot be said what portion of the funds are utilised for the welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. There are, however, 43 multi-purpose intensive development blocks in tribal areas, the amount set apart for which has not been fully utilised during 1957-58.

(b)

State	No. of N.E.S. Blocks allotted	No. of C.D. Blocks (By purpose conversion)	Multi-Blocks
Andhra Pradesh	57	9	4
Madras	42	7	...

(c) The State Government is responsible for executing the programme.

Supreme Court

3061. Shri A. K. Gopalan: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the number of cases during 1956 and 1957 in which the Supreme Court (i) reversed (ii) confirmed or (iii) sent back for re-examination the judgments of high courts in respect of (1) cases coming under various labour legislations, (2) Criminal cases, (3) Civil suits and (4) Election cases?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

National Agricultural Credit Fund

3062. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of money sanctioned so far to the Government of Bombay

from the National Agricultural Credit (Long term Operations) Fund for contribution to share capital of co-operative credit institutions; and

(b) the amount of money that has been advanced so far to the State Cooperative Bank of Bombay from the above fund as medium term loans?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The amounts sanctioned and drawn are as follows:—

Financial Amount sanctioned Amount drawn
Year.

	Rs.	Rs.
1956-57	32,89,590	32,89,590
1957-58	1,55,38,700	1,50,00,000
	1,88,28,290	1,82,89,590

(b) A sum of Rs. 50 lakhs was sanctioned in 1957-58, but the sanction lapsed subsequently, as no amount was drawn against it.

After Care Homes in Bombay

3063. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal before the Central Government to set up After Care Homes and District Shelters/Reception Centres in Bombay State during 1958-59;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the assistance that is being given in this connection by the Central Government?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) No proposal has yet been received from the Bombay Government in this regard.

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

Tripura Employees

3064. Shri Dasaratha Deb: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Government employees transferred to the Tripura

Territorial Council upto the 31st March, 1958;

(b) whether all the employees who were already serving the offices and the institutions transferred to the Council have been transferred accordingly; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) 3261 employees have been transferred to the Tripura Territorial Council up to March 31, 1958. In addition, one officer has been deputed to the Council for appointment as Chief Executive Officer, and two officers have been transferred for appointment as Principal Health Officer and Principal Education Officer of the Council.

(b) and (c). Yes, except that some employees have been retained by the Administration for its work.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

3065. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the amounts of grants-in-aid made to States (State-wise) by the Centre for the Welfare of Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes during 1956-57 and 1957-58 and the relative amounts expended by the State Governments during the two years?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 82.]

Expenditure figures for 1957-58 have not yet been received.

Laccadive Islands

3066. Shri Nallakoya: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to send doctors, teachers etc. and other staff for duty in the

Laccadive Islands before the commencement of monsoons;

(b) whether it is also a fact that because of the low scale of pay, employees from the mainland are generally unwilling to go to the Islands for duty; and

(c) if so, action proposed to be taken in this regard?

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

(b) Yes.

(c) Government have recently revised the pay scales of all categories of staff of the Administration. Moreover, a special pay of 40 per cent. in addition to the basic pay has been sanctioned to persons who are deputed to the Islands from mainland.

Employment in Steel and Coal Industries

3067. Shri Jadhav: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the number and categories of workers employed in the following at present:

(i) Iron and Steel factories; and

(ii) Coal Industry?

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (i) The number of workers employed in the Iron and Steel factories in the Private Sector, as at the end of January, 1958, is 72,603 as under:—

Skilled	..	28,029
Unskilled	..	44,574
		<hr/> 72,603

The Steel Plants in the Public Sector are still in the construction stage and have not gone into production.

(ii) According to the Coal Bulletin for September, 1957, issued by the Chief Inspector of Mines, the average daily number of persons employed in the Coal Industry is 358,840, as under:—

Underground.

Miners and loaders	..	118,611
Others	..	89,658
		<hr/> 208,269

Open workings.

Miners and loaders	..	11,105
Others	..	12,148
Women	..	10,570
		<hr/> 33,823

Surface.

Men	..	84,808
Women	..	31,940
		<hr/> 116,748
		<hr/> 358,840

Educational Institutions

3068. Shri Siddhah: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) what are the educational institutions directly controlled by his Ministry;

(b) how many students were studying in each institution in the year 1957-58 and how many belong to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes;

(c) whether seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in these institutions;

(d) if so, how many are reserved; and

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

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimani): There are 3 Educational Institutions under the control of the Ministry of Education: the Central Institute of Education, the Basic Training School and the Training Centre for the Adult Blind.

During 1957-58, the strength of the Central Institute of Education was 109, that of the Experimental Basic School 205 and that of the T.C.A.B., 133. There were no students belonging to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Institute of Education. In the Basic School there were 26 students belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and in the T.C.A.B., 10.

No seats have been reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes either in the Central Institute of Education or in the T.C.A.B. As far as the Central Institute of Education is concerned, the subject is under consideration. As regards the T.C.A.B., it is considered more desirable to admit students on the basis of merit and their order in the waiting list.

In the Basic Training School, however, 20 per cent. of the seats are reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

Failures in Secondary/Matriculation Examinations

3069. { Shri S. C. Samanta:
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the conclusions arrived at by the All India Council for Secondary Education after an analysis of the figures of failures in the school final examinations;

(b) whether Government have since completed an examination of the above conclusions and recommendations; and

(c) if so, the details of action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrinani): (a) to (c). A statement is on the Table of the Lok Sabha. VIII, annexure No. 83.]

Recovery of Gold from Sea

3370. { Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri S. C. Samanta:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of gold recovered so far from sea by officials of the Customs and Central Excise

Department during 1955 to 1957, year-wise;

(b) how long this operation of recovery from sea will continue; and

(c) whether Government expect to recover more gold from sea?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) The total amount of smuggled gold recovered so far from sea by officials of the Customs and Central Excise Department during 1957 was 32,303 tolas valued at Rs. 34,26,403. There was no such recovery in the years 1955 and 1956.

(b) These operations will continue as long as considered necessary.

(c) It is not possible to say anything definitely in the matter.

Punjab Mines Closed

3071. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) the names and the number of mines closed in Punjab during 1957-58;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to reopen them?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): (a) No mine was closed during 1957-58 in the Punjab except a few mines which had to be temporarily closed for only a month or so during monsoon.

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

Regular Temporary Establishment of Assistants

3072. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 752 on the 20th August, 1957 and state:

(a) the basis on which the vacancies in the new Regular Temporary Establishment of Assistants has been fixed;

(b) the number of persons involved in each category;

(c) the number of persons who are likely to be covered after removing the overlappings; and

(d) when the provisional list is likely to be issued?

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): (a) and (b). The allotment of vacancies in the new Regular Temporary Establishment has been decided upon after due consideration of the relative claims and the relative numbers of three categories of persons, viz., permanent Grade I clerks, quasi-permanent Assistants and those who had qualified at the Assistants Grade Examination 1951 (Second Test). The numbers of persons in these 3 categories are, roughly, 800, 600 and 400 respectively.

(c) This will depend on the strength of the Regular Temporary Establishment which will be determined shortly.

(d) Finalisation of these lists will have to await the result of the Limited Competitive Examination for appointment to the additional 25 per cent. promotion quota vacancies in the Regular Temporary Establishment of Assistants which was held in January, 1958.

Estate Duty

3073. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Panigrahi:
Shri Anirudh Sinha:
Shri Shobha Ram:
Shri Muhammad Elias:
Shri Ram Krishan:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Elayaperumal:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of estate duty cases registered during the years 1956-57 and 1957-58 (State-wise);

(b) the number of cases disposed of; and

(c) the total amount of estate duty collected during the same period, State-wise?

Shri Morarji Desai (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See appendix VIII, annexure No. 84].

Punjab High Court

3074. { Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judges that functioned in the High Court of Punjab during the year 1957-58;

(b) the number of civil and criminal cases and writ petitions pending in the said High Court on the 31st March, 1958 and the approximate period of their pendency; and

(c) the number of civil and criminal cases and writ petitions disposed of by the said High Court during 1956-57 and 1957-58?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) 10 Judges worked on the Bench of the Punjab High Court from 1st April to 4th August, 1957; 12 Judges worked from 5th August to 9th October, 1957; 14 Judges worked from 10th October, 1957 to 25th October, 1957 and 13 Judges have been working since that date.

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

High Court, Allahabad

3075. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of judges who have been working in the High Court of Allahabad since January, 1957; and

(b) the number of cases pending in the High Court on the 31st March, 1958?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) 24 Judges worked on the Bench of the Allahabad High Court from 1st January to 18th February 1957; 23 Judges worked from 19th February to 18th March, 1957; 22 Judges worked from 19th March to 5th May, 1957; 25 Judges worked from 6th May to 31st August 1957; 24 Judges worked from 1st September to 31st October 1957; 23 Judges worked from 1st November to 3rd November, 1957; 24 Judges worked from 4th November 1957 to 15th February 1958 and 23 Judges have been working since that date.

(b) 41145 appeals and cases (including applications) were pending in the High Court on 31st March, 1958.

Scout Movement and National Discipline Scheme

3076. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of financial assistance sanctioned to various scout movement organisations during 1956-57 and 1957-58;

(b) the amount of financial assistance sanctioned to the following organisations during the same period:

- (i) Bharat Scouts and Guides,
- (ii) National Cadet Corps,
- (iii) Auxiliary Cadet Corps,
- (iv) Bharat Sevak Samaj, and
- (v) National Voluntary Corps; and

(c) the total amount of financial assistance sanctioned during the same period for the National Discipline Schemes?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivastava): (a) The following grants were sanctioned to one organisation

only viz., The Bharat Scouts and Guides:—

1956-57	Rs. 2,74,500.00
1957-58	Rs. 2,08,450.50

(b)	1956-57	1957-58
(i)	2,74,500.00	2,08,450.50
(ii)	2,36,18,478.00	3,57,16,946.00
(iii)	40,04,448.00	51,14,241.00
(iv)	12,36,635.00	12,69,235.86
(v)	Nil	Nil

(This organisation is not known to the Ministry of Education.)

(c) 1956-57	Rs. 4,58,000.00
1957-58	Rs. 3,84,000.00

Grants for Education

3077. Sardar Iqbal Singh: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amounts of Central grants allocated to States during 1957-58 under various schemes in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research which lapsed in each State?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrivastava): As the financial year has recently closed, the State Accountants-General and State Governments have not yet supplied the figures of utilization in respect of the grants sanctioned by the Central Government.

Kothagudim Mining Institute

3078. Shri T. B. Vittal Rao: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 125 on the 13th February, 1958 and state:

(a) the delay in starting the construction of the building to house the Mining Institute at Kothagudim in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to construct a hostel for the students; and

(c) if so, the amount allotted for the same?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) A report regarding the reasons for the delay is awaited from

the State Government. The State Government, have, however, instructed the Chief Engineer to start the construction work immediately.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Indian Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Manipur

3079. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of money provided for the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board in Manipur in 1956-57 and 1957-58; and

(b) the number of persons benefited by the funds allotted to the Board?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (**Sardar Majithia**): (a) and (b). The money provided by the Central Government for the various District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards is meant for meeting 50 per cent. of the expenditure on the maintenance of these Boards. The total expenditure on the maintenance of the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board in Manipur is, however, shared on a 50:50 basis by the Defence Services Estimates and the Central Civil Estimates. Sums of Rs. 3,240 and Rs. 2,206 were paid from the Defence Services Estimates for the maintenance of the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board in Manipur during 1956-57 and 1957-58 respectively. As these grants are made only to cover 50 per cent. of the expenditure on the maintenance of the Board, the question of any person benefiting out of this allotment to the Board does not arise. Information about the number of persons who may have benefited from any other funds placed at the disposal of the District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board in Manipur is, however, being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Geological Survey of Trichy and South Arcot

3080. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently conducted any Geological Survey in South Arcot and Trichy Districts of Madras State; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

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

(b) No new mineral was recorded. However, Gypsum Lignite and Iron ore occurrences were noted and ground-water investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India.

Scheduled Caste Employees

3081. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) how many Scheduled Caste employees are working at present in the Income-tax Department in Madras State;

(b) how many of them are holding gazetted posts;

(c) whether all the vacancies reserved for them have been filled; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Finance (**Shri Morarji Desai**): (a) 108.

(b) 3.

(c) No.

(d) There is dearth of suitable candidates from amongst the Scheduled Castes.

Harijan Organisations

3082. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report in respect of Central grants given to the Bhartiya

Depressed Classes League, All India Harijan Sewak Sangh and Ishwar Saran Ashram, Prayag, during 1957-58; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) and (b). Reports have been received from these organisations for the half year ending September, 1957. Their reports are still due for the period ending March, 1958.

Houses for Scheduled Castes in Madras

3082. { Shri Balakrishnan:
Shri Elayaperumal:

Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of houses constructed in Madras for Scheduled Castes with the help of Central Government during the period of the Second Five Year Plan so far;

(b) how many families of Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes have been rehabilitated there so far; and

(c) how many families are proposed to be rehabilitated there during the course of the Plan?

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

Archaeological Survey of Calcutta

3084. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to conduct a survey of places of archaeological and historical importance in Calcutta during the Second Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, when the survey is likely to start?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir, the survey work will be taken in hand in due course.

Compensation to Part B Nationalised Insurance Companies

3085. Shri Tangamani: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to refer to the reply given to the supplementaries raised on Starred Question No. 1097 on the 20th March, 1958 and state:

(a) what is the compensation paid to the 11 Insurance Companies falling in Part B of the 1st Schedule of Life Insurance Corporation Act;

(b) what is the compensation offered to the remaining seven Insurance Companies; and

(c) whether all or some of the Companies have accepted the offer?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) Rs. 1,10,636.

(b) Rs. 1,74,983.

(c) Out of the 7 insurance companies who have been offered compensation, one has accepted the offer, and has been paid the compensation amounting to Rs. 11,778.

Appointment of Scheduled Castes Personnel in Neyveli Project

3086. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state:

(a) whether the reserved quota of appointments for the Scheduled Castes personnel for the year 1956-57 and 1957-58 in the Neyveli Lignite Project has been filled up;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

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

The Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel (Sardar Swaran Singh): (a) and (b). These appointments have been filled to the extent candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes possessing the minimum or very near the minimum qualifications, prescribed for the posts, were available. In December, 1956, 178 vacancies in technical posts were advertised of which 24 were reserved for Scheduled Caste candidates and 13 for candidates belonging to the Scheduled Tribes. Only 3 Scheduled Caste candidates with the minimum qualifications were available and were appointed. Out of the candidates selected through the Employment Exchanges for non-technical and ministerial posts during 1956-57, only 6 candidates belonging to the Scheduled Caste were found qualified and suitable and were finally selected and appointed. During 1957-58, out of 133 vacancies in the non-technical and ministerial posts, 19 were reserved for Scheduled Castes, against which 8, who possessed the requisite minimum qualifications were appointed. Two more candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes will be appointed, if after the usual enquiries they are found suitable.

(c) Government have already directed that rules regarding reservation of vacancies for candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be applicable to recruitment of posts in the Central Government undertakings also. The Lignite Corporation are already following these directions and Government do not propose to take any further action in the matter.

Multi-purpose Projects in Madras State

3087. Shri Elayaperumal: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) how many special multi-purpose projects were started for the development of backward areas in Madras State during the First and Second Five Year Plan periods so far; and

(b) what kind of the assistance has been rendered by the Central Government in this regard?

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

(b) Does not arise.

इन्दौर जिले में चरागाह

३०८८. श्री क० भे० बालवीर : क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सामूहिक कृषि सहकारी संस्था लिमिटेड रंगवास इन्दौर ने चिकलौडा टकीपुरा और बडोडिया पंच के चरागाहों से गत पांच वर्षों में प्राप्त हुई औसत आय पर उनके पट्टे के लिये प्रार्थना की है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने उस पर क्या निर्णय किया है ?

प्रतिरक्षा उपमंत्री (सरदार मनोडिया):

(क) जी, हां। सोसाइटी ने पिछले तीन वर्षों की औसत आय को बिना पर चरागाहों को पट्टे पर देने की प्रार्थना की है, न कि पांच वर्षों की औसत आय की बिना पर।

(ख) प्रार्थना हाल की गैरिक आवश्यकताओं के आधार पर विचाराधीन है।

मध्य प्रदेश में चरागाह

३०८९. श्री क० भे० बालवीर : क्या प्रतिरक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश के मध्य भारत क्षेत्र में प्रतिरक्षा मंत्रालय के पास के कितने चरागाह हैं और वे किन-किन तहसीलों व जिलों में हैं ;

(ख) प्रत्येक चरागाह का क्षेत्रफल क्या है ;

(ग) इन चरागाहों में प्रति वर्ष कितनी घास उगती है तथा उससे सरकार को कितनी वार्षिक आय होती है; और

(घ) इन चरागाहों के सम्बन्ध में सरकार की भावी नीति क्या है?

प्रतिरक्षा उपमंत्री (सरदार बख्त खान) :

(क) तथा (ख), आवश्यक सूचना देने वाला एक विवरण लोक सभा के पटल पर रख दिया गया है। [लेख्ये परिशिष्ट ८, अनुसूच्य संख्या ८५]

(ग) चरागाहों में कितनी घास उगती है ठीक ठीक मालूम नहीं, क्योंकि घास काटने का अधिकार हर साल नीलामी में सब से अधिक बोली देने वालों को दे दिया जाता है। फिर भी हर एक चरागाह में उगने वाली घास की सालाना औसत का अंदाजा, लोक सभा के पटल पर रखे गये विवरण के छूटे खाने से लग सकता है। घास काटने के अधिकार की नीलामी से होने वाली आय साल बसाल भिन्न होती है। १९५६-५७ और १९५७-५८ वित्तीय वर्षों में होने वाली आय क्रमशः २४३३४ रुपये ६ नये पैसे और ६२३४६ रुपये ६१ नये पैसे थी।

(घ) इन चरागाहों के बारे में, सरकार की नीति, सेना की जरूरतों के आधार पर रहेगी, और अधिक उत्पादन के विचार से इस पर समय समय पर विचार होता रहेगा।

Remittances by Oil Companies:

3090. { Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shri Warior:

Will the Minister of Steel, Mines and Fuel be pleased to state the remittances made by the three Oil Companies, namely the Burmah Shell, Standard Vacuum and Caltex as cost of materials imported, out of the total remittances sent by them abroad, during 1956?

The Minister of Mines and Oil (Shri K. D. Malaviya): The remittances made by the refinery and marketing companies of Burmah-Shell, Standard-Vacuum and Caltex as cost of materials during 1956 amounted to Rs. 1058.18 lakhs.

House Rent Allowance in Himachal Pradesh

3091. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether Class III and Class IV employees of Himachal Pradesh get any House rent allowance; and

(b) if so, the detail thereof?

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

(a) and (b). The employees of Himachal Pradesh Secretariat and other offices located at Simla, Delhi, Sanjauli, Mashobra and Kasumpti in which secretariat scales and allowances are admissible, draw house-rent allowance at the following rates:—

Class III Employees

Pay	Govt. Ser- vants without families.		Govt. Ser- vants with families.	
	Octo- ber to March	April to Sep- tember	Octo- ber to March	April to Sep- tember
Below Rs. 100	5	15	6	19
Rs. 100-499	5	15	9	26
Rs. 500-599	5	15	10	30
Rs. 600 & above	5	15	11	34

Class IV employees of such offices are allowed house-rent allowance at Rs. 3/8/- p.m. throughout the year, whether married or unmarried.

The employees of Himachal Pradesh Administration working in the subordinate offices at those places where Punjab scales of pay and allowances are admissible, are allowed

to draw house-rent allowance at the following rates:—

Class III Employee

Pay	Government servants without families.		Government servants with families.	
	Rs.	p.	Rs.	p.
Below Rs. 100	10		15	
Rs. 100 to 499	13		20	
Rs. 500 to 599	16		25	
Rs. 600 and above	19		30	

Class IV employees of such offices are allowed house-rent allowance of Rs. 2½ p.m. throughout the year, whether married or unmarried.

House-rent allowance to Class III and IV employees of the Administration stationed at Taradevi, is allowed as follows:—

Class III and IV

Pay	Rs.	p.	m.
Below 35			7
35—54			7
55—60			10
61—80			10
81—100			10
101—140			15
141—200			15
201—250			15

हिन्दी अनुवादक

३०६२. श्री कुशबल्लभ राय : क्या बिस्म मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत सरकार के प्रत्येक मंत्रालय में कितने हिन्दी अनुवादक काम कर रहे हैं ;

(ख) उनके द्वारा किये जाने वाले कार्यों का व्योरा क्या है ;

(ग) उनके वेतन-क्रम क्या है ;

(घ) क्या यह सच है कि उनके वेतन-क्रम प्रत्येक कार्यालय में भिन्न-भिन्न है ; और

(ङ) यदि हाँ, तो वेतन-क्रमों में इस असमानता का साधारण क्या है ?

बिस्म मंत्री (श्री मोरारजी देसाई) : (क) से (ङ) मंत्रालयों से सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और जितनी जल्दी हो सका समा की मेज पर रख दी जायेगी।

School Buildings in Himachal Pradesh

3093. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the present position in regard to the shortage of Government school buildings in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) the steps taken to improve the situation in this respect during 1957-58?

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

Income Tax Collections in Amritsar and Jullundur

3094. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state the amount of income tax assessed and collected in the districts of Amritsar and Jullundur in the Punjab State separately during 1955-56 to 1957-58?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): The amounts of Income-tax assessed on regular assessment and the tax collected in the Districts of Amritsar and Jullundur in the Punjab State during 1955-56 to 1957-58 were as under:—

(Figures in Lakhs)

	Income-Tax Assessed		Income-Tax Collected	
	Amritsar	Jullundur	Amritsar	Jullundur
1955-56	65	23	55	25
1956-57	129	33	75	29
1957-58 ¹	114	46	84	31

Rehabilitation Finance Administration

3005. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons who have received loans from the Rehabilitation Finance Administration in the Punjab State upto the 31st December, 1957; and

(b) the number of persons whose applications have been either rejected or are pending?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) 1525.

(b) Rejected—4748.

Pending—Nil.

लिखने की स्लेटे

३०६६. अ: पदम देव : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि स्कूलों में पढ़ने वाले बच्चों के लिये लिखने की स्लेटों के बारे में हिमाचल प्रदेश में की गई गवेषणाओं में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ?

शिक्षा मंत्री (डा० का० ला० अ० वाला): अपेक्षित सूचना हिमाचल प्रदेश प्रशासन से मांगी गई है और जैसे ही प्रायेगी सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Scholarships

3097. **Shrimati Masida Ahmed:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 332 on the 18th November, 1957 and state:

(a) whether final selection of candidates for award of scholarships offered by the Government of Czechoslovakia has been made; and

(b) if so, what was the basis for selection?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri

Humayun Kahir): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The candidates were selected on the basis of merit.

Central Excise Department, Punjab

3098. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

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

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): (a) and (b). There are general orders that only such past service as is continuous and is rendered on a pay higher than the minimum of the scale of pay of the post to which a person is subsequently appointed under the Government of India, can be taken into account for purposes of seniority. Some of the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes candidates who had rendered service under the Punjab Government had not drawn pay under the State Government at rates higher than the minimum of the scale of pay of the post in the Central Excise Department to which they were appointed; others had breaks in service prior to joining the Central Excise Department. Their past service could not therefore, be taken into consideration for purpose of seniority and consequently, for promotion.

History of Languages

3099. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that financial aids have been given to various universities for the preparation of history of different languages;

(b) if so, the details of amounts, languages and universities; and

(c) whether committees have been constituted by universities for this purpose?

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

b) University	Project pertaining to Language and/or Literature	Amounts given as financial aid.
Rs.		
Kerala	For Malayalam Lexicon	60,000/- (Rs. 20,000 each in 1955-56, 1956-57 & 1957-58).
Aligarh	For Urdu Literature	14,000/-

(c) A Board of Editors has been constituted by the Aligarh Muslim University for the purpose. Information concerning the Kerala University's project about the Malayalam Lexicon is, however, not readily available.

Monuments in Benaras

3100. Shri Daljit Singh: 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 Benaras for the year 1958-59; and

(b) the details thereof?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) A provision of Rs. 23,946 has been made.

(b) It is not possible to give the details at this stage, as the amount to be spent on different monuments can be finalised only after receipt of the revised conservation programmes from all Circle Superintendents of the Department of Archaeology.

Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Castes and Tribes in Kerala

3101. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of grant-in-aid allocated to the Kerala State for 1958-59 for Welfare Schemes for Scheduled Tribes, Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes; and

(b) whether there is a proposal to start any intensive multipurpose project in Kerala during the above period?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 86]

(b) No, Sir.

Ashram Schools in Kerala

3102. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state the total amount of Central aid granted during 1957-58 for the Ashram Schools established in Kerala for the benefit of tribal children?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): A sum of Rs. 85,400 was granted to the Kerala State during 1957-58 for the maintenance of schools including residential ones started during the Second Plan period. Separate figures for Ashram schools are not available.

Scheduled Tribes in Kerala

3103. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2103 on the 20th December, 1957, and state by what time the proposals to establish a mobile medical unit and to start an industrial school for the benefit of the Scheduled Tribes in Wynad are likely to be approved?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): The State Government propose to start two mobile medical units in the Malabar area during 1959-61 and one of these units will be utilised for the benefit of Scheduled Tribes in Wynad. They also propose to start a craft centre cum Co-operative Society in the Kozhikode District to impart training in basket making, rattan work etc., to members of Scheduled tribes. The Centre may be located in Wynad.

Multipurpose Schools in Kerala

3104. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state the amount of Central grant allotted to the Kerala State for starting or for converting High Schools into multipurpose schools during 1957-58?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): Rs. 14,64,150.

Cannanore Cantonment

3105. Shri Jinachandran: Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) how much amount has been spent on Development works in Cannanore Cantonment under the Second Five Year Plan during 1956-57 and 1957-58;

(b) the schemes that have been completed;

(c) how much amount has been set apart for this purpose during 1958-59; and

(d) the details of the works to be done?

The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia): (a) A sum of Rs. 33,871 and Rs. 34,937 has been spent during 1956-57 and 1957-58 respectively on Development works in Cannanore Cantonment under the Second Five Year Plan.

(b) A statement showing the schemes which have been completed

during 1956-57 and 1957-58 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 87]

(c) A sum of Rs. 1,95,505 is proposed to be spent during 1958-59 on Development projects in Cannanore Cantonment.

(d) A statement giving the details of Development projects proposed to be completed during 1958-59 is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 88]

Private Educational Institutions of Orissa

3106. Shri K. C. Jena: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the private educational institutions of Orissa which applied for non-recurring grants to the Central Government since the year 1952 to December, 1957;

(b) if so, the purposes of the grants asked for and the amount sanctioned to each such institution and the dates of the sanction;

(c) whether some such cases are still pending disposal; and

(d) if so, by what date the pending cases will be disposed of?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). A statement is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 89]

(c) No Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Tribhuvan Rajpath

3107. Shri Chandra Shankar: Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tribhuvan Rajpath lies entirely in Nepal; and

(b) who is responsible for its maintenance and at what annual cost?

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

(b) The Tribhuvan Rajpath is for the present maintained by the Central Public Works Department of the Government of India as a part of the Indian Aid Programme in Nepal. The estimated cost of maintenance is as follows:—

(i) Rs. 14 lakhs non-recurring.

(ii) Rs. 18 lakhs recurring.

Anthropological Research in Punjab

3108. Shri Daljit Singh: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any field investigation for anthropological research has been undertaken in Punjab; and

(b) if so, the progress made so far in this regard?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Fire in Manipur

3109. Shri L. Achaw Singh: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 147 houses in the Ukrul sub-divisional headquarters of Manipur have been destroyed by fire in the last week of March, 1958;

(b) if so, the total value of property destroyed by the fire; and

(c) the measures adopted to check any future outbreak of fire in the headquarters and adjoining villages?

The Minister of Home Affairs (Pandit G. B. Pant): (a) An accidental fire broke out in the early hours of the 28th March, 1958 in a house in Ukrul village. Due to a strong wind, the fire spread rapidly destroying 146 houses and a church.

(b) The families affected by the fire have reported a total loss of property valued at Rs. 2,19,000. It has not yet been possible to verify these claims.

(c) while it is not possible to prevent such accidental fires completely or to engage fire-fighting units to fight fires in such remote villages, the Manipur Administration are taking steps to intensify propaganda with a view to familiarising villagers with the methods of preventing and fighting such fires. In order to organise fire service work properly, local officers are also being given training in the National Fire Service College and the Central Emergency Relief Training Institute at Nagpur.

Technical Training

3110. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposals have been finalised to step up the schedule for technical training;

(b) if so, their nature;

(c) what proposals relating to general educational development are being dropped or postponed to provide funds for expansion of technical training; and

(d) what co-operation Government have received from private agencies for the expansion of technical training?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) and (b). The expansion of existing technical institutions and establishment of new institutions have already been undertaken to meet in full the requirements of the current Plan as estimated by the Engineering Personnel Committee. It is expected that by 1960-61, the provision will be of the order of 11,000 seats for degree courses and 20,000 seats for diploma courses in engineering and technology.

A special scheme for the establishment of additional technical institutions to meet in part the requirements of the third and subsequent plans has also been formulated. When the scheme is implemented the provision will increase to about 13,000 seats for degree courses and 25,000 seats for diploma courses.

(e) No scheme of general education has been dropped to provide additional funds for the expansion of technical education. The plan allocation for some of the schemes has, however, been revised.

(d) Private agencies have so far established, with assistance from the Central Government and State Governments, six engineering colleges and nine polytechnics during the current plan period.

Private agencies have also come forward with proposals for the establishment of six additional colleges and nine polytechnics, which have been approved in principle by the All India Council for Technical Education.

Urban Social Welfare Centres

3111. **Shri Hem Raj:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the number of the Urban Social Welfare Centres to be opened during the Second Five Year Plan period;

(b) the number of these centres opened in the last two years, State-wise and district-wise; and

(c) the trades for which they have been opened?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) to (c). The necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha as soon as possible.

माण्डू का किला

३११२. श्री डामर : क्या वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा तथा सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा धार जिले (मध्य प्रदेश) में स्थित माण्डू के किले में कोई मरम्मत की जाने वाली है; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो प्रस्तावित कार्य का व्यय क्या है तथा इस प्रयोजन के लिये कितनी राशि मंजूर की गई है ?

वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा तथा सांस्कृतिक-कार्य मंत्री (श्री. हमाशू कबेर) : (क) और (ख). सूचना जमा की जा रही है और सभा की भेज पर रख दी जायेगी।

पाकिस्तानी राष्ट्रजन

३११३. श्री डामर : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि विगत दो वर्षों में भारत आये पाकिस्तानी राष्ट्र-जनों में से कितने ऐसे हैं जो बीमा की अवधि समाप्त हो जाने के बाद भारत में रह रहे हैं ?

गृह-कार्य मंत्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री दातार) : सूचना इकट्ठी की जा रही है और यथासमय में वह सभा-पटल पर रख दी जायेगी।

Anthropological Investigation in Manipur

3114. **Shri L. Achaw Singh:** Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to refer to page 113 of the Annual Report (1957-58) of the Ministry and state:

(a) what are the languages referred to in the Report as Kukin-Chin languages in Manipur for which field investigation for anthropological research was undertaken; and

(b) whether any investigation into the origin, languages and characteristics of the tribes living in the hills

and plains of Manipur including Chakpas and Kabnis has been taken up by the Anthropological Department?

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

(b) Yes, as stated in (a) above.

राजस्थान में तस्कर का व्यापार

३११५. श्री प० ला० शास्त्राल : क्या जिला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि राजस्थान के जिला श्री गंगानगर में तस्कर व्यापारियों से चोरी-छिपे लाया गया कितना सोना १९५८ में अब तक पकड़ा जा चुका है ?

जिला मंत्री (श्री मोरारजी देसाई) : राजस्थान के श्री गंगानगर जिले में १९५८ में (३१ मार्च तक) चोरी-छिपे लाया गया लगभग ७३४ तोला सोना पकड़ा गया।

Unemployment in Laccadive Islands

3116. Dr. K. B. Menon: Will the Minister of Home Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educated unemployed in Laccadive islands;

(b) the number of residents of the islands who are employed in the office of the Administrator?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): (a) There is not a single unemployed matriculate in the islands.

(b) Nil, this is because the Administrator required experienced hands for organising a new office and such persons were not available among the islanders. However a number of them are employed at various jobs in the islands.

Public Schools

3117. Shri Hem Raj: Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the amounts of grants given to the different public schools during the

years 1956-57 and 1957-58, school-wise; and

(b) the amount of grant proposed to be given during 1958-59?

The Minister of Education (Dr. K. L. Shrimali): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 90.]

History of Freedom Movement

3118. Shri Ham Raj: Will the Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs be pleased to state:

(a) which of the States have supplied all the available material for the compilation of the History of the Freedom Movement; and

(b) the progress made so far in this direction with regard to other States, State-wise?

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): (a) All available material has been supplied by State Government of Orissa and Madras, the Union Territories of Delhi, Himachal Pradesh and Manipur and the former States of Madhya Pradesh, Vindhya Pradesh, Hyderabad, Coorg and Ajmer.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [See Appendix VIII, annexure No. 91.]

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Speaker: Now, papers to be laid on the Table.

Shri Khadilkar (Ahmednagar): May I make a small submission? I had sent in an adjournment motion regarding Sheikh Abdullah's arrest.

Mr. Speaker: I have disallowed it already. I have already intimated to the hon. Member that I have disallowed it, and I am not giving my consent to it.

Shri Khadilkar: Shall I be allowed to make a small submission?

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh (Sasaram): No submission on that.

Mr. Speaker: Hon. Members are aware that various State matters come up before the House and adjournment motions are brought up, and I disallow them if they do not appertain to the Central Government or if they do not impose any responsibility on the Central Government either that they have failed to do what they ought to have done or that they have done it wrongly. Therefore, I disallowed that motion. It is no good raising it on the floor of the House.

Shri S. A. Dange (Bombay City—Central): I have given notice of a motion for discussion of the Kashmir affair. And this is not based only on the question of State policy but on questions which affect our international relations also, because what happens in Kashmir will also affect our relations with Pakistan and the question of general peace policy.

Now, it is very well known that we may not agree, and I do not, with the views of Mr. Sheikh Abdullah. But I think his arrest might affect the position of the people there in relation to their friendship with our country. Our military forces are already there guarding the frontier of the country. So, it is not a State affair. So, I would like to know whether you would give your views on the admission of this motion for discussion.

Shri Asoka Mehta (Muzaffarpur): May I say a word? Arising out of this arrest, there are a number of developments. And it is for that reason that both Shri S. A. Dange and I have given notice of a resolution to you. Either now or a little later, whenever you like, we would like to place before you the reasons why we think that this House should be given an opportunity to discuss the matter. As to whether it should be in the nature of an adjournment motion or a resolution or in some other form, we leave it entirely to you, and we bow to your decision. But I think on this matter any policy of hush-hush would not be in the interests of our

country and in the interests of this House.

Dr. Ram Subhag Singh: This matter was thoroughly discussed during the debate on foreign affairs, and it should not be discussed in this context. It may be discussed on some later occasion.

Some Hon. Members rose—

Shri Khadilkar: May I make a small submission?...

Mr. Speaker: I am not allowing a discussion now. Hon. Members will kindly see that I have disallowed the adjournment motion, because it is a State subject.

So far as the representation both of Shri S. A. Dange and Shri Asoka Mehta is concerned, no doubt, they have given me notice to raise a discussion under rule 193. It is a matter for me to consider, whether I should bring it up here, whether this is a fit subject and so on. Also, I shall consult the Ministers, because, as soon as the motions come in, we send them to the Ministers also. Their views also will be taken into account. Then, I shall give them an opportunity; before I make up my mind, I shall consult them once again about the relative position. And if I agree, I shall bring it up or allot a day; if I do not agree, I shall tell them the reasons.

I shall always welcome hon. Members to tell me how a particular motion has to be admitted.

Now, so far as the adjournment motion is concerned, it is gone.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE NOTIFICATIONS UNDER ALL INDIA SERVICES ACT

The Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs (Shri Datar): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, a copy of each of the following Notifications:

- (i) GSR. No. 250 dated the 19th April, 1958, making certain amendment to the Indian Ad-

[Shri Datar]

ministrative Service (Regulation of Seniority) Rules, 1954; and

- (ii) GSR. No. 251, dated the 19th April, 1958, making, certain amendment to the Indian Police Service (Regulation of Seniority) Rules, 1954. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-685/58].

ESTATE DUTY (DISTRIBUTION) RULES

The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri B. R. Bhagat): I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (2) of section 6 of the Estate Duty and Tax on Railway Passenger Fares (Distribution) Act, 1957, a copy of the Estate Duty (Distribution) Rules, 1958, published in Notification No. S. O. 327, dated the 29th March, 1958. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-686/58].

CUSTOMS AND CENTRAL EXCISE DUTIES DRAWBACK (LEATHER CLOTH) RULES

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I beg to lay on the Table, under sub-section (4) of section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, and section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944, a copy of the Customs and Central Excise Duties Drawback (Leather Cloth) Rules, 1958 published in Notification No. GSR. 243, dated the 16th April, 1959. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-688/58].

NOTIFICATION UNDER SEA CUSTOMS ACT

Shri B. R. Bhagat: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. GSR. 245, dated the 16th April, 1958, under sub-section (4) of section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-687/58].

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

Secretary: Sir, I have to report the following two messages received from the Secretary of Rajya Sabha:—

1. (i) "In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 162 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 2)

Bill, 1958, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd April, 1958, and transmitted to the Rajya Sabha for its recommendations and to state that this House has no recommendations to make to the Lok Sabha in regard to the said Bill."

- (ii) "I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Thursday, the 24th April, 1958, adopted the following motion concurring in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from the Rajya Sabha to the Public Accounts Committee for the period commencing on the 1st May, 1958 and ending on the 30th April, 1959:—

"That this House concurs in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do agree to nominate seven Members from the Rajya Sabha to associate with the Committee on Public Accounts of the Lok Sabha for the period commencing on the 1st May, 1958 and ending on the 30th April, 1959 and do proceed to elect, in such manner as the Chairman may direct, seven Members from among themselves to serve on the said Committee."

2. I am further to inform: the Lok Sabha that at the sitting of the Rajya Sabha held on Wednesday, the 30th April, 1958, the Chairman declared the following Members to be duly elected to the said Committee:—

1. Rajkumari Amrit Kaur,
2. Shri Amolakh Chand,
3. Shri T. R. Deogirikar,
4. Shri S. Venkataraman,

5. Shri M. Govinda Reddy,
6. Shri Rohit Manushankar Dave, and
7. Shri M. Basavapunniah."

CORRECTION OF STATEMENT BY MINISTER OF FINANCE RE: ADVANCE OF FUNDS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF SINGARENI COLLIERIES

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): With your permission, I should like to correct an inadvertent mistake in my speech in this House on the 17th April, 1958, in reply to the debate on the Demands for Grants of the Finance Ministry. In the course of the speech, I mentioned that the Central Government were asking for only one-third of the share capital of the Singareni collieries as a condition for advancing funds for their development. My attention has since been drawn to the fact that the discussions with the State Government are proceeding on the basis that the Central share of the capital will be two-thirds and not one-third. These discussions have not yet been concluded, and no final decision has been taken, and it is only proper that the House should know the correct position.

GIFT TAX BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman (Kumbakonam): I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Gift Tax Bill, 1958, be extended up to the 2nd May, 1958."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Gift Tax Bill, 1958, be extended up to the 2nd May, 1958."

The motion was adopted.

ESTATE DUTY (AMENDMENT) BILL

EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEE

Shri C. R. Pattabhi Raman: I beg to move:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Estate Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1958, be extended up to the 20th August, 1958."

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That the time appointed for the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Estate Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1958, be extended up to the 20th August, 1958."

The motion was adopted.

APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL*

12 hrs.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of moneys out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March 1955, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to provide for the authorisation of appropriation of money out of the Consolidated Fund of India to meet the amounts spent on certain services during the financial year ended on the 31st day of March 1955, in excess of the amounts granted for those services and for that year."

The motion was adopted.

Shri Morarji Desai: I introduce the Bill.

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II—Section 2, dated 1-5-1958.

†Introduced with the recommendations of the President.

RICE-MILLING INDUSTRY (REGULATION) BILL—contd.

Mr. Speaker: The House will now take up further consideration of the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation) Bill 1958. Out of 5 hours allotted to this Bill, 4 hours and 58 minutes now remain.

Shri A. M. Thomas may continue his speech.

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Mr. Speaker, Sir, yesterday I referred to two Reports, one by the Committee appointed by the Food and Agriculture Ministry, namely the Rice-Milling Committee Report, and the other, the Report of the Committee appointed by the Planning Commission, namely, the Village and Small-scale Industries Committee, known as the Karve Committee. The main recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee, besides the general directions for the encouragement of hand-pounding of rice, were (1) Introduction of a system of licensing of rice mills; (2) A ban on the starting of new rice mills and expansion of the capacity of the existing mills; (3) Restriction on working hours in the existing mills, with a view to impose a limit on their production; (4) Each State Government should draw up a phased programme for the development of the hand-pounding industry and for eliminating the existing rice mills within a period of five years; and (5) The milling of rice should be restricted to removal of bran to a maximum of 5 per cent and a minimum of 3 per cent.

The cardinal recommendation of the Rice Milling Committee is, therefore, the adoption of a policy of gradual elimination of rice mills in order to give the necessary fillip to the hand-pounding industry. The Karve Committee, while recommending that every encouragement should be given to the hand-pounding industry, was of the opinion that the working of the existing rice mills should not be disturbed. Unlike the Rice Milling Committee which had failed to take into consideration the additional production of paddy, the Karve Commit-

tee envisaged that additional production of paddy contemplated under the Five Year Plan would allow sufficient scope for the development of the hand-pounding industry if restrictions were imposed on the establishment of new rice mills. According to the estimate of the Rice Milling Committee, 85 per cent. of the total production of paddy is still hand-pounded. The likely increase in production may now be taken to be about 6.5 million tons of rice, in other words, 10 million tons in terms of paddy.

The Rice Milling Committee expressed the view that in order that the rice may retain thiamine and other nutrients, it should not be over-milled. It commented adversely on the tendency of the rice mills to over-mill the rice and to give it a bright glossy appearance by the use of such materials as talc, oils and other polishing powders. The Committee accordingly recommended legislation to restrict the polishing of rice to 5 per cent removal of bran with a minimum of 3 per cent.

As the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee were somewhat controversial in nature and were likely to have far-reaching effects not only on the rice milling industry but also on the supply position of rice in the country, the views of the State Governments and other Ministries of the Government of India were asked for. After careful consideration of the matter, the Government of India have decided that it would not be advisable to eliminate the existing rice milling industry which had been developed over a period of several decades. The rice mills have now become an integral part of the rural economy and provide credit and storage facilities. They also provide facilities for quick conversion of paddy into rice and their elimination might disturb not only the rice supply position but also adversely affect the interest of paddy producers in the country. It was also considered extremely doubtful whether in spite of all the encouragement that could be given to hand-pounding, it would be possible to develop the industry to

an extent which would enable it to handpound the grain that is at present milled by the rice mills.

The imposition of restrictions on the working hours of the mills was also not considered advisable as that might affect the economic working of the mills.

The decisions taken by the Government of India on the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee are that a census of all power-driven rice mills should be taken and that licensing of all such mills should be introduced, that no new rice mill should be allowed to be set up and no expansion of the existing mills' capacity should be permitted unless the State Government is satisfied that it is necessary to do so for the purpose of ensuring adequate supplies. Government also decided that when a new mill is to be set up, preference should be given to sheller mills. Existing rice mills-shellers, hullers or combined sheller-hullers may be allowed to continue to function. The existing rice mills may be permitted to replace or modernise their equipment provided that this does not result in any substantial increase in their present milling capacity. Another important decision is that the milling of rice should be restricted to 5 per cent removal of bran with a minimum of 3 per cent. The decisions regarding licensing, restrictions on the starting of new mills or expansion of existing mills and also that the milling of rice should be restricted to 5 per cent removal of bran could not be implemented under the Essential Commodities Act or any other law in force in the country. It was, therefore, necessary to introduce fresh legislation for the purpose. Hence this Bill.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to regulate the rice-milling industry in the interests of the general public be taken into consideration".

There are some motions for circulation and reference to Select Committee.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty (Barrister): I beg to move:

"That the Bill be circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the 15th August 1958".

Mr. Speaker: There is a motion for reference to Select Committee tabled by Shri A. C. Guha.

Shri A. C. Guha (Barasat): I move amendment No. 23. I have put in 11 or 12 names. If the hon. Member accepts my suggestion, he may add some other names.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has moved his amendment No. 23, that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of so many names. I will read out the names later. Meanwhile, discussion on both the original Motion and the two amendments may proceed.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: As the Minister has already stated, the matter is of a controversial nature and because various intricate questions are linked up to with this question of rice milling industry. But before I go into the pros and cons of this matter, the first thing I would like to bring before this House is that this is a sphere which should best have been left to the States. I mean the question of licensing, not with the idea of controlling the big stores of foodgrains but in order to develop the employment potential provided for the rural population as well as, as they say, the facilities for conversion of paddy into rice. In order to maintain these facilities, this Bill has been brought forward.

When these are the two considerations on which they are bringing forward this Bill, in our opinion, this is a sphere of activity which should best have been left to the States. As a matter of fact, both the earlier Bills, the Essential Supplies (Temporary Powers) Act—which was repealed—and later the Essential Commodities Act, gave the right to the Central Government for regulating foodgrains and other commodities by licences. But this Bill has been brought forward with another objective and that

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is, as I have stated, the question of guaranteeing the employment potential of the rural population as well as the guaranteeing of facilities of easy conversion of paddy into rice.

Before government control of foodgrains was introduced during the war, the question of licensing remained largely with the States and various States had various types of procurement, levy system etc. As a result of that, they used to license, control and regulate more or less on that basis.

As a matter of fact, there were the cases of Mysore, Madras and Andhra where the Government had a monopoly procurement system. There is no doubt that through this procurement system the rice mills attained a very important position in the way of centralisation of foodgrains in the hands of the few. This centralisation resulted in the emergence of a monopoly section in the foodgrains trade.

In the State of West Bengal, on the other hand, the actual procurement was voluntary and there was a partial levy and in this way the procured portion of the rice was actually milled by the rice mills whilst part of it was left free with them to be sold in the open market. In various ways the State regulated this.

Later on when decontrol came about and the Rice Mills Control Order in the State was issued under the Central Essential Commodities Supply (Temporary Powers) Act, that power ceased to exist. So also we find that, in spite of the fact that this was repealed, certain States made their own legislation and continued the system of licensing. As a matter of fact, even in Madras State, which had enacted legislation for licensing the mills, many licences for this type of mills were issued soon after decontrol. In the Travancore area of the Travancore-Cochin State where the State Government, during the period of control, had banned all the rice mills, numerous licences for new rice mills were issued after decontrol.

Even the Rice Milling Committee which was set up by the Government, during the period of its enquiry had requested the Food and Agriculture Ministry to issue immediate instructions to all States to make it compulsory for all existing power-driven rice mills to take up licences and to stop issuing licences to new mills.

Therefore, from the entire history of control of this type, that is control for the question of employment, control for the question of easy facilities to convert paddy into rice, it was left in the hands of the States. Since there would be obviously no difficulty in the way of discussion and persuasion, because the party in power in the generality of the States and the party in power at the Centre is the same more or less, I see no reason why a uniform system could not be brought about without a Bill which will really give further additional powers to the Central Government.

If it was a question of actually controlling the foodgrains in the sense of distribution and supply, and enhancing the stock with the Centre in order to be able to give enough food to the rest of India, we would not have objected as we did not object when the Essential Commodities Act was brought before Parliament. But, in this particular case we very strongly feel that these powers should not be given to the Centre although, as I will later mention, the objective of the Bill—to ensure employment—is something which we have all at heart. We would like a certain amount of restriction to be brought about so that there is no unnecessary displacement of labour bringing about hardship to the vast masses of the poor, especially women in the villages.

After having dealt with this particular point, I say that we disagree with giving powers to the Central Government and we feel that it is an encroachment on the arena which should be left to the States—the right to control the issue of licences. After

that, I feel that we must take up the entire question of the pros and cons of the matter.

There is no doubt that we would like the Government, both Central and the State, to control the monopoly institutions of foodgrain trade that have emerged. Actually, in our areas—we come from rice-eating and paddy growing areas—a very large amount of the surplus foodgrains finds its way into rice mills. What is the reason for that? The reason for that is that actually the poor peasant is not able to hold on to his grain at the time of harvest. Because he has to meet various expenses, because he has so many liabilities and because of the lack of credit facilities which has become so chronic in the countryside, these institutions, these rice mills have become the centres, as the hon. Minister says, both of credit and of storage. Just stating it like that would look as if here is an additional institution for credit. But, that is not so. The fact of the matter is—at least in our State we know it very well and the whole thing has come out very beautifully during the discussion in the West Bengal Assembly when Shri Siddarth Roy resigned on this question—these mills have become the centres of black-marketing in trade and in pushing up the prices of foodgrains in many areas.

If it was a Bill asking us to give the Central Government powers to go and get this surplus rice which remains in the rice mills, we would not have objected. As a matter of fact, that right has been given under the Essential Commodities Act. We find that these rice mills which are, no doubt, centres of credit, are also institutions for exploitation because the State is unable to give the peasants credit and they have to sell the grains at a cheap rate.

It has been stated by the Rice Milling Committee that the bulk of this paddy thus finds its way into the rice mills. In some cases the small producer is often compelled to sell out

not only his surplus but as a matter of fact he has to sell out a part of the food which is required for himself because he has to meet many liabilities. If rural credit were made available to the producers through a co-operative machinery sponsored by the State much of their paddy would remain in the villages to be processed by hand-pounding and be sold as rice.

Of course, we recognise the fact that we cannot put the hand of industry back. It is quite true that the rice mills have come to stay and it is also quite true that the non-producing portion of the village population will find it easier to go to the rice mill and have their paddy converted into rice for a very small payment instead of having to have it hand-pounded and to give so much rice in exchange and also food for the labouring women who come and do this handpounding. Yet we know that these rice mills actually squeeze the peasantry and actually centralise the surplus grain. Neither the Government has set up a machinery to centralise this in its own hands nor have they set up institutions of credit which would really replace these rice mills. We know the rice mills have come to stay. At the same time, we do feel that no indiscriminate licensing should be done. We have, on the one hand, to see that rice mills do not indiscriminately supersede or displace the large labouring population in the villages; on the other hand, I feel that the presence of rice mills there cannot be completely given up. That is the controversial question. Therefore, there must be some form of discriminating licensing.

As a matter of fact, the question of unemployment, especially in the parts from which we come, has become very great because in the villages there are no industries. Actually, in the parts which I represent, the Sunderbans in Bengal, we find that the women there are the worst sufferers. Widows with children have no men to support them and they have no land and they really

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depend for their livelihood entirely on this hand-pounding of rice; and the rice mills are coming and displacing them.

The Rice Milling Committee has given a very interesting analysis as to how this earlier Control Order during the war has brought into existence this rice mill trade which has, to a great extent, already, in a large number of States, displaced the hand-pounding industry. I was surprised to see that in places like Maharashtra only 35 per cent or so of the rice is hand-pounded. In our State it is still very high; in West Bengal it is 65 per cent; in Bihar, 97 per cent is hand-pounded; in Orissa 87 per cent; in Madhya Pradesh 79 per cent. This was more or less the picture right through India. But during this period of control and war, actually the average percentage has come down to 57.4 per cent. It has come down. But it is also true to say that it still forms more than half of the total conversion of paddy to rice. We know how difficult it is to find suitable work for agricultural labour, especially women labour. They are not able to go far from their homes. Hand-pounding is the most suitable form of labour for women. I was very much interested to read in this report that under-employment is worst in the States where the working strength of the women earners in the agricultural workers' families was lowest. As a matter of fact, it states here:

"In this country there are women of the poorer agricultural classes who are not accustomed to do outdoor work except in their own fields, and there are women of lower middle-class who are by custom debarred from doing any outdoor work."

It goes on to say:

"Any scheme to relieve agricultural unemployment in the States will be incomplete unless it provides suitable part-time occupations for women.

Therefore, I again say that this is a question which naturally finds support. We have to guarantee opportunities of employment which are so restricted. These opportunities must be guarded till such time when we are able to give certain other employment and work for the agricultural labourers' families, especially for women. This committee has underlined its importance. It has worked out the figures. It says that if the rice milled in these factories is given over to hand-pounding, an extra employment potential of about 40 lakhs or more persons will be available, working 150 days a year and at the rate of twelve annas per head per day, a total of Rs. 45 crores will be earned by them. Of course it is not possible to replace and completely close down the rice mills. You cannot put the hands of industry backwards. At the same time we have to see, that there is no undue hardship because of large scale displacement of labour. In this matter we support the idea of following a policy of discriminated mechanisation, as I call it, to minimise the displacement of labour by guaranteeing employment to rural people, especially women. But I do feel that if we have to take this decision of accepting the existing rice mills, we should at the same time guarantee that there will be no further displacement of labour until such time as we are able to give them alternative employment. Till such time, we have to see that the State comes forward to help these people to build up co-operatives. More and more of middle-class people in the villages are going to the rice mills. It is impossible to prevent them from going to the rice mill, where husking is done quickly, cheaply and without much trouble. So, it is not possible for us to save the hand-pounding industry unless we help them to form co-operatives.

But our experience of co-operatives is this. Unless the States take active part in the formation of these co-operatives these illiterate women who

know nothing of the laws of the co-operatives are unable to function. We also find that they generally fall prey to certain influences within the village who are clever and grasping. They take hold of these co-operatives and use them as a forum of exploitation and exploit these illiterate and poor women. If you really want to save hand-pounding industry, this question should also be dealt with. It should not be left to the voluntary effort of certain women who may come or may not come forward to form co-operatives. In this particular sphere the State itself must come forward to help them to form co-operatives, keep their accounts, to let them know how to function and so on. Then only they will be able to exist side by side with rice mills. I say again that this is a very controversial Bill in this sense that there are various intricacies which are to be considered. I think it is necessary for us to circulate this Bill for eliciting public opinion because I think that though the aims are laudable, many issues have been raised such as employment *versus* unemployment, powers of the Centre *versus* the powers of the States, rice milling industry *versus* the hand-pounding industry and so on. Then, there are the questions of health and other matters but I have not dealt with them. These are matters of a controversial nature which should be discussed and therefore, I think it is necessary to circulate this.

Shri C. D. Pande (Naini Tal): Why not send it to Select Committee?

Shri Surendranath Dwivedy (Kendrapara): Sir, I have no serious objection to the Bill, but I really fail to understand what purpose this Bill is going to serve. It has a very limited objective; limiting licences to the new mills and limiting expansion of the existing mills. But the Government has taken three years to assuage us this much. The Rice Milling Committee submitted its report in June 1955. In the course of its enquiry, it was alarmed to see that rice mills were coming up everywhere. In the

villages people were being displaced and there was acute unemployment. So, the committee felt that some immediate steps should be taken to stop the further starting of new rice mills. That was not heeded to. Now, this Bill is before us after 3-4 years. But we have no statistics given by the hon. Minister as to what is the actual position today? Have new mills been started after 1955 when the report was submitted? Have the defunct mills been given permission to start production. Is there any scope for new mills at all? Is this measure necessary?

I shall point out later on that perhaps there is no scope for further expansion. This Bill has been brought merely to please that section of the population which in this country wants that at least in the matter of food and cloth, we must have decentralisation and people should have self-sufficiency and should depend on their own hand and not on others. That is perhaps the motive behind it, without seriously meaning it. Otherwise, if they had a definite policy regarding this matter, they should have taken into account what the Planning Commission have said about this specific matter. They have stated two things categorically. First they say:

"Taking these into consideration, it is proposed that all power driven rice mills should be licensed and that no new mills should be allowed to be set up nor expansion of capacity of the existing mills allowed except where it is considered absolutely essential in the public interest in special circumstances."

Then again they have said:

"The level of technical efficiency and output of the hand-pounding equipment will be raised by implementing schemes for manufacture and distribution of *chakki-dhenki* units, improved *dhenkis* and winnowing fans. To ensure regular supply of hand-pounded rice to urban areas marketing

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depots will be established and steps will be taken to popularise the consumption of hand-pounded rice."

Regarding this aspect, Sir, I am sorry to say, probably nothing has been done; and we are coming forward with a half-hearted measure at a very late hour.

The position in the country today is, as it will be seen, that the poor rural population do prefer hand-pounded rice. I would say, a very small section of the urban population want the polished superfine mill rice. If there is proper supply and reasonable price, I think every sensible person in this country would prefer to get hand-pounded rice; because, from the nutrition point of view and from other points of view like taste, it is much superior to the mill rice.

What has happened today as a result of this policy of not giving a reasonable price to the hand-pounded rice? The result is that mill rice has gone even into the villages and, on account of economic compulsion, people are sometimes taking to mill rice also. But it has to be considered that, so far as the rural rice eating areas are concerned, rice is the only staple food for the people and they have nothing to supplement it. Therefore, it is also one of our duties to see that the caloric values of their staple food are not destroyed by the introduction of mill rice. -

Therefore, it was necessary—and we should have been glad—to know what steps have actually been taken to improve the present efficiency of hand-pounding industry so as—if not to replace mill rice—to ensure sufficient supply of hand-pounded rice in the country. In that respect the Government has failed altogether.

The question of employment also comes in. This is also an important factor. The hand-pounding industry provides employment to many villagers. The villagers want some

subsidiary employment—there is under-employment—and that can only be provided by this hand-pounding industry. It will be seen that every rice mill today displaces about 500 workers. Every Huller machine deprives about 40 to 50 workers of their employment. So, from that point of view also it was necessary that we should have done something in this regard.

What I find is this. This Bill, as I told you, has been brought before this House after a lapse of 3 years and it will be passed. Then there will be some rules made. After that, the slow-moving machinery of Government will work, and it will take some more years. What will be the position then? I know, Sir, as I mentioned earlier, the Rice Milling Committee, which expressed alarm at this problem, stated:

"After decontrol, the tendency of the bigger mills of large capitalists has been to increase their production rapidly, thereby pushing out not only hand-pounding industry, but also those mills which are not so large."

Therefore, they have recommended these things. They have even recommended that the working hours of these mills should be restricted. The hon. Minister told us while moving this Bill that the six hours limit for working of the mills which the Committee has suggested is not, they think, practicable or advisable. I do not know, why. If they do not restrict even that, the position will be worse.

In the course of these few years, I think a large number of new rice mills have come up in this country. I know of Orissa State. If anybody makes an enquiry he will find that in the course of the last one year after the general elections, perhaps more than ten new rice mills have come up or licences have been given for them. Therefore, the Rice Milling Committee suggested to the Government of India that they should have a liaison officer,

they should properly assess and estimate the present position and then decide their policy on this matter. I do not think in other States the position would be different. If that is so, then what purpose does it really serve now by merely saying that we will restrict. Probably, there will be nothing left to restrict then.

Even in the year 1954-55 the Rice Milling Committee specifically mentioned that the then existing rice mills were sufficient to meet any emergency, to meet any special circumstances—whatever it is. They stated:

"There is practically a unanimity of opinion that no more rice mills should be allowed in the country as the number of existing rice mills is quite enough for meeting all the essential needs, and in some areas there are more than enough, and new rice mills will serve no special purpose, but will only throw more people out of the hand-pounding industry."

That was there. Even then, I do not know why the Government took so much time, delayed it and allowed further mills to come up in the States to the detriment of this very essential industry.

Therefore, my main objection to this Bill is that this is not adequate for the purpose that we have in view. We want that we must restrict further rice mills. We must say that no further rice mills would be permitted. We must see that the entire hand-pounding industry should be encouraged, should be developed, so that in the course of a few years we will be able to find that hand-pounding industry is the only dominant industry so far as rice is concerned. If we have that policy, then we have to take certain other steps along with this. As I said earlier, the Rice Milling Committee has also suggested these things. That has not been done. I want to know from the Minister whether any such thing has been done.

The Rice Milling Committee suggested a thorough review of the situa-

tion at a governmental level. They also suggested that it should be assessed as to how far progress has been made on improved organisation of hand-pounding industry to meet the food supplies and eliminate dependence on rice mills. Another difficulty that they pointed out about this industry is the price. They stated that a reasonable price should be fixed for hand-pounded rice.

Viewed from these points, Sir, I think that this Bill is thoroughly inadequate for the purpose that they have. At the same time, I think—although, as I stated at the beginning, I have no serious objection to the Bill; I feel that the Centre should have some power of control over it, not that the States should be ignored—that the recommendation should come from the States before the Centre grants the licence. If you look through the Bill, you will find that there is no clear indication that in the matter of granting licences the States would have any say at all. There are some amendments before the House which have suggested that before granting a new licence the opinion of the State should be ascertained. If that is accepted, I think, probably, the objection to which my hon. friend referred would be very greatly removed. It will be better, therefore, that the States are primarily concerned with it. But, at the same time, we are all concerned about the hand-pounding industry which, if properly developed, can give employment to a very large section of our population. This industry should be encouraged without in anyway hampering our progress in any other direction. If we remember the words of the Father of the Nation, I think the Government would not have any objection to declare here their policy on this matter and to tell us definitely what the next steps are going to take.

Mr. Speaker: There is one thing that I want to say. In clause 2 of the Bill, I find it stated:

"It is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under

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its control the rice-milling industry".

Evidently, this is under entry No. 52 of the Union List. I read through the Statement of Objects and Reasons, but there is nothing there to show as to why the Centre should take the powers, on what ground, and why we ought to give power to the Central Government, while that power has been exercised by the State Governments.

Shri A. M. Thomas: This is primarily under entry No. 33 of the Concurrent List which says:

"Trade and commerce in, and the production, supply and distribution of,—

(a) the products of any industry where the control of such industry by the Union is declared by Parliament by law to be expedient in the public interest, and imported goods of the same kind as such products;

(b) foodstuffs, including edible oilseeds and oils; etc.

So, it comes also under the Concurrent List—item No. 33.

Mr. Speaker: It comes only under sub-clause (a) of that item.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Sub-clauses (a) and (b).

Mr. Speaker: Foodstuffs are mentioned, but does that mean any processing of foodstuff? Can we say that it can include agriculture, horticulture, biscuit-making, chillies, achar, pappad? I want to know how it has got to be regulated. Do the rice-mills come under this clause? I believe it is a subject which comes under sub-clause (a) and not (b).

Shri A. M. Thomas: Whenever any industry is taken up under the control of the Central Government as for example when Boards were constituted for administration, such as the Tea Board, Rubber Board, Coir Board, etc. this formal provision is there. Then only this House gets the jurisdiction.

Mr. Speaker: I think I have not made myself understood by the hon. Minister. I do not object to the Bill having been introduced or the Centre taking the power to control the establishment of rice-mills or licensing them. That is a substantive portion. It is for the Government to lay down its policy. So far as I am concerned, I am anxious to see that the House knows why it should allow the Central Government, why this Parliament should allow the Central Government, to have a declaration as is sought to be made in clause 2 of the Bill, such as "It is hereby declared that it is expedient," etc.

As is found here, there are two statements appended to this Bill. One is about the financial implications and the other is about the delegated legislation, so that the pointed attention of the House is drawn to the provisions where delegated legislation is resorted to. The details are given, showing why it ought not to be provided for in the body of the Bill and why delegation is resorted to, and whether that delegation is in regard to substantive provisions or whether it is merely procedural. It is for the purpose of making the functions of the executive clear, as against the functions which Parliament itself ought to regulate. Therefore, a statement on delegated legislation has been devised and has been appended to the Bill.

Then, so far as the financial memorandum is concerned, the Speaker has to decide whether this is a money Bill or what the effects of the Bill are, what its implications are, etc. Are we committing ourselves to anything and what are the implications? Therefore, a financial memorandum is attached. I am only considering whether a similar memorandum may not be attached to such Bills in future. I am not suggesting that it should be done with regard to this Bill also. Clause 2 of this Bill says:

"It is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the rice-milling industry".

Naturally, the hon. Member, Shri-mati Renu Chakravartty, has tabled a motion that the Bill may be circulated for eliciting public opinion, because primarily I think it is the business of the States. So, I would have liked that the Government being the sponsor of this Bill, the Government should have appended a note or a separate memorandum saying as to whether the concurrence of the States has been taken, how the working of this industry in the States has not been useful and how it is in the public interest the Union should take under its control the rice-milling industry.

Shri A. M. Thomas: The opinion of the State Governments has been ascertained. It is true that as suggested by you the Statement of Objects and Reasons should have been more elaborate, mentioning seriatim the reasons why it is advisable that the Central Government should take powers to control this industry. In fact, the Bill seeks to implement the recommendations of the Report of the Rice-Milling Committee which has suggested such and such steps should be taken, and such and such powers could be taken by the Centre. So, we have brought up this legislation. I think I have made myself clear.

Shri A. C. Guha: I think the Government have flouted all the recommendations of the Committee. They have taken up the legislation against the effective recommendations of the Committee. They have gone against the recommendations of the Committee.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member will have an opportunity to speak on this Bill. All that I am interested in is this. Such information to the House as is necessary for the hon. Members to come to a conclusion why

these powers are necessary for the Central Government may be given. The Bill can be divided into portions, the substantive portions giving the points, allowing the Central Government to come in, and the other portion may give the reasons as to why it is sought to be regulated by the Centre and what is to be regulated by the States. That is an independent matter altogether, namely, the regulation by the States. Therefore, I feel that in future the Government may consider the desirability of appending, apart from the Statement of Objects and Reasons which deals with the substantive portions of the Bill, a note showing as to why a particular provision is made, as to why the Centre should exercise the rights which are exercised by the States, etc.

Shri A. M. Thomas: For future guidance, we shall certainly take in your suggestion. In this particular case I may submit that the report of the Committee as well as the decision of the Government of India on it had been placed on the Table of the House sometime back. In that document, we have said that it would be necessary to introduce legislation to implement some of the recommendations that we have accepted.

Mr. Speaker: Shri A. C. Guha.

Shri A. C. Guha: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I think the two hon. Members who preceded me have not so much objection to this Bill as regards the intentions of the Bill, namely, to provide more employment and encouraging hand-pounding of rice. I do not think they have raised any objection to these aspects. The main objection that has been raised by them was from the point of view of the procedure as laid down in this Bill.

Employment is an important aspect, and that is also included as one of the four principal aims of the second Five Year Plan, and the House is committed to that aspect. So, any measure to provide better employment and more employment should

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receive the approval of this House. But there must be a way of doing things. This Bill, I am sorry to say, has been very badly drafted, hurriedly drafted and most carelessly drafted. I hope I shall not be misunderstood if I refer to what happened during the last few days in this House. Four Bills, one after another, have had to be stayed over. The discussion on them has had to be postponed for sometime owing to technical defects in the procedure. I do not know whether the Government can take this House for granted and present any Bill in any form they like. They must at least conform to the fundamental principles which may guide this House and which have been accepted by the House. As had been rightly pointed out by you, Sir, I do not know how the House can agree to this declaration as put in in clause 2 of the Bill. It says :

"It is hereby declared that it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the rice-milling industry."

This Bill is coming just in the wake of the Prime Minister's statement a few days ago that in rural areas, the petty boss is becoming the big boss or big tyrant. This Bill is authorising any and everybody to be a big tyrant in the rural areas.

We know that hand-pounding has its own merits and apart from the employment potentialities. In hand-pounding, there is a better yield of rice; about 73 per cent. of the paddy comes back as rice whereas by milling, it is only about 70 per cent. Under the hand-pounding system, the nutrition value is also greater than under the mill-pounding system. So, all of us would like to encourage the hand-pounding system, but how to do it? This Bill has encroached upon a sphere which has been so long

almost the exclusive sphere of the State Governments.

I have not been able to find anywhere in the two reports mentioned by the hon. Minister—the Karve Report and the Menon Report—as to the exact number of rice mills in India. I think there will be more than 30,000 rice mills. I am not sure about the number, but I recollect sometime back I found somewhere that their number would be more than 30,000. Some of these mills, particularly those which we call simple hullers, can be erected even at a cost of Rs. 1,000. In a rural area, a simple huller would cost about Rs. 200 and a 5 H.P. motor power plant would cost about Rs. 700 or Rs. 800. So, it is not a big businessman who has been doing all these things. You go to any rural area and you will find people indulging in these things in small huts; quite a number of people are doing these things. While this Bill authorises the Central Government to take over the control, I do not know whether the Central Government intend to extend all these ramifications to the interior villages.

In clause 4 of the Bill, it is said that gazetted officers of the Government will be authorised. I do not know gazetted officers of which Government. Perhaps gazetted officers of Central Government will be authorised. How can the poor villagers in the remote villages approach the gazetted officers for this purpose?

Clause 5 says "any person may make an application to the Central Government". Anybody having experience of the Central Government functioning will shudder at the idea of having to make an application to the Central Government under rules framed by the Central Government. It says the application shall be made in the prescribed form. I know some of these forms and they are so intricate that even Members of Parliament

would sometimes find it difficult to fill up the forms. So, it would be almost impossible for the village people to fill up those forms.

In clause 6, the words "specified period" are there. We do not know what will be the specified period. They will have to conform to anything which the authorised officer may lay down.

Then, even the existing mills will have to take the licence. I do not know why. For new mills or defunct mills, they will have to take a permit and then again a licence. I do not know what is the purpose of this dual formality, first take a permit to establish a mill and then again to take a licence for operating the mill. All these things are simply intended to amplify or extend the scope of official intervention in rural areas.

In case of any appeal or any complaint, the decision of the Central Government is to be final, but the man will have the right to be heard in person. You just conceive of a man in the rural areas having the right to be heard in person by some authority of the Central Government. All these things appear to me to be somewhat abnormal and extraordinary.

If you come to the penalty clause, you find that in clause 13(1), the penalty has been put at a very high level. But I am not now so much concerned with it. But I think there is some anomaly in the provision itself. In the last few lines of clause 13(1), it is said:

"with an additional fine which may extend to five hundred rupees for every day during which such contravention continues after conviction for the first such contravention."

In the rural areas if some poor villager contravenes some provision, for every day he will be fined Rs. 500. It is somewhat extraordinary. I do not know if it is the intention of the Government that this fine would be levied

only after the first such contravention. There may be second and third contraventions also. What is the provision for any contravention after the second or third conviction?

Under the rule-making powers, clause 22(3) says:

"Any rule made under this section may provide that a contravention thereof shall be punishable under sub-section (2) of section 13."

That means, by the rule-making powers, the Government may create new offences which are not provided in this Bill.

Under clause 15,

"No court shall take cognizance of any offence punishable under this Act except on a report in writing of the facts constituting such offence made by the licensing officer or any person duly authorised by the Central Government or the licensing officer in this behalf."

So, a licensing officer may authorise anybody to make a report to take cognizance of an offence committed by the owner of a simple huller which may cost only Rs. 200 for being established.

All these things require careful examination. If the circulation motion is accepted, I have no objection. But at least, this Bill should be referred to a Select Committee. The hon. Minister said that the Bill has been drafted on the recommendations contained in the two reports I have mentioned. As I interrupted during your statement, they have practically gone against the recommendations in those reports. I pointed out some of these things. In page 45 of the Menon Committee Report, you will find a summary of the recommendations. Item 16 says:

"The Essential Commodities Act, 1955, and if necessary, the constitution should be suitably amended to enable State Govern-

[Shri A. C. Guha]

ments to issue orders under items (2) to (6) with the object of creating work for the rural unemployed."

But they have thought that the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act should not be utilised for this purpose. This is in direct contravention of the recommendations of this Committee.

There have been other recommendations also. I do not find anywhere among the recommendations any provision which has been put in this Bill. There is a suggestion for an excise duty; there is a suggestion regarding restriction on opening new mills, etc. But nowhere in the report there has been any recommendation about this elaborate machinery that the Government have put here for taking permits and licences.

I shall now draw attention to another aspect. As I have stated before, the Government have considered these recommendations in a most cursory manner.

13 hrs.

They have not taken a positive attitude as regards the recommendations of this Committee. Again, I would refer to page 45 of the Menon Committee Report. Item 17 reads:

"Publicity and propaganda should be made through schools, colleges, the Community Development and National Extension Blocks, Women's organisations, the Red Cross, the cinema, the radio, the stage and literature:

- (i) to emphasise the nutritive value of under-milled rice and hand-pounded rice and induce consumers to eat hand-pounded rice;
- (ii) to emphasise the greater potentiality of the hand-pounding industry to provide employment;

(iii) to discourage the present practice of washing and cooking rice by which its nutritive value is lost and to propagate the correct method for retaining it in cooked rice."

They have not done any of these things. Item 18 reads:

"Research should be conducted for evolving simpler and better hand-pounding implements with a view to increasing their output and at the same time making them easier to handle."

They have not done anything on this also. At least we do not know whether they have done anything to improve the implements of hand-pounding. Item 19 reads:

"Each State Government should have a special agency under its Co-operative Department to organise co-operative societies as suggested in these recommendations."

I do not know whether they have done anything in the direction of having hand-pounding co-operative. Then item 20 says:

"The Central Government should appoint a special agency to act as liaison between them and the State Government with a view to the enforcement of the Government of India's policy in these matters."

Here also, I do not think they have taken any step. At least, we do not know whether any step has been taken. This Committee and the Karve Committee have recommended that they should encourage co-operative of hand-pounders and small hullers. But I do not think they have done anything in this matter. They have taken to the easiest line and the negative attitude in implementing the recommendations of this Committee. They have actually

sorted the positive recommendations, effective recommendations, of this Committee, as also of the Karve Committee. With these words, I would move my amendment.

I move:

"That the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of Shri S. Hansda, Shri C. D. Pande, Shri Uma Charan Patnaik, Shri Radheshyam Ramkumar Morarka, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, Shri Ajit Prasad Jain, Shri A. M. Thomas, Shri K. T. K. Tangamani, Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri, Shri Surendra Mahanty and the Mover;

with instructions to report by the first day of the next session."

I appeal to the Minister not to take a rigid attitude in this matter. I do not think there will be anybody in this House who will support the Bill as it is, though there may be an agreement as regards the objects of the Bill. I know there is an agreement. But, because of the way in which the Bill has been drafted, I apprehend there will be almost unanimous opposition to this Bill in this House. So, I submit that the Minister should not take a rigid attitude. He should consider whether it should not go to a Select Committee. If he agrees to the Select Committee, he may expand or change the composition of the Select Committee. I have no objection to that. Before concluding, I would again appeal to the Minister to take a flexible attitude, a reasonable attitude and see that the real purpose of this Bill is served by putting this Bill under closer consideration by a Select Committee.

Shri C. D. Pande: Mr. Speaker, usually I would not have interfered in the discussion in this type of Bill and until I heard the speeches of the previous speakers, I did not realise the importance of the Bill. There are friends who have objected to the introduction of this Bill on different grounds. But my grounds

for objection are quite different and are of a more fundamental nature.

This question of hand-pounding is akin of Ambar Charka, ghani oil and many other things of a similar type. The question is whether, in view of the progress we have achieved in the economic field, we are going to adopt such measures as would restrict the use of machines for daily use in our life. There are friends who are very great admirers of ghani oil, Ambar Charka cloth and hand-pounding rice. Why not flour wheat also by hand? Today the question is of hand-pounding rice. Grinding wheat by hand is also an equally important question. It will improve the chances of employment much more than the pounding of rice by hand.

But, are we going to take such steps in the interests of employment alone, neglecting the bigger side of the issue? Are we not going to make the grain as cheap as possible? Has the Government considered the difference in price between hand-pounded rice and rice pounded through mills? I know that in my own area new fields have come into existence; vast fields have come into existence. And people are clamouring for new rice mills, new warehouses and new stores. But today we say that no more permits will be given for rice mills or permits will be given only through the Central agency. If a small farmer in Haldwani or Kichha, who has got about thousand rupees, wants to open a rice mill, he has to come all the way to Delhi and knock at the doors of the offices and even then there is no guarantee of his getting a permit. I would submit that this is not the right procedure. We cannot stop the progress of economic activity in this country on such grounds as employment and things like that. That is a wrong policy. There are cases where people wanted one man to pound rice in Haldwani, but could not employ him because he was demanding Rs. 5 per maund. So, people are

[Shri C. D. Pande]

not willing to engage them. Then how do you say there is rural unemployment? There are instances where even in agricultural fields we have to pay Rs. 2-3 for other agricultural activities. So, are you going to stop the establishment of mills in these areas?

In my opinion, a Bill of this type should have greater consideration at this stage at the hands of Parliament. This is a Bill which deals not only with the rice pounding industry but with the fundamental economic policies of our country. Therefore, any step that we take in this direction will have to keep in view the logical effect, which is restricting the grinding of wheat by mills in future. If this is adopted, I think there shall be no case left for not restricting the permits for wheat flour mills, not restricting the oil plants in future. You can even go a step further. If this is the way of finding employment, why don't you stop all the bus transport? Then people will take their burdens on their heads and there will be abundant of employment in this country. Therefore, these are not the considerations which we have to take into account. Of course, they are very important. I know that Shri Dwivedi and Shrimati Renu Chakravartty were very eloquent in defending the cause of employment. I can understand that. But I am equally anxious that things may not be made dearer. There is already a difference of Rs. 3 per maund between hand-pound rice and mill made rice. They have to pay Rs. 3 extra. An ordinary man has to pay Rs. 3 extra for this luxury. Ghani oil and hand-pound rice are luxuries.

Mr. Speaker: But they say that the hand-pound rice has greater quantity of vitamins.

Shri C. D. Pande: It is a luxury.

Mr. Speaker: What? Vitamins?

Shri C. D. Pande: Both. There are many people—I am also one of them—who would like to get nice Basumati hand-pounded rice. But the difficulty is in finding that rice. That difficulty is there, because people have to pay more for it and there are not enough number of pounders. At least in my own area, if you go to Haldwani or Dehra Dun, you will find that you have to pay Rs. 3/- for a hand-pounder.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): You must engage persons who are unemployed.

Shri C. D. Pande: That is the paradox. People say that there is a great deal of unemployment.

13.09 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

Yet, if you want to engage a man, you have to pay very high. There are areas where there is no unemployment in certain fields. There may be unemployment among the clerical workers. But there is no unemployment, as far as the agricultural labour is concerned. People have to pay Rs. 3-4 per day to get a labourer to work in the field. People do not get enough men for pounding rice. If you stop the further establishment of mills in this country, then what will happen?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should look to the Chair.

Shri C. D. Pande: It is only through you, Sir, that I want to address this House.

There is another side of it. There are about 30,000 mills in this country. They have invested some money and by your enthusiasm for introducing better employment avenues and getting more nutritious food you are presenting the opportunity of appreciating the value of those people who happened to come in the field earlier. Today, if a man is in

possession of a mill for which he has invested only Rs. 2,000/-, his mill becomes worth Rs. 3,000/- or Rs. 4,000/- tomorrow by the introduction of this Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member addresses to the right or to the left but never to the front.

Shri C. D. Pande: Then that mill gets appreciated value. Not only that, if he charges one rupee for pounding one maund of paddy, he will begin to charge Rs. 2/- from day after tomorrow. These are the things which are to be considered. It is very easy to say that we want more employment. Give employment where it is necessary but you should also see the consequences of such a hasty legislation on the economic life and on the possibility of getting the things that you need at reasonable price. Shri Dwivedy said about reasonable prices. Do you think that the prices will not increase? If the Government can assure me that there will be no increase in the price of hand-pound rice as compared to the mill-pound rice, then I am in favour of this measure.

My remedy for this is that you should restrict hand-pounding to such areas where the producer of rice consumes it, i.e., purely are the rural areas. Where the paddy has to pass (*Interruption*).

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Again it develops into a private conversation.

Shri C. D. Pande: Where that paddy has to pass through trade channels, this should not be done. There are difficulties of collecting grain. It is easier to collect paddy and then take it to the huller and go to the market. The process is very simple. But if you ask the people in every hut to pound the paddy into rice and then collect it and go to the market, the difference becomes much more. There are transport difficulties. There are difficulties of organisation. There are difficulties of finding employment. Then the question is

allied with other similar processes of economic activity, i.e., the grinding of wheat by hand and the crushing of oil by hand. If you are prepared to follow those steps in toto, it will obstruct all future expansion in machinery even for such things. They are not owned by big industrialists. Do not think that big industry is involved here. They are very small persons, but at the same time those small persons are also profiteers. They are profiteers and you are giving them additional scope for profiteering because if they are charging today one rupee a maund they will surely charge Rs. 2/- a maund tomorrow. What power is there in your hands to curb their rates? Then you have to follow it up by another step. You have to follow it up by saying that the rate of pounding should be Re. 1/- a maund. Then you have to enforce that. That brings in restrictions and harassment. Ultimately, it is corrupting. I therefore, through you, Sir, impress upon the Government that this measure should have greater consideration at the hands of this House and it should be considered in all its implications along with such similar issues. Therefore, this Bill should go to a Select Committee and no decision should be arrived at now.

Shri Achar (Mangalore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this measure and while doing so, I regret very much that the speaker just before me, I am afraid, did not fully understand the scope of the sections.

Pandit K. C. Sharma (Hapur): He refuses to understand.

Shri Achar: No doubt, he also seems to support that hand-pounding must be encouraged as against the mill industry. At the same time he seems to think that unless these mills are established, we cannot get cheap rice. That seems to be the main argument of my hon. friend. I am entirely in favour of hand-pounding and I would also submit that the Bill also supports that aspect of the question.

[Shri Achar]

No doubt, the broader aspects and the broader economic problem has been introduced in it. The hand industry as against the mill industry and even *ambar charkha* as against the textile industry and all these controversies have, no doubt, been introduced into this discussion. But, I would submit that so far as this Bill is concerned, I see no reason whatsoever why such a big economic controversy has been introduced. If we read sub-section 3 of section 5, the real object of the Bill becomes clear. Of course, some provision is made that licences should be introduced. I say, that is exactly in the interests of the hand-pounding industry. That is made very clear by sub-section 3—I am referring to section 5. That reads:

"If, on receipt of any such application for the grant of a permit, the Central Government is of opinion that it is necessary so to do for ensuring adequate supply of rice, it may, subject to provisions of sub-section (4) and sub-section (5), grant the permit specifying therein the period within which the mill is to be established...."

So, the essential condition that I find from this section is that the Government must come to the conclusion that it is necessary so to do for ensuring adequate supply of rice. It is made quite clear that the Government should come to the conclusion that the establishment of a mill is necessary. Only when the Government comes to that conclusion, then alone a licence should be issued.

I fully agree with our hon. friends who supported that in case the hand-pounding industry cannot cope with the production of rice, this should be done. That we can understand. But, what exactly is the position in our country as a whole. I come from an area where rice is produced. What I find in practical life is that there is a

very keen competition going on between this hand-pounding industry and the mill-owners. In fact, even before the crops are reaped and the paddy gets ready, we find the agents of these big mill-owners watching almost near the field. There is such a keen competition. They want to carry away the paddy. Of course, it does happen that so far as the farmers are concerned, they are needy and for the purpose of having some temporary advantage they part with their crop. What is the result? I would submit that, except probably in very thickly populated areas or in areas where the fields are situated very near the towns, so far as the villages are concerned a good portion of the agricultural population, specially the labourers, practically depend to a considerable extent on this industry. Almost every day we can find, specially in backward areas, where rice is produced—it is not that this pounding is an industry, it is rather an employment—it is of the utmost importance so far as the villagers are concerned. So, I would submit—I would have even wished—that new licences should not be granted at all. I would have gone to that extent. But my hon. friend, Shri Pande, who, I find, is smiling from a distance, probably thinks that there would not be any rice at all.

Shri C. D. Pande: There will be rice but at a higher price.

Shri Achar: It is not a question of not having at all. He says about price. So far as that is concerned, that, no doubt, is.

Shri C. D. Pande: The price for mill rice will be higher.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I thought distance would be a check against mutual talking.

Shri Achar: No doubt, it is a very big economic question. How far should we allow these big industries to destroy our smaller, more or less,

hand labour. Of course, in our history we have learnt how our cotton had to be exported to Manchester and from there we had to get cloth. From a broader point of view, whether we should encourage only the bigger industries and whether our small hand industries should go to the wall, is a bigger problem. As the previous speaker mentioned, it is a problem which is probably just like the problem between khadi, the charkha and the mill industry. It is a big problem, but at the same time we have to realise this aspect of the question. No doubt mill cloth can be cheaper, but how is it then that we are encouraging the khadi industry? The principle so far as that is concerned is that it is not only a question of production but of employment.

Shri C. D. Pande: It is subsidised.

Shri Achar: On this question we may not agree. So there would be no purpose in pursuing it. At least a considerable section among us support the khadi industry as against the mill industry. That does not mean that we want to support it entirely. Then we cannot get on. Nobody goes to that extent. But we want to encourage it to the extent that it gives employment to the villagers, and so we feel that the khadi industry, the charkha, the Amber Charkha must be encouraged.

If we look at it from the same point of view so far as this production of rice by hand labour is concerned, that also stands more or less on the same footing. Government should probably even go to the extent of subsidising it. I would have gone even to the extent of saying that no licences should be issued at all unless—I will put it the other way—unless the Government come to the conclusion that it is absolutely necessary. That is, the usual course should be, no licences; but licences should be granted if the Government comes to the conclusion that in a particular area, unless licence is granted the rice cannot be pro-

duced and there might be stocks of paddy lying, etc.

So, I welcome this measure and without repeating what has been said by the other Members, I support it.

Shri Supakar (Sambalpur): I think that this Bill is a retrograde (13-22) measure in more sense than one. Although the Deputy Minister has said that this Bill is based on the recommendations of the Rice Milling Committee and the Karve Committee, I feel that this Bill has ignored the principal and the vital recommendations of those Committees and has not taken into consideration the undesirable consequences that the passing of this Bill is likely to result.

First of all, I will refer you, Sir, to some of the recommendations of the Karve Committee, that is the Committee on Village and Small Scale Industries. I am referring to page 23 of that Report, paragraph 49, where it is definitely stated:

"Another matter to which attention will have to be directed is the method and procedure for licensing of plants which have a direct and vital bearing on the development of village and small scale industries. We recommend that powers to license plants for processing and other industries such as rice milling which affect the working of the programmes of development in the sector of village and small scale industries should be conferred on the State Governments."

And in the very same paragraph there is another recommendation:

"Licensing Committees at the Centre and in the States should give adequate representation to the interests of village and small scale industries."

Although that Committee in its wisdom has recommended that this matter, which principally relates to the States—Agriculture and Food—should best be left to the State authorities concerned, here we find that our

{Shri Supkar}

Government in many cases has been gradually encroaching upon spheres—although there is no bar under the Seventh Schedule of the Constitution as it falls in list III—which should best be left to the State authorities concerned. This is such a matter, and I feel that this is not the time nor the occasion when the Central Government should have come forward with a Bill which seeks to reserve for the Centre the control of the rice milling industry. And, as was pointed out, although it is declared in clause 2 of the Bill that “it is expedient in the public interest that the Union should take under its control the rice-milling industry”, no plausible or weighty reasons have been advanced as to why this control should be taken by the Government of India.

The second point which I want to emphasise is this, that it is the policy and the principle of the Government to decentralise our industries and to see that the employment potential of our country is not decreased. In a matter like this the establishment of more rice mills will certainly decrease the employment potential of the different areas in the States. And if the Central Government takes upon itself the burden of controlling the rice milling by granting licences, without considering the opinions of the State Governments or the different Khadi and Village Industries Boards in the States or the Ministries in the State which have the responsibility of developing village industries, I feel that the Central Government will be taking up a responsibility which it should not take upon itself.

Now, the scheme of the Bill is that certain licensing officers should be appointed by the Government of India. And the licensing officer is practically the final authority in considering the granting of licences and permits in the case of defunct and new rice mills, with the only exception that there is a provision for ap-

peals in clause 12. As the scheme stands, neither the State Government nor the Village Industries Boards which are functioning in most of the States have any say in the matter; and I wonder if an officer appointed by the Centre who knows very little of the local conditions will be in a position to judge, and judge in an equitable manner, how and where to grant these licences and where to withhold them.

I come from an area which is backward in the sense that there, the hand-pounding industry flourishes and it can compete with the rice-mill industry. I have a grave apprehension that if this Bill is passed and the Central Government is approached regarding the establishment of new rice-mills, the Central Government or the concerned licensing officers may not be in a position to judge the difficulties that may be felt by the people if a large number of licences for the opening of these rice mills are granted to the people. In this connection, I will again draw your attention and the attention of the Government to the recommendations of the Karve Committee which says in page 47, in para 106:

“We, therefore, recommend that new sheller or combined sheller-huller mills or huller mills or single hullers should not be allowed to be set up and no increase in production above the present level should be permitted during the plan period, except when handpounding cannot be organised: for example, when production in an area where labour is scarce has to be augmented quickly or supply to a new industrial area has to be arranged.”

I was listening to the argument of Shri C. D. Pande who was pleading for the case where adequate labour is not available and where it is more profitable to have mills than to get paddy handpounded. I am speaking

of those States and areas where hand-pounding can compete to a certain extent with the present bulk of mills. I feel that there is necessity for the Government to proceed with great caution. Although we find that there are certain restrictions put on the powers of the licensing officers under clause 5, I feel that the restrictions are not quite adequate. I feel that the Central Government should not take upon itself this onerous burden of getting new licences given for rice mills without consultation with the State Governments especially in those States like Bihar, Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and West Bengal, as was pointed by the first speaker Shrimati Renu Chakravartty, where a large number of persons are living on pounding rice.

In this connection, an argument may be advanced that this method of control of the rice-milling industry throughout the country is a method by which the Government can have an effective control on the price of rice and paddy. But, I think the reverse would be the case and that is my apprehension. Because, we see that in those areas where there are a large number of rice mills, the mill-owners are practically able to dictate the price of rice and paddy. In those areas, the poor cultivators have to sell their paddy at whatever price is dictated by the mill-owners and the mill-owners in their turn have a good bargaining power with the State Governments and therefore, they are in a position to dictate the prices of the most essential need of our country, namely rice which is the principal foodgrain of India. In that sense, not only in the interests of giving more employment to our population, but also in the interests of keeping the price of paddy and rice at a reasonable level, we should discourage as far as possible the introduction of more rice mills save and except in those places where it is impossible or difficult to have rice from paddy without the help of these mills. There-

fore, I feel that in the larger interests of the country, the Central Government should not be in any hurry whatsoever to rush through this Bill. They should take the opinion of the public, they should take the opinion of the State Governments and see that unless a larger part of the country is willing to have a legislation of this nature, they should not proceed with this Bill. If this Bill is passed, at least I would request the Government to make it incumbent on themselves to see that before any licence is granted, the opinion of the State Government and the Village Industries Boards, wherever they are functioning, should be given much more weight than the reasons advanced by the potential mill-owners. I feel that even if this Bill is passed, it should not come into force in the whole of India all at once. In those parts of the country where the handpounding industry is thriving, it should not be brought into force. It should be brought into force in those areas only in a State and only in those regions of the State where it is not possible to have rice from paddy through handpounding at a reasonable price for rice. We should restrict its operation to those States and to those areas where, as my hon. friend Shri C. D. Pandey said, it is not possible or not economical to have rice from paddy through pounding with hand or legs.

Shri Shree Narayan Das (Darbhanga): Any one who has any idea about the conditions prevailing in rural India will not object to the present measure, although the present measure is not sufficient to meet the situation. I do not know whether the Government, after having appointed the committee to enquire into the milling industry (rice, pulse and others), have not been able to accept a very large number of recommendations which the committee made.

The regulation of the rice milling industry, if these mills are to be continued, is, I think, essential because in these days if we do not regulate

[Shri Shree Narayan Das]

and control this type of industry. I think they will just go against the social interests or against the interests of those who have already been neglected, especially the agriculturists.

I have nothing much to say about this Bill, but I would like to say that the Government is not quite clear in its mind as to the policy that it will have to pursue.

The committee recommended that no further mills should be allowed and that the present capacity of the existing mills should not be expanded. Nothing has been said so far as to what is in the mind of the Government, although they have come before the House with this measure. That shows that they are ready to regulate but it does not show what is in the mind of the Government, whether they have accepted the recommendation of this committee that ordinarily no further permits will be given for the establishment of rice mills.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Unless absolutely essential.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: That is so, but when the time comes, I think the decisions would be made at the State level. Although this measure is going to empower the Central Government to regulate, all these powers will be just delegated to some of the State officers, and generally it is the State officers who will decide whether there is any necessity in a particular area or not. Therefore, this measure may prove ineffective. Therefore, before this measure was brought forward, I think the Government should have considered seriously the various recommendations, but I do not know why the Government of India, or rather, the various State Governments are working with divided minds, although the Planning Commission and the Governments realise that real India resides in the villages.

It has been mentioned in this report that 78.8 per cent of the agriculturists

who depend on agriculture have no subsidiary occupation. We have been stressing it and we have accepted it as a directive principle of State policy that every man has to be provided work in gainful employment, but we have not been even able to touch the fringe of the problem, especially in the rural areas.

Various measures have been adopted by the Government for the development and amelioration of the people of India, but the benefit of all these measures has gone mostly to the middle class people, or those who are in a better position. Although there has been some improvement in agriculture, that improvement has not led to the improvement in the condition of the agriculturists who are very poor, holding less than five acres of land or holding no land at all. Therefore, in the present condition I think it is criminal to allow the existing mills when 78 per cent of the people residing in rural India have no subsidiary occupation. They have occupation for only a few months in the year. In those areas where they have no irrigation facilities, there is only one crop in the year and so the agriculturists get employment for only four months in the year, and for eight months they are out of employment. Their economic condition can be very easily imagined. This is the only simple subsidiary occupation prevailing there.

When India was not free, everything was allowed, but as soon as India became independent, all these mills should have been closed. They should have been paid suitable compensation, they should not have been put to loss, but it was in the interests of the country or in the interests of 80 per cent of the people residing in rural India that all these rice mills should have been stopped. That was not done. Even after ten years the Government is not quite decided in its mind as to what to do.

There are some people here as well as elsewhere who say that a very large sum of money has been invested in this industry and that all these things will go to waste. Anything may go to waste, but there are large numbers of people who are being subjected to harassment, who do not get sufficient food, who are unemployed. We cannot provide them for a very long time with certain small-scale industries that will provide them with occupation. Even then, sitting here in Delhi or the capitals of the various States, all of us do not care for those people.

It is said that after introducing community projects in our country, the face of rural India is changing. The face of rural India may be changing in the reports.

Ch. Ranbir Singh (Rohtak): Is it so?

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Some of the villages might have been provided with libraries and some roads, but there is no change in the faces of the large number of people who reside there.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: The very noses and eyes have changed.

Shri Shree Narayan Das: Rather, they say that in the community project areas everything is being done for those who are rich, who possess big pieces of land. For the agriculturists or those who have not sufficient land or those who have no land, nothing has been done in the community project area. There has been some improvement, agricultural production might have increased and the peasants who hold land might have been benefited, but with the increase in production, there has been no increase in the wages of the agricultural labourers. Even medical facilities that are provided in the community project areas, the benefit mostly goes to those who are vocal, and the facilities of roads and other facilities do not go to bene-

fit the poor agriculturists. What is necessary either in the community project areas or elsewhere is that they should be provided with some gainful employment throughout the year. Therefore, this simple means of employment, namely handpounding, should be allowed to be continued in the villages.

It has been said that mill rice is cheaper than handpounded rice. Maybe, but the rice mills are generally situated in some small towns. In some of the villages, of course, there are rice mills. But, mostly, the paddy that is produced in the villages is transported to the mill areas, and after having been milled there, it comes back in the form of rice to the villages. At the same time, a large number of people remain without employment in those villages where paddy is grown. I think this is rather absurd. On the other hand, we find that the small number of people who are engaged in the rice milling industry have made money out of their business. I do not say that they should not be compensated; they should be compensated, but rice mills should be stopped.

Therefore, I would like to say that the Minister should see that the recommendations which have been made are fully implemented. In fact, Government have taken some decision on this aspect of the matter, and this measure is the result of that decision. But I would submit that this is not sufficient. This Bill should be passed, and I support it whole-heartedly, and I do not think there is any change to be made in it. But I would add that some provision should be made whereby co-operative hand-pounding that is going on at present may be encouraged. This aspect should also be considered while giving permission for the establishment of rice mills. The existing co-operative societies which are engaged in hand-pounding should also be given help.

[Shri Shree Narayan Das]

I do not know what the present position is, but there was a time when it was said that the nutritive value of mill rice was less than that of the hand-pounded rice; and it was also said that if a person continued to eat mill rice, it would give rise to a disease called beri-beri; and it was prevalent for some time, mostly in West Bengal, and in some other places also. Now, certain processes have, of course, been developed, by which this deficiency could be met. But I do not know whether there has been any success in these processes.

So, having the health of the people of our country in view, I think the rice milling industry should not be allowed to expand, and no further permits should be given except in exceptional cases. That should be the decision of Government. But that does not appear to be the case, from the present measure. I suggest that the various State Governments should be advised by the Central Government—in fact, some of the legislatures have also passed resolution—to ban the establishment of further rice mills.

I feel that the measures that are being taken by the Central and the State Governments are half-hearted measures. The gravity of the situation prevailing in rural India, especially, with regard to the problem of unemployment, is not being realised, and if it is not realised, it will result in a great upheaval. Because they are in scattered areas all over the country, and because there is no organisation for them just as in the case of factory labourers, the voice of our rural people is not being heard effectively. Here also, we who represent them have not adequately emphasised their interests. As I have already pointed out, about 78 per cent of our people residing in the rural areas are those who are engaged in agriculture; and they have got no gainful employment. Therefore, it is time that the Central Government took active steps

to see that the hand-pounding industry is allowed to continue, and no rice mills are allowed to be established, and further the promotion of any other cottage industries which can provide them with employment for the period when they are not engaged in agriculture is also pursued vigorously.

Already, in the community project areas, the impression is gaining ground that what the Government do is only for those who have got lands and who are rich; and so, the poor agricultural labourers are very much dissatisfied; and during the last elections, this dissatisfaction was exploited, and they were being misled. Although something is being done I think sufficient is not being done even in the community project areas for these people. Therefore, Government should see that some measures are taken in the community project areas which will go to help those who are landless agricultural labourers so that they may also get the benefit of these community projects. Even the educational facilities that are provided in the community project areas do not benefit them; their children do not go to school, and, therefore, they are not benefited by them. The result is that although expenditure is being incurred in the community project areas, most of the benefits go to those who are in a better position. So, I would strongly urge that attempts should be made by Government to see that in the rural areas, and especially, in the community project areas, some measures are taken which will go to the benefit of the agricultural labourers who are in large numbers and who are in a very bad position.

With these words, I support the measure. I hope Government will clearly state their policy with regard to such of the industries as stand in the way of giving fuller employment to those who live in the rural areas. Villages are the heart of India. Therefore, if the heart is not healthy, I

think the health of the whole country will go to dogs. Therefore, I suggest that Government should have in view the condition of the rural areas.

This measure is there to regulate, but the decision should be that no further permits should be given for the establishment of rice mills.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: I still find that there is a good number of hon. Members who want to speak, and some have made up their minds very late.

We have 5 hours for this Bill. We are taking up other business at 2-30 p.m. So, we have to go on with this Bill only up to 2-30 p.m. today. May I know the opinion or the pleasure of the House as to the time that we should allow for the general discussion and the time that should be reserved for the clause-by-clause consideration, for, I find that there are about twenty-five amendments, and some time may be taken on them also?

Some Hon. Members: 3 hours for the general discussion and 1 hour for the clause-by-clause consideration.

Shri Warior (Trichur): May I make a submission? Those who are not standing up during the general discussion are waiting for their chance during the second reading, because they have some amendments.

I hope they will not be neglected.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: They will get their chance. They will not be neglected.

First, we have to give chance to those who want to speak during the general discussion. May I have an idea of the number of hon. Members who want to speak? I find that is a good number. May I seek the guidance of the House as to how I should accommodate all of them?

Pandit K. C. Sharma: As you like.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: We have 5 hours for this Bill. We started at

about 12 noon. It is now 2 p.m. So, 3 hours still remain. Will $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours suffice for clause-by-clause consideration?

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): Even 1 hour is enough.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The second thing is that hon. Members should not take more than ten minutes each.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: That would be enough.

Shri Nanjappa (Nilgiris): The objects and reasons of this Bill are good. Therefore, I welcome this Bill.

Two committees have preceded this Bill, and they have widely toured all over the country, and they have arrived at some decisions. And this Bill has been brought forward on the basis of their recommendations. In my opinion, this measure is very good.

I had occasion to appear as a witness before one of these committees. Then, I submitted that legislation for preventing hullers was not necessary. I also said that no compulsion of any sort should be used for the use of hand-pounded rice. I had my own views about that, and I stated so in brief before that committee.

14 hrs.

Some of the Members have objected to this Bill being sponsored by the Central Government. But I welcome this Bill being sponsored by the Central Government, because as a municipal chairman and as a councillor for some length of time, my experience about rice milling has not at all been good. They violate even Municipal laws and any amount of harassment or punishment by the court and health department will not make them all right. They will offend all the rules, and yet they will go on with their own ways of doing things. Municipalities experience difficulty because local influence was brought to bear, and there was local favouritism

[Shri Nanjappa]

also. To work this Bill impartially, firmly and smoothly, the Centre should necessarily take up the responsibility.

Another important factor is that the Centre has got the responsibility of supplying food articles to the country; therefore, it controls the hulling business also. The object of the Bill, as I said, is to encourage hand-pounding and also thereby give employment to the rural population. It will also give employment to the urban population.

I have been accustomed to take hand-pounded rice for the past two decades and yet I am not able to influence my neighbours, nor even my brothers, though they get paddy as I do. The difficulty is that the smell of hand-pounded rice becomes a little bit different after 15 days or so. If you keep it more than a month, it becomes rancid in taste and the smell also differs. Therefore, the keeping quality of hand-pounded rice is very limited, whereas polished rice can be kept for a longer duration. So in the case of polished rice, the quality of storage is there.

Another reason why people take to polished rice is that it is very nice to look at, soft to touch and also very palatable. On the other hand, unpolished rice is very rough, unsightly, not easy to cook and also not easy to digest. Even in Delhi, I have been consuming hand-pounded rice, and from experience I can say that the ordinary man won't take to hand-pounded rice for the reasons I have cited.

One advantage which Government should take notice of is that people who consume hand-pounded rice take less of rice. There is a good lot of saving. People who watch us will certainly say that we save a third of what we would have consumed if we had taken to polished rice. But I will say that there is roughly a saving of one-fifth. Even the size of the grain

is bigger; you cannot consume as much quantity of it as the polished rice; then it is more nutritive and you do not require as much as the polished rice.

I have already said that it is a little bit indigestible. People used to say that they feel some discomfort in the stomach after an hour or so of a meal with hand-pounded rice. But people who are accustomed to it—my family is accustomed to it—do not have that trouble. People who take it for the first time may feel some discomfort for a few days. But it takes a long time to cook it; also one has to take some time in eating it, not like polished rice which can be gulped down. Very often, I think that may not be possible.

As regards the use of polished rice, I have been to Wardha where we were all supplied with polished rice. I asked the Secretary why in a place like Wardha they should supply polished rice. He told me that it was impossible to feed 700 to 800 people per time with hand-pounded rice. So even in a place like Wardha, when they have to feed large numbers of people, it is not possible to supply hand-pounded rice.

In many places, some individuals and co-operative societies have tried supplying people with hand-pounded rice. After some time, they did not get the necessary co-operation from the public. So they have had to close down their business once for all and there ended the matter.

The object of the Bill is very good. What I would suggest is that it is impracticable to close down these hullers or shellers, as they call them. Government can do one thing: they can close the hullers because they polish rice to too bad an extent; they can instead have shellers. That is the thing to be encouraged. So in place of hullers, they can have shellers that will be supplying good rice to the people.

The Government, especially the Central Government, supply rice. They must see that they supply only 'shelled' rice and not rice pounded by hullers.

As regards punishment, I have already said that any amount of punishment does not have much effect upon these people. Still, the punishment must be there to act as a deterrent. The people who administer the law may not use these punishments very often, but they must see that the real object of the Bill is carried out.

Shri Balasaheb Patil (Miraj): So far as the provision regarding encroachment upon the powers of State legislatures is concerned, I must say at this stage that this problem of the rice milling industry and control thereof should be tackled by the Centre only and not by the States. I say this because this problem has two sides. First of all, we have to put a check on this industry. Secondly, we have to find new avenues for hand-pounding and the labour thereof. Therefore, there is necessity for a uniform policy for the whole of India. Secondly, there is another feature concerning the rice milling industry. Certain States are rice producing States. Suppose there is a deficiency of rice in one of the States. Then it is the duty of the Central Government to supply rice to that State. From that point of view also, this power that is taken under this legislation must be taken by the Centre.

Thirdly, in this legislation, we have some glimpse of the policy towards tackling the labour problem. From this point of view also, power has been rightly taken by the Centre.

So far as the power of the State Governments is concerned, there is one clause, clause 19, wherein it has been definitely stated that the Central Government may, by notified order, give the powers under this Act to be exercised by such State Governments or such officers or authority subordi-

nate to State Governments, as may be specified in the direction.

When this assurance is there, I hope the Central Government, in the execution of this Act, will give power to the State Government in respect of appointing the licencing authority and in regard to the policy towards permits and licences. If these things are taken care of, I do not think there is much of encroachment on the powers of the State Governments.

Looking to the provisions of this Bill, it is, I think, for the first time that we have a unique wording in clause 2. Ordinarily, in laws or enactments or Bills, we do not have such a type of clause. There is a declaration and the declaration is made in public interest. And what is that declaration? That it should take under its control the rice-milling industry.

What I feel is this. So far as this Bill is concerned, this Government has a vacillating mind. First of all, it wants to curb the private sector to a certain extent at least; and, secondly it wants to make a show that some provisions advantageous to the hand-pounding labour. The Government must, first of all, make it sure that this Bill has been brought forward in public interest. But, what I find is that much has been given to the private interest and not to the public interest, as in clauses 5 and 6.

Clause 5 says that there shall be permits. Clause 6 says that there shall be licences. Further, there is clause 18 which gives power to the Central Government. It says that if the Central Government is of opinion, having regard to the necessity for ensuring an adequate supply of rice in any area, it would not be in public interest, then certain provisions of this Act shall not apply. That means that the Central Government wants to give life to the defunct mills; and, secondly, it is going to give licences to those rice mills; and, thirdly, it is going to give new licences.

[Shri Balasaheb Patil]

From the recommendations of the report of the Enquiry Committee I find that the rice-milling industry has taken nearly Rs. 45 crores that would ordinarily have gone to the labour in the hand-pounding industry. It is also a fact that if we take the capacity of the rice milling industry, so far as the mills are concerned, those that are in working condition and those that are defunct are sufficient for the present for the requirements of India. With these things taken together, there is no need to give new licences. This point has been raised by certain of my hon. friends here. But the fact is, there is a provision to give new licences under certain circumstances. I feel that it is giving some advantage to the private sector and not to public interest.

Looking to the provisions regarding the machinery that is created by this Bill, what I feel is that the Central Government is going to give permits under clause 5 and the licences are to be given by the subordinates of the Central Government—that is, power is given to the subordinates. When the permit is to be given, the person has to make an application to the Central Government. Afterwards he has to make an application to the licensing authority. Whether a person will get the licence or when he will get it, we do not know.

The next thing that I find is that Government is given so much of judicial powers. If Government wants to give certain limited protection to the private sector, then, at least in the sphere of that protection, it should not take upon itself the powers of the judiciary. The executive authority has the power to grant licences. It has got the power to hear appeals in certain cases. In certain other cases, I find, it is the Central Government that has to take the decision and its decision shall be final. There are some provisions to that effect also.

I have seen the working of such provisions. If a private person has a grievance about the granting of licence and there be a dispute whether the capacity is raised or a new thing has been added to the mill which has increased the capacity, the question has to be agitated to the Central Government. Supposing a person who has a rice mill comes to the Centre in appeal, who hears the thing? It is some Secretary to Government, working in the Secretariat. Once, while I was trying to argue a case before the Secretary he was looking to his files, speaking to somebody or speaking to some person through the phone. Therefore, I did not know whether he heard me and I did not know whether I had to begin afresh. That is the sort of experience. In spite of this, under this Bill, the matter should come to the Central Government. This is something unique and should not be allowed.

At this stage itself, Government should declare what advantage would be given to the hand-pounding industry.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member should conclude.

Shri Balasaheb Patil: I shall conclude in a minute.

Government should also declare what advantage will be given to the rice mills.

The Central Government has been given some delegation of power and it is the most important power. This is in clause 22. The form of application for the grant of a permit, the manner in which investigation is to be made, the matters to be gone into in granting or refusing a permit are questions of policy and not a question of procedure, and administration. Whether licences ought to be given or not and under what circumstances is to be decided by this House and not by Government. Therefore this delegation of power in clause 22 to the Government should not be done.

Shri Dasappa (Bangalore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, while I generally welcome the Bill that is under consideration, I wish to support strongly the motion made by my hon. friend, **Shri Guha** for referring this Bill to a Select Committee for consideration in greater detail in the light of the various criticisms and suggestions made by hon. Members in this House and also such other matters as naturally would come under detailed consideration at that stage.

I have always said that normally, reference to a Select Committee should be the rule and non-reference to Select Committee should be an exception. Supposing this Bill had been brought forward during the earlier part of this Session and a Select Committee was formed which could have been asked to report to this House before a certain date even during the continuance of this Session, nothing would have been lost. I have said this, not for the first time; and I want to repeat it in as strong a manner as possible for the consideration of Government. I can see no reason, no excuse on the part of the Government why they should not accept this suggestion and act, on it.

This is by no means an emergency measure. A committee for this very purpose was constituted some time in 1954, October. I think, judging from the magnitude of the work, the committee submitted its report within a fairly short time; that is to say, in June 1955. From June 1955 till July 1957—for two years—Government very conveniently slept over the matter. I see no indication of any action taken. It was a committee composed of officials. I do not think the hon. Deputy Minister will deny it. It was a practically unanimous report yet the Government took such a long time to come to a decision and make up its mind. Is this the way of treating a report of that type and meeting the desires of the Members of Parliament? Having considered the recommenda-

tions of this committee and having come to certain decisions, having chosen to accept some recommendations and reject some others, they have after a long time come forward with a measure. If at least this measure had incorporated in it the recommendations which they chose to accept, that would show some consistency. But they have not chosen to do so.

In para 7 of the Resolution on this report issued on the 13th of July, 1957, they say:

"The Government are taking appropriate steps to implement these decisions, and fresh legislation, where necessary, will shortly, be undertaken"

The 'shortly' of it is about 9-10 months.

Now, in sub-para 6(b) they say:

"No new mill should be allowed to be set up and no expansion of the existing capacity of the mills be permitted unless the State Government concerned is satisfied that it is necessary to do so for the purpose of ensuring adequate supplies. If in any case, it is decided by the State Government concerned to allow any new mills to be set up, preference should be given to sheller mills."

I would like the hon. Deputy Minister to point out where it is stated that the State Government will be consulted and action will be taken thereon. In the second place, where is it in the Bill that where a new mill has got to be licensed or permitted, preference should be given to sheller mills. My reading of the Bill may be very perfunctory or I may not have gone through the whole Bill. But I would like to be enlightened on this point. Where it is stated in the Bill that the sheller type would be preferred to the huller type? This matter was thoroughly discussed by the Committee. Mill is a larger unit involving bigger outlay.

Shri A. M. Thomas: I would refer my hon. friend to sub-clause (d) of clause 5.

Shri Dasappa: It reads:

"Whether the rice mill in respect of which a permit is applied for will be of the huller type, sheller type or combined sheller-huller type."

My hon. friend thinks that I have not read it. I have underlined it.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: He gave an indication that his reading might be perfunctory.

Shri Dasappa: I do not think that he has scored any point because I referred specifically to the word 'preference'. Where a new mill has got to be permitted, preference shall be shown to the sheller type. Even now I ask my hon. friend to show me where it is in the Bill.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Not just now.

Shri Dasappa: Now or at any time. Let him take his own time. That sub-clause merely says that due regard will be paid to whether the rice mill in respect of a permit is applied for will be of the huller type, sheller type or combined sheller-huller type. There is no preference given to any type. I was referring to this fact. The huller type causes more damage to the rice than the sheller type and I do think the hon. Minister will deny it. The huller type is more interested in giving a nice polish taking away what is best in the rice, vitamin B in the bran, etc. and presenting it in as lovely a manner as possible. Whereas the sheller type does not choose to polish the rice until it gets on to the cone which gives the polish. It is a very clear demarcation and that is why the committee has recommended that no licence should be given to the huller type and that it should be done away with by a gradual process in the course of the

next five years. The recommendation of this committee was unanimous composed as it was of the officials.

I am not saying that Government should always accept anything and everything that a committee does. That is not my point. But what I say is this. Here was a clear direction which was accepted by the Government, that preference should be shown to the sheller type. This Bill which pretends to incorporate that accepted recommendation does not choose to do so. That is my complaint. That is one reason why it should go to the Select Committee.

I have so many other things to say. Even in the field of sugarcane mills, we find that where a new mill is to be permitted or sponsored, they say that it must be in the co-operative sector. If I want to start a new sugar mill, they do not readily give me permission. If I start on co-operative basis, they are willing to give me permission. In the case of powerlooms, the Kanungo Committee has said—I believe the Government also follows that same principle—that they will be given to people who are in the profession, namely weavers, provided they form a co-operative society. Perfectly right. I want to know whether this Bill ever thinks of co-operation in the case of hand-pounding or milling of rice. The Bill should have provided for these two most important things. As far as possible co-operative societies for hand-pounding of rice must be encouraged and only if it becomes absolutely indispensable and necessary there should be a mill. It should, even then, be of the sheller type on a comparative basis.

Now, I ask: what is the provision made here? Every man, every adventurer who has got a little money, can start a rice mill. That is pre-eminent—ly an industry which lends itself to be run on a co-operative basis. Get hold of all the paddy growers in a certain area and pool their resources

and let them start a co-operative rice mill. This Bill does not take that into consideration.

I have got any number of other points which I am afraid I have not got the time to deal with. The exemption under clause 18 practically neutralises or negatives the purpose of this Bill. You have power to exempt in special cases. Any number of exemptions could easily be given.

I submit that these are some of the vital matters if we are thinking of encouraging hand-pounding of rice and if we are thinking of having these rice mills only where absolutely necessary and inevitable. Therefore, I beg the hon. Minister to accept the amendment of my hon. friend, Shri Guha, to refer it to the Select Committee.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I very attentively listened to the speeches of my hon. friends, particularly the hon. Communist lady Member from Bengal. One thing I would like to say is, looking deeply into this legislation it seems to be ill-conceived and its objectives are not salutary.

The first question is about employment. My serious objection is that this type of labour is given in jails to the hard criminals—this pounding of rice. Do you think you can avoid the major problem of unemployment by putting women on this hard labour?

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The hon. Member feels very strongly on it; he may continue tomorrow.

Pandit K. C. Sharma: No, Sir. In the long range of evolution man and woman have become tender....

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Order, order. He may continue tomorrow. Shri V. P. Nayar may now raise the discussion.

SCIENTIFIC POLICY RESOLUTION

Shri V. P. Nayar (Quilon): Mr. Deputy-Speaker,.....

Shri Balasaheb Patil: Before he starts, Sir, I would like to point out that there is no quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: There is quorum, I think.

Shri Balasaheb Patil: No, Sir; four more Members are required to make the quorum.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: The bell is being rung.

There is quorum now. Shri Nayar may raise the discussion.

Shri V. P. Nayar: Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Scientific Policy Resolution of the Government of India dated the 4th March, 1958, laid on the Table of the House on the 13th March, 1958, be taken into consideration."

Sir, my object in raising this discussion is to focus the attention of the House on a matter of supreme importance for our country's future, namely, the necessity to pursue a correct and dynamic policy in regard to science and technology. The Scientific Policy Resolution of the 4th March is, indeed, very welcome, although I consider that it is belated. In 1948, when the Government of India came out with an Industrial Policy Resolution, it was about time that the Government of India came out with a policy like the one which they have now given to us.

After the 1948 resolution on industrial policy, we have had two Plans. They were drafted, discussed at length, debated and accepted as final. But we find that the Plans could not succeed to the extent desirable or to the extent we expected, because Government did not have a scientific policy on the basis of which they had to work the Plans. The result of that is, today, all over the country there is misuse of even the available talent in science and technology. There is not merely misuse, there is improper use also. It is not confined to one sphere only but it extends to all spheres; it

[Shri V. P. Nayar]

extends from the ministerial level down to the level of agricultural demonstrators. It happens in the Union Government as well as in the State Governments.

I shall give you, Sir, some examples. Take, for example, the case of Bengal, where the Chief Minister is one of the most eminent physicians of India—Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy. Unfortunately, he does not take over the portfolio of health. Again, Sir, in Bombay you find such an eminent physician as Dr. JIwaraj Mehta who does not want public health to be with him but takes over finance. In Madras, Dr. U. Krishna Rao who is a very eminent doctor happens to be the Speaker. Kerala happens to be an exception—the available doctor Member in the Assembly has been used as the Minister of Health. This happens right from the level of Ministers down to the level of agricultural inspectors and demonstrators. The agricultural demonstrators, who have had a fundamental training in agriculture, are today forced to keep records of chemical fertilisers which they give or statistics about the land in respect of cultivation of crops. Very little do they have to do with the real tillers of the soil, and very little do they advise them because there is no machinery. Such is the fate, Sir, that even in this context of development the system is such, the use of science and technology is such that it has not been possible for the Government to conserve and use all available talent, experience and resources for the betterment of our country. This is because, I feel, we do not have a firm, dynamic scientific policy to pursue. Therefore, it is all the more welcome that, at last, Government have come out with a policy.

Sir, this policy resolution is, indeed, very well worded. But I do not think that in the last paragraph—the operative provision which proclaims the aims and objects—it says anything which would suggest that Government are really aware of the magnitude of the problem.

We have had the misfortune in this country to see that scientists aspire for political posts. Very learned persons with long experience in research do not want to continue in their field but want to be principals of colleges, and once they become principals of colleges they have nothing again to do with research. It does not stop there. Then they want to be Vice-Chancellors, engineers want to be Secretaries to Government and agricultural experts want to be doing administrative jobs. There are many many examples, either at the Centre or at the State level. This, I submit, Sir, has to be prevented and, if we have any firm policy in the matter of scientific planning, we should try our best to utilise all the possible talent and experience of our men and women, gained so far by their work in the field of science, for the nation as a whole.

Sir, I submit that Government have not looked into this problem. The result is obvious. We have got our national institutions, the national laboratories. Even there is not the proper approach. I have visited some of them officially and some others in a private capacity. I had been to the Kharagpur Institute of Technology. I was really astonished when I heard from some of those in charge of the Institute that, so far even industries in the public sector do not refer their specific problems for solution to that Institute. I can quite well understand if the private sector in this country do not take advantage of that, but even Government run factories like the Machine Tools Factory, the Bharat Electronic Works or some other factories do not refer their complicated problems for solution to that Institute. They know that in the Kharagpur Institute of Technology there are facilities for higher research in certain subjects which are wanted. I asked a specific question whether the Railways had referred the matter of finding out a solution for cheap refrigeration facilities in order that it may be possible for our country to move

perishable goods in refrigerated vans at cheaper cost. I was surprised to learn that the problem was not referred to it.

I do not want to go into the details, because I have many of them. It is not necessary, either; because, I only want to impress this point that, although we have our national laboratories and in them we have far exceeded the quantum of necessary window-dressing though in a rather lackadaisical way, I am afraid, the proper approach is not made. Take, for instance, the case of division of subjects for research. I do not want to discuss the merit of fundamental research as against research in applied science, because it will be too theoretical. I do not for a moment wish that we should not do fundamental research. It is necessary—that is obvious. But in the matter of research in applied science, I do not understand why the subject should be so chosen as if they have necessarily to conform to the list of Seventh Schedule in the Constitution, why there should be a distinction between State subject and Central Subject. In this session you will remember, Sir, that I had asked some questions about some of the very essential works which could be taken on hand. I am making pointed reference to the case of cashew-shell oil, for instance. Cashew-shell oil is a very useful material, as a raw material for the plastic industry for which there is great scope. I am told in answer that if the Kerala Government submits a scheme, the Centre will subsidise it. Where is the national laboratory there? Just because the cashew tree grows in abundance in Kerala, are we to be told that the Kerala University or the Kerala Government should have a separate research scheme? The product of that industry is vital to the whole of the nation.

Take again the case of lemon-grass oil. We know that lemon-grass oil is today exported for the synthesis of vitamins and also for the extraction of some aromatic chemicals and iron ore.

Why is it that we do not have a process of developing it? You will remember, Sir, that when you were in the Chair sometime ago we raised the discussion here on anti-oxidants. Later on I was told that anti-oxidants are required to the tune of Rs. 65 lakhs to Rs. 70 lakhs, and it is required very badly for certain industries like the rubber industry, the vegetable oil industry and the leather industry and the like. Here, in the Pusa Institute, the anti-oxidant scheme from a very, very cheap raw material, a plant growing in a wild condition in the forests of Kerala, has been worked out to the last detail. When I asked what is the chance of commercial exploitation and the necessary research for that, I was told that it is open to the Kerala University to submit a scheme. Therefore, I say that even in the matter of work which is necessary for the whole nation, the subjects are chosen in such a way that it is impossible for us to pursue our point of view in regard to this matter.

I would also refer in particular to another aspect. We say that we have before us the goal of ushering in a socialist pattern of society. I am glad that Shri Humayun Kabir is here, because later on I shall quote from his own report. What is the way in which we are functioning? Have we made necessary changes to the system of our education giving a place of pre-dominance to science in this country? The result is that today, chemistry graduates, physics graduates with first-class, and graduates with distinction in biology—they all have the misfortune to work as, and search for employment as, lower division clerks, as stenographers, as typists and even as conductors in buses. This is the position of our country. In this context, when a policy is laid down, we must also take into account the mistakes we have committed in the past and try to avoid them in future.

By reading the resolution, at any rate I am not competent to understand it in full. I do not believe that the

[Shri V. P. Nayyar]

scientific policy, as you find in the resolution, really means that we are going to change the system of our education into which can be fitted these schemes and the plans according to this policy. I do not find any particular encouragement, and higher science today remains as a preserve for the few. I was reading the very illuminating report of my hon. friend Shri Humayun Kabir after he led a team to the Soviet Union and therein he says that education in the Soviet Union places a pronounced emphasis on science. What is our plan to place a pronounced emphasis on science in the matter of our educational institutions? I do not see any, because we have not devided even on the various courses of education. Later on in the report he gives certain figures which are very revealing and which show the difference between the development of science in a capitalist society and the development of science in a socialist society. If we say that we want to go the socialist way, there is no getting away from the fact that we have to develop our science also on that basis. We cannot hope to go forward to socialism developing our science, technology and everything on the basis of a capitalist society as it appears to be done.

Shri Humayun Kabir compares the figures of the USSR and the USA and says that by 1960 USSR will have 100,000 graduates whose qualifications can be equated with the bachelor's degree in the United Kingdom, while, at the same time, the United States of America will have only 38,000. Knowing this, it is no wonder for us to find out that in the race or competition in science, it has been possible for socialist science to launch the first satellite and place it in its orbit. We want our science to be more broad-based. We want every young man and woman, every boy and girl, in this country first to think that it is his or her duty to be a scientist, an engineer or a technologist, so that he or she may contribute his or her share in the construction and production in our country.

I do not propose to go into details. I would only urge upon the Government to consider whether it is not time that we sat together, that we assessed the drawbacks we have so far had and we took into account the defects which are patent from the way in which we are using our available talent and also found out the necessary means by which we can use all the experience we have gained in these years.

I would also seriously suggest to the hon. Minister that it is time that a conference of scientists was called. I do not refer to the particular conference we are having every year—the Science Congress—but I want the Government to consider whether it is not time that a conference of representative scientists should be called for and asked to study and report on the needs and problems of our country, and then try and find out whether this policy by itself, as it is worded today and presented before the House, will be enough. I want to impress again on the Government that I am not opposing it. On the other hand, I welcome this resolution, and I am glad that the House has got an opportunity for the discussion of such a very important matter.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Motion moved:

"That the Scientific Policy Resolution of the Government of India dated the 4th March, 1958, laid on the Table of the House on the 13th March, 1958, be taken into consideration."

Shri Goray (Poona): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this opportunity, because in my opinion, the scientific policy resolution that has been placed before us is a landmark in our history. When we look back, we find that very little attention was bestowed on science during the last 2,000 years in this land. The general attitude was that this universe around us was an illusion. Today, I am reminded of the famous lines in Sanskrit:

यस्मिन्निदं जगम रोषमशेष मृतौ ।

रज्ज्वां भुजंगम इव प्रतिभासितं वै ॥

Just as a rope creates the illusion of a serpent and a man is misled by it, this whole universe is not real; it is only an illusion. Having come to that conclusion, naturally, we considered that to go into the causes and effects of these surroundings of the material world was only a futile effort, a futile pursuit. The intelligent and the wise people having withdrawn from this pursuit, the quacks and the charlatans had their day and that is why even today, when we are thinking in terms of this scientific policy resolution, we find lakhs of our people gathering for the Kumbh Mela and the solar eclipse.

I welcome this resolution because I think that this is the expression of our resolve that we are registering a break from this tradition of irrational and unscientific thinking. I was very glad to read that the heart of the matter was expressed in these very convincing words in the second paragraph of this resolution:

"The dominating feature of the contemporary world is the intense cultivation of science on a large scale, and its application to meet a country's requirements. It is this, which, for the first time in man's history, has given the common man in countries advanced in science a standard of living and social and cultural amenities, which were once confined to a very small privileged minority of the population.

Science has led to the growth and diffusion of culture to an extent never possible before. It has not only radically altered man's material environment, but, what is of still deeper significance, it has provided new tools of thought and has extended man's mental horizon. It has thus influenced even the basic values of life and given to civilization a new vitality and a new dynamism."

14:51 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]:

We find these sentiments echoed in the second Five Year Plan dealing with scientific research and education. But the question is, having announced our policy as regards education and scientific research, what are we actually going to do?

The state of affairs as it exists today is not very encouraging. In the second Five Year Plan, we find that we have about 33 universities, 14 national laboratories functioning under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, 88 research institutes and research centres and 54 associations in the field of scientific and technological research. This is quite an imposing list, but if we try to find out how much money we are spending over it, we will have to admit that we are not devoting much of our money to the development of these vital problems of research and development of science. I do not want to quote figures, but if we compare the money that we are spending on various items, we shall have to admit that compared to what we are spending say on defence or other branches of the Government, what is going into the development of education and scientific research is very meagre. Only a couple of days back, we were discussing the report of the University Grants Commission. There we found that the total provision for the second Five Year Plan has been of the order of Rs. 27 crores. There also the Education Minister said that most probably all that money may not be forthcoming. So, that is a measure of the attention and care that we are bestowing on developing our educational and scientific research institutions.

Having said that, I would like to point out that as regards the scientific man-power that is available, we are not making very earnest efforts to develop it. Here I would refer to the Estimates Committee report for

[Shri Goray]

the year 1957-58 on technical education. They say:

"In respect of post-graduate course, the committee understand that there were only 94 students on the rool of the institute—i.e. the Kharagpur Institute—in the year 1957-58 as against the modified capacity of 600 seats."

You will find that provision was made for 600 seats, but only 94 students were there and the gap between the actual accommodation made and the students taking advantage of it was very big. Then, on page 6, they again point out:

"The Committee notice that during 1956, the number of students in each of the following post-graduate courses did not exceed a couple of students."

The table given there is very revealing and also discouraging: Transportation Highway Engineering—only 2 students; Technical Gas Reaction and High Pressure Technology—only 2 students; Machine Design—2 students; Applied Botany—1 student; Farm Machinery and Power—1 student; Industrial Physics—1 student; Meteorology—1 student. I do not know how this shortfall which is expected by the committee that was formed to look into the engineering personnel is going to be made good. They have warned us that by the end of the second Five Year Plan, there will be a shortfall of about 1,800 engineers, about 8,000 diploma-holders and so on. I do now know how we are going to train these personnel which we want very badly today for the proper development and fulfilment of our Plan. There is one more aspect to which my hon. friend just now referred and that is the non-use of the available talent that we have. He pointed out that many scientists are becoming politicians. I do not want to mention anybody by name but I would like to say that when we are thinking of expanding our scientific research and scientific work, we must see to it that these scientists are confined to

their work itself, that they are given the largest possible freedom and scope and that they are not sucked into this political vortex. I do not know whether all of them are tempted to enter politics, but I know this much that the top scientists are burdened with so much administrative work that they must be getting hardly any time to devote to their own work.

I do not know what the experience of people like Dr. Bhabha is. We say that he is one of our outstanding scientists and yet I am afraid he has to do so much other work, taking round eminent persons, visiting foreign countries, holding conferences and all that that I wonder how far he will be doing justice to the talents that he possesses. It is just like an Einstein being made the head of some technological institute and being asked to examine candidates, make appointments, file reports every week, just destroying the talent that he has. So, I would request the Government that if they really want that the scientists should devote all their energies to scientific research, they should be kept aloof from these things and they should be released from this burden.

The third point I would like to mention, which had been referred to last year by the Prime Minister as well as late Shri Tyabji, is this. They had pointed out that many of our eminent scientists who are abroad refuse to come back. I think their number runs into hundreds. I think something must be done and some sincere efforts made to get these people back. I think if we appealed to their patriotism and also assured them that they will get the pay they are getting abroad and the opportunities that they are given abroad, they will respond to our call and they will come back. So, I would suggest that first of all, the scientists that we have should be relieved from all the administrative burden; secondly, we should try to coach as many of our young men and women as possible as in the scientific pursuits and thirdly,

let us try to recall as many of our scientists back home as possible. These are the few things that I would like to place before this House for its consideration.

15 hrs.

Then the next point that I would like to stress is that this scientific attitude of mind must be cultivated from the very beginning. I recall, when I was in school I found that science at that time was not given any place of honour at all. The main things that they would concentrate on in high schools was Sanskrit or mathematics and a lot of time was given to English. English came first and Sanskrit and then mathematics, then a lot of history; geography was completely ignored and science lessons were completely neglected. They were not a subject for the SLC examination.

Now, this attitude will have to be changed and we shall have to see that love for science is inculcated in the minds of our young men and women from the very start, from the primary stage of education. This can be done by stressing not only the need of science but the beauty of science. Sometimes we take the attitude that science is only a useful subject. It is not so. When I am told by some eminent astronomer as to how the stars behave, how many stars are there, how many are yet to be discovered, what is a galaxy, what is the nebula, that appears to me to be more romantic, more full of adventure than a story of detectives and thieves. This sort of attitude will have to be cultivated in the minds of our young men and women if you want that they should take to science.

I would also point out that Universities can do a lot in this matter. I remember that when I was a member of the executive of the Poona University, we tried to argue with All India Radio that we would like to set up a radio station, not to broadcast light music or to broadcast some film music, but for some other noble purpose. We wanted that scientists,

historians, philosophers, economists etc. should speak on the radio and that knowledge should be broadcast to all the people who were not fortunate enough to attend the University. Of course, the request was duly turned down, and the All India Radio told us that because it happened to be a monopoly of the All India Radio, no University can be given a licence like that.

Now I would like to plead with you that Universities can do a lot in this matter they can arrange for extra-mural lectures, they can arrange for broadcasting to students, they can arrange for tours and all these things will be able to create a sense of scientific values.

I welcome the Scientific Policy Resolution, not only because it will make it possible for us to fulfil the Plan, but because it will bring about a change in the mentality of our people. I am very much disgusted when I find people still harbouring some age-old faiths, age-old attitudes which are contrary to the demands of the day. Therefore, when we want that the Scientific Policy Resolution should be adopted in this House, it is not enough to adopt it here. But it must be presented to the people, the outlook that it contains must be carried over to the people and a whole generation will have to be raised, which believes in the tenets which are incorporated in it. These are the observations that I wanted to make, and I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta-Central): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I welcome this Scientific Policy Resolution which has been placed before the House, and I welcome it even though I would have been happier if this kind of resolution had been formulated by Government earlier. It is a precisely-worded, suggestive and important document, and we are happy that now there is a definite statement by Government in regard to the harnessing of science to the task of reconstruction of life and society in this country.

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

It goes without saying that if we are going to have in our country a socialist form of society, we have to place the highest emphasis on the role of science. We learnt long long ago when there was nothing to change the view that good life is a life inspired by love of man for man. But, at the same time, it has to be guided by knowledge. Therefore, the employment of science for the re-making of man is something which is absolutely essential and it is without doubt the first premise of socialist construction. As my friend, Shri V. P. Nayar, stated earlier, it is no mean accident that a socialist country has blazed its trail into cosmic space, and we know very well that if the United States of America, which has made stupendous technological advance, had gone socialist, it would have produced miracles of achievements and there would have been no subordination of knowledge, which is power, to the individual self-interest and greed of particular individuals or groups, and the results would have been magnificent.

We are always happy that the Prime Minister himself takes great interest in the development of science in this country. He is a regular visitor to every session of the Indian Science Congress. And it is in the fitness of things that it was he himself who placed the Scientific Policy Resolution before our House.

I would like to say, to begin with, that even though I consider that the construction of a chain of national laboratories is one of the remarkable achievements of Government, at the same time, with all due respect, one can be impatient with the results so far achieved, as far as we know, by the national laboratories. I had occasion sometimes to find out certain facts, as they were reported to me, about the working of certain of the national laboratories, and it did appear that proprietary interests working by device methods were hampering the utilisation of many research finding,

particularly in the realm of petroleum and rubber industrial requirements. We had also heard about many of the grievances of the scientific personnel, but that is another aspect of the matter to which I hope to be able to come a little later.

I would like, therefore, Government to announce that they shall have a conference of scientific people, and perhaps also with a few sprinkling of lay personnel, who would review the work of the national laboratories in the light of the present needs of our Plan, as well as the needs of fundamental research. I feel this is very necessary and that I say with all respect to the work that is being done by our eminent scientists.

In regard to the jobs of day to day interest which remain to be done, I feel that the scientists of our country have a great deal to contribute in addition to what they have done so far, to the solution of some of our important problems. We have, for example, the problem of food and the Prime Minister has told us very often that by certain effort we can have an increase of the production of food in our country by as much as 25 per cent. My hon. friend, Shri Asoka Mehta, probably differs from that, and that for very understandable concrete reasons. But I am inclined to agree with the Prime Minister that if a certain emphasis is put on social and economic policies, as well as on the application of the results of technological research to the tasks of our food production, then we would not have to look abroad for the morsel of food for which our people so much endeavour with so much hopeless effort to fill their bellies.

I saw only the other day the report by an expert from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation, who is now attached to the Government of India as Adviser, Mr. F. B. Carbasier Weber. He toured the hills and plains of Assam to see for himself the present state of agri-horticultural

development in the State. He says, among other things, that out of 24 million acres of arable land available in Assam, only 25% was under cultivation. The whole food problem could be solved if all the cultivable land in Assam would be made to yield food crops. He says a great deal more. I know in another region, like the Sundarbans area in West Bengal, if only certain technological measures are adopted, which are particularly not difficult for our country to negotiate, I am sure we could have the granary of the north-eastern part of India in that area. But, I find that there is not that kind of purposive application of knowledge in order to achieve that kind of production in the realm of food without which the Plan will founder. All our prognostications about the future might end in something like despair.

Then, to turn towards the problem of health. We know now that at the moment a city like Calcutta, the largest in the country, is in the grip of a cholera epidemic. It is amazing that in the second half of the twentieth Century in a city which has been the second greatest city the British Empire of the past and is now the largest city in the Indian Union, we find a cholera epidemic raging. It does because the water supply, system of that city is so very defective. There is unfiltered water supply to augment the supply of filtered water and the result is contamination. Apart from that there are so many other causes—slums and all kinds of other things, but I need not refer to all that.

Small-pox again is another scourge with which we are accursed and if we only had, what my hon. friend, Shri Goray, said the scientific mentality and at the same time if we had the Government intervening effectively to help the people acquire that scientific mentality, then surely these avoidable scourges could be eliminated from our country. Actually, I find that research is largely discouraged in our country as far as medical work is concerned. Perhaps, something is

being done now in the Drug Research Institutes, but the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine, for example, which has been doing a great deal of work and is known all over South-East Asia for the very valuable contributions its research departments have made, is starved. I have talked to the Director of the Calcutta School of Tropical Medicine and he says that he is between two stools, the West Bengal Government and the Government of India, and neither has anything but a very step-motherly attitude towards that institution. We have not had a Lister or a Ronald Ross. We produced a Brahmachari or a very few people but we can hardly name very few people who made original contributions. We have superb surgeons. We have wonderful physicians. But they are too busy with their practice or administrative jobs. There are a few exceptions who command respect. I have nothing but the uttermost respect for them. But, by and large, on the whole as far as the picture of health is concerned, it is very dismal.

Then again we find that there was some expectation that the National Laboratories would do some jobs which would help the day to day life of our people. But as far as I know the most publicised product of the National Physical Laboratory has been the solar cooker. Perhaps fiasco will not be too harsh a word if we have to use a word in regard to this particular solar cooker. I do feel that so many other things could be done.

Only the other day I was looking at the journal *Kurukshetra* of April, 1958—last month's journal—and there is an article on cow dung gas plant. I remember the hon. Prime Minister saying some time ago something about our living still in the cow dung age. But actually it is a fact, as Dr. Bhabha has estimated, that 75% of the total energy requirements of our country comes from the burning of cattle dung. So, whatever the metaphorical implications of the cow dung age, practically speaking, cow dung is

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extremely important for our present purposes and we cannot overcome those purposes unless we make very special efforts. There are two conflicting aspects—burning cow dung for fuel purposes and using it for manuring of crops. These two purposes ought to be reconciled. For this purpose, I understand, for 17 years research has gone on and in 1954, there had come the design of a cheap and simply operated plant. I read here:

"The cost is about Rs. 350 for the installation of a plant sufficient for a family of five members. The idea is that it would be installed in the houses of farmers in twelve villages around Delhi."

This is a kind of thing which should not merely be a kind of kite flying specimen of oven. It should be pursued properly and after 17 years of labour surely something worth while, I hope, has turned out. This is something which would revolutionise the entire picture of life in our country.

Then, again the hon. Prime Minister had said that we live in bullock-cart age. In his many speeches he has said it. But it is a fact that we have these bullock carts. I had read somewhere some time ago that if we have rubber tyres attached to these bullock carts, then they would go much faster and the roads would not be rotted and ruined as quick as they are. Therefore something perhaps might be done about it. It does not require high-falutin research. It requires only a purposive application of knowledge to the facts of life.

Then, the hon. Prime Minister has been saying, which I have quoted with approbation in my humble fashion, about the P.W.D. mentality being shown by ministries in his Government. The other day talking about the University Grants Commission I referred to this matter. I find from the Budget papers that there is a low cost housing expert attached to the Education Ministry. Possibly there are many low cost housing experts

attached to the Works, Housing & Supply Ministry, but I do not quite know what they do. Hardly any progress has been made in finding out substitutes for steel and cement and I wish the hon. Prime Minister to say that we shall have for 20 years a moratorium on prestige building. There is no need for it. I was seeing the other day the mausoleum-like structures which are put up—the multi-storied buildings, which in this wonderfully sunny country of ours keep out the light. The inner recesses are gloomy and dark. There is air-conditioned comfort provided only for the fortunate few. We have no need for this kind of thing. Of course, occasionally we want permanent structures. But if in war time the British could construct all kinds of hospitals with very perishable material which would last ten years or more, why can't we have a scheme for 20 years or so, so that we have our schools and colleges and hospitals of some sort, not very well efficient and specialised hospitals perhaps, but at least workmanlike hospitals which could be housed in this kind of building?

Then, I refer to a matter, which, I hope, I would be forgiven for. The other day there was a question in the House on the 2nd April, 1958, when an hon. Member asked whether the recommendation of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for stopping immediately the practice of having night soil carried on heads in buckets and buckets has been pursued properly. And the answer was:

"Yes, the State Governments have been asked to submit schemes for the supply of hand-carts or wheelbarrows to scavengers employed by municipalities and other local bodies...."

and a princely sum of Rs. 39,000 has been sanctioned to the Government of Orissa for this purpose. I remember having read somewhere Acharya

Vinobha Bhave saying that if we are going to have a country which our people would think of as their very own, what are we going to do about them? What are we going to do about the lowliest of all? He talked about scavengers who still carry human excrement on their head. We are talking about scientific achievement. We are certainly proud of whatever scientific achievement is to the credit of Indians, but it is almost pathetic for us to talk about scientific achievement when this kind of thing happens and when the Government says, without turning a hair, that Rs. 39,000 have been sanctioned to the Government of Orissa, so that human beings might, perhaps some of them, be saved from the indigency of carrying the excrement of fellow human beings.

I feel, therefore, that first things should be put first. Surely, we want fundamental research. I shall be the first man to champion the cause of fundamental research. Any amount of money which Government needs for fundamental research would be granted by this House with the greatest willingness, but at the same time certain things should be done here and now. Science could help to perform the irksome errands of Indian humanity which has borne the burden of sorrow and toil for much too long, and they cannot do it much further.

Also, apart from the report of the Estimates Committee to which reference has been made and I shall not repeat it, in regard to geology for example, I read a report about what is happening in China, how the students, young men and women, are going round the country, and they are prospecting all over the place. They have a new enthusiasm; a kind of exhilaration has overtaken them. We want something of that spirit. I know that spirit cannot be manufactured just like that. But after all you have to make an effort. A plan cannot succeed unless we have the atmosphere in the country surcharged with inspiration, and our young men and women can go round and collect facts

which will help the Geological Survey. I know the Geological Survey of India is ridden with jealousies and suspicions, and I know at the same time that there is great doubt in regard to the technical competence of many people who are at the head of many of our scientific departments. But at the same time, if you want to change it, you have to try it from a different way and in a different fashion, and it is good that the Scientific Policy Resolution is suggesting something like a way out.

Some time ago in January this year, Professor P. C. Mahalanobis made a speech as President of the National Institute of Sciences, and he pointed out that engineers per million of the population were being turned out every year by the U.S.A. at the rate of 158, by the Soviet Union at the rate of 355, by the United Kingdom at the rate of 55, by China at the rate of 30.9 and by India only at the rate of 9.4. Now, this is a very very dismal picture which Professor Mahalanobis himself has drawn, and I wish the Prime Minister gives his mind to it and asks the Departments to sit up and do something about it.

The other day in answer to a question we found out that some 500 graduates and diploma-holders in engineering had their names enlisted on the employment exchange records. This is most amazing. We are told on so many occasions that engineers at least enjoy the opportunity of full employment. But here in this House we heard about 500 engineers, qualified engineers, being without a job.

Then again, in regard to Statistics which is the Prime Minister's particular pigeon, if I may put it that way, lately there has been a great deal of allegations about the lack of co-ordination—it is no worse than that—lack of co-ordination between the requirements of Government and the working of the Indian Statistical Institute. The publication of much of the work which was commissioned—and the charge was taken up by the Indian Statistical Institute—has not been done.

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We see also that the Statistical Institute workshop has imported equipment worth some two million rupees. But the report is—I am quoting from *The Statesman*, Calcutta edition of 11th April, 1958, a special report—the report is that this workshop in the Statistical Institute has not produced a machine since its inception. And the Institute pays more than Rs. 10 lakhs as rental for these machines. Now, machines to make machines are there and, according to this report, we are paying Rs. 10 lakhs every year as rental for these machines, but the machines which should have been built by those machines are not yet forthcoming.

There are many other things which could be said, but it is not necessary to do so.

The other day also, the Prime Minister told us in answer to a question in regard to the desirability of appointing Scientific Attaches or liaison Officers in our Embassies and establishments abroad, that there were not adequate people to man this kind of jobs. I found in *The Statesman*, Delhi edition of yesterday that the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has lately published a list of Indian scientists abroad. It is not complete, but even in the incomplete form it says that there are 77 scientists, 21 technologists and 143 engineers who are abroad. So I do not think it is shortage of personnel which prevents the appointment of Scientific Liaison Officers abroad. On the contrary, these people perhaps do not want to come home, because the prospects here are extremely bad. The prospects here are so bad—the pay conditions in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research are very unfortunate—that the grade of the Junior Scientific Assistant, who is an M. Sc, is lower than that of an Assistant who is mostly a Matriculate and who goes ahead and gets promotions more or less normally.

We find also that in the staff of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research there are many gaps

and lacunae which ought to be filled. There was a letter recently in the Press showing how officers high up in the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research are appointed who have no technical qualification whatever but who at the same time represent the C.S.I.R. in discussions, in seminars on metallurgy in Jamshedpur and such other places. I say, therefore, that there are many paradoxes in this country which we ought to resolve and remove.

There is one paradox which comes to my mind now, and that is that in most of the hospitals in our country—I can say with confidence about the City of Calcutta—in the hospitals they operate, but the operation theatres are not air-conditioned. You find eminent surgeons performing operation for three hours at a stretch, perspiring like anything, and it is not air-conditioned. But you go anywhere in Delhi or Calcutta or Bombay or any other place where the moneybags gather, and you find not only in government offices but also in private residences air-conditioning takes place. Now, where is the policy of the Government? When in the hospitals the operation theatres are not air-conditioned, why should this House be air-conditioned; why should so many other places in government establishments be air-conditioned; why should the residences of individual moneybags be allowed to be air-conditioned?

Sir, I am concluding in two minutes. I shall refer to a matter to which reference was made also by Shri Nayar and, I think, also by Shri Goray, that it is really unfortunate that many of our top scientists are becoming administrators. I do not know, Sir, why one of our very foremost scientists, who has only lately got a Fellowship of the Royal Society—he should have got it thirty years ago or more—I do not know why he should have been shunted off to be the Vice-Chancellor of a University where there is no facility at all for scientific research. It hap-

pens. The other scientist, the Indian scientist who has got a Fellowship of the Royal Society this year happens to be the Chairman of the Board of Secondary Education looking after the School Finals examinations! There is no point in this kind of thing. Maybe some scientists want administrative power. Maybe on occasions it is necessary for scientists also to be administrators. The Resolution says that a scientist should be given a certain status, they should participate in the formulation of policy. But by and large, the real scientist, the researching scientist, should not submerge himself in administration.

Sir, I am quoting from what was said by Dr. C. V. Raman the other day; he was felicitated in Bangalore on the eve of his departure to the Soviet Union to receive the Lenin Prize. He said, that in other countries men of science were working hard; without hard work nothing could be achieved. And then he said, "The one ambition of a man of science should be his loyalty to science to the last". Now, it should be said, of course, that one has to live and one has to carry on from day to day. Therefore, provide better facilities for the scientific worker, but do not let this idea get into the minds of our scholars and scientists that they would get as much money and as much administrative power as X or Y or Z. After all, money is no criterion as far as capability is concerned. There are other criteria, the judgment of one's fellows, the sense of devotion and dedication to the country. And if our scientists do not have that feeling, who else will? The scientists will have that feeling only when real provision is made for the betterment of the scientific personnel at different layers and when proper opportunity is given to it. At the same time let them not be duped and lured away from the realm of research to departmental desks and all that kind of thing. That is happening so very often that we ought to stop it.

I want to suggest that for purposes of better working of the Plan the

National Metallurgical Laboratory may be connected with the Steel, Mines and Fuel Ministry, the Laboratory for Leather may be linked up with the Commerce and Industry Ministry and the Laboratory for Ceramics may be linked up with that Ministry, so that you can divide it, so to speak. And the more theoretical Laboratories which do theoretical research work may be linked up with the C.S.I.R. Otherwise there is a great deal of delay which could be prevented.

I shall say in conclusion that a very delicate appreciation has been rendered to this country and a gesture of tribute has been made to this country by a great scientist, Prof. J. B. S. Haldane who has come to live in India. He is working in the Statistical Institute at Calcutta and he desires to become an Indian citizen. It is a great thing that such a scientist looks upon India as a sort of a hope of the world in a way and it is important that we try to reciprocate that gesture.

What Shri Goray said, I fully substantiate. There is a certain cheap transcendentalism which comes easily to us. I know that we all have great respect for our ancestors and for the sense of detachment which they gave us, we have very great appreciation and respect. There is no doubt about it. But, if that transcendentalism and sense of detachment comes a little too easily and we run away from the tasks of this world, that is certainly not interpreting the legacy of our past. What we usually do is, to place some flattering unition to our souls in order to defend ourselves against the chill blasts of misery and degradation. The temper of science, as the Resolution says here, adds to man's material power as well as extends his mental horizon. If we can get our children to develop that spirit of curiosity, to have that passion for knowledge and that devotion to the acquisition of knowledge which would become power to change the facts of life, then and then alone shall we be

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in a position to implement the provisions of our Plan and rebuild the country the way in which we all wish to do. That is why we welcome the Scientific Policy Resolution and we desire that positive and concrete efforts are taken to implement it in the proper spirit.

The Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs (Shri Humayun Kabir): Mr. Speaker, I am very glad to find that in spite of minor differences on details, all Members of this House have taken a national attitude towards what may be called a national Policy Resolution. Some hon. Members referred to the fact that this Resolution should have been passed many years ago. That is a matter on which there may be room for debate. In a way, this Resolution only states in clear and unambiguous terms the policies which have been adopted by the Government, at least since Independence. It is a fact that before 1947, even though we had scientific and technological institutions, there was no national policy about them. But, after the country became free, one of the first acts of Government was the appointment of the Scientific Man-power Committee in 1948. If I am not mistaken, this was the first time that a committee of this type was appointed in an Asian country. Perhaps I might go further and say, there are not many countries in the world which have a Scientific Man-power Committee to go into the question of scientific and technical personnel, to assess our requirements and frame a definite policy resolution as a result of such investigations.

The Scientific Policy Resolution which has been placed before the House by the Prime Minister on the 13th of March is also, if I am not mistaken, perhaps the first time that in any country, a definite policy resolution of this type has been placed on behalf of the Government before Parliament in order to indicate the attitude of the Government and the people of the country towards scientific progress.

I do not wish to enter into a detailed analysis of the various points which have been mentioned in the Resolution because the Resolution is clear and unambiguous. I would like to deal only with one or two points which have been raised by some hon. Members who spoke just now.

My hon. friend Shri Goray referred to the fact that in India we have always been transcendentalists. My hon. friend Shri H. N. Mukerjee has always veered from transcendentalism of one type to another and has probably been a mystic in many fields; he will remember the many occasions when we have discussed our mystic attitude towards things or the lack of it. He also referred to this easy way of avoiding the realities of life. I do not think it is quite correct to speak of India in this way. In the days of India's glory, there was a scientific attitude here. If I think of Agastya, one of the most eminent seers of this country,—

Shri Goray: I talked about the last 2000 years.

Shri Humayun Kabir: Agastya was not more 2000 years ago as far as we know. In any case, he was one of the most important figures of ancient India. The two things which we remember about him are what I would regard as two great engineering feats. One is the conquest of Vindhya by which I take it, nothing more is meant than the fact that he established communication between northern and southern India. The other is the drying up of the sea. He is supposed to have drunk the sea in Kerala. My hon. friends from Kerala will perhaps agree with me that when he drank up the sea, what he did was merely to drain the sea, and provide conditions in which Kerala became habitable for all our friends, those who agree with us and those who do not agree with us.

Generally, as hon. Members spoke, there were three points which they emphasised again and again. I found also a certain amount of inconsistency

in the approach of some hon. Members, and sometimes an inconsistency in the approach of the same hon. Member in different parts of his speech. The hon. Members said that our scientists should have nothing to do with administration, that they should be there merely to give advice when it is asked for. There is an old phrase whether the experts should be on tap or experts should be on top. If we want that our scientists should be there only to give advice when they are asked to give advice, I think we would miss the very spirit of the Scientific Policy Resolution. In the Scientific Policy Resolution, it is clearly laid down that we want our scientists in India not only to carry on researches as they must, if advances in science are to take place, but they must also have a share in the framing of policies on national life in all its dimensions. That is more necessary in the modern world where science is impinging upon life in so many different ways. Today science touches on life, opening out such opportunities that unless scientists are in touch with the different aspects of life, we may not always get the best possible results.

My hon. friend Shri H. N. Mukerjee also started with his distrust of the scientists being in charge of some of the departments but he also objected to the fact that in certain cases, some of the laboratories or some departments of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research are represented by people who are not scientists. First he wanted scientists to be aloof from administration, later on he said that the scientists must also have a say in the policy. How can you reconcile the two statements? If they have to have a say in the policy, a certain amount of administrative duties will be inescapable. If they take upon themselves a certain number of administrative duties, they will, to that extent, be helping to guide the researches of others, but they will themselves be probably

drawn away from their individual researches. But, this is a problem which is not peculiar to India. This is a problem which you find in all the advanced countries of the world today. A man like Dr. Oppenheimer had to be pulled out from the actual researches in which he was himself engaged in order to undertake a great military project during the last war. A man like Dr. Teller, again a great scientist, has recently been pulled out of his research laboratory in order to organise research for certain purposes. We may or may not approve of the purpose, but the fulfilment of the purpose demands the participation of the scientists. Take again some of the scientists of the Soviet Union. They have also administrative duties and they have very heavy responsibilities. One of the things that struck me when I visited that country was that most of the people at the top were experts in their own fields. If we want experts to run the administration, experts to shape the policy, we cannot avoid the kind of situation which is developing in this country, where a man like Prof. Satyen Bose may be called upon to look after the affairs of Viswa Bharati or a man like Dr. Bhabha may be called upon to organise scientific research and atomic research in this country.

I do not deny for a moment that the main job of the scientist is to carry on researches, to advance the frontiers of human knowledge and in this way add to the sum total of knowledge which has come to us from the preceding generations. At the same time, we have to recognise that in certain moments of national emergency, certain people are called to certain tasks and whether they like it or not, they have to fulfil these tasks. That is the phase through which we are passing in India today.

There were references by Shri V. P. Nayar to the fact that the national laboratories do not take up questions which are of immediate importance to

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life. My hon. friend Shri H. N. Mukerjee also referred to the fact that fundamental research has not been carried out as effectively as desirable and many problems still await solution. Now, he of all persons should know that in the matter of research, whether applied or fundamental, no one can lay down a time-table. Many people work and they work silently and they work through long years. Then suddenly the frontier breaks somewhere, and there is advance all along the line. It is in this way we get a new insight of truth, of knowledge and great results follow. It also very often happens that when there is a scientific discovery, we do not at first realise immediately the implications of that discovery. The practical implications may not be very clear to even the minds of the scientists. I would plead with my hon. friends opposite that if the laboratories have not always been able to give spectacular results, we have to be patient with them. We have to be patient with the scientists, we have to create the conditions and the atmosphere where they can carry on research and their work. If such an atmosphere is created and if they continue their endeavours with devotion and dedication, there is no reason why magnificent results should not be forthcoming.

Take some of the most advanced scientific countries of the West, or take the Soviet Union. They have been carrying on research for a long time, and yet till perhaps ten years ago, people used to say that they had not produced any great indigenous scientists of their own. They were depending upon the scientists who came to them from other countries. This is a thing which used to be said even of the USA. It is only in the last ten years or so that the USA has been producing indigenous scientists, scientists who are their own products.

Till recent years, they had depended very largely upon the work of scientists who came to the United States either from one of the European countries or some other part of the world. In the field of scientific research, it is simply not possible to lay down any specific time-table and to say that we must have results at a particular time. We can only create the conditions, and I would like to say that ever since the attainment of independence, the Government has been doing that all the time.

My hon. friend Shri Mukerjee made a reference to the personal interest which the Prime Minister has been taking in the matter of the development of science in this country. The Prime Minister has attended every single conference of the Indian Science Congress, and apart from that, his general interest has been an indication of the interest which the Government and the people take; and even more than that I think the fact of his constant and steady attention to scientific problems has attracted the attention of the many administrators all over the country and also of the public throughout the country to the importance of science as an instrument of national policy.

My hon. friend, I think it was Shri Mukerjee, asked: why is it that problems like the problem of food, the problem of health, the problem of dealing with some of the types of menial work which is degrading to human dignity, are not dealt with by the scientists? I would plead that all these things are being done. The Scientific Policy Resolution also lays down clearly that one of its purposes is to direct attention to such problems. Whatever deficiencies of various types there be, whether in raw materials or in skills, can be overcome by the training up of scientists, by the invention of new devices and by the manufacture of machines which may take away the stigma of degrading work. I have no doubt in my own mind that when scaveng-

ing becomes a completely mechanised process, when it is done completely by means of machines, a lot of the stigma which attaches to that profession today will automatically disappear. It will also become far better paid, so that economically and socially also the people who adopt a profession like that will occupy a much higher position. In all these matters, the Scientific Policy Resolution is merely an indication of the constant endeavour of the Government to attract the attention of the people to these problems, to these endeavours, to these efforts, by which this country is trying to overcome the gap, the deficiency, of thousands of years.

I would agree with my hon. friend Shri Goray that for the last 1,000 or 1,500 years our scientific progress has been inadequate. In fact, I have often felt that one of the reasons for many of our political, social and other ills was the loss or decay of the scientific spirit. At one time, the Indian spirit questioned everything. If we go through some of our ancient classics, one of the things which strikes us most vividly is the way pupils asked uncomfortable questions of teachers. There was nothing sacrosanct; everything was subject to enquiry, everything was subject to scrutiny, everything was subject to doubt. And yet, in the course of the last 1,000 or 1,500 years an attitude of mind grew up in this country where we forgot questioning, we forgot doubt, we forgot enquiry, and that resulted not only in decay of science, but led to ossification in social attitudes and led to deterioration in economic matters. The whole world went forward and we were left behind.

The Government, since independence, is naturally trying to overcome that gap, these handicaps, but we cannot expect that the deficiencies of thousands of years can be overcome in a mere ten years.

There were also references made to various kinds of shortages in per-

sonnel. I know and every Member of this House knows that we want more scientists, more engineers, more technologists. I would like to place before the House very briefly the efforts which are being made to overcome these shortages. I will give only one or two figures.

There were only 3,000 admissions a year to the engineering and technological courses in 1947. At present the number is 10,000 and the number will be about 13,000 by 1961. In the case of diplomates, not degree-holders, there were only 4,000 who had admission every year in 1947. The number today is 16,000. In ten years' time it has increased four-fold, and in 1961 it is expected to be 25,000. This is evidence of the effort that is being made. I am not for a moment suggesting that we have any reasons for complacency. With an expanding economy and the way in which science is entering into every sphere of our life, we shall be continuously needing more and more scientists and technologists. I would only say that steps are being taken to meet the need and assure that a scientific temper be created in the country.

Hon. Shri Goray said, or perhaps it was my hon. friend Shri V. P. Nayar, that science is not taught in the secondary stage. That was true in the past, but is no longer true. In the new courses which are being devised in Secondary Schools, general science is a compulsory subject.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I did not say so.

Shri Humayun Kabir: I must also confess I do not quite understand why Shri Goray objects to the instruction in mathematics. He seems to complain that mathematics, Sanskrit and English were the only subjects taught. I think English also is necessary and important for the advance of science in this country, but whatever be our attitude towards English, with regard to mathematics I simply do not understand why he had any objections or

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doubts. I think it is recognised on all hands that no science can advance without the application of mathematics. If today in India we have any one field where we want development and progress in a much more marked degree, it is the field of mathematics. If our mathematical equipment in all the different sciences and different faculties is improved, it will have an immediate impact on the general development of science.

I do not wish to take any longer the time of the House, especially as the Prime Minister will be dealing with the general questions of policy, but before I sit down, I would like to mention three things which I feel ought to be done and are being done as much as we can within the limitations under which we work.

The first is to advance fundamental research. Here I think all Members of this House will note with pride that some of our scientists have contributed to fundamental research in a manner which has brought not only honour to them individually but also brought honour to our country. They are in the forefront in physics, in mathematics, and in spite of the many disabilities under which this country has suffered, in the field of fundamental research this country has been among the progressive countries of the world.

The second thing is the question of applied research. A suggestion was made by my friend Shri Mukerjee that applied research is not sufficiently effective, and towards the end of his speech he suggested that this may perhaps be rectified if the different laboratories are attached to the different Ministries. I would suggest to him that every laboratory should have, and of course, has, very close relations with the Ministry with whose problems it deals. But, at the same time, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is there to co-ordinate research in the different departments. In the case of applied

research, co-ordination is of great importance, and of even greater importance in a country like ours because with our limited resources in manpower, in finances and in equipment and material, it is essential that there should be no duplication, there should be no wastage. Therefore, the laboratories have to be linked up with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research if there is to be co-ordinated advance all along the line.

Finally, I would agree with my friends Shri Goray, Shri Mukerjee and Shri Nayar that we ought to have a more widespread scientific outlook among the people.

Shri C. D. Pande (Naini Tal): He is a professor of history.

Shri Humayun Kabir: They are all professors in a way.

Shri V. P. Nayar: I am not.

Shri Humayun Kabir: You have been professing a lot, and we can give you the honorary title of a professor!

I was speaking of creating a scientific outlook among the people and the role *vigyan mandirs* can play. The purpose of these *vigyan mandirs* is to bring science within the reach of the common man. These *vigyan mandirs* are to be established in rural areas, in community project and national extension service areas so that not only certain scientific services are brought within the reach of the common villager, but more important still, these *vigyan mandirs* may help to develop a scientific outlook among the people.

I am glad to find that we are all agreed on fundamentals, in spite of minor differences here and there. Some of the criticisms were, if I may say so with all due respect, not fully informed. I have no time to go into the details, but some of the figures given by Shri Mukerjee were not quite accurate. If he went into the

figures in greater detail himself, he would have found out that the information he has is not reliable. But I will not go into those details at this stage.

I welcome the general support for the Scientific Policy Resolution, and I am sure that all sections of the House will unite in creating a temper in this country where scientists can work in an atmosphere of honour, dedication and service to the nation and the world.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): The purpose of the Scientific Policy Resolution is, firstly, to crystallise what attitude Government have towards scientific development; secondly, to focus the nation's attention on the importance of scientific research; thirdly, to affirm Government's determination as to the positive steps they will take for the acceleration of scientific development, and lastly, to assure the scientists that they will have an honoured and secured place in the country.

It has been my experience that often resolutions are placed before the legislatures, which are very well-worded, and very good in their intentions, but subsequently nothing is done to implement them. I do hope that this resolution will not go the way so many other resolutions have gone.

It is correct to focus the attention of the nation on the fact that while we are developing Ambar Charkha, our scientific development is not restricted to that; we understand that both Ambar Charkha and cow-dung fill a very important place in our economy, but at the same time, we are not unmindful of other sources of power and other aspects of industrial development. Therefore, Government state that our scientific policy will be to encourage science on all fronts.

In the various items as to what Government will do in order to foster, promote and sustain the cultivation of

science, we find some specific steps. Take, for instance, item (iv) which reads:

"to ensure that the creative talent of men and women is encouraged and finds full scope in scientific activity;"

The first point is that if you really desire to promote scientific development, you have got to hunt for scientific talent. It is futile to expect that you will discover somehow or other scientific talent without making a determined effort. For instance, when artists are sought to be discovered either for television or for broadcast or for the cinema industry, what actually happens? People go out hunting for them. I ask whether some such device cannot be created here, and whether a separate department cannot be created for finding out scientific talent in this country.

For example, during the war-time, it was very necessary to see whether, if there was any invention which was calculated to be useful for the promotion of the war, even if it was in any corner, it could not be discovered and harnessed to the service of the nation. What did Government do then? They created a committee which examined the scientific inventions of any citizen placed before it. The result was that thousands of useless suggestions were made, but out of those thousands of useless suggestions, tens of them emerged as really useful. It may be that we have got to devote too much time to discover talent. But when we discover talent, we shall find that it is really useful and worth the while to waste time on thousands of other proposals.

Suppose you find that there is a student who has a scientific trend of mind, and of outstanding talent. What happens to him? Today, he is crushed by the fact that he is poor. He has got no school fees to pay. And whatever his talent, he has no opportunity to pursue the trend of his mind that he naturally possesses. Why does Government not declare that in a

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college, where there are really capable students, ten or fifteen students, may be, who can be really developed into good scientists, the responsibility of maintaining, feeding, clothing, providing education and securing service for such people would be completely taken over by the State? If the parents are completely freed from that responsibility, I think you will get a large amount of talent, which otherwise goes to waste. It goes to waste because the parents are too poor to enable the boy to go in for higher education.

Let this matter be included in our scientific policy statement that wherever any student is found in any college, who has really a touch of that genius which scientists possess, the State will be completely responsible for his entire education, feeding, clothing, maintenance etc., and even secure him an employment after he has passed the necessary tests. Only if some such assurances are given, will you find that talent. Otherwise, how are you going to hunt for the talent; how is the progress going to be maintained unless you first discover the talent? So, I submit that this is a useful thing to which Government might pay some attention.

There is one point with regard to the policy, about which I am a bit doubtful. It says:

"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,....".

I do not quite agree there. Formulation of policies must necessarily remain the responsibility of those who are at the helm of the administration. If 'by associating scientists' merely means 'consulting the scientists' it is a different matter. But to give them a share in formulating policy, which is the responsibility of this House, or,

for the matter of that of the various legislatures, is, I am afraid, a bit going too far. Supposing you have scientists who tomorrow say, 'Yes, it is necessary that we should also manufacture atomic bombs,' are you going to permit them to influence your decisions? What I submit is that the scientists must be kept within their sphere of science only; and so far as formulation of policy is concerned, it must remain only the responsibility of Government.

We welcome this resolution, because it crystallises what Government have in mind with regard to the development of science. But, as I said, many good resolutions have remained unimplemented. I hope that this will not be one of those resolutions.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Mr. Speaker, Sir, may I say that I am very glad that some hon. Members have given this House an opportunity of discussing this matter by moving this motion?

Much has been said with which, I take it, there can be no disagreement in this House. Much has been said not really in relation to this resolution but rather in regard to the scientific...

Some Hon. Members: The Prime Minister is not audible.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Failure of science!

I shall now move near the other mike. Can you hear me now?

Hon. Members: Yes.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I was expressing my pleasure and gratification at the fact that this resolution has been brought up in this House to enable not only the House but also the country to think about this matter.

Why was this resolution produced by the Government of India? Some hon. Members have said that it should have been brought out long ago, and

have asked 'Why so late?' Some hon. Members seem to doubt the utility of this resolution, because it might be just empty words not to be followed up.

Well, first of all, as a resolution of Government, it probably is, as Shri Humayun Kabir has said, the first time that a Government has in a formal resolution attempted to declare its scientific policy.

16 hrs.

So far as we are concerned, it is not only a declaration for the future, but some kind of an attempt to put in words what we have been attempting to do in the past. Shri Humayun Kabir mentioned that as long as 1948, one of the first things that was done by the then Government was the appointment of a Scientific Manpower Committee. It is immaterial whether that Committee's labours were great or little. The point is that thought is being continuously applied to the idea of developing science, scientific research and the applications of science, and even more so, the scientific approach to problems. Also in 1947 to 1948, the plan of a large number of scientific institutes and laboratories grew up which has ultimately led to the chain of National Laboratories, about 14 or 15 of them, in addition to a number of big Institutes. So that what I should like to submit to the House is that from the very beginning of, not this particular Government, but the Government after independence, attention has been given to science and to the advancement of science, both research and its applications.

Now, it is easy on the one hand, to say that yet the results have not been so great as we had hoped them to be. On the other, it is easier to say that the results have been rather remarkable. It just depends on how you look at it, what your measuring rod is, how you compare. I believe, and I do not think it is empty praise, but very eminent scientists from abroad who have come here, have been considerably astonished at the rapid strides in

science that we have made in the last few years.

It is no good comparing what has been done in India with what has been done in the United States of America or in the Soviet Union or in the United Kingdom. They have a long background of scientific development. You must see where we started from; you must see, above all, that in India we have constantly to face in every problem, and perhaps more particularly in the development of science and technology, a kind of split personality, if you like, or a kind of a very mixed and contradictory approach to our problems, because, in fact, we live in conditions in this country which are terribly mixed. We live at one and the same time with the bullock-cart and with atomic energy; there is a gap of thousands of years between the two, and yet we have both; we live with every century surrounding us, not only in our external lives but in our minds. Professor Mukerjee might call it transcendentalism and some others might call it by some other word. Transcendentalism may be a very fine thing, and may be just superstition—it depends on how you look at it.

The point is that our living conditions, and even more so, our thinking conditions in India are a mixture, if I may say so, of the bullock-cart and atomic energy. We swing about from one to the other, and even those people who intellectually talk about science and about the modern developments of science etc., will, if I may say so, if you take them out of their research, their laboratories and their study, revert to the bullock-cart age! It is extraordinary, this double thinking, in all of us. I am not blaming anybody because our thinking is, after all, a product of the conditions in which we live; and the conditions are mixed.

It was in these conditions that we tried to push up science. Remember, science is not merely getting a machine and making it work. There are many of our industrialists—successful industrialists—who have got big factories.

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

They buy a machine, they buy a man to run the machine and the factory functions successfully. That does not mean that the owner of the factory has arrived at the scientific age or the industrial age. He only has got the knack to use somebody else's brain product to make money. That is all very well. He can do it. I have no objection to that. But that is development of neither science nor industry in the real sense.

If I may say so with all respect, many of us here on every side of the House are experienced politicians, experienced public men, experienced in many things, but probably are not so experienced in science, except what we gather from newspaper reading. Naturally most of the people are not, because we have not got that background.

Now, to develop science in a country like this is not an easy thing. People think mostly of the application of science. True. But you cannot have applications of science without a foundation and theory and research. Therefore, it is necessary always to have research, to give freedom to the scientist to do his research work and then to apply it.

There is one thing more. Reference has been made to the great development of science in the Soviet Union. We admire the great advance of science in the Soviet Union, just as we admire the development of science in the United States or in the United Kingdom or other countries. I would submit, Sir, that there is no such thing—the word was used; therefore, I am using it—there is no such thing as 'Soviet' science or 'American' science or 'British' science or 'Indian' science. There is science which may develop more in a country because of greater facilities, if you like. I am prepared to agree with that. Similarly, I do not understand when sometimes in this House Members raise the question of 'Indian' systems of medicine and 'western' systems of medicine. I say

there is no such thing. There is medicine, which is science, to which India has contributed, to which other countries have contributed. If you leave out the scientific part of it, then it is non-scientific, unscientific, bogus stuff, whatever it may be, whether it is Indian, Russian or American. We say that one country has developed one wing of it; that is a different matter. But either it is science or it is not. If it is not science, I have no use for it.

I say so rather emphatically, but I mean no disrespect to any person's ideas on the subject. But I do wish to point out how we are constantly confusing this subject, about a scientific approach which is neither western, nor eastern, nor northern nor southern. It is an approach. It is the approach to search out the truth by trial and error, by experiment, not to believe anything that you cannot prove to be true, not to disbelieve anything either, if you cannot prove it wrong, unless you can prove it wrong.

So that there is no such thing as Soviet science or American science. They profit by each other's discoveries. It may be that one day the Soviet comes out with some brilliant achievement in science. The next day there may be a British achievement, as there was recently—some months ago—a brilliant achievement of British science and American science. The real thing—and that is where, I believe, the Soviet Government has scored, if I may use that word—is the very great facilities they have given for the study of science; from the cradle upwards, you might say. The toys are scientific toys, technical toys. The boy or girl grows up playing with them, from the creche upwards, and develops something that we in India almost completely lack, which two countries in the wide world have to a tremendous extent, the two countries being the United States of America and the Soviet Union, that is, a technical view of life. They are technical-minded to an amazing degree. The machine is God to both these countries.

It is astounding how similar these two countries are even though politically they might be apart today. There facilities have been given and those facilities have naturally produced results. You cannot produce a genius by any manner or means. But what you can do it is to produce an environment in which a potential genius can develop, or also to give facilities so that there is a large reservoir of competent men doing science, a very large number doing it. Science advances really not so much because of genius but because of the work of a very large number of competent and talented men adding a step to other steps taken by somebody else.

Shri Bharucha made a suggestion which seemed to be rather remarkable. He said some kind of search team should be sent to find out talented people in science and he gave, I believe—if I am not wrong—as an example, the cinema owners going out to search for stars or starlets. I hope I am not wrong in that.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: In broadcasting also.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I should imagine that the qualities necessary for a scientist are somewhat different from the potential star in the cinema world. (Interruptions.) The latter qualities are, if I may say so, external and can be judged more easily by the eye or by the ear, while the scientist's qualities are more internal.

But the real way to proceed is, first of all, for a widespread teaching of science; and, secondly, I entirely agree with Shri Bharucha, or scholarships and others to encourage every person who shows a particular aptitude.

May I say, apart from our starting the National laboratories, right from that time, this Five Year Plan business etc. is after all an attempt, maybe a meagre attempt, maybe not as good an attempt as we would like it to be, but an attempt of an approach on scientific lines to our problems.

Hon. Members today talk fluently about planning. But, I should like to remind them that planning 10 years ago was not an easy subject to talk about; or rather, not a subject which went down easily with people. If I may say so without disrespect to an old colleague of mine, a respected colleague—he left our Government because he did not approve of the Planning Commission being formed. Just that; not the individuals in the Planning Commission but just the idea of planning was not agreeable to him. There were difficulties in the way. However, this planning operation began and haltingly and stumblingly, if you like, with mistakes; anyhow, it went forward. There too you will find in the First Planning Commission Report and the Second this reference to science and the importance of science and technology. So, it is not merely a question of putting out a resolution suddenly but of building up an atmosphere for it, educating the outer public for it and gradually bringing it to such a pitch that the resolution represents a reality and not just some pious hope. When Shri Bharucha said that this may be a pious hope as resolutions are, I would respectfully remind him that this is the culmination of much work that we have done, not the beginning of it.

I should like just to refer to a number of matters that have been said. Many of the criticisms that have been made are, perhaps, justified. Many may or may not; it depends on what is your standard of measurement because you have to measure these things having regard to the background that we work with in India, not telling me that in Soviet this is done, in England this is done. Conditions are different there; there is a tremendous deal of work behind, a period of time and all that.

Again, some criticisms have been made which, I must say, appear to me to be rather uncharitable to our institutes and others. I think our National Laboratories have made mistakes naturally, but, by and large, they have done very good work. And, I was

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surprised to learn from some of the hon. Members who spoke that these laboratories would not, it was said, do a particular type of work. Some laboratory, it was said, would not do State work—I just do not understand that—and that they wanted only work sent by the Central Government. This was news to me because most of these laboratories undertake any problem that is sent to them by any individual, private, public, government, State or Central. Most of the problems that come to them are not from government at all. They are either from some institution or private firm or from some government agency. Some problems are purely governmental problems; and there are other problems they are dealing with all the time. I do not know where any difficulty arose about it.

Talking about education, much was said about education. Here again, it is not an easy matter. I am not at all happy about the state of our education, though I will say this that we have made very considerable progress. It is not enough for us; we want more progress—that is a different matter—both in quality and quantity. But, we have made very considerable progress in these last few years. Anyhow I am not happy at the state of science in our education; that is perfectly true. There is a lack of competent instructors; there is a lack of equipment; and, it is now, I believe, changing and I hope will change rapidly. I am not happy at the state of science even in our Universities, also, again, for lack of equipment often, because science will ultimately be taught really in our Universities, not so much in our big institutions and National Laboratories. These institutions are there to take the products of the Universities and not to deprive the Universities of their best men and undertake teaching. I do wish that in our Universities much more effort is given to the teaching of basic science.

Unfortunately, the Universities sometimes want to show off, show off

in the sense they will have it said, "Oh, we teach atomic energy," when atomic energy requires vast equipment and apparatus and all that. I am not referring to normal nuclear physics. That, of course, every University should teach. But I am talking about higher work. It cannot be done unless we have all that. It is much as we can do to keep our heads above water in fact—our atomic teaching in Bombay and elsewhere wherever it is, the higher course I mean. Because of the reactors and all that, we cannot do it in every University. In the United States of America they may do because they have got vast resources. We have not got the men and if we spread out our men here and there we never get that teamwork which is required for higher power work. But, what the Universities have got to do today is to teach basic science and basic science includes basic nuclear science in a competent way so as to give a very thorough grounding to our students; and then they can go on to our specialised institutes etc., where they can continue their studies.

Another thing: it was often said about scientists becoming administrators. Shri Bharucha said something which sent a shiver down my spine. He said that the scientists must be kept well within their spheres and not allowed to interfere with policy. This is just the reverse of what most of the other Members have been saying previous to him. I can understand that; and it is perfectly right to say that the scientist should not waste his special knowledge and experience over some relatively secondary matter, like administration. I agree; I say it deliberately. Administration is a relatively secondary matter to high-class science work and I fail to see why the scientist in our country takes to administration. Of course, administration is considered to be the top-most thing; and everything else is secondary. That really represents the state of backwardness of our country. It is a relic of the British times. In

any advanced country, the administrator is always respected but he finds his proper place; he is not on the shoulders or head of everybody as he was in India. Scientists, engineers, educationists, authors—all these people find their place in an advanced country. I do not want an able scientist to lose his time in administration as such. I have been worried that a man like Dr. Bhabha should have to spend so much time over just administration and we are trying to find a way out, giving him a very competent man to take away the administration part of his work, though he will be there in supervisory charge. These problems have to be dealt with as they come. On the other hand, if Dr. Bhabha had not been there in charge, to some extent, of administration also, the Atomic Energy Commission would never have gone up the way it has gone up already. Again today scientists spend quite a lot of time in attending conferences, wandering about all over the world. I do not know what to do about it. I suppose it is necessary. This applies to scientists all over the world.

I may say that our Defence Science Organisation has made very considerable progress under its very able head, Dr. Kothari. In fact I hope—I am not thinking in terms of any tremendous weapons and all that; we are not competing with Russia or America—that in many ways it is going to show adequate results.

There is again one thing which the hon. Members may or may not know. One of the divisions of our Planning Commission—I forget what it is; it is perhaps the Manpower Division—has produced a remarkable series of studies on manpower—remarkable not only in the efficiency and the speed with which it has been working but the remarkable work that has been done. I should like to give due credit to that particular division. It is a small division under a very competent head. I am sorry I cannot distribute copies of them but they have been placed in the

library here. There are nine or ten separate studies which will give you complete facts about engineers, technicians of all types in India and Indians abroad. All that is necessary before we can plan. I hope to get these things printed and then the hon. Members can see but even now they are available in the library.

There are so many other things that I should like to refer to. I was surprised to hear Shri Mukerjee saying that the Indian Statistical Institute near Calcutta had not produced a single machine. As a matter of fact, they have produced a rather remarkable accounting machine which is in demand all over the world and it is considered to be a big feather in their cap. It is the first time that I have heard that they pay Rs. 10 lakhs as rent. I did not know whom they pay to and how and where they get the machine from. I would really like to find out. I am interested in this matter. I have been there and I have seen even their budgets but this particular fact never came before me.

Shri Mukerjee has suggested that a committee should be appointed to look into our national laboratories. In the rules, I believe it is stated that every five years a high-power committee should go round and examine our national laboratories and institutions of importance. We have had two such committees. The last one, I think, met two years ago and it consisted of mostly Indian scientists but one very eminent British scientist was also on it. He was the Chairman or a member—I forget. That committee produced a big and interesting report. This fact is constantly before our mind—about this kind of reappraisal of the actual work done. Now we are trying to do this smaller reappraisal frequently and in fact we are appointing special scientists for that.

Again an impression was created by speeches that our laboratories are not doing any research, especially in regard to food. Only three days ago, I visited the Pasteur Institute and the

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Nutritional Research Institute at Coonoor. I was much struck by the very fine work done there. The Pasteur Institute I refer to not so much because of rabies and dog-bites but because they are doing extra-ordinarily good work in regard to influenza and the new influenza epidemic which spread—the new influenza....

Shri C. D. Pande:..... Bacillus.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:.....not bacillus but virus. Very soon after the thing arrived they produced enormous quantities of vaccine and checked this disease in India. The Nutritional Research Institute there is also doing remarkably good work in that field. I do not say that other institutions could not do better work.

I would just refer to one thing. An eminent scientist who works in Almora—Dr. Boshi Sen—showed me the other day a very fine variety of irradiated wheat which really is something surprising: how the use of little isotopes had improved that wheat and how that would increase wheat production tremendously.

There are many things, Sir. The subject interests me. I am glad that it interests the House. I could speak about the other aspects but I do not wish to take up the time of the House any further except to say that I appreciate all that has been said in praise or appreciation of this Resolution and I earnestly hope that the Government will be able to live up to this Resolution and will have the support of the House.

*SURATGARH MECHANISED FARM

Mr. Speaker: Now, we will take up half-an-hour discussion. Shri Yajnik will have ten minutes and the hon. Minister will have ten minutes and any other hon. Member may put a question.

Shri Yajnik (Ahmedabad): Sir, I am happy to get this opportunity of opening a discussion on the progress of the Suratgarh Mechanised Farm which began its operations in August, 1956. It all began with the visit of the Russian leaders, Khrushchev and Bulganin. Going round the country, they felt like giving a gift of some Russian agricultural machinery. When the matter was brought to the notice of the Central Government, they appointed a committee to look for a suitable site where an ideal agricultural mechanised farm might be opened. Now, during these two years that have elapsed 30,000 acres or about that area has been acquired by the Government. All the Soviet machinery that was promised is already on the site. The unfortunate part of it is that only 3,000 acres or about that area had been sown and used. A good bit of the Soviet machinery is still lying in crates, almost exposed to the weather, without any shed. And when I saw photographs of this machinery I felt profoundly concerned.

According to the information available to us—it is a very good thing—in the very first year, 1956 rabi, Government was able to sow 2991 acres. The kharif crop, of course, was much lower—1865 acres. But what is more surprising is that the 1957 rabi crop or rabi sowing instead of increasing decreased to 2,484 acres—that is, 500 acres less. So far as the expenses are concerned, we find that while Rs. 9.11 lakhs were spent in 1956-57, Rs. 11.73 lakhs were spent in 1957-58 and Rs. 14.31 lakhs are to be spent in 1958-59. That is revenue expenditure. What is all the more surprising is that under the head of capital expenditure nothing was spent in the year 1956-57, only a small sum of Rs. 7 lakhs was spent in 1957-58 and Rs. 13 lakhs are to be spent in the year 1958-59.

Why are we not making any progress that we should have made with all the machinery available, with all

this land available to us? I find that while the Second Five Year Plan began in the year 1956, no plan seems to have been made for development of this farm. When you take on this farm, you have to clean the farm, make roads, level the land, build buildings for the people who are to work there, for the technicians, the agronomists, the agricultural experts—because we are going to rear pedigree cattle there—and so on. Therefore, plans should be made in the very first instance for housing the people who are to work there. But it seems that there was nothing done at all practically, because we have spent nothing in the first year of operations—1956-57.

But the greatest impediment to the development of this farm is the non-availability of water. Now, at the first thought, I felt that this land was no good at all. But on further enquiry, I find that the land really consists very largely of the bed of a river with its good fertile depth. It should be very fertile and might prove to be an ideal site for developing an exemplary mechanised farm in this country. The greatest difficulty or, probably, the greatest headache with Government is the supply of water. We are told that only a small amount of water has now been drawn from the Ganga Canal at the moment, more will be available from the Bhakra Canal and still more will be available when the Rajasthan Canal is completed or makes any substantial progress.

I feel, Sir, that if the Ministry had taken up this matter in serious earnest with all the money that is available, with all the machinery that is available, with all the land that is available and with the personnel that they can get from the whole country, I think this question of water should not have proved an impediment. Ganga Canal—I am speaking subject to correction—could, perhaps, have given a little more. The Bhakra Canal is going to be tapped. Perhaps, with better perseverance more tubewells might have been dug and more water

might have been available. Anyhow, I cannot understand why the acreage in the third season has been reduced by 500 instead of it increasing in proportion to the greater cost that we are incurring on it.

Sir, I feel that this farm is being run in a haphazard manner. No serious plans appear to have been made; no phased programme for building buildings, levelling the land, constructing roads—all the roads could have been built while the water is coming—and so on. Even the buildings could have been built. I am told that there are not enough buildings for the personnel today. How are people to live and work to their maximum capacity if they have not got good buildings to live comfortably in this, what is practically, desert land?

We want to rear fruit orchards. We want to make this land green and lush. We want to make it the ideal farm. Far be it from me to indulge in any carping criticism, I am not one of those who look askance at any co-operative or collective farm.

16.35 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

I look at Suratgarh as one of the greatest hopes of the country. The Agriculture Ministry is asking every farmer and every agricultural co-operative to gird up their loins, to work 24 hours, to produce more food and still more so that the country may be self-supporting, so that we should be able to rear the finest orchards in the driest land by tapping the water resources. All this sounds very nice from the Agriculture Ministers and Agriculture Ministry. They are never tired of extorting people to do their very best with the opportunities that are available to them. But I ask the Agriculture Ministry, what they have done, why they have not girded up their loins, why they have not worked to the maximum capacity, why they have been backward in spending a little more money on capital works in building the necessary sheds for the machinery that has

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been lying for two weeks at the mercy of the elements. If you see the photographs you will feel ashamed that costly machinery worth some crores has been allowed to lie in the open. They were given as a gift and a great hope has been created in the whole country that now at least we are going to have an ideal farm, and the biggest Government in the country—The Central Government—is in charge with all the personnel and all the crores of rupees that they can command. Yet, at the end of two years we see that only a paltry 3,000 acres were being sown.

Then, Sir, I am concerned about the changes in the personnel. After all, when you are going to work a farm of this kind you must have first-class people to manage it. What do you find? I am told that now it is in charge of a military officer. A military officer may be very nice in the battle field where you have to fight the enemy, but here you have to fight a different enemy, here you have to fight the elements, fight with the land, work the land and get the best out of it. You want agricultural experts for that. I am told—I am speaking subject to correction—by a reliable source that a first-class agronomist was on the site—Shri Srivastava—and, for whatever reasons there might be, he has been shifted to some other work. You have not got the best personnel, the best agronomists, the best experts in cattle rearing, the best mechanical staff for working this farm to the very best advantage and with the best possible result.

Therefore, I say that we should have a complete plan. I am sorry that we have not yet got a good folder, a good pamphlet to hold out before the country: "Lo and behold! Here is a great orchard that is going to be worked as a model for the whole country to see." It should be the Mecca of all agriculturists in the country and they should be amazed to see that a veritable desert is now converted into a green farm. It should be the place

also for giving agricultural experience to graduates of agricultural colleges. There might also be installed and equipped an agricultural training school or perhaps a college in the near or distant future. If we are genuinely enthusiastic about it, we can use this opportunity to the best advantage.

We know that we are asked every time to work in a missionary spirit. The missionary spirit is to be instilled among all our farmers and all our workers who are working in the farms and factories. But let the Ministry set an example of the missionary zeal, of crusading zeal and fervour. Let them not waste a single minute. Why are not any folders, any pamphlets, giving the whole map of the place and giving the water resources available? Apparently this has been taken as a routine matter. This has been tied up in red-tape to a considerable extent. Officers have been shunted off according to the Civil Service Rules and according to their prospects of promotion. Well, even apart from the ordinary promotion that would accrue to the officers, some special increments could be given to properly qualified people, agricultural experts, so that they might remain there and not float about from one department to another as happens to most of our civil servants.

If you can get, as I request the Agriculture Minister to get, the best water resources in the nearest possible future, man it with the most suitable experts, publicise whatever results have been obtained and hold out the hope of developing a genuine, exemplary farm, mechanised farm, in the whole country, I think it will set at rest many doubts, because people are wondering whether any farm of this size could be worked at all properly. There are people who are doubting; there are people who are doubting Thomases, who say nothing of this kind can ever succeed in the land of India. These doubts may be set at rest. Doubting Thomases can be answered and the peasants who

are working in their small fields could also be imbued with a new hope and enthusiasm when they see a big model farm being run by the Ministry of Agriculture.

I hope that the Minister of Agriculture will give a full explanation and give any details of the plan that he has with him and show us the ways and means by which he wants to take the fullest advantage of the resources and the land and machinery that have been made available and show us also how and when we can hope to see an exemplary mechanised agricultural farm amongst us.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Only questions may be put now. The hon. Minister will have to reply.

Shri Karni Singhji (Bikaner): Is it a fact that the administration of the farm is too top-heavy and that it consists of inexperienced officers who are too keen to return to Delhi on the slightest pretext and thereby wasting public funds?

Shri Kasliwal (Kota): I wanted to know why, instead of this farm progressing in the very second year, the position has gone down, secondly, why no irrigation facility for water-supply has been made and thirdly, whether there are any chances of power being given to this farm.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): Shri Yajnik has given a brief history of this farm. As he has stated, the farm started when our friends from Russia, Mr. Bulganin and Mr. Khrushchev, went round our country and visited the Tarai farm at Rudrapur and also saw the dairy farm at Aarey colony in Bombay. They were very much impressed upon seeing these two farms and they openly expressed that the Aarey farm is the biggest farm in Asia that they have ever seen. Even in Russia, Mr. Khrushchev admitted, there was not such a big farm as the Tarai farm at Rudrapur or the Aarey colony. After the visit they expressed a wish that they would donate or give us a gift of machinery just quite suit-

able for a compact unit of 30,000 acres so as to see that it would be the biggest farm in the world as it were. So, our Prime Minister readily accepted it and that was in the end of 1955. By the beginning of 1956, we were told that five steamers had arrived in Bombay, and we were not informed when they started from Russia. Further, those five steamers brought machinery that was sufficient to run a compact farm of 30,000 acres or more.

We were really taken aback. It shows that they think in a big way and act also in a big way. We appreciate that, but we have to act within our limitations. When we were told that five steamers have arrived in Bombay on one fine morning, with all the necessary machinery, there was no phasing of the programme on our part. Had we known it early, we would have given a programme, and we would have phased the programme properly, and such machinery as we would have required from time to time could have been obtained from Russia. But it was not so. In their anxiety to help India and in their eagerness to fulfil their promise they sent immediately five steamers full of this cargo in quick succession in two or three months. We got the whole machinery within that period.

This farm had to be located in a compact area of 30,000 acres. It cannot be split into small units, because the whole machinery was meant to run a compact farm of 30,000 acres. It was a problem for us to get a compact area of 30,000 acres in this country. So, we requested all the State Governments to go into the matter and find out whether they could offer us an area of 30,000 acres to make use of this machinery very efficiently. Nearly nine States submitted their plans and we appointed a committee to go into the whole matter. No time was lost in doing so. Our officers acted quickly, and the whole matter was dealt with quickly. They went round nine States and inspected all the sites for

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the proposed farm in the States. Finally they selected the present farm near Suratgarh.

This farm is a very fine and good one. It is fertile, the soil is alluvial, and the terrain is supposed to be very good. The only thing that is lacking there is water. You know, Sir, that for a farm two or three things are very essential—land, men and machinery and water. Without water, even if we have the first two, it is no use. But here, this is a case where there is no water. The whole area of 30,000 acres—30,870 acres to be exact—is under the command of the Bhakra irrigation system. Within the course of three years I am sure that the Bhakra system will be completed and the 30,000 acres are going to be cultivated. Till then, the present system of irrigation there is not sufficient to irrigate more than three-thousand or four-thousand acres. It is not perennial irrigation. It is only an irrigation of a non-perennial type and that too when there is rain-fall between July and October, when there is some water-supply.

Shri Karni Singhji knows it, and but for his generosity we would not have been in a position to handle the farm and manage it. He gave us the Shooting Lodge. That was the only house there which was vacant. But for that lodge even our Russian technical experts who were there, five of them at a certain time, would have found it difficult and it would have been very difficult to locate them,—leave alone the accommodation for others. Then, there is no drinking water there—leave alone water for the farm. Shri Yajnik asked me why the Government brought only 3,000 acres under the plough and why not all the land or more than that under the plough. We are prepared to bring all the 30,000 acres under cultivation, provided there is water. Last year, would you believe me, the rainfall was only $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches for the whole year. Though the land is very fertile, the rainfall was only $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches

and it was spread over five months. There was no occasion when there was more than 20 or 30 cents. of rain. So, my friend need not be afraid that the machinery kept outside, the photos of which he has seen, will be spoiled because of the rainfall, as there is no rain there at all.

Shri Karni Singhji: Last year was a freak year; it was a famine year.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Generally also the rainfall is only 4 to 6 inches. There were no rain-gauges there; only last month I ordered two rain-gauges to be installed there.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: If there is no rain, at least gauges should be there.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Though there is no rain, that area is potential for future irrigation when the Bhakra dam will be ready. At one end of the farm we have the Gang Canal running. When we get water, that area will be converted into a blooming field and we hope that this farm will be a model farm not only for the whole country, but the whole world, because it is a very fertile land.

The cultivated area is not 3,000 acres it is 5,000 acres. We have cultivated nearly 5,000 acres and I have given the reasons why all the machinery is not being used. Mr. Yajnik's question was why the machinery is kept in the open. The fact is that we are able to make use of only 40 per cent of the machinery. The rest 60 per cent mostly consists of various types of other machinery which can be used only when the farm is in full swing. For example, they have given a big telephone exchange system. Without houses in the farm, what are we to do with the big telephone exchange system, which they have given for a 30,000 acre farm? They have given spray irrigation plants and these cannot be used without water. So, also, I can give examples of various plants. But everything has been done with the consent of the Russian technical men

who are associated with the work at every stage. All these 1½ years, the Russian experts have lived there and given advice from time to time. As regards the machinery kept outside, there is no fear of that machinery getting out of use, because it is all completely waterproof and there is no rain also in that area.

We have tried our best to make use of the remaining 60 per cent of the machinery in other wings of our Ministry. We have given some tractors and combines to our Jammu farm. Some of the machinery is used in the C.T.O. We are likely to give some machinery to the Rajasthan Government. But the purpose for which our friends have given this machinery as a gift should be fulfilled. We cannot go on lending this machinery for other purposes.

If we are not able to use all the machinery, it is not our fault that arrivals of the machinery were not properly phased. In their anxiety to help us and to fulfil their promise, the Russians without telling us sent us 5 shiploads of machinery at a time and we found it very difficult even to bring it all the way from Bombay, and we have to fit in this machinery in a 30,000 acre farm in our democracy. We have to acquire the land and for that it takes time. The owners of the land are at liberty to go to the court and postpone the acquisition of land. In spite of that with the co-operation of the local people and the Rajasthan Government, the entire area except 1,000 acres has been acquired. Out of these 30,000 acres, only 22,000 acres will be available for agricultural cultivation.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker: Probably Mr Yajnik is afraid that by the time there is water available, the machinery might have gone out of use.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: No; the Russian experts feel there is nothing wrong in keeping the machinery. Everything has been greased and every care is taken to see that the

machinery will be intact. We have done it on the advice of the Russian experts; not on our own.

Out of 30,000 acres, 22,000 acres will be for raising agricultural crops; the rest will be for canals, for buildings and other things for the composite farm. Out of the 22,000 acres, 5,000 acres are ready for cultivation and another 5,000 acres are for farm roads buildings, canals and so on. Canals have been dug and everything is ready. So, out of 22,000 acres, nearly 10,000 acres are ready for cultivation, but we have no water. Only by the end of this year, we are getting some water. We are digging a canal from the Gang Canal and there will be perennial water-supply from the Gang Canal. So, by the end of next year, we hope at least 70 per cent of this area will come under irrigation by the partial impounding of water from Bhakra.

Mr. Yajnik referred to the buildings. There is no water to build the buildings. That is the problem. We cannot get contractors, because they say, "Where is the water to make use of at this place?" We have dug 3 tubewells to a depth of 300 feet, but no water is available. Only one tubewell was a success, but even there the water supply is uneconomic—10,000 gallons per hour. There is no drinkable water in that place.

Shri Karni Singhji: In spite of that it is a small town with 5,000 people and quite a number of houses.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Sure; that is how the Rajasthan civilisation has developed. There have been heroes in Rajasthan and they have built forts in spite of the lack of water. That is how the civilisation of Rajasthan has grown.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): The Rajasthan Canal will be there.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Yes; that is also there. Possibly it will go through that farm. When Bhakra dam is complete and when the entire

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30,000 acres come under the irrigation of the Bhakra-Nangal system, by the end of 1959, we hope to get complete water supply and everything will be all right. We have tried to do our best.

Shri Yajnik: After the machinery was obtained in 1956 and after you acquired the land, which was done very soon—I must congratulate the Government for the expedition with which they got it—but after that, two full years have passed. Have you any phased plan for its development?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: I was coming to that. One of the complaints is that there is no plan. It is not true. We have a plan. We have provided Rs. 1,20,00,000 for the next three years of the plan, out of which nearly Rs. 60 lakhs will be spent for recurring expenditure and the rest for non-recurring expenditure. We have a building programme for Rs. 22 lakhs. For most of the buildings, the lay-outs have been completed. Tubewells are being dug. The whole scheme for almost the whole compact area has been completely planned. It is going to be a composite farm with poultry, pedigree sheep, cattle, and so on. We are going to have the Hariyana breed of cattle. The whole plan is ready. It is that which has taken some time. Now, when you are prepared to cultivate, there is no water. So, we have a plan of Rs. 1,20,00,000 to be spent in three years. There is a plan to spend Rs. 22 lakhs on the building programme. The C.P.W.D. has a division of their own just for the purpose of these buildings. One of their Assistant Engineers is there in charge of the work. So, we are going ahead with the building construction also.

So I would like to assure hon. Members that every effort is made to see that, with all the goodwill and good gesture with which our friends have donated this machinery to us as a gift, their fair name is kept up in this country and to see that this becomes one of the biggest farms. This is going to be one of the biggest farms in the world; there is no doubt about it. The

land is very fertile and there is going to be very good watersupply from the Bhakra-Nangal system. In addition the Rajasthan Canal is going to run through that farm. With all these, I am sure, this farm is going to be one of the biggest farms in the world.

17hrs.

Shri Yajnik: What about the fitness of the personnel?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: That is another thing. It was felt that a mechanised farm of this magnitude and international character should be managed by one of the able Generals of our country. Further, that area is strategically also very important, because it is very near to Pakistan border. Further, it is situated in a place where the hot winds blow and the temperature goes up to 120° F. It is such an extreme climate. So, we thought that a military General with a rural background should be appointed there. Five or six names were suggested and the Union Public Service Commission finally selected one gentleman, who is one of the ablest officers in the Army, who had a rural background, who is the son of the soil, who loves his work more than anything else.

Then, Shri Karni Singhji said that the administration is top-heavy and the officers come to Delhi very often for one reason or another. I can only tell Shri Karni Singhji that we cannot avoid people coming to Delhi for consultation. When the Russian experts were here, even they consulted us at every stage when they had to plan things. And I am sure that when we have enough of houses there, people will stick on to their jobs and work hard.

One thing more. In Russia where they are reclaiming the Siberian desert, they honour the pioneers and patriots with Lenin star and Stalin prize as awards. In India we may not be able to give Lenin star or Stalin

prize. So, let us appreciate their difficulties. Let us sympathise with them. They are living in the Rajasthan desert and doing their job, and I must say that they are doing a very good job. Here I must say that I am very grateful to Shri Yajnik for having brought up this subject for discussion.

Reference was also made to publicity of the farm. I may say that

we will not only prepare a brochure but we will also have a film produced and will show it to the country so that people may know what the farm is doing for the country.

17.03 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, the 2nd. May, 1958.

(Thursday, 3rd May, 1958)

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1964. Utilisation of Natural Gas Found in Assam	12619
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18. Demonstration for accommodation by Telephone Revenue Staff Lucknow	12620—23
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3081. Scheduled Caste Employees	12640

Subject	COLUMNS
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3085. Compensation to Part B Nationalised Insurance Companies .	12642
3086. Appointment of Scheduled Castes Personnel in Neyveli Project .	12642-43
3087. Multi-purpose Projects in Madras State .	12643-44
3088. Meadows in Indore District .	12644
3089. Meadows in Madhya Pradesh .	12644-45
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3092. Hindi Translators .	12647-48
3093. School Buildings in Himachal Pradesh .	12648
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3111. Urban Social Welfare Centres .	12657
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3116. Unemployment in Laccadive Islands .	12659
3117. Public Schools .	12659-60
3118. History of Freedom Movement .	12660

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 12662-63

The following papers were laid on the Table :—

- (1) A copy of each of the following Notifications under sub-section (2) of Section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951
 - (i) G.S.R. No. 250 dated the 19th April, 1958 making certain amendment to the Indian Administrative Service (Regulation of Seniority) Rules, 1954
 - (ii) G.S.R. No. 251 dated the 19th April, 1958 making certain amendment to the Indian Police Service (Regulation of Seniority Rules, 1954
- (2) A copy of the Estate Duty (Distribution) Rules 1958, published in Notification No. S.O. 327 dated the 29th March, 1958 under sub-section (2) of Section 6 of the Estate Duty and Tax on Railway Passenger Fares (Distribution) Act, 1957
- (3) A copy of the Customs and Central Excise Duties Drawback (Leather Cloth) Rules, 1958, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 243, dated the 16th April, 1958 under sub-section (4) of Section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878 and section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944
- (4) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 245, dated the 16th April, 1958, under sub-section (4) of Section 43B of the Sea Customs Act, 1878

Subject COLUMNS
MESSAGE FROM RAJYA SABHA 1266—65

(1) Secretary, reported a message from Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha had no recommendations to make to Lok Sabha in regard to the Appropriation (No. 2) Bill, 1958, passed by the Lok Sabha on 22-4-58

(2) Secretary also reported the message received from Rajya Sabha that Rajya Sabha at its sitting held on Thursday, the 24th April, 1958 adopted the motion concurring in the recommendation of the Lok Sabha agreeing to nominate seven members from Rajya Sabha to the Public Accounts Committee for the period commencing on the 1st May, 1958 and ending on the 30th April, 1959. Also that at the Rajya Sabha sitting held on Wednesday the 30th April, 1958 the chairman declared the following members of the Rajya Sabha to be duly elected to the said committee :—

- (i) Rajkumari Amrit Kaur
- (ii) Shri Amolakh Chaud.
- (iii) Shri T.R. Deogirikar
- (iv) Shri S. Venkataramanan .
- (v) Shri M. Govinda Reddy
- (vi) Shri Rohit Manu-shankar Dave .
- (vii) Shri M. Basava-punnaiiah.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER .

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai) made a statement correcting the information given by him on the 17th April, 1958 during the debate on the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Finance regarding advance of funds for development of Singareni Collieries.

Subject COLUMNS
EXTENSION OF TIME FOR PRESENTATION OF REPORT OF SELECT COMMITTEES 12665-66

- (i) Time for presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Gift Tax Bill, 1958 was extended upto the 2nd May, 1958
- (ii) Time for presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Estate Duty (Amendment) Bill, 1958 was extended upto the 20th August, 1958 .

BILL INTRODUCED 12666
The Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1958.

BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION 12667—12725

Further Discussion on the motion to consider the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation) Bill, 1958 continued. The discussion was not concluded.

MOTION RE: SCIENTIFIC POLICY RESOLUTION 12725—75

Shri V. P. Nayar moved that the Scientific Policy Resolution of the Government of India dated 4-3-58 laid on the Table on 13-3-58 be taken into consideration. The discussion was concluded.

HALF-AN-HOUR DISCUSSION 12775—90

Shri Yajnik raised a half-an-hour discussion on points arising out of the answers given on the 12th February and 1st April, 1958 to Starred Questions Nos. 64 and 1388 respectively regarding Suratgarh Mechanised Farm.

The Deputy Minister of Agricultural (Shri M. V. Krishnappa) replied to the Debate.

AGENDA FOR FRIDAY, 2ND MAY, 1958.

Consideration of the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1958 .

Further discussion on the motion to consider the Rice-Milling Industry (Regulation) Bill 1958 and consideration of Private Members' Bills