

Fifth Series, Vol.VIII, No. 9

Thursday, November 25, 1971
Agrahanaya 4, 1893 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Third Session)



(Vol. VIII contains Nos. 1 to 10)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

Price : Rs. 4 00

C O N T E N T S

No. 9—Thursday, November 25, 1971/4grahayana 4, 1893 (Saka)

C O L U M N

Oral Answers to Questions—

*Starred Questions Nos.	241, 242, 244, 245, 2 ⁰ , 251, 253, 256, 258, 2 ⁵ and 269.
	. . . . . 1—28

Written Answers to Questions—

Starred Questions Nos.	243, 246 to 249, 252, 254, 255, 257, 260 to 268 and 270.
	. . . . . 28—38
Unstarred Questions Nos.	1594 to 1625, 1627 to 1629, 1631, 1633 to 1646, 1648 to 1673 and 1675 to 1729.
	. . . . . 39—125
<i>Re: Alleged Attack on Calcutta University Premises</i>	. . . . . 125—26
<i>Papers Laid on the Table</i>	. . . . . 126—27
<i>Messages from Rajya Sabha</i>	. . . . . 127—28
<i>Statement re. condition of Bangla Desh Refugees in Camps in Meghalaya</i>	. . . . . 128—30
Shri R. K. Khadikar	. . . . . 128—30
<i>Diplomatic Relations (Vienna Convention) Bill—Introduced</i>	. . . . . 130
<i>Statutory Resolution re Railway Passenger Fares Ordinance and Railway Passenger Fares Bill</i>	. . . . . 130—67
Shri Sarjoo Pandey	. . . . . 131—38
Shri C. Chittibabu	. . . . . 139—43
Shri P. Venkatasubbaiah	. . . . . 143—46
Shri Dhan Shah Pradhan	. . . . . 146—47
Prof S. L. Saksena	. . . . . 147—49
Shri Ramkanwar	. . . . . 149—50
Shri Biswanarayan Shastri	. . . . . 150—51
Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi	. . . . . 153—63
<i>Motion to Consider the Bill—adopted</i>	. . . . . 163—67
<i>Clauses 2 to 8 and 1</i>	. . . . . 163—67
<i>Motion to Pass</i>	. . . . . 164
<i>Statutory Resolution re. Tax on Postal Articles Ordinance and Tax on Postal Articles Bill</i>	. . . . . 167—97
Dr. Laxminarain Pandeya	. . . . . 167—73

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

	COLUMNS
Shri K. R. Ganesh	173—175, 192—93
Shri T. S. Lakshmanan	... 175—77
Shri S. N. Misra	... 177
Shri Ramavtar Shastri	... 177—82
Shri Ramkanwar	... 182—84
Shri Ram Deo Singh	... 184—85
Prof. S. L. Saksena	... 188
Motion to consider the Bill— <i>adopted</i>	... 194—97
Clauses 2 to 6 and 1	... 194—97
Motion to Pass	... 194
Statutory Resolution <i>Re.</i> Inland Air Travel Tax Ordinance and Inland Air Travel Tax Bill	... 197—212
Shri P. K. Deo	... 197—99
Shri K. R. Ganesh	... 199—200
Shri M. K. Krishnan	... 201—02
Shri S. N. Misra	... 202—04
Dr. Ranen Sen	... 204—06
Shri C. Chittibabu	... 207—08
Motion to consider the Bill— <i>adopted</i>	... 212
Clauses 2 to 9 and 1	... 212
Motion to Pass	... 212
Statutory Resolution <i>Re.</i> Stamp and Excise Duties (Amendment) Ordinance and Stamp and Excise Duties (Amendment) Bill	... 213—46
Motion to consider	... 217
Shri Jagannathrao Joshi	... 213—18
Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi	... 218—21
Shri C. Chittibabu	... 222—25
Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu	... 225—31
Shri Bhogendra Jha	... 231—36
Prof. S. L. Saksena	... 236—38
Shri Indrajit Gupta	... 238—42

LOK SABHA DEBATES

1

LOK SABHA

Thursday, November 25, 1971/Agrahavama 4,
1893 (Saka)

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of
the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Statutory provision for Minimum Bonus

1

*241 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA :
SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA :
SHRI DINSHO JOARDER :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the steps contemplated by Government to meet the unanimous demand of all Trade Union Organisations for statutory provision of a minimum Bonus of 8.33 per cent ; and

(b) whether the only obstacle to new legislation for this purpose is the opposition of the employers ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA). (a) and (b). The matter was discussed by the Indian Labour Conference recently and it was felt that the bonus scheme embodied in the Act should be reviewed by a Committee which could be bipartite or tripartite. Details are yet to be worked out.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I would like to have a more specific reply to part (b) of my Question. I asked a specific question in part (b). What is the reply to that ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND

2

REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : part (b) of the Question is :

"whether the only obstacle to new legislation for this purpose is the opposition of the employers ?"

