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Thursday, March 18, 1976
Phalguna 28, 1897 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Sixteenth Session)



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**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
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LOK SABHA DEBATES

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LOK SABHA

Thursday, March 18, 1976 Phalguna
28, 1897 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock

[MR SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Take-over of Precious Metal Mines

*141. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government propose to take over all the Kaimite, Chromium, Nickel and such other precious metal mines, and

(b) whether the export of raw materials of these metals are also proposed to be totally banned?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) No, Sir There is no nickel mine as yet. Much of the kaimite and chromite mines and the gold mining is already with the public sector

(b) The export policy in regard to these items is kept under regular review, export of chrome ore including fines is already regulated under the Export Control Orders.

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह सोखी : मिनिस्टर साहब का जवाब सुन कर मैं हैरान रह गया हूँ। वह कहते हैं कि निकल माइज कोई हिन्दुस्तान में नहीं है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि क्या आपने

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जी एस आई को कभी निकल माइज का सर्वे करने के लिए कहा है और क्या उन्होंने कभी आपको बताया है कि निकल भी अबेलेबल है और यह जो क्रोमाइट माइज हैं उनके अगल बगल में हमेशा पाया जाता है ?

मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि कितनी माइज कायनाइट और क्रोमाइट की पब्लिक सेक्टर में है और कितनी प्राइवेट सेक्टर में है ?

इस्पात और खान मन्त्री (श्री चन्द्रजी यादव) : निकल माइज का ही सर्वे नहीं बल्कि जिननी भी देश में और हो सकती है सभी का जो एस आई सर्वे करता है, खास तौर पर ऐसी मिनरल्स जिनकी हमारी इकोनोमी के लिए ज्यादा जरूरत है और वे मिनरल्स जो हम इम्पोर्ट करते रहे हैं उन पर पिछले दिनों ज्यादा जार दिया गया है और जिनना मास एक्सप्लोरेशन है, कहा था कि उसको किया जाए। कुछ इन्वेस्टिगेशन जरूर मिले हैं निकल माइज के। लेकिन अभी उसके बारे में कोई फाइनल बात इस स्टेज पर नहीं कही जा सकती है। जिननी भी पासिबिलिटीज है इस मिनरल की वे सब एक्सप्लोर की जा रही है।

जैसा कि मुख्य उत्तर में बताया गया है क्रोमाइट और कायनाइट का प्रोडक्शन हमारे देश में अभी बहुत कम है, देश की जरूरत को देखते हुए लेकिन चूँकि ये दोनों मिनरल्स बहुत महत्वपूर्ण हैं आज की स्थिति को देखते ए या स्टील इंडस्ट्री की रिकवायरमेंट्स को देखते हुए इसलिए इस पर एक पालिसी निर्णय ले रहे हैं कि कितना हम एक्सपोर्ट करें,

कितना न करे और लाग टर्म की जरूरत क्या है। यह सब विचाराधीन है और इसके बारे में इस वक्त कुछ बताया जाए, यह उचित नहीं होगा और न ही पब्लिक हित में होगा। लेकिन लगातार सरकार इस पर ध्यान रखती है और अपनी जरूरत को देखते हुए इसको रेगुलैट करती रही है। एक्सपोर्ट तथा कुछ दूसरे प्रश्न भी विचाराधीन है और इसके महत्व को देखते हुए जो भी निर्णय लेना है शीघ्र ही लिया जाएगा।

सरदार स्वर्ण सिंह सोनी : कायनाइट माइज जो सिंहभूम डिस्ट्रिक्ट बिहार का है वहां है उसके आसपास चारों तरफ प्राइवेट माइज भी है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उसमें से कितनी कायनाइट आपकी चोरी होती है और कितनी एक्सपोर्ट होती है? क्या आपके पास कोई हिसाब है कि कितनी मिडलमैन चोरी करते हैं और बेचते हैं?

श्री चन्द्रजीत यादव : ये जो बिहार की माइज है पब्लिक सेक्टर की सेल इसका काम करता है। प्राइवेट सेक्टर की छोटी छोटी जो माइज है उनका राष्ट्रीयकरण करना सरकार जरूरी नहीं समझती है इस वक्त। लेकिन क्या एक्सपोर्ट पालिसी हो, कैसे उसका ब्रैंडर कजप्पेशन हो, साइटिफिक उसका माइनिंग हो इसका ध्यान रखा जाता है। अब चोरियों का हिसाब तो सरकार नहीं रखती है लेकिन एहतियात जरूर बरतनी है कि चोरिया न होने पाए।

Coal Supply from Chasnalla Mine to IISCO

*143 SHRI R S PANDEY Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether recent Chasnalla Mine disaster has resulted in a shortfall in coal supply to IISCO, and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) Yes, Sir There has been a marginal short-fall but the production of steel has not been allowed to be affected

(b) As a short term measure, extra coal is being purchased from Bharat Coking Coal Limited Steps are also being taken to increase coal production from Company's quarries at Chasnalla and Ramnagore

SHRI R S PANDEY May I know what was the production capacity of Chasnalla?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV) Before this unfortunate accident took place, Chasnalla was producing about 10 000 tonnes of coal per year and that has been stopped and the same amount of coal is being purchased from BCCL by IISCO

SHRI R. S. PANDEY What is the requirement of steel producing units in so far as the coal is concerned?

SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV The entire total production is about 30 000 tonnes per day all steel units knit together

Legislation for Family Planning

*144 SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN. Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state

(a) whether there is widespread public opinion that there is need to modify the laws on limiting the size of the family,

(b) whether Government propose to enact laws to control the size of the family to meet the danger of over-population and

(c) whether there is a proposal to sanction one advance increment to all employees who have already undergone vasectomy/tubectomy operations?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN SINGH). (a) Public opinion of late has been in favour of stricter measures being taken to promote family planning among the people. This has included suggestions from some quarters for the introduction of legislation to limit the size of the family.

(b) and (c). A package of incentives and disincentives is being considered at the highest level.

श्री शशि भूषण : स्वास्थ्य मन्त्री जी ने एक यशस्वी ब्रह्मचारी की तरह से उत्तर दिया है। आपने कहा है कि पब्लिक ओपिनियन इसकी फेवर से होती जा रही है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह फेवर में है इसकी जानकारी आपने कैसे हासिल की है ?

आपने कहा है कि पैकेज इमेडियट की बात आप सोच रहे हैं। अब तक एक ही पैकेज पर सोचा गया है। लेकिन आपने कहा है कि इस पर आप निर्णय लेने जा रहे हैं। कब तक यह निर्णय आप ले लेंगे ?

इस सिलसिले में राज्य सरकारें जो कानून बना रही हैं उनको आपका इस बारे में क्या आदेश है ? किसनी राज्य सरकारों ने अब तक इस पर लैजिस्लेशन बनाया है ?

डा० कर्ण सिंह : पहले मैं ज़रा स्पष्टीकरण कर देना चाहता हूँ कि मैं यशस्वी ब्रह्मचारी नहीं हूँ, यशस्वी गृहस्थी जरूर हूँ।

जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा है लोकमत अब इसकी ओर फेवर में है कि कुछ न कुछ कम्पलेशन की जाए। तीन राज्य सरकारों ने, महाराष्ट्र, पंजाब और हरियाणा ने हमें यह लिख कर कहा है कि वे कम्पलसरी स्टरेलाइजेशन का बिल लाना चाह रहे हैं। उसकी अलावा बहुत से अखबारों में छपा : पब्लीशिंग है, बहुत से रोज़ेबूक्स भी

संस्थाओं ने पास किए हैं और लग बच्चा रहा है कि देश अब धीरे धीरे इस ओर तैयार हो रहा है कि कुछ न कुछ कदम इस प्रकार का उठाया जाए जिससे यह बीज प्रभावशाली रूप से लागू की जा सके। कम्पलेशन के विषय में कुछ बातें हैं जिनके बारे में विचार करना पड़ेगा। कुछ तो कास्टीट्यूशनल और लीगल एम्पेन्ड्स हैं, कुछ एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव एम्पेन्ड्स हैं। इसके विषय में विचार किया जा रहा है।

जहाँ तक इमेडियट और डिमैण्ड का सवाल है वह तो कार्य आरम्भ हो गया है। कुछ राज्य सरकारों ने घोषणा कर दी है कि वे किस कार के डिमैण्ड देंगी उनको जिनके परिवार बड़े होंगे या है। जहाँ तक भारत सरकार का सवाल है हम भी इसके ऊपर विचार कर रहे हैं। मुझे आशा है कि इस महीने के अन्त तक या अगले महीने के आरम्भ में मैं मदन में आकर इसके बारे में कुछ न कुछ घोषणा कर सकूंगा।

श्री शशि भूषण : मन्त्री महोदय को शायद पता हो कि जब से हमारे देश में एमर्जेंसी लगी है, तभी से जो भी सरकार के प्रोग्राम आये हैं, उनको लोगों ने माना है। इस तरह से पता चलता है कि जनता सरकार के आदेशों को मानती है। जिस तरह से राजकीय सरकारें डम पर लैजिस्लेशन ला रही हैं, क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार भी लैजिस्लेशन लाने के लिए तैयार है ?

अभी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय आर्थिक समझौतों की एक मिटिंग हुई थी, उसमें उनका संकेत था कि एक ही पार्टी हो, हिन्दू, मुस्लिम, सिख, ईसाई सब एक हों। तो जो लोग इसका विरोध कर रहे हैं, क्या सरकार उनका खिलाफ कोई कदम उठाना चाहती है इन प्रकार का लैजिस्लेशन लाकर ? एक तरफ मन्त्री महोदय करोड़ों रुपये खर्च करते हैं और दूसरी तरफ कुछ लोग विरोध करते हैं, तो

क्या इसके लिये सरकार कानून बनाने बारे में सोच रही है ?

||: इसके साथ ही साथ कौन-कौनसी पोलिटिकल पार्टी ने यह प्रोग्राम बनाया है, क्या उसके बारे में भी सरकार को जानकारी है ? अगर है तो एमरजेंसी के बाद और फैमिली प्लानिंग का सेंटिव होने के बाद भी जो बच्चे पैदा हो रहे हैं, उनके खिलाफ क्या डिस्प्लानरी एक्शन लिया गया है ?

इसके साथ ही जो आई जेलों में स्वास्थ्य लाभ कर रहे हैं, उनके भी बाहर बच्चे हो रहे हैं । मैं मन्त्री महोदय से जानना चाहता हूँ कि वह लैजिस्लेशन कब तक तैयार करेंगे ? क्या उन्होंने ला मिनिस्ट्री या किसी दूसरी मिनिस्ट्री से इस बारे में सलाह-मशविरा किया है ?

डा० कर्ण सिंह : पार्टी वाली बात मैं पहले कह देता हूँ । हमारी पार्टी, इंडियन नेशनल कांग्रेस, ने पहली बार चण्डीगढ़ में इस बार परिवार नियोजन के सम्बन्ध में एक रेजोल्यूशन अडॉप्ट किया है । जैसा आप जानते हैं, इस बार माननीय राष्ट्रपति जी ने भी संयुक्त बैठक में दिये अपने अभिभाषण में परिवार नियोजन का जिक्र किया । इससे बड़ा स्पष्ट हो जाना है कि हमारी विचारधारा किम और चल रही है ।

लेजिस्लेशन हों या न हो, जैसा कि मैं इस पर अन्तिम निर्णय नहीं लिया गया है । जैसा माननीय सदस्य ने कहा, ला मिनिस्ट्री से भी हम जानकारी कर रहे हैं, लेकिन एक बार फैसला हो जाये कि लेजिस्लेशन होगा, सभी कोई कार्यवाही कर सकते हैं । लेकिन जब तक इस पर लेजिस्लेशन नहीं होता है तब तक राज्य सरकारें इंसेंटिव और डिस्इंसेंटिव देती रहें, यही हमारी नीति है । मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में बड़ी तेजी से राज्य सरकारें कदम उठा रही हैं ।

इसमें कोई शक नहीं कि लोग सरकार का आदेश मानने को तैयार होंगे, लेकिन इससे पहले कि सरकार आदेश दे, हमें सब पक्षों पर विचार कर के आगे आना होगा ।

श्री राजेन्द्र प्रसाद यादव : स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मन्त्रालय का शुरू का नारा था "दो या तीन बस" । इसके बाद किया गया कि "हम दो, हमारे दो ।" इसके बाद क्या वह अब यह नारा देना चाहते हैं कि "एक, और अब नहीं" ।

कुछ योरोपीय देशों में अडर "पापुलेशन की प्राबलम है, और वह बच्चे पैदा करने के लिये इंसेंटिव देते हैं । क्या हमारी सरकार चाहती है कि बच्चे कम पैदा हों, इसके लिये वह कोई इंसेंटिव दे ?

डा० कर्ण सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी हम "एक, और अब नहीं" पर नहीं पहुँचे हैं । पहले अगर 3 पर ही लोगों की कृपा हो जाये, तो हम उस ही प्रसंगे होंगे । उसके बाद देखेंगे कि "दा पर कभी नहीं" और फिर "एक के बाद कभी नहीं" । लेकिन हमारी जानकारी में तीन से अधिक आजकल के जमाने में कुछ उचित नहीं है जहाँ तक इंसेंटिव देने की बात है वहाँ इंसेंटिव भी हैं और डिस्-इंसेंटिव भी हैं । हम कुछ पें ट करते हैं । जिनका स्टैरलाइजेशन होता है, बैस्कोटोमी या ट्यूबकटोमी होती है, उनको बेन आदि में कुछ कमी होती है, तो उनको हम पैसा देते हैं । इस तरह से हम इंसेंटिव और डिस्-इंसेंटिव दोनों का एक पैकेज बना रहे हैं ।

श्री रामावतार छास्त्री : क्या परिवार नियोजन का सिद्धान्त सरकार के मन्त्रियों और संसद सदस्यों पर भी लागू है ? यदि हाँ, तो क्या सरकार ने इस बात का पता लगाया है कि मन्त्री होने के पूर्व और मन्त्री होने के बाद मन्त्रियों के कितनी-कितनी सन्तानें हैं ?

इसी प्रकार से सदस्य-सदस्यों के पहले कितनी सनातन थी और सदस्य बनने के बाद कितनी सनातन हैं ? अगर मन्त्री महोदय को इस बात का पता है तो कृपापूर्वक वह हमें इसका ब्यौरा दें । यह मैं इसलिये जानना चाहता हूँ कि ताकि जनता को यह मालूम हो सके कि कानून बनाने वाले लोग भी परिवार नियोजन करने में विश्वास करते हैं ।

एक माननीय सदस्य : शास्त्री जी आपके कितनी सन्तान है ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री . शास्त्री जी के पास तो सिर्फ एक बच्ची है ।

डा० कर्ण सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जा जानकारी माननीय सदस्य न चाहती है, वह इस समय मरे पाम नहीं है । लेकिन यदि ये इस प्रकार का प्रश्न पूछें तो यह जानकारी इकट्ठी की जा सकती है, जो कि बड़ी दिनचर्या होगी ।

SHRIMATI MAYA RAY Would the hon Minister kindly tell us whether the Government has any idea of working in coordination with the I & B and Power Ministries? If they give more television and other entertainment facilities in rural areas may be all these drastic steps to control population may not be required

DR KARAN SINGH We are working in close touch with the I & B Ministry on many fronts including our whole motivational campaign. It is true and I think the hon Member is referring to that that whenever one electrifies the village the birth rate drops. This is a well known phenomenon. I will leave it to the hon Members to draw their own conclusions

SHRI K LAKKAPPA I would like to know the incentives that have been given in order to stop or minimise or decrease the size of the family especially in rural areas. Whether the Ministry consider it adequate to attract the people towards limiting the family

in rural areas? All these incentives have been given to the people who are in the affluent society—officers employees and all that—and not to the rural people. The money has not been flown or spent so far to educate the common masses the vulnerable sections of the people and the incentives provided to attract people in order to make this scheme a success has not been made. What further steps Government of India has taken in this behalf?

DR KARAN SINGH Certain payments have been made over many years particularly for sterilisation operations. At present Rs 70/- are given for tubectomy because the woman's operation involves hospitalisation and also involves payment for food and so on for those five days. I think Rs 35/- or Rs 40/- are given for vasectomy. But I agree with the hon Member that these payments have not really been adequate as yet. I may inform the House and it will be of interest to the hon Members to know that 11 million sterilisations have been performed in the last year but this year it has already crossed two million sterilisation by the end of February. Therefore, we have done twice as many sterilisations as compared to last year. But the fact remains that much more needs to be done. It is because of this that we are now considering an expanded package of incentives and disincentives which we hope to announce soon.

SHRI VASANTI SATHE I would like to know whether the Government are introducing any legislation of penal character in the country or in any State at best would take the first step of restricting the marriageable age as Vinobaji has suggested to 27. That itself would assist instead of arresting a person and performing compulsory sterilisation on him in jail or otherwise. Instead of taking some such measure if this step is taken it may help. Will the Government consider this? Secondly, will you connect all economic assistance in the country, of every character—employment cash loans agricultural assistance of every

type to rural people and to other people in urban areas i.e. to the family, with a requirement of a certificate of sterilization, if they have two children? If such a thing is done as a package deal, as had been said, it may achieve the result. Any amount of penal compulsion, I am afraid, will prove counter-productive. Will the Government consider this also?

DR KARAN SINGH The hon. Member has raised a very important point viz. that apart from compulsory sterilization—whether or not it is adopted—there are a lot of other things which can be done, and should be done. On raising the age of marriage, he talked about having it as 25. Even if the age for marriage is raised to 18 for girls and to 21 for boys, even that—we have calculated—would have a demonstrable impact. Therefore, that is certainly very desirable. The whole question of distribution of State—Centre resources on the basis of the population and various other economic aids—all these matters are being considered, and I can assure you and the hon. House that we will not rush into anything without giving full consideration to all aspects, including the important points raised by the hon. Member.

Seamen's Demand for Permanent Employment Scheme

*145 **SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the demand made by the seamen for a permanent employment scheme and a regular pension system for them; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H M TRIVEDI)
(a) Yes Sir

(b) The question of decasualisation of seamen is being examined by the

National Maritime Board. As regards the pension scheme, the matter is being examined by the Seafarers Welfare Fund Society.

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE In one of his answers given in the Rajya Sabha, the Minister had mentioned that there was an administrative committee appointed and that it was removed, since 1-9-75 on grounds of malfunctioning. I would like to know how long is it going to take again to re-vitalize this committee and its functioning. Secondly, there has been a report in one of the papers that some of our Indian sailors employed by an Indian ship-owner in Rotterdam were not given the minimum wages which they had demanded viz. £48. They were all thrown out of employment and the ship-owner employed other people, giving them £100. I would like to know as to how is the Minister thinking of protecting such work-men under international law.

SHRI H M TRIVEDI As far as the first part of the question is concerned, the decasualization scheme is presently under consideration by a sub-committee of the National Maritime Board. As far as the second part of the question is concerned, I would like the hon. Member to give me the facts. As far as the minimum wage of an Indian seafarer is concerned, it is determined by bi-partite negotiations in the National Maritime Board. Presently, after the last negotiations, it is £36. A demand by an Indian seafarer of a higher wage on any vessel, either Indian or foreign, would not therefore, be justified.

SHRIMATI ROZA DESHPANDE I would surely supply the Minister the press cutting. But I think the amount is, not £36 but £48.

SHRI H M TRIVEDI The figure £48 is only the academic international minimum wage recommended by the International Labour Organisation.

DR RANEN SEN The Minister has just now stated that bi-partite negotia-

tions take place in the maritime board and that the wage structure is negotiated in such a way that a compromise is effected between the demands of the sea-men and the ship-owners. If the ILO has made a rule on the question of wages to sea-men how is it that the Government of India do not try to pressurize the ship-owners to follow that rule as far as possible?

SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI The ILO has only recommended an international minimum wage. It is for the member States either to adopt it or not.

Advertisement on Postal Stationery

*147 **PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR** Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether the amount earned by the advertisement on postal stationery would be spent on the extension of postal facilities to rural areas by opening and upgrading more post offices by increasing the loss limit for backward areas?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) The amount earned from advertisement on postal stationery forms a part of the overall revenue of the department.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR In view of the Minister's reply, may I know whether the increase in overall revenue will be reflected in the expenditure pattern for the betterment of the post and telegraph facilities in the rural areas?

SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA I have already mentioned that it forms part of the overall expenditure.

PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR I want to know whether there is any specific liberalisation in the matter of allotment of funds for the provision of postal facilities in the rural areas, apart from the existing provisions in force before these advertisements started.

SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA: From this revenue, as well as from the general revenue, we give specific relief to the rural areas, backward areas and border areas.

श्री डी० एन० तिवारी : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि पोस्ट कार्ड्स और इनलैंड लैटरस आदि के सम्बन्ध में जो घाटा दिखाया जाता है, क्या वह एडवर्टाइजमेंट्स से होने वाले रवेन्यू को सम्मिलित करके दिखाया जाता है या ऐसे ही बना दिया जाता है कि घाटा होना है।

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : इसमें कितना घाटा होता है, वह मन्त्री महाशय ने विस्तार के साथ इस सदन में बता दिया है। एडवर्टाइजमेंट्स की अभी शुरुआत की गई है। जब इसका खाता बनेगा, तो उसको भी दिखायेंगे।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या सरकार ने आमदनी बढ़ान की बात का ध्यान में रख कर पोस्ट कार्ड्स, अन्तर्देशीय पत्र, लिफाफे और मनी ऑर्डर फार्म पर विज्ञापन छापने के सम्बन्ध में कोई नीति निर्धारित की है या नहीं?

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : जी हाँ। यह नीति निर्धारित की है।

Increase in Incidence of Malaria in Delhi

*150 **SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE**

SHRI M. GOPAL REDDY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that the incidence of malaria in Delhi has gone up phenomenally in the last three years, and

(b) if so the steps taken to eradicate malaria?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR. KARAN)

SINGH) (a) The incidence of Malaria in Delhi, as in most parts of the country, has been higher than in previous years.

(b) More intensive and timely measures are proposed to check the rise in the incidence of Malaria in Delhi and elsewhere in the country

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
Sir, kindly see the casual way in which the answer has been given. Merely saying that the incidence of malaria now is higher does not convey any meaning. Compared to the other parts of this country, what is the position with regard to Delhi?

DR KARAN SINGH The figures for Delhi are as follows: as against 12,163 cases in 1974, the cases registered in 1975 were 37,879, which is an increase of about three times. Generally, in the whole country the increase has been from 31 lakhs in 1974 to about 36 lakhs or 37 lakhs in 1975.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE
What, in the opinion of the Ministry, are the reasons for the increase in the incidence of malaria, and what are the steps proposed to be taken, like spraying DDT in vulnerable areas? There are many open drains even in the so-called sophisticated localities, which are causing increase in mosquito-breeding. What is going to be done about it?

DR KARAN SINGH The reasons for the rise in malaria not only in Delhi but in the rest of the country are several. One of them has been the rise in the cost of insecticides which has risen very sharply over the last two years and, as our resources have not been able to keep pace with this rise their availability has also decreased. The second problem is the development of better resistance by the mosquitoes which have a peculiar capacity to adapt themselves to various kinds of pesticides. Thirdly, as I would not like to be less than candid with the House, I must confess that

over the last few years there has been a certain laxity and complacency with regard to the implementation. On all these three fronts we are working out a new strategy to totally restructure and energise the machinery to ensure the availability of pesticides, both indigenous and, where necessary, imported and also to make available an adequate quantity of anti malaria drugs in order to meet this problem. We are fully aware of its magnitude. In fact I have been gravely disturbed and I have mentioned it on many occasions. We are doing all that is possible.

SHRIMATI MUKUL BANERJI
Will this new Budget affect the price level further and will malaria consequently grow more?

DR KARAN SINGH I am not really sure whether it will or not, but if it does we will have to make a higher budget allocation because as it is current allocation is most inadequate.

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे क्या माननीयमंत्री जी इस बात पर विचार करेंगे कि उत्तर प्रदेश का जो तराई का रोजन है नेपाल से लगा हुआ वहां हर साल मलेरिया...

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह दिल्ली का सवाल है।

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : यह सारे देश का है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : नहीं, सारे देश का नहीं है।

श्री नरसिंह नारायण पांडे : अध्यक्ष महोदय

MR SPEAKER I am sorry I cannot allow any question outside

SHRI NARSING NARAIN PANDEY But the figures for the whole country have been given.

मैं माननीय मन्त्री जी से जानना चाहता हूँ कि इसके बावजूद कि आपने मलेरिया के इरैडिकेशन के लिए बहुत सारे प्रोग्राम अपनाए हैं, पालियामेंट के मेम्बरों के निवास स्थान नार्थ एवेन्यू और माउथ एवेन्यू में मलेरिया के कीटाणु बढते चले जा रहे हैं, उसके बारे में आपने कोई कदम उठाए हैं कि इसको कैसे रोकना जायगा यह तो आपके कैपिटल की बात है।

डा० कर्ण सिंह : माननीय सदस्य तो नार्थ एवेन्यू और साउथ एवेन्यू की बात कर रहे हैं, मैं अपने व्यक्तिगत अनुभव से कह सकता हूँ कि मेरे अपने निवास में भी मच्छर बहुत तेजी से बढ रहे हैं। आज ही मैं अपने अफसरों को डाट रहा था कि मैं तो अपने घर में रहना हूँ, सरकारी निवास स्थान में नहीं रहना हूँ लेकिन चाणक्यपुरी एक बहुत ही प्रनिष्ठित मुहल्ला माना गया है, वहाँ पर मच्छर इतने अधिक बढ गए हैं और उनके काटने से इतने बडे बड दाने पड रहे हैं, मैं स्वयं उनमें पीडित और दुखी हूँ और इसलिए मैं सदस्यों की मरानुभूति और सहयोग से इन मच्छरों के विरुद्ध कडे से कड़ा अभियान जल्दी आरम्भ करने वाला हूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपने अपने व्यक्तिगत अनुभव की बात कही। मैं भी तीन बार मलेरिया का शिकार हो चुका हूँ।

DR RANEN SEN Some two years back there was a debate in both the Houses on a scheme that the Government had adopted for sterilising mosquitoes, which was sponsored by the Americans with the help of WHO and ICMR of which there was a lot of criticism in both the Houses May I know what has been the fate of that scheme that was very forcefully advocated by the Government?

DR. KARAN SINGH: This, of course, is a different question. The scheme has been suspended and the whole

matter is being looked into by a very high level committee. When the report is available, necessary action will be taken.

श्री राम सहाय पांडे : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मच्छरों का प्रश्न कई बार यहाँ उठाया जा चुका है। मन्त्री जी अपनी कुछ मजबूरियाँ भी बताते हैं। देश भर के मच्छर देश के अलग अलग कोनों से चलते हैं और दिल्ली में आकर मोटे हो जाते हैं। यहाँ आकर वे मन्त्री जी के घर को भी नहीं छोड़ते हैं। इतने जोर से भन्नाकर मायराज बजाते हुए निकलने हैं कि उनकी आवाज की ताकत भी बहुत काफी बढ जाती है। उनके लिए जितना कुछ भी प्रबन्ध होता है दवाइयों के माध्यम से और अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय खोज के माध्यम से उसको तो वह खा जाते हैं, वह तो उनका न्यूट्रीशन बन जाता है। तो क्या कोई ऐसी अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय खोज हुई है कि ये जो मोटे मोटे मच्छर होते जा रहे हैं, हमारे देश का स्वास्थ्य गिरता जा रहा है और मच्छर स्वस्थ होते जा रहे हैं, मोटे होते जा रहे हैं और काटते भी खूब हैं, भन्नाते भी खूब हैं उनके लिए कुछ इन्तजाम किया जा सके ?

डा० कर्ण सिंह : अध्यक्ष महोदय, जो कीटाणुनाशक पेस्टिसाइड्स हैं ये तीन प्रकार के हैं—डी डी टी, बी एच सी और मैलाथिन। जो डी डी टी से नहीं मरते हैं उनके लिए हम बी एच सी और मैलाथिन इस्तेमाल करते हैं। खोज हो रही है। यह जो मलेरिया का पुनरागमन है यह केवल भारतवर्ष में ही नहीं बल्कि दक्षिण पूर्व एशिया के सारे देशों में हो रहा है और वर्ल्ड हेल्थ आर्गनाइजेशन ने अभी हाल ही में पिछले वर्ष यहाँ एक गोष्ठी की थी जिसमें सब देशों के प्रतिनिधि आए थे और सब ने मिल कर सोचा कि इसके लिए क्या किया जा सकता है। मैं भी मई में जेनेवा जाऊंगा वर्ल्ड हेल्थ असेम्बली के लिए, वहाँ इस बात पर विचार करेंगे और कोशिश करेंगे कि अधिक से अधिक जो नई जानकारी इस सम्बन्ध में है उससे हम लाभ उठाएँ।

**Payment of Project Allowance and
Bad Climate Allowance to P&T
Employees**

*152. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS:
Will the Minister of COMMUNICA-
TIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether Project Allowance and bad climate allowance paid to the P&T employees of Koraput like the Dandakaranya Project employees has been stopped though the Project employees are continuing to get the allowances,

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the bad climate allowance has been paid to the Telegraph employees in Koraput district from 1966 and to the postal employees from a later date, and

(d) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS
(SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA) (a) to (d) Project allowance is being paid to the Postal and Telegraphs employees of Koraput from 1-10-66 onwards. However, the sanction for payment of this allowance expired on 29th February, 1976, and the question of its extension from 1st March, 1976 is under consideration of the Government

Bad Climate Allowance in this District was paid to the Postal and Telegraphs employees from 1-11-60 to 30-9-68. This was stopped thereafter. But this allowance was paid during the period from 1-10-68 to 21-2-72 to the Telegraph employees, by mistake. By subsequent orders the Bad Climate Allowance was restored from 22-2-72 and has been paid both to Postal and Telegraphs employees till 30-9-75 upto which date the sanction was current. The extension of the sanction beyond this date is under consideration of Government.

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : 1-10-68
21-2-72 तक सलती से सिर्फ टेलीग्राफ

डिपार्टमेंट को जो भत्ता आपने दिया क्या वह भत्ता पोस्टल डिपार्टमेंट को भी देने के लिए आपने कुछ प्रबन्ध किया। अगर नहीं किया तो भव करने के लिए आप तैयार हैं क्या ?

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : मैंने निवेदन किया कि यह तो गलती से दिया गया था और इस सम्बन्ध में हम रिहैबिलिटेशन मिनिस्ट्री जैसा करती है उसी नियम का पालन करते हैं। इस सवाल को हमने वित्त मन्त्रालय के साथ टेक अप किया है। अगर वह राजी हुए तो उस पर विचार किया जायगा नहीं तो दूसरा तरीका है, उनसे वापस भी लिया जा सकता है।

श्री अनादि चरण दास : इस पीरियड में वण्डकारण्य प्रोजेक्ट के जो एम्प्लॉईज हैं उन्हें बँड क्लाइमेट एलौवेम दिया है तो पोस्ट आफिस और टेलीग्राफ डिपार्टमेंट के एम्प्लॉईज को भी देने में क्या हर्ज है ?

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : मैंने निवेदन किया कि जैसा वह करेगे वैसा ही हम फालो करेगे।

**Loss of Stored Articles in Main
Building of Tax Installation**

*154 SHRI RAMANATHAR SHAS-
TRI Will the Minister of COMMU-
NICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether in the underground chamber of main building of the Tax Installation (presently housing the office of the DMT Patna) valuable stores such as electric fans, tube lights and costly equipment of telephones amounting to several lakhs were stored during Patna flood in 1975,

(b) whether it is a fact that although flood water entered into the underground chamber on the 3rd day no serious attempt was made to shift the stored articles to the upper

storeys where there was plenty of space; and

(c) if so, the amount of total loss to the stored articles due to administrative lapse and nature of action contemplated?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI JAGANNATH PAHADIA): (a) to (c). Electrical stores worth about Rs. 1.2 lakhs were stored in the basement of the Trunk Automatic Exchange (TAX) Building at Patna. Flood waters suddenly entered into the basement within an hour of the onrush of flood in that area. Stores were shifted, dried and reconditioned on an immediate basis. The total cost incurred in these operations was Rs. 4,200/-.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं तो वहाँ का रहने वाला हूँ, जानता हूँ कि यह जबाब बिल्कुल गलत है। मैं चाहूँगा कि इस पर अगर आप कोई एन्क्वायरी करा सकें तो अच्छी बात है।

बहरहाल मैं आपके जवाब पर सवाल पूछना हूँ। मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि बाढ़ का पानी पटना शहर में किस तारीख को घुसा और वही पानी आपके पोस्ट आफिस के, पी० एण्ड टी० के मकान में जहाँ सब सामान रखा हुआ था किम तारीख को घुसा? ... (व्यवधान) इसलिए मैं इसको पूछ रहा हूँ कि इससे इनकी गलती पकड़ में आ जायेगी। इनके विभाग के अधिकारियों ने कोई भी परवाह नहीं की और सामान को हटाया नहीं। इसलिए मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि किस दिन पटना शहर में और किस दिन पी० एण्ड टी० के मकान में (जहाँ सामान रखा हुआ था) पानी घुसा?

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : हमारा वह मकान भी पटना शहर में ही है। हमारी सूचना के अनुसार पटना शहर में 24-25 तारीख की रात को फ्लड का पानी आया था

और इस फ्लड से हमारी बिल्डिंग भी महकम नहीं हुई, उसी दिन उस बिल्डिंग में भी पानी घुस गया।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मंत्री जी यह भी गलत जवाब दे रहे हैं। बाढ़ का पानी 24 को घुसा पटना शहर में और 26 को घुसा इनके मकान में यानी तीसरे दिन इनके मकान में पानी आया। अगर मंत्री जी को पूरी खबर नहीं है तो वह कह देते कि बाद में बताऊँगा। मैं चूँकि वही का रहने वाला हूँ इसलिए मुझे पूरी जानकारी है। मैंने मंत्री जी से पूछा था कि पानी घुसने से, जो वहाँ पर सामान रखा हुआ था वह किमबा बर्बाद हुआ, कितने रुपए की उससे बर्बादी हुई लेकिन उसको उन्होंने बिल्कुल गोल कर दिया, कोई जवाब नहीं दिया। मंत्री जी ने कहा कि सामान को हटाने में चार हजार रुपए खर्च हो गए। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ जनता के पैसों से खरीदा गया कितने रुपए का सामान बर्बाद हुआ, इतना विलम्ब क्यों किया गया और इतने पैसे कैसे खर्च हो गए? चार हजार रुपए केवल नीचे की स्टोरी से ऊपर की स्टोरी में सामान ले जाने में कैसे खर्च हो गए? मंत्री जी बतायें कि कितने रुपए की बर्बादी हुई और सामान को हटाने में इतने पैसे का खर्चा कैसे हो गया?

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : माननीय सदस्य से मैंने पहले भी अर्ज किया था कि इस बिल्डिंग की दूसरी स्टोरी पर कुछ सामान ही ले गए और जो हमारा स्टोर पड़ा हुआ था बगन की बिल्डिंग में, जो कि ज्यादा सुरक्षित था वहाँ पर सामान लाने से जाने में, उसको सुखाने में और उसको पुनः सुधार करके कमिशन करने में इतने रुपए खर्च हुए। इसमें सामान की बर्बादी नहीं हुई जैसा कि पूछा गया है। सामान को सुखा करके काम में लाया गया। वह इतना बड़ा काम था, जैसा कि मैंने पहले बयान किया कि रातों रात हमारे पी० एण्ड टी० के एम्प्लॉई से अपनी जान की

परवाहन करके इस काम को किया और तीन दिन के भीतर-भीतर जो मुख्य-मुख्य कनेक्शन थे जिनकी सरकारी काम काज के लिए और बाढ़ की सहायता के लिए जरूरत थी उनको दे दिया गया। हो सकता है इसके बाद भी कहीं पर काम की कुछ कमी रही हो लेकिन एक हफ्ते के अन्दर सारे देश को पटना के साथ जोड़ दिया गया था।

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री : लास तो इन्होंने बताया ही नहीं।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आपके पास घाटे कं. फिगर्स हैं क्या।

श्री जगन्नाथ पहाड़िया : जी नहीं।

श्री रामाबतार शास्त्री : असल में मेरे सवाल तो यही है कि बाटा कितना हुआ।

संचार मंत्री (डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा)
जो प्रश्न है वह एलेक्ट्रिकल गुब्बस और टेलीफोन के बारे में है। इसमें 4,200 रु० का खर्चा हुआ है। तीन हजार पया खर्चा हुआ बकिंग बर्गरह में और बारह सौ खर्चा हुआ सामान को इधर-उधर लाने ले जाने में।

श्री बिभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष जी, जिस रात को पटना में बाढ़ आई तब तक मैं बीमारी से मुक्त हो चुका था लेकिन कमजोरी बड़ी खबरदस्त थी। 12 बजे रात को किसी ने मेरे लडके को टेलीफोन किया कि बाघ टूट गया है तो फटिलाइजर कारपोरेशन के गेस्ट हाउस में मुझे नीचे के तल्ले में ले गए। जब नीचे पानी आ गया तो तीन तल्ले पर ले गए। एक बगाली साहब पानी देखकर भाग गए थे इसलिए मुझे वह जगह मिल गई। (अध्यात्म) गेरुआ रंग का पानी था जिस को देखकर सभी लोग घबड़ा गए। मैं तीन मंजिल पर गया और मैं 15 दिन बीमार रहा था, मैंने एक सार प्राइम मिनिस्टर को दिया था तो प्राइम मिनिस्टर ने मेहरबानी

करके वहां से मुझे बुलाने का प्रयत्न किया और मैं यहां आया। तो मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि मिथाय एक लाइन जो गया हो करके थी उसी पर तार का सिस्टम था और दूसरी कोई लाइन नहीं थी, सारा उत्तर बिहार कट गया था। जो बाढ़ आई वह सुबह के दस बजे के बाद आई जिसमें पटना का सारा पश्चिम और सारा उत्तर समाप्त हो गया और मंत्री जो का विभाग न कही आया न कही गया। इनका दफ्तर जो है वह स्टेशन से नजदीक है आपने भी देखा होगा क्योंकि आप भी वहां के बाम्नी हैं। वहां पर दो रोज के बाद पानी आया। पटना जकेशन पर पानी आ चुका था लेकिन इनके दफ्तर में दो रोज के बाद पानी आया। तो मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि नती आपकी क्षति हुई क्योंकि आज तक आपने इसका मूल्यांकन नहीं दिया है। बहुत से लोग ऐसे थे जिन्होंने अपना सामान नीचे में उठा कर ऊपर रखा लेकिन आपके विभाग के आदमियों ने बड़ी ढिलाई की। वे न तो और जगह टेलीफोन ठीक करने के लिए गए और न अपना सामान ठीक करने के लिए गए। हम सब यहां पर आई बन्द है, एक देश के रहने वाले हैं आप वहां से मच्ची रिपोर्ट ममा कर रही जवाब दीजिए ताकि लोग गुमराह न हों।

डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा अध्यक्ष जी प्रश्न बिजली के सामान और टेलीफोन के बारे में था। जो वहां पर नुकसान हुआ और जो वहां पर लोगों ने काम किया उसके बारे में हम सदन में चर्चा हो चुकी है। मैं बहुत ही अदब के साथ माननीय सदस्य से कहूंगा कि इस पूरे समय में हमारे कर्मचारियों ने बहुत देशभक्ति के साथ और लगन के साथ काम किया है। जो हालात वहां पर थे, जो अडरगाउण्ड लाइन्स थी उनमें पानी भर गया था, जगह-जगह पानी भरा हुआ था, मैं आपको बताऊं 18-18 घंटे हमारे वर्कर्स ने काम किया, ओवर टाइम मागे बिना बले-बले तः पानी में गए हैं, इन हालात में सुबह से शाम तक

काम किया है और इससे ज्यादा मैं समझता हूँ किसी भी दूसरे देश के काम करने वाले काम नहीं कर पाते। जो अन्डर वाउण्ड कैबिन्स हैं उनमें अगर पानी भर जाये तो हमारे लिए कोई रास्ता नहीं रहता है, सारे इन्वीपमेंट को हटाया गया और फिर चालू किया गया। एक तरफ से लाइन जोड़ी, वह नहीं जुड़ सकी तो दूसरी तरफ से जोड़ी, कुछ न कुछ लिंक रखा। मैं तारीख़वार बता सकता हूँ कि किस दिन कौनसी लाइन हमने चालू की। मैं समझता हूँ यह सही होगा कि जो हमारे कर्मचारियों ने इन कठिनाइयों में काम किया है उसके लिए उनको बधाई दें, इस सदन में भी इसके लिए कहा जा चुका है कि उन्होंने बहुत मेहनत से काम किया। अभी जो यह प्रश्न था वह बिजली के सामान के बारे में था जिसके लिए हमने बता दिया। बाकी जो नुकसान हुआ, हमने कुछ सामान मंगवाया, हवाई जहाज़ से सामान मंगवाया और इस विपत्ति के समय जैसा कि आपको पता होगा जब हमारा लिंक जुड़ गया तो तीन दिन तक हमने प्री कर दिया पोस्ट और टेलीग्राफ़ सभी कुछ और अगर इस तरह से देखा जाये तो लाखों का नुकसान हुआ लेकिन वह सभी के साथ था।

श्री विभूति मिश्र : प्राइम मिनिस्टर के जाने के बाद सारी कार्यवाही हुई, उसके पहले कोई कार्यवाही नहीं हुई।

U.S Preparations for Naval and Air Base at Diego Garcia

*155. SHRI BHOGENDR JHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the U.S. preparations for establishing naval and air bases at Diego Garcia island is going on unabated;

(b) if so, the steps being taken to stop the same;

(c) which of the littoral States of the Indian Ocean have opposed the establishment of this base for maintaining the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace; and

(d) whether it is proposed to hold a Conference of the Littoral countries for keeping Indian Oceans as Zone of Peace and for securing U.N. sanctions for the same?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Government have seen reports to this effect.

(b) This is a matter that concerns all the littoral and hinterland States of the Indian Ocean and the international community. Government have given strong support to the moves for establishing Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and eliminating foreign military bases from there.

(c) The overwhelming majority of the littoral States have voted for United Nations General Assembly's resolutions on the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace.

(d) The U. N. Ad Hoc Committee on the Indian Ocean, of which India is a member, is actively engaged in consultations on convening an International Conference on the Indian Ocean for the implementation of the U. N. Resolutions on declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace. The Government is in favour of holding such a Conference attended by Great Powers and the major maritime users as well as the littoral and hinterland States

SHRI BHOGENDR JHA: Formerly, we all know that the U. S. and the U. K. Governments had denied that there was any human habitation in the Diego Garcia island but the Aide to the Prime Minister of Mauritius Mr. Ghulam had unveiled the fact and we all came to know that about 200 persons have been recruited there. Now, the latest news is that Iran and Pakistan also issued a communique—when the Shah of Iran went to Pakistan—

declaring that the Indian Ocean should be zone of peace. Today's news is that Libya have also supported our move.

In such a situation, I had asked which country remains among the littoral States, still opposed to that move. That has not been answered. The question is not only that they have got a base. According to the Washington Star News dated 27th December--

"The Pentagon is also intensifying its activities involving existing facilities. Anti-submarine long-range aircraft are based on the island. Its airfield is used by U-2 spy planes and air tankers for in flight refuelling of B-52 strategic bombers. The naval communications station maintains communications with Polaris submarines."

We all know the story of U.S. In U.S. has been giving the pretext that in order to counter the Soviet Union they are doing it. The U.S. pipelines cannot enter Soviet space. It is meant only for the littoral States and naturally India is among the main targets. In such a situation what initiative is the Government of India taking to convene a conference and which country has not yet agreed to the proposal for keeping this as a zone of peace. In order to persuade that Government what steps are we taking in this background and in the background of all their military adventures? The U.S. has said that it will be only a refuelling base but according to this news—which has not yet been contradicted by Pentagon—it is not so. This poses a serious danger to our own sovereignty and to peace in the area. So what specific steps are being taken in this regard?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN
The specific step we are taking is to support the conference. The Committee is in consultation with all the littoral and hinterland States, great powers and major maritime users for convening the conference and we have

conveyed our views. In our opinion for the conference to be successful, it would be necessary for the great powers and major maritime users to be present there so that when the conference discusses this, it would be discussing it realistically. That is the main point.

Now, you wanted to know which are the States for and against. It is a tricky situation. As you know, there are about 27 littoral States among which from the very beginning I must say that South Africa has never supported it and while Australia supported it somewhat during one regime, it has changed its position now, all the others have generally supported the concept of Indian Ocean being a zone of peace. That is the present position.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA As the reply suggests all the non-white States are totally supporting this now. We all know that the target is Arab oil, Middle-East oil, the South African properties, minerals etc. and rubber and tea of the South Eastern countries and several times the U.S. had threatened—Mr. Ford had threatened that they will buy some oil wells in the Arab countries and once even Mr. Moynihan when he was Ambassador in India had asked in Madras, why the name should be Indian Ocean and not Madagascar Sea. So the target is very clear, their motive is apparent and the threat to our own existence is there. In such a situation what specific steps are we taking against U.S. when it is violating the territorial waters of the Indian Ocean and is bringing war on our borders. Are we taking any action to declare that the action of the U.S. is hostile to India? Are we taking any diplomatic steps bilaterally against U.S. that if they persist in this path of destruction of the territories here spoiling the atmosphere we may in such a situation, even go to the extent of declaring that our normal relations with U.S. will not remain? If not, what other steps are we taking?

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN
The hon. Member should understand that this is not bilateral question between the USA and India. This is a question which will have to be dealt with at international level, and that is why the whole question was

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA India is the biggest country

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN It is a big country no doubt. But there are many other big countries also in this region. Even then, India, in such an important matter where two continents are concerned, Africa on the one side and Asia on the other side cannot take any individual position and isolate itself in any way. That is not even in the interest of the proposition that we want to achieve. Therefore we will have to work in the same way in which we are working.

SHRI N K P SALVE Because of geographic compulsion, it is absolutely undeniable that we have tremendous interests in the military activities in the Indian Ocean particularly in Diego Garcia. Despite Resolution being passed year after year from 1971 declaring the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace and requiring the Super Powers to withdraw their military installations the Resolution has been respected by the Super Powers only in its breach. Particularly the United States role is extremely deplorable. The fact is that in Diego Garcia having ousted the natives who were saying there the United States are establishing a nuclear base. It is reported that a nuclear base is being established by the USA. I want to know from the Minister whether this report which has appeared extensively in the newspapers in South East Asia and Japan, is correct that the USA is installing a nuclear base, and if this is correct then with reference to this development what further steps we have taken in the matter.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN
Yes, I think, by implication what you

say may be right. The UK and the USA have entered into a supplementary agreement on 25th February, 1976 for the conversion of the limited naval communication facility into a support facility of the United States navy which means a full fledged naval base and a full fledged naval base means all the things.

SHRI N K P SALVE It is a unclear base.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN
This is what it means. This seems to be a fact. It is also true that despite all these Resolutions and the expressions of opinion made by a number of countries in these Continents both the UK and the USA seem to be keen on proceeding further. This is the position. And I would say that we would certainly continue the efforts on the lines I have indicated.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI
We have known from the hon. Minister that the military base in Diego Garcia will ultimately not only be a threat to the Indian Ocean and the littoral States but may pose a genuine problem for world peace. In that context I want to know whether this Ministry specially our Government, have taken any initiative to mobilise the opinion of the non-aligned countries in connection with Diego Garcia being used by the United States as a military base and also whether in the larger context in the UN General Assembly the Government of India and other nations specially the littoral countries have tried to mobilise the opinion of other countries which are not interested in the Indian Ocean but interested in world peace specially the big Powers like France, the UK and the Soviet Union.

SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN
This is exactly what we have been doing. We are mobilizing support in the non-aligned movement, we are active and vocal in the UN organisation and in our bilateral discussions with other countries.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Accumulation in 'Silent Accounts' in Post Offices

*142. SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount in 'silent accounts' accumulated in the post offices till the end of December, 1975; and

(b) how Government propose to dispose of the amount thus accumulated?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Rs. 24 crores.

(b) Holders of the silent accounts have been requested to get their accounts reactivated by applying to the post office where the account stands so that they may withdraw the amount standing in their names. These steps have been taken through adequate publicity by giving press note and advertisement in all the leading newspapers and by issuing instructions to all the Heads of Postal Circles to write to the account holders at the last known address advising them to revive the silent accounts.

Construction of Dry Dock Workshop at Alleppey

*146. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the scheme for providing terminal facilities at Alleppey by constructing dry dock workshop submitted by the Kerala State Government has been approved by Union Government; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON): (a): No Sir,

(b): Does not arise.

Functioning of the Trunk Telephone System in Upper Assam

*148. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the trunk telephone system in the upper Assam area is so poor that no trunk call booked from any exchange to Calcutta, Delhi has ever matured within 12 hours; and

(b) if so, the measures taken to remove this deficiency?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) (a) No, Sir. Calls to Calcutta from the major exchanges in Upper Assam are established within two hours, on an average. Calls to Delhi are delayed to a greater extent, but 60 to 70 per cent of such calls become effective every day.

(b) The traffic are scrutinised on a continuous basis and wherever traffic justifies, additional circuits are planned and arranged. Immediately numbers of circuits between Tinsukia Calcutta, Tinsukia—Gauhati, Jorhat—Gauhati and Dibrugarh—Calcutta are being augmented by one each route.

Allocation for Construction of Additional Ship-Building Yards

*149 SHRI P. M. MEHTA. Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) the allocation in the Fifth Five Year Plan for construction of additional ship-building yards and the type of ships for which additional shipyards are proposed to be constructed and their sites;

(b) how far the allocation has been utilised; and

(c) what are the proposals to be completed during the remaining period of the Fifth Plan?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON):

(a) A sum of Rs. 50.00 crores has been provided in the Fifth Five Year Plan for construction of new shipyards. The question of selection of sites for the shipyards and the type of ships to be constructed is under consideration.

(b) About Rs. 16.25 lakhs have been spent so far on the preparation of Preliminary Project Reports by foreign consultants and on other incidental items.

(c) Further action in the matter will be taken after a decision in regard to the establishment of the shipyards is taken.

राष्ट्रीय टेलीफोन ग्रिड योजना

*151. श्री के० एम० मधुकर :
क्या संचार मन्त्री यह बनाने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार का अखिल भारतीय विद्युत ग्रिड योजना की भाति एक राष्ट्रीय टेलीफोन ग्रिड योजना बनाने का विचार है; और

(ख) यदि हा, तो क्या सरकार ने कोई ऐसी समय-सीमा निर्धारित की है जिसमें यह योजना क्रियान्वित की जायेगी ?

संचार मन्त्री (डा० शंकर दयाल शर्मा)

(क) टेलीफोनो के लिए राष्ट्रीय ग्रिड पहले से ही मौजूद है जिसे दूर संचार नेट-वर्क के नाम से पुकारा जाता है।

दूर संचार नेट-वर्क में अभी हाल तक अधिकांश रूप में खुली तार लाइने थी और ट्रंक काले आपरेटरों द्वारा मिलाई जाती थी। अब इस नेट-वर्क में मुख्य लिंकों के लिए माइक्रोवेव और कोऑक्सियल प्रणालियां लगा

दी गई हैं। अन्तिम उद्देश्य यह है कि राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर उपभोक्ता ट्रंक डायलिंग की व्यवस्था कर दी जाए। इस समय भी 55 प्रतिशत ट्रंक कालें आटोमेटिक ढंग से निपटार जाते हैं।

(ख) राष्ट्रीय स्तर पर उपभोक्ता ट्रंक डायलिंग सुविधा देने के सम्बन्ध में समय की कोई सीमा निर्धारित नहीं की गई है। यह योजना साधनों और उपकरणों के उपलब्ध होने के मुताबिक क्रमशः क्रियान्वित की जाएगी।

Forewarning of Chasnala Disaster by Central Mining Research Station

*153. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Mining Research Station had warned about the possibility of a disaster in the Chasnala colliery five months before the actual tragedy; and

(b) if so, the steps taken against the concerned officials who neglected the warnings?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV) (a) and (b). In view of the fact that the Court of Inquiry set up to ascertain the causes of and circumstances attending the accident at the Chasnalla colliery, is now functioning, it would not be appropriate to express any view on the question raised at this stage. The Court will no doubt examine the issue raised and action, if any, would be considered after the receipt of the report of the Court of Inquiry.

Sino-Indian Relations

*156. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the further steps taken by Government to normalise relations with China;

(b) whether there is any possibility of exchange of Ambassadors between these two countries in near future; and

(c) the main hurdles in the way of establishment of good neighbourly relations between India and China?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRA CHAVAN) (a) to (c): The Government has taken several concrete measures towards normalisation of relations. However, a suitable response from the Chinese side is still awaited. It is this lack of a suitable response from the Chinese side which has been the main hurdle in the establishment of good neighbourly relations between the two countries.

Modernisation of Cargo-Handling and Port Facilities

*157. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to modernise cargo-handling and port facilities in order to develop our national liners and compete in world trade; and

(b) if so, steps taken in this direction in general and Calcutta Port in particular?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON): (a) and (b): Development schemes

have been undertaken in the different major ports for handling of bigger vessels and faster loading unloading of cargo.

Calcutta Port, with its present draught limitations cannot handle big ships. Haldia which is being developed as a deep water port a few miles down stream of Calcutta would ultimately be able to handle vessels of 80,000 DWT at 40 ft. draught. The Port will be equipped with high speed mechanical handling facilities for iron, ore, coal and fertilizers, and will have a General Cargo berth with trans-tainer and portainer cranes for handling containers and a Finger Jetty equipped with cranes for transferring cargo from larger ships to smaller ships or into craft.

65-Crore Project for Mormugao Port

*158. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rs. 65-crore project at the Mormugao Port is expected to be completed by the end of this year; and

(b) the progress so far made in its work?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (DR. G. S. DHILLON): (a) and (b): A statement containing the required information is laid on the table of the Sabha.

Statement

(a) It is expected to be substantially completed by the end of this year.

(b) Itemwise progress is given below:

Civil Works

- | | |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|
| (i) Barge berths | Completed |
| (ii) Dredging | Expected completion, date is March/April '77. |
| (iii) Ore and Oil Berth | Expected date of completion—May 1976 |
| (iv) Foundations for Mechanical equipment | Progressively completed by September 1976. |

Mechanical Works

- | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|
| (i) Barge unloaders | Expected date of commissioning December 1976. |
| (ii) Ore Loading Plant Consisting of conveyor System, Stackers, reclaimers, shiploaders. | Expected date of Commission progressively by December, 1976, |

Flotilla

(i) Trailing Suction Dredger	Delivered.
(ii) Hopper Suction Dredger	. N ari ng completion
(iii) Tugs	. . . Expected delivery by December, 1976

New Post Offices in Eastern and North Eastern Region

*159 SHRI ARJUN SETHI Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No 320 dated the 29th January, 1976 regarding new post offices in Eastern and North Eastern Region and state

(a) whether the lifting of ban orders have been communicated to all Post Master Generals and General Manager, Telecommunications in the country, and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA) (a) and (b) There is no ban on opening of post offices in very backward Tribal and Hilly areas. The question of reviewing the restrictions placed on opening of new post offices in other areas is under examination

20-Year Perspective Plan for Central Government Health Services

*160 SHRI D D DESAI Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have prepared a 20-year perspective plan for Central Government Health Service; and

(b) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (DR KARAN SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir

(b) A statement showing the outlines of the plan for Central Government Health Scheme is placed on the Table of the Sabha

Statement

The Central Government Health Scheme was introduced in Delhi in 1954. Subsequently, it was extended to Bombay in the Third Five Year Plan, to Allahabad, Meerut, Calcutta and Kanpur in the Fourth Five Year Plan to Nagpur, Madras, Bangalore and Hyderabad during the first two years of the Fifth Five Year Plan.

The outlines of the Perspective Plan for 1974-94 which was prepared in 1973 are as follows—

- (1) expansion/consolidation of the Scheme in cities where it is already functioning, and
- (2) extension to new cities

Cities having a concentration of 7,500 families or more of Central Government servants will be brought within the purview of the Scheme.

The expansion/consolidation envisaged is—

- (1) **Bombay**—Construction of a CGHS Hospital and coverage of additional families.
- (2) **Calcutta**—Coverage of 40,000 additional families and construction of a hospital.
- (3) **Kanpur**—Construction of a hospital and coverage of 10,000 additional families.

- (4) Allahabad—coverage of 5,000 additional families and setting up a polyclinic.
- (5) Meerut—Opening of a polyclinic and coverage of 5,000 additional families.
- (6) Madras—construction of a hospital and coverage of 10,000 additional families.
- (7) Nagpur—setting up a polyclinic and coverage of 5,000 additional families.

The new cities which are expected to be brought within the purview of the Scheme are:

Poona	Ahmedabad
Lucknow	Agra
Jabalpur	Varanasi
Kharagpur	Tiruchirapalli
Bangalore	Dehradun
Hyderabad	Bikaner
Gorakhpur	Vishakapatnam
Jhansi	Jodhpur
Ajmer	Asansol
Jaipur	Shahjahanpur

The position regarding implementation of the Scheme may have to be reviewed depending upon the availability of resources, administrative convenience, accommodation, etc.

Fifth Plan Outlay for Research Schemes of Labour Bureau

767. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the total Fifth Plan outlay approved by the Planning Commis-

sion for various research schemes proposed by the Labour Bureau, scheme-wise;

(b) how much has been provided for research schemes pertaining to rural labour out of the total outlay;

(c) whether any provision has been made to undertake national survey of bonded labour and intensive type studies in areas where central sector schemes for economic uplift of small marginal farmers and rural labour are in operation to make research programme utility-oriented; and

(d) other research schemes proposed to be undertaken in the rural sector?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) Rs. 120 lakhs. A statement giving scheme-wise break-up is attached.

(b) Rs. 36.42 lakhs for the Second Rural Labour Enquiry and for Intensive Type Studies on Rural Labour in India.

(c) There is no proposal by Labour Bureau to undertake National Survey of bonded labour and hence no provision exists for this survey. Provision has however, been made for the survey relating to Intensive Type Studies on Rural Labour in India.

(d) A Research project on the "Study of Peasant Organisations in India" has been undertaken by the National Labour Institute. The question of undertaking a few more research programmes/projects in rural sector are under their examination.

Statement

Statement showing the total Fifth Plan Outlay for the Research Schemes of the Labour Bureau.

S. No.	Name of the Scheme	Fifth Plan Outlay (1974-79)
1	2	3
		(Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Second Rural Labour Enquiry	21.42
2.	Third Occupational Wage Survey	12.02
3.	Intensive Type Studies on Rural Labour in India	15.00
4.	(a) Estimation of Margin of Error Scheme	} 9.75
	(b) Follow up action on the results of Surveys conducted under the Margin of Error Scheme	
5.	Collection of data on Employment and Wages in respect of Workers engaged in the Unorganised Sector of Industries	5.00
6.	Survey relating to Working and Living Conditions of Labour belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe Communities	9.50
7.	Working Class Family Income & Expenditure Survey at 60 Centres	7.11
8.	Research Project (Socio-economic Conditions of Women workers in Industry)	1.00
9.	Collection of Statistics of Industrial Disputes	2.50
10.	Improvement of Labour Statistics—Training-cum-Liaison Scheme	18.30
11.	Collection of Labour Statistics under the Annual Survey of Industries—Sample Sector (Factories) Plantations and Mining Sector	10.83
12.	Central Directory of Establishments	7.57
TOTAL—Rs.		120.00

मध्य प्रदेश तथा अन्य राज्यों में श्रमिकों के लिए श्रम कल्याण केन्द्र

768. श्री गंगाचरण दीक्षित : क्या श्रम मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पांचवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना की अवधि के दौरान मध्य प्रदेश के कुछ जिलों में कृषि श्रमिकों के लिए सामान्य श्रम कल्याण केन्द्र स्थापित करने का प्रस्ताव है; और

(ख) क्या अन्य राज्यों में भी उक्त केन्द्र स्थापित करने का सरकार का विचार है ?

श्रम मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बाल-गोविन्द वर्मा) : (क) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और वह सदन की मेज पर रख दी जाएगी ।

(ख) केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास ऐसा समय कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है ।

Development of Deogadh Port as Major Port

769. PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether investigations have revealed that the Deogadh Port on Konkan coast of Maharashtra has potentialities of a major port; and

(b) if so, steps proposed to develop Deogadh as a major port?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) and (b). The responsibility for the development of Ports other than Major Ports vests in the State Governments concerned. Central Government however renders technical assistance to the State Governments whenever required. Financial assistance in the form of long-term loans is also given to selected minor Ports under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes in the Fourth Plan. Deogadh Port is not covered under this Scheme. Central Government has not conducted any investigation on whether Deogadh has the potential of a Major Port. Also, no steps are under contemplation of Central Government to develop it into a Major Port.

Export and Import of steel during 1973-75

770. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of steel imported and exported during the years 1973-75;

(b) targets of steel production and the extent of its fulfilment during the same period; and

(c) the target of steel production, including its varieties, during the year 1976?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a). Imports of steel during 1973-74 and 1974-75 were mainly in the form of flat products of mild steel viz. sheets plates, strips and coils. In addition, certain varieties of tool alloy and special steel and stainless steel were imported.

Exports during 1973-74 were mainly pig iron, rails, bars and rods and during 1974-75, pig iron, billets, bars and rods, structural and wires.

(b) Targets of production and fulfilment 1973-75

(Main Plants)

		Ingot Steel			Saleable Steel		
Period		Target (000T)	Actual (000T)	Fulfilment %	Target (000T)	Actual (000T)	Fulfilment %
1973-74	. . .	7,128	5,722	80%	5,442	4,353	80%
1974-75	. . .	6,575	6,264	95%	5,044	4,899	97%

(c) Target of Ingot & Saleable Steel Production (Main Steel Plants)—Categorywise 1975-76

(000'T)

Category	Quantity
1 Ingot Steel (Total)	7,647
2 Saleable Steel	
2.1 Semi-finished materials	1,426
2.2 Bars, Rods & Structural	2,198
2.3 Railway Materials	446
2.4 Flat Products	1,584
2.5 ERW Pipes	45
2.6 Total Saleable Steel	5,700

Measures by Delhi Administration for Family Planning

771. SHRI BISWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether recently the Delhi Administration has introduced a package programme of disincentives for promoting the cause of family planning in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE):

(a) Yes.

(b) A note giving details of the incentives and disincentives introduced by Delhi Administration is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10463/76].

Drug Adulteration

772. SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND

FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that large scale adulteration in drugs is causing several deaths in the country; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) There is no clear evidence to this effect. However, in some cases deaths have been attributed to adulteration in drugs;

(b) The Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 contains adequate provisions for checking adulteration in drugs. However, it is proposed to amend the provisions of the Act to make it more effective.

Pricing Policy of Steel Materials

773. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that certain sections are of the opinion that unrealistic pricing policy of the steel materials has left little scope for capital formation; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and steps proposed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b) The need for capital formation is duly taken into consideration while fixing prices of steel materials.

Opening of Post Offices in Orissa during Fifth Five Year Plan

774. SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of post offices proposed to be opened during the Fifth Five Year Plan in Orissa; and

(b) the steps proposed to be taken to improve the working of post offices in rural areas of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) About 440 offices are proposed to be opened during the Fifth Plan.

(b) In order to improve and expedite Postal services in the rural areas of Orissa, it is proposed to provide daily delivery service in all the villages of the State as early as possible. A number of runner lines are also proposed to be converted into mail motor lines in order to expedite conveyance of mails. Some Mobile Post Offices on cycles are also proposed to be opened in the rural areas wherever feasible

परिवार नियोजन के उपायों का असफल रहना

775. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पांडेय :
क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम जन्म-दर बढ़ा रोकने में प्रायः असफल रहा है.

(ख) यदि हा, तो सरकार ने इस हेतु अन्य क्या उपाय किए हैं और

(ग) वर्ष 1971-72 की तुलना में गत तीन वर्षों में जन्म-दर में कमी की क्या प्रतिशतता रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० के० एम० इस्हाक) :
(क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

(ग) परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम के परिणामस्वरूप रोके गए जन्मों के अनुसार अनुमान है कि 1971-72 की तुलना में 1972-73 में जन्म-दर में लगभग 1.9 प्रतिशत, 1973-74 में 4.6 प्रतिशत और 1974-75 में 5.7 प्रतिशत की कमी हुई है ।

कृषि श्रमिकों पर भूमि सुधार कानूनों का प्रभाव

776. श्री भगवीराम भंडार : क्या अन्न मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गत तीन वर्षों में देश में भूमि सुधार कानूनों के परिणामस्वरूप कृषि श्रमिकों की मज्दूरी में राज्यवार कितने प्रतिशत घट बढ़ हुई है, और

(ख) क्या सरकार ने ग्रामीण कृषि श्रमिकों का उनकी बेकारी के समय में काम देने की कोई योजना बनवाई है ?

अन्न मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बाल गोविन्द वर्मा) (क) 1961 और 1971 में खेतिहर श्रमिकों में हुई वृद्धि या कमी की ग.उ.दर प्रतिशत, दर्शाने वाला एक विवरण सदन की मेज पर रखा जाता है । भूमि सुधार कानूनों का इन गांवों से किस हद तक सम्बन्ध है, इसमें बारे में विभिन्न पक्षों पर विचार पर पटुता बढित है ।

(ख) एक विवरण सदन की मेज पर रखा जाता है । [संसद में रखा गया । देखिये मज्दूरी एल टी-10464/76]

मध्य प्रदेश में स्वर्ण भंडार मिलना

777. श्री हुसैन खान कछवाह : क्या इस्पात और खान मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या एक समाचार छपा है कि मध्य प्रदेश के जिला रायगढ़ के बरजर ग्राम में उच्च किस्म के स्वर्ण भंडार मिले हैं ;

(ख) क्या ये स्वर्ण भंडार लगभग 500 किलोमीटर के क्षेत्र में हैं, यदि हां, तो क्या इस सम्बन्ध में सर्वेक्षण कार्य सब प्रकार से पूर्ण हो चुका है और यदि हां, तो इस क्षेत्र में भट्टी आदि का कार्य कब तक पूरा हो जायेगा और इस कार्य पर कितना धन लगेगा; और

(ग) कितना मोना निकाले जाने की सम्भावना है और क्या इस मोने की किस्म का भी पता लगाया गया है और यदि हां, तो कितने प्रकार का स्वर्ण मिलने की आशा है ?

इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री मुखर्जी प्रसाद) : (क) समाचार पत्रों की खबरों के अनुसार रायगढ़ जिले में स्वर्ण होने की सूचना मिली है ।

(ख) और (ग). लगभग 128 वर्ग किलोमीटर क्षेत्र में किए गए प्रारम्भिक सर्वेक्षण में स्वर्ण होने के संकेत मिले हैं । अभी व्यापक सर्वेक्षण किया जाना है और इस समय इस खनिज की खड़ाई की सम्भावना के बारे में कुछ कहना या ब्यापार देना सम्भव नहीं है ।

Survey of Bonded Labour System

778. SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a survey has been conducted in those States and Union Territories recently that have reported that they do not have the problems of bonded labour; and

(b) if so, the outlines of the survey?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a). No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

एक विशेष प्रकार के रोग का फैलना

779. श्री जनेश्वर शिंदे : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने इस बात का पता लगाने के लिये कोई अध्ययन किया है कि मिलावट और वायु दूषण के कारण देश के बड़े नगरों और औद्योगिक बस्तियों में एक विशेष प्रकार की बीमारी फैल रही है,

(ख) क्या देश की राजधानी भी प्रभावित है, और

(ग) इसे रोकने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० के० एम० इसहाक) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) और (ग). ये प्रश्न नहीं उठते ।

Opening of Public Call Offices in Tribal Development Blocks of Maharashtra

780. SHRI Z. M. KAHANDOLE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are numerous complaints about the unsatisfactory working of all the public telephone call booths in the nine Tribal Development Blocks in the Nasik District of Maharashtra;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to keep them in working condition;

(c) whether there is any proposal to open public call offices in remaining Tribal Development Blocks of Maharashtra; and

(d) if so, the outlines thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL

SHARMA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. PCOs are working satisfactorily. However, 3 Channel Telephone system is proposed to be installed to improve speech of Igatpuri PCO. Copper wire of Surgana and Paint PCOs is proposed to be replaced by Aluminium wire to avoid copper wire thefts.

(c) and (d). The Sub. Plan for Tribal Development Blocks of Maharashtra has not yet been finalised by the State Government. Proposals to open P.C.Os in such Tribal Development Blocks will be considered after finalisation of the sub-plan.

Working in five Coal Mines Banned

781. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently banned the working in five coal mines in the country; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). Apprehended danger of inundation.

Economic Cooperation between India and Sri Lanka

782. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the representatives of India and Sri Lanka have decided, at a recent meeting, to extend economic co-operation between the two countries; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b). The broad features of the decisions reached during the Third Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission Meeting held in New Delhi from 5th to 10th February, 1976 are as follows:

(1) Agreements were signed for grant to Sri Lanka of a fresh credit of Rs. 5 crores, setting up of a microwave link between the two countries, further development of cooperation in science and technology and extension of civil aviation facilities.

(2) Steps will be taken to increase the trade.

(3) Technical and economic cooperation in fisheries, cattle development, rural technical centres, sugarcane production, diesel engines, electric motors and pumps, mica-mining etc. will be extended.

(4) Possibilities of a link-up of the power grids will be examined by the two governments on the basis of technical studies being undertaken.

Alloy Steel Industry in Doldrums

783. SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a New Delhi newspaper report dated the 4th February, 1976 titled 'Alloy Steel Industry in doldrums'; and

(b) if so, the remedial measures proposed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a). Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not correct that Government has decided to permit mini steel plants to diversify into alloy

steel field. In May 1974, Government had permitted such of the mini steel plants as were interested to diversify into production of a few low alloy and special steels. Government have appointed two consultants to study the problems of the mini steel plant industry and to make suitable recommendations to solve their problems. Factors like the demand and availability for different kinds of alloy and special steels would no doubt be taken into account by them. Meanwhile, the policy is generally not to allow new units for production of alloy and special steels.

Rehabilitation of TISCO

784. **SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPAN:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 123 on 15th January, 1976 regarding expansion of TISCO and state:

(a) whether TISCO have not asked for Rs. 250 crores from Government to rehabilitate the industry;

(b) if so, the decision of Government in this regard;

(c) whether 44 per cent. of shares of TISCO belong to Government; and

(d) the steps proposed by Government to gear up TISCO's production?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a). There has been no such request from TISCO so far.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) About 43 per cent. of the ordinary shares of TISCO are held by Government, Public Financial Institutions, Nationalised Banks and Nationalised Insurance Companies.

(d) The company's production vis-à-vis the installed capacity is satisfactory. During 1975-76, the utilisation

of capacity so far in terms of saleable steel, is about 98 per cent.

Karmahom Conference

785. **SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Russian Shipping Company has applied for membership of the Indian-Bangladesh-Pakistan and UK Shipping lines Conference better known as Karmahom Conference;

(b) decision taken in regard to the Russian application in the meeting of the Conference held in London, in the third week of February; and

(c) stand taken by the representatives of Indian Shipping Companies attending this meeting and the views of Government of India in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI):

(a) The V/O Sovinlot the Soviet Organisation responsible for booking cargoes for Soviet vessels in cross trade had informed the DSR line of GDR about the inauguration of a new USSR Liner service to the IPBC area and the DSR Line had brought this to the notice of the Conference.

(b) The Conference authorised its Chairman, IPBC to hold exploratory talks with V/O Sovinlot, Moscow.

(c) The Indian Lines did not react on the issue at the meeting. The Government are considering the matter.

Construction of Torsha Bridge

786. **SHRI TUNA ORAON:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the amount sanctioned for construction of Torsha Bridge, near Silbarihat in Jalpaiguri on N.H. No. 31 was returned unspent; and

(b) if so, what is the amount and the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No work for the construction of the bridge across river Torsha on National Highway 31 at Silbarihat has been sanctioned by this Ministry.

(b) Does not arise.

Formation of Asia Pacific Telecommunity

787. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India has supported the formation of an Asia Pacific Telecommunity—a regional organisation to promote growth of telecommunication in Bangkok meeting;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Constitution for the Asia Pacific Telecommunity has been finalised at the meeting of the Inter-Governmental Working Party of Experts held in Bangkok in February, 1976.

(c) The Finalised Constitution is in line with the Draft Constitution circulated by India. After receipt of the finalised copy from the ESCAP Secretariat, Government would take further action for its ratification.

Non-recognition of Foreign Medical Degrees

788. SHRI JHARKHANDE RAI:
SHRI SARJOO PANDEY:
Will the Minister of HEALTH AND

FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indian Medical Council has not recognised medical degrees given by the universities in the East European countries;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government are aware that Doctors coming out of these universities do not get jobs; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken to see that degrees given by these Universities are recognised by Indian Medical Council?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) and (b). The following Medical qualifications awarded by the U.S.S.R. Universities are recognised by the Medical Council of India and are included in Part II of the Third Schedule of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956:—

- (1) General Physician (Patric Lumumba Friendship University, Moscow).
- (2) General Physician (Moscow Medical Institute, First and Second, Moscow).
- (3) Candidate of Medical Science (USSR) in Medicine awarded by the Institute of Therapy of the Academy of Medical Sciences of USSR.

As regards the medical qualification granted by the other East-European countries, the matter is under consideration of the Medical Council of India.

(c) So far as Indian nationals are concerned, there is a provision in the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956 that under sub-section (4) of section 13 of the Act, the Central Government after consultation with the Council may by notification in the Official Gazette amend Part II of

the Third Schedule so as to include any qualification granted by a Medical Institution outside India.

(d) The Medical Council of India have written to all Ambassadors and High Commissioners of foreign countries in Delhi, to let the Council know whether their countries are interested in establishing a scheme of reciprocity in regard to the mutual recognition of medical degrees granted in each country. The Council will take up the matter regarding establishing a scheme of reciprocity on the receipt of a desire from any of the countries to that effect.

Production in Durgapur Steel Plant

789. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Durgapur steel plant trade unions have given a pledge to keep up production;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) steps Government propose to take to keep up the production of steel at Durgapur Plant?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI CHANDRAJIT YADAV): (a) and (b). The three major trade unions at the Durgapur Steel Plant have recently assured the Minister of Steel and Mines that they will maintain the production and even try to improve it. They have also appealed that it should be ensured that the finished products get a proper market, so that the workers would get motivated to reach higher incentive.

(c) A number of steps have been taken at Durgapur Steel Plant to im-

prove production. The notable amongst them are as follows:—

- (1) Systematic maintenance and upkeep of equipment;
- (2) Adequate availability of raw materials, namely, coking coal, iron ore, limestone, in consultation with the producers and the Railways keeping in view the quality and the quantity of raw materials required.
- (3) Setting up of balancing facilities with a view to improving production.
- (4) Procurement of new locomotives with a view to improving movement of materials inside the Plant.
- (5) Instituting a system of workers' participation through shop floor level committees.
- (6) Elimination of workers' grievances through establishment of grievance committees.
- (7) Improvement in welfare measures such as medical facilities, transport facilities etc. As a result of all these measures including a remarkable improvement in industrial relations and particularly after the proclamation of the emergency the production at Durgapur Steel Plant has gone up steadily. During the month of December, 1975, a new record in production of ingot steel was made, attaining 77.5 per cent. of rated capacity. During February, 1976, another new record of production of saleable steel was made attaining 79.4 per cent. of rated capacity.

The table below indicates the trend in improvement in production at Durgapur since July, 1975:—

Sl. No.	Month	Ingot Steel		Saleable Steel	
		Actual production (000T)	% of capacity	Actual production (000T)	% of capacity
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. July, 1975	. . .	80.0	60.0	61.4	59.5
2. August, 1975	. . .	85.4	64.1	65.7	63.6
3. September, 1975	. . .	83.3	62.5	49.9	48.3
4. October, 1975	. . .	82.2	61.7	56.3	54.5
5. November, 1975	. . .	87.1	65.3	60.2	58.3
6. December, 1975	. . .	103.3	77.5	71.0	68.8
7. January, 1976	. . .	94.1	70.6	70.9	68.7
8. February, 1976	. . .	90.1	67.6	82.0	79.4

American Press Canard regarding Democracy in India

790. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether since the Parliamentary Commonwealth Conference in New Delhi and delegates' speeches and statements here and in their own countries after returning from India, the Press in England, Canada and other Commonwealth countries have become sober and seeing the situation in this country in real perspective;

(b) whether American Press is still continuing its canard regarding democracy in this country; and

(c) if so, what steps Indian Government have taken to make them assess the situation in real perspective?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) A number of impor-

tant personalities including legislators and high officials from different Western countries, who attended the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in New Delhi, publicly projected the correct perspective of the situation in India on their return to their countries, and also refuted uninformed criticism. However the press in Western Commonwealth countries continues in general to present a distorted picture of the situation. On the other hand in the press of some Asian/African/Caribbean Commonwealth countries, articles in objective, sympathetic or appreciative vein have appeared about the current situation in India.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Appropriate and effective action to speedily counter hostile propaganda and to project a correct picture of India everywhere abroad continues to be taken by the Government and by our missions abroad through interviews, speaking engagements letters and articles for publication, and briefings to suitable persons.

Steps to control Filaria

791. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Filaria is caused by impure drinking water; and

(b) the steps taken by Government for the control of Filaria?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) No.

(b) The National Filaria Control Programme was launched in 1955 for the control of filariasis. Control activities comprise anti-larval operations to reduce the mosquito population and treatment of the positive cases with diethylcarbamazine.

भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच हवाई उड़ानें
पुनः शुरू करना

792. श्री मूल चन्द डागा : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पाकिस्तान और भारत के अधिकारियों की उच्चस्तरीय बातचीत के फलस्वरूप हवाई उड़ानें पुनः शुरू करने का निर्णय लिया गया है;

(ख) क्या पाकिस्तान में अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय नागरिक उड्डयन संगठन (इन्टरनेशनल सिविल एविएशन ऑरगनाइजेशन) को की गई अपनी शिकायत वापस लेने से इंकार कर दिया है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विदेश मंत्री (श्री यशवन्त राव चव्हाण):

(क) जी नहीं। मई, 1975 में भारत और पाकिस्तान के बीच विदेश सचिवों के स्तर पर जो बातचीत हुई थी, वह अनिर्णीत रही थी।

(ख) और (ग) इस समस्या का सन्तोषजनक समाधान ढूँढने के लिए दोनों देशों के बीच सरकारी स्तर पर बातचीत चल रही है।

Mosquitos in West Bengal

793. SHRI DINESH JOARDER: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to the export of frogs and non-availability of D.D.T. the mosquitoes are increasing unabatedly in west Bengal; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) and (b). Export of frogs does not interfere to any large extent with the growth of mosquitoes. D.D.T. is also not being used in West Bengal for mosquito control. Mosquito nuisance is mainly due to culicines. Mosquito nuisance increases in West Bengal in Spring every year due to favourable environment. They breed in insanitary slums, water-logged areas, stagnant drains, etc. It is generally connected with sanitation and drainage problems. Mosquito Control Department of Calcutta Corporation takes anti-mosquito measures in Calcutta. The State Government has already undertaken Filaria Control Schemes for control of culicines in Midnapur, Contai, Bankura, Bishnupur, Suri, Bolpur, Durgapur, Budge Budge, English Bazar and Behrampur towns. The State Government has no scheme for control/eradication of mosquitoes in general.

Diseases caused by water pollution

794. DR. SARADISH ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether thousands of people living on the banks of the numerous rivers specially in north-eastern region are suffering from bacillary dysentery, gastro-enteritis, cholera and other diseases caused by water pollution;

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) the steps taken to stop water pollution?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) No such report has been received from States of North-East region. However, it is well known that water pollution does constitute a major health hazard. Bacillary dysentery, gastro-enteritis and cholera are mostly seasonal diseases. As such they can not be attributed only to water pollution.

(b) For Bacillary dysentery and gastro-enteritis treatment is given in hospitals, dispensaries and primary health centres. As regards cholera, the region is covered under the National Cholera Control Programme and the Combat Teams established in the region take care of the disease.

(c) Water Pollution Boards constituted at the Centre and State levels are taking steps for prevention of pollution. A comprehensive programme for abatement of pollution of streams has been launched by treatment of sewage effluent and better disposal of industrial effluent on the land after chemical processing, treatment and dilution. Further, the Government of India have enacted the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974.

खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिये न्यूनतम मजदूरी निर्धारित करने के लिए राज्यों के श्रम मंत्रियों की बैठक

795. श्री शंकर बयाल सिंह : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या खेतिहर मजदूरों के लिये न्यूनतम मजदूरी निर्धारित करने के लिए विभिन्न राज्यों के श्रम मंत्रियों की बैठक बुलाई गई थी, और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उसमें क्या महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय किये गये ?

श्रम मन्त्रालय में उप मन्त्री (श्री बाल-गोविन्द वर्मा) : (क) और (ख) कृषिक श्रमिकों के लिए मजदूरियों के न्यूनतम दरों में संशोधन करने के प्रश्न पर नई दिल्ली में 19 जुलाई, 1975 को हुए राज्य श्रम मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन में 26 वे सत्र में विचार-विमर्श किया गया था। निष्कर्ष मूलभूत विवरण में दिया गया है।

विवरण

नई दिल्ली में 19 जुलाई, 1975 को हुए श्रम मंत्रियों के सम्मेलन के 26वें सत्र के निष्कर्षों से उद्धरण

कृषिक श्रमिकों के लिए मजदूरी की न्यूनतम दरों में संशोधन

अध्यक्ष श्रीबोध ने अन्त में यह कहा कि मजदूरी की न्यूनतम दरों में संशोधन/निर्धारण करने में प्रत्येक राज्य को मजदूरी की स्थानीय स्थितियों पर आधारित अपनी कार्यपद्धति बनानी चाहिए और पुरुषों तथा महिलाओं के लिए समान मजदूरी निर्धारित करनी चाहिए। यह भी स्वीकार किया गया था कि न्यूनतम मजदूरी अधिनियम में केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा ऐति

रोजगारों, जिनमें न्यूनतम मजदूरी का आर्थिक निर्धारण समिति तरीके के द्वारा या अधिसूचना तरीके से पहले ही किया जा चुका है, में न्यूनतम मजदूरी में संशोधन के लिए कार्य प्रणाली संक्षिप्त करने के लिए संशोधन किया जाए। यह भी निर्णय किया गया था कि ऐसे राज्यों को, जिनमें कृषिक रोजगारों में न्यूनतम मजदूरी की तुलनात्मक दरें कम हैं और जिन्होंने ऐसी दरों में संशोधन करने का इरादा किया है, 15 अगस्त, 1975 तक अपने प्रस्तावित संशोधन दरों को अधिसूचित कर देना चाहिए। यह भी स्वीकार किया गया था कि न्यूनतम मजदूरी के कार्यान्वयन के लिए जिम्मेदारी श्रम विभागों की होनी चाहिए किन्तु जहां कहीं आवश्यकता हो वे इस सम्बन्ध में अन्य सहयोगी विभागों की सहायता और उनका सहयोग प्राप्त कर सकते हैं। जहां न्यूनतम मजदूरी दरों में परिवर्ती महंगाई भत्ते का तत्व नहीं था वहां यह स्वीकार किया गया था कि राज्य दो वर्षों की अवधि के दौरान न्यूनतम मजदूरी में संशोधन करेंगे।

Tractors for transport of goods

796. SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the national waste and avoidable loss from the needless constraints, regulatory and fiscal, on the full utilisation of agricultural tractors for transport of goods and persons; and

(b) if so, steps proposed to be taken to remove these constraints and secure the maximum utilisation of this primarily agricultural equipment to subserve both the agriculturists and national income?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) The State Governments and Union Territory Administrations

have reported that there is no restriction on the full utilisation of agricultural tractors for the transportation of goods. Passengers are not allowed to be carried in trailers attached to such tractors. No national waste or avoidable loss from constraint on the use of agricultural tractors has come to the notice of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Constitution of organisation for welfare of bonded labourers

797. SHRI N. K. SANGHI;
SHRI S. M. SIDDAYYA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether subsequent to the passing of the abolition of bonded labour legislation, government have taken steps to set up central and state level organisations which will take care of such people and arrange for their rehabilitation; and

(b) if so, the machinery created at the centre and the central assistance to be given to state organisations for this purpose?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A Central Committee to coordinate programmes regarding rehabilitation of bonded labour and watch and report on their progress has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary, Ministry of Labour—with the representatives of Departments of Agriculture, Rural Development, Social Welfare Planning Commission, Ministry of Home Affairs and other Ministries/Departments concerned.

The Central Government have already requested the State Chief Secretaries, to constitute Committees under their Chairmanship to watch all arrangements. State Governments have been requested to earmark a

part of their plan funds for the rehabilitation of freed bonded labourers.

Copper Project in Andhra Pradesh

798. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Mining Corporation has taken up the setting up of a copper project at Mailaram in the State;

(b) if so, facts about the project and by when it is expected to be completed;

(c) whether the Union Government have extended any kind of assistance to this project; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) The Andhra Pradesh Mining Corporation has taken decision for setting up a Copper project at Mailaram in the State.

(b) The project comprises of development of an underground mine for production of 100 tonnes of copper ore per day and setting up of a matching concentrator. The contract for construction of mine and concentrator has been given to Bharat Gold Mines Limited. According to present indications the project is expected to be completed by April, 1978.

(c) and (d) The work of prospecting and exploratory mining in Mailaram was carried out initially by the Geological Survey of India and subsequently by Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited and upto 31st March, 1975 approximately Rs. 35 lakhs have been spent on exploration.

Telephone racket in Bombay

799. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a telephone racket in Bombay; and

(b) what steps have been taken to reorganise the system of sanctioning of telephones?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Three officials of Bombay Telephones were apprehended by the C.B.I. in a trap laid by them on 3rd January, 1976 for accepting an amount of Rs. 170 from the telephone subscriber ostensibly for changing telephone wires in the subscriber's premises. The C.B.I. have registered a criminal case for investigation. They have not so far reported the existence of a racket.

(b) Sanction of new telephone connections to the applicants whose names are registered is made as per well defined rules and procedures issued by the P&T Directorate. An advance deposit scheme has recently been introduced by the Government. The earlier waiting lists for different exchanges as existing prior to 1st September, 1975 will be re-cast retaining names of those who make payment of advance deposit. Rules and regulations governing transfer of telephones have been liberalised and simplified so that the cases of unauthorised use of telephones are minimised.

Steps to get rid of communicable Diseases

800. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether communicable diseases accounted for 50 per cent of the morbidity and 30 per cent of mortality in the country; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken to get rid of these diseases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) It is estimated that communicable diseases account for nearly 50 per cent of all deaths due to different diseases and nearly 75 per cent of the total morbidity in the country.

(b) The Government of India have already initiated a number of control/eradication programmes in the country to combat the major communicable diseases, namely, National Smallpox Eradication Programme, National Malaria Eradication Programme, National Leprosy Control Programme, National Tuberculosis Control Programme, National Cholera Control Programme, National Filaria Control Programme, National Trachoma Control Programme and National VD Control Programme.

As a result of concerted efforts, the incidence of smallpox cases has already come to Zero since July, 1975. Effective action to control the other communicable diseases is also being taken.

Pipe-line Project at Rourkela Steel Plant

802. SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL BHATTIA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Rourkela Steel Plants is setting up a huge pipe line project;

(b) if so, whether the demands of the expanding oil industry will be met by this project;

(c) whether it has also introduced special steel alloy hitherto imported; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). A Spirally Welded Steel Plant at Rourkela is being set up primarily to meet the requirement of Indian Oil Corporation's Pipeline Project for Viramgram Mathura Pipe-Line for the purposes of transportation of crude oil to the proposed Mathura Refinery. The Rourkela Steel Plant has successfully developed Niobium bearing High Strength Low Alloy Steel Plates which were hitherto being imported. The salient features of Niobium bearing High Strength Low Alloy Steel Plates are:—

(i) High Yield Strength.

(ii) Increased Toughness.

Loss of jobs due to closure of Mines

804 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the total number of workers who lost their jobs due to the closure of mines during the last one year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Passport applications pending from Indians in Gulf Countries

805 SHRI C. H. MOHAMED KOYA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of Indians who have gone to the Arabian Gulf countries in search of livelihood without valid documents, have applied for Indian passports;

(b) whether such applications are pending action in his Ministry for a long time; and

(c) whether the Ministry has any proposal to expedite action on such applications?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Our Missions in Gulf countries have received some applications for passports from such persons.

(b) Since the applicants are not able to produce any valid documents to prove their national status, the Missions concerned have to verify their national status as well as their character and antecedents through the State Governments in India before the issue of passports to them.

(c) The State Governments are reminded for taking expeditious action in such cases.

Medical College at Agartala

806. SHRI DASARATHA DEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of India have received any proposal from the Government of Tripura to open medical college at Agartala; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Storage of Marine Engineers

807. SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is an acute shortage of marine engineers and navigation officers in the country to man the growing fleet of merchant navy;

(b) if so, steps taken by Government to meet this shortage; and

(c) whether Government propose to advise the shipping companies to increase the emoluments, perquisites and leave facilities to officers and crew so as to make the career in the merchant navy more attractive to educated youth?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) The Indian Shipping Companies for some time past have been experiencing shortage of certificated merchant navy officers, especially in the junior ranks.

(b) To remedy the situation, Government have decided to impose restrictions on Deck Apprentices and Junior engineers by means of a bond, committing them to a minimum period of 5 years service with the Indian Shipping Companies after getting their first Certificate of Competency. Government have also initiated other steps to augment the numbers trained in the training institutions to meet the immediate shortage.

(c) The emoluments of the Merchant Navy Officers and the Crew have already been increased recently.

Gold deposits found in Orissa

808. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether gold deposits in Salai-kana area in Keonjhar District in Orissa have been found; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the quantity estimated so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) and (b). In preliminary investigations conducted by the Orissa State Government Directorate of Mines occurrences of gold have been found in the mines dumps of the old workings in

Salaikana area in Keonjhar District. As the work of investigation is not completed it is not possible to furnish details.

Infection of lungs amongst coal miners caused by inhaling coal dust

809. SHRI VASANT SATHE;
SHRI B. S. BHAURA;
DR. SARADISH ROY;
SHRI RAGHUNANDAN LAL
BHATIA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether a sample survey conducted in Jharia Coal Mines has revealed that about 8 per cent of the miners have 'pneumoconiosis', a lung disease caused by inhaling coal dust;

(b) the other important findings of the survey; and

(c) additional safety measures taken/proposed to check infection of lungs by coal dust?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) According to a health survey of workers in Jharia Coal Mines conducted by the Rajendra Memorial Research Institute of medical sciences, Patna, the incidence of 'pneumoconiosis' due to coal dust was found to be around 8 per cent.

(b) Other important findings of the survey are as follows:—

	Percent
(i) Chronic Bronchitis	2.96
(ii) Anaemia	41.97
(iii) Hook Worm Infestation	43.9
(iv) Tuberculosis of lungs	7.46

(c) Apart from the precautionary measures laid down in the Coal Mines Regulations which include suppression of dust with water within 90 metres of working faces and better standards of ventilation, Director General of Mines Safety has recently laid down

the standards of dustiness in a circular issued to the industry. The mine managements have been advised to establish Occupational Health Service Units in accordance with the recommendations of the Third Conference on Safety in Mines. A short term specialised course on pneumoconiosis was organised by the Directorate General of Mines Safety in collaboration with the National Institute of Occupational Health from 24th November to 29th November, 1975 for training of the colliery doctors in the manner of diagnosis and prevention of the disease.

Discussions on 'Manila Draft' between India and Sri Lanka

810 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether India and Sri Lanka had discussed 'Manila Draft' at New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). During the third meeting of Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Commission for Economic, Trade and Technical Cooperation matters of bilateral economic interests were discussed. Views were generally exchanged on inter-national economic developments but there was no specific discussion on Manila Declaration of Group of 77.

दूषित कोयला खनिकों के कारण कोयला खनिकों में यकृत रोग

11. श्री जयश्री शैलानी : क्या वन्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या झारखण्ड कोयला खान में किए गए नमूनों पर परीक्षण से पता चला है कि 8 प्रतिशत कोयला खनिक दूषित कोयला खनिकों के कारण यकृत-रोग से पीड़ित हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस पर सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है तथा कोयला खनिकों को इस खतरनाक रोग से बचाने के लिए क्या उपाय किए जा रहे हैं ?

असम मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बाल गोविन्द वर्मा) : (क) राजेन्द्र मिमोरियल रिमर्च इन्स्टीट्यूट आफ मैडिकल साइंसेस, पटना द्वारा झरिया कोयला खानों का एक सर्वेक्षण संचालित किया गया था। सर्वेक्षण ने प्रकट किया है कि लगभग 8 प्रतिशत खनिक कोयले की धूल के कारण फेफड़ों की बीमारी (जिगर की बीमारी से नहीं) से पीड़ित है।

(ख) कोयला खान विनियमों में निर्धारित किए गए पूर्वोपायों, जिनमें कार्य स्थल की 90 मीटर की दूरी के भीतर धूल को पानी से दबाने, और सबतना के श्रेष्ठतर मानक शामिल है, के अतिरिक्त, खान सुरक्षा महा निदेशक ने उद्योग को हाल में जारी किए गए परिपत्र में धूलिमयता के मानक निर्धारित किए हैं। खान प्रबन्धकों को खान सुरक्षा सम्बन्धी तीसरे सम्मेलन की सिफारिशों के अनुसार व्यावसायिक स्वास्थ्य सेवा एकके स्थापित करने की सलाह भी दी गई है। खान सुरक्षा महानिदेशालय द्वारा राष्ट्रीय व्यावसायिक स्वास्थ्य सस्थान के सहयोग से 24 नवम्बर से 29 नवम्बर, 1975 तक कोयला खानों में डाक्टरों को रोग निदान और बीमारी के रोकने के मामले में प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए वायु धात्विक रोग के सम्बन्ध में एक अत्याधुनिक विशिष्ट पाठ्यक्रम भी संचालित किया गया था।

Commissioning of New Telephone Lines in Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta

812. SHRI SAMAR GUHA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of new telephone lines commissioned during the years

1973-75 in Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta, separately;

(b) number of long distance connections set up during these years in regard to the above cities; and

(c) the plans for giving new connections during the year 1976?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) The number of new telephone lines commissioned during the years 1973-75 in Delhi, Bombay, Madras and Calcutta are as under:—

	Lines
Delhi	15,000
Bombay	29,500
Calcutta	16,100
Madras	13,100

(b) The number of long distance trunk circuits for trunk calls including STD terminated in these cities during the above period is indicated below.

Delhi	322
Bombay	189
Calcutta	221
Madras	467

(c) In the year 1976 it is proposed to increase these telephone systems by the following capacities:—

	Commissioned in 1976 upto 10-3-1976	Further likely increase in 1976	Total
Bombay	5,000	23,000	28,000
Delhi	2,500	26,900	29,400
Calcutta	4,800	14,500	19,300
Madras	..	5,000	5,000

Providing Call Offices and Public Call Offices to Category Stations

813. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the places which are regarded as category stations for the provisions of call offices and public call offices on loss basis;

(b) the number of Community Development Blocks in each State/Union Territory which have been provided with public call offices along with the total number of blocks in each State/Union Territory; and

(c) the period by which all the Community Development Blocks and Head Quarters would be provided public call offices so as to be given an impetus to rural development?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) and (b). A statement (Annexures A & B) is placed on the Table of Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10465/76.]

(c) It is expected that Public Call Offices would be provided at those Block Head Quarters which satisfy the relevant revenue conditions by the end of the Fifth Five Year Plan.

Restoration of Project Allowance to P & T Employees at Mandi, Himachal Pradesh

814. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the P&T employees at Mandi in Himachal Pradesh have been restored the project allowance as available to other project employees; and

(b) if so, the date when the allowance was restored to them?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Association of Trade Unions with Management of Public Undertakings under Ministry of Steel and Mines

815 SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the concrete steps Government have taken or propose to take to associate the representatives of trade unions with the managements of different public sector undertakings under the Ministry of Steel and Mines?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): A well-organised and comprehensive system of workers' association with management has been in operation in the Steel Industry for quite sometime. This system has been given a further impetus and new orientation in pursuance of the new economic programme. New Committees have been constituted wherever necessary and measures have been taken to revitalise the functioning of the existing committees. At present nearly 400 bipartite committees at the shop floor and plant levels are functioning in the public sector undertakings under the Department of Steel. These cover a wide range of areas including production, productivity, safety, grievances, welfare measures etc. Some minor changes in the composition and functions of the various committees are being made in the light of the provisions of the Government Resolutions dated 30th October, 1975, on Workers' Participation in Industry at Shop Floor and Plant Level.

Under the Department of Mines, the scheme of workers' participation has been introduced in Bharat Aluminium Company Limited, Bharat Gold Mines Limited, Mineral Exploration Corporation Limited, Hindustan Copper Limited and Hindustan Zinc Limited.

Indian Delegation to Sri Lanka

816. **SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:**
Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian delegation recently visited Sri Lanka;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) the names of members of delegation and the issues discussed?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). An Indian official delegation headed by Foreign Secretary visited Sri Lanka from 14th to 17th January, 1976 for discussions on (i) the maritime boundary between the two countries in the Gulf of Manaar and the Bay of Bengal and (ii) matters relating to the forthcoming Non-aligned Summit in Colombo.

The composition of the delegation is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Composition of the Indian delegation which visited Colombo from 14 to 17 January, 1976.

1. Shri Kewal Singh, Foreign Secretary... Leader,
Ministry of External Affairs.
2. Shri N. P. Jain, Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs.
3. Shri S. Shahabuddin, Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs.
4. Dr. S. P. Jagota, Joint Secretary,
Ministry of External Affairs.
5. Shri Vinay Verma, Director,
Ministry of External Affairs.
6. Shri S. P. Balasubramanyam, Joint Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.

7. Shri P. C. George, Joint Director (Fisheries),
Ministry of Agriculture & Irrigation.

8. Shri F. L. Fraser, Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India, Dehra Dun.

Visit to African Countries by Deputy Minister of External Affairs

817. **SHRI VIRBHADRA SINGH:**
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:
Will the Minister of **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Deputy Minister of External Affairs recently visited some African countries and had discussions with officials of those countries; and

(b) if so, a brief account of the visits and the discussions held?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. Shri Bipinpal Das, Deputy Minister of External Affairs, visited the following countries in Africa recently: (1) Mauritius, (2) Kenya, (3) Sudan, (4) Tanzania, (5) Zambia, (6) Zaire, (7) Nigeria, (8) Ghana, (9) Ivory Coast, (10) Guinea, (11) Senegal, and (12) Uganda.

(b) These were goodwill visits and served the purpose of strengthening bilateral relations between India and the countries he visited. Views were exchanged with the leaders of these countries on matters of mutual interest. The discussions confirmed a broad agreement on important international problems and the need to strengthen the movement of non-aligned countries further. Problems confronting Southern Africa were specially discussed. India's support to African liberation movements was highly appreciated by the countries he visited.

At present, Shri Bipinpal Das is visiting Tunisia and Libya.

Educated Unemployed

818. SHRI VASANT SATHE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether while the number of educated unemployed during 1970-75 rose from 18.20 lakhs to over 41 lakhs, the vacancies notified and filled up have been on decline in as much as the average annual growth rate of employment in the organised sector is reduced from 3.25 per cent in 1961-71 to 2.4 per cent in 1974;

(b) if so, what is the latest trend and steps/action proposed for rational and optimum utilisation of human resources in the programme of integrated resources/area development; and

(c) the plan envisaged/strategy evolved in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c). While precise estimates of educated unemployment are not available, the number of educated job-seekers registered with the employment exchanges (all of whom are not necessarily unemployed) rose from 18.22 lakhs at the end of December, 1970 to 48.42 lakhs at the end of June, 1975. Information regarding the vacancies notified and filled through the employment exchanges during the years 1970 to 1975 is as follows:—

Year	Vacancies Notified.	Vacancies Filled.
	(in thousand)	
1970	744.4	447.2
1971	813.6	507.0
1972	858.8	507.1
1973	871.4	518.8
1974	672.5	396.9
1975	681.6	404.1

So far as the trend of growth rate of employment in the organised sector is concerned, the average annual growth was 4.43 per cent during the period 1961 to 1971 but 3.2 per cent during the period 1971 to 1975.

The employment strategy in the Fifth Five Year Plan is to provide bulk of employment opportunities to the unemployed (including the educated) through the implementation of plan programmes in different sectors, such as agriculture, irrigation, power generation, command area development of major irrigation systems, cottage, small and medium industries, social services, trade, commerce and other tertiary and allied activities.

British help to improve ship building Industry

819 SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approached British experts to improve the ship building industry; and

(b) if so, response of the British experts thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI): (a) British consultants have been engaged to improve and expand shipbuilding capabilities at Hindustan Shipyard Limited.

(b) British consultants are already at the job.

राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों का निर्माण

820. श्री गंगाधरन दीक्षित : क्या नौबहन और परिवहन मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में मोड़ सड़कों सहित राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के निर्माण के कार्यक्रम में क्या स्थिति है; और

(ख) राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों पर ऐसे कौन से प्रमुख पुल हैं जिनका निर्माण अभी तक पूरा नहीं हुआ है ?

नीचहनु और परिबहनु मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बलबीर सिंह) : (क) और (ख) : स्थिति सूचित करने वाला विवरण संलग्न सभा पटल पर रखा गया है। [मन्त्रालय में रखा गया। देखिये सख्या एल टी 10466/76]

मध्य प्रदेश में दूर संचार उद्योगों की स्थापना
821. श्री गंगा चरण बीक्षित :

संचार मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या केन्द्र सरकार को मध्य प्रदेश राज्य में और अधिक दूर संचार उद्योगों की स्थापना करने के बारे में राज्य सरकार से कोई अनुरोध प्राप्त हुआ है,

(ख) यदि हा, तो उसकी रूपरेखा क्या है, और

(ग) उस बारे में क्या निर्णय किया गया है ?

संचार मन्त्री (डा० शंकर बहाल शर्मा) :
(क) जी हा।

(ख) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने टेलीफोन कारखानों को स्थापित करने के लिए कुछ उपयुक्त स्थान सुझाये हैं।

(ग) पाचवी पंचवर्षीय योजना के दौरान लगाए जाने वाले इण्डियन टेलीफोन इण्डस्ट्रीज के नए एकको की स्थापना का प्रश्न सरकार के विचाराधीन है।

मध्य प्रदेश में खोले गये डाकघर

822. श्री गंगा चरण बीक्षित :

क्या संचार मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में वर्ष 1975 में कितने डाकघर खोले गए; और

(ख) क्या जनसंख्या और क्षेत्र की विशालता को देखते हुए ये आकड़े अन्य राज्यों की तुलना में कम है अथवा अधिक ?

संचार मन्त्री (डा० शंकर बहाल शर्मा) :
(क) 35।

(ख) इन डाकघरों के खोलने के बावजूद भी मध्य प्रदेश की आबादी और अन्य राज्यों में उपलब्ध डाक सुविधाओं को देखते हुए मध्य प्रदेश में दी गई डाक सुविधाएं अपर्याप्त है ?

मध्य प्रदेश में बौक्साइट के निक्षेप

823. डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डेय : क्या इस्पात और खान मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश में झाबुआ, बस्तर, सरगुजा और विलासपुर में बौक्साइट के विपुल भण्डार हैं,

(ख) क्या भारत एल्यूमीनियम कम्पनी के कोरवा स्थित सन्यन्त्र में इस समय बौक्साइट की केवल थोड़ी सी मात्रा का ही उपयोग किया जा रहा है,

(ग) यदि हा, तो क्या उसके उपयोग की कोई योजना सरकार के विचाराधीन है; और

(घ) यदि हा, तो तत्सम्बन्धी तथ्य क्या हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) : (क) विलासपुर और सरगुजा जिलों में क्रमशः 38, 00 और 219.00 लाख टन बौक्साइट भंडारों का अनुमान लगाया गया है। बस्तर जिले में बहुत कम बौक्साइट भंडार होने का पता चला है।

(ख) से (ब) कोरबा सैन्यन से एलुमिना का उत्पादन स्थापित प्रदावक क्षमता के अनुरूप किया जा रहा है। कुल एक लाख टन धातु की सालाना लायसेंस क्षमता में से अब तक 25,000 टन की वार्षिक द्रावण क्षमता स्थापित हो चुकी है। अब द्रावक की पूरी क्षमता स्थापित हो जाएगी तो अधिक बाक्साइट का उपयोग एलुमिना सैन्यन के लिए किया जाने लगेगा जो इस समय माडला, बिलासपुर और शहडोला जिलों तथा बिलासपुर जिले के फुटकाप हाइड्रो पावर में 100 लाख टन बाक्साइट का समुपयोजन कर रहा है।

चासना खान में कोयले का उत्पादन

824 श्री भागीरथ भट्ट : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(१) चासनाना खान में दुर्घटना से पूर्व कोयले का किता मामिक उत्पादन हो रहा था, और

(ख) इस दुर्घटना में मजदूरों की मृत्यु कितनी हुई ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में डायरेक्टर (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) : (क) दुर्घटना से पहले चासनाना की भूमिगत खान से कोयले का मामिक उत्पादन लगभग 10,000 टन था।

(ख) अभी इसका अनुमान लगाया जा रहा है।

Lifting of Export Ban on Steel Scrap

825 SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN.

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether steel scrap industry has asked Government to lift export ban on steel scrap,

(b) if so, the facts thereof, and

(c) whether the steel scrap industry is in financial crisis ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) and (b) The current policy does not altogether ban export of ferrous scrap. Export is permissible for certain categories of ferrous scrap through the canalising agency, Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited to the extent of surplus which is not required for domestic utilisation. There have been suggestions from the scrap associations for liberalising the export policy for ferrous scrap. These were examined and ad hoc exports, wherever justified in relaxation of the current export policy, were allowed.

(c) There is no definite information that the scrap industry is facing a financial crisis.

महिलाओं को रोजगार देने सम्बन्धी योजना

826 श्री राधावतार शास्त्री : क्या खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) क्या सरकार ने महिलाओं को रोजगार देने के लिये कोई योजना बनाई है,

(ख) यदि हा, तो तत्सम्बन्धी मुख्य बातें क्या हैं, और

(ग) इसके परिणामस्वरूप कितनी महिलाओं को रोजगार मिलने की सम्भावना है ?

अथ मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बाल गोविन्द वर्मा) : (क) से (ग) : इस प्रकार की कोई योजना नहीं बनाई गया है। तथापि, पाचवो योजना के दौरान शुरू की गई विभिन्न योजनाओं और कार्यक्रमों में महिलाओं के लिए उनकी शैक्षिक योग्यता और उपयुक्तता के अनुसार रोजगार प्राप्त करने के समान अवसर है।

योजना स्कीमों के अन्तर्गत पाचवो योजनावधि के दौरान रोजगार प्राप्त करने वाली महिलाओं के आकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं।

Investigation of Jharia Coal Mines' Safety

827. SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether the Coal Mines Research Institute have investigated into the safety of Jharia mines; and

(b) if so, the features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b) Information is being collected.

Accidents in Collieries of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

828. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether accidents in collieries are on the increase after the Chasnala mishap;

(b) whether serious accidents occurred in Katras Choitudi, Kesalpur, Ram Kauli and Victoria West Collieries of Bharat Coking Coal Ltd.

where several workers lost lives, during the first week of February this year; and

(c) if so, the reasons for increase of accidents and what steps Government propose to take to check the same, which occurred almost every-day?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) According to the information available, 41 fatal accidents have occurred in coal mines after the Chasnala mine mishap.

(b) One serious accident each occurred at the Ramkanali Colliery and the Victoria West Colliery in which 4 persons sustained serious injuries and 1 person received minor injuries. One fatal accident each occurred in Keshalpur Colliery and the Katras Choitudi Colliery in which 2 persons were killed and 1 person sustained minor injuries.

(c) Instances given above do not indicate that there has been increase in the rate of accidents. As regards safety measures, steps are being taken to tighten supervision and arrange training programmes in safety measures and managements are also being advised to comply with safety measures strictly.

Ship Accident at Vishakhapatnam Port

829. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether two workers died and several others were injured in a ship accident at Vishakhapatnam Port on 10th February, 1975;

(b) if so, reasons of accident, inquiry report, compensation paid to the next of kin; and

(c) action taken against the officers responsible therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI).

(a) There was no such accident at Visakhapatnam Port on 10-2-1975. Presumably, the reference is to the accident which took place on board the ship m.v. "RATNA MANORAMA" at that port on 12th February, 1976. Two dock workers died and three others were injured in this accident.

(b) *Reasons of accident:* The accident was caused by collapse of forepart between deck pontoons of hatch two into the lower hold with a load of steel billets.

Inquiry Report.—An inquiry is being held by the Dock Safety Inspector. A Magisterial inquiry by the Sub-Divisional Magistrate and Revenue Divisional Officer, Visakhapatnam is also being held.

Compensation: An ex-gratia payment of Rs. 500 each was made by the State Government, the Dock Labour Board and the stevedore concerned to the families of each of the two deceased workers. In addition, compensation amounting to about Rs. 10,000/- under the Workmen's Compensation Act in respect of each of the two deceased workers would be deposited with the Commissioner of Workmen's Compensation on advice from him.

As regards the injured workers, an ex-gratia payment of Rs. 150/- per month of disability subject to a ceiling of Rs. 400/- has been sanctioned to each of the three injured workers, in addition to the payments due under the Workmen's Compensation Act.

(c) The question of fixing responsibility and taking action against the persons found responsible for the accident would arise only after the inquiries are completed.

Food Adulteration Cases in Delhi

830. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) the number of food adulteration cases and prosecutions launched at Delhi, under the Food Adulteration Act, 1954 during emergency;

(b) whether any government hotels or co-operatives have also been prosecuted;

(c) the names of such persons and the penalties imposed; and

(d) what immediate steps Government propose to take to check this practice?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) According to provisional reports 470 cases of food adulteration were detected in Delhi from 1-7-1975. Two hundred and fifty-two prosecutions were launched including some cases detected before the proclamation of emergency.

(b) and (c). The following 4 Co-operatives have been prosecuted:—

1. Telecommunication Staff Co-operative Canteen, Kidwai Bhavan, New Delhi.
2. Indian Airlines Co-operative Canteen, Indian Airlines Bhavan, New Delhi.
3. Indian Meteorological Co-operative Canteen, New Delhi.
4. Indian Coffee House Co-operative Canteen, New Delhi.

The cases are still pending in the Court.

(d) The enforcement staff is being strengthened. It is also expected that the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Amendment) Act, 1976, will have a deterrent effect.

Implementation of Minimum Wages Act in Clay Mines and Agricultural Labourers

831. SARDAR SWARAN SINGH SOKHI:
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Minimum Wages Act has been fully implemented for workers in clay, China clay, fire clay and similar other mines in the country including the agricultural labour;

(b) the reason of difference in the daily wages for agricultural labour, which vary from State to State, for similar work;

(c) how many prosecutions have so far been launched under the Minimum Wages Act, especially against the big land lords and mine owners for non-compliance of the Act; and

(d) what foolproof steps Government propose to take for the effective implementation of the law?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) (a) The Minimum Wages Act, 1948 applies to the agricultural labour and minimum wages have been fixed both by the Central Government and the State Governments in their respective spheres of action.

The Act has also been made applicable to the workers in clay, China clay and fire clay mines recently and draft proposals for fixing minimum wages have been notified inviting objections/suggestions. These proposals are expected to be finalised shortly.

(b) The differences are due largely to the differences in local conditions in each State; moreover, revisions are carried out on different dates.

(c) In so far as agriculture is concerned, the bulk of employment falls in the States sphere and the number of employees in the Central Sphere is very small comprising as it does, only military farms, horticultural divisions of the Central Public Works Department, etc. There have been no prosecutions in the Central sphere and irregularities found have been rectified through departmental action.

As regards mines for which minimum wages have already been fixed, 1,307 prosecutions were launched and 145 claim cases were filed during 1975.

(d) It is proposed to strengthen the implementation machinery and tighten up inspections. The question of providing for more stringent penalties is also being considered.

Release of Bonded Labourers

832 SHRI R. S. PANDEY:
SHRI N. K. SANGHI,
DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA:
SHRI BHAGIRATH BHANWAR.

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the number of bonded labourers released, State-wise, so far?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): The State-wise available information about the number of bonded labourers who have so far been freed from their bondage is as under:

(1) Andhra Pradesh	14
(2) Bihar	581
(3) Karnataka	22,821
(4) Uttar Pradesh	16,000

Opening of Indian Embassy in Angola

833. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) when Government propose to open its Embassy in Luanda, Angola; and

(b) whether Government propose to invite the MPLA leader to visit India and if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Dr. Augusto Neto had been invited to visit India by Prime Minister Shrimati Indira Gandhi when she met him in Algiers Non-Aligned Conference in 1973. As in the case of some other newly independent African countries we are considering the question of our diplomatic representation in Angola.

Investigations into Armed Attack on Indian High Commissioner in Dacca

834. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the investigations by Bangladesh Government about the attempted murder of Indian High Commissioner in Dacca have since been completed; and

(b) if so, the gist of the communication received, if any, from the Bangladesh Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise

Views of States on Kerala Agricultural Workers' Act

835. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had asked the States to give their opinion on the Kerala Agricultural Workers' Act;

(b) whether all the States have expressed the same; and

(c) if not, from which States it has not been received and steps being taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The opinions on the Kerala Agricultural Workers' Act are still awaited from six State Governments/Union Territories i.e. Haryana, Tamil Nadu, Jammu and Kashmir, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Delhi Administration and they have been reminded in the matter.

National Highways

836. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Highways in the country and the length in k.m. as on 31st March, 1976;

(b) the basis of distribution of National Highways;

(c) the national average of mileage of the National Highways in respect of area and population; and

(d) the State-wise length of National Highways?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) The total number of National Highways in the country is 55 and their total length is 28,870 Kms.

(b) For declaring a road as National Highway following criteria are taken into consideration:—

(1) It should be the main highway running through the length and breadth of the country;

(2) It should connect foreign highways;

(3) It should connect capitals of States;

- (4) It should connect major ports and large industrial/tourist centres;

- (5) It should meet strategic requirements.

In addition to the above, emphasis is also laid on economic considerations.

(c) The national average kilometres of the National Highways in terms of area and population are 9.03 Kms. per thousand square Km. and 5.30 Kms. per lakh of population, respectively.

- (d) A statement is attached.

Statement

Statement showing Length of National Highways in kilometres

Sl. No.	Name of State	Total length in Km.
1	2	3
1	Andhra Pradesh	2299
2	Assam	1468
3	Bihar	2117
4	Chandigarh	24
5	Delhi	72
6	Goa	229
7	Gujarat	1352
8	Haryana	729
9	Himachal Pradesh	630
10	Jammu & Kashmir	541
11	Kerala	784
12	Madhya Pradesh	2670
13	Maharashtra	2861
14	Manipur	211
15	Meghalaya	345
16	Mysore	1996
17	Nagaland	113
18	Orissa	1649

1	2	3
19	Punjab	865
20	Rajasthan	2157
21	Sikkim	62
22	Tamil Nadu	1749
23	Tripura	200
24	Uttar Pradesh	2328
25	West Bengal	1419
TOTAL		28870

Distribution of rubber contraceptive in rural areas

837. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme of distributing rubber contraceptive, free of cost, in the rural areas and among slum dwellers; and

(b) if not, what other steps are going to be taken in this regard which will cover the people of the lowest economic strata of the society?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) Yes, Nirodh (Condoms) are distributed free of cost in the rural areas as also to the urban slum dwellers through the field staff of Primary Health Centres and sub-centres and urban Family Welfare Planning Centres.

(b) Question does not arise.

Cultural Attaches in Indian Missions Abroad

838. SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Indian Missions (Embassies, High Commissions and Consulates) abroad;

(b) how many of them have Cultural Attaches; and

(c) whether some of the Cultural Attaches have been found ignorant about India's heritage and culture and do not know the language of the country where posted?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YEDHUNIRAO CHAVAN): (a) The total number of Indian Missions/Posts abroad comprising Embassies, High Commissions, Assistant High Commissions, Special Missions, Commissions, Consulate Generals and Consulates, inclusive of non-resident Missions, is 167.

(b) and (c). Our Missions and Posts in Washington, Moscow, Bonn, New York, San Francisco, London and Dacca have Cultural/Education Attaches appointed by the Ministry of Education.

The cultural work in other Missions is looked after by various officers of such Missions to the extent possible having regard to their other designated functions and the limitations of manpower.

The officers posted in our Missions abroad, including those dealing specifically with cultural work, have good general knowledge of India's heritage and culture. Moreover the Cultural Attaches are conversant with the language of the country of their posting.

Opening of Telephone Exchanges and Upgradation of Manual Exchanges

839. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many new telephone exchanges are proposed to be opened in the country during 1976 and 1977 and which of the manual exchanges are to be upgraded to automatic exchange; and
2922 LS-4.

(b) the stations where S.T.D. facilities are proposed to be introduced during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Year-wise information is given below please:—

	1976	1977
(i) New exchanges proposed to be opened	388	382
(ii) Proposed upgradation from manual to auto	52 (List attached)	30 (List attached)

(b) The list of stations where S.T.D. facility is expected to be available by 31st March, 1978, is given in the Statement laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10467/76.]

Waiting List of Telephones

840. SHRI P. M. MEHTA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many people are on the waiting list for telephones as on the 31st December, 1975 in each category in the Union Territory of Delhi;

(b) number of telephone connections expected to be provided in each category during the year, 1975; and

(c) the time by which, the present waiting list is likely to exhaust?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) As on 31-12-75, a total of 1,09,669 applicants were on the waiting list in the Union Territory of Delhi OYT—28,763, Non-OYT—80,906.

(b) The number of new connections provided during 1975 was as under:—

OYT	2612
Non-OYT	1946

(c) It is difficult to indicate the date by which all the applicants will be given telephone connections due to general shortage of exchange equipment and underground cables in the country. However, efforts are already under-way to expand the exchange capacities and to procure necessary equipments and underground cables to provide new telephone connections to the maximum extent as early as possible within the available limited resources. The connections will be provided progressively as and when capacity becomes available.

Anti-India Propaganda by Pakistan

841. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the recent anti-India propaganda by Pakistan is in line with Sino-Pakistan and Sino-American relational developments and also anti-India attack in Bangladesh press;

(b) whether these developments are interlinked and pose threat to the sovereignty of India; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) There is evidence to show that in recent months publicity media in Pakistan have been trying to grossly misrepresent India's policies towards her neighbours. This type of propaganda finds an echo in the Chinese media.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Functioning of Public Call Offices in Orissa

843. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the PCOs in Orissa invariably go out of order making it unserviceable for days together and causing inconveniences to the public; and

(b) if so, how many complaints were received and what remedial measures were taken?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA). (a) No, Sir.

(b) Total number of complaints received in the last six months is 20. The complaints have been investigated. Five complaints were due to high transmission loss on junction cable. A new junction cable is being laid. Thirteen complaints were due to the PCO lines being noisy on account of low frequency power induction. The cases have been taken up with State Electricity Board for remedial measures. Two other cases of complaints arising of faulty instruments and battery have been attended to.

Mission sent abroad after Proclamation of Emergency

844. SHRI M C DAGA Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) which are the countries to which the Government of India sent its missions to explain the factors that led to the imposition of emergency after the proclamation of emergency in the country; and

(b) which were the persons included in those missions and the total expenditure incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) No Mission was sent abroad specifically for the purpose stated.

(b) Question does not arise.

845. SHRI ROBIN SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state;

(a) whether Government are considering to improve safety measures in mines after the Chasnala disaster; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b). Special safety drives were being launched from time to time by Director General of Mines Safety, and, in the wake of the Chasnala Colliery disaster a review has been ordered particularly of cases where danger of inundation was anticipated. So far, in seven cases orders under section 22(3) of the Mines Act, 1952, have been issued prohibiting employment of persons where danger of inundation was apprehended. In three other cases, permission for work has

been withdrawn due to danger of inrush of water, and work in one mine has been ordered to be stopped by a letter.

Compulsory Retirement of Staff during 1975-76

846. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the total number of cases of staff of all cadres whose cases were reviewed during the year 1975-76;

(b) the total number of staff retired compulsorily cadre-wise namely Class I, II, III and IV during 1975-76; and

(c) the total number of staff still facing compulsory retirement and other penalties cadre-wise namely Class I, II, III and IV during 1975-76?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) 29,649.

Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	TOTAL
1	4	619	33	= 657

(c) Information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

P. & T. Dispensary in Patna

847. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a P. & T. dispensary in Patna for P. & T. employees and their families;

(b) whether a proposal is under consideration to introduce C.G.H.S. Scheme at Patna and for the amalgamation of the P. & T. dispensary with it; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) There are two P & T dispensaries, at Patna which serve P & T employees and the members of their families.

(b) and (c). A proposal for extension of the C.G.H.S. to Patna during 1976-77 is under consideration of the Ministry of Health and Family Planning. Since the C.G.H.S. is a statutory scheme covering all Central Government employees paid from civil estimates, except employees of the Railways and semi-Government organisations and autonomous bodies etc., P&T employees at Patna will be covered by that Scheme as and when it is extended to Patna. The existing P & T dispensaries at Patna cannot, therefore, be continued after the extension of the C.G.H.S. to that station. The question

of amalgamation of the existing P & T dispensaries at Patna in the C.G.H.S organisation will be considered at the appropriate time in consultation with the Ministry of Health and Family Planning.

Crimes on Indo-Nepalese Border

848. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA. Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether large-scale dacoities and murders in villages Jonki, Bangra and villages on the Indo-Nepalese border in the Madhubani district of Bihar have been and are being committed by the criminals from Jhigga and other villages on Nepalese side of the border, and

(b) if so, the steps taken or being taken to ensure stoppage of these crimes through mutual co-operation?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN) (a) and (b) On November 1, 1975 some Nepalese criminals had trespassed into Indian territory in village Lachminia in Ladania Police Station of Madhubani District. The matter was taken up through diplomatic channels with the Nepalese Government and they were requested to take necessary preventive steps to ensure that such incidents do not recur.

Implementation of amended Industrial Dispute Act

849 SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have advised the States to take necessary steps to notify the specified authorities and frame necessary rules for the speedy implementation of the provisions of the amended Industrial Disputes Act;

(b) if so, the features thereof; and

(c) to what extent the States have responded to it?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) and (b). The Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act, 1976, has been brought into force with effect from the 5th March, 1976 throughout the country. All the State Governments including the Administrations of Union Territories have been requested to take necessary steps for the enforcement of the provisions of the Amendment Act. Copies of all notifications issued by the Central Government have been sent to all the State Governments, etc. for their information. Labour Minister has also written to the State Labour Ministers emphasising the urgency and need for finalising all measures for enforcing the amended provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947.

(c) All the State Governments, etc. are expected to complete all procedural formalities for enforcement of the amended provisions of the Act shortly.

Telephone Complaints in Calcutta

850 SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) the total number of complaints received from the telephone subscribers of Calcutta area regarding non-functioning of telephones for days together;

(b) what are the measures adopted by the local authorities to save the subscribers from regular and persistent harassment due to disorders and cable faults in the telephone lines; and

(c) how far the progress has been made for replacing the old system in Calcutta telephones by a modern one and the time by which it will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) The number of written

complaints received from the telephone subscribers regarding malfunctioning of telephones is as follows:—

July, 75	2370
August 75	1718
September, 75 . . .	1660
October, 75	1273
November, 75	1313
December, 75	1422
January, 76	960
February, 76	1053

It will be noticed that complaints have gone down considerably since July, 1975.

(b) Long duration faults are due to damages caused to the underground cables. The telephone cables get damaged by the working parties of other utilities. A large number of public utility services have undertaken development programmes necessitating digging up of roads and footpaths. The telephone cables which are accommodated in the narrow footpaths along with other services get damaged resulting in cable breakdowns. A large

number of cases of theft of telephone cables, Distribution Point Boxes and cable terminating boxes also result in disruption of telephone service. Constant close coordination with the other public utility agencies is being kept to minimise damages to the telephone cables. Coordination with police authorities is also being maintained for combating thefts.

(c) No need has been felt for the replacement of any of the major automatic exchange equipments working in Calcutta telephones.

Employment provided to Women during International Women's Year

851. SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state the total number of women who got employment in the public sector during the International Women's Year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): Information for the full year is not yet available. Based on the available information collected under the Employment Market Information Programme the position upto June 1975 was as follows:

As on	No. of women employees in the Public Sector* (in lakhs)	Percentage increase over the preceding six months
31st December, 1974	11.06	+2.5
30th June, 1975 (Provisional)	11.50	+3.9

*Includes all establishments under the Central and State Governments as well as Quasi-Government establishments and those under Local Bodies.

Rules governing Service conditions of Indians employed by Foreign Embassies

852. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether at present there are no rules governing the service conditions

of Indian employees working in the foreign embassies, establishments of Trade Commissioners and Trade Representatives in India;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps stipulating certain service conditions applicable to Indian staff working in such establishments; and

(c) if so, the facts thereabout?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) to (c). Foreign Missions which represent sovereign States and International Agencies are governed by their own rules in respect of recruitment of local staff in India. However, the Government of India have requested them in a formal circular to adhere to certain minimum terms and conditions. A model contract setting out provisions relating to working hours, overtime, leave, bonus, retirement benefits, terminal benefits, etc., which should be made applicable to their Indian employees has also been communicated to them.

Re-employment to retrenched Employees in Tamil Nadu

853. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tamil Nadu Government have been constituted a cell to collect the data regarding the retrenched employees in public sector undertakings in the State and to provide them re-employment;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) what is the number of retrenched employees according to the available data and how many of them have been provided re-employment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House after it is received.

Salem Steel Plant

854. SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU:
SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM:

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the salient features of progress, so far, made in the construction of the Salem steel

plant and whether it is proposed to manufacture stainless steel tubes in the plant?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): The salient features of the progress made so far in the construction of the Salem Steel Plant are given below.

The Detailed Project Report received from the Consultants (M/s. Dastur & Co.) is under consideration. Land Acquisition for the Project has been almost completed. Out of the total requirement of 1,536 hectares, 1,534 hectares have been acquired of which 1,532 hectares have been taken over by the Salem Steel Ltd. Quite a lot of preliminary work has also been done at the site. The road from Salem town to the Project site is being widened and a railway siding is also under construction. The installation of facilities for construction power supply is nearing completion. Stage I of the construction water supply network has been commissioned and work on Stage II is in progress. Earthwork to the extent of 74 per cent of the quantity involved has been completed. Construction of boundary wall, project office and fly-over on the railway track, establishment of construction facilities like approach roads to plant area, construction laboratory, construction water, power and communication systems and work on diversion of natural water courses, are all in advanced stages of completion. Excavation for the plant railway track system has almost been completed. Work in progress includes equipment storage sheds, drinking water overhead tank, drinking water treatment plant, mechanical and electrical repair shop, central stores and watch towers. Mechanical and auxiliary equipment for major and auxiliary equipment required for Phase-I have been received from the Consulting Engineers.

At present there is no proposal to manufacture stainless steel tubes in this Plant.

Constitution of Regional Telephone Advisory Committee for Orissa Circle

855. SHRI ARJUN SETHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Regional Telephone Advisory Committee for the year 1975-76 has been constituted and functioning in Orissa circle;

(b) if so, the names of the personnel of the Committee; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) to (c). Advisory Committees at Circle level are called Regional P&T Advisory Committees. There is no Regional Telephone Advisory Committee. The constitution of the Regional P&T Advisory Committee for Orissa Circle for the year 1975-76 is in hand

Statement by U.S. President claiming Right to interfere in other Countries' affairs through C.I.A.

856. SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer given to Starred Question No. 42 on the 8th January, 1976 regarding proposed visit of President Ford to India and state:

(a) whether Government had raised with the Government of U.S.A. the issues regarding the statement President Ford had made that in the interests of the security of the United States they consider it their inalienable right to interfere through agencies like C.I.A. in the affairs of other countries; and

(b) if so, the facts thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI YESHWANTRAO CHAVAN): (a) and (b). Government of India have repeatedly made clear

their view that they are opposed to interference by any country in the internal affairs of mother. Government of India's views are communicated in appropriate fashion as necessary to other governments in various ways, including through diplomatic channels.

National Health Insurance Scheme

857. SHRI D. D. DESAI: Will the Minister of FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have undertaken any exercise in regard to the possibilities of having a National Health Insurance Scheme; and

(b) if so, the outlines and conclusions thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) and (b). No. However, the Government have schemes to strengthen the Primary Health Centres and to expand the hospital facilities in the rural areas. Further, Medical Care is available at Government hospitals and dispensaries to weaker sections of the population without any cost. The existing facilities are being progressively increased within the financial resources available, but due to limited financial resources, it is not possible to implement a National Health Insurance Scheme for all sections of society.

Retrenchment of Workers

858 SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported retrenchment of three lakh workers in the country during 1975; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BAL-GOVIND VERMA): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Ratio of Doctors and Patients in Urban and Rural Areas of the Country

859. **SHRI JAGANNATH MISHRA:** Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state the ratio of doctors and patients in urban and rural areas of the country separately?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): Separate statistics pertaining to break up of doctors and patients in urban and rural areas in the country have not been maintained. However, the overall doctor population ratio in the country during 1973-74 was 1 : 4200.

Restriction on purchasing of Low-grade Manganese Ore in Orissa

860. **SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether SAIL has requested manganese ore users, other than Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro Steel plants, to stop purchases of low-grade manganese ore in the Orissa region for some time so that low-grade ore becomes available to the three Steel Plants;

(b) the total requirement of low-grade manganese ores for these three steel plants and the supply available to them from Orissa region; and

(c) whether the possibility of making good the shortage by obtaining supplies from the Manganese Ore (India) Ltd. has been examined?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) No. Sir. Steel Authority of India Limited has only requested some of the ferro producers to restrict temporarily purchase of medium grade manganese ore by them from the Bihar-Orissa region so as to improve the availability for the steel plants.

(b) the total requirement of low grade manganese ore for Rourkela, Durgapur and Bokaro Steel Plants for 1975-76 is about 2.9 lakhs tonnes and the anticipated availability from Bihar Orissa region is about 2.3 lakh tonnes; the gap is sought to be covered by the supplies of medium grade ore.

(c) The economic viability of making good the shortage by obtaining supplies from the mines of Manganese Ore (India) Limited in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra, which would involve higher transportation cost, is under consideration.

Alleged difficulties of Copper Sheet Manufacturers

862 **SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI:** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to the difficulties of copper sheet manufacturers and of photo engravers owing to the acute shortage of silver bearing copper;

(b) whether the Hindustan Copper Corporation has turned down the copper plate industry's demand for taking up production of silver-bearing copper; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by Government to relieve the shortage of silver bearing copper?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Government have received a representation during the year 1975 from Maharashtra State Process Engra-

vers Association on the need of Silver bearing copper for the manufacture of highly polished copper sheets for photo engraving

(b) No, Sir. Hindustan Copper Limited have not received any formal representation from the copper plate industry for taking up production of silver-bearing copper

(c) Hindustan Copper Limited are examining the possibility of manufacturing silver bearing copper cakes at Ghatsila. However till the indigenous manufacture materialises import of silver bearing copper cakes is being allowed on merits

Supply of Alumina to Iran

863 SHRI TRIDIB CHAUDHURI
SHRI D K PANDA

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the High-level Iranian Team which visited India in the last week of February to study the present development of bauxite mining and manufacture of aluminium in this country has indicated the possibility of offering this country a long term contract for the supply of alumina to Iran and

(b) if any proposal for agreement between the two countries for mutual collaboration in the development of an aluminium industry in Iran on the lines of Kudremukh Iron Ore Project collaboration has been broached and if any decision has been reached on that?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) and (b) The high level technical team sent by the Government of Iran have over a fortnight seen for themselves some of our bauxite deposits and mines smelters and ports and have gone back only on the 9th March. While the team appeared to have

been very favourably impressed, it is only after they submit their report to their Government can the latter's reactions be known

Workers participation in Private Sector Industries

864 SHRI RAJDEO SINGH Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state

(a) whether forty-seven Central Government public sector undertakings have either implemented the scheme of workers participation at shop floor and plant level or have initiated action,

(b) whether these undertakings have adopted different systems depending upon the local condition and their individual needs after due consultation with workers to ensure effective meaningful and broad based participation, and

(c) whether some industries in private sector have also begun this experiment?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) (a) According to the information available with the Ministry of Labour 87 Central Government Public Sector/Departmental Undertakings had either implemented or initiated action to implement the Scheme of Workers Participation in Industry at shop floor and plant level

(b) According to information received so far in this matter from various undertakings they have taken advantage of the flexibility/variations provided for in the Scheme to suit local conditions in establishing shop/plant level committees. Full information as to whether all these undertakings have established these councils after due consultation with their workers is, however not readily available with the Ministry of Labour

(c) According to the information readily available with the Ministry of Labour, 87 units in the private sector had set up shop floor and plant level councils under the scheme.

Indian Shipping Industry

865. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian shipping industry has been earning considerable amount of foreign exchange and helping exports; and

(b) if so, the percentage of our total export and import trade being handled by our shipping industry in public and private sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI)
(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the last three years the share of Indian Shipping in the carriage of India's import/export trade has steadily increased as will be seen from the following figures:—

Year	Percentage share of Indian Shipping
1972-73 . . .	18.90
1973-74 . . .	22.40
1974-75 . . .	27.75

Private Railway line across National Highway No. 17

866. SHRI P. R. SHENOY: Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a private railway line has been laid by the Mangalore Fertilizers and Chemicals across National Highway No. 17 at Panambur;

(b) that this railway line is a source of danger to the increasingly heavy traffic on the highway; and

(c) the steps taken by Government in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI DALBIR SINGH):

(a) to (c). The Government of India have granted permission to M/s. Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., Mangalore, for construction of a manned temporary level crossing between miles 5/6 and 5/7 of National Highway No. 17 for a rail connection to the railway siding in the factory area. The permission has been granted subject, *inter alia*, to the condition that the Company will build at the appropriate time, and at its own cost, an over bridge in replacement of the level crossing as and when required by the Government of India according to the requirements of traffic. According to particulars furnished by the M/s. Mangalore Chemicals and Fertilizers Ltd., the level crossing is required for the present for carrying about half a rake of Company's produce to and fro per day; this is likely to increase to one rake to and fro per day with the Commissioning of the Mangalore-Hassan broad gauge railway line. The level crossing is required to be manned by the Company and due to the limited use to which it is being put, it is not likely at present to pose any danger to the National Highway traffic. In any case, an over bridge will be got constructed in place of the level crossing as and when traffic requirements justify it.

देश में आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सा पद्धति को प्रोत्साहन

867. श्री मूल चन्द्र डागा : क्या स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने देश में आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सा पद्धति को प्रोत्साहन देने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की है ;

(ख) क्या सरकार की मालूम है कि आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सा पद्धति पर एलोपैथिक पद्धति की तुलना में कितनी प्रतिशत खर्च कम किया जाता है ; और

(ग) क्या देश में सभी आयुर्वेदिक औषधालयों में दवाइयों और वैद्यों की भारी कमी है ?

स्वास्थ्य और परिवार नियोजन मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री ए० के० एम० इसहाक) :

(क) केन्द्रीय और राज्य सरकारें अपनी उत्तरोत्तर १ चवर्षीय योजनाओं में अधिक से अधिक वित्तीय संसाधनों की व्यवस्था कर के आयुर्वेदिक चिकित्सा पद्धति के विकास को सभी प्रकार से प्रोत्साहित कर रही है। इसके अलावा आयुर्वेद के दो पूर्ण व्यवस्थित स्नातकोत्तर संस्थान, आयुर्वेद के विभिन्न विषयों के 14 स्नातकोत्तर विभाग विभिन्न राज्यों में चल रहे हैं, जयपुर में आयुर्वेद के एक राष्ट्रीय संस्थान की स्थापना की गई है और आयुर्वेद के तीन और विभाग खोलने के लिए कार्यवाही की जा रही है। स्वदेशी चिकित्सा पद्धति की राज्य फार्मसियों, जिनमें वनोषधि उद्यान और औषधि परीक्षण प्रयोगशालाओं भी शामिल हैं, के विकास के लिए निकट भविष्य में एक केन्द्र पोषित योजना को कार्यान्वित करने की भी संभावना है। आयुर्वेद की मानक दवाइया तैयार करने के लिए एक केन्द्रीय फार्मैसी स्थापित करने सम्बन्धी एक अन्य योजना पर भी विचार

किया जा रहा है। आयुर्वेद के गहन अनुसंधान के लिए और अधिक धन दिया गया है। निकट भविष्य में आयुर्वेदिक शिक्षा के लिए एक समान पाठ्यक्रम आरम्भ करने का विचार है। स्वैच्छिक संगठनों द्वारा चलाए जा रहे आयुर्वेद के उप स्नातक कालजों को भवनों का निर्माण करने और उपकरणों को खरीदने के लिए वित्तीय सहायता दी जा रही है।

(ख) जी हां,।

(ग) ऐसी किसी भी कमी की रिपोर्ट नहीं मिली है।

बेरोजगार स्नातकों को आबंटित की गई मिनी बसें

868. श्री मूल चन्द्र डागा : क्या नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में कितने बेरोजगार स्नातकों को मिनी बसें दी गई हैं और किन किन शर्तों पर ; और

(ख) इस पर सरकार ने कुल कितनी धनराशि खर्च की है और यह धनराशि किस प्रकार वसूल की जाएगी ?

नौबहन और परिवहन मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बलबीर सिंह) : (क) संभवतया माननीय सदस्य का आशय रोजगार सवर्द्धन कार्यक्रम 1974-75 के अन्तर्गत बेरोजगार स्नातकों को मिनी बस परमिट देने के लिए और 1975-76 में शिक्षित बेरोजगार व्यक्तियों को 200 मिनी बसें देने के लिए दिल्ली प्रशासन की योजनाओं से है।

पहली योजना के अन्तर्गत अब तक कोई परमिट स्वीकृत नहीं किया गया, यद्यपि इस प्रयोजन के लिए गठित कार्यान्वयन समिति द्वारा 50 व्यक्तियों का अस्थायी चयन किया गया है।

इस योजना के अधीन परमिट स्वीकृत करने के लिए मोटे रूप में शर्तें निम्न प्रकार हैं

(1) आवेदक को कम से कम स्नातक होना चाहिए अथवा उसके किसी मान्यता प्राप्त विश्वविद्यालय के समतुल्य डिग्री हो अथवा दिल्ली में औद्योगिक प्रशिक्षण संस्थान का इंजीनियरी में डिप्लोमा/आर्टिफिकेट हो।

(2) उसे बेरोजगार होना चाहिए और दिल्ली में राजगार कार्यालय में अब तक रजिस्ट्रीकृत होना चाहिए।

(3) उसके पास अपनी टैक्सी/आटो रिक्शा/ट्रक/मिनी बस अथवा किसी और प्रकार की परिवहन गाड़ी नहीं होनी चाहिए।

(4) उसके अभिभावक की आय 900 रु० प्रतिमास में अधिक न हो।

(5) प्रार्थी को गाड़ी चलाने के लिए उस तारीख से जब उसे पैसा करने को कहा जाये, ढाई महीने के अन्दर, ड्राईवंग लाइसेंस प्राप्त करना होगा। परन्तु योग्यता प्राप्त ड्राईवरो को, जिनके पास बैंच लाइसेंस हो, रख सकते हैं।

दूसरी योजना के अन्तर्गत 78 व्यक्तियों को परमिट देने के लिए अस्थायी तौर पर चुना गया है। राज्य परिवहन अधिकरण, दिल्ली ने अब तक दिल्ली परिवहन निगम को अपने नियन्त्रण में गाड़ियों के परिचालनार्थ 42 यात्री बसों के परमिट स्वीकृत किये हैं।

इस योजना के अन्तर्गत परमिट देने के लिए मुख्य शर्तें निम्न प्रकार हैं :—

(1) आवेदक 1974 अथवा 1975 में दिल्ली विश्वविद्यालय वा स्नातक हो और उसने बहुत परिवहन वा कारोबार करने का निश्चय किया हो।

(2) उसके अभिभावक की आय 800 रु० प्रति मास से अधिक न हो।

(3) आवेदक को मिनी बस अथवा बड़ी बस की कुल कीमत का 20% स्वयं अदा करना होगा और शेष 80% किसी एक बैंक में जमा जावेगा।

(4) मिनी बसे 500 रु० प्रति मास की गिरायती दर पर दिल्ली परिवहन निगम से बड़े से सवद्ध हो।

(ख) रोजगार सवर्द्धन कार्यक्रम, 1974-75 पर कुल अनुमानित व्यय 8 34,220 पए है। इसमें से 7.95 लाख रुपए की राशि सीड मारजिन राशि है जो आवाटितिमा/लाभ भागियों से मुलभ ऋण के रूप में वसूली योग्य है।

नदी के जरिए जल डोना

869. श्री मूलचन्द डागा : क्या नौबहन और परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय देश में नदियों के जरिये कितना जल डोया जाता है ; और

(ख) इसमें वृद्धि करने के लिए सरकार क्या उपाय कर रही है?

नौबहन और परिवहन मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री एच० एम० त्रिवेदी) : (क) अपेक्षित मूल्य राज्य सरकारों और संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों से मांगी गई है। पूरी जानकारी प्राप्त होने पर उसे समा पटल पर रखा जायेगा।

(ख) प्रथम योजना में अन्तर्देशीय जल परिवहन के विकास के लिये कोई व्यवस्था नहीं थी। केन्द्रीय योजनाओं, केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं और राज्य के योजना कार्यों पर दूसरी, तीसरी योजना और बाद की तीन वार्षिक योजनाओं और चौथी योजना में किया गया वास्तविक कुल व्यय 20.80 करोड़ रुपए था। पांचवी योजना में केन्द्रीय योजनाओं और केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं के लिए 40 करोड़ रुपए और राज्य के योजना कार्यों के लिए 7 करोड़ रुपए की व्यवस्था हुई। पांचवी योजना के प्रथम वर्ष में केन्द्रीय योजनाओं और केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं पर 2.28 करोड़ रु० व्यय किया गया। यह सारा व्यय नौबहन सुविधाओं, जहाज प्राप्ति, प्रशिक्षण योजनाओं आदि पर व्यय किया गया।

Increase in Malaria and Infectious diseases in West Bengal

870. DR. SARADISH ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether incidence of malaria and infectious diseases has more than doubled in comparison to the last year in West Bengal; and

(b) if so, the steps taken for eradication of malaria and infectious diseases?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) No. While the incidence of Smallpox has already come to zero level, the incidence under Cholera has reduced in 1975 as compared to last year. The number of positive cases in Malaria have been only marginally higher.

(b) Government is taking the following steps to combat malaria situation in the State:

(i) Malaria units are being reorganised.

(ii) More quantity of material and equipment has been supplied to the State as compared to last year.

(iii) Supervision of the field staff has been toned up.

(iv) Position regarding supply of anti-malarials has improved.

औद्योगिक गृहों के प्रबन्ध में श्रमिकों का प्रतिनिधित्व

871. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या श्रम मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन किन औद्योगिक गृहों तथा अन्य प्रतिष्ठानों ने अपने प्रबन्ध श्रमिकों को प्रतिनिधित्व देने में पहल की है ; और

(ख) सभी प्रतिष्ठानों के प्रबन्ध में इसे कब तक लागू करने का सरकार का विचार है?

अथ मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री बाल गोविन्द वर्मा): (क) जहाँ तक सरकारी क्षेत्र के प्रतिष्ठानों का सम्बन्ध है, अधिको को हिन्दुस्तान एटिबाययाटिक्स लिमिटेड पिम्परी, हिन्दुस्तान आरगेनिक कैमिकलस, लिमिटेड और 14 राष्ट्रीय ऊत बैंकों के प्रबन्ध के बोर्डों में निदेशकों के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है। सरकार के पास इस सम्बन्ध में कोई सूचना नहीं है कि क्या अधिकों को सयुक्त क्षेत्र और गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र के प्रतिष्ठानों के प्रबन्ध-तंत्र के बोर्डों में नियुक्त किया गया है या नहीं।

(ख) प्रबन्धनतंत्र के बोर्डों में निदेशकों के रूप में अधिकों की नियुक्ति के लिए योजना स्वीकृत है। इस समय, सरकार का सभी प्रतिष्ठानों में इसे लागू करने के लिए कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

सरकारी तथा गैर सरकारी इस्पात सन्धन्त्रों की क्षमता

872. श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) विभिन्न सरकारी तथा गैर-सरकारी इस्पात सव सयन्त्रों की वर्तमान उत्पादन क्षमता क्या है,

(ख) क्या सरकार का विचार इनकी क्षमता बढ़ाने का है, और

(ग) यदि हा, तो इस बारे में तथ्य क्या है ?

इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री सुखदेव प्रसाद) : (क) सरकारी तथा गैर सरकारी क्षेत्र के सर्वतोमुखी इस्पात कारखानों की इस्पात पिण्ड और विक्रय इस्पात की वर्तमान वार्षिक क्षमता नीचे दी गई है —

(हजार टन)

सरकारी क्षेत्र	इस्पात पिण्ड	विक्रय इस्पात
(1) भिलाई इस्पात कारखाना	2500	1965
(2) दुर्गापुर इस्पात कारखाना	1600	1239
(3) राउरकेला इस्पात कारखाना	1800	1225

इसके अलावा प्रथम चरण में बोकारो इस्पात कारखाने की क्षमता 17 लाख टन पिण्ड होगी। इसकी कुछ इकाइयों ने उत्पादन करना आरम्भ कर दिया है और दूसरी इकाइया निर्माण/स्थापना के विभिन्न चरणों में हैं।

गैर-सरकारी क्षेत्र

1. टाटा आयरन एण्ड स्टील वर्क्स जम-शेदपुर	2000	1500
2. इंडियन आयरन एण्ड स्टील वर्क्स बर्नपुर	1000	800

(ख) और (ग) भिलाई और बोकारो के प्रत्येक इस्पात कारखाने की वार्षिक क्षमता का 40 लाख टन पिण्ड तक विस्तार किया जा रहा है।

Employer's objection for participation of Labour in Management

873. **SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN:** Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central trade unions are one on the question of labour participation in the management as envisaged by Government but the employers have not so far indicated their willingness;

(b) if so, the basis of their objection; and

(c) the steps Government have suggested to implement this?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): (a) to (c). The Central Trade Unions as well as the employer's organisations are extending their co-operation for implementing the scheme for workers' participation in industry as envisaged by the Government.

Ship-days lost in Bombay Port

874. **SHRI VASANT SATHE:** Will the Minister of SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bombay port has one of the highest utilisation rates in the world with docks occupancy being around 90 per cent, resulting in a high rate of ship days lost due to non-availability of berths;

(b) if so, the rate of ship-days lost and extent of demurrage paid at Bombay port for the past three years and how do they compare with the ship-days lost at other major ports in the country;

(c) whether the Maharashtra State Government have been pressing for clearance of Nhava Sheva port project to ease the position since 1970 and that the delay in clearance of the project has caused escalation in project cost apart from hampering the industrial development of the State; and

(d) steps taken to clear the project at an early date?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT (SHRI H. M. TRIVEDI):

(a) The percentage of berth occupancy at Bombay Docks during the last three years was as given below.—

	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
Indira Dock	80.64	89.11	86.27
Prince's Dock	62.47	76.34	78.38
Victoria Dock	74.27	85.28	83.58

Berth occupancy figures of Ports outside the country are not available.

(b) Bombay Port Trust does not maintain a record of quantum of de-

murrage payments on account of pre-berthing detention. This depends on agreements between shipping companies and individual shippers/consignees. Number of ship-days lost during the last three years at Bombay and

some of the other Major ports are given below:—

	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75
<i>Bombay</i>			
Oil cargo . . .	383	652	594
Other cargo . . .	1581	6775	5223
<i>Calcutta</i>			
Oil Cargo . . .	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other cargo . . .	354	650	1645
<i>Cochin</i>	706	578	734
<i>Visakhapatnam</i>	437	833	926
<i>Mormugao</i>	430	841	752
<i>Mangalore</i>	Nil
<i>Tuticorin</i>	Nil

(c) and (d). The Maharashtra Government have urged for early clearance of the Nhava Sheva scheme, a note on which has been circulated for consideration by the Public Investment Board. It is expected that the Board will take up the item soon after ascertaining the views of the Ministries concerned. The cost of the original 3 berth Nhava Sheva Project estimated in 1971 as Rs. 51.74 crores would go up to Rs. 73.99 crores at 1975 prices. If one more berth for coal is added, the cost may be Rs. 95.39 crores at 1975 prices.

Lepers in the Country

875. SHRI VASANT SATHE: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether more than one third of world's lepers are in India and that the leper population in the country has increased significantly over a decade;

(b) if so, the number of lepers in the country, State-wise; and

(c) whether Government have formulated an integrated Plan of medicare and economic rehabilitation of lepers if so, the outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE). (a) No The estimated number of Leprosy patients in India is about 1/4th of the estimated number of leprosy cases in the world. There has not been any significant increase in the prevalence rate of the disease during the last decade

(b) The statement containing the required information is enclosed.

(c) Yes. As a part of the Fifth Five Year Plan, Government have formulated a comprehensive National Leprosy Central Programme comprising leprosy control units; survey, education and treatment centres; urban leprosy centres; temporary hospitalisation wards; reconstructive surgery units and training centres. Voluntary organisations are also encouraged to participate in establishment of voluntary SET centres for which grant-in-aid is provided by the Government of India.

Statement

State wise Estimated number of cases against 1971 census population.

States/U. Ts.		Endemic population (in million) 1971 census	Estimated No of cases (in lakhs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	43.50	6.28
2	Assam	5.55	0.12
3	Bihar	56.35	3.39
4	Gujarat	12.74	0.25
5	Haryana	0.60	0.01
6	Himachal Pradesh	3.46	0.15
7	Jammu & Kashmir	1.30	0.05
8	Madhya Pradesh	19.87	0.32
9	Maharashtra	47.50	2.80
10	Manipur	1.07	0.06
11	Meghalaya	0.35	0.06
12	Karnataka	21.33	1.74
13	Nagaland	0.52	0.17
14	Orissa	16.00	2.37
15	Punjab	0.67	0.02
16	Rajasthan	1.40	0.10
17	Tamil Nadu	41.20	7.83
18	Kerala	12.30	0.75
19	Tripura	1.50	0.10
20	Uttar Pradesh	38.25	1.68
21	West Bengal	44.31	3.68
22	Andaman & Nicobar	0.12	0.01
23	Arunachal Pradesh	0.28	0.01
24	Chandigarh		
25	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	0.01	0.01
26	Goa, Daman & Diu	0.50	0.05
27	Delhi	0.10	0.01
28	Laccadive Islands	0.03	0.01
29	Pondicherry	0.47	0.19
30	Mizoram	0.04	0.01
31	Lakshadweep	0.03	..
TOTAL		371.72 372.00	32.2 32.03

Micro-wave Link up of Southern Region

876. SHRI P. R. REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is proposed to link up Chittoor in Andhra Pradesh with the new micro-wave tele-communication facilities being installed in the Southern Region, Particularly between Bangalore and Madras; and

(b) whether the alternative of linking it up with the Coaxial facility existing between Madras and Bangalore and Hyderabad is being considered?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS (DR. SHANKER DAYAL SHARMA): (a) Yes, Sir. It is proposed to connect Chittoor with Tirupati on a U.H.F. system.

(b) Does not arise.

Steel Plant at Vishakhapatnam

877. SHRI Y. ESWARA REDDY: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have started any work connected with the steel plant at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) whether the necessary fund has been earmarked for this project in the 1976-77 annual plan outlay; and

(c) if so, the broad outlines thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. Consultants for preparing Detailed Project Report for the plant have been appointed and the Detailed Project Report is under preparation. Simultaneously, certain preliminary works including soil investigation, hydrologi-

cal and meteorological surveys, etc., have been taken up at the site. Land acquisition for the plant is almost complete.

(b) and (c). For the year 1976-77, an outlay of Rs. 1 crore has been earmarked for this project. This includes about Rs. 30 lakh for payment to the Consultants for preparation of the Detailed Project Report, Rs. 31 lakhs towards land acquisition and establishment charges of land acquisition units and the balance for preliminary works, etc.

Steps to Control infective and rheumatic diseases

878. SHRI P. GANGADEB: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Indians 'suffer more from infective and rheumatic diseases than any other people all over the world; and

(b) if so the measures taken in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A. K. M. ISHAQUE): (a) Rheumatic fever and rheumatic heart disease occur with a higher frequency in the developing countries having poor standards of living as compared to the more advanced countries. Nevertheless, there are still sizable pockets of rheumatic fever even in advanced countries such as U.S.A. Areas with high frequency are parts of Latin America, Mexico, the Middle East, Iran, India and other South East Asian Countries. In India, data from general hospitals suggest that rheumatic heart disease accounts for 30-40 per cent of all cardiac cases.

(b) Considering the quantum of the problem, the Indian Council of Medical Research has recently initiated a prevention oriented action programme on prophylaxis of rheumatic fever and

rheumatic heart disease at two of the high prevalence areas i.e. New Delhi and Hyderabad.

Joint sector sponge iron plant

879 SHRI ISHAQUE SAMBHALI Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the stage reached of the proposed joint sector sponge iron plant at Barbil with TISCO;

(b) whether the co-sponsors have reached a stage of stalemate, and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) (a) It is understood from TISCO that the Preliminary Project Report is presently under consideration in consultation with the Government of Orissa

(b) and (c) Do not arise

12 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLES

NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CUSTOMS ACT, CENTRAL EXCISE RULES, INDIAN TARIFF ACT, CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT AND A STATEMENT re NOT LAYING THE HINDI VERSIONS THEREOF

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE) I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy each of Notification Nos G S R 204(E) to 228(E), 230(E), and 231(E), published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1976, under section 159 of the Customs Act 1962 together with an explanatory memorandum

(2) A copy each of Notification Nos. G S R 128(E), 129(E), 132(E), 135(E), 135(E) to 153(E), 157(E) to 159(E), 161(E) to 193(E), 196(E), 197(E),

200(E), 201(E) and 203(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1976 issued under the Central Excise Rules, 1944 together with an explanatory memorandum.

(3) A copy of Notification No G S R 229(E) published in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1976 under sub-section (5) of section 3 of the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 together with an explanatory memorandum

(4) A copy of the Central Excises (Tenth Amendment) Rules, 1976, published in Notification No G S R 160(E) in Gazette of India dated the 16th March, 1976, under section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 together with an explanatory memorandum

(5) A statement (Hindi and English versions) explaining reasons for not laying simultaneously the Hindi versions of the Notifications mentioned at (1), (2), (3) and (4) above

[Placed in Library See No LT 10459/76]

NOTIFICATION UNDER PREVENTION OF FOOD ADULTERATION ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING (SHRI A K M ISHAQUE) I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Prevention of Food Adulteration (Amendment) Rules, 1975 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No G.S.R. 63(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th February, 1976, under sub-section (2) of section 23 of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act 1954 [Placed in Library See No LT-10460/76]

NOTIFICATION re EXTENSION OF ALUMINIUM (CONTROL) ORDER, 1970 TO

SIKKIM

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SUKHDEV PRASAD) I beg to lay on the Table under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955, a copy of Notification No S O 88(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 7th Februa-

[Shri Sukhdev Prasad]

ry, 1976 regarding extension of the Aluminium (Control) Order, 1970 to the State of Sikkim. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10461/76.]

NOTIFICATION UNDER INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Industrial Disputes (Central) Amendment Rules, 1976 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. G. S. R. 111(E) in Gazette of India dated the 5th March, 1976, under sub-section (5) of section 38 of the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10462/76.]

NOTIFICATION UNDER CUSTOMS ACT

SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE: I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No G.S.R. 238(E) (Hindi and English versions) published in Gazette of India dated the 18th March, 1976, under Section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 together with an explanatory memorandum. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-10462/76.]

12.8 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

STATEMENT SHOWING REPLIES TO RECOMMENDATIONS CONTAINED IN THIRTY-FOURTH REPORT

SHRI D. BASUMATARI (Kokrajhar): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Statement showing the replies to the recommendations contained in Chapter V of the Thirty-fourth Report of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes—Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in the Thir-

teenth Report regarding reservations for, an employment of, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Hindustan Machine Tools Limited, which were not furnished by Government in time for inclusion in the Report.

12.03 hrs.

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY-GENERAL: Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary-General of Rajya Sabha

- (i) 'In accordance with the provisions of rule 127 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 15th March, 1976, agreed without any amendment to the Warehousing Corporations (Amendment) Bill, 1976, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 8th March, 1976'
- (ii) 'In accordance with the provisions of rule 115 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 15th March, 1976, agreed to the following amendment made by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 9th March, 1976, in the Standards of Weights and Measures Bill, 1976 —

Enacting Formula

That at page 1, line 1,—for
"Twenty-sixth" substitute
"Twenty-seventh"

- (iii) 'In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule(6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the

Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Appropriation (No. 3) Bill, 1976, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th March, 1976, 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.'

- (iv) 'In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule(6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to return herewith the Pondicherry Appropriation (No 2) Bill, 1976, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th March, 1976, 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

- (v) 'In accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (6) of rule 186 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha I am directed to return herewith the Nagaland Appropriation (No 2) Bill, 1976, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 11th March, 1976, 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.'

12.05 hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC UNDERTAKINGS

SEVENTY-EIGHTH REPORT

SHRI NAWAL KISHORE SHARMA
(Dausa): I beg to present the Seven-

ty-eighth Report of the Committee on Public Undertakings on Action Taken by Government on the recommendations contained in their Sixty-second Report on Rural Electrification Corporation Limited.

12 06 hrs.

RAILWAY BUDGET, 1976-77—GENERAL DISCUSSION..Contd

MR SPEAKER. Shri Kamalpathi Tripathi to continue his reply

रेल मंत्री (श्री कमलपति त्रिपाठी) : मान्यवर, कल आप की आज्ञा से तीन दिनों में जो बहस रेलवे पर हो रही है उन का उत्तर देने के लिये यहाँ हुआ था। समय बीता इसलिए आज उत्तर देने की आज्ञा आप ने मझे दी है। मान्यवर, इस बार के बजट पर कुछ विरोध बाने देखने में आया। एक बात तो यह देखने में आयी कि इस बजट का उत्तर देना क्या है। जो बहस हुई उस में विरोधी दल ने कोई हिम्मा नहीं लिया। शायद उन्हें कुछ भिन्न नही विरोध करने के लिये। मात्ता हमारा कि धर्म है उन क, कि विरोध किया जाये इसलिये धर्म का पालन करना चाहते हैं, पर उस का मोका नही मिला। एक दूसरे दल में उन्होंने समर्थन प्रदान किया। वह यह कि उस वर के यहाँ में चले गये सब के सब। आज तो दर्शन हो रहे है कुछ मूर्खियों के; लेकिन तीन दिन जब बहस हुई तो मान्यवर, आप ने भी देखा होगा, मैं ने एक बार ध्यान भी आकृष्ट किया था, कोई नही था यहाँ। मैं ने एक बात और दूँगी।

श्री भोगेंद्र झा (जयनगर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंत्री महोदय जो बोल रहे हैं, आप जानते है कि एक एक दल से दो, दो तीन, तीन लोग बोले हैं। अगर उन्होंने नही सुना है तो अपने साथी माननीय कुरेनी जी से कुछ लें जो नोट कर रहे थे।

एक माननीय सदस्य : आप तो हमारे सहयोगी हो, विरोधी कहाँ हो।

श्री कमलाक्षि त्रिपाठी : मान्यवर, मा जी ने जो बात कही उस से मैं महमत हूँ। माननीय इन्द्रजीत गुप्त जी ने, श्रीमती पार्थवी कृष्णन ने कुछ एक दो बातें कही थी। आप ने भी बोला था, मुझे सौभाग्य प्राप्त नहीं हुआ आप की सुन्दर बाणी सुनने का। लेकिन मान्यवर, कुछ लोग बोले। लेकिन मुख्य रूप से जिस दिन बजट का विरोध करने के लिये विरोधी दल के नेता खड़े हुए, माननीय समर मन्त्रजी साहब, तो पीछे से सारे उन के फीनोवर चलने बने। अकेले वहीं खड़े रहे और बोले। आप को स्मरण होगा, मैं ने आप का ध्यान आकृष्ट किया कि The Leader of the Opposition is sitting in the House without any follower Today he also has gone.

तो मान्यवर, जो वहम रेलवे बजट पर तीन दिन हुई इधर के हमारे साथियों ने उस समय का सदुपयोग किया। एक सज्जन केवल विरोधी दल की आर से कुछ विशेष रूप से बोले। वह आज है नहीं यहाँ, माननीय मोहन्नी जी। उन का भाषण सुन कर के मुझे ऐसा लगा कि आप को स्मरण होगा गीता में भगवान ने कहा है नास्ति बुद्धि अप्रयत्नम्य। जो आयत्न आदमी होगा उस की बुद्धि हो नहीं होती। युक्त को मनुलिन बुद्धि होती है। अमनुलिन ध्यात्त होगा तो उस की बुद्धि नहीं होगी।

उन का भाषण पूरा का पूरा ऊपर से नाचे तक जा या मान्यवर, अब मैं उन का कुछ उत्तर देने की चेष्टा करूँगा और माननीय समर मन्त्रजी का भी। लेकिन इस के पहले मैं उन सब लोगों को धन्यवाद दूँ जिन्होंने इस बजट के ऊपर अपने उद्गार प्रकट किये, अपने विचार रखे, ऐसे लोग जिन्होंने इस बजट का स्वागत किया और

बड़ी उदारता के साथ इस का समर्थन करने की कृपा की। अपना सहयोग प्रदान किया उन के प्रति मैं कृतज्ञ हूँ।

श्रीमन्, इधर के लोग बोले इसलिये वो तरह की बात बड़ी गई। एक तो कुछ नीति सम्बन्धी बात बड़ी गई, और एक कुछ सुझाव दिये गये। हमारे औपरेशन में, परिवालन में, हमारी व्यवस्था में, प्रबन्ध में वही कुछ कृति है, क्या होना चाहिये, इस के सम्बन्ध में कुछ सुझाव दिये गये। सुझाव देते हुए कुछ माननीय सदस्यों ने अपने प्रदेश, अपने निर्वाचन क्षेत्र और अपने एरिया के सम्बन्ध में भी कुछ बात कही। तो देखा मैं ने कि दो तरह की बात बड़ी गयी—एक तो नीति सम्बन्धी और दूसरा सुझाव। तो सुझाव सम्बन्धी जो बातें कही गयी उन का बहुत कुछ उत्तर हमारे साथी माननीय कुरेशी जी ने दे दिया। इसलिये मैं ने सोचा है कि जिन बातों की चर्चा कुरेशी जी ने की और मेरा बोझा बड़ा हल्का किया उन्होंने, जैसा कि वह किया करने है बराबर वह सुझाव सम्बन्धी बातें कल हो गई अब के ल में नॉन के सम्बन्ध में आप की आज्ञा से कुछ बात कह दूँ।

मान्यवर समर मन्त्रजी साहब ने एक अजीब बात कही। उन्होंने मेरे बजट को यह कह दिया कि यह टान टाक है। अब हमारी समझ में नहीं आयी यह बात। जो वास्तविकता है, जो घटनाएँ घटी है जो चीजें सामने मौजूद है कागज पर भी मौजूद है, जा कर ये भी देखी जा सकती है उन को टान टाक कहना शायद उन के पास कोई तर्क बहाने की नहीं था इसलिये उन्होंने ने ऐसी बात कहा। हमारी रेकार्ड लॉडिंग हुई। यह बात कोई ऐसी नहीं है जिसे टान टाक कहा जा सके। जा कर देखा जा सकता है। मिलाकर जनवरी 1976 के महीने में बड़ी लाइन पर प्रतिदिन औसत 25,000 बैग्स लोड हुए और प्रारम्भिक राजस्व उपायक

चाकर बातावत बिसाकर कुल 17.94 मिलियन टन हो गया। और कोल कोयला 10 हजार बैग्स पर है जो और यह संख्या ऐसी है जो रेलवे की हिस्ट्री में पहले कभी हम पहुंचे नहीं थे। यह देखने की बात है और कोई टाल टाक नहीं है। सामने एक बात है, जा कर देखी जा सकती है? वह तो विश्वास नहीं करते। मशायदा ऐसी है कि उन्होंने यह सदेह किया कि जो कुछ बजट में रखा गया है वह सब गलत है और खार्बा बाने ही बाने है। दूसरी बात उन्होंने यह भी कह दी कि उन का यह खयाल है कि जो उम्मीदें हम ने बजट में की थी वे उम्मीदें कभी पूरी नहीं होंगी। हम ने उम्मीद की थी उस विश्वास के साथ कि हमारी आशाएं पूरी होंगी। मझे प्रमत्तता इस बात की है और थीमन आप के सम्मुख यह कहने में मुझे मकोच नहीं है कि गत वर्ष जो कुछ हम ने आशाएं की थी आने वजह से आगे इस भवन में बहुम का उत्तर देन दुःख है हमारी आशाएं जितनी हम ने की थी उस में कहीं ज्यादा पूरी हुई है। हम बिनाश में मैं वह मानता हूँ कि जो आबनाए इस में हम ने व्यक्त की है हमारा विश्वास है कि हमारे उत्सोहात उत्पादन बढ़ेगा, हमारा विश्वास है कि हमारी प्रधान मंत्री के नेतृत्व में जिस इमर्जेन्सी का हम ने लाभ किया, उस के फलस्वरूप जो अनुशासन आया है उस अनुशासन का फल दश का मिलेगा। हमें यह विश्वास है कि भगवान की कृपा से खेरी हमारे सम्मुख हुई है ठीक टाइम में पानी बरसा है खरीफ का भी और रबी का भी और मैं यह भी समझता हूँ कि अगली बरसात भी अच्छी होगी और अच्छी खरीफ की फसल होगी। लिहाजा हमारे अन्न की स्थिति भी सुन्दर होगी हम न यह विश्वास किया है और हम न यह विश्वास किया कि साधारण रूप से हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति सुधरने होगी, बढ़ेगी और विकास होगा। विकास होने से उसे की उत्पत्ति होगी और जब वह चीजें हम देख रहे हैं कि उत्पादन

का उत्पादन बढ़ा है, कोयले का उत्पादन बढ़ा है, फल-कागजातों में उत्पादन बढ़ा है, खेन खलिहानों में उत्पादन बढ़ा है और जब सर्वत्र उत्पादन बढ़ा है, तब हम यह आशा करेंगे कि हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार होगा। तो यह बड़ा भारी परिणाम निकला है और काम करने के लिए प्रेरणा मिली है हमारी इमर्जेन्सी के और टन्डिरा जी के नेतृत्व में जो अनुशासन आया है उस के फलस्वरूप यह वास्तविकता उत्पन्न हुई है उसकी बतियाद पर यदि हम यह कहें कि अगले वर्ष रेल की स्थिति में सुधार होगा, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि कोई अनुचित बात नहीं होगी। मैंने यह कहा था कि हमारा यह विश्वास है कि हमारी रेलवे की जो इमेज है और पिछले सालों में जो वह अवस्था में थी, उस में वह निकलेगी। परमान हमने यह उम्मीद की थी कि हम टनल में बाहर हो जाएंगे और मले विश्वास है कि हम टनल में बाहर हो गये हैं। मन्थवर, अगर हम तरह से हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति में सुधार हुआ तो रेलों की मददनी और बढ़ेगी और हमारे परिवहन में किसी प्रकार की कमी आने वाली नहीं है इसका विश्वास मैं इस माननीय मदन को दिलाना चाहता हूँ और आर्थिक नेजी के साथ हम इस कार्य को करेंगे और जितनी आवश्यकता होगी, उस आवश्यकता को पूरा करेंगे। हमारे रेलवे इस में कभी पीछे नहीं रहेगी। इस दृष्टि में मैं यह कहता हूँ कि यह हमने पहले आशा की थी।

एक बात उन्होंने और कुछ अन्य महत्त्वपूर्ण बातें यह कही कि जो बीडा सा रेलवे को बढ़ाया है उस का घसर साधारण जनन पर पड़ेगा। कुछ चीजों का उन्होंने जिक्र किया जैसा कि केरामियन है जो इमर्जेन्सी है या बम्बई में जो फोडर चलता है, घास चलती है ईंधन की लकड़ी है या दियासलाई है ये चीजें ऐसी हैं जो रोजमर्रा की चीजें हैं और उन को बरी नहीं किया गया है। मैं उन का इस बात की तरफ ध्यान दिलाना

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

बहता है कि ये चीजें पारसाल से चलेगी तो मुक्त रहेगी। हमारे रेल के फ्रेट में जो बढोतरी हुई है उस से इस पर कितना असर पड़ेगा, इस के बारे में मुकजी साहब ने कहा और दूसरे हमारे कुछ मानीय सदस्यों ने कहा कि जब आप ने फ्रेट बढ़ा दिया है तो औद्योगिक पदार्थों की कीमत इस से बढ़ जाएगी और अगर औद्योगिक पदार्थों की कीमत इस से बढ़ जाएगी तो निश्चय ही साधारण व्यक्ति के ऊपर उस का असर होगा। मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि इतना कम इसका असर होगा कि इन्फ्लेशन का डर तो हमें इस समय बिल्कुल नहीं है क्योंकि इन्फ्लेशन को कन्ट्रोल करने का, उस को रोकने का अगर कोई उपाय है तो वह यह है कि अधिक से अधिक उत्पादन हो। उत्पादन अधिक से अधिक हो और क्रय शक्ति जनता की बढ़े तो इन्फ्लेशन पर कन्ट्रोल स्थापित होता है। मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि हमारे देश में आज मद्रास्फीशन का बड़ा अवरोध हुआ है और हमारी सरकार ने और वित्त विभाग ने जिस मेहनत के साथ जिस प्रतिभा के साथ जिस दृष्टि और कुशलता के साथ इन्फ्लेशन को रोकना है, वह मैंने एन मिमाल है जोकि दूसरी जगह दुनिया में नहीं मिलती है। ऐसी स्थिति में जब इन्फ्लेशन रुका है और मैं देखता हूँ कि उत्पादन बढ़ रहा है और उत्पादन बढ़ेगा और जनता की क्रय-शक्ति बढ़ेगी तो कोई कारण नहीं है कि इन्फ्लेशन में फिर से बृद्धि अथवा और यह जो बहुत साधारण सा असर एक पैसा या घेला या आना दो आना असर पड़ने वाला है इसमें जनता के ऊपर कोई बहुत बड़ा बोझ नहीं आने वाला है और इसमें फिर कोई इन्फ्लेशन का असर नहीं शुरू होने वाला है। एक सज्जन ने मान्यवर, यह भी कहा कि अगर फ्रेट का रेट बढ़ जाएगा तो रॉड ट्रान्सपोर्ट में समान जाने लगेगा और इससे रेलवे का नुकसान होगा। इस की मुझे कोई आशंका

नहीं है। जितना माल रेलें ढोती हैं उस का एक बहुत छोटा सा फ्रैक्शन ही रोड से जाता है और हम चाहते हैं कि रोड ट्रान्सपोर्ट में बृद्धि हो, यह बड़े क्योंकि रोड ट्रान्सपोर्ट एक ऐसी इन्डस्ट्री है जिस में लाखों आदमी लगे हुए हैं और उस में बड़ा भारी इम्प्लायमेंट पोटेन्शियल है और उस से देश को लाभ भी पहुँचता है। 25 हजार बैगन माल जब रेलें प्रति दिन ढोती हैं और उस में से कुछ रोड पर माल चला जाता है, तो हम में कोई डर की बात नहीं है और मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि रेल का माल कोई बहुत ज्यादा रोड पर जाने वाला नहीं है।

अब जनरल रेवेन्यूज की कुछ बात कही गई। समर मुकजी साहब ने और एकाध इतर के माननीय सदस्यों ने भी यह कहा था कि रेलवे जनरल रेवेन्यू में जो भरना हिस्सा अदा करनी है, वह दुनिया में कहीं नहीं है और यह नहीं होना चाहिए। माननीय मुकजी साहब ने तो यहाँ तक कह दिया कि सरकार रेलवे को एक टैक्स का मोर्म लगान कर वसूल करने का मस्यन मात्र माननी है और इसलिए रेलवे में पैसा लाना है। मैं उनकी इस बात से सहमत नहीं हूँ। मान्यवर, मैं समझता हूँ कि जिनकी पजी लगी है और सरकार ने 4 या 5 हजार करोड़ यानी लगभग 40 या 50 अरब रुपये की पजी लगई है, इतनी बड़ी पजी सरकार ने लगई है और अब भी लगानी जानी है और रेलवे का जब जरूरत होनी है तो बर्जालेवर देनी है, तो कोई बजह नहीं है कि जनरल टैक्स पेयर पर रेलवे को चलाने का बाझा पड़े और जनरल रेवेन्यू में अगर हम कुछ देने हैं तो इसलिए देते हैं कि जो बर्जालिया है उस का इन्स्टेड तो अदा करे और उस को दूसरी पर न पड़ने दे।

दूसरी बात यह है कि रेलवे हमारे देश की सब से बड़ा पब्लिक अन्डरटेकिंग है

और दुनिया में एक ही प्रबन्ध व्यवस्था के अधीन भारतीय रेल का स्थान दूसरा है और एशिया में यह सब से बड़ी रेल प्रणाली है। 5 लाख हजार करोड़ रुपये की पूंजी इसमें लगी हुई है और 16-17 लाख आदमी इसमें काम करते हैं। मान्यवर, 60 हजार किलोमीटर वाली भारतीय रेल देश का सब से बड़ा उद्योग है। और अगर हिमाचल लगाया जाए तो करीब 12 लाख किलोमीटर वह प्रति दिन चलती है जो पृथ्वी से चांद तक की जितनी दूरी है, उस से माठे तीन गुणा के बराबर है। अब इतनी बड़ी यह अग्रेटिंग है और इसमें इतनी पूंजी लगी हुई है और जब जरूरत होती है तो कर्जा लेकर भी रेलवे की मदद की जाती है तो कोई बजह नहीं है कि माधारण राजस्व में हम भी कोई हिस्सा न दे यह जो कहा गया कि दुनिया के किसी हिस्से में यह नहीं दिया जाता है ता इस का भी हम न जाच की और मुझे पता लगा कि जापान वेस्टम जर्मनी और स्वयं इंग्लैंड में भी जो इस में रुक्या लगा हुआ है, उस के एक्ज से कम से कम जितना इन्वेस्ट होता है उतना राजस्व के रूप में यह अदा करती है। मैं ऐसा समझता हूँ कि यह अदा भी करना चाहिए और यह तरीका 19-4 में जब में फ्रेंचम अलग हुआ रेलवे जारन फ्रेंचम में तब यह नय हुआ कि राजस्व में हम अपना हिस्सा दिया करेंगे और हमारी फ्रेंचमेट की कन्वेनन कमेटी ने बराबर इस बात पर जोर दिया कि राजस्व के लिए आप का पैसा देना है और रेलवे का देना चाहिए, ऐसा मैं भी समझता हूँ रेलवे में अपना हिस्सा देने का हर तरह में अनिवार्य है, ऐसा मैं समझता हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि यह हर तरह में उचित है कि हम रेलवे में अपना हिस्सा अदा करें।

इधर के भी और उधर के भी जो माननीय सदस्य बोले, उनमें से एककाध ने रेलवे की फाइनेशियल हालत के बारे में कहा। उनमें मैं महसूस नहीं

हूँ। मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि रेलो की काफी उन्नति हुई है, काफी आमदनी भी बढ़ी है। अगर यह आमदनी न बढ़ा होती तो हमने पिछली साल जो 89 करोड़ रुपये कमाया वह न कमाया होता। हमारी कमाई जो डेफिसिट में परिवर्तित हुई वह इस कारण से हुई कि 151 करोड़ पये का ऐसा खर्चा बढ गया जिसकी हमने अपने बजट में कोई कल्पना नहीं की थी। इस कल्पना को करने का कोई काम ही शुरू नहीं हुआ था। बाद में जो माधारण बजट देपेंड हुआ, जिसे हमारे वित्त मंत्री जी ने पेश किया, उसमें उन्होंने भी यह कहा कि जो डियर्नेस अलाउम दिवें गयें, उनकी हमें पहले कल्पना नहीं थी। उनके लिए बजट में रुपया ही नहीं दिया गया था। वह ऐसा समय था जबकि देश में इन्फ्लेशन बढे जोरा का था। वार्थों की कीपने आममान का छू रहा था। उस समय यह समस्या थी कि कैसे इन कीमतों को स्टेबिलाइज करें, कैसे इन्फ्लेशन को रोके। मान्यवर ऐसे वक्त मैं यह सोचा जा रहा था कि हमें इस प्रकार के इन्फ्लेशन बढ़ति बात कदम नहीं उठाने चाहिए। बाद में सरकार ने यह निश्चय किया कि हमें यह देना चाहिए। इसमें खाली रेलवे को गलती नहीं थी। उस समय यह कल्पना ही नहीं थी क्योंकि देश में मुद्रास्फीति चल रही थी। इस प्रकार यह खर्चा लगा कर 151 करोड़ रुपये का खर्चा बढ गया। हममें से 111 करोड़ रुपया नो खानो कमचारियों के पाव अनिश्चित डियरनेस अलाऊम और सेवा निवृत्ति लाभों के उधारीकरण में हो चला गया। 40 करोड़ रुपया आपरेशनल कामों में चला गया क्योंकि स्टील, फ्यूल की कीमत गट गई, मीमेंट की कीमत बढ गई कोयले की कीमत बढ

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

गई और इसके साथ साथ आरक्षण काम भी बहुत ज्यादा हुआ। अगर आरक्षण काम ज्यादा न हुआ होता तो इतने तेजी के साथ जो हमने माल डोने का काम किया वह नहीं कर सकते थे। इन सब कामों में 151 करोड़ खर्चा लगा। यदि यह न लगा होता तो हम 89 करोड़ के मरगटा में होते। यह खर्चा हो जाने की वजह से हमारा डेफिसिट है।

फिर भी मैं यह मानता हूँ कि रेलवे जैसे महकमे को अपने पैरों पर खड़ा होना चाहिए। पिछले दस वर्षों से 1963-64 से बराबर डेफिसिट बजट पेश होने जा रहे हैं। 1974 में जाकर के बिना किसी फ़ोट को बढ़ाये 23 कोड़ का सरप्लस हुआ था। इस प्रकार फिर घाटे का बजट होता जिसको हमने बचाया है। जनरल टेक्म-पेयर पर बिना कोई बोझ डाले यह बजट बन पड़ा है। फिर भी मैं समझता हूँ कि रेलवे विभाग को, रेलवे में काम करने वालों को इस बात को देखना चाहिए कि किस तरह से हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति परिपुष्ट हो, रेलवे का यदि कोई धक्का लग जाये तो उस धक्के को बर्दाश्त करने की उसमें शक्ति हो और वह स्वावलम्बी हो सके। मैं ऐसा मानता हूँ कि अभी जो हमारी आर्थिक स्थिति है उससे हमें प्रमत्त होने की आवश्यकता नहीं है।

श्री डी० एन० तिवारी (गोपालगज)
अकाउंटिंग मरगल्स है या नहीं ?

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी . तिवारी जी ने कहा कि अकाउंटिंग मरगल्स होना चाहिए, मैं समझता हूँ कि उनका कहना सही है, साल बीने गिननी करके देखें कि इतना सरप्लस होगा। 9 करोड़ का जो सरप्लस

विचलाया वह काबज में भी होना चाहिए। इस दृष्टि से उनकी इस बात को स्वीकार करता हूँ।

श्री वसन्त साठे (अकोला) : अब तो कम्प्यूटर अकाउंटिंग हो रहा है।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : बात यह है कि मैं एक ऐसे वर्ग से आता हूँ जिसका हिसाब किताब में कोई मतलब नहीं है। (अवधान)।

मान्यवर हमारे डिप्टी का जो पेमेंट होता है, मैं समझता हूँ कि हमारे लिए मुनामिब है और उसे रोक कर के अपनी आर्थिक स्थिति सुधारने की जरूरत नहीं है बल्कि उसे देने हुए अपनी आर्थिक स्थिति को सुधारने का हमें प्रयास करना चाहिए, सारे रेलवे विभाग को यह प्रयास करना चाहिए। यह इतना बड़ा ग्यावमायिक मस्यान है, इसे यह प्रयास करना चाहिए। मैं जानता हूँ कि कुछ उसको मीमाए हैं, कुछ मोशन वर्डन उसके ऊपर हैं। अभी मैं देख रहा था कि कुलकर्णी जी ने सबबर्न ट्रेन की बात बहोयी। जो सबबर्न ट्रेन चलती हैं उनमें हमें घाटा होता है। वह कार्ट 25 करोड़ रुपये ने ऊपर घाटा होता है। यह घाटा इसलिए होता है कि उसके ऊपर जो हमने टिकट लगाया है, उस टिकट का रेट अभी बढ़ा नहीं, जो 1964-65 में लग गया वह लग गया। उसको हम टच कर सकते थे।

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI (Bombay-North East). In 1974-75 you increased the suburban trains fares.

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी नान-सबबर्न पर टिकट बढ़ा है, सबबर्न पर नहीं बढ़ा है। मैं आपसे यह भी कहना हूँ कि 24-25 करोड़ का हमें घाटा होता है। एक मुसाफिर 5 जरनी का पैसा दे कर, 5 टिकट का पैसा

देकर महीने भर ट्रेन में चलता है। सिकें 5 घण्टी का वह टिकट का पैसा देता है और उतने में वह महीने भर चलता है। उसको हम टच कर सकते हैं। इस टिकट का जो वह पैसा देता है, उसमें वह महीने भर चलता है। जितनी बार चाहे, सी बार चाहे तो सी बार, वह उसमें चलता है। अब उसमें विद्यार्थी चलते हैं कारखाने में काम करने वाले मजदूर पेना लोग चलते हैं छोटे छोटे बुकानदार, बड़े शहरों से दूर रहने वाले बुधिया, घाम वाले ऐसे लोग चलते हैं। उनके ऊपर टिकट बढ़ा कर हमारा यह घाटा पूरा हो सकता है। लेकिन उसका हमने अब तक चट नहीं किया। यह साल कर बं नहीं किया कि मण्डल में छोटे लोगों पर इका वाश पड़ा है। हमारा सामाजिक कर्तव्य है हम समाज सेवा करनी है। खानी हम कमजोर प्रारम्भनाइजेशन के रूप में य सब चीज नहीं ले सकते। हम पब्लिक सर्विलाइज और गवर्नर मन्त्रिमंडल को भी देखना है। खान हम मजदूरों, सब चीजों को नहीं देख सक्ता। मान्यवर अगर हम ऐसे देखना शुरू कर दें तो किसी प्रिया में हम नयी रेल लाइन नहीं बना पाएंगे। नयी रेल लाइन बनाने की हमारा मानवीय मध्य भी मांग करत है। नयी रेल लाइने बनाने में हमें प्रोग्राम में लाभ नहीं होना बहुत दिना बाद होता है। (व्यवधान)।

श्री राम सहाय पांडे (राजनंद गाव) :
रेट बढ़ा कर ऐसा कर देने को अच्छा होता।

श्री कल्याणलाल शिवाडी : किमी ने मल्ल में कमवर्गेटिव कम्पटी में यह पृष्ठ कि आपकी पालिसी क्या है। मैंने कहा कि तीन बातें हैं

- (1) Service of the country;
- (2) Development of the backward areas; and

(3) To make railways financially viable

मिबाय इन चीजों के और कोई पालिसी नहीं हो सकती। इन चीजों को देखने की जरूरत है। अगर हम फाइनेंसनी बायबल रहते हैं तो देश सेवा भी कर सकते हैं और बेकवर्ड प्रियाज में भी जा सकते हैं। इसलिए हम रेलों को ऐसा बनाना होगा कि वे अपने पैरा पर खड़ा हो सके अपनी शक्ति में चल सकें और लटखड़ा कर गिर नहीं।

इस दृष्टि में मान्यवर मैंने कहा कि हमारे ऊपर कुछ मोशन वर्डन ह उनका बाज हम पर पड़ना है।

पेमेजर ट्रेफिक में 122-123 कराड व घाटे की बात राजा कुलकर्णी ने कही। आपने कहा कि वास्ट अकाऊंटिंग है ही नहीं आपने बस उसको लगाया। इस तरह की वास्ट अकाऊंटिंग है या नहीं यह मैं नहीं कह सकता लेकिन मैं राजा कुलकर्णी को जा इकाउर करना ह कि अगर व किमी टिन आव ता मैं उनका दिश्वलाऊगा कि किस तरह का वास्ट अकाऊंटिंग होती है। उस पर अगर वे कोई मुझाव देंगे तो उसमें हम लाभान्वित होंगे। अकाऊंटिंग के फल-स्वरूप हमें पेमेजर ट्रेफिक में लाभ हुआ है। मैंने गाने दुनिया में कुछ न कुछ घाटा होने देखा है।

मान्यवर यह जो राड ट्रामपाट पर चलती है जो राड मरविम चलती है गाननीय याता-यात मंत्री वेंडे हुए है उनमें पृष्ठि है। दुनिया के जितने मेट्रोपोलिटन टाउन है वहां जो यातायात की व्यवस्था की गई है वह सब छोटे में चलती है। हमारे पेमेजर ट्रेफिक में भी हम कुछ न कुछ घाटा होता है। इन सीमाओं में रहने हुए भी मैं समझता हूँ कि इस बात की आवश्यकता है कि हम फाइनेंसली अपने आपको मजबूत बनाए और साथ ही

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

साथ कमशियली इम चीज को देखते हुए अपनी जिम्मेदारियों को पूरा करे और जनरल रेवेन्यूज में जो डिबिडेड दिया जा रहा है वह दिया चला जाता रहे ताकि देश की जनता को लाभ हो।

महन्ती जी ने जैसा मैंने कहा कुछ उलट दिमाग से सब सोचा है। जायद उनके पास कुछ बिशेष कहने लायक नहीं था। पञ्चगुल्लिटी जो आ गई है उसके लिए उन्होंने कह दिया है कि वह तो मुसोल्लोनी ने भी ला दी थी। उनकी समझ में यह आया कि पञ्चगुल्लिटी आ गई है तो कोई बड़ी बात नहीं हुई है। यह मुसोल्लोनी ने भी ला दी थी। पंचेजं पर टैक्स नहीं बढ़ाया गया। उनके बारे में उन्होंने कह दिया कि इसलिए नहीं बढ़ाया कि वो बार हम पहले ही बढ़ा चुके हैं और अब इसकी गुजाइश नहीं रह गई है। वहा नव फ्रेट रेट्स को बढ़ाने का नाल्लु है वे इसलिए बढ़ा दिए हैं कि कामन सैन पर खर्च अधिक पड़ जाए। उन्होंने यह भी कहा है कि अनुशासन बगैर कुछ नहीं आया है। कर्गणन जरा का नरा बना हुआ है। अन्न में उन्होंने यह भी कहा कि कुछ सुधार आ हुआ है उस लिए मैं बधाई देता हूँ। लेकिन अभी बहुत गुजाइश है इसमें और भी ज्यादा करने की। जहा नव पञ्चगुल्लिटी का सम्बन्ध है कई बरस में वह हमारे यहाँ से गायब हो गई थी और अगर कायम हो गई है तो मैं समझता हूँ कि अच्छी बात है। और उसके लिए आपने आदमियों की प्रशंसा की जानी चाहिये और उनका धन्यवाद दिया जाना चाहिये। यह पञ्चगुल्लिटी का जो काम हुआ है उस का श्रेय रेलवे मिनिस्टर या रेलवे बोर्ड का नहीं है। रेलवे मिनिस्टर या रेलवे बोर्ड दफ्तार में कुर्मी पर बैठ कर टेबल के सामने बैठकर माठ हजार किलोमीटर लम्बी लाइनों पर चलने वाली गाड़ियों के ऊपर अपना कोई कंट्रोल कायम नहीं कर सकता है। यह काम किया है उन मोलत सतरह लाख आदमियों ने जो

नीचे काम करते हैं, जिन में अनुशासन आया है, जिन्होंने हमारी सहायता की है, जिन्होंने खतरा उठाया है। उन्होंने इसको किया है। उन्होंने परिश्रम किया है। अब यह चीज हुई है। ऊपर से नीचे तक जितने अधिकारी हैं सब ने इस में सहयोग दिया है। रेल विभाग के अधिकारियों को, रेलों में काम करने वालों को यह देखना चाहिये कि अगर वे अच्छा काम करे तो कितनी प्रशंसा और सराहना देश की प्रतिनिधि सभा में उनकी होती है। वैसे तो रेलवे बोर्ड के सदस्य रोज हमारे पास बैठे रहते हैं। लेकिन आपके माध्यम में मैं यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि पिछले बीस बरस में मैं बराबर मुनता आया हूँ यहा इस माँग को कि रेलवे बोर्ड को एवालिज किया जाए लेकिन यह पहला मौका है कि यह माँग हाउस में नहीं हुई है —

एक माननीय सदस्य : श्री भोगेन्द्र सा।
को छोड़ कर।

श्री भोगेन्द्र सा : मंत्री महोदय मौजूद नहीं थे जब मैंने भाग किया था। मंत्री जी नहीं रहने तो राज्य मंत्री रहने है और उन से यह आशा की जानी है कि जा जाने यहाँ कहीं जानी है उन से वह उनका प्रथम कर देवे। इसका मतलब है बहुत सी नीति सम्बन्धी जा जाने कड़ी गई है उतनी जानकारी उनका नहीं आ सकती है।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : मैं यह कह रहा हूँ कि आपके जैसे एक सदस्य ने एवालिज करने की माँग की है (स्वबबान) यह तो आपने छुट्टाई क्योंकि आपके पास कुछ कहने को नहीं था। आप नव ऐसी बात कहें न तो बरे क्या ?

श्री राजाबतार शारबी (पटना) आप कहें कि एक आदमी ने कहा ऐसा।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : कब तक मुझे बोलने की इजाजत है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : जब तक गाड़ी चले
तब तक ।

श्री भोलेन्द्र झा : जब नीति सम्बन्धी
बाते आप कह रहे हैं तो एक बात जो
नीति सम्बन्धी उठाई गई है उसका भी उत्तर
दे दें । जो सुधार हुआ है उसको स्थायित्व
प्रदान करने के लिए कर्मचारियों का सहयोग
प्रबन्ध में लिया जाए, इस पर भी अपनी
राय मन्त्री महोदय दे ।

दूसरी बात यह है कि एक ग्राम कायदा
है कि धन रजिस्टर्ड यूनियनम् को रिकग्नाइज
नहीं किया जायगा । लेकिन पूर्वोत्तर रेलवे
में एक धन-रजिस्टर्ड यूनियन है, एक जाली
यूनियन है, उसको रिकग्नाइज किया गया है,
जिमके लिये बैंक आफ टोकियो वाली रकम
की बात हुई थी । उसका जिक्र किया जा
रहा है ।

तीसरी बात यह है कि हमारे भूतपूर्व रेल
मन्त्री श्री ललित बाबू जी ने क्या का प्राव
में सी० बी० आई० के लोग ने यह माना कि
कुछ अफसर धानन्दमार्ग में मर्यादित हैं, वह भी
अब प्रमोट हो रहे हैं । कुछ लोग देशद्रोही थे,
जो कि अभी तक गिरफ्तार नहीं हुए हैं इस
पर भी मन्त्री महोदय अपनी राय दें ।

श्री बल्लभापति त्रिपाठी : जहां तक
माननीय सदस्य ने धन-रिकग्नाइज्ड यूनियन
की बात कही है उसका उत्तर रेल राज्य मन्त्री
श्री कुरेशी ने दे दिया है । अगर माननीय
सदस्य उस समय नहीं रहे हों, तो मैं क्या कर
सकता हूँ ।

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISH-
NAN: He referred to a particular
case, not to the general policy.

श्री भोलेन्द्र झा : धन-रिकग्नाइज्ड को रिक-
ग्नाइज करने की पालिसी है या नहीं, मैं यह
जानना चाहता हूँ ।

श्री बल्लभापति त्रिपाठी : कल बता
चुके हैं । रजिस्टर्ड यूनियन दो हमारे पाम
रिकग्नाइज्ड हैं—एक है एन० एफ० आई०
आर० और दूसरी है आल इंडिया रेलवेमैन
फेडरेशन । इसके सिवाय किसी को रिकग्नाइज
नहीं किया गया है । इनके साथ जो लोग
अटैच्ड हैं, वह रिकग्नाइज्ड है अदरवाइज
किसी को रिकग्नाइज नहीं करते ।

श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त (अलीपुर) : कानून
के मुनाबिक रजिस्टर्ड हो या नहीं ?

श्री बल्लभापति त्रिपाठी : कायदे-कानून
जैसे रिकग्नाइज करने आये हैं, वैसे ही है ।

श्री भोलेन्द्र झा : उनका इन्क्वेशन होना
है ।

श्री राजाबलार शास्त्री : एन० ई० रेलवे
में हा रहा है ।

श्री बल्लभापति त्रिपाठी : जो नीति
अब तक हमारी चलनी रही है, वैसे ही
चल रही है । उसमें कोई परिवर्तन नहीं हुआ
है कोई नयी बात नहीं हो रही है ।

श्री बसन्त साठे : रघुकुल रोनि ...

श्री बल्लभापति त्रिपाठी : “रघुकुल
रोनि मदा चनी काट” वैसे ही चली आ रही है ।
(हस्रबान)

श्री बल्लभापति त्रिपाठी : बट क्या है,
यह भगवान का स्वरूप हो गया है ।

जाकी रही भावना जैसी,
प्रभ भग्न निन पाही तैसी ।”

म स्यवर मैं नम्रनापूर्वक निवेदन कर
रहा था कि हमारा जो समिन्ध्र स्थापित
हुआ है कार्यकर्त्ताओं के साथ, वह हमारे
लिये एक बरदान है और हम उसके लिये
अपने नम्रम कार्यकर्त्ताओं को बहुत-बहुत
धन्यवाद देने हैं, उनके प्रति अपनी कृतज्ञता
प्रकट करने हैं ।

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

श्री समर मुखर्जी ने जिज्ञासा किया था कि 17 हजार आदमी निकाले गये थे। गत वर्ष के बजट में कहा गया था कि हम उनकी बक-इन-सर्विस को माफ कर देते हैं। इन 17,000 में से 16,200 के करीब आदिमियों को पुनर्स्थापित कर दिया गया है। 814 के करीब रह गये हैं। उनमें से 448 कोर्ट्स में चले गये हैं, उनके मुकदमे चल रहे हैं। 70 ने अपील नहीं की, उनके केसेज को फिर से रिव्यू कर के फौमला करेगे। इस तरह से 296 रह गये हैं, जिनकी अपील रिजेक्ट हो गई है।

बारबार यह कहा जाता है कि जिन लोगों ने सैबोटाज नहीं किया, जिन्होंने वायोलेंस नहीं किया, उनको क्यों नहीं रखने। मैं समझता हूँ कि शायद सिसईन 296 आदिमियों के लिये यह कहा जाता है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि हमने यह भी कहा था कि ये लांग इन्स इट करत है, इटीमीडेट करते हैं। अगर वायोलेंस नहीं की, सैबोटाज नहीं किया तो भी इन्होंने कॉमिशन की है कि डिमिप्तिन नोडा जाये और ये धराजकना की स्थिति कराने में मौजूद रहे हैं। हमने ऐसे लोगों का नहीं लिया। ऐसे लोगों को हमने नहीं लिया है और नहीं लेंगे—रेल विभाग के हित और आवश्यकता का देखने हुए कभी नहीं लेंगे। (व्यवधान)

श्री राधाचन्दर शास्त्री जिम्मे के बारे में आप के अधिकारी कह देंगे, तो क्या यह प्रमाणित हो गया कि उसने इनस इट किया है। यह अनरर का तरीका नहीं है। (व्यवधान)

श्री कल्याणपति त्रिपाठी ऐसे लोगों के केमिज को पूरी तरह से देखा गया है। उन की अपील को रिव्यू किया गया है और

उन पर विचार किया गया है। हम यह निश्चय कर चुके हैं कि हम उनको नहीं लेंगे।

श्री भोवैत्र सा : जो प्रोक्सर सी० बी० आई० के सामने अपने आप को आनन्द मार्गी कुल कर चुके हैं, उनकी रिपोर्ट पर आप उन लोगों को नौकरी से हटा रहे हैं। कम से कम इस की जांच कीजिए।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : माननीय सदस्य मझे लिख कर दे दें। हम अवश्य जांच करेंगे। जिन के बारे में सी० बी० आई० ने रिपोर्ट की थी, वे निकाले जा चुके हैं।

मैं माननीय सदस्यों से बहुत नम्रतापूर्वक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि महकमे के हित और काम के हित की दृष्टि से और महकमे का हित होगा, तो देश का हित होगा—उन लोगों को वापिस काम पर नहीं लिया जा सकता है। (व्यवधान) अध्यक्ष महोदय, शास्त्री जी तो मेरे जूनियर हैं। काशी विद्यापीठ का मैं बहुत पुराना बूढ़ा शास्त्री हूँ। यह तो नये-नये पैदा हुए हैं। (व्यवधान)

मैं कह रहा था कि हम फिर हड़ताल नहीं होने देना चाहते हैं। ऐसे लोगों को हम नहीं ले सकते हैं जो इस तरह की खुरफात करने हैं, और नहीं लेंगे। मैं माननीय सदस्यों से नम्रतापूर्वक निवेदन करूँगा कि वे उन लोगों का रखने के लिए मझे न दबावे। उन का रखने से देश की बहुत भारी हानि होगी। जो हड़ताल हुई थी, उस में 500 करोड़ रुपये का नुकसान हुआ, ऐसा कहा जाता है। उस में रेलवे का न मालूम कितना नुकसान हो गया। देश ठप्प होने वाला था। (व्यवधान)

श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त : जार्ज क्रमेन्डीज और उस के साथियों को आपने स्वीकार कर लिया है। जार्ज क्रमेन्डीज अभी भी अइन्फ़ाऊन्स वीकलेट और बुकिंग लिफ़ान रहा है। उस की फ़ोरेइगन को आप मानने के लिए तैयार हैं। (व्यवधान)

श्री कप्तलापति त्रिपाठी अगर धाल-
इंडिया रेलवे मेन्ब्र क्लेबरेसन ने हडताल कराई,
तो एक कहावत कही जानी है—मुझे क्षमा करें,
वह झूठी नहीं लगती है—“चोर चोर मौसेरे
चाई।” ये सब लोग हडताल में शरीक थे।
(व्यवधान)

श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त ये तो। (व्यवधान)

श्री कप्तलापति त्रिपाठी आप कहने
हैं कि उन को मान्यता दी हुई है। जिन्होंने
हडताल कराई, उन को हम नहीं ले सकते,
नहीं ले सकते, नहीं ले सकते।

श्री इन्द्रजीत गुप्त आप ने उम को तो
क्रडेशन का प्रेजिडेंट बना कर माना हुआ है।
(व्यवधान)

श्री कप्तलापति त्रिपाठी मैं श्री गुप्त
से कहना चाहता हूँ कि वह ज़रा मेरी बात
सुन लें और जो उन के पीछे बैठे हुए हैं उन को
रोके। (व्यवधान) शास्त्री जी मेरे पास
आयें मैं उन को बाय पिलाऊंगा। (व्यवधान)

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री उम के लिए
खन्यवाद।

श्री कप्तलापति त्रिपाठी मान्यवर,
इस तरह मे सैंकड़ों कराड का नुकसान हुआ
और अब—न देवदत्त पुनर्गेन कपम्—फिर
उम गलती में हम पड़ने वाले नहीं हैं। अपनी
शक्ति भर कोशिश करेंगे कि ऐसी भूल न
होने पाए। लेकिन जो काम करने वाले हैं
उनके साथ हमारे सम्बन्ध बहुत अच्छे स्थापित
हुए हैं। आप जानते हैं कि उन्होंने हमें सहायता
की है, हमें सहयोग प्रदान किया है, तब हम
यह इम्प्रूवमेंट ला पाए हैं। चाहे पेंक्चुप्रिन्टी
की बात रही हो, चाहे टिकटसेम ट्रैवेल्स की
रोकने की बात रही हो, चाहे रिजर्वेशन की
दिव्यता को कम करने की हो, चाहे स्टेशनो
पर क्लीनलीनेस की हो, ये सारे इम्प्रूवमेंट्स

जो थोड़े बहुत दिखाई पड़ रहे हैं ये इनके सह-
योग और सहायता से ही उपलब्ध हुए हैं।
उमके लिए इनके प्रति हम अपना आभार
प्रकट करते हैं और इसी प्रकार इनके साथ हमारे
सम्बन्ध आगे के भी बने रहें, हम एक दूसरे के
साथ मिल जुल कर काम करने रहें, इसकी हम
आकांक्षा और कामना करते हैं।

मैनजमेंट में वर्कमें ने पार्टिसिपेशन के
लिए भी कदम बढ़ाए गए हैं। सेक्टर मिनिसट्री
ने जो पालिसी अख्तियार की है उमके हिमाय में
प्रोडक्शन यूनिट्स में शाप काउन्सिल बनी है
और ज्वाइंट काउन्सिल बनी है। इनके साथ
मिल जुल कर काम हो रहा है। पहले भी होना
रहा है, पहले हार्जमिंग वर्गह में इनसे
सहायता ली जानी रही है, अब मैनजमेंट में
भी सहायता ली जा रही है। अब मैं समझता
हूँ कि जास्टाफ काउन्सिल है, जो तीन हमारी
प्रोडक्शन यूनिट्स हैं (व्यवधान)

श्रीवाम मशीनरी के बारे में तो मैंने
अपनी वजट स्पीच में आप से निवेदन किया
है कि आदेश जारी किए गए हैं कि इसके लिए
मशीनरी स्थान स्थान पर बनाई जाय।
टिबीजन्म में भी आफिसर्स में कहा गया है
कि एक दिन महीने में उनको गेटम देना
चाहिए जिस दिन जिन को आना है आ जाय
और अपनी योग्यता पेश कर दें।

तो इनके साथ हमारे सम्बन्ध स्थापित
हुए हैं और मैनजमेंट में भी किसी न किसी
प्रकार हम इनसे सहयोग लेने चले जा रहे हैं।

इनमनीया जी ने तीन चार बातें कही
थी। उनके सुझावों का मैं स्वागत करता हूँ
और मैं समझता हूँ कि वे सुझाव ऐसे हैं जिनके
ऊपर रेलवे को ध्यान देना चाहिए। एक बात
उन्होंने कही थी कि जो जमीन खाली पड़ी है
उसमें आप प्लान्टेशन कीजिए और ऐसे
प्लान्ट लगाइए जिन से आप की आमदनी
बढ़े। यह काम उन्होंने शुरू किया था जब वह
रेलवे मिनिसटर के और इस सदन में भी

[श्री कमलाक्षी त्रिपाठी]

उन्होंने इस की घोषणा की थी। उन्होंने कहा कि गैंगमेन के साथ इस जमीन का बन्दोबस्त किया जाय। एबीकम्बर मिनिस्ट्री ने भी हम को इसके बारे में लिखा कि गैंगमेन के साथ ही घासपास के गांव वालों के साथ इसका बन्दोबस्त कीजिए जिनमें पेड लग सके। मैं मानना हू कि किसी तरह इस दिशा में वह उत्साह पैदा नहीं किया जा सका जिसकी वजह से काम घाटे ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ सका। मैं समझता हूँ कि इसके ऊपर विभाग को विशेष रूप से ध्यान देना चाहिए और मैं कहना हूँ कि इस विषय में मैं देखूंगा कि क्या किया जा सकता है। आज कल तो जमीन की बड़ी मांग है। हमारे रेलवे के कर्मचारी हैं, ग्रेड्यूएड कामेट के लोग हैं, भूमिहीन लोग हैं और उनके घनावा गरीब लोग बहुत मारे हैं जिन्हें यह जमीन दी जाय और कुछ हिस्सा वाट दिया जाय तो उनका काम भी =ले।

एक मुझाब उनका यह भी था, वह रेलवे मिनिस्टर रहे हैं तो वह मुहकमे को भी जानते हैं। उन्होंने कहा कि देश के जिनने कैपिटल्स हैं उनको दिल्ली में जोड़ दिया जाय। मैं समझता हूँ कि बिल्कुल भ्रान्तिब बान है। लेकिन इसके लिए बड़े पैमे की आवश्यकता पड़ेगी। कुछ वादा तो मैं नहीं कर सकता लेकिन कोशिश यही करना हूँ मैं खुद कि हमारे जो कैपिटल्स हैं वह दिल्ली में जड़ जाय। एक मुझाब उनका यह भी था कि आप डबल लाइन मन बढाड़ा। जहा डबल लाइन बढ़ रही हो उसको रोक कर बँचवडँ एरिया को वह पैमा दीजिए। यह करना बहुत मुश्किल पड़ेगा क्योंकि जहा डबल लाइन बढ़ रही है वह एरियाज ऐसे हैं जो इण्डस्ट्रियली बज़न डेवलप है और बहुत ज्यादा यानायात वें माधनों की आवश्यकता वहां पड़नी है। लेकिन इसका यह मतलब नहीं कि जो बकवडँ एरियाज है उनको हम उत्तन करने की चेष्टा न करें। हमारे मामले इस वकन दिक्कत

है रिसोर्स की। प्लानिंग कमीशन से हमने मांग की थी 225 करोड़ रुपये की जिससे हम नई स्कीम्स कुछ चालू करते, कुछ पुरानी स्कीम्स चलाते। लेकिन धार्मिक दृष्टि से उनके लिए सम्भव नहीं हुआ कि हमारी मांग को मानें। हमारे भाई पाराशरजी बैठे हैं, इनका मामला ऐसा है जिसका बोझ मेरे ऊपर है क्योंकि स्व० श्री ललित नारायण मिश्र जी ने जाकर के गंगल-नलवाडा का शिलान्यास किया था और उसकी मंजूरी हो गई थी। वह बहुत पुराना काम है और साथ ही साथ वह बहुत बैकवर्ड एरिया है हिमाचल प्रदेश का हिस्सा और मैं समझता हूँ बहुत जरूरी है। कल प्लानिंग मिनिस्टर ने पाराशर जी के सवाल का जवाब देने हुए कहा था कि इस चीज को हम मंजूर करने हैं लेकिन रिसोर्स की कमी है, रिसोर्स जब परमिट करेंगे तब देखेंगे। हम स्वयं चेष्टा कर रहे हैं, हाथ लगाए हुए हैं कि किसी तरह से पैमा मिल जाये तो काम आरम्भ कर दें और मैं विश्वास दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि हम बग़र इसके लिए कोशिश करने रहेंगे और शायद कुछ न कुछ सफलता मिल जायेगी।

विभूति जी हमारे बड़े पुत्रने मायी हैं। 1921 में जब हम काशी विद्यापीठ में पढ़ने के लिए दाखिल हुए थे, जब हमारी 15 वर्ष की उम्र थी तब उस जगह इनके दंगन हुए थे। अब उनकी और हमारी मित्रता 50-55 वर्ष की है, कोई एक दो दिन की नहीं है। विभूति जी को बड़ी तकनीक है कम उन्होंने अपनी तकनीक का बयान किया। रेलवे बोर्ड के सब अधिकारी यहा बैठे हुए हैं मैं समझता हूँ जैसे भी हो, जो भी तरीका हो सकता हो उसको निकालना चाहिए, इस बंधाये में इनको कोई तकनीक नहीं होनी चाहिए। कहीं धक्कर दे गिर पड़े, हाथ पैर टूट गया तो उसका पानक मेरे ऊपर रहेगा। इसलिए मैं चेष्टा करूंगा और उसको देखूंगा।

यहाँ पर बहुत सी लाइनों के बारे में बातचीत हुई है। हमने अभी तक जो प्रोजेक्ट लिए हैं, वह वही हैं जो एप्रूव्ड हैं, जहाँ पर काम हो रहा है। नये हम देने नहीं देते हैं। जैसे मैं कहूँ कि मंगलीर-उमन की लाइन है यह बहुत सीमा तक बढ़ गई है, मुम्बई-अमरावती तक और मंगलीर से एक सीमा तक आ गई, बीच में एक जगह बाकी रह गई है जहाँ पहाड़ है। 12 साल में लाइन बन रही है। मंगलीर पोर्ट हो गया, हमारे शिपिंग मिनिस्टर बैठे हैं, मैं भी शिपिंग मिनिस्टर था जब मंगलीर पोर्ट का उद्घाटन हुआ था और अब वहाँ पर आयरन-ओर से जाने के लिए कुद्रेमुख की बहुत आवश्यकता है। लाइन अभी आधी इंच से और आधी उंच से बनी है। हमने कहा है कि लाइन को इंच से और उंच से चालू कर दो ताकि रेल चलने लगे और जो बीच का हिस्सा भूटा हुआ है वहाँ वा. सर्विस चालू कर दो जाये। इस तरह से काम होने लगे। अब सर्विस वहाँ पर चल सकती है क्योंकि पहाड़ से जाना पड़ेगा। आपकी काकण की लाइन भी हमारे दिमाग में है। राजा कुनकर्णी ने कहा कि मेट्रोपॉलिटन प्रोजेक्ट आप बनाओगे या नहीं। मैं समझता हूँ जो हालत पैसे की है उसमें बहुत कुछ करने की उम्मीद है नहीं इसलिए मैं आपका धोखे में रखना नहीं चाहता हूँ। लेकिन बम्बई के लोगों की मांग है, मैं अभी गया था बम्बई, कि आप पैसा क्यों फुकते हैं रेलिंगिरी में लाइन से आइये। (स्वबबल) अब इनमें पूछिये प्रच्छा है या नहीं। कई सी करोड़ का प्रोजेक्ट है बम्बई में, कलकत्ते में और दिल्ली में। कुल मिला लिया जाये तो कई हजार करोड़ का प्रोजेक्ट है। मुझे उम्मीद नहीं है कही और यह चल सकता हो।

समय बीत रहा है एकाध बात और कहना चाहता हूँ।

चोरी, पिलकरेज, मिक्कोरिटी आदि वैलेन्स, वैलेन्स एमेनिटीज—ये ऐसे सवाल हैं जिनमें मेरे पास से अपना बचाव करने के

लिये कोई तर्क नहीं है अब तक चोरी होती रही है और अभी भी चौदा करोड़ रुपये का कम्पेंसेशन हम देने वाले हैं

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साल्वे : (बेनुल)
पंडित जी, एमर कण्डीशन्ड डिब्बे से मेरा ट्रांजिस्टर चला गया था, जिसे मैं जापान से लाया था। उसके सम्बन्ध में मैंने चिट्ठी भी लिखी, लेकिन अभी तक हुआ कुछ नहीं।

श्री कल्लारति त्रिपाठी : धारके माथ कीन था ?

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साल्वे : मैं अकेला था, इमीलिये चला गया, अगर कोई रहता तो न जाना।

श्री कल्लारति त्रिपाठी इस तरह की चोरिया होता है और हम को चौदा करोड़ रुपये देने पड़ेगे। एमरजेन्सी ने पिछले दिनों हमारी सहायता की है, उसमें इ. दिना में भी उनमें हमारी काफी सहायता का है। हमारे डामा जी ने कहा कि हम काफी पैसा बरबाद करते हैं, इसको बचाया जा सकता है। यह बात ठीक है, मैंने डामा जी से कहा है कि आप आधे या एक घण्टे के लिये हमारे साथ बैठिये, मेरा कुछ ज्ञानवर्धन कीजिये, बताइये किन किन तरीका से बचाया जा सकता है

श्री राज सहाय पांडे : उनको तरीके मालूम हैं।

श्री कल्लारति त्रिपाठी : चोरी के तरीके या बचाने के ?

मैं इस बात को मानता हूँ कि चोरी चल रही है, यह ठीक है। एमरजेन्सी से कुछ बचाव आई है, एक करोड़ रुपये के बलेम्ब पड़ने से कम हुए हैं। बलेम्ब की बरबादों की

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

पहिले से 51 हजार कम आई हैं। जब आर० पी० एफ० की चर्चा श्री हनुमन्तैया जी ने की तो मैंने कहा था—

“It is behaving better.” उन्होंने कहा— साबित करो। इस समय आर० पी० एफ० बहुत अच्छा काम कर रहा है...

एक माननीय सदस्य: दोनों काम कर रहा है।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी: यह ठीक है कि आर० पी० एफ० में चोरी करने वाले भी रहे हैं। 250 आदमी हम निकाल चुके हैं और यदि आपकी कृपा रही तो और भी निकलेंगे। मैं मानता हूँ कि यह चोरी बिना रेलवे-अधिकारी और बिना आर० पी० एफ० के मिले नहीं हो सकती। इसको रोकने के लिये हमने बहुत से कदम उठाये हैं और आगे भी उठावेंगे। उनकी ट्रेनिंग का इन्तजाम कर रहे हैं, उनमें डिस्प्लन आई है, एमरजन्सी की वजह से नया रस्ता भी पैदा हुआ है। उनसे हमने टिफ्टलेस ट्रेनिंग के मामले में सहायता ली है, कोयला-बचाओ अभियान तीन-चार महीना चला, जिससे काफी कोयला बच सका। मुगलसराय में करोड़ों रुपये के कोयले की चोरी होती थी, वहाँ इधर कम चोरियाँ हुई हैं। कुछ इस बात की चेष्टा हम कर रहे हैं कि रेलवे के महकमे में जहाँ तक सफाई हो सके, की जाय, जहाँ तक हो सके इनसे काम लेकर चोरी बचाई जा सके—इन सब बातों की कोशिश चल रही है। यह बात भी इस समय अण्डर-कन्सीड्रेशन है कि आर० पी० एफ० को जानान करने या इन्वेस्टीगेशन का अधिकार दिया जाय। इस समय तो ये सिर्फ वाच-एण्ड-वार्ड का काम करते हैं, अगर इन को ये अधिकार मिल गये तो और ज्यादा तेजी

से काम कर सकेंगे। एक तरह से पूरे आर्गेनजेशन में नई जिन्दगी लाने की चेष्टा की जा रही है, आप जानते होंगे इस आर्गेनजेशन में 63 हजार आदमी हैं, इस बात की चेष्टा रही है कि इनके अन्दर अधिक से अधिक अनुशासन रहे और पिछले दिनों में इन्होंने थोड़ा-बहुत काम किया भी है।

डीजलाइजेशन के विषय में मुझे एक बात कहनी है—यह मांग हुई है कि हमारे यहाँ कोयला बहुत है, इसलिये डीजलाइजेशन क्यों कर रहे हैं? मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ—एक तो डीजलाइजेशन की मांग सब जगह हो रही है, क्योंकि इससे लोड ज्यादा खिचता है। जहाँ स्टीम एन्जिन के साथ 12 डिब्बे चल सकते हैं, डीजल से 16 डिब्बे चलाए जा सकते हैं, ट्रफिक और माल दोनों तैयार के साथ ले जाये जा सकते हैं। दूसरी बात यह है कि डीजलाइजेशन से जल्दी पहुंचा जा सकता है, समय की बचत होती है...

श्री राम सहाय पाण्डेय: इलेक्ट्रिकेशन भी कीजिये।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी: इलेक्ट्रिकेशन तो हो रहा है, इसके लिये बहुत से पावर स्टेशन कायम करने होंगे। जितनी बिजली इस समय मिल रही है उससे कलकत्ता से गाजियाबाद, बल्कि दिल्ली तक इलेक्ट्रिकेशन हो गया है। बम्बई में सबरबन ट्रेन बिजली से चलती हैं। बराबर हमारी स्कीम हैं इलेक्ट्रिफाई करने की ट्रेक को। मद्रास में हो रहा है। रिसोर्स का सवाल हमारे सामने है।

13 hrs.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Tirutani): Kindly allow some more money for the electrification of the Madras-Tiruvellur line.

श्री राम सहाय पांडे: अच्छी बात कह दीजिए, पंडित जी

SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI: He is talking of Kerala.

Shri O. V. Alagesan: Tamil Nadu.

SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI:

Tamil Nadu is doing very well. I will go and see what is the position in Tamil Nadu.

AN HON. MEMBER: What about Karnataka?

SHRI KAMLAPATI TRIPATHI:
Karnataka is also doing well.

तो मान्यवर, मैं कह रहा था डीज़लाइजेशन में डीज़ल की आवश्यकता होती है। यह बात भी अपनी जगह ठीक है कि हमारे पास कोयला है इसलिये स्टीम इंजन चलाये जायें। लेकिन हम ने डीज़ल लोकोमोटिव का कारखाना भी कायम किया है और अगर नई टेक्नालाजी और नया विकास किसी चीज़ का होता हो तो उसे यह कहना कि न करो, यह ठीक नहीं है। अब जहां पर डीज़लाइजेशन की मांग पूरी नहीं कर सकते वहां स्टीम इंजन से काम लेते हैं। इलैक्ट्रिफिकेशन के लिये भी पूरी लाइनें नहीं हैं और न उतने रिसोर्सेज हैं।

हमारे भाइयों ने मीटर गेज के कनवर्जन की बात कही। मैं जानता हूं कि इस देश के विकास की गति को तीव्र करने के लिये यह बहुत आवश्यक है कि छोटी लाइन को बदल कर के बड़ी लाइन किया जाय। हिसाब लगाया तो 30,000 किलोमीटर, मीटर और नैरो गेज लाइन है और इसे बदलने के लिये काम किया जाय तो 4,000 करोड़ रु० चाहिए। तो हमारी जिन्दगी में तो पूरा होता नहीं। दूसरा जन्म लें तो शायद हो सकता है। यह ठीक है कि करीब-करीब 50 परसेंट छोटी और बड़ी लाइन है—30,000 बड़ी लाइन और 30,000 किलोमीटर छोटी लाइन—और छोटी लाइन की

वजह से देश के विकास में बड़ी बाधा है। जब तक इसको नहीं बदलेंगे विकास की गति तेज नहीं होगी। अभी तक 2,900 किलोमीटर का काम अपने हाथ में लिया है। 1,900 किलोमीटर का काम चल रहा है। इस प्रकार चेष्टा है कि धीरे-धीरे इस काम को बढ़ाते चले जायें। जैसे जैसे पैसा मिलता है, बढ़ाते जाते हैं। इसी तरह से डीज़लाइजेशन भी धीरे-धीरे करते चल रहे हैं जिसमें स्टीम इंजन की जरूरत न रहे और जो कोयला बचे उसका उपयोग पावर हाउसेज बनाने और चलाने के लिये किया जाय जिससे कारखानों को बिजली मिल सके और अधिक नई फैक्ट्रियां लग सकें और उत्पादन बढ़े।

मान्यवर, मैं आपको और माननीय सदस्यों को बहुत बहुत धन्यवाद देता हूं कि उन्होंने इसमें बड़ा हिस्सा लिया। हमारे इधर के भाइयों ने बहुत से सुझाव दिये हैं। गत वर्ष जो सुझाव आये थे उनका उत्तर मैंने दिया था। हमारे साथी कुरेशी जी ने भी बहुतों का जवाब दे दिया है। फिर भी मैं कहना चाहता हूं कि जितने सुझाव आये हैं उन सब पर विचार करेंगे और जिन सुझावों के बारे में यहां अभी जवाब नहीं दे सके हैं उन सब का पहले की तरह जवाब देते रहेंगे।

श्री वसन्त साठे : केटारिंग सर्विस में सफाई के बारे में आप ने कुछ नहीं कहा।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : मैं समझता हूं कि केटारिंग के मामले में सफाई की जरूरत है। और अधिक ध्यान देंगे, और दिया भी है। एक रेलवे केटारिंग कमेटी बनानी है ताकि उस समिति के सदस्यों को घुमा कर दिखावें कि कहां क्या हो रहा है और उसमें अगर माननीय साठे जी का सहयोग रहेगा तो अच्छा रहेगा। एक सेंट्रल केटारिंग कमेटी बनाने का इरादा है और जिनको खाने का शौक है और जिन की चिन्हिया में स्वाद है

[श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी]

ऐसे लोगों को उसमें रखेंगे ताकि हमारी सहायता कर सकें।

मान्यवर, इन शब्दों के साथ मैं माननीय सदन से प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि इस बजट को स्वीकार करने की कृपा करे।

श्री गेंडा सिंह (परौना) : मैं पंडित जी के सामने एक निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। नार्थ ईस्टर्न रेलवे देश की पिछड़ी हुई रेलवे है। इसमें एक जगह जो चम्पारण, गोरखपुर और नेपाल तीनों से लगी हुई है वहाँ पर एक रेलवे का पुल सन् 1912 में बना हुआ था और यह सन् 1922 में टूट गया। क्यो टूटा, इसको पंडित जी हम से ज्यादा जानते हैं। अब इस पुल का बनाने की बात है और मोभाय्य से पंडित जी हमारे रेल मंत्री हैं। पुराने रेल मंत्री स्व० एल० एन० मिश्र और प्रधान मंत्री जी ने जाकर उसका शिलान्यास किया था। दो वर्ष से ज्यादा हो गये हैं लेकिन अभी वहाँ काम नहीं शुरू हुआ है और इस बजट में भी उसका कोई जिक्र नहीं है। उसको चार वर्ष के अन्दर बनाये जाने का वायदा किया गया था। पंडित जी ने भी किया था और श्री मिश्र ने भी किया था। मैंने बेमौके यह बात इसलिए उठाई है ताकि पंडित जी को याद करा दूँ कि मैं यह गुरुताम्बी तो नहीं करूँगा कि उनको यह बात याद नहीं है। इस सम्बन्ध में श्री विभूति मिश्र का भी कुछ तकाला है और विभूति मिश्र जी का और मेरा इस से सम्बन्ध है क्योंकि करोड़ों यू० पी० और बिहार के आदिमियों का रास्ता पुल के न होने के कारण बन्द है। सन् 1920 में वह पुल टूट गया था और 1973 में उसकी बूनियाद रखी थी। इस बारे में यदि पंडित जी कुछ शब्द कह दें तो अच्छा होगा और लोगों को सतोष हो जायेगा।

श्री कमलापति त्रिपाठी : मान्यवर, मैं माननीय गेंडा सिंह जी को यह सूचना देना चाहता हूँ कि उस पुल के बारे में मैं बराबर सचेष्ट हूँ और चाहे वह बिल विभाग हो या आयोजना विभाग हो, उनसे बराबर इस बात की चेष्टा करता रहा हूँ कि मुझे रुपये दे कि हम उस पर काम शुरू करें। हम ने राज्य सरकार से भी कहा है कि हमें काम शुरू करने की आवश्यकता धन दीजिये। अभी तक वह धन नहीं मिला है और मैं कोशिश करूँगा कि उनको धन मिल जाये। मैंने इस बात की इजाजत माँगी है कि जैसा कि आप चाहते हैं कि भटनी से बनारस और बनारस से इलाहाबाद की जो लाइन है उसको भी उन्नीस तरह से कर दिया जाये जैसे कि बागबकी से समस्तीपुर का किया जा रहा है और गोरखपुर से लेकर इलाहाबाद की लाइन का भी गैज बदल दिया जाए और बनारस से भटनी तक की लाइन का शिलान्यास करने का हम का मौका दीजिए यह हम ने कहा है। हम ने उनसे यही कहा है कि आप हमें इजाजत दीजिए और जो पैसा हमारे पास है, उसमें धीरे धीरे हम उस करने। इसकी हमें अभी इजाजत नहीं मिली है और जैसा ही हम इजाजत मिलेगी हम इसका काम शुरू कर देंगे।

SHRI B N REDDY (Niryalguda): Shri Samar Mukherjee has already brought to the notice of the hon. Minister the fact that the services of 4,000 workers in the Secunderabad Division have been terminated. I request the hon. Minister to give an assurance that they would be reinstated.

श्री सरजू चौधे (गाजीपुर) : हमारे माधियों ने यह प्रश्न उठाया था कि नार्थ-ईस्टर्न रेलवे मजदूर यूनियन को जो रिकमनाइज किया गया है, उसमें यह बात है कि आप ने ऐसी यूनियन को रिकमनाइज किया है जिसका रजिस्ट्रेशन नहीं है और वह चीज आपकी पामिसी के खिलाफ है।

दूसरी बात यह है कि छपरा से इलाहाबाद तक ब्रोड गेज की लाइन होनी चाहिए क्योंकि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश में ऐसी कोई बड़ी रेलवे लाइन नहीं है। हमसे पूरे प्रदेश को नुकसान हो रहा है। इसलिए उसको ब्रोड गेज बनाने का प्रयास किया जाना चाहिए।

श्री एस० एम० बनर्जी (कानपुर) : दिल्ली से सहारनपुर तक लाइट रेलवे थी। वह नहीं रही। उसको ब्रोड गेज में परिवर्तित करने की कोशिश हो रही है। क्या यह सही है? यदि हाँ, तो उसको कब तक पूरा कर लिया जायेगा?

श्री कल्लापति त्रिपाठी : शाहदरा—सहारनपुर रेलवे के गेज परिवर्तन का काम चल रहा है। उसमें रुक्या ग्लाट हो चुका है। उत्तर प्रदेश गवर्नमेंट ने भी दिया है। हम ने भी दिया है। काम तेजी से हो रहा है। जैसे जैसे धन प्राप्त होना जायेगा तेजी में काम होना जायेगा। जो अभी प्राप्त है उसके हिमाव में जितनी शीघ्रता की जा सकती है की जा रही है।

श्री मुहम्मद जमीलुर्रहमान (किशनगंज) : मैंने कटिहार में लेकर बगौनी तक की लाइन का सवाल उठाया था। तबसे प्लान में स्पिन भोवर होती यह चली आ रही है। मैं मन्त्री मन्त्रालय की जानकारी के लिए बनाना चाहता हूँ।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप इसको त्वरित से कह चुके हैं। अब इसको छोड़िये।

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): What about the introduction of the suburban system between Burdwan and Asansol?

What about the monthly season tickets? The facilities have been withdrawn. What about the tube-well railway system in Calcutta?

श्री भोगेन्द्र झा : रेल अधिकारियों तथा दूसरे लोगों ने मुझे बताया है कि एक-एक पाम को दो-दो और तीन-तीन आदमी इस्तेमाल करने हैं। क्या आप सोच रहे हैं कि पाम पर आदमी की तमबीर भी रहे नाकि उस पर बर्नक न हो सके?

रेलवे ने विदेशों में रेल लाटन बिछाने का इराका वगैरह में काम हाथ में लिया है। बजट में इसका जिक्र नहीं है। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि आप इसका वार्ड में और कोई निर्णय लेने जा रहे हैं?

श्री कल्लापति त्रिपाठी : पाम के ऊपर तमबीर लगाने का जा मुझाव है यह एक अच्छा मुझाव है। इस पर ज़रूर विचार करेंगे। उसमें पाम ज्यादा मुरझान भी रहेगा।

जहां तक रेलवे लाइन बिछाने की बात है उसका जिक्र तो हमारी बजट स्पीच में है। एक कम्पनी कायम की है जो इस काम को करती आर कर रही है।

(Interruptions)

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): What about the facilities of the season ticket-holders which have been withdrawn?

(Interruptions)

SHRI KAMLAPATHI TRIPATHI: We shall look into it.

(Interruptions)

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: What about the Burdwan-Asansol underground railway system in Calcutta?

SHRI KAMALAPATHI TRIPATHI: So far as the underground railway is concerned, the work is going on according to the resources available. As far as the question of withdrawing facilities of season tickets is concerned,

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ed, we shall look into the matter and see why these facilities have been withdrawn.

12.15 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE EXPORT DUTY ON GROUNDNUT KERNEL, GROUNDNUT IN SHELL AND COFFEE

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN-CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move the following Resolution:—

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 4A of the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 (32 of 1934), this House approves the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue and Insurance) No. GSR 75(E), dated the 12th February, 1976, increasing the export duty to Rs. 800 per tonne on groundnut Kernel, Rs. 800 per tonne on groundnut in shell and Rs. 300 per quintal on coffee, with effect from the date of publication of the said notification"

As against the statutory rate of Rs. 295.30 per tonne, groundnut had been completely exempted from export duty by a notification issued on the 10th July, 1958. Similarly, the effective rate of export duty on coffee had been fixed at 50 Paise per kilogram or Rs. 50 per quintal by a notification issued on the 6th June, 1966 as against the statutory rate of Rs. 123.00 per quintal.

12.16 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair.]

In recent months, the domestic market price of groundnut had been ruling substantially lower than the price

in the foreign markets because of the bumper crop in the country. In the case of coffee, there had been a spurt in the world prices due to the heavy frost affecting the crop in Brazil, world's biggest producer and the Angola unrest. In order to mop up a part of the fortuitous gains on exports of these commodities in the prevailing situation, the export duty has been increased to Rs. 800 per tonne on ground nut kernel. Rs. 800 per tonne on groundnut in shell and Rs. 300 per quintal on coffee.

A suggestion has been made that the quantity of coffee purchased for export prior to 12-2-1976 should be exempted from the enhanced levy. Whenever an export duty is levied or increased on any commodity, there is bound to be some quantity in the pipeline but in view of the legal position set out in the Customs Act, 1962, it is not possible to grant any exemption in respect of such quantity. The appropriate course, therefore, would be for the trade to approach the Coffee Board for any relief in the matter.

It has also been suggested that while in the prevailing situation of domestic and international prices, there may be justification for increasing the export duty, downward adjustment in the rate should be made if the prices started falling in the international market. I may reiterate that the incidence of export duties on the competitive position of Indian goods in the foreign markets is kept under review and necessary adjustments are made as and when necessary in the interest of export trade.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Resolution moved:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 4A of the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 (32 of 1934), this House approves the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of

Revenue and Insurance) No. GSR 75(E), dated the 12th February, 1976 increasing the export duty to Rs. 800 per tonne on groundnut kernel, Rs. 600 per tonne on groundnut in shell and Rs. 300 per quintal on coffee, with effect from the date of publication of the said notification.

There is no speaker on this Resolution. So, I would put it to the House.

The question is:

"That in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 4A of the Indian Tariff Act, 1934 (32 of 1934), this House approves the notification of the Government of India in the Ministry of Finance (Department of Revenue and Insurance) No. GSR 75(E), dated the 12th February, 1976, increasing the export duty to Rs. 800 per tonne on groundnut kernel, Rs. 600 per tonne on groundnut in shell and Rs. 300 per quintal on coffee, with effect from the date of publication of the said notification."

The Motion was adopted

12.18 hrs.

TAMIL NADU STATE LEGISLATURE (DELEGATION OF POWERS) BILL:

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up the Tamil Nadu State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Bill, Shri Mohsin.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): The Minister is not here.

(Interruptions)

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING AND PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI K. RAGHU RAMIAH):

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

AM): Nobody expected that the earlier item would collapse. (Interruptions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is not the fault of the Minister. We had allotted one hour for the previous item. But it collapsed.

SHRI K. RAGHU RAMAIAH: Shri Mohsin is coming.

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE: But he is late. He should be fined along with you!

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr Mohsin, you have been saved by the Opposition Members. You must thank them. I was going to adjourn the House. Now you may move your Bill for consideration.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): Thank you. I beg to move:

"That the Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Tamil Nadu to make laws, as passed by Rajya Sabha be taken into consideration."

Sir, the House is aware that the Proclamation dated 31st January 1976, made by the President under article 356 of the Constitution in relation to the State of Tamil Nadu provides inter alia that the powers of the State Legislature shall be exercised by or under the authority of Parliament. However, in view of the otherwise busy schedule of business of the two Houses, it would be difficult for Parliament to deal with the various legislative measures that may be necessary in respect of the State. It would be even more difficult institutions requiring emergent legislation. The Bill, therefore, seeks to confer on the President the power of the State Le-

[Shri F. H. Mohsin]

gislature to make laws in respect of the State. It has been the normal practice to undertake such legislation in relation to the States which came under the President's rule and the present Bill is on the usual lines. Provision has been made in the Bill for the constitution of a Consultative Committee consisting of 60 Members of Parliament (40 from Lok Sabha and 20 from Rajya Sabha) in this regard. Provision has also been made to empower Parliament to direct modifications in the law made by the President, if considered necessary.

I request this honourable House to accept the legislative proposal before it.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Motion moved:

"That the Bill to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State of Tamil Nadu to make laws, as passed by Rajya Sabha, be taken into consideration."

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE (Burdwan): Sir, this Bill is another instance of how a wrong is followed by another wrong. By this Bill the entire democratic process, so far as one stage is concerned, is sought to be stalled. By this Bill, what is sought to be provided is to confer on the Executive the power of legislation in respect of the State of Tamilnadu and, by this measure, the Executive wants to arrogate to itself all the legislative powers also. This should be treated as being against all norms and tenets of a Parliamentary democracy. We know that Art. 357 provides that in the cases of government under President's rule, the legislative powers can be conferred on the Parliament and Parliament can delegate its functions to the President. But that should not be the normal way of functioning in this country. After all, legislation has to be considered and debated on the floor of the concerned Assembly

and, if the Assembly is not functioning, then on the Floor of this House. But, without our participation as people's representatives, laws are being passed by means of a fiat. This substitution of Executive legislation in place of normal legislation by debate and by discussion should not be the normal state of affairs. Now, with the liberal use of Art. 355 of the Constitution in this country, in so many States there is no participation, so far as law making is concerned, by any of the representatives of the people. Everything will now be done by the Executive from the North Block or South Block, by different Ministries in Delhi, so far as different legislations are concerned. I am raising a question of principle. You say that you have no time to discuss legislative measures with regard to States which are under President's Rule in the Parliament. We have time to pass laws like MISA, we have time to pass laws like the Payment of Bonus (Amendment) Act, we have time to pass laws like the Election Law (Amendment) Act, we have time to pass Constitutional Amendments for the sake of protecting somebody, but we have no time in this Parliament to consider legislation which is going to effect millions and millions of people in a particular State! You don't allow that State to hold elections and you don't hold elections; you have no programme to hold elections there, you don't allow the people to express their choice, you take up the administration of a particular State and then you also take upon yourself, by means of Executive orders, the right to pass legislation. This sort of abrogation of Parliament's functions should not be allowed. The provision is that if any amendment is sought to be made, later on, after the President's Act is passed, this amendment should be made on the floor of the House. But here, there is only the question of amendment, general discussions are not there. This is the position which you are finding in this country. On the plea of lack of time, especially when all sorts of Draconian laws are

being passed on the floor of the House, through the means of this House, we should not give up our right to frame legislations, even with regard to States which are under President's rule. My submission is this. Article 357 may be there. But there are so many provisions of the Constitutions that are not being followed by this Government. We have got the Directive Principles in our Constitution. The Directive Principles lay down so many laudable objectives which, the founding fathers of our Constitution wanted, should be implemented as early as possible 27 years have passed, but nothing has been done with regard to these. And now you say that, when article 357 is there, we should follow that. My submission is that the process of democracy should not be stifled in the manner in which it is sought to be done by this Government. You take away the people's right of participation in the election of their representatives—choice of representatives, you take away the right of the people to participate in law making through their elected representatives and now you want to go on foisting executive decisions through the means of legislative processes upon the people of a State whose rights you have already stifled. Therefore I oppose this Bill in principle. Let Parliament consider at least the important Bills. Why should they not come up here? And consultation with the Consultative Committee is not even compulsory, they may consult it or may not. Therefore where is the protection? Thus the people's representatives have no voice there their decisions will not be mandatory and binding on the executive. They can pass any law. Therefore, on principle, I am opposing this Bill.

I want the Minister to state when they propose to hold elections in Tamil Nadu, how long this will continue in Tamil Nadu, whether they will continue the President's rule *ad infinitum* or whether there is a time limit thought of or whether the plea of Emergency will continue to be taken

for the purpose of perpetuating the President's rule in Tamil Nadu.

*SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM (Tirunelveli) Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this Bill seeking to delegate the powers of the State Legislature to the President in respect of Tamil Nadu. I have to point out that the imposition of President's rule in Tamil Nadu has been the inevitable consequence of wide spread corruption in administration, malpractices and regrettable encouragement to separatist tendencies perpetrated and perpetuated by the DMK Government in Tamil Nadu over a long period of years.

Sir, this Bill seeks to establish a Consultative Committee comprising of 40 members of Lok Sabha and 20 Members of Rajya Sabha for the purpose of assisting the President in the administration of the State of Tamil Nadu. Sir many meaningful and constructive steps are to be taken during the President's rule in the State. Now, famine is stalking many areas of Tamil Nadu. In Coimbatore, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram district of Tamil Nadu the people are undergoing manifold miseries on account of famine. In particular in my Constituency of Tirunelveli in Hapidaran taluk people are walking many miles for getting drinking water. I request that immediately effective steps should be taken to contain the famine in Tamil Nadu.

MR DEPUTY-SPEAKER We are not discussing the situation in Tamil Nadu; we are discussing the proposal to confer on the President the power to legislate. The hon. Member may confine himself to the limits of the Bill.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Sir, as the House is aware, in Tamil Nadu there are so many textile mills and some among them are sick. Something has to be done immediately for rejuvenating these sick textile mills. Textile Mills in Canverinagar and Walijabad have been closed, throwing some thousands of workers out of em-

[Shri S. A. Muruganantham]

ployment. These mills should be reopened immediately.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please be relevant. Please speak on the Bill. I am not preventing you from speaking. I am only requesting you to speak on the Bill.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Under the President's rule in Tamil Nadu, a new impetus has to be given to the 20-point economic programme. In Tamil Nadu the land ceiling has been fixed keeping individual as the basic unit which in consequence has led to non-availability of Surplus land. As pointed out in the 20 point economic programme, the family should be the basic unit for land ceiling. Sir, under the President's rule in Tamil Nadu this kind of land ceiling should be ensured.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We had a discussion before on the situation in Tamil Nadu. It was fully discussed. This is a very limited bill.

SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM: Sir, as I have pointed out, land ceiling in Tamil Nadu should be effected having family as the basic unit. Recently, in Tamil Nadu the bus fare has been raised. This should not have been done as it is detrimental to the interests of common people. Under the President's rule in Tamil Nadu such activities which would lead to the cumulative good of the people should be undertaken.

SHRI B. V. NAIK (Kanara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I welcome this Bill whole-heartedly and I will tell you why.

The consultative status that has been accorded to the Committee that is going to be constituted with sixty members, it should not be a consultation in form only, but I hope, it will be in content also. We have had our own experience of President's rule in other

parts of the country, in my State in particular, and it was our experience that whenever President's rule is proclaimed and the Governor with the help of advisers begins to administer that particular state, it becomes a State administered by civil servants. We have no quarrel with the civil servants—I have been a civil servant myself, but there are certain impulses which have got to be generated and these impulses cannot be found in a civil servant who is cloistered in his own chamber. Under the circumstances, we must have certain alternative apparatus in order to deliver the goods, to assess the aspirations of the people and respond effectively to the extent possible.

As usual, I will be asked that this is a limited Bill, but Sir, in my five years' experience, I have yet to come across a Bill which was unlimited. What I am trying to stress is that we have a Federal Constitution in this country. There are many countries in the world which have federal constitution, for example United State has a Federal Constitution. There are State Governments and there is the Federal Government. USSR, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, not only has a Federal Constitution, each State is an independent Republic which is governed by Moscow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: What are you driving at?

SHRI B. V. NAIK: Our Federal Constitution has certain handicaps and one of the handicaps is that our Federal Constitution has been limping on the stilts of linguistic States. Under the circumstances, what I am driving at is, that what we need in this country is a strong centre so that the heterogeneity of the linguistic nature is reduced as much as possible.

SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA (Serampore): That has nothing to do with the Bill.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: If you read the Bill, you will understand this.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: I have read it, now I have started doubting myself, whether I have understood it.

SHRI B. V. NAIK: What I am trying to say is that most of these consultative committees tend to forget the real problem, particularly the people coming from the other States. We had our experience in the State of Karnataka, where our friend, Shri Filoo Mody, who is presently a State Guest, was only interested and trying all the time to put off the lights in Sansad Soudha. I would, therefore, urge upon the Minister to give a fair modicum of representation to the people and representatives from the State of Tamil Nadu so that they understand the aspirations of the people and they are able to fulfil those and make a success of the President's rule.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER (Nilgiris): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am not in a position to welcome this Bill seeking to delegate the legislative powers to the President in respect of Tamil Nadu. 25 years after Independence, for the first time the President's rule has been imposed in Tamil Nadu. The argument advanced for the imposition of the President's rule there is that some Ministers of the D.M.K. Government had been indulging in corrupt practices. I would like to point out here that in other Congress-administered States also the Congress Party members themselves had made allegations of corruption against the Chief Minister's.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All this had been discussed before.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER: No action was taken and we happen to see the Chief Minister, against whom allegations of corruption had been levelled, in the Central Cabinet. The very fact that the President is being empowered to legislate for the State of Tamil Nadu shows that the people of the State have been denied their democratic right to have their representative Government. It is a denial of

democratic system of representative Government. None, knows, including the Ministers, for how long this will continue. The wonderful symptom of the President's rule is that the Governor of Tamil Nadu has started saying that all the malpractices, misdeeds and corruption seen in Tamil Nadu during the past 25 years beginning from the Congress Party rule to the end of D.M.K. rule have been wiped out within one and half months. It seems that the President's rule is the panacea for all maladies of corruption etc. and the bureaucrats would eradicate such evils within the shortest time. If that is so, the representative Governments in all other States should be dismissed and the President's rule should imposed so that corruption and such other evils can be eradicated.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The only question before us is: whether the legislative power will be exercised by Parliament or whether the Parliament will delegate the power to the President.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER: To make the rules.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: To make the law. Should we do it ourselves or should we delegate it to the President?

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER: The President is being empowered to run the administration in the State. I am wondering how the President would be able to run the State of Tamil Nadu from here.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Not for running the administration but for making the laws.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER: For what purpose? To run the administration.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It does not matter. This is a limited Bill, only to confer on the President the law-making power. Whether he runs the

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

administration all right or not is a different matter. Please come to the provisions of the Bill.

SHRI J. MATHA GOWDER: The President's rule in Tamil Nadu has been imposed for political considerations and not for the welfare of the people of Tamil Nadu. It is not that the atmosphere is not conducive for holding elections in Tamil Nadu. The Governor himself has stated that the people of Tamil Nadu have not taken to violence and there is absolute peace. Sir, the elections should be held in Tamil Nadu so that representative Government can be established there. One wrong has been committed in Tamil Nadu to suppress one political party. I only wish that that wrong should not be passed on to the shoulders of the people of Tamil Nadu and such a wrong should not be allowed to multiply. I oppose this Bill empowering the President to legislate for Tamil Nadu with the request that elections should be held there for establishing representative Government.

SHRI O. V. ALAGESAN (Tiruttani): I confine myself to the merits of the Bill. All that has been said by the hon. members from the opposition who spoke just now, would have been relevant if they opposed the introduction of the President's rule itself. As you know, the House has approved with a unanimous vote the introduction of President's rule in Tamil Nadu and this is only a corollary. This has been done earlier also i.e. wherever there was President's rule such Committees have been appointed and such legislative powers have been conceded to the President. Certain warnings have been uttered and my hon. friend has desired that the Members coming from the State of Tamil Nadu should have greater say in the Committee. I think the hon. Minister will take care of that. There is no difficulty about it. Everything that has been wanted has been provided for under Section 3:

"Any Act passed by the President, will be placed before the Parliament and if any amendment has to be carried out, it can be done within a stipulated period."

So, there is no substance in the various arguments that were advanced against the Bill.

The Committee will consist of 60 Members—40 from this House and 20 from the other House. This will act as a sort of alternative legislature for the State. As there is no State Legislature, the jurisdiction of the whole Parliament is substituted and the Members of the Committee coming from this House and the other House will act as a legislature of the State for the time being.

I was enquiring from the hon. members how these Committees used to function earlier when there was President's Rule. I was told by some hon. members that the working was not satisfactory. The Committee(s) hardly met. I was told that once a Committee was supposed to meet in Delhi, but the Committee did not meet at all. I would only request that the fate of this Committee should not be as it was earlier and the Committee should meet as often as possible. Any legislation that has been prepared or is about to be presented, may be placed before the Committee. The whole Parliament may not be able to take care of it which the Committee can do.

For carrying on administration, certain laws have to be passed. The chief objective of the President's rule has been to avoid and to remove mal-administration. Mal-administration was not only at the State Government level, but it was in the municipal councils also. Their terms were over. They were over, living. It has been proved that mal-administration was the rule of the day. Several cases in local bodies

*Leg. (Delegation of Powers)
Bill*

have come to our notice in this regard. It may be necessary to pass an Act removing these local bodies and entrusting them to different hands. When I say 'different hands' I mean officials or officers who may for the time being be appointed for the purpose. Legislation may be necessary in that connection.

If the object of introducing President's rule has to be fulfilled, passing of the Bill by the House becomes absolutely necessary. There can be no objection on the matter of principle. Shri Somnath Chatterjee started saying his objection was on a matter of principle. When the principle of President's rule is accepted, this cannot be opposed on a matter of principles. It is only a corollary. I hope the House will pass the Bill.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI F. H. MOHSIN): I am thankful to the Members who have taken part in the debate. The members from the Opposition have spoken against the Bill as if this is an unusual measure. After the proclamation of the President's Rule in Tamil Nadu, the powers of the State Legislature are exercisable by the Parliament. This has been laid down in Article 357 of the Constitution:

It is permissible—

“(a) for Parliament to confer on the President the power of the Legislature of the State to make laws, and to authorise the President to delegate subject to such conditions as he may think fit to impose, the power so conferred to any other authority to be specified by him in that behalf;

*Leg. (Delegation of Powers)
Bill*

It is only under this Article that this measure has been brought in. As the hon. Members are aware, now as many as four States/Union Territories are under President's rule, Tamilnadu, Pondicherry, Nagaland and Gujarat. If all the legislative work need to be taken up by Parliament then will we find the time for all these things? The 20 point programme enunciated by the hon. Prime Minister and to be implemented by the State Governments has generated many laws in the various States as well. It is therefore impossible for the Parliament to find so much time to pass all these necessary legislations. Besides this, there may be some emergency when the Parliament may not be meeting. We may have to have some legislation of emergent kind or emergent nature. So, it is not possible to do that unless....

SHRI SOMNATH CHATTERJEE:
You can issue an ordinance which can come before the House later on. You can have this ordinance.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Sir, even that has to be brought before the Parliament again. This is done in order to save the time of the House and it is issued on the usual lines. Wherever the President's rule has been brought in in the States, delegation of power is also taking place. The power of Parliament is delegated to the President and that is on the usual lines. After the promulgation of the President's rule in Tamil Nadu some ordinances have been promulgated like the following:

- (1) The Tamil Nadu Indebted Agriculturists (Temporary Relief) Second Ordinance, 1976.

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and this brings me to the point that, in spite of the various other efforts that have been claimed to be made since the Emergency, the Railways are still going to be in the red. In spite of the recommendations of the Railway Convention Committee of 1971 and though the Task Force has reported to the Government what is being done about reviewing and reorganising the railway finances, we are still in the tunnel. May be the Minister sees the light through the tunnel. But certainly by going through his speech, there is very little that one can discover as to what reorganisation has been done about the finances of the railways, what is proposed to be done, what is the perspective that we have before us. Because we have seen, time and again, reports have been placed before Parliament and the reports of Parliamentary Committees such as the Railway Convention Committee and the Public Accounts Committee, are just so much of waste paper as far as the moribund Railway Board is concerned because, as I said last year itself, something more drastic has to be done for changing the old face of the railways and bring about a new look. Just new Ministers are not enough.

Till 1965-66 we have had surplus budgets and we are now steadily going down. Now we have got this so-called surplus budget. But what is the net financial position? It is the same and at the same time we are told about shortage of funds and therefore the new lines that are necessary for the development of our rail network, the new lines that are necessary for the development of our national economy, have to be cut down till there are mini-lines and we are having a sort of mini-railway system developing in this country.

For instance, one of the things that is holding up the development in the Southern Railway—that is leading to loss in earnings—is that you have got a tremendous delay in transshipment from metre-gauge to broad-gauge.

When we ask what has happened to this, they say "Oh, we will have to go to finance, we will have to go to the Planning Commission". But they do not go there themselves, they send their people in the Railway Board. God alone knows what they do and get there, because we in the South continue to remain jogging along in the metre-gauge and having these bottlenecks with the result that road transport is gradually pinching from the railways whatever is possible in terms of foreign.

Therefore, what I want to say and what the PAC has said is that the Railway Board, which is supposed to consist of experts, had not till now been able to put the financial management of the railways on a scientific basis nor is there any scientific and rational procedure which they follow. The PAC has particularly drawn attention to the fact that the railways have been in a great hurry to introduce various prestigious trains like the Rajdhani and they have not yet come forward with a long-range perspective plan, that a tremendous amount of ad hocism is continuing, etc.

The budget, in spite of a few silver linings, continues to reflect the same ad hocism.

What has been done about the suburban railways? You are losing heavily on season tickets. We are not saying "Raise the fares". The Railway Board is never tired of telling us in how many countries the government is reimbursing the railways for the social burdens they bear. I want to ask, why is it that the Central and State Governments cannot provide quarters to the employees near their places of work or reimburse the railways for the losses on account of these social burdens? Why is it that big monopolistic concerns and multinational corporations such as the Lockheed cannot provide quarters to their employees near their places of work or reimburse the railways for the tremendous loss incurred year after year?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Lockheed to reimburse the railways?

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I am saying that companies like that whose employees have to travel by suburban railways on season tickets should make good the loss the railways are incurring on those season tickets.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BUTA SINGH): Do you want the railways to take money from Lockheeds?

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: I am not at all saying you as an individual should take money from Lockheeds. I have explained my suggestion and if that is accepted, in that case, the railway's losses could be brought down by about Rs. 40 crores. There are companies like Sharp Dohme, Sandoz and other companies whose employees travel for work by suburban trains. So also Central Government and State Government employees. I suggest that such companies and the Central and State Governments should reimburse the railways for this loss. In their 195th report the PAC has said:

"A long range perspective plan should be drawn up in place of what appears to be an ad hoc approach as at present. Clear-cut priorities for future investment both in respect of passenger and goods movement should also be laid down. The committee trust that our railways, realising that Rajdhani and similar trains, while by no means unwelcome, cater to a limited and privileged section of the travelling public, will leave no stone unturned till a truly people-oriented service is made available to all."

In this year's budget papers, there is very little picture of any people-oriented service coming into being!

The hon. Minister said that the 20-point programme is being vigorously implemented in the railways. I do not know where that vigour is being directed, because one of the points in

that programme is that workers should be taken into participation in management. The railway authorities will again and again tell us, "Yes; we have our usual railway unions whom we recognise and love. We have periodical consultations with them." One of the examples once given to me in regard to workers' participation in management is, the workers are associated with the organising of boy scouts! Even in the International Women's Decade, they have forgotten girl guides! These are the footling little things we are told. Where was the participation, for instance in bringing down the rate of accidents; where is it in bringing down ticketless travel? Have you done any job analysis; have you taken the workers into confidence in working out as to where and how economy measures are possible? To-day, bonded labour is there in the Railways; because in many places, the railway officers use the employees as their cooks, malis, butlers or valets. Ask the railway employees. They will tell you. Have you done anything to remove it? But the economy measure means removing one worker here and one worker there, while the top continues as it is. Retirement is being used as a stick to get rid of unwanted people in the Railways, people who have the courage to speak up against the fossilized bureaucracy who cannot brook any criticism. And, therefore, you find this. In one place for instance, a worker was retired compulsorily on the charge of absenteeism; and he has been absent for only 3 days in that year. I can give you any number of examples; but I think you would not give me the time to give all the examples. So I have to do it with the Minister privately.

Such ridiculous things are happening. Uniforms are issued to railway employees. Obviously, when you make uniforms by the rule of thumb, they are all different thumbs: they are bigger, smaller, longer or shorter. And now suddenly, a notice is put

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"That Clauses 3 and 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill".

The motion was adopted

Causes 3 and 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI F. H. MOHSIN: Sir, I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted

13.55 hrs.

GENERAL BUDGET, 1976-77— GENERAL DISCUSSION

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We now take up general discussion on the Budget.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, during the last two days our Finance Minister has received a much larger share of bouquets than he is probably usually accustomed to for the budget which he has presented. On a closure study of his budget proposal I find that there are some new features in it undoubtedly which merit attention but the new features are both positive and negative. There is of course, much larger than usual increase in the outlay for the Plan. This is welcome. There is 31.6 per cent additional allocation for the Plan outlay, and as he has stated in his speech, this is higher than in any other one year during this period in which we have been going in for Five Year Plans.

Moreover, it is also a good thing that this big increase in the Plan outlay has been proposed at a time when prices are not rising. Previously due to the terrible inflation that was going on any

Plan outlay was proving illusory because the physical targets which were represented by those budget allocations were being heavily eroded by the fact of inflation. This time because at this moment at least prices are not rising—I do not know what will happen if the rains fall again but that is all beyond even the Finance Minister's control—therefore this increased budget outlay in terms of physical targets will be much more meaningful than it was in previous years.

The second new feature is that on the face of it at any rate there is no sort of sweeping attempt—as was done in the past—to put burdens on the Common man in the form of a heavy increase in excise duties on articles of mass consumption or popular consumption. Excise duties had become in the previous years the major source of collecting revenue and very large amounts were sought to be collected by imposition of excise duties. This time that position is not there. Some excise duties have been lowered, some excise duties have not been changed and a few excise duties have been raised also. But there is not that kind of general pattern of trying to raise a large amount of revenue by means of a sweeping increase in excise duties, that is, indirect taxes. That is also a new feature. Thirdly, there is also another new feature and that, in our opinion, is the absolutely unwarranted and dangerous concessions which have been made, which are proposed here in the budget proposals, to the industrial and business community, to big business to the monopoly sector in our country in the private sector. These three factors are all new, in a sense. Not that concessions were not made in the past also, but the range of concessions, the extent of the concessions, the volume of the concessions this time is such that certainly it represents something which is a break with the past.

14 hrs.

Now, as far as the Plan outlay goes, I would say that this is rather like going to the tailor and ordering a very

nice an expensive-looking suit of clothes to be made by him for you. There is nothing wrong with the suit, the suit that you would like to have made. The suit of clothes is very nice if it could be made to your measure and would fit you, later on it would be very comfortable and look very smart—no doubt about it. But the only trouble is that later on you may find that you have not got either the cloth or the wherewithal to buy the cloth out of which the suit is going to be made. I have no quarrel with the plan for the suit at all. In fact, I personally welcome very much things like the 34 per cent increase in allocations for science and technology. It was something which was needed. I welcome the relief which has been provided for pensioners, which was also very long overdue. There are good things from the social points of view. I welcome also, incidentally from my own point of view, the attention which is being given in terms of allocations to the development of sports of physical training of sports coaching schemes. I think it is an important thing which is not paid very much attention to in this House at all.

The allocations which have been made for the core sector for petroleum, for steel for power have all been substantially raised though not very much in the case of coal where the figure is more or less constant—it is not very much of an increase. In any case although proper priority has been given to agricultural production also the development of irrigation schemes, flood control, fertilisers, and so on this has not been done at the expense of the development of the core sector of industry in the public sector. I am glad for that because advice is being given, counsels are being given from all parts of our country and from all parts of the world also, to us that we should cut down these fund allocations for the development of basic and heavy industries and concentrate more on the production of food. I do not agree with that theory at all. That theory has been propoun-

ded by various foreign economists, the World Bank and some other gentlemen like that who seem to think that India's interests lie in only becoming a grower and exporter of food, and we have been advised not to waste scarce resources in going in for this kind of big development of industrial projects. As far as I can make out, that theory or that advice has not been heeded, and I am glad for it.

But one thing I would just like to query. The Minister might kindly clarify it later on. While I am on this question of the core sector, I find that an amount of Rs 100 crores has been provided for the Kudremukh project, although, it is admitted in the budget documents also, that the Kudremukh project is being entirely financed by Iran—the words used here are wholly financed by Iran. So I would like to know why it became necessary to provide such a large amount as Rs 100 crores for this Kudremukh project, if it is to be wholly financed by another country, because the project is meant primarily to meet the needs of that country. I am not going into its pros and cons at the moment, out as a budgetary exercise, I would like to know why Rs 100 crores should be provided—not a small sum—for a project which is to be wholly financed by the Government of Iran. There are some good things. But as I was saying, it is not enough to pick out the design of your suit of clothes that you want to wear; it is also necessary to see that you get the wherewithal by which the suit can be really tailored.

I find another new thing in this budget—the very modest amount of resource mobilisation which has been attempted. Mr Subramaniam's predecessors would I think have shrunk back in horror at the thought that the additional tax yield for the central sector would be only about Rs 48 crores. That is the net result of the concessions. The bulk of the concessions goes to the business and industrial sector, with some little in taxes and excise duties; the net result is that we

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a statutory committee, set up by a resolution of Parliament. That Committee, goes to Lucknow and visits the goods shed. A Senior Deputy Mechanical Engineer there prevents them from working and threatens to assault a member of the Committee. I complained to the Minister. What happened? Not even a one-line acknowledgement. Is this a serious matter or not?

You talk about the emergency. What is there in the 20-point programme? It is meant for removing the inequalities and economic imbalances that exist today. And one of the things that we have been demanding from the beginning is doing away with the contract system. Parliament in its wisdom thought of setting up this committee and passed a resolution for that purpose. And a footling little DME has the cheek to assault a member of that Committee! Is he not showing thereby contempt for Parliament itself? And he continues in service. Not only does he continue, but to the workers who stand up to him, he says: "off with you, the emergency is there, you are retired." And it is significant that among those to whom he has given these retirement notices there is a sufficient number of Muslims also. It is very significant that people who are responsible today for promoting Sakhas of the RSS are also responsible for taking action under the emergency against those who belong to a minority community. Is it justice. I ask you? Is this the kind of thing that should be allowed to continue? How can the railways ever improve, how can you get the real co-operation of the workers?

I am glad that the Minister has thanked the railway workers for their co-operation, but that co-operation has been in spite of the administration, in spite of all these pinpricks, all these attacks, and not because they are being given a fair deal. By no means. All the heart-burnings that led to the strike of 1974 are still there.

Where are your railway workers being given accommodation? In Bokaro, in Bhilai, where there is no private building, where they have to pay fantastic amounts as rent, wherever there are small places, are the railways not going to give quarters to their employees? Is this not a thing that is necessary for the development of your economy, for the more efficient working of the railways. The Minister has not told us anything about this in his speech.

His speech is beautiful, in very nice English, perfect language, very picturesque, it can even put one to sleep because it is a sort of lullaby, but at the same time, the reality is not there, and it is the reality that we have to face if we want to progress in this country. The railways need a complete overhaul. To begin with, these Railway Board people, the so-called experts, are now trying to become more and more experts, and are waiting for these consultancy Projects abroad. What a lovely opportunity for them! I think they must be all planning to go abroad as soon as the Budget is over. I am not talking about the Ministers. The whole point is that the Ministers are helpless. This is what we have been saying again and again; reorganise the Railway Board which is misleading Parliament, misleading the Ministers and leading the whole people of our country up the garden path.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN (Wandiwash): You have been saying this for decades. What has happened?

SHRIMATI PARVATHI KRISHNAN: When I say it again and again, something sometimes impinges. Once or twice, something has happened. So, we hope that we have struggled for it. But I would plead that unless and until you take the workers into confidence, unless you have really a serious system of workers' participation in the management, which is there in all other public sector concerns, including all the registered unions in the

industry, unless you do that, you are not going to get any change in the railways, because all the workers have got a right through their representatives to convey what they think is wrong and to convey their ideas for setting them right.

Without a proper scientific job analysis you cannot achieve lasting results and such a scientific job analysis cannot take place unless and until you see that the co-operation of the workers is gathered *in toto*.

Lastly, on the question of new lines, Mr. Parashar, as usual, wants all to go to the hill station every summer. So, he wants that hill stations should be brought into the general stream of railway lines. I have no quarrel with that. But, I think, it is time that we have before us a real perspective when, within the shortest possible time, New lines will be opened up, old lines may be overhauled, metre-gauge will be converted into broad-gauge. The largest sufferer in all this has consistently been the Southern Railway, and in the Southern Railway today we find more and more that the various goods that have been moved are the goods that are being moved constantly by road.

For instance, recently, a new Tea Express has started from Mettuplayam to Cochin. This is a fast passenger train. This train originally was the train which used to serve the students and the workers who were going to the Government Press. This is also on that line. But what happened when it was turned into the Tea Express was that those small stops had been cut out. The students and the Government employees and others who used it every day, who had their season tickets, are unable to use it. But the Tea Express keeps going empty up and down. I think they have earned something like Rs. 3000. I do not know. I am not sure of the Railway Board's figures, because they always say that they have earned Rs. 3000.

But then they forget the other Rs. 500 or Rs. 2000 that they have earned somewhere else and then bring up to Rs. 5000 or whatever it is. The point is this. Ad hocism to which the Public Accounts Committee has drawn attention they suddenly started a new train here and a new train there—is not going to help. That is, the recommendations of the Railway Convention Committee and the Public Accounts Committee have to be taken very seriously and have to be gone into with a sense of urgency and emergency. We are talking in a period of emergency. But the railways have to juggle up. They say that the stations are cleared; reservations are now more easily available. Passengers do appreciate that the railways have improved in their services. Nobody can deny that and the workers have also got a role in that. But is that enough? Is that part of your national economy. That is something that should have taken place a decade ago and the Railway Board needed an emergency to do it. Are they not ashamed of themselves? Could they not do it before the emergency? Only after the emergency that they able to do it. Why was it not going on previously? Could they not bring it before? It is not only in emergency that I speak, I am talking in terms of national progress, in terms of national economy. If our industry is to loog up, if our industrial progress is to be stepped up, it cannot be done unless and until the railway also change their whole outlook, change their method of functioning and put up before the Parliament in the shortest possible time a really comprehensive scheme reorganising their finances on the one side, reorganising themselves on the other side, and at the same time, giving us a perspective of what we can foresee for the railways in the coming years.

SHRI S. A. KADER (Bombay-Central-South): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would like to begin my remarks by quoting the hon. Minister of Railways, Shri Kamlapati Tripathi, from his Budget Speech, on p. 13:

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

country, but this time also nothing has been done in this regard.

I can understand some argument about income-tax, but what is the justification for the steep reduction made in the wealth tax rates? How is it going to help? We know from the raids and investigations carried out last year what enormous amounts of concealed wealth there must be in the country as a whole, apart from the declared ones. Only the tip of the iceberg came to light in the course of the recent raids, searches and seizures. I think the concessions given in the wealth tax are completely immoral. In the higher brackets, people with Rs. 3 lakhs or 5 lakhs worth of declared wealth have been given a steep reduction in wealth tax. Some corresponding tax perhaps on expenditure could have been levied. But that has not been done. Income-tax on big people is reduced drastically, wealth tax is reduced drastically and no expenditure tax is levied on them.

As far as reduction in excise duty goes, as I have already mentioned, there are a few articles which are of common use like soaps, tea or readymade garments. Of course, readymade garments now is a field into which big business houses are also coming. Even a foreign firm like Union Carbide has been given licence to set up a modern factory for manufacturing readymade garments. If the cheaper variety of readymade garments come within reduction of excise duty it is a good thing and I do not mind that. At least some people will have a little relief. But so far we find that the relief in excise duty is given mainly to urban middle class people. I do not say that they should not get it. No one should get away with this idea that some relief is being given which will actually accrue to the really vast sections of the poor people either in the countryside or in towns. It is after all people who use soaps or razor blades and go in for readymade garments who will get some relief. There is no doubt about it. And also those industries

which are producing these goods were running into some difficulties of accumulated stocks or unable to sell them today in the market. These goods like television sets or water coolers or refrigerators, can by no stretch of imagination be called mass consumption goods. I do not know what percentage of people even in towns are able to afford these goods nowadays. They have given some relief, which relief, I think, is meant primarily to help the industry producing, what is still in our country, luxury goods.

Now, the trouble is, as I have said earlier, with this big increase in plan outlay plus the increase in tax concession mainly to the upper income groups, business and industrial community, the net result of these two things is a huge deficit. This deficit is sought to be balanced, to some extent firstly by bank borrowings. That means more money will have to be lent by the Reserve Bank of India to the Government of India. That money will be pumped into the economy and to that extent, certainly it will not have deflationary tendency but it will have inflationary tendency. But there is no way of making up this deficit at all. Borrowings from the bank is already provided for. Secondly, by taking quite a substantial amount out of the impounded dearness allowance fund of the workers. Originally, it was not meant to be taken out but it was meant to be frozen with the Reserve Bank. But when you have a Budget like this, then there is no alternative for the Government but to lay hands on that fund, and they are proposing, I think, to take Rs. 480 crores out of this frozen dearness allowance fund and to bring it back into circulation. I think, the total impounded amount will be about Rs. 900 crores on account of dearness allowance and Rs. 50 crores on account of compulsory deposit and out of this it is now proposed to take Rs. 480 crores in order to support the Budget.

Thirdly, the Minister will have to rely, and this to me is the most dan-

gerous part of the whole proposal, more and more on external assistance for budgetary support. There are not very many new projects which are proposed in this Plan outlay; I mean new projects, hardly any. It means that external assistance will have to play a much more important and—I should say—almost, in these conditions a decisive role in providing support for the budget. Here, it is put at Rs. 819 crores net; i.e., after paying off our obligations for the year, we are relying on external assistance for Rs. 819 crores. I think that such an extent of foreign assistance for budgetary support, is not a very desirable thing. I am reminded of the days when the seat over there which is now occupied by Mr. Subramaniam, was occupied by Mr. Asoka Mehta. I do not want that we should again be dragged back to that ideology and to that theory of Mr. Asoka Mehta, that the womb of the Indian economy, as he called it, should be opened up for foreign capital to come and help us to grow and develop. But if you don't make provisions for resource mobilization on a 'sufficiently massive scale' and this time it has been absolutely given the go-by, because those sectors of our so left and economy from whom these resources have to be mobilized, have been given the utmost and maximum concession—the Government will have to fall back on these three things: first, borrowings from the bank; second, reliance on large amounts taken out from the frozen impounded dearness allowance of the workers, and third, foreign i.e., external assistance. There are other disturbing things also; e.g., the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme of which we were never much in favour, though the Minister seems to think that it has produced very good results. I think that the amount that has been disclosed under that Scheme may not perhaps be one-twentieth of what has actually been concealed, still. However, even under that Scheme, it was provided that the people making those disclosures would have to pay the Wealth Tax at the old rates. Now, in this budget, these rates have been sharply cut. At the same time, while it is provided that the Compulsory Deposit

Scheme is to continue for another year, no clear answer is available here, about the other counter-vailing part of it, viz., the legislation passed here for restriction—not legislation, but the scheme that was there for restriction—on dividend payments. We were told at that time that on the one hand the dearness allowance increases would be impounded to the extent of 50 per cent, and on the other hand, to keep the scales even as it were, Government was putting this curb on dividend payments, so that that money will not be distributed to the shareholders, but will remain with the companies and ploughed back into productive investment. Now, as far as I am able to understand, though it is not clearly spelt out, that restriction has been, or is going to be, removed. Now, there is no restriction on dividend payment, on distribution of dividend but on the other hand, the Compulsory Deposit Scheme is extended for another year. I would say, taking it by and large, that this budget is meant to mollify the rich classes in this country, and to some extent to soften up the urban middle class. Some people are saying—may be they are being uncharitable, I do not know; you can tell me—that it is an election-year budget, because in case elections are held towards the end of the year, the ruling party knows very well that its Achilles' heel may now turn out to be the urban middle class. They are much more confident about the rural countryside, though I do not know why, because from what is happening in my part of the country at least, I know that the medium farmers and small farmers are fully in a discontented state of mind, because of the kind of forcible recovery that is taking place from them, of loan arrears and revenue arrears. But, anyway, may be the ruling party feels that, as far as the majority of the people in the countryside are concerned, "we can be sure of their support" through the 20-point programme and so on. But it was the towns and cities which were also the

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centre of JP's movement, which never could really spill out into the countryside; their main bases were the towns and cities. May be, it is with that kind of outlook that the Minister is seeking to mollify the urban middle class to some extent, by not increasing the indirect taxes, and by giving some relief here and there, and also through this massive dose of concessions to the business and industrial community. But the fact of the matter remains that this huge Plan outlay, this big additional Plan outlay which is there, does not provide how a bigger share of the fruits of the developments which are envisaged could really go to the poorer and the poorest sections in our country.

Then, there are some strange things happening. I do not know why all the Finance Ministers, even those who were in the past such big votaries of prohibition, Gandhiji and all that—of course, the present Finance Minister does not always talk about these things—all of them have this kind of weakness of every time exempting liquor from the taxation net.

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM): State subject.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Still, you can give some kind of guidelines to the States. Shri Salve knows very well that along with whisky people take a thing called soda and that soda also is exempted. All aerated water he has taxed, all sweet aerated water he has taxed, but soda has been left out so that those people who would like their whisky need not pay anything extra for their soda! I do not understand this.

Finally, I would urge upon the Minister to reconsider the quite heavy increase in excise duty on medicines, on medical preparations, on all patented and proprietary medicines. I do not understand why, in this kind of taxation pattern, suddenly this item

has been picked out like this. Most of these patented and proprietary medicines consist of life saving drugs.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: They are exempted.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: They are not exempted.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN CHARGE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE AND BANKING (SHRI PRANAB KUMAR MUKHERJEE): Life saving drugs are exempted.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: About 80 per cent of these life-saving drugs are purchased and stocked by Government hospitals, Railway hospitals and ESI hospitals.

SHRI VASANT SATHE (Akola): This is to curb the brand name.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: No. The result would be that the Government's bill and the bill of the Government institutions for the purchase of these drugs will go up, apart from the fact that the poor people who are prescribed these medicines which are usually quite expensive, will find it impossible to buy them, or they have to take loans, or sell their ornaments and vessels in order to buy them. So, I would suggest that this 5 per cent additional excise duty on these medicines, which is supposed to bring in a revenue of Rs 18 crores, should be withdrawn. Even at the prevailing rates, which is 75 per cent on these medicines, the recovery last year was to the tune of Rs 27 crores, and now what is being proposed will give an additional revenue of Rs. 18 crores, which means that in all Rs. 45 crores would be levied from this item of medicines. I think medicines are not less important than food in our country, and this matter should please be reconsidered. This is a very massive dose of taxation on a very important and essential item.

As you know, there are three sisters, Faith, Hope and Charity, we read about in the fables. It seems to me that the Finance Minister is relaying on these three sisters.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He is relaying on the tide in the affairs of the nation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: He is relaying on his faith in the business and industrial community that it will accept the Government's gesture and respond by stepping up productive investment. But it is a moot point whether this extra disposable income which will remain with these people as a result of lower taxation will really be used for productive investment. There is nothing to ensure that, nothing to guarantee that. There is no system within the Government machinery or any monitoring system by which these extra disposable incomes can really be linked, physically linked, with the productive performance of these people who are going to be left with lakhs and crores of extra money this year. How are you going to do that? If you do not ensure that, I will say you are simply relying on your faith in these people.

Then he is relying on hope that better revenue collections will be there due to less evasion of taxes. But I find that the speech is silent, ominously silent, on whether or not the enforcement drive, to whatever extent it was carried out, will continue. I know it could only touch the fringe of the problem, but nevertheless it was a welcome thing, this drive against evasion, these searches, these seizure, without which your voluntary disclosure scheme would not have worked at all even to the extent that it worked. It came in that background only. People were afraid. So, when you are dangling this big carrot in front of them, please also remind them a bit of the danda in your hand.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: We will use a bigger stick.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You should say it here that if they do not respond by playing the part which you are expecting them to play, I do not expect it but you must be banking on that.

SHRI C. SUBRAMANIAM: I have the stick also.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You may have it, but take it out of your pocket.

Then, charity is from abroad, the foreign aid's role in sustaining the Budget which, I have already explained, is in danger of becoming an unnecessarily major component of our Budget-framing. This will be very dangerous. Rs. 819 crores used for this purpose is something which I view with a great deal of misgiving. Of course, it may please the shades of Mr. A. K. Mehta, but that is no certificate for relying on this kind of thing.

Finally, I will ask him what happens if two things do not come off. What happens if big business does not play fair? After all, we have gone through certain experiences. The prices of cotton crashed, but the prices of cloth did not come down. The prices of raw jute crashed but the prices of jute goods did not come down. What bigger concession could they want than this? The prices of their essential raw materials which are the major components in their cost of production, crashed one after the other. The farmers growing cotton and raw jute were reduced to conditions of acute distress, but the prices of cloth never came down, the prices of jute goods never came down.

Similarly, in many things it can be shown how this racketeering and artificial rigging of prices is done and how the middleman also plays a very

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important part in it. As far as textile prices go, Mr. Subramaniam has admitted in his speech, and he has said:

"Hon. Members are aware that in the textile trade whenever there is a slight pick up in demand, retail prices are raised without any relation to changes in the cost of production. The benefit accrues to middlemen at the consumers' expense."

But what is he suggesting as the remedy?—that the mills will now be asked to stamp the maximum retail price on every metre of cloth for sale to consumers in the domestic market. That means this is nothing new. To some extent, the middleman, margin of profit may be controlled, if people adhere to that stamped retail price. But what about the stamped price itself? And what about the price on the packaging? This thing, we passed last year that all goods which are sold in retail in any form of packaging must have the price stamped on it. But what about the price? Who determines the price? I can stamp any price I like on the package. I can stamp any price on any uncontrolled variety of cloth. Controlled cloth is not going to be manufactured by any mill. Mr. D. P. Chattopadhyaya has announced that he has given them freedom that they have not to produce even one metre of controlled cloth. It will all be done by the handlooms and powerlooms. So, the cloth which is going to be manufactured in the textile mills, who will determine the price which the manufacturer will stamp on the metre of cloth. Is this the way to bring about any price control? I cannot understand.

What happens if these people do not play fair? Then the whole calculation of this Budget will go astray. And secondly, what happens—after all none of us is to be blamed for it if the monsoons do not come off

next year if the monsoons are poor or fail as happens by rotation sometimes in our country. Then what happens? Will the inflationary process start again? We have been lucky in having two years of good rain, two good crops, fortunate thing for us. But what happens if this does not continue? What happens if these big businessmen do not play the game, as I am sure, they will not. We will all be well and truly in the soup. Therefore, I would say that budget proposals cannot get any unqualified support from us, though there are positive features in the proposals, which I have enumerated. But the dangerous extent to which the concessions has been given frittering away the resource mobilization in this country to back up this plan outlay does not according to us forebode well.

DR V K R VARADARAJA RAO (Bellary): Mr Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I do not intend to go into a detailed discussion of the different items which are included in the Budget, and I am sure, this has been done to some extent by the Member who spoke just now from one particular angle, and I am sure, the people who would speak after I finish will deal with these details.

What I should like to do, if I am given the indulgence, Sir, is to take a broader perspective of the economic situation as to why we have taken up,—what I think has been rightly called, a bold experiment,—and how—it is going to be linked up with the future development of the country. I think, there is no doubt about the fact that the last three-four years of economic experience that we had, has left a profound impact both on Government and on public opinion regarding the kind of regulatory and fiscal policies that we have been following over the years with a view to bring about both economic growth and increased social justice. And I think, it is that back-

ground which is responsible for the Finance Minister taking to, what is called, the miracle—I would not call it a miracle myself—I prefer the expression—of taking calculated risk to see whether a new system of regulations and fiscal methods, will succeed in dealing with this kind of a problem we have been dealing so far, and which have not succeeded in dealing with to our satisfaction. This is the kind of background against which I should like to develop my points.

I would say, first of all, in the last three or four years, our investment has fallen in real terms without any shadow of a doubt. In terms of money values, perhaps. But in terms of constant prices, in the last three or four years, the public sector investment has fallen down considerably. With the rise in prices of the order took place from 1973-74 till towards the last part of 1974, the step up that took place in Plan outlays was not of a very significant order. So, the investment came down as far as the public sector is concerned. As far as the private sector is concerned, of course, the investment did not go up at all. All round, there was a fall in investment, in the economy, in real terms in the last three or four years.

Now, that in turn affected the economic growth. The investment is always linked up with economic growth. Unless there is more investment, you cannot have more economic growth and you cannot step up the rate of economic growth. Not only that. Actually, the investment was not even in many sections of the economic community, keeping up the maintenance of the existing equipment, replacement of worn-out equipment, replacement of obsolete or outdated equipment and substitution of modern equipment and efficient equipment. Therefore, all round, the investment was not going up. Even the existing investment was being corroded with the result that the spring, purely from economic point of view that

makes for growth, namely, capital was not in good shape.

I think, this is one of the things that must have activated the Finance Minister in coming forward with these proposals. I do not think we should try to draw political motivations, political inferences, from the Budget....

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA (Marmugoa): Why not?

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: Every Member of Parliament is entitled to draw whatever inferences he wants.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: May be a good motivation.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: Not a political motivation. It is a kind of an economic exercise. I think, this is one of the major things that must have activated the Finance Minister, how to deal with the problem of investment, how to step up the investment. If we do not do it, how are we going to deal with the problem of economic growth?

I want to refrain assiduously from quoting statistics or figures in the course of my speech. But I want to quote a few figures. If you look at the figures from 1970-71, the rate of economic growth, either in terms of GNP or per capita, has come down steadily. In 1970-71, it was 4 to 5 per cent. Then, it came down to 3 per cent and further even to 2 per cent. If you take per capita figure, it is minus with a small plus in between. Obviously, no economy could last for long on this basis. In per capita terms, there has been almost a zero rate of growth in the last three or four years. Even in terms of GNP, it is not more than 2 or 2-1/2 per cent rate of growth. Therefore, I think, the first thing we must remember, if we are judging the Budget, is: Has it or has it not become essential in the economy to step up investment

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and, if so, what are the options open to us to do so? I think, this is the first point that I would like to make.

The second background that, I think, explains some of the thinking behind the Budget has been the tremendous evil effect that has been exercised in the entire economy in the last three or four years, that is, the phenomenon of black money. We have been accustomed to hearing his predecessor, I think, saying practically in successive Budget speeches, about working of what he called a parallel economy in the country. Evasion of taxes, avoidance of taxes, evasion of regulations, smuggling, evasion of foreign exchange regulations, all these things were resulting in the accumulation of a system of money supply within the country which was not subject to control, which was not accountable, which very often could not have been identified and yet which was playing a very important part, in my opinion, in pushing up the inflationary phenomenon it was a moral question as well as an economic question. I think this was another thing which the Government more or less—and I think quite rightly—made up their mind to tackle with all the force at their command, to smash, to the extent within their power, the black money phenomenon. I think this is, again, a background which has got to be taken into account while judging the budget. Whether a high rate of taxation, by itself, promotes the growth of black-money or not, is a question on which I have no firm opinion because I have not seen any statistical exercises. So far as the current phenomenon is concerned, some big reduction in taxation was given in 1974-75 which must have applied to the assessment year 1975-76, and I do not know what exactly has been the effect of this. It requires a lot of detailed analysis and I don't think the data is available for a detailed analysis, sector by sector, group by group and so on. It

is difficult to dis-entangle these two factors or several factors together and say how far the rise is due to increased managerial efficiency in the Taxation Department, but I think there is no question about the fact that in the last few months there has been a considerable increase in the managerial efficiency in the Taxation Department. I don't know what the figure is as regards the collection of advance payment of tax in 1975-76 as compared with the advance payment of tax in 1974-75, i.e. the previous year, but advance payment is one of the ways whereby managerial efficiency can show itself. Then, again, I think there was a very big step up because of the fear of black money directed against its owners and of those evading income-tax and wealth-tax by way of seizures, warnings, use of emergency powers and all that. So, it is very difficult for me and I am not prepared to say, as an honest academic economist, that the high rate of tax is by itself responsible for the high rate of evasion and, even if this were true, per contra, whether a lowering of the rate of tax will by itself bring about an increase in the responsiveness of the people to pay taxes. I don't know about that; but I find from this phenomenon something quite different ...

AN HON MEMBER You don't know who is doing this?

DR. V K R VARADARAJA RAO: I am afraid I don't. I have no contact with any big tax-payer or tax evader. I lead a very secluded life, Mr. Deputy Speaker.

Now, a thing that struck me—and this is what I want to develop later on if I get the time—is that if we want to raise resources on the kind of economy in which we function, the private sector plays quite an important part in the generation of income. I am not talking of the self-employed private sector where there are small

fellow_s who don't earn even what they need to expend—the rural poor and the urban poor and so on. If we leave out the sector below the poverty line and take only what we call the effective population—people who have money to spend, people who can make their choice, people who have got the capacity to buy this and that and so on—the private sector in our country plays a very important part. And, in this kind of economy, a serious question I want to raise is whether it is possible for us to raise the resources that we want through the method of progressively higher direct taxation. I am glad that my friend Mr. Indrajit Gupta has said that he did not even mind 66 per cent if the exemption limit had been raised. I do not know whether 66 per cent is less inductive of evasive tendencies or 60 per cent is less inductive of evasive tendencies or 40 per cent and so on. But one thing I know is that, in almost all socialist economies, progressive direct taxation of the kind employed in this country has not been used for purposes of resource mobilisation....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Because there are many other ways.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I do not know why Mr. Indrajit Gupta takes on himself the task of defending the system which I am not attacking. What I want to point out is this. I take very seriously what our ultimate object is. The ultimate object that we want to have in this country—I am sure there is no dispute on that as far as my Party is concerned—is establishment of a democratic, socialist society, establishment of an egalitarian society, a very drastic reduction in inequalities of income and wealth, which means extension of equality of opportunity and creation of a society where the quality of life will improve for the vast masses of the people. That is our objective and I have no doubt that we are standing by that objective. Therefore, the larger question I want to raise and which may be taken up after all this present budget business is over

and after the current year's experiment fails or succeeds, is this. It is important for us to ask ourselves this question: how do we mobilise resources for an economy that wants to become a democratic, socialist society, to what extent we can rely on direct taxes, especially on the marginal principle, because, the whole evasive tendency in the direct taxation comes, to a large extent, because of the marginal principle—suddenly, a fellow finds that he makes 'X' rupees more and has to pay at a much higher rate. As far as I am concerned, I have been trying to do a little thinking on the real philosophy behind this Budget, why this has come as it has come. One conclusion that stands out, as far as I am concerned, at the moment—I may change my mind later, but as far as my present thinking goes, this is the conclusion—is that, for the financing of a society which is moving towards a socialist society—I do not say that we are in a socialist society, nor can we hope to have that in five or ten years' time; it takes some time; it is not something which you can get by pressing a button—, which is moving towards a democratic, socialist society, what kind of public finance system we want to have. I think, this is the question which, to my mind, has been posed by what we have done in regard to the reduction in the tax-rates in the various slabs—on the direct taxes.

I remember, exactly 42 years ago, I wrote a book on taxation of income in India, and this was published in 1934. Then I attacked the step system of income-tax and wanted the slab-system; I attacked the step-system of income-tax where there were no slabs and pleaded for the introduction of slab-system and produced a graph to show how the graph was very much smoother if we had the slab-system, while in the step-system there would be certain injustice done to certain income-groups. I did that 42 years ago. Now I am not sure in my mind—it may be because of senility or growth of wisdom, I do not know—whether the slab-system which we have adopted in order to give us a smooth curve, pro-

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gression curve, of direct taxes is something which is the most appropriate from the point of view of direct taxation in this country.

Then, the next background apart from the fear of black money which, I think, is a justified fear and where something had to be done to deal with it,—no doubt, a reduction in tax rates along with all the other things—the dands to which Mr. Indrajit Gupta referred is there; I am sure, the Finance Minister has got the stick; he does not want to show it to Mr. Gupta, but the stick is somewhere about. In politics you do not move in one straight, vertical line ...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You are holding a brief.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: I do not hold any brief. Mr. Gupta sometimes holds briefs; I have heard him holding briefs. I do not hold any brief. He knows it.

The third thing, which is a smaller thing, if I may say so, has over-impressed the people in this country and when the people in this country are impressed, naturally Government is also impressed, because the Government represents the people and what the people are impressed by, also impresses the Government. In the last four-five months, if I may let off my private grievance in this House, you could not find a single speech, a single statement, or an article excepting in one or two weeklies, which are of not mass circulation, presenting the point of view other than one particular point of view, which is bound to impress the public opinion and may be it also impresses the opinion of those who represent the people in Government. There has been talk of recession saying that there is no demand, inflation has been conquered, there is no longer any fear of inflation, what we are now afraid of is disinflation, what we are now afraid of is deflation, and therefore, we want re-inflation, we want

more money to be pumped in, and, therefore, reduce taxes, increase the capital outlay, do this and do that. The whole idea was that more income, more money should be pumped into circulation in order to deal with the subject of recession. Then recession will mean accumulating of stock, and accumulating stocks, in turn leading to lay-offs, retrenchments and the retrenchment of workers in the cities, who are articulate and vocal—not people, who are not articulate and non-vocal—will create problems. The point is, is there any recession? I can quote from the Economic Survey and I can quote from the Reserve Bank Report. I can also quote from other analysis which are not published in the mass media of communication. One can, for example, quote from the Economic and Political Weeklys and so on.

15.00 hrs.

There have been two views on this and the major view has been that there has been some recession, some accumulation of stocks in some industries, but, by and large, there has been recovery because of the factors of recovery that have been there in 1975-76. Thanks to the very good management by Government, to its fiscal policy, to its monetary policy and to its investment policy, and if I may also add, to the increased element of managerial efficiency which they have brought into the administration of enterprises. Last year has seen a big step-up in the production of power, a big step-up in the production of coal and a big step-up in the transport facilities and all these things are extremely relevant from the point of view of industry. Even the industrial rate of growth has gone up to 3.5 or 4 per cent if you take the two quarters. Some industries, have, of course, not been benefitted. There are, what we call durable consumption goods. As a matter of fact, there is a mention in the speech of the Finance Minister, Part A. He has pointed out that it is true that there has been a certain amount of recession and accum-

mulation of stocks in some of the durable consumer industries. He says, something has got to be done to deal with this problem. He has sounded a very important note of warning. Whatever is done will be temporary in order to give them breathing time, to diversify their production, to change on the style of production and how exactly that has to be done is a point which you cannot expect the Finance Minister to cover in his speech. This has to be carried on in the year as a whole.

There is another thing which has influenced the public opinion, I do not know, whether it has come in the Delhi papers or not, but living in Bangalore, we have seen huge one page advertisement on the need for reducing the price of petrol. If the reduction takes place in the excise duty on petrol, that will lead to so much more employment. I am sure that advertisement will also form part of the income-tax deductible costs. I do not know. It is a huge one-page advertisement I have seen.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): Very fallacious.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: The important thing, therefore, to which I want to draw your attention is—this is the second major point I want to make—what kind of economy have we developed in our country? How far is the economy that is developed in our country a result of the kind of mixed economy we have been developing in our country? These are major questions and I think it is time that we started talking about them. May be some years hence we may find satisfactory answers. What is the kind of economy that we have? What has happened? Why is it that so much investment has gone into durable consumption goods, the demand for which is not from the lowest, the demand for which is not from the urban poor or the lower middle or even the middle classes? How is it that we have been building up in our country what I have called in another context a class market rather than a mass market? I think this is a point we have been caught up. We

have been caught up with the fact that having rightly or wrongly, consciously or unconsciously, through our various measures and so on, brought about a class market dominated economy rather than a mass market dominated economy, we find that because of the black money seizure and because of those funds drying up, there is suddenly a decline in their purchasing power and there is a decline in the demand and suddenly there is a recession and there is accumulation of stocks and so on, the threat that people will be thrown out of employment, people have been thrown out of employment and more people are threatened to be thrown out of employment. In a way it is something where anybody, even Mr. Gupta, sitting on the other side, would have found it in the context of the contemporary picture very difficult to take a decision which will satisfy all aspects of his emotional and intellectual personality....

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: You think it is really a recession?

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: Of course, there is a recession in the market for durable consumption goods—There is no doubt about it—for, what I would call, class consumption goods because the class income has fallen, because of the fall in speculative and trading incomes and because of the black money being more or less at least to a considerable extent having been eroded. I would not accept Mr. Gupta's statement that the voluntary disclosure is an ice-berg, that it only represents 1/20th of the concealed income. I do not know on what statistical or economic or econo-metrical basis the figure is worked out. The figure worked out is Rs. 1500 crores multiplied by 20, that is. 30,000 crores of concealed income and wealth in this country. I do not know. I would not say that everything has come out. And I am not also prepared to accept that it is only a tip of the ice-berg, that one-tenth shows up and nine-tenths go down. He went a little further and said that it is only 1/20th. It is more than an ice-berg, may be a baby ice-

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berg which has not shown all of it at the top. But apart from that, there is no doubt that hoarding has come to a stand-still. Why are our dealers not stocking? Why has hoarding gone down? Because the black money that was going into luxury consumption and hoarding and which was going into anti-social activities, or part of it has been immobilised. So the demand has gone down. This is the dilemma with which we have been posed. For the time being we have to solve it in the way we have solved it. I do not say that there was no other way. May be there was no other way. But I think this is a lesson we should draw from the point of view of how are we going to build up our future economy. Are we going to replace the class market-oriented economy by a mass market-oriented economy? And if we want to do so, what does it involve in terms of various kinds of structural changes because it seems to me that merely penalising somebody will not help. We tried regulation and controls. What happened? As a result of licensing and regulations and controls we built up the monopoly houses. As a result of all the progressive taxation and other kinds of taxation, we widened the gap between the small income groups and bigger income groups. The kinds of measures that we have tried in the context of bringing about a socialist society have failed and I would say that this Budget is the result of a reaction of that and at the same time, practical and realistic because where do you go from here? When you find yourself with all the necessary facilities for step-up in production, the production is not going up. Therefore, I think the Finance Minister has followed the twin strategy—one, where he has not controlled but gone all out to increase to the maximum possible extent the plan outlay. I entirely join with Sbrī Indrajit Gupta in welcoming the Plan outlay.

I want to ask whether this 31 per cent increase is on the basis of the figure for 1966-67 or the Budget Esti-

mate for 1965-66. Or does it take into account Rs. 500 odd crores of extra expenditure which was incurred on the Plan in 1975-76?

Going to the speech, I find that about Rs. 490 crores expenditure has been incurred. May be, this has been taken into account when you talk of the increase of 31 per cent. But when it is not taken into account, on calculations, we find that the rate of increase becomes smaller because it goes up by Rs. 500 crores and, therefore, the difference comes down by Rs. 500 crores. Therefore, the rate of growth becomes smaller to the tune of 22 to 23 per cent rather than increase of 31 per cent.

Budget is one of the documents on which you have to spend days and days. There was a time when I could read it with a fair amount of intelligence but now I find it difficult to get all out of it unless I refer to a series of other documents which I cannot get.

The Plan outlay has been increased and for the right priorities. I have no doubt in my mind that that is going to have a healthy effect on the toning up of the growth of economy.

The other part of the strategy is to increase private investment. In our country, while it is true that public sector outlay determines the fortunes of the private sector outlay, there is no analysis to show that private investment in our country is quite as important as the public sector investment. Take particularly the restricted field of Industry and Manufacture. How to step up private investment? I think, the strategy has been to raise the disposable income in the hands of the people who will use that income for increased investment and consumption.

I think this is the strategy to raise private sector capacity to increase investment and also to go in for increased investment by the Public Sector. So, increase in investment has been the basis of these various measures that have been devised in the Budget.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please conclude.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO: You should be a little I know you are partial to the Opposition. You have got to be...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER. I am not partial at all. I have a request from your party's whip that 30 minutes should be given to you and 20 minutes to the second speaker and 10 minutes

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO. I see sometimes there is an advantage to sit in the Opposition to get more time from the Deputy Speaker I cannot change my seat only for this purpose.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER No, it is not like that.

DR. V. K. R. VARADARAJA RAO. I would say that this Budget is a Budget which was inevitable under the circumstances under which we found ourselves in the current year, with all the opportunities for stepping up the economic growth. If we do not take advantage of the opportunity now we would lose it and if in having advantage of the opportunity we have resorted to measures which were not taken by the previous Finance Ministers or somebody else I think that is not relevant. I think the question has got to be looked at functionally and not from the point of view of motivation or sentiment.

Having said that, I would like to say two more things and then conclude. Firstly, there is no doubt that we have given certain concessions and those concessions have been given on the basis of response that will be forthcoming of the kind that we desire for those concessions. What is the response that we desire? The first response that we desire is an increase in savings; we desire an increase in priority investment and we desire non-increase in the demand for all sorts of luxury, semi-luxury consumption goods. This is the situation. I hope I am not mis-interpreting the philosophy

behind the Budget. There have been concessions. Concessions have been there almost to everybody. Even Mr. Indrajit Gupta has said that no burden has been placed on anybody. So, if at all you want to call it in this way, I would not call it a 'Rich man's Budget' or a 'Poor man's budget'. I think one can use a neutral term and if everybody has been benefited either negatively or positively, in such a case, you can call it a 'Sarvodaya Budget' because no body has been hit. Some people have been benefited, but nobody has been hit excepting those poor consumers of medicines. I completely agree with Mr. Gupta and I would also like to join my voice with him from our party to appeal to the Finance Minister. While he may tax the drinks that contain a large amount of alcohol, there are a number of proprietary and brand medicines which are extremely and absolutely vital for people who have got to face various kinds of illnesses. Therefore, I hope he will do some re-thinking on the subject of the increase in excise duties which he has imposed.

I must conclude now and I am not saying that I am for throwing up my hat in the air and say that we had a wonderful budget and a miracle had been achieved. I would say this that I congratulate the Finance Minister for not having allowed emotional or sentimental or pseudo ideological, populist considerations to influence his judgment in doing what I think is a very good technocratic exercise. Sir, it is a very good exercise, in trying to get the economy moving once again, by using various methods of 'incentives and concessions' which could set up the investments, step up growth and stop the recession.

Finally, Sir, speaking for myself, I have not been a member of any political party except the Congress and this party too I joined after the Bhubaneswar Resolution was passed by the Congress, when the Congress amended its constitution to declare its objective as establishment of a

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'Socialist Democratic Society' in India. Till that time I never belonged to any political party at all. But from my college days till now, Sir, I have only been somewhat anti-communist; that is to say, I did not like violence; I did not like hatred, I do not like any of these things. I have always been a social democrat from my college days in Bombay right up till now. I therefore believe that we really want to establish in this country a 'Democratic Socialist Society'. For that purpose, I think, now, resulting from the kind of policy we have to follow in this Budget, we have to ask ourselves the question whether for a few years we want to let the economy grow in a particular way and then change it or do we start bringing about the changes which are necessary from now on, and in answering this question, we must also answer the question whether if we let these things grow in this way, we can pull them back later on. We have faith and expectation. I do not use the word charity, but we have hope and expectation. We stand, and my party stands, for a new social order, the establishment of a new socialist society and this Budget is only an instrument for the purpose of getting out of the current situation and putting the economy back on its rails. I hope that in due course the re-thinking which will follow this particular budget will enable us to establish a more realistic, more implementable, more effective policy for bringing about social change.

Sir, I have great pleasure in supporting the Budget.

SHRI A K GOPALAN (Palghat). Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I am glad that I am speaking after Dr. Rao. Dr. Rao has represented some views opposite to the views which I am going to offer.

Sir, the budget presented by the Finance Minister has been unani-

mously hailed by the big business and big industrial circles of the country and it is no wonder. For it is framed in their interest; their demands on the Government have been conceded. The common man, his sufferings, effective measures to improve his lot—all these find no place in the budget, except for some crumbs that have been thrown in here and there.

But, before dealing with those aspects, within the limitations of the time at my disposal, I shall speak about one thing. A great deal of publicity is given in the entire Press, which as we all know, is completely controlled by the Government about the officially inspired celebrations of 'A Decade of Progress' that is the decade of Smt. Indira Gandhi's Prime Ministership. Let us see what this progress has been about which an Euphoria is sought to be artificially created.

If this is the "progress" with regard to the most essential items of food articles, the availability of cloth, the other most essential article for the people had declined from 152 metres in 1965-66 to 129 metres in 1974-75. The Economic Survey says that in 1975-76, cloth production had declined by over 10 per cent. Even if we do not take into account the large stocks that have accumulated and remains unsold the net availability has further declined by over 10 per cent, that is the net availability has been 116 metres which means a reduction of over 23 per cent in this decade.

As regards employment, unemployment on the live registers of Employment Exchange has grown in 1965-66 to 82,17,649 in 1973 which includes all categories seeking employment, such as graduates, matriculates, skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers. Figures after 1973 are not available. But the Economic Survey for 1973-76 admitted that the number has swelled by several lakhs in 1974-75.

[SHRI VASANT SATEE in the Chair]

15.24 hrs.

The first item of progress is that for the first time since independence the rupee was drastically devalued. Why? The then Finance Minister, Shri Sachin Chaudhary had frankly admitted in a circular to the Congress Members of Parliament that the Western countries, particularly, the U.S.A., had demanded it and threatened stoppage of all 'aid' if the demand was not complied with.

According to the Economic Survey of the Government of India, for 1975-76, published a fortnight ago, per capita net availability of cereals had declined from 418 grammes in 1965 to 373.6 grammes per day in 1975; of pulses—the only source of some protein for the common people, net availability had declined from 61.2 grammes in 1965 to 41.7 grammes in 1975. Of edible oil from 3.6 kg. to 3.2 kg. (the table does not mention whether it is for the whole year or per month). Of vanaspati from 0.8 kg to 0.6 kg. of sugar, availability was 5.7 kg. in 1965-66 and 5.8 kg. in 1975-76. But if the large quantity of sugar that has been exported in the last three years, whereas there were no exports in 1965-66, is taken into account that net availability would be much less.

The same survey says that employment in the private sector was, 68.5 lakhs in 1966 and was 68 lakhs in 1975. But these figures until 1972 did not include Jammu and Kashmir, but later on included that state. Hence there has been an actual decline in total employment in the private sector, despite all the new industries and expansion that have taken place in the period.

The increase in rural employment has been colossal, but of that, there are no official statistics. The annual average index of wholesale prices of foodgrains had gone up from 154 in 1965-66 to 401 in 1974-75; of fuel, 2022 LS—8.

light and power from 131 in 1965-66 to 322 in 1975. The number of people below the povertyline has enormously swelled, though official statistics are not available.

Central and state taxes have increased from Rs. 8,064 crores in 1972-73 to Rs. 12,776 crores in 1975-76, that is in 3 years alone according to the Survey. It does not give the tax revenue for the earlier years. It can be safely stated that tax burdens on the common people has increased by 2½ times in this decade.

If this has been the lot of the common people during this "decade of progress" what has been the portion of big business? The survey does not give statistics regarding the growth of assets of monopoly houses. But it is well known that these houses have grown enormously. The Economic Survey says that the index of prices of Variable Dividends of Industrial Securities has gone up from 76.7 (with base year 1961-62) to 170.7 that is disclosed profits have grown by 2½ times.

The Survey points out that assistance actually given by Government financial institutions like LIC, IFC, ICICI, IDB, IRC, State Financial Corporations, State Industrial Development Corporations and Unit Trust of India, apart, from Scheduled Banks and their borrowings from abroad guaranteed by the Government of India have increased from Rs. 119.8 crores in 1965-66 to 414 crores in 1975-76. The total disbursements for five years from 1970-71 to 1974-75 alone amounted to Rs. 1,408.7 crores. (Figures for the other years are not given in the Survey). Taking the decade as a whole the total disbursements would easily be approach Rs. 2,500 crores. The bulk of this has naturally gone to monopoly and big industrial Houses.

The most important fact, about which all who cherish the freedom and independence of the country must be seriously concerned is the colossal increase of dependence on foreign aid.

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]

Gross Foreign aid authorisation amounted to Rs. 4,200.8 crores upto the end of the 3rd Plan in 1965-66 and went up to Rs. 14,727.1 crores by the end of 1974-75. Utilisation went up from 4,508 crores upto 1965-66 to Rs. 13,233.5 crores in 1974-75. Adding the receipt of Rs. 1,639 crores received in 1975-76 as per the Economic Survey, the total gross assistance at the end of 1975-76 actually stood at Rs. 18,366 crores

This means that in this 'Decade of Progress' foreign aid amounted to Rs. 12,166 crores as against Rs. 4,200 crores in the 15 years of the first 3 plans—a three fold increase.

To sum up, the decline in the availability of foodgrains, edible oils, sugar and cloth, the mass essential articles, from 15 to 30 per cent, price increase by nearly 250 per cent in foodgrains and fuel, colossal rise in unemployment, both rural and urban, increase in taxation by 250 per cent for the common people on the one hand and growth of monopolies, more than doubling of the profits of monopoly houses, increase in the drain on India's resources by multinational corporations and other foreign monopolists on the other, a three-fold increase in foreign aid, apart from a tremendous increase in investment by foreign monopolies—this is the achievement of the 'decade of progress.' Progress indeed for the Indian monopolists, and foreign monopolists, progress in taxation, progress in indebtedness and dependence on foreign countries. No amount of put-up shows and advertisements in the controlled press can hide these ugly realities revealed by the Government's figures, which is reflected in the real life of the people. One must be ashamed of these realities.

Is there any wonder then that with the policies that the Government has been pursuing, it landed the country into the worst crisis and recession? Our Party has been warning for years that the country was heading just for this crisis. At first, the Finance Minis-

ter and the Industry Minister denied the onset of recession. But the stark realities could not be hidden. Now in the *Economic Survey*, they call it 'sluggishness'. But they seek to hide the extent of the recession. They say it is confined to the automobile, refrigerator, television and textile industries. They parade the fact that there has been an increase in production in the big steel factories and coal mining. But the Table showing the stock position at the end of the year with the facilities in several industries has disappeared from this year's Review. Why? Is it because its inclusion will throw light on the extent of the recession?

But the fact is that the recession has been all-embracing. The increase of a million tonnes of steel in the public sector factories has been offset by the closure of mini steel factories all over the country, a loss of production of 1.2 million tonnes. And yet the stocks have piled up and the Government is looking for export of the meagre production of steel because there is no internal demand.

Small engineering units have been closed all over the country. Wagon factories have also closed down for lack of orders. There is accumulation of aluminium. The Minister of Mines stated in Parliament that coal has accumulated to the tune of over 7 lakh tonnes. Since then a lakh tonnes more have accumulated at the pitheads. If it goes on accumulating, there is danger of a huge fire disaster also.

The *Hindu* dated 21 January reported from official sources that Rs. 125 crores of capital have been locked up because of closure of small scale industries round about Delhi alone. The handloom industry is in complete doldrums. So also traditional industries of Kerala like coir, cashew nut and even the starch industry.

In addition to these closures, there have been many retrenchments/lay-offs galore. The Labour Minister sta-

ted in Parliament that over 3 lakh workers have been laid off and thousands have been retrenched in organised industries—an understatement. But what about the huge unemployment in the unorganised sector?

The fact is that the Indian economy has been stagnating since 1966, the first year of the 'Decade of Progress'. It has been experiencing crisis after crisis, with shorter and shorter intervals of pickup. It took a number of plan holidays and finally it has found itself unable to utilise the meagre capacity that has been created. Why? Because the growth of capacity was coming into conflict with the limitations of the home market. This was bound to be so with the impoverishment of the mass of the people—the workers, the poor peasants and agricultural labourers. Their real income went in shrinking with exploitation by the landlords and moneylenders, the Capitalist market, increasing official taxation and deficit financing leading inflation eroding the purchasing power of the overwhelming majority of the people. Foreign loans and collaboration with foreign monopolists means further looting of the people. Multi-nationals operating in the country made huge profits with little investment and exported it, which has been brought out in the Hathi Committee's Report on the Drug Industry. These companies with an investment of a few lakhs of rupees have issued shares to foreign companies for consideration, other than actual investment, and drained several crores every year out of the country, and built up reserves of several crores, which also can be repatriated at any time. Increased foreign loans has meant exporting our commodities at prices dictated by the foreigners and purchasing their goods at enormous cost—ranging between 50 to 100 per cent more than the international free market prices.

When the inflationary spiral went beyond a point which the Govern-

ment could not allow it to grow, the anti-inflationary measures that the Government took, hit still more the common man. The impounding of half the increase in dearness allowance and the whole of any increase that the workers could secure by their struggles, and the slashing of Bonus together meant withdrawal of the purchasing power to the tune of 400 and 250 crores respectively.

The credit squeeze did not affect the big industries very much, but the small industrialists went down under its crushing weight and alone with them the hundreds of thousands of workers employed by them. True, this decreased the rate of inflation at first. After the good crop of above 114 million tonnes foodgrains as well as increase in other cash crops, thanks to the favour of the rain god last year, wholesale prices of foodgrains have come down by 7½ per cent from last year.

The Government parades this as its great achievement. That the rain god smiled upon the country this year. Was it due to propitiation by the Government? Did the Government perform a massive yaga or yagna to please the rain god? If so, why did it not do so all these years? The fall is also due to the receipt of external assistance to the tune of Rs. 854 crores more than what was budgeted, as stated in the speech of the Finance Minister.

Further, the impounded increase in D.A. and wage, which, at the time the Act was passed, it was stated would be kept with the Reserve Bank and not utilised, has been withdrawn from the Bank and used by the Government. This amounted to Rs. 400 crores.

But for these two measures, the deficit would have increased by 900 crores.

(Shri A. K. Gopalan)

What did the Government do to get out of 'sluggishness' of the economy and stimulate investments?

Gone are the thunderings against the monopolists instead, in the name of incentives of investment, the Government gave a gift of Rs. 250 crores to the employers by the Bonus Act. A spate of concessions followed. Their unlicensed capacity was legalised more than once. The Monopoly and Restrictive Practice Act was reduced a farce. The cases against Birlas were just frozen. Several concessions were given permitting their entry into those consumer goods industry which was previously prohibited.

After the imposition of Internal Emergency, 15 export oriented Engineering Industries were allowed 25 per cent automatic expansion of their licence capacity. Since all these industries are operating below capacity, this would only mean that the big Industrial Houses would be able to benefit at the expense of the smaller ones.

On October 25' permission for unlimited expansion was granted to foreign companies and large monopoly houses in 30 other important industries. Rules for liberalisation for financing these companies from Public Financial institutions were also announced.

With all these concessions, the recession continues, unabated. Even the fall of 7½ per cent in prices of foodgrains etc., has not helped revival activities. That is a measure of the erosion of purchasing power and the shrinking of the home market.

How does the Finance Minister propose to take the country out of the deep morass? He has accepted all the demands of the big industrialists—lesser direct taxation on the plea that it would lead to curbing the tendency to evade taxation, further

incentives to export promotion, etc. It is not necessary for me to detail all these.

After the emergency, the slogan was 'produce or perish'. It did not mean that total industrial production should increase, for what has been produced itself is not sold and closures and lay-offs are taking place. The slogan only meant that every worker should produce more for increasing the profits of the employer, and since the market cannot absorb the production, existing workers should be retrenched and face starvation.

The entire strategy for industrial revival is now based on increasing exports and producing for the foreign markets. The budget has made proposals that textile mills should produce for the export market, when our people are having a per capita consumption of just 11 metres per annum. For enabling them to compete in the export markets, the government promises them help to modernise the mills and liberal tax rebates for the purpose. That this would result in retrenchment of workers on a large scale is no concern for the government.

Another strategy on which the government is relying for industrial revival and expansion is reliance on foreign aid. The proud cry of 'self-reliance' and 'zero net aid' has vanished into thin air. The inflow of gross foreign aid which was Rs. 676.2 crores in 1972-73 had jumped to Rs. 1170 crores in 1974-75 and further went up to Rs. 1671.2 crores in 1975-76, according to the Economic Survey, 1975-76. The Finance Minister expects it to go up still further in 1976-77. This expectation is obviously based on the report of the World Bank Study Team which has recommended foreign aid of Rs. 2000 crores for 1976-77 to be progressively stepped up to Rs. 3174 crores in 1980-81 and to Rs. 4720 crores in 1985-86. This reliance on foreign aid would natura-

ly lead to the need for still more exports. What this means to the country is export at less price and import at higher prices. This can be seen from page 42 of the Economic Survey for 1975-76, where it states:

"According to the revised series on index numbers compiled by the DGCI&S with 1968-69 as base, whereas the overall total value of our imports rose by 73 per cent in 1974-75, the rise in the total value of our exports was only about 25 per cent. The result is that although there was an overall decline of 12½ per cent in the volume of our imports in 1974-75, and an overall increase of 7 per cent in the volume of our exports, yet the adverse trade balance widened."

Apart from the reliance on foreign aid, the government is wooing foreign capital and particularly the multinational corporations, promising them cheap labour and highest profits in the world! Knowing fully well our predicament, these multinationals are further arm-twisting us and demanding further concessions. They demand majority shareholding and free entry into any industry. The government is already moving in that direction. They allow majority shares for foreign companies in export-oriented industries. They have allowed a foreign company to put up a giant shoe-making factory. They have allowed a multinational (The Indian Leaf Tobacco Co.) to undertake fishing!

All this strategy of relying on exports is bound to end in a fiasco. When the entire capitalist world is in the grip of a very deep crisis, of recession and inflation at the same time what chance is there for Indian imports expanding on a massive scale?

What do all these reveal? It is a tacit admission that India's huge population of nearly 800 millions, next only to that of China's, given the income distribution structure, is incapable of providing an internal market

for self-generating growth. The only solution is a redistribution of the income in favour of the vast weaker sections. One has only to contrast our country's economic experience of the last 28 years since independence with that of China to see the utter bankruptcy of the Government's policies. People's China, ravaged by a long war with Japan lasting for over 12 years and then three years of civil war started in 1949 on a much lower industrial and agricultural base. Despite its being deprived of Soviet technical aid after a few years, despite the boycott of the imperialist powers till recently, it has increased its production of steel to 30 million tonnes as against our 6 million tonnes, 400 million tonnes of coal as against our 100 million tonnes and 250 million tonnes of foodgrains as against our 100 million tonnes, whereas we are unable to sell our steel, and coal, there is no glut in China. Unemployment and illiteracy have been banished long ago. There has been no inflation and prices have been stable.

Similarly, the socialist world, while the capitalist world is passing through crisis after crisis, has been going forward, with rising standards for their entire people's and its share of world industrial production has increased from 25 per cent in 1951 to 40 to 45 per cent and it is going forward.

The Finance Minister seeks to give some protection to the handloom industry by raising the rate of excise duty on power loom units, the first two looms will be exempted and on the next two looms the rate of compounded levy will be increased from 100 to 125 per cent and on the rest the rates will be increased from Rs. 125 to 150. I dare say that the owners will circumvent this levy by splitting up the units in benami names. If he really intends to protect the handlooms, he must assure them yarn at cheap cost. This he cannot do.

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]

Another important factor to be noticed is that the fall in agricultural prices has been steep, hitting the large number of small and medium farmers. On the other hand, the cost of inputs have gone up, like increase in electricity rates, water rates and other taxation, the decrease in the price of fertiliser is marginal, a mere 10 per cent after an increase of 100 per cent during the last two years. At the same time, according to the Times of India dated 17-3-76, the spokesman of the Finance Ministry admitted to the Press that while the prices of agricultural commodities going into the production of industrial goods have steeply fallen, the prices of these industrial goods have not fallen at all. All this means not only pauperisation of the poor and medium peasants, but further erosion of purchasing power of vast sections of our population. How can industrial activity revive and the economy get out of the recession? But then, this would be forgetting that the Government does not rely upon this large internal market, but on exports and on the narrow elitist stratum of the population, consisting of the rich and upper middle class. Hence fairly substantial cuts in excise duties on such items of their use as Refrigerators, TV sets etc. but not on such items of mass consumption as cloth, kerosene, sugar and so on. In fact the mills have been totally exempted from making standard cloth intended for the poorest sections altogether.

The Finance Minister proposes to continue the scheme of impounding half the increase in D. A. and the full increase of wages for another year, which will be refunded in five annual instalments. He tries to soften the attack by the promise that the Government stands by its earlier commitment in regard to the refund of the amounts already impounded. But how will they do it? The original Act provided that pass-books will

be given to every worker and employee showing the amounts deposited, month by month. This has not been complied with. The employers have made bulk deposits in banks and naturally the banks will refund the moneys to them. In the absence of any record, the employers are likely to swallow up the amounts, as many have done with regard to the provident Fund and the ESI contributions made by the workers and employees. The contribution due from them, of course, they withheld. The Finance Minister must tell the House what he proposes to do to see that these Rs. 250 crores are not swallowed by the employers.

The Finance Minister, in a booklet bearing the title "Strategy for Integrated Rural Development", stresses the importance of land reforms and says:

"The item 'land reform', in the context of land scarcity and the exacting requirements of modern technology, should imply reforming land ownership and use, with emphasis on personal cultivation and management, without which there can be no responsibility for ensuring levels of productivity."

Very correct. It required 28 years after independence, for him to realize this simple fact which we have been stressing, propagating and fighting for, for the last 30 years. And yet he sets great store by the "New Economic Programme" of the Prime Minister. That Programme only declares the Government's intention to implement the land ceiling laws, tenancy laws already enacted and enactment of laws fixing minimum wages. These laws do not have the intention of reforming land ownership and use, with emphasis on personal cultivation and management. That would require the taking over of all the land of the landlords and distributing them to the landless and the poor peasants.

Here, I want to say that after the Emergency and the 20-point programme which is now seven months old, I do not know whether land has been distributed anywhere. If so, I would like to know how much of land has been distributed; and as far as the land legislation and surplus land are concerned, we see even editorials in papers saying that in some places, even the availability of the land is not recorded.

But even these laws have remained unimplemented all these years. Why? The Task Force of the Planning Commission had stated that it was so because of lack of political will on the part of the ruling party, and the innumerable ties that the landlords have with the officials. This has been again stated by a Committee of the Ministry of Agriculture six months after the enunciation of the New Economic Programme of the Prime Minister Mr. S. P. Appu, Joint Secretary in the Planning Commission, in a well-documented study conducted by him in 1975 on "Tenancy Reforms in India", says:

"Even now about 1/5 of the land is under tenancy and in certain regions, the incidence is as high as 40 per cent. Even after two decades of tenancy reforms, the position of tenants, particularly of sharecroppers, remains precarious."

Apart from other reasons such as the many loopholes in the legislations, the biggest obstacle, he points out, is the absence of reliable record of rights. Even where legislation was enacted to maintain such records, it could not be effectively carried out. This he attributes to considering that the tenants are weak socially and economically, that they are obliged to the land owners in many ways and that in the context of everincreasing population pressure, there is keen competition to lease in the available land. Such an attitude on the part of the tenants, namely, of not insisting

on their rights, is not at all surprising. Another reason for not recording the names of the tenants is that the subordinate functionaries of the Revenue Department often act in collusion with the landowners. It is necessary to add that the superior officers have winked at it, for they too have their ties with the landlords. For the same reasons, the other land reform Acts have remained on paper all these years.

On March 5th, 1976, that is, nearly ten months after the announcement of the New Economic Programme, addressing a two-day conference of Chief Ministers, the Prime Minister observed that there was:

"a certain amount of lethargy and hesitation in implementation of land reforms. It was either due to people who had a vested interest in not having land reforms or because of a general lack of appreciation of the vital role of land reforms."

It is a tacit admission that vested interests in her party, entrenched in key positions in Government and organisation, obstruct the implementation of the land reform measures. Also, because of the ideology of the party as a whole, there is no political will in that party to implement the reforms.

Regarding the tenancy reforms she admitted that the position was unsatisfactory. As regards land records and record of rights, which are crucial to implement the tenancy laws, she admitted that the position was "unsatisfactory". She said that preparing records through surveys and settlement would take years. She, therefore, suggested that some ad hoc and practical methods must be found and that the Chief Ministers could sit together to thrash out this problem.

As regards distribution of land, she said that in order to show achievement both common and forest lands were being distributed, and added:

[Shri A. K. Gopalan]

"I do not think this can come under the heading of land reforms and so these figures of distribution are not correct figures."

So much about the claims made by the Government of land distribution.

The Prime Minister has further stated that a major problem that has been brought to her notice was the collusion between the local revenue staff and big farmers. Non-official participation was also not always helpful in pushing through the reforms. According to the Hindustan Times of 6th March, 1976, she said:

"I would like to know what is the experience of the States with the steps they have taken and what they thought about how to improve them further"

The Chief Ministers deliberated for two days and gave her no answer to the two crucial questions she had raised. Were not many of them, if not directly the landlords or vested interests she had referred to, at least connected with landlords? How could they infuse the political will?

The only way any land reform measure can be implemented is by organising the peasants and agricultural labourers, who are directly to benefit from such measures, and make them assert their legal rights and take possession of them. But the Prime Minister only recently denounced our party publicly and stated:

"What did the Marxists do when they were in the United Front Government in West Bengal? They incited the peasants to seize the land from the landlords. It is illegal."

Yet, allowing the landlords to keep in their possession land, which is not theirs, according to law, and enjoy it for years is legal! But asking those who are the lawful owners to take the lands from those who are in legal possession of it is illegal! This is the strange logic of the person who formulated the new economic programme.

We are proud of what we have done. We will tell the peasants and agricultural labourers that they cannot get their rights, unless they organise themselves, assert their rights and fight for them.

Knowing that she has no reliable instrument for implementation of the land reforms, which she has openly admitted in her speech to the Chief Ministers' Conference, she has prevented the organisations of peasants and agricultural labourers from functioning

The State Governments have arrested our cadres who have been leading the struggles for the implementation of the land reforms, for higher wages for agricultural labourers, for free house sites etc., and detained from under MISA. What chance is there then for the fulfilment of all these declarations of implementing the land reforms, tenancy laws, minimum wages etc. made ad nauseum?

16 hrs

They are talking about unlawful occupation I may give my own experience The Kisan Sabha, of which I am the President, announced that since the Government was saying that there was no surplus land in Kerala, we would show them cases of surplus land. In Trivandrum, I got into the land of the Maharaja of Travancore, not for the purpose of occupying it, but only to draw the attention of the Government to the fact that it was surplus land. For that I was arrested and I was in jail for 10 days.

Government knows that its real policies as revealed in the Budget are not going to take the country out of the abysmal crisis. They can only add more burdens to the people. That is why suppression of all the fundamental rights, unleashing of repressions on our cadre who tell the people the real truth of these policies and fight for their reversal has become absolutely necessary. I refer here to an instance of the goonda attack that our cadre is facing in West Bengal with the connivance of the police and officials. I do not have the time to read the details which have appeared in the issue of February, 1976 of the CITU Working Class. The magistrate who gave the judgment in that case was certainly a brave person.

To conclude, whether there is inflation or deflation or recession, the burden always falls on the common people. The affect of this Budget will be no exception to this rule. There is no worthwhile relief to the common people and their burdens will increase, but the common people will see that they do not increase by their organisations and their struggle

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE (Betul): With rapt attention I heard the speech of Mr. Gopalan which followed the pattern of the speeches delivered by Members of his party year after year on the Budget. His speech, like the speeches of the Members of his party, may have the dubious merit of a political attack, but I submit that there is hardly anything by way of an objective evaluation in that speech of the facts and situations on which any Finance Minister of a country has to frame his budget. And so far as I am concerned, that is sufficient for his speech. But what really surprised me was the performance of Shri Indrajit Gupta. He is one of the most brilliant orators of this House and usually he is objective and erudite in his speeches and he has to be given due credit

invariably for speaking plenty of sense but today I was not able to understand the main thrust of his arguments. In fact, I could make very little sense in the various arguments that he has advanced on different aspects of the matter, different facets of the Budget excepting possibly what he said about the reduction in the Wealth Tax rates and what he has to say about the impost on the medicine. I only hope that it was not due to an extremely ill-digested study of the Budget. If he has a good look at the Budget, he will realise that most of the points that he made, in fact, did not exist. The one point I was not able to understand is whereas he has appreciated that there was not any new impost and yet he was unhappy that there was not any resources mobilization by way of new levies of direct and indirect taxes. He also went out to say, that without more taxes how are you going in for massive investment in your plan outlay. And finally he was apprehensive that if you are going in for far too much plan outlay, there is likelihood of tremendous deficit financing; There was a great inconsistency in what he was speaking. At any rate, there is one point which I want to make clear to him. In so far as calculations of direct taxes are concerned, on which he said that there are concessions to big houses and monopoly sector. By that if he refers to indirect taxes, well, I have nothing to say. And if he refers to concessions in Wealth Tax one can understand. But if he is concerned with income tax, I want to point out to him that so far as budgetary provisions are concerned, there is hardly any relief in direct taxation, because an estimated receipt has been taken in a figure of 957, crore in the Budget against 1000 actual in 1975-76, and 1060 includes the figure they have received as tax on voluntary disclosure scheme. So far as Wealth Tax is concerned, despite a very steep reduction in the rate of taxation to which he has referred I agree with some of the objections he has raised. Credit has been taken for estimated receipt of 82 crores

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which is the same (52 crores) as last year. If they are to recover all those money, there is no reason to have the apprehension which Shri Indrajit Gupta spoke about.

I was one of the members of this Party who hailed this Budget as an imaginative budget, a budget which under the conditions could be the best budget, containing the best proposals, and after a diligent study of the various documents and papers which have been laid by the Finance Minister on the Table of the House, I feel impelled to an inference that this Budget is indeed imaginative and marks extremely significant watershed in the entire management of the economy and the fiscal strategy of our country. Dr Rao was absolutely right when he said that this was the strategy of a realist. One must understand properly the economic situation in which this Budget has been framed. The Budget has been properly received with warmth and jubilation by all sections of the people, through the length and breadth of the country, and in fact, it has been considered a reward to the nation for its hard work, dedication and discipline ever since the proclamation of the emergency.

Today, the entire atmosphere in the country is suffused with optimism and such opportunity no Finance Minister can let pass and that is why he has done this. A time had come when there was necessity for massive thrust; for a massive investment so that one can look forward for a purposeful acceleration of the economic growth in this situation with strength and confidence. The whole country under the,—as the Finance Minister said in his speech—resolute and dynamic leadership of the Prime Minister, had to fight and fight resolutely on two fronts. One front was created on the economy of the country, where for

merely 3-1/2 years, ending with the third quarter of the 1975, the country was engulfed in an extremely desperate battle against the inflationary spiral which was perniciously distorting the economy of the country. On the second front, the country was fighting the political forces which were trying to unleash all sorts of political indiscipline, who was trying to spread disorder and chaos, and one thing that has to be understood is that no economy of no country can never be stabilised where there is chaos and disorder.

Thanks to the Emergency that these political adventurists, these communal and reactionary fascist organisations have been put down in their place, and if you do not want to allow the gains of Emergency to slip through the fingers, it is absolutely necessary that these forces must never be allowed to raise their heads over again.

A great deal of tribute has been paid to the strength and resilience of the Indian economy the way it has behaved the way we have been able to retrieve and recover from an extremely desperate situation. Undoubtedly, it is a well-deserved tribute paid to the resilience and strength of the Indian economy. But I want to make a slightly deeper evaluation of the forces which have imparted this resilience and strength to the Indian economy. I come to the basic philosophy which we have followed, which we have given to ourselves which our country has adopted, as a result of which we have been able to stage such a magnificent recovery from the throes of inflation when many countries are still languishing and many countries are still facing the hazards of the inflationary spiral. That basic philosophy has been that we worked under a mixed economy.

Much has been said by my hon. friend, Shri Indrajit Gupta on that. While not paying tribute to our pub-

The sector which has rendered magnificent service, in the field of nitrogenous fertiliser, in the field of steel, in the field of iron, in the field of electricity, in the field of coal—our public sector has performed very magnificently in all these fields—he was all the while running down the private sector. I fail to understand why this sort of conflict is created between the public sector and the private sector. In fact, our philosophy is that we should have a very powerful public sector duly supported by a very responsible private sector. Unless we work upon this philosophy, we will never be able to find a proper panacea for the problems of the people of our country.

Coming to the Budget, indeed the year ending 31st March, 1976 has ended with a deficit of Rs 490 crores as against an estimated deficit of Rs 247 crores. But despite this massive deficit, we find that the price stability factor has not been adversely affected primarily because the performance of the economy in the current year has been exceedingly satisfactory. There has been an overall growth in 1975-76 of 5.5 per cent as compared to the growth in the Fourth Plan period which was 3.3 per cent and 0.2 per cent in 1974-75 to which Dr Rao also referred earlier.

At this juncture, it was absolutely necessary to ensure that in the coming two or three years, having retrieved ourselves from the difficult situation, to go in for a very massive investment because there is absolutely no alternative for accelerating our growth except for putting in a massive investment. Therefore, the Finance Minister has very imaginatively earmarked the aggregate sum of Rs 7,852 crores as investment for the Plan outlay of which Rs. 4000 crores will be the Central Plan outlay and Rs. 3,852 crores will be the Plan outlay for the States. It is 31.6 per

cent over the 1975-76 outlay in the Plan. This is the highest development outlay in any single year.

What is more important is this, I am stating these figures with some purpose in view and it is this that the main stress of this massive outlays primarily is completion of the existing projects expeditiously particularly the projects in the field of agriculture, irrigation, power, petroleum, coal, fertilizers steel, transport and communications. I really cannot understand how a man like Shri Indrajit Gupta failed to see the galvanising effect which the economy itself will have as a result of this massive investment into these priority sectors. I do not know which other priority sector he had in mind when he complained that priority sector had not been properly catered to in the Plan. I have no doubt in my mind that the massive, judicious, investment in agriculture and industry, strict economic discipline, strict enforcement of law against economic offenders is bound to ensure price stability, improve growth rate and, consequently, improve the lot of the people.

Therefore, Sir, one wonders whether one should take the criticism levelled against the budget seriously. The criticism has been that this is a Budget which contains a calculated risk. The criticism if I may put it this way in a nut-shell is that the proposed deficit is Rs 320 crores for 1976-77 and the trend of money supply is expanding—it has expanded by 7.5 per cent in February 1976. In addition it is said that this time there is the lowest tax mobilisation in the last ten years that it is only Rs. 55 crores, in its totality—deducting therefrom the share of the States—it is only Rs 48 crores and, in this budget, with a larger outlay in the Plan, the entire D.A. that was frozen would have to be withdrawn and it is said, this is likely to be the biggest enemy of price stability. This argument has only to be stated to be rejected for

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the simple reason that unless something wholly unforeseen and untoward were to happen, if one were to evaluate and study the Budget as a hard headed economist, what could one do in the circumstances? One could, at this stage, only mobilise what little savings we could get without burdening the people, and invest that money so that the growth is accelerated. That is what the Finance Minister has done. Any criticism, therefore, based on the expansion of money supply etc. is, I think, out of proportions.

However, there is another aspect of the matter to which I would like to draw the attention of the Finance Minister and it is this: I have found, by a diligent study of the various figures in the budget, that the budget for 1975-76 has a variation of nearly 16 per cent in its receipts. The actuals are Rs. 12153 crores as against, the estimated receipts of Rs. 10521 crores, the variation being 1632 crores. These comprise 435 crores on tax revenue, 496 crores on non-tax revenue and 701 crores on capital receipts. Likewise, on the disbursement side, one finds that the disbursements actually exceed the estimated disbursements to the extent of 1875—that is, a variation of nearly 17 per cent. These figures, therefore, create a little doubt in my mind as to what sanctity can be attached to the figure of 12970 crores which had been estimated as the total disbursements, on revenue and capital accounts, for the ensuing year. There is already a deficit of 320 crores which we have taken into account and, as I was studying the figures I found that in these figures, for higher receipt of tax and increase on the receipt side, there is very little cushion. Therefore, it is absolutely essential and necessary that every endeavour is made to collect as much money as is estimated here on the one side and, on the other side, so far as disbursements are concerned, a high sense of discipline has to be there and utmost economy should be exercised because

I think there is very little cushion left with the Minister in the budgeted figures, either for the receipts to go down below the estimated figures or to let disbursements exceed the budgeted figures. At any rate, I am sure the Finance Minister is the best person to know when to stop deficit financing the moment it tends to affect the price stability factor adversely.

Now a few words about direct taxes are absolutely necessary. I think by far the most courageous, dynamic and pragmatic approach that has been shown, at long last, by the Finance Minister is in respect of taxation of the income of non-corporate sector. The income tax of the non-corporate sector has gone, in the last two decades, through vicissitudes dependent entirely on the caprice, whim and private humour of Finance Minister after Finance Minister until it reached the most ridiculously vertiginous height of 97.75 per cent. One wonders, since the corporate sector rates are very much lower and rational, why this love and affection was shown to the corporate sector by the Finance Ministry and special animus against individuals, all these years. At any rate, it has to be understood that this theory—that we need high income tax rates, not for mobilisation of resources but for the purposes of eradication of enduring disparities between the wealthy and the poor, is not correct. There are examples of several countries—the greatest example being of socialist countries—that higher rates of taxation did not bring about an eradication of the disparities as such; it only makes the people more dishonest and makes the dishonest rich more rich. Theories apart, it is my respectful submission that rationalisation of the rates of income-tax was utterly imperative and necessary. I would however reiterate that this theory of high rates of taxation, either for mobilising revenue or for augmenting revenue, is a theory which has been despatched to the limbo of exploded myth; it is no longer considered a valid theory.

The real theory which prevails today is that augmentation of the revenue can only come about by augmenting growth of income allround, and that is what the hon. Minister is seeking to do. However, the Finance Minister was pleased to observe in this Budget speech:

"The remarkable response to the voluntary disclosure scheme, where the maximum rate was 60 per cent, lends considerable support to the judgment that the majority of Indian tax-payers would prefer to abide by the law and pay taxes as due, provided the tax burden is reasonable."

I really wish I am able to share his optimism....

AN HON. MEMBER: It has gone to 49 per cent.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: Whatever the Minister has done is the best under the circumstances. I am expressing a certain view whether people will honestly comply with the provisions of the law or not as a result of reduced taxation has to be seen. But the point I want to make is different. I wish I can share the optimism with the Finance Minister. But whether I share the optimism with him or not is not the question. My point is a little different; it is this. One thing has been proved to the hilt in our country and that is that irrational rates of taxation is no solution to the problem of tax-evasion. You must, therefore, have a rational rate of taxation which would, if anything, help curb tax-evasion. At least do not make your taxation unduly punitive on the honest end.

As regards reduction in wealth-tax, Shri Indrajit Gupta has already made his submissions, and I endorse what he had to say in the matter. From 15 per cent on urban land and buildings, the rate has come down to 2½ per cent. And the Finance Minister has stated in this connection:

"The additional wealth-tax currently levied in respect of urban lands and buildings has lost its rationale in view of the ceiling on urban vacant land and other measures in regard to urban property, and is proposed to be discontinued."

The urban land ceiling and the wealth tax on urban property are two different things; there is nothing in common between them. I do not know how this has happened. I hope, it is not due to the bureaucrats who have buildings and who want to save wealth tax on buildings ..

AN HON. MEMBER: It is a cover.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: I hope it is not a cover for anybody. It gives that impression. People who have buildings worth crores of rupees appear to me to be double-gainers: Government is not taking their buildings away plus they are getting a tremendous reduction in wealth-tax. I hope, the Finance Minister will reconsider this or at least explain to Parliament what he has said—because of the land ceiling law, the higher impost of wealth-tax is no longer relevant.

MR CHAIRMAN: I think, something is in the offing

SHRI N K P. SALVE: I welcome that

There is one thing that I want to point out to the Minister for Revenue and Banking. I welcome the provision regarding freezing the value of self-occupied property at the figure of 1971-72 or at the acquisition price. An unintended hardship is likely to be caused. After 1971-72, the market values of properties have fallen; specially in cities, where there has been land ceiling, the prices of the properties have fallen. Therefore, when you do this freezing, it should be the market value or the 1971-72 value or the acquisition price, whichever is the lowest.

[Shri N. K. P. Saive]

Mr. Indrajit Gupta has made a point that we are allowing reduction in tax-rates without making any provision for ensuring that this money comes by way of investment. I am sure he has failed to see that there has been an increase in compulsory deposits: the increase in the rate is from six to ten per cent in the case of incomes between Rs. 25,000 and Rs. 70,000, and the rate of increase is from eight to twelve per cent in the case of incomes above Rs. 70,000. This means that the disposable income is not going to be the same as Mr. Indrajit Gupta thought it to be. In fact, it is marginal as compared to what it was in the earlier year. I wonder whether compulsory deposit is the best way of mobilising investment. After some years, the money will be back, and one does not know what effect it would have in the economy of our country.

In fact, this sort of reduction should be given. Let the Government demarcate the areas of investment, let them determine what are the investments, and the people must make their investments on long-term basis into these areas.

Then, there are welcome provisions for the weaker sections of the society; particularly, I welcome the insurance cover without payment to employees, who on death would be entitled to a certain payment, which will be equal to average balance in the provident fund in the preceding three years. The relief to pensioners is particularly welcome. The exemption from wealth-tax on homes constructed for low-paid employees is particularly welcome. About medicines, I fervently plead with the Minister of Revenue and Banking, not to tax the medicines. If you want to tax the tonics, do as much as you want. If you want to tax alcohol, tax it as much as you want. Vices have al-

ways borne the burden of the country, let them have more burden, but for God's sake, life-saving medicines should not be taxed.

Now a word about entertainment expenditure. The entertainment expenditure, as you know, is presently disallowed in its entirety. Section 2(B) is now sought to be deleted with the result that in principle, it is accepted that entertainment expenses to businessmen will be allowed. It is a matter of considerable gratification that this realistic attitude has been taken. Entertainment is as much necessary in business as much as it is in politics or any other field of life. Now it will be allowed to businessmen. It is good. My objection only is that this entertainment expenditure, though accepted in principle to be allowed, is contingent upon a person having a minimum of ten lakhs of profit. On ten lakhs of profit, the maximum entertainment is 5,000 or 1/2 per cent on the next forty lakhs, it is 1/4 per cent and on the next 1.20 crores, it is 1/8 per cent. That means, if there is a small man in business, he would not be entitled to this entertainment expenditure. This is an irrational approach. Wherever you find that this is being abused, you ruthlessly disallowed it, but I cannot understand the rationale in being so impractical and so unrealistic in this sort of allowance and disallowance.

Now a word about the bank rate. The Minister has given a whole lot of reasons and explanations for high bank rate. Assuming, while not conceding, that these bank rates are justified, may I ask, why is there no corresponding increase in the interest paid to the depositors? Between the rates paid to the depositors and the interest which the bank charges, there should not be variation of more than two to three per cent, but there is much larger variation. That is the reason, why high rates of interest are

being charged, because unless a large difference is kept, banks will not have sufficient money to defray their expenses. In fact, this high rate of interest is nothing but a premium on the inefficient functioning of the banks. I would request the Minister to have an enquiry of the cost benefit in this sort of rate of interest, because it is no use justifying it otherwise. Some adviser to the Government said: Well, it forms only 2.5 per cent cost factor of the hundred percent cost. This is an absolutely understandable argument. Does it form 2.5 per cent of the cost of a small scale industry man?

डा० बलराम (बम्बई दक्षिण) : इतनी ज्यादा सुद की दर तो डिस्सेन्सिबल का काम करती है ताकि ज्यादा रेट बाफ इन्वेस्ट पर बैंक वाले ज्यादा लोग रुपये उधार न ले सकें। अगर न तो ज्यादा ब्याज दें।

श्री नरेन्द्र कुमार साहू : अगर डिस्सेन्सिबल है तो मुझे कोई ऐतराज नहीं है, ऐसी सूरत में प्राफिट बैंक का होना चाहिये। नेशनलाइज्ड बैंकों का मुनाफा होता तो सरकार को भावेगा। लेकिन इस तरह का जो मुनाफा होता है, उस को खर्च कर देते हैं, नीकरो नें बाँटते हैं, ट्रैडिंग में लगा देते हैं—यह बीज बलत है।

I would like to say something about the investment allowance. This is a very important provision that they are making. But the way it is drafted makes me feel that no care has at all been exercised. Will you, refer, Mr. Minister, to Finance Bill page 1, and Memorandum page 7, and then again Finance Bill page 12, which says that one will get this investment allowance in respect of machinery installed after 31st March 1976. And in the memorandum it is stated that this relief is available for assessment year 1976-77. Page 7 says, "These amendments shall take

effect from 1st April 1976 and shall accordingly apply in relation to the assessment year 1976-77." I cannot understand how they can commit such an error in such an important drafting. There are very many other terrible errors of drafting. I am not able to understand to which year it will apply. If it is after 31st March 1976, how will it ever come from the assessment year 1976-77? Then it is said that after 8 years if the machinery is sold—a person can sell the machinery after years and he has been given a right to purchase a new machinery out of the investment allowance within a period of ten years. Now after 8 years if he sells the machinery and purchases not out of the allowance but out of the sale proceeds of the machinery, he will still be entitled to the allowance. Lastly, a whole lot of litigation arose on account of the terrible difficulty, quite understandable language used in drafting about creation of reserves. My respectful submission is: please simplify this. So many cases are there: 92 ITR, 96 ITR, 87 ITR, 100 ITR and the Indian Oil Corporation with the best legal advice available could not understand in which year the reserves are to be created. If that is the case even with the Indian Oil Corporation, what to speak of smaller people who cannot afford expensive legal advice? Therefore, my submission is: for God's sake simplify this provision regarding reserves. Provide that it should be debited to profit and loss account irrespective of loss or profit in the year of installation. Thereafter, if there is a genuine case where a person is not able to do it for genuine reasons condonation power be given to the Income-tax Officer statutorily. If you read that long labyrinthine explanation, by the time you finish reading it, you feel like neither having investment allowance nor do you feel like buying machinery. That is the difficulty.

Likewise, about deduction of head office expenses it is sought to be in-

[Shri N. K. P. Salve]

serted in Section 44C. There is already Section 40A. I was cursorily going through this matter to see the drafting of the Finance Bill. I have always maintained that changes in the substantive law should not come annually like this through the Finance Bill which does not go to the Select Committee. Apart from drafting, sometimes questions of principle are involved and a proper scrutiny of such principles is not possible.

I suggest these are some of the things which struck me. When there is section 40A which deals with 'expenses or payments not deductible in certain circumstances', why a separate Section 44C? It is already a terrible law, complex and in the worst form of complication, this direct taxation law. It is the misfortune of anybody to be called upon to read and understand this law. You have fortunately escaped that sort of a calamity. Why add to the misfortune? Let us have a more systematic approach to the whole matter.

Before I end, I am sure the Finance Minister....

MR. CHAIRMAN: It is a paradise only for the taxation lawyers.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE: I am entirely in agreement with you that this sort of terrible drafting, ill-conceived drafting benefits nobody excepting the profession of accountancy and the profession of law. Virtually both of them become pesterers at some stage. I hope the Finance Minister will take care of what I have suggested in this matter and do the needful.

In the end respectfully I only wish to submit that in the affairs of a nation as those of the men there comes a time when at the cross-roads a courageous thrust in the right direction changes the entire life and living—achieving success after success, lead-

ing to the dizzy heights of economic prosperity and glory. The only precondition is dedication, discipline and an unrelenting and arduous and hard work and the nation to-day stands at the cross-roads. The leader has created an atmosphere of optimism and opportunities. You, Mr. Finance Minister, have done your best to give the thrust needed to march forward, to the nation. It is now for the nation to take itself to its cherished goal, cherished goal of prosperity and an egalitarian society.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA (Marmagao): Mr. Chairman, the Budget presents us with a good opportunity to view what Government actually does against what Government preaches. This Budget particularly, will give this House and this country an opportunity to see that while Government preaches one thing, it usually ends up practising exactly the opposite.

Government says to the country that agricultural production has to be increased, that the irrigation base has to be widened and yet I find against the Budget Estimate of Rs. 17.06 crores for Irrigation and Flood Control, only Rs. 16.5 crores was spent. On Development of Ground Water Resources, which as you will realise is one of the most neglected areas in this country, against a provision of Rs. 7.99 crores in the current year's Budget, they spent only Rs. 3.42 crores. That is less than half. The provision for the next year is only Rs. 4 crores. The total of the two years will not make up for the provision that had been made in the current year.

On Integrated Dry Land and Development of Agricultural Production, another grossly neglected area, there was a budgetary provision of Rs. 1.70 crores against which they spent only Rs. 1 crore. The Budget for the next year is again Rs. 1.70 crores, and will not make up for the short fall in this year. On Cattle and Dairy Development which is one of the areas of development through which our vil-

lages can acquire prosperity, the Budget provision was Rs. 1.50 crores. They spent just half there—Rs. 75 lakhs. For next year the provision is less than the previous year—Rs. 1.4 crores. On Fisheries, again a grossly neglected area in a country which has a large coastline and many resources, the Budget provision for 1975-76 was Rs. 8.96 crores, but the expenditure was only Rs. 6.67 crores, a very very large shortfall. On schemes for small farmers and agricultural labourers, the provision was for Rs. 21 crores, the expenditure was Rs. 18 crores i.e. Rs. 3 crores less. On investigation of Irrigation Projects, again the provision was Rs. 1.98 crores. They spent only Rs. 84 lakhs. The provision this year again is Rs. 80 lakhs, and they will not make up for the shortfall that took place.

Look at their attitude to welfare of the weaker sections. In the International Women's Year there was a provision in the Budget for Rs. 3.73 crores, and only Rs. 3.59 crores was spent. For the coming year that provision has been reduced to Rs. 3.40 crores. In fact for the whole Department of Social Welfare, the provision for next year is Rs. 9.12 crores against an expenditure this year of Rs. 9.19 crores. For a poor country, this is speaking very much for the Government.

Look at the Government's attitude to people, to the various segments of our society. It does not hesitate at all, to come forward to this House and give a tax concession to the affluent who earn Rs. 75,000 a year, which is several hundred times of the national income average. But against that it says that the increase in the D.A. of the millions of workers in this country will continue to be impounded. It is the Government's theory that this impounding is anti-inflationary. I would have accepted that theory if the money was kept impounded and unutilised. But now Government intends to use it. Is it not inflationary in the hands of the Government?

How does it become less inflationary in the hands of the Government than

what it would be in the hands of the workers? This is the question which I would ask.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is so when it is used for productive purposes.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, there is also a theory that consumption also leads to production. I am sure, if the workers today get some money, they will be using it for things which they need, which right now they have to do without. Look at the Government's attitude on the question of transport for instance. There is no hesitation on the part of the Government to come to this House and say, they are giving a reduction on the excise duty on motor cars. While in the supplementary Budget of last year an expenditure was made of the order of Rs. 10 crores, for the strengthening of the urban transport system, in this year, there is no provision at all for this purpose, for the purchase of buses and so on. What this Government virtually does is to subsidise the cars of the affluent and suburban masses like packed cans of sardines in the grossly inadequate mass urban transport system which we have in this country, which really needs a thorough overhaul right now.

Just look at the concessions to the Corporate Sector. Capital gains on companies are going to be reduced but the exemption of inter-corporate dividends, which today all of us know is being misused, in order to avoid taxation, that loophole is still there, and it is left untouched.

It is the case of the Government, Sir, that many industries require additional capitalisation. I would have expected, with the economy looking up, with the growth that has been there, the Government would seize the opportunity to encourage those industries which require capital to go in and get it from the market, to widen their equity base. But instead of this, what is it that this Government has done?

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Government increases the supply of money with the public sector lending corporations. Secondly it exempts loans for purchase of machinery from the Interest Tax. The net effect of these things, when the bulk of revenue comes from excise on mass consumption articles, is that the poor are really financing the rich, aided and abetted by this Government. This is really the situation now.

Sir, the Finance Minister has said that this Budget is oriented to accelerate growth. I fully agree with him. The Budget can only lead to the growth of the affluent, and to continued poverty for millions in our country.

Just look at the Wealth Tax concession. What is the justification for these wealth-tax concessions? We are talking here about a tax on citizens who have more than one lakh of rupees when the vast majority, the largest number of people of our country, do not have even a roof over their heads. And in this situation, how can this concession be justified? Have you ever thought that you would see a day when the Finance Minister in India, in this particular stage of our economy, would come forward before the House and say that he is giving a concession on the wealth of those who have over 15 lakhs? This certainly is beyond even my wildest dreams. I have not seen such a retrograde step in my life so far.

If it was the intention to stimulate investment in desired sectors, there was a manner in which this thing could have been done positively.

As Mr Salve well knows, there already exists in the Wealth Tax Act an exemption for wealth which is invested in any industry or in shares. This exemption could have been enlarged and, through this enlargement, you could have stimulated the investment that the Finance Minister says, he desires. But, this reduction is completely unwarranted, and it is no less than selling out the interests of the people, to a few.

I think whoever has framed the budget ought to read the Twenty-Point Programme because, it was under the Twenty-Point Programme that the urban ceiling would be enforced. And this was a ceiling on urban property. What we have legislated in this House has only been a ceiling on vacant urban land basically. I think it is no secret to anybody that this additional tax on urban assets was causing the sale of urban property because, whoever was fool enough to keep on holding to urban property would lose it anyway. He therefore would start selling, gifting, distributing or doing something. Now, to exempt that is to go against the very principle, against the very objective of urban ceiling.

Sir, I often wonder whether, we have or, whether, this Government has ever tried to define any of its objectives with any reasonable certainty. When I see the concessions in this budget, my doubt increases. Look at the concessions for investment—an investment allowance of 25 per cent for the purpose of purchase of machinery and plant. The exemption from interest being taxed is again for the purpose of purchase of plant and machinery. When will this Government realise that one of the reasons for a large amount of unemployment in this country, is the fact that their entire fiscal incentives have been tailored to the utilisation of capital for the purchase of machine? In our country what we require is massive employment. Section after section of Income tax and Wealth Tax Acts encourage industrialists to go in for capital intensive development. I think this is something which the Finance Minister must think about. And, to my mind, he should seriously think about withdrawing most of the exemptions that apply to the utilisation of capital, in favour of one single exemption—for the utilisation of manpower.

Look at the reduction in excise duty. It has been reduced, on T.V. sets, on refrigerators, on passenger car, on pick-up vans. Are these for the common man's use? Is not every single one

of these a luxury? In our country, look at the reduction in import duty on computers, polyester film for magnetic tape. In what world are we living? Look at the increase in printing and writing papers, patent and proprietary medicines. There has been a demand from all sections of the House that this additional tax should be removed from the Act. I hope the Finance Minister will concede to this demand.

There is, in the Finance Minister's speech, a statement which was long overdue in this House in which he says that the focus must be on maximum utilisation of the local available resources including local manpower. And then 28 years after independence, he has the audacity—I cannot think of a better word—to follow this statement by saying to this House that much spadework is necessary, before genuine operational programmes can be devised. What was Government doing all these years? Having said that first, he carries on to make a provision for an integrated intensive agricultural development of a spicy Rs. 15 crores. I, for one, am sick to the hilt. Expectations are being aroused and then dashed to the ground. I think the whole country also feels the same about it. Look at the attitude to industry. We say that we want a large number of small industries in this country and against a revised estimate of Rs. 401 crores for this year the provision for the next year is down to Rs. 3.25 crores. For cottage industry it is down from Rs. 21.85 crores to Rs. 20 crores and for khadi and village industry it is down from Rs. 5.50 crores to Rs. 5 crores. After reading the details it comes as no surprise that the budgetary allocation for steel is Rs. 402 crores and for the small scale industries only Rs. 52 crores. What kind of a country we are trying to build! I do not think anybody in this Government knows.

We all know we had a good monsoon this year and it is estimated by March or April we shall have 10 million tonnes in stock. There are 44 million tonnes of rabi grains coming and I am sorry to see in these budget papers that the pro-

vision that has been made for expansion of food storage is only enough for a storage capacity of 4.5 lakh tonnes. This to my mind is grossly inadequate. Prices are falling and they may crash and, as such, I would like to appeal to the Finance Minister that before the ink on his budget gets dry, he should increase the provision for storage. He should also go in for private licensed storage. He should ensure when the rabi comes on the market, that the prices are, on no account, allowed to crash below the procurement prices. At some places it has already happened. If he is planning to rely on the banking system to purchase the foodgrains, permit me also to caution him. It is not only a question of purchasing. This is the opportunity not only to purchase, but to hold the purchase, to increase the size of the buffer and, as such, he should make additional provision for storage in his budget.

The significant shift in the Budget for this year, which to my mind is no miracle at all—entirely the contrary—is that the capital outlay on agriculture has been reduced from Rs. 323 crores to Rs. 11.80 crores, and the shift has been from agriculture to industry because there, it has increased from Rs. 722 crores to Rs. 800 crores. I am well aware that the reduction in agriculture is from the fact that fertiliser which had previously been purchased has now been sold, and a replenishment is not required on that account. But I would have thought that having been able to make a provision of this amount in previous budgets, he would utilise the same percentage of the budget—the amount of money which he today does not require for fertiliser—to go in for a massive agriculture development in this country. Instead he has chosen to sell agriculture down the river, and to go in for steel. This, Sir, to my mind is against the interests of this country and the people of this country, at this stage of our development.

I shall conclude in a minute. It is no news to us that elections are not being held in this country, because the people in this government know,

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that they will land themselves in the opposition. In fact, today is the last day of the elected term of this House, and from tomorrow we shall all be illegitimate children of whatever Article of the Constitution it was, that enabled the extension of our term.

Therefore, if it is the interest of this country that has to be served, I would say that this Government should go to the people as soon as possible, and enable them to choose a better crowd to run this country. "I think this should be said at this stage, that the policy that this country is likely to get from the alternative that is emerging, is a policy which will emphasise the village rather than the city, the field rather than the factory, and would certainly reverse this trend which gets the majority of taxes from the bulk of the people of this country through excise taxation of mass consumer items, and puts it in the hands of a few industrialists through state-lending institutions. This is the one policy that must be reversed, if this country is at all to have, a widespread economic prosperity.

AN HON. MEMBER: Will you not attend Parliament from tomorrow.

SHRI ERASMO DE SEQUEIRA: I am a democrat. I have to bow to the majority. But the trouble is, that you refuse, to listen to me.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): Mr. Chairman, for an independent, sovereign and developing country like ours no struggle and no effort is more sacred than the present attempt to achieve self-reliance in the battle to win economic independence for our country. To win economic independence for India means ensuring better lives for millions of our underprivileged people in this country, and we must congratulate the Finance Minister for his efforts to implement and for trying to give a direction to all the new economic programmes that we have announced and the Government are committed to before the people.

Therefore, I must say that the current year's budget truly reflects that great endeavour of our people and the determined political will of our dynamic leadership to take our country forward in that direction.

I can say that this year's budget is really a watershed and marks the beginning of the success of the great, historic struggle of our people which we will have to wage for the coming five to ten years to achieve the objective of a socialist, democratic society to which we are committed.

As I said in the beginning, the Budget the Finance Minister has presented is a budget which is work-development and investment-oriented. Weightage and priority has been given though some friends have not tried to see it, to the core-sectors, to agriculture, irrigation and generation of power which will help in giving a new dynamism to the economy which has been stagnating for the last few years. Therefore, this is a budget of hope and confidence and again a budget of many challenges and also opportunities which we shall have to utilise in the coming months and years.

It again affirms and shows what a nation can achieve in the shortest possible time once it overcomes its cynicism, pessimism and lethargy and the all-round negative atmosphere pervading the country in 1974 and 1973, when a nation gets down to work with hope, determination, courage, discipline and patriotic fervour so as to change the depressive situation prevailing in the last few years.

All those nations who have become great in this century have achieved strength and greatness only through this process and this works like a magic. Therefore, today we must be happy that the budget presented to the House and to the country keeps in tune with the times. The time is of emergency and of the twenty-point economic programme which has been placed before the country to be implemented in all

earnestness and seriousness. Sir, one should not view this budget without taking into consideration the relative political background. If you read it out of the context, then it becomes irrelevant. On hearing some of the Hon. Members' speech, sitting in the Opposition, I was amazed. About a fortnight ago, I was in a meeting where a reception was accorded. And a friend from the Opposition who was there was in a quandary. We were discussing 20-Point Economic Programmes and the friend from the Opposition was saying "these are very good programmes; I have to welcome them. But then, Sir, I am in Opposition party. What can I do?" I said "all right this is democracy and you can have a qualified welcome". Therefore, you will find that here too some friends of the opposition in their heart of hearts want to welcome the Budget but they also want to keep their separate identity so they qualify their welcome. We also welcome their qualified welcome.

17.00 hrs.

Sir, if we look at the background of the budgets that were presented in the recent past, in the last two years or so, to this House, you will find that there was a rapid rise in prices of essential commodities and also other commodities. There was an ever-increasing inflation fed by government deficits and the production was much below the capacity in all sectors. Speculative holding of goods was the normal feature of the economy. For the last few years, black money was creating a havoc. Now, Sir, are we in the same position today as was prevailing about two years ago in this country? Today after the Emergency and the announcement of 20-point economic programmes within a period of one year, the price level has become fully stabilised and in many cases, it has come down. If you go into the prices of edible oil, foodgrains and other essential commodities, you will find that the percentage of fall in their prices ranges between 5 and 20. Like this the prices have come down. Now, it has become a problem for the Government because more than the ex-

pected quantity of foodgrains has been procured from the farmers. You were pointing out today in a meeting that the prices of foodgrains in many places are falling and you wanted to give them a support price. Therefore, Sir, today's background is completely different from the background obtained two years ago. Today there is an increase in the production of all essential commodities. It is stated that the production of foodgrains is 114 million tonnes and the buffer stock is going to be 11 million tonnes and with the import of 2 million tonnes, the stock will go up to 13 million tonnes. For the year 1974-75, the growth rate was 0.2 per cent and today it is more than 5 per cent. The power situation in the country is really remarkable. Somebody was saying that the purchasing power of the rupee is going down. I am sorry to hear this because in the last one year the purchasing power of the rupee has increased because of the price stabilisation of all the essential commodities. So, Sir, with all this background, I do not think that we must speak with pessimism that prices of the essential commodities have gone up.

Therefore, what I wish to suggest is that under the changed condition, a new political climate has been created and this climate has created confidence in the minds of the people. The remarkable thing that has been achieved is that the self confidence of our people has been restored and the morale of our people today stands high. We are proud to say that we belong to this country and we are Indians. It is easy to achieve a success here and there but it is a very difficult struggle to restore the self-confidence of a great and ancient people to its glorious destinies. It is very difficult to achieve total success in such a short time, in a period of one year. It is a remarkable achievement and we have turned the tide of the darkest period of history in our country, when many thought that we will not see the dawn; and we have

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not only seen the dawn, now we see the sun-rise with all its splendour. Therefore, today there is an atmosphere of optimism and confidence which the budget must take into consideration.

The main thing is, the budget has increased the plan outlay to Rs. 7852 crores. In the words of the Finance Minister himself, this is "the highest step-up in development outlay in any one year since the beginning of the era of planning in our country." Another redeeming feature of this year's budget is that while the plan outlay has been stepped up by 31.6 per cent, the tax mobilisation has been the lowest. Some people say, "Why not mobilise more taxes?" If the Finance Minister had mobilised more taxes, it would have been criticised like anything. Therefore, because the economy cannot stand further mobilisation of taxes at this period of time, a little margin has been given so that we can see how resources can be mobilised from other sources besides taxation. We have injected that kind of pragmatism and dynamism into this year's budget.

I must take this opportunity to congratulate the working class of the country on their having been able to contribute Rs. 480 crores, which had been impounded from their dearness allowance. Some come forward with the theory that this amount should have been given on the hands of the workers so that they could buy things from the market and create a demand. In a socialist economy demand is not created like that. If during the difficult times of 1974 this amount of Rs. 480 crores had been injected into the market, we can imagine what would have happened. A knife in the hands of the butcher is dangerous to the sheep but a knife in the hands of the Finance Minister is not dangerous. I must congratulate the working class that in this year's budget,

they have the highest share of resource mobilisation. Instead of going on a buying spree and adding to the inflation and bringing down the purchasing power of the rupee, they have helped the government and their patriotism must be appreciated. I am sure the Finance Minister also will congratulate them. It is a good thing that has been done. If we could take Rs. 480 crores from the impounded DA of the working people, I will go a little further and say that this year's plan outlay could be increased by another Rs. 600 crores. You may ask me, how? The answer is simple. The working population of the country is 180 million. Cannot this government appeal to them to contribute 24 days' work in a whole year for the irrigation and other works we are contemplating throughout the country? If you calculate it in terms of money, it will come to Rs. 600 crores. What is capital, after all? Mahatma Gandhi has answered it very nicely by saying "Capital is accumulated labour". Our labour accumulated today forms the capital of tomorrow. This is not impossible. This is what the other countries are doing.

This leads me to the most important question with which the Finance Minister is grappling today—capital formation. The first and foremost requirement for building a strong and stable economy is to have a large amount of capital formation in the country within the coming 5 to 10 years. The Finance Minister has tried in this year's budget to inject that kind of dynamism so that the capital formation which is needed for the coming 5 to 10 years will start from 1976-77. All the statistics we have show that the capital formation in recent years has been well below what it should have been compared to the growth in the labour force.

What is the labour force that has increased? Our capital formation should be commensurate with the increasing labour force. What is the plant capacity? Our plant capacity is

now too small to offer the number of job opportunities required. We have to make up for lost years and lost growth for the last many years.

Now, Sir, if the economy is to be set on a steadily growing path, it is necessary to achieve a high rate of capital formation through domestic savings—from private sector, public sector and house-hold savings. The public sector's contribution to total domestic capital formation rose above 50 per cent with an investment of about 6000 crores. May I know from the Minister as to what is the contribution of the corporate sector or the private sector to the capital formation of our nation? I hope it is not even 12 per cent with an investment of more than 7,000 crores. Therefore, if the public sector contributes 50 per cent, the private sector should also contribute 50 per cent or even 54 per cent according to the calculations of its investment, so that our economy will not starve because of capital. Domestic capital formation fell from 13.8 per cent of the national income in 1972-73 to 13 per cent in 1973-74 and further to 12.8 per cent in 1974-75. Therefore, it is a great challenge. We must generate our own wealth to go ahead with our Plans. For building a strong, prosperous and self-reliant economy, we must aim at achieving a minimum of annual domestic savings of at least 7000 crores which is only about 14 per cent of our national income, and that will give a big shot in our arms for all the big deficits that are there.

Now, the Finance Minister has left a gap of Rs. 328 crores uncovered. I do not think, so far as my little knowledge of economics goes, that this deficit of Rs 328 crores in a vast country like India where the production of foodgrains has gone to 114 million tonnes and the national growth is 5 per cent, is such a big thing that it will add to any inflationary pressure knowing fully well that all the stringent measures that have been taken

will be pursued rather more stringently.

One more good thing in this Budget that I find is that in many important fields of finance the budgetary burden has been passed on to the banking system. I hope, the Finance Minister will continue this thing.

The Government took over the credit institutions from the private hands for acquiring the required commanding height so that the credit could be regularised. That means, the national exchequer should not take more and more burdens for financing foodgrains, for financing fertilisers, etc. In almost every country, the banks are undertaking special responsibilities—they are looking after national shipping and all that—and it is a good thing that the Finance Minister has relieved the national exchequer from the burden of foodgrains purchase. This is a good thing which has been done and this must be continued. It is a good thing that in the Budget for 1976-77 in many important fields of finance the budgetary burden has been passed on to the banking system. Henceforth the banking system will finance the fertiliser poor instead of the Exchequer. May I know from the Minister why not the Railways, the P&T, and all public sector enterprises, shipping and transport should be asked to generate their own finance through their own resources? Also, why should they come to the national exchequer? Why should they not go to the banking system? I would say that in view of the latest number of job-seekers in the live registers of the employment exchanges—upto the end of September 1975, this was more than 92.54 lakhs, which is 7.1 per cent more than what was there a year ago—it is necessary that all these things generate more investment and more employment opportunities. I support this budget and I hope that this budget will help in the imple-

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mentation of the hold new Economic Programme.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I have received intimation that the Congress members may be given ten minutes each. Mrs. Ray; Mr. Nimbalkar; Mr. Das Munsi.

SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI (Calcutta-South): I congratulate the Finance Minister for presenting such a realistic budget, in view of the present circumstances in the country. I sincerely congratulate him and the Government. I thought the Members from the Opposition should also have done so. The way this Government resisted the inflationary trends in our economy, is an example not only for our economy, but also, I can say with confidence, for the economies of any of the developing countries. It is one of the examples of how to control inflationary trends in a democratic political system, having a federal and parliamentary system of government, where people's participation is allowed. It is a miracle. I thought that Members of the Opposition, whether they belonged to the CPI, CPM or the BLD would say at least this much, apart from dealing with the provisions of the budget presented in this House. For the way in which the inflationary trend has been arrested, the credit must be given to the working class and to the peasantry. Many Members from our party have said this. I also voice this opinion. I do not want to say much more on it. This budget, in the opinion of some Members of the Opposition, is a budget of the rich people. Somebody had said that it was a budget to satisfy the middle class. Somebody had said that it was a budget just to save the situation. I feel that it is a budget which reflects the wishes of people to the extent possible, within the ambit of the resources available in the country, keeping in view the possible danger and threat from the political forces that we have. In case it had adopted a much more progressive and

radical posture, it would have required the creation of a situation in the country which does not prevail at the moment. So, I feel that simply saying that the Government should have been more radical would not have been opportunity. The Finance Minister and the Government have done the right thing at the right time. Just prior to my speech, the Member from the BLD Mr. Sequeira tried to emphasize that the Government did not take interest in the vulnerable and poorer sections in the country, but that it tried to do justice to the affluent society. He found some significant shift in the budget. I do not know. People can decide it. I found for the first time that the BLD has shifted its emphasis. For the first time during the last so many years, the BLD member has spoken for the poor people. Mr. Sequeira tried to lay emphasis on agriculture and said that the Finance Minister and the Government were mopping up the resources to promote steel production and for the industrial sector, at the cost of agricultural production. It is absolutely wrong, because Mr. Sequeira did not try to read the budget proposals and the papers. He should realise that agriculture is not an abstract thing; it is a composite and integrated programme, which requires a scientific approach and a scientific outlook. I think this is the first Finance Minister who has said in his budget speech that Indian villages now require a completely different approach, a scientific outlook, both in its agricultural development, production and other inputs. It is in that context that the amount sanctioned has been increased for the power plant, for fertiliser production, as well as for heavy industries, which will ultimately result in agricultural growth. If you systematically try to understand it, without modern tractors, without power engines and generators, without more fertilizers, without generation of more power in the villages, if you

think there can be growth in agriculture, it is absolutely an illusion. It simply cannot be done. In that view of the matter, agricultural production has not been neglected in the budget proposal.

At the same time, the Finance Minister has taken a very positive and realistic view with regard to industries. In view of the sluggishness in our industrial climate, he has allotted more resources for industrial production, specially for heavy industries and small-scale industries. To me it looked funny when I heard Shri Sequeira say that steel production would not help the small-scale industries and ask why more money is being spent on heavy industries and steel production. I do not understand how the small-scale industries of this country will grow if you do not supply steel, if it is not sufficiently available in the country. I do not like to have an argument with the members of the opposition. I will give my own comments on the budget.

The budget, in general, is not one which should be argued about very much, especially in view of the present circumstances. A member from our party, Dr V K R V. Rao, who is an economist, tried to submit that economic exercise requires no political motive. I do not like to use the word "motive", but I certainly would say that economic exercise in a budget of the Government should always reflect its political objectives.

For instance, why was the emergency declared in this country and who created that situation? It is not a simple political exercise. We must realise that there are some economic interests behind it.

In order to combat the reactionary forces, the Government have only three instruments. One is the administration by which we can promulgate the emergency. The second is the political aspect by which we can polarise the democratic and progressive forces of the country at the

national level. The third is the economic instrument by which you can keep a watch over the economic situation. We should not only hold the price line but also look after the economic growth of this country. If we fight on these three fronts, then all the reactionary forces can be halted and all their designing can be frustrated. Unless we adopt that approach, the budget cannot do anything.

It is in that light that we have to look at the budget proposals. When some people say that this budget is not for the poor, I beg to differ from them. This budget is a budget for the poor. This budget, in some way or the other, tries to give enormous amounts for the rural development programmes, common area development schemes and irrigation, including the 20-point programme.

If we look at the conditions in the villages today, they are no more villages. They have taken the shape of urban problems with urban desires and demands. Social we have to tackle them, keeping that change in the situation in mind.

Coming to the employment problem, according to the Economic Survey, the employment generated last year was 25 per cent in the eastern sector, 24 per cent in the southern sector, 16 per cent in the western sector, 24 per cent in the western sector and 12 per cent in the central sector. The entire employment which has been created is only in the organised sector, and that too by the public sector industries; it is not in the non-organised sector, not in the rural sector, where agricultural activities and activities relating to the problems of the rural people exist. Keeping that problem in mind, provisions have been made in this budget for irrigation, power generation and other connected matters to improve agricultural development. Therefore, I sincerely feel there would be ample scope and opportunity for rural employment next

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year, which will result in increased employment opportunities as compared to last year.

I would only request the Finance Minister to bear in mind that over the last three years it is the public sector units in the organised sector which increased production and, at the same time, provided employment by curtailing heavily the expenditure on establishment. But if you take the private sector, specially the larger houses, they did not respond and, in fact, they did the reverse. In the private sector, employment generation last year was only two per cent as against 15 per cent in the public sector, but the capital investment by nationalised banks in the public and the private sectors has been more or less the same. So, the Finance Minister must ensure that the large houses in the private sector create more employment opportunities, curbing their profiteering tendencies and curtailing their heavy establishment expenses.

The multi-national corporations are now compelling good employees in the marginal income group while retaining the high-salaried people in the establishment hierarchy. The Finance Minister should take a note of this

For the first time the Finance Ministry came out boldly to unearth black money through the voluntary disclosure scheme. We must appreciate that Government was able to do it against heavy odds. Instead of saying that much more ought to be done, we must encourage those who did this job in the income-tax, excise and customs departments so that they feel that, like their compatriots, the politicians, they have a role to play in the country in eradicating corruption. If we discourage this trend, it will not help because it is not the

Finance Minister or the Parliamentarians who can conduct the raids. On the other hand, if we encourage them, they will help the country go forward in the interests of the future prospects of their own children and fellow brethren.

Sufficient investment has not been made in the modernisation of industries, particularly in the plantations, especially in tea. The tea industry is not able to earn more foreign exchange because of two reasons. One is lack of power in the tea-producing areas like North Bengal, Upper Assam etc. The second is that the managements there are corrupt and are compelling the Government to take over the tea gardens as sick units. If the industry is modernised, it will help in earning more foreign exchange and also in mobilising additional monetary resources within the country.

We have introduced the public distribution system and there is a good trend in agricultural production and in building up buffer stocks, but the Government of India is perhaps not giving sufficient attention to it in co-operation with the State Governments as a result of which we find that people are not getting their requirements of standard cloth in spite of the fact that stocks are piling up in the godowns. The Finance Minister may kindly look into it. I have got two points which I will submit within two minutes. One is the managerial efficiency. Since the plan provisions have been increased this year, which is another commendable feature of the Budget, it has been encouraged by a few political parties of the Opposition and others have not done it. This will entirely depend on the efficiency and performances of the entire public and private sectors including the core sector. I will submit to the Ministry and the Government that if they, within the ambit of one or two years, consider the reasons behind the progress of the public sector versus that of the private sector, they will find that the

managerial efficiency and cadre efficiency are the main reasons for efficiency. Now, there is no distinction between the private sector and the public sector, so far as financial policies are concerned. The public sector units are entirely managed by the Government and the private sector units entirely depend on the Government, especially the banks, the LIC and other financial institutions. The only variation is in the managerial efficiency. If the Government finds a way how we can build up a very strong cadre, a managerial efficiency team to develop industrial units both in the core sector as well as in the public sector, I think the threat, which rightly or wrongly, the monopolists may create against us will be removed provided we take over these units.

As far as IRI is concerned, it is one of the noblest institutions under the Ministry of Finance, which has helped—which the CPI(M) do not realise—millions of the working class in our State and in the entire country for developing and gearing sick units by giving finance. But, at the same time, if you say that IRI has become a sort of banking agency only to give money and they have no control over them it is not correct. As a result of this, in most of the cases, the managerial people of the private sector units are taking the money and exploiting it. It looks as if they are not accountable to the Government or the people. I submit if this entire institution is toned up, not as a banking agency but also as a managerial agency over the industrial units, it will help the sick units to become healthy units.

With these words, I conclude. I do not want to embarrass anybody else. I congratulate the Finance Minister once again and say with confidence that we will win, because we do not know how to face a defeat; we only know how to win.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR (Ahmedabad): Mr Chairman, Sir, may I at the outset express my gratitude to you for calling me at this stage of the debate, and may I also at

the outset express my sense of happiness that the Finance Minister is back again to his desk after his hospitalisation, and that in the midst of his own ill-health, he has struggled hard to give health to the nation's economy?

This year's two budgets, the Railway Budget earlier and now the General Budget have had their special flavour. Not only they are budgets which do not dislocate or disturb many things, but they do not even attempt to disturb in terms of the expected fears and apprehensions of either the commuters who go by the railways or the general taxpayers who have each year to expect a large basket of all sorts of taxes, an assortment of taxes, shall I say; the Finance Minister has not been tempted to go into that kind of exercise this year. Surely, that in itself shows some sign of not only a positive attitude but a certain sense of robust health of the economy. He has rightly said in his opening remarks that the thrust in this budget is thus towards accelerated growth; having achieved stabilisation and consolidation, the next step is, of course, this: that after the take-off you want to have speed.

But the first point that I would like to mention is that although the optimism of the Finance Minister is something, which to some extent I share, I hope that it is really and truly well-founded. I hope and trust further and that is more important, that his and the country's and this Parliament's optimism will be favourably and honourably responded to by the concerned sections of the community. Well, obviously he has by outlining his taxation proposals and also by giving reliefs on a variety of grounds, in fact this year, gone to the other extreme; instead of having an assortment of taxes, he has an assortment of reliefs, both direct and indirect, and I hope and trust that this will be responded to honourably and favourably by the community at large.

Having said that, I must not forget some of the still pressing problems

[Shri P. G. Mavalankar]

of the country and of the economy, the problems of green revolution, the problems of unemployment, the problems of rate of economic growth and the problems of deficit financing, to what extent deficit financing would be considered helpful and even necessary and to what extent it would after a particular limit become a dangerous proposition. All these questions, including of course the inflationary whirlpool and disequilibrium in various aspects of financial matters, are tasks and challenges to which, I am sure, the Government under the able guidance of the Finance Minister and his colleagues will pay their attention.

I am tempted to quote here one extract of a speech given recently by the distinguished economist, Dr. K. N. Raj, when he addressed the students of Kerala University on the subject of National Emergency and students. This is what Dr. Raj said. I quote almost a verbatim record of what he said:

"The real reasons for the situation we now find ourselves in, can and should be traced back to some of the rather deep-seated maladies in our economy that have been gaining strength and intensity for some years. There has been no clear recognition of its character and gravity, not even perhaps at the highest levels of policy-making, because there has been a tendency to look for tranquilizers and, therefore, to be excessively elated by any evidence or symbol of success without evaluating critically what exactly such successes signify in the wider context and in the longer run."

Therefore, I hope, the tranquilizers do not lure the Finance Minister and the Government into a sense of complacency about various aspects of the economy.

My first point when I come to the Budget proposals themselves is this,

Although I appreciate the fact that the Budget proposals do give spur to an honest tax-payer and also it means an encouragement to people who will earn and who will also be prepared to part with a good part of earning, and give it to the State, there is one thing more also. As Justice Holmes once said, "I pay taxes and buy civilisation." You might say now, "I pay taxes and buy Welfare State" in the modern context. But surely, if the direct taxes level and the wealth tax level have been reduced partly in tune with the Wanchoo Commission's recommendation also, I wonder whether it is not right to criticise the Finance Minister's proposals by saying that he is putting the tax-evaders and the honest tax-payers almost on par because the Voluntary Disclosure Scheme in itself is also a premium to tax-evaders, whereas over a period of the last 5 to 10 or 15 years, the people who have been paying taxes honestly including some people who earn through business and trade, the honest tax-payers, are not given any relief in our Yearly Budget proposals. So, I would beg of the Finance Minister and his colleagues to look into this question as to whether we cannot have a pattern of taxation wherein although there is some pinch to pay a tax—there is bound to be a pinch—the people will feel happy that they are taxed upto a particular limit and whatever is taxed has gone for the nation's health and strength and that the tax-evaders are rightly and in time punished. If this does not happen, then, I am afraid, merely giving relief will not have the matters solved.

In other words, it is really significant to say that the ideology and dogma should be truly kept miles away by the Finance Minister and that the pragmatic and practical approach should be his main concern. This is not to say that proper goals should not be set. Of course, the goal of social justice and the effort to go in the direction of an egalitarian society must always be there. In

fact, the whole fiscal policy and the budgetary policy must be in tune with the goal of social justice, going towards an egalitarian society. But if one goes by merely an ideology and a dogma, then it becomes a Budget full of ideological overtures without practical and pragmatic considerations. It is from that angle that I feel that the Finance Minister has done a good job this time by minimising the dogma and political ideology and maximising the practical and pragmatic approaches which are very necessary for any fiscal and financial matters.

The Finance Minister has mentioned in his Budget speech the 20-point programme. I do not know whether it is a 20-point or a 21-point programme. I suppose, it is 20-point programme. Everywhere, one sees the advertisement. Now, obviously, all the 20-points are not of equal significance and importance. Some of them are of a very temporary character or of a passing character and some of them are of a basic character. I want to ask the Government, not only the Finance Minister but the Government in general, whether it is the absence of legislation or absence of fiscal measures that came in the way or the absence of political will, the absence of will on the part of all of us, not only of Government but all the legislators, not only of the Federal Parliament but even of the State Legislatures. I will give one example. Year after year, I find, no Finance Minister ventures to tax agricultural wealth and income. Way back, in 1972, under the Chairmanship of the very same Dr. K. N. Raj, the distinguished economist, whom I have referred to in the earlier part of my speech, there was a Committee on taxation of agricultural wealth and income, and the report was presented by the Committee within a record time of less than seven or eight months in the same year, because, it was said that the report must be ready for discussion by the National Development Council. But, to my knowledge, that report was never dis-

cussed by the National Development Council, and as it happens with many such important and good reports, it has been shelved in the archives of the Secretariat of the Government of India. I am not saying that you must go all the way and implement what all Dr. Raj has suggested. But why not explore the field of agricultural taxation?

With regard to the other proposals, I do not want to say much except that a general impression has been created that Mr. Subramaniam has given relief to very rich, rich and higher middle class people, but the poor and the lower middle class people are left out. I do not think that criticism will be valid until we wait for some months and see what happens. But, certainly, some of the aspects of his proposals do give an impression that he has more concern for the economically higher strata of the community than for the ordinary people. I do not know why he should have given reduction in excise duty in the case of television sets and refrigerators. It is true that they have become almost a requirement in the higher middle class homes, especially in urban areas, but surely they could have been kept out of his gamut.

Lastly, in the remaining few minutes at my disposal, I would like to come to two things, i.e., about the happenings and finances in Gujarat. After the Pondicherry, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu Budgets have been passed, the turn of Gujarat is coming next week. I regret I shall not be able to participate in that debate, because I shall be out of Delhi. I would like to tell the House and also you, Sir, that, although President's rule is not a novelty—it is there in many parts of our country—the way it has been brought about and the way a fluid situation has remained in Gujarat—I am not speaking in terms of this party or that party . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: You may speak on that when it comes up for discussion.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I would not be able to speak next week. That is why, I sought your permission. The Gujarat Budget will come up next week; before 31st March, we have to pass it here; but I would not be here to speak on that. My point is that the people of Gujarat, as indeed the people in all other parts of India, want a stable Ministry, whichever party may form it; they want elimination of defections—the disease of defections. There is a Select Committee on that subject; I suppose, you are a Member of that, Mr. Chairman; I am also a Member of that. The Committee goes on for ever! I want to know whether it is right, in 1976, to go about having the fall of a Government and having emergence of a new Government by encouraging and engineering defections this way or that way; and, this was done by persons who were expelled by the Congress Party themselves; not very late, only in 1974, after the Navnirman Movement, the Congress Party expelled somebody and they took his help to have the fall of the Front Ministry . . .

SHRI NATWARLAL PATEL (Mehsana): The Morcha Government was formed with the support and help of those about whom you are talking.

SHRI P. G. MAVALANKAR: I am not entering into politics. My hon. friend, Mr. Patel, may rebut all my arguments. But my point does not refer to Gujarat as such. I am talking of the legislation on defection. It is a most urgent one. Why do you go for defections all the time? Do you want everybody to join the Congress in order that he be a patriot? Is that the idea of democracy? Surely, not. The Prime Minister herself says that dissent must have a place in our society.

Now that Gujarat has got to have the budget passed by Parliament here, may I make one request to the Finance Minister. Let him actively and

urgently consider the question of royalty on oil which has been there for a long time. I hope, Gujarat will get some justice; it is already delayed. The amount of royalty that we get on oil is ridiculously low and the income that the Central Government gets on it is so enormously high that there is a disproportion between the two.

I would also like the Minister to have a look into the question of setting up an Atomic Power Station in Saurashtra, Gujarat and the establishment of Hajira Shipyard near Surat.

Having said that, I will end by saying that on our national scene today, the emergency, censorship of the press, the absence of dissent etc. are aspects of the situation, wherein the truth is not often gauged even by Government or by Parliament. If we do not know the other side, how are we to know, what the criticism is? But I do not want to end my speech today with that kind of a note. Today being March 18, it could have been the last day of our present Lok Sabha; it has been extended by one year, and that is why, we are here. Therefore, I will only end with a fervent hope and appeal that we shall all go sensibly and speedily in the direction of social justice and a democratic and an open society.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA (Eluru): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am very happy to say that the presentation of the budget for 1976-77 might well become significant for the integrated rural development. As long as our rural economy is not strengthened, and as long as over a hundred million able-bodied persons in the villages are either under-employed or unemployed for the best part of the year, they will constitute a drag on the rural economy and a burden on the nation's production. Though everybody is sympathetic and they want the first preference to be given to rural development, in practice, it does not seem to be that. Sir, we are

planning for land reforms without any proper consideration for their needs, like banking facilities, proper distribution of things like fertilizers etc.

Shri Gopalan mentioned today that this Government has not taken any action effectively regarding land reforms. I would like to give certain figures in this respect. In Andhra Pradesh, area declared surplus was 79,000 acres; area distributed: 1100 acres and area taken possession of: 2,800 acres. The reason for this was that the judicial intervention, particularly in exercise of the writ jurisdiction of the High Courts has led to the grant of ad-interim injunction against implementation of the ceiling laws in many cases. This is the reason. Otherwise, much interest has been taken in this respect by the Government.

The other day I raised the question in the consultative Committee with regard to the recent abnormal fall in prices of agricultural products and what steps have been taken by the Government to stabilise prices in the interest of producers. They have not given any specific plan, how to stabilise the abnormal fall in prices, particularly in the rice-producing areas. So also is the case in respect of potatoes in U.P., wheat in Haryana and Punjab as also in Bihar.

The recent fall in prices thus represents, to an extent, the process of normalization of the price situation. It may be pointed out that despite the recent fall, prices of fair average quality of foodgrains are ruling generally above the level of procurement prices fixed by the Government. Mr. Chairman, Sir, my State is supplying foodgrains to your State Kerala; and you also develop your agriculture and you may need only 25 per cent. The Andhra Government as offered the farmer a procurement price of Rs. 72 per quintal for paddy. But nobody is purchasing. Even the Food Corporation is taking from the millers directly but they have not been able to pay to the millers and foodgrains

lie stored in the godowns and 20 per cent of our godowns are not foolproof. If you only plug these loopholes and utilise full capacity of our godowns, there will be no necessity to import foodgrains from abroad. In this Budget also they have provided for Agriculture and Allied Services. Last budget it was Rs. 427.30 crores—Rs. 363.45 crores (Revised) and in this budget it is Rs. 447.77 crores. This includes food subsidy also. In the last budget it was Rs. 295 crores, Rs. 250 crores revised budget and it is Rs. 300 crores in the budget of 1976-77. Now, the entire revenue disbursements go to food subsidy. So, instead of giving subsidy for foodgrains imported from other countries, I want to request that the government, in order to encourage our farmer, by giving other facilities, should also subsidise the inputs.

Now, coming to our expenses side so that realistic prices can be fixed for paddy as also for sugar cane, I want to give you some figures. There are also figures supplied by the Ministry of Agriculture the other day. I want to give our experience. Preparation of field—Rs. 150 per one crop. Cost of seeds—Rs. 50. Fertilisers—Rs. 250. Watering—Rs. 50. Weeding charges—Rs. 50. Cutting (harvesting) charges—Rs. 100. Transport charges—Rs. 50. Land tax—Rs. 50. That means our expenses per acre is Rs. 750 on an average. Now, what are we getting in return? The Government procurement price is Rs. 74 per quintal and the average production per acre is 12 quintals of paddy. So, the income is Rs. 928 but the expenses is Rs. 750 and so the net income is Rs. 178 per acre. Now, what is the cost of acre of land in Andhra? It is Rs. 3000—4000 in areas other than the delta area, in some delta areas it is Rs. 25000—30000 per acre. For industries they at least calculate a return of 12 per cent on the capital employed but in agriculture there is nothing. In our area one sugar factory started some-time ago but they have given bonus shares 5 times their capital. If you

[Shri K. Suryanarayana]

treat agriculture also in the same way and fix the price, we will be very happy and we will produce all the food that is required in the country. There will not be any rural unemployment. Instead of all these things, they are always giving, as our friend said, concessions for refrigerators, cars and things like that. In my opinion, the problem facing our country is the food problem. Cars and refrigerators and other luxuries are not a problem of our country. The problem is to increase food production and for that what steps are to be taken by the government. I am very happy at least this time our Minister is conscious of that and we have now a strategy for integrated rural development. We realise that agriculture will continue to provide the prime sustenance to our rural population for years to come. That is what he said. But what steps is he taking for development of agro-industries? Some years back, at Bhubaneswar Congress Session we passed resolution to nationalise rice mills in the country. We have not taken steps in that regard. What is the difficulty? All the rice mills are old except a few. There is no necessity to give any compensation to all. Compensation may be given only to new mills. The same thing may be done in the case of sugar factories. Our party and our Government are committed to nationalise sugar factories. Sugar cane price has been calculated, levy price has been calculated. The sugar factories have been manipulating and they have been misleading the Government. Panjab.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You will have to close before the house adjourns to-day.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: I have not completed even half of my speech.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You must finish it.

SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA: I want to lay emphasis on the development of the rural industries.

Sugar industry and rice industry are in the hands of the Government. Jute industry may also be nationalised and may be given to the rural sector.

You have provided Rs. 200 million to the handloom industries at the rate of one rupee per square metre. You are asking that orders for dhoties and saris may be given only to the handloom industry. We are very happy that you are giving subsidy to the handloom industry. Likewise, instead of giving all the trouble to the farmers of sugar cane and paddy. You may consider giving some subsidy to paddy growers and sugar cane growers also. You are earning a lot of foreign exchange on sugar exports. This year and last year because of sugar you earned foreign exchange worth lakhs and crores of rupees. But what is the return that you are giving to them? Sugar cane growers and factory owners are not happy. They are losing heavily. In U.P. and Bihar, we are told, the sugar factory owners have not paid levy price. Sugar cane growers requested the State Governments to help them to get the price of cane from the mill owners in time. The State Government say that they have no powers. They advised the cane growers to go to the court of law. Cane growers are poor people. They cannot afford it. The cost of cultivation of paddy per hectare in Andhra Pradesh in 1971-72 for A. 1 was Rs. 821.84. They are now getting net income of Rs. 270. The net income per hectare for A.1 in 1971-72 was Rs. 924.61 for A2, it was Rs. 849.37. I do not want to give all the figures. I want to request the Government to take a realistic step to safeguard the interest of the rural economy.

Government has got the policy to purchase land and give house sites to the rural people. The State Govern-

ment have purchased land in my District for house sites. They have spent Rs. 70 lakhs to purchase 1000 acres in my district, West Godavari. I want to bring my problem to the notice of the Finance Minister so that he could kindly bring it to the notice of the Defence Minister. There is a dis-banded aerodrome of Ministry of Defence at Tadepallegudem. For the last 20 years nearly 600 people have been living there. Shri Shastri has also got that information. Their party has also been agitating in this regard. Police had gone there to demolish the hutments of these 600 people. On 4th, Military officers, MEO have gone there. Knowing all this, I sent a telegram to the Collector not to assist them in demolition and removal of those 600 people. Please advise MEO not to remove the hutments. The aerodrome is a dis-banded one. It was constructed during the Second World War. On the one hand we are purchasing and giving house sites but on the other hand you are asking the man staying in government land to go away. They should not be removed. In this way when the Government lands are being occupied by them for the last 25 years they have been paying the municipal taxes and so on. Therefore Sir, it is a burning issue. Unless this sort of thing is stopped now, unless proper steps are taken all these 600 families or 500 or six thousand people will be ruined. This situation must be remedied.

18 hrs

MR CHAIRMAN Shri Lakkappa wants me to place a request before the House. He will be out of Delhi tomorrow and he wants to make a submission. If the House accommodates him, I will give him five minutes. He must be brief.

AN HON MEMBER He may be permitted.

MR. CHAIRMAN Shri Lakkappa

SHRI K LAKKAPPA (Tumkur) Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset I want to thank you for having extend-

ed the time and for allowing me to say these few words.

Our country has recovered from the great shock of inflation, indiscipline and rising prices. This is due to the astute leadership of this country by the Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi.

Now I must congratulate the Finance Minister because he has made an honest attempt to improve the situation and for implementing the 20-point economic programme. I would not say that all attempts have been made, but I would say, honest attempt has been made in these given circumstances. He has also made a definite strategy for rural economic growth. This is most important. I am speaking for the dumb mutilated, millions of our people. Of course, the other side has given certain statistics and indulged in certain jugglery of figures with which we are confronted. I am not concerned with those figures. It is a reality that the economy of this country has been built on the basis of the political philosophy that has been enunciated by the Prime Minister. That also has been reflected in the Budget. That is why I must congratulate the Finance Minister.

There are certain concessions which have been given and these are only to the upper middle-class people. Whatever concessions we give, one thing has to be remembered. The greatest asset of this country is the manpower we have. 80 per cent of our people live in the rural area. They are expressing the will of the people as a whole and they are bearing most of the burden. I would like to know as to what are the efforts which have been made in order to help those people who have no means of sustenance in this country. Because, even the concessions which have been announced to the upper middle classes, will not be helpful to the dumb millions of our people and the

[Shri K. Lakkappa]

poor farmers. The incentives that we have announced especially to the farmers are really shocking. Take the Rs. 100 concession on urea. We have to remember that the rural economy has to be built on sound lines. We know about certain coercive steps which are being taken in various States. This Budget is also reflected in the case of the taxation measures made by the various States because we are in a federal structure. That also is amply reflected. The heavily-taxed people are the poor farmers in the various States. If there is no incentive to the farmer, how can rural economy pick up, how can the condition of 80 per cent of the have-nots improve? I hope that the Finance Minister will reply on this aspect.

After the 20-point programme was launched, we wanted to see that the banking system and its administration improved in this country.

We should see how far after nationalisation of the banks, they are helping the poor farmers in the rural areas. I do not think that even what is called 'Rural Banks' that we are thinking of opening or operating in various parts of the country have been opened as yet.

Even the officers of the nationalised banks are in a mood to help the poor farmers but when the farmers go to the banks for any loan, I do not think they are really helped at all. I would here like to make a reference about one of the nationalised banks in my own state namely the Mysore State Bank which is a lead bank. That lead bank has not even come to the help of these poor farmers. Nothing has been done to them; no loans have been sanctioned to them. In fact these poor farmers are put to all

sorts of hardships. Besides, even the infrastructure in regard to the supply of inputs and fertilisers to these farmers has not been developed as we have envisaged.

It has been made clear that there will be an integrated rural development. At the same time, our intentions also have got to be made clear that the same should be implemented. That has not been done.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You should now wind up.

SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: I would like to tell this House that when I speak here I am speaking here on behalf of 80 per cent of the people who belong to the agricultural community. Their lots and their economic conditions should be improved. Whatever strategy may be adopted by you in regard to the amelioration of these people such as supply of inputs of fertilisers, etc, should be implemented faithfully. These people should be got relieved of their difficulties. It is the opinion of the entire House which we are reflecting on behalf of the poor farmers and their economic conditions should be improved. And whatever you want to do for them should be done realistically. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for having acceded to my request by extending the time and thereby giving me this opportunity to speak.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House stands adjourned to meet again at 11 A.M. tomorrow.

18.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, March 19, 1976/Phalgun 29 1897 (Saka).