That is not correct. Before the Indian Labour Conference, I had made a commitment in the Rajya Sabha, when this matter was raised by Shri Chittu Bisu, that we are going to review the entire scheme of bonus. So, in that light, this Committee is to be set up.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : I would like to know whether it is not a fact that all the central trade unions without exceptions, while agreeing finally to the idea of a Committee, have emphasized that it should not be a tripartite Committee but a bipartite Committee so that they would try to get some sort of an agreement between the employers and the employees representatives and that would be more fruitful. I want to know from him whether the Committee which they propose to set up will be a bipartite one as demanded by the trade unions or they will insist on bringing a third-party representative in the Committee which the trade unions do not want.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : It is true in the Indian Labour Conference, the trade unions were insisting that it should be a bipartite Committee. But when, after the Conference was over, the record was kept, in consultation with all the parties, the central trade unions agreed, either bipartite or tripartite Committee.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : In case this is going to be another sort of Second Bonus Commission, will the hon. Minister tell us whether he would like to run the risk of having a repetition of what happened in the earlier Bonus Commission namely, if you are going to have a pattern of majority and minority recommendation and then some legislation is brought on the basis of minority recommendation, as was done

last time, it leads to endless troubles ? Will it not be better to have a bipartite Committee which will pave the way for an agreement on bonus and that will be smoothly implemented rather than having a majority and minority recommendation ?

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : It includes Mr. Dandekar.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I don't at this present juncture visualise that past experience or past performance will be repeated on this occasion . . .

SHRI JNDRAJIT GUPTA : . . . because employers and employees are both in equal number and in addition to that, the management representation includes a representative from the public sector undertakings.

SHRI JNDRAJIT GUPTA : That is the case also last time

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : This is a fact. Therefore, I don't think these apprehensions are justified.

SHRI JNDRAJIT GUPTA : Last time, the same type of commission was there, but, on the dissenting note of one member, Mr. Dandekar, who used to be our colleague here, you remember, on the basis alone of this dissenting note, the Government brought legislation here and not on the basis of the majority recommendation. The same danger is there again unless you have a bipartite agreement.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Last time, ultimately, the Government came forward with an ordinance. Therefore, even though there was a minute of dissent by one member, still the Government acted on the basis of that report.

श्री हुक्मचन्द्र काल्याय : जो मिले या उद्योग सरकार ने अपने हाथ में ले लिए हैं उनमें तो इसको लागू करने में कार्य वाधा नहीं होने चाहिए, बोनस देने में कोई वाधा नहीं होनी चाहिये । वहां बोनस देने की क्या आप तत्काल व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं ? जो मिले आपने अपने हाथ में ले ली हैं, वहां भी लोगों को बोनस नहीं मिलता है । क्या आप इसकी व्यवस्था करने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : The concerns that were taken over by the Government are relief concerns, with a view to provide employment. Even there, we have said that they should give them 4% *ex gratia* because the question of bonus will have to be taken in the context of productivity, profits and so many things. So, I cannot say that all these things will apply to such concerns which, naturally, are being run on the basis of relief as relief concerns.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether he is aware and whether representations have been made to him that his recommendation called, Khadilkar formula, has not been implemented in any of the textile mills in U. P. including the 11 textile mills in Kanpur, with the result that the employees there have already taken a decision for a general strike starting in December. Since the matter has been referred to him and the Minister of Foreign Trade, I would like to know from him what positive steps have been taken since the employers' association has agreed to implement the Khadilkar formula but they have now gone back. What positive action will the Central Government take now since Mr. Khadilkar and the Khadilkar formula are both central matters ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I have addressed a communication to the Labour Minister of Uttar Pradesh to see that this formula is implemented and he has also assured me that he will use his good offices.

I know what happened in Kanpur and with the hon. Member's standing with the labour, I would very much like him to use good offices to persuade the labour because the employers have agreed to implement.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : They have not. Not the Swadeshi Cotton Mills.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : Not individual mills. I would request the hon. Member to use his good offices to see that it becomes a fact.

MR. SPEAKER : He has good offices, yes.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Will the

hon. Minister tell us what is coming in his way for announcing the committee to examine the whole bonus scheme ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : We have to finalise the personnel with the Chairman and finalise the terms of reference. All these things are being done and soon we will take a decision.

Common Welfare Fund for mine workers

*42. **SHRI NIHAR LASKAR :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to set up a common Welfare Fund for the workers of mining industries ; and

(b) if so, the way of levy and collection of cess needed for the proposed welfare fund ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA):

(a) Proposal for setting up of a Common Welfare Fund, which will cover workers employed in certain mining industries, is under consideration.

(b) The details of the proposal, including the manner of levy and collection of cess, are being worked out.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : It is welcome thing that Government has in principle accepted the proposal. But why have they not covered other sections of the employees, but have covered only a few sections ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : There are certain mining industries like coal, mica, iron ore where this reserve fund exists. There are certain others like dolomite, limestone ; we are processing these things and we will have them there. There are some mining industries left out and for them we are finalising this.

SHRI NIHAR LASKAR : How soon are they likely to finalise ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : We have addressed the State Governments concerned and the ministries of the Centre and also the Union Territories in the matter. We have not received them comments so far.

Immediately we received them, we will finalise this.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : That this fund is going to be created is a welcome step. How much area of welfare is going to be covered ? What are the salient points ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : These include housing facilities, water facilities and such other amenities which are needed by the workers most.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मुझे यह जानना है कि अभी कोर्किंग कोल की 214 खानों को आपने अपने हाथ में लिया और वहां के मजदूरों को जब तक वे प्राइवेट हाथों थे, ये सहलियतें नहीं मिलती थीं तो उनके लिए कोई इस तरह के बेलफेयर फ़ंड की व्यवस्था कर रहे हैं ताकि उनके लिये भी आंग बढ़ने का रास्ता मिले और उनकी दिक्कतें दूर हों ?

श्री बालगोविन्द वर्मा : माननीय सदस्य ने जो अपना अप्रिहेशन प्रकट किया है, मैं बताना चाहता हूँ कि यह कोर्किंग कोल, कोल माइन्स के अन्तर्गत आता है और यह तमाम सुविधायें जो मिल रही हैं कोल माइन्स को बेलफेयर फ़ंड में वह उनको भी मिलेगी ।

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : अब तक नहीं मिल रही थीं ।

श्री बालगोविन्द वर्मा : मिल रही थीं, आपको भ्रम है ।

U. S. Arms from Vietnam Diverted to Pakistan

1

*244. **SHRI N. K. SANGHI : SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI :**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Embassy in Washington has formally drawn the attention of the Government of U.S.A. to a news that U.S. are being diverted from Vietnam to Pakistan ; and

(b) if so, whether any reply has been received from U.S. Government in this regard and if so, the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The U.S. Government has told us that they have checked these reports appearing in the Press, and there is no evidence at all that any demilitarised or surplus equipment under U.S. control has been transferred from Vietnam to Pakistan.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : Sir, the matter is very serious and there is a big credibility gap between what America says and what they do. From the statement read out by the hon. Minister it is seen that Americans have not categorically denied this, but they have said that there is no evidence regarding supply of arms from Vietnam to Pakistan. May I know from the Minister whether he has taken any step to find out if arms are not being supplied to Pakistan from Vietnam through third countries ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : This relates to supply from Vietnam. We have not got any other evidence to indicate definitely that any surplus military equipment is being passed on to Pakistan from Vietnam.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : It is a fact that American troops are withdrawing from Vietnam in large numbers and they have large arms and ammunitions there.

MR. SPEAKER : Why do you raise such hypothetical questions ? I am not going to allow it.

SHRI N. K. SANGHI : I want to know whether he has made any enquiry from the Indian consulate in Vietnam as to how the disposal of American arms from Vietnam is being planned.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : We have made inquiries ; there was some suspicion that we received, but when we got it verified, we could not get a confirmation for that suspicion.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : The hon. Minister had promised in this very

House that Government were trying to get a satisfactory reply from the U.S. Government so far as the diversion of armaments from Viet Nam to Pakistan and their supply through third parties were concerned. When the hon. Prime Minister had gone to the U.S.A., the U.S. Government had categorically said that no armaments would ever go to Pakistan. That was a welcome gesture that they had said so. But may I know whether the hon. Minister is satisfied with the reply of the U.S. Government so far as the diversion of armaments from Viet Nam to Pakistan was concerned ? Is that reply satisfactory to our Government ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I have given the factual information. I am not expected to give my satisfaction or non-satisfaction. My satisfaction is of the same order as that of the other hon. Members.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : The House must have been intrigued by the reference to the U.S. Government only telling us that they find no evidence in regard to this matter. The House has a right to find from the hon. Minister his ascertainment of what exactly the U.S. Government have in mind, in view of their past record of continued prevarication, when they made this kind of very ambiguous statement ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I have already said that we could not get any independent confirmation of the actual transfer of US-origin arms from Viet Nam to Pakistan.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : Does that mean that we accept the fact of the U.S. Government repudiating something in this kind of ambiguous manner which in view of their past record is something most reprehensible ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : It is for us to assess their denial. But if the denial is there, it is my duty to inform the House that the U.S. Government have denied that they have supplied any arms from Viet Nam source to Pakistan.

SHRI N. K. P. SALVE : The hon. Minister has replied like the Oracle of Delphi. We do not know whether the arms are being smuggled to Pakistan via

Viet Nam or not. May I know specifically whether or not there is any evidence in the course of the inquiry which came to their notice, to the effect that Viet Nam arms were being smuggled to Pakistan ? Was there any evidence whatsoever ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : I have already said that there is no evidence to that effect.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : Are Government aware that there is a deeprooted conspiracy to Vietnamese the Bangla Desh liberation struggle ? Are Government aware that some top American advisers in South Viet Nam are now in Pakistan advising the Pakistan military junta to adopt the same tactics in Bangla Desh as had been adopted in Viet Nam.

MR. SPEAKER : He cannot put everything into this question. That does not arise out of the main question which relates only to arms.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA : Whether it is arms or advisers it is the same thing. When the advisers are there first, the arms are bound to follow. Are Government aware that efforts are being made to adopt the same tactics as in...

MR. SPLAKFR : I am very sorry. I cannot allow this question. After all, there should be some relevance to the main question.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : In view of the statement that the U. S. arms have not been transferred from Viet Nam to Pakistan, may I know whether the U.S. arms are transferred from Viet Nam to some other countries first and then to Pakistan ? Is the hon. Minister aware of that fact ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : No, Sir.

SHRI PRABODH CHANDRA : Apart from finding out from the U.S. Government, have Government made any other effort to find out the real truth about this ?

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : Yes, we have, and I have given the result of that.

Application of Mines Act to Stone Quarries

*245. SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to bring the stone quarries within the purview of the Mines Act and the rules made thereunder ;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ; and

(c) whether Government are considering to establish a Labour Welfare Fund for the stone quarries ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA) :

(a) and (b). Stone quarries already come within the purview of the Mines Act and the Rules and Regulations made thereunder. However, some provisions of the Act do not apply to small mines engaged in extraction of building stone, etc.

(c) Yes.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Will the Minister say whether the provision concerning the appropriate Government, Central or State, has been made a plicable to the quarries and mines under the Act ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : The matter was discussed with the appropriate Governments in the Indian Labour Conference. No discussions were arrived at. We are considering this matter and we will take the appropriate decision at the appropriate time.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : Regarding the Labour Welfare Fund, is there any proposal for a separate Labour Welfare Fund or is there any fund which exists for the mine workers ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA : There will be a separate mines labour welfare fund separate from these for iron ore, mica and coal mines.

SHRI RAJA KULKARNI : मन्त्री महोदय ने अभी कहा है कि छोटी खानो पर यह कानून लागू नहीं होता है । लेकिन कुछ लोग छोटी-छोटी प्राइवेट खाने इसलिये चाहते हैं कि उन

पर यह कानून लागू न किया जाये और सरकार के नियमों के अनुसार वहां के बवंगों को लाभ न मिले। एक ही परिवार के विभिन्न सदर्य अलग-अलग छोटी-छोटी खानों का ठेका लेते हैं, ताकि वहां के मजदूरों द्वारा इस कानून का लाभ न प्राप्त हो। क्या सरकार इस सवाल में कोई विशेष कदम उठाना चाहती है, जिससे उन खानों में काम करने वाले मजदूरों को इस कानून से लाभ हो ?

भार्यक महोदय स्प्लीमेटर का सवाल में
कुछ तो ताल्लुक होना चाहिए।

धो बालगोत्तिवन्द वर्षा जहां तक छोटी खानों का सम्बन्ध है, वर राज्य सरकारों के अन्तर्गत आती है और वही उनकी व्यवस्था करती है।

SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAI
NULI Is there any proposal to establish such a welfare fund for workers in quarries of limestone, rock phosphate etc in the UP Hills, rock phosphate in Almora district and Limestone in Mussoorie hills ?

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA So far as limestone and dolomite is concerned, we are processing it and very soon we will come forward with legislation for a welfare fund. For the rest, we are grouping them together.

SHRI PARIPOORNANAND PAI
NULI Rock phosphate and magnasite

SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA We are examining the details and thereafter we shall bring legislation for this welfare fund.

Setting up of Common Agency of Main Steel Producers

+

*250 **SHRI P. M. MEHTA**
SHRI P. GANGADEB .

Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether at the instance of the

Ministry a common agency of the three main steel producers has been set up ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) (a) Yes, Sir It is presumed that the reference is to the committee set up to deal with house-building requirements in Delhi

(b) The quantity of steel material earmarked for house-building purposes and received in the three stockyards of the main producers in Delhi will be pooled together and distributed by a common agency named Main Steel Producers' Committee located at the New Delhi Office of Hindustan Steel Limited. An applicant may apply to any one of the main producers in Delhi in the prescribed application form furnishing necessary particulars/documents asked for therein. The applications which are received at the three sales offices will be considered in a co-ordinated manner by the Committee for allocation of material from any of the Producer's Stockyards

SHRI P. M. MEHTA May I know from the Minister what are basic reasons for setting up this common distribution agency, and may I also know whether the present overall distribution system has been found beyond improvement ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM The position was that the person who wanted any steel less than a wagon-load should apply directly to the stockyards of the three producers, but we found that there was a certain imbalance in distribution and the fairest method was to pool all that is available for house-building purposes and see that a committee of the three producers, sit together and the distribution is done on that basis. We feel that it would be more equitable

SHRI P. M. MEHTA I would like to know whether the setting up of the common agency will affect the price of iron and steel items for house-building purposes, and whether this agency will confine its working only to Delhi or will extend it to other parts of the country also

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM . So far as the prices are concerned,

it will not change the position in anyway. So far as extending the same system to other parts of India is concerned, we want to see how this functions; if we find that it functions effectively and is useful from the point of view of the consumer and the house-builder, then we will extend it to other parts of the country.

SHRI P. GANGADEB : I would like to know, in order to avoid red-tapism and in-ordinate delays in the routine administration, what step the Government are taking to decentralise this administration to secure greater efficiency when these stock-yards have been pooled together.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : One reason why we have set up this committee of three producers is to try speed up the disposal of applications. The procedure is that the committee of the three producers will meet every week and dispose of applications that have been received within the preceding fortnight and as a result of that, we hope that we will be able at least to dispose of the applications quickly.

श्री दी० पी० गोयं : क्या मन्त्री महोदय की जानकारी में यह बात आठ है कि मकान बनाने के लिये नक्शे के साथ द्रूप्रिण्ठ और रेकग्नाइड आर्किटेक्ट का सार्टिपिकेट होने हुए भी सैकड़ों की नांदा द में दरम्बाग्नों को खारिज कर दिया जाता है और खास तौर से एक गिरेह बना हूआ है, जिसने वह स्टील दे दिया जाता है और जो उसको काने वाजार में बेचता है ? क्या यह अप्टाचार का नय तरीका मन्त्री महोदय की जानकारी में आया है ? यदि हाँ, तो इसकी रोक-धार के लिए मन्त्री महोदय क्या कार्यवाही करेंगे ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Allegations of this character has been made and made widely also. Whenever any concrete instances of this character are brought to our notice we do investigate them and try to take remedial measures. If the hon. Member will bring an instances which have come to his notice, then certainly we will take whatever steps are available to us,

श्री दी० सोहन लाल : मन्त्री महोदय ने अभी कहा है कि इस मंयुक्त समिति की बैठक हप्ते में एक बार होती है, मगर मेरी जानकारी में अभी तक उसकी कोई बैठक नहीं हुई है और तीन-तीन महीने पहले के केसिंज अभी तक नहीं निपटाये गए हैं और उनको जान-बूझ कर लेट किया जा रहा है। क्या मन्त्री महोदय इस मामले में कल्प कदम उठाएगे ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : I think the hon. Member has been correctly informed, because the applications for the period from 1-10-1971 to 10-11-1971 have already been disposed of by the committee. Naturally, the number of applications is large, and the amount of steel that is asked for is even larger. There are quite a number of persons who have not been able to get steel which they asked for because of the limited quantity available and that may have given the impression that meetings are not being held.

Expert Committee on Unemployment

*251. SHRI RAMAVATAR SHASTRI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Bhagvat Committee of Unemployment and Under-employment has completed its work ;

(b) if not, how long it will take and the steps being taken to expedite the work ; and

(c) whether any interim report has been submitted ; if so, the recommendations made ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI BALGOVIND VERMA):

(a) No.

(b) It is not possible to state at this stage though the Committee is doing its best to submit the report as early as possible.

(c) No.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : अध्यक्ष महोदय, समस्या इतनी बिकट और जबाब इतना छोटा और असन्तोषजनक । मैं यह जानता चाहता हूँ

कि यह जो विशेषज्ञ समिति है इसको रिपोर्ट देने में कौन भी कठिनाई आ गई है ? क्या सरकार कोई निश्चिन्त ममता निर्वाचित करेगी जिसके अन्दर यह एक्सपर्ट कमेटी अपनी रिपोर्ट दें दें ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : The hon. Member himself has admitted that the Committee has to cover a very vast field. He may remember that the Committee was set up in 1970 December and they had their preliminary difficulties to overcome and then they started functioning in April 1971. Since then they are at it. I may inform the hon. Member that a committee of this nature to get some background information concerning the entire problem will have to get at the various State Governments, trade union leaders, institutions engaged in research in this particular field and that work is being done at the present juncture. It is not possible for me to indicate the time when the report would be available.

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : मन्त्री महोदय ने कहा है कि इसमें समय लगेगा, बहुत मारे सवालों पर विचार हो रहा है। क्या यह सरकार यह ग्रावश्यक नहीं समझती कि जब तक पूरी रिपोर्ट सरकार के पास न आ जाय, कोई इन्टरिम रिपोर्ट सरकार के मामले आये और उसकी बेसिज पर सरकार अम-ग्रामनायेड लोगों को या तो काम दे या बेकारी-भत्ता दे ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As I indicated earlier, it is very difficult to ask the Committee to give an interim report, suggesting some alleviation or lessening of the magnitude of the problem ; it will take a long time to come to conclusions and make some concrete suggestions. At this stage, it is not because the interim report is not forthcoming that we are not considering the question of giving some unemployment relief as he suggests.

श्री राम सहाय नाथ : बेकारी और अर्ध-बेकारी की समस्या कठिन है। कुछ राज्यों ने यह घोषणा की है कि 1972 के पहले ही जो

काम करने योग्य है, उनको काम दे दिया जायगा। क्या केंद्रीय सरकार भी इस पर विचार करेगी कि वह भी कोई ऐसी घोषणा करे कि अमुक समय के अन्तर्गत हम सब को काम देने की स्थिति में होंगे ? यह रिपोर्ट बर्ग-र्ग तो एक बेकार की चीज़ है।

Any commission to enquire into the problem of unemployment is just a face saving device. Is the Central Government prepared to promise all young men some work ? He must commit himself on the floor of the House commission or no commission. (Interruptions)

MR. SPEAKER : The question is about the report of the Bhagvati Committee. (Interruptions) By merely becoming loud, this question will not become relevant.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY : What is the answer to be given to the millions of young people who are starving ? What remedy has he got ?

SHRI N. K. P. SALVI : He has said it is difficult to take action without proper study.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : May I make a submission, being a member of this Committee ?

MR SPEAKER : It is a very specific question, whether the Bhagvati Committee Report is coming or not. That he has already answered.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As you observed correctly, it does not arise out of this Question. Even then, I would like to point out to the hon. Member that Government, keeping in view this growing problem assuming a vast magnitude, have undertaken rural unemployment schemes for which a sum of Rs. 50 crores has been set aside, and they are being worked out.

SHRI H. N. MUKERJEE : In view of the Minister just having told us that Rs. 50 crores have been ear-marked by Government for unemployment relief or whatever you call it, may I know if it has struck

Government to ask this Committee to prepare a scheme which can be dove-tailed into whatever scheme Government is working out in order to utilise this Rs. 50 crores to the best advantage, so that Government has some policy in regard to the utilisation of the services of the Committee and not merely await the long term recommendations which would have hardly any value in so far as the very pressing problem of unemployment in the present day is concerned ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As I said earlier, the experience of this crash programme will be certainly taken into consideration while the Committee frame their proposals. This crash programme is intended to some extent to help the rural unemployed and, as the hon Member knows very well, unemployment in the urban areas is an overflow of the rural unemployment. Keeping that factor in view, Government has taken this step.

MR. SPEAKER : I think we should pass on to the next Question.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : May I say something, being a Member of this Committee ?

MR. SPEAKER : I think you should not speak now. Why did I ask the Minister to make a statement ? It would have been much better for you to make a statement.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I would make a statement with pleasure so that those who are trying to make a political gimmick of the whole thing***

MR. SPEAKER : Do not use such words. Are you using these words on behalf of the Committee ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : No, but as a Member of this House who has been watching the fun.

MR. SPEAKER : These words will be deleted. I think you should be sorry for using them.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Which word ? I have said nothing unparliamentary. The rules are very clear. You say which word is unparliamentary or malicious, and I shall certainly agree that it should be deleted. (Interruption) I said it is a political gimmick of those who are shouting here. Government took 14 months to constitute the Committee, and we are in the midst of an ocean of work.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As a Member of the Committee it is not appropriate for him at this stage to criticise the functioning of the Committee. We have started this on the floor of the House. This will set up a very bad precedent.

SHRI P. HOO MODY : I also want to discuss this Report. Since you have dispensed with the Question Hour, let us discuss this Report. I cannot understand what is going on here.

MR. SPEAKER : We all do not understand what is going on. I am one with you I also do not understand what is going on.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I have not criticised the working of the Committee. I think the Minister has caught hold of the wrong end of the stick.

DR. LAXMINARAIN PANDEYA : Is it a fact that under the crash programme the labour charges have not been paid for the works taken up ?

MR. SPEAKER : The question is not relevant. The main question is about the Expert Committee on Unemployment.

DR. LAXMINARAIN PANDEYA : It is a fact that the labourers...

MR. SPEAKER : He may keep on talking privately about it to the Minister but not through the Chair.

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : This arises out of the reply by the Minister to a supplementary earlier.

***Expunged as ordered by the Chair.

SHRI PILOO MODY : It may not be relevant to the main question. But you allowed a supplementary on that and you allowed the Minister a clarification on that. Thereafter, you allowed a further clarification. Now, after you have allowed those three supplementaries, you do not allow this supplementary saying that it is not relevant.

MR. SPEAKER : If Members do follow my ruling this difficulty would not arise. I said earlier that it is not relevant. Still the Minister got up and replied to the question.

SHRI PILOO MODY : That is the trouble with this House. The Minister is over-eager to reply.

MR. SPEAKER : Even when the Speaker says it is not relevant, the Minister replies ; that lands me also in difficulties.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : As the hon. Minister knows, there is a race between hunger and unemployment going on in this country and, as is quite evident from the reply of the hon. Minister the submission of the report might take some more time. It is a serious problem and, naturally, they have not been able to touch even the fringe of the unemployment problem. As is known to the Minister, the unemployed youth of this country is not going to wait for the submission of the report of the Committee. Whenever a wage board or a Pay Commission is appointed, it submits an interim report. Could this Committee also not submit an interim report, not about unemployment dole but some interim measures that have to be taken, apart from the crash programme ?

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : As the hon. Member knows very well, the terms of reference of the Committee are very clear. It is not possible to submit any interim report about some programme of action. The study of the entire field will take some time and I cannot indicate the time by which they will submit the report.

Production in Rourkela Steel Plant

+

*253. SHRI AMAR NATH CHAWALA ;

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY :

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

- the total loss suffered in production on account of the collapse of the roof of the Steel Melting Shop of Rourkela Steel Plant ;
- the time by which production in the Plant is expected to start ; and
- the steps taken for resumption of full production there ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) The targeted production of ingot steel in Rourkela in the period July-October 1971 was 450,000 tonnes against which the actual production was 104,000 tonnes.

(b) Production of steel in the Plant has been going on continuously except for a period of 5 days in July, 71.

(c) Steps have been taken for reconstruction of the roof of the Steel Melting Shop. This is expected to be completed no later than the middle of December 1971.

श्री अमर नाथ चावला : ग्रन्थकार जी, मंत्री महोदय ने यह बताया कि प्रोडक्शन लगातार चल रहा है सिवाय जुलाई के ३१ दिनों को छोड़कर और जो 4,50,000 टन का टार्गेट श्रोडक्शन था उसमें केवल 104,000 टन का प्रोडक्शन हुआ जिसके माने यह है कि 346,000 टन प्रोडक्शन यहां पर कम हुआ। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से जानना चाहता हूं कि जिस ढंग का लोहा यहां पर तैयार होता है उसमें इन टम्स आफ मनी कितने करोड़ का लाभ हुआ ?

दसरे-मंत्री महोदय ने यह बताया कि 31 दिसम्बर तक इसकी छत कम्पलीट हो जायेगी तो क्या मंत्री महोदय यह अवासन देंगे कि 31 दिसम्बर के बाद इसका फुल प्रोडक्शन शुरू हो जायेगा ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : So far as the slow-down of

production is concerned, the hon. Member will appreciate that the damage to the roof of the shop was very severe, about 10,000 sq. meters out of a total roof area of 38,000 sq. meters. As a result, there was considerable damage on the side of the L.D. converters though the converters themselves, that is, the equipment was not greatly harmed. The production in the shop stopped for five days immediately afterwards and even when we re-started it, two blast furnaces had to be banked and, naturally, the amount of production was substantially reduced.

So far as the question of the financial loss is concerned, our original assessment was somewhere around Rs. 30 crores. We have not made any accurate assessment yet and we shall do so when full production is resumed.

So far as giving assurance that we should come back to full production is concerned, it will naturally take a little time. I hope that towards the end of January or so, we should be able to make it up. But in Rourkela as well as in Bhilai because of the difficulties that we are having in the coke ovens, it may take a little time.

श्री अमरनाथ नावला मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि रुक सीवियरली डैमेज हुई थी और इसको रिपेयर करने में काफी टाइम लगेगा । मंत्री महोदय ने 11 श्रगम्न को आवासन दिया था कि इम तरह डिजास्टर आंगे न हो इसके बारे में रिपोर्ट आंगे पर विचार करेंगे और कदम उठायेंगे । मैं जानना चाहता हूँ क्या वह रिपोर्ट आ गई है और उन्होंने कोई ऐसे कदम उठायें हैं जिसमें भविष्य में ऐसी घटनाएँ न हों और ऐसा नेशनल लास न हो ? मंत्री महोदय ने यह भी कहा था कि जो आदर्शी इसके लिये जिमेवार है उसकी जिमेवारी ठहराई जायेगी तो इस सम्बन्ध में उन्होंने क्या कदम उठाये हैं ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : The report have been received and the recommendations of the report have been accepted by Government and are being implemented.

SHRI P. NARASIMHA REDDY : Will the hon. Minister be pleased to state what is the financial loss in renovating the roof and damaged machinery ? I would like to know whether the collapse has been due to some structural defects or for any other reasons.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : So far as the actual cost of reconstructing the roof is concerned, I cannot give any accurate figure as yet. We estimate that it will be somewhere in the region of about Rs. 1 crore, perhaps a little more or a little less. But I am not in a position to give any accurate figure at the moment.

So far as the reasons for the collapse are concerned, the main reason given in the findings of the Lumba Committee about which I informed the hon. Members when I was asked about it last time was that adequate steps were not taken to keep the roof clean and there was a substantial accumulation of metal dust that comes out of L.D. converters. That put a heavy strain on the roof structure and that brought about the collapse.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : May I know what is the exact nature of difficulty experienced in the case of coke oven plant in Rourkela which has resulted in the loss of production ? How do the Government propose to surmount it.

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMAN-GALAM : So far as the coke oven plants are concerned, in fact, we are finding difficulties not merely in Rourkela and Bhilai but even in the private sector steel plants, Tatas and ISCO .(Interruption) Mr. Piloo Mody is extremely sensitive when I refer to private sector. It seems that private sector is his private property. It is not an attempt to try to throw the blame on anyone; it is a recognition of facts which are important even for the private sector. The difficulty about the coke ovens has been, they are a particularly sensitive area so far as engineering management is concerned. In relation to the Bhilai coke ovens, we had sufficiently investigated and found what was wrong—it was due to undercharging and certain other operational weaknesses. But we thought that itself may not be an adequate explanation. Therefore, a special team has been set up inside HSL to examine what are the weaknesses. We are taking

certain remedial steps immediately and we hope to improve it further after the team has submitted its report.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : We seek your protection. The minister is evading the question. The minister stated that production was being hampered on account of difficulties in the coke ovens in Rourkela. I asked what is the nature of the difficulties and how Government propose to surmount them.

MR. SPEAKER : He wants a little more elucidation of the facts

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM I do not think it is possible to make a statement when I do not have the actual reasons yet in my hands. The matter is under investigation and it would not be proper to make a statement which may not be entirely accurate.

'Pakistan President's Secret talks with India and Bangla Desh through Shah of Iran'

***256. SHRI PILOO MODY :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) whether the attention of Government of India has been drawn to a report in the *Hindustan Times* of the 17th September, 1971 stating that President Yahya Khan had been holding secret peace negotiations with India as well as the representatives of the Bangla Desh under the good offices of the Shah of Iran in Tehran ; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTRNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The report was without any foundation and was contradicted the following day in the "Hindustan Times". In view of Government's stand that the Bangla Desh issue is a matter between the military rulers of West Pakistan and the already elected representatives of the people of East Bengal and not between India and Pakistan, the question of any dialogue or good offices between India and Pakistan on this subject does not arise.

SHRI PILOO MODY : This is the first time that the minister has been specific and I have no supplementaries.

MR. SPEAKER : This is the first time any minister has given you any satisfaction.

Fall in Production of Steel due to Coke Shortage

***258. SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of steel in the public undertakings was suffering from coke shortage ;

(b) if so, to what extent and since when; and

(c) the remedial measures taken by Government in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

The production of ingot Steel in the plants under Hindustan Steel Limited has not in general been affected by coke shortage as such. But production of saleable steel has been affected on account of the shortage of coke oven gas resulting from the inadequate performance of Coke Ovens.

The production at Rourkela has been affected from the last quarter of 1970-71. In Bhilai, there was a major break-down in two coke oven batteries in May, 1971. In Durgapur, the output from coke ovens has been inadequate because of frequent interruptions due to maintenance and labour problems. Optimum production in an integrated steel plant depends on a number of factors and therefore it would be difficult to assign and quantify the less in production due to this factor alone.

Special repairs to coke ovens have been undertaken wherever necessary. Long-term capital repairs programmes have either been undertaken or are being planned. Supplementary fuels like Pitch Crescete Mixture, furnace oil and benzene are being used to the extent possible to make up for the shortage of coke oven gas.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : According to the statement, production of steel in all the three plants—Bhilai, Durgapur and Rourkela—has been adversely affected because of the shortage of coke oven gas. May I know since when this shortage has been existing and by which month or year they expect that this would be made up ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : It is impossible to give any specific and definite commitment. So far as the three plants are concerned, we hope that next year we should be able to do substantially better but that depends on an adequate solution being found firstly to the coke oven problem which I referred to recently just a little earlier and secondly to the improvement of maintenance and, thirdly, to our solution of the difficulties which we have in the field of industrial relations.

SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT : Has it been one of the substantial reasons for the shortfall in production ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : So far as coke oven gas is concerned it has been probably the principal difficulty we have faced in Bhilai and has made a subsidiary contribution so far as Rourkela is concerned. In Durgapur that is not one of the major reasons. So far as coke oven is concerned I cannot say that that is one of the principal reasons.

SHRI SURENDRA MOHANTY : Has the Minister been able to isolate the reason for the shortage of coke oven gas ? If so, what steps have been taken all these months and years to overcome it ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : The question has not arisen over years.

The first difficulty that came up was in Bhilai last May, towards the end of May. Certain emergent steps were taken which have been checked up also by the Russian experts who came to Bhilai to investigate what has happened and it has been greatly appreciated and, as a result, we have substantially reduced the ill-effects of the problems that we had faced in Bhilai at the end of May.

As I told the House a little earlier, we are not satisfied with the solution of these problems because they have come up in Rourkela also. Hence investigation in depth is being carried on by a special team appointed for the purpose (*Interruptions*).

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : In his statement, the Minister has stated that in Durgapur the output from the coke oven has been inadequate because of frequent interruptions due to maintenance and labour problems. May I know what is meant by this maintenance ? Is there any structural defect or is there any lapse on the part of the management to maintain these coke-ovens properly ?

SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM : Any lapse in relation to maintenance naturally does arise out of a lapse on the part of the management. So, when we refer to lapses of that character, I think it will be taken for granted.

Nationalisation of Mica Mines

*259. **SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

- whether Government propose to nationalise Mica Mines in the country ; and
- if so, the salient features of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) There is no proposal at present to nationalise the Mica Mines.

(b) The question does not arise.

SHRI AJIT KUMAR SAHA : I would like to know whether the Government has received a lot of complaints against the management of many of these mica mines.

MR. SPEAKER : The question was very specific—not about the complaints. It is about nationalisation.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : The question that arises is : when is it going to be done.

MR. SPEAKER : My difficulty is when

the hon. Member gets up to further add to the supplementary.

That does not arise. Any other question you have, with his help?

No

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष महोदय, ममे इस माइक्रो माइक्रो मन्त्री प्रश्न पर बिहार के बारे में एक सवाल पूछना है...

अध्यक्ष महोदय. मौजूदा सवाल तो माइक्रो माइक्रो के नेशनलाइजेशन के बारे में है बिहार का तो इस में कोई जिक्र नहीं है।

Mr. Dharamrao Sharanappa Afzalpurkar—absent.

Mr. Kachwai—absent.

Mr. Eswara Reddy—not here.

This is the difficulty. If his question comes after seven or eight questions, the hon. Member thinks that his question will not be reached. So, I am calling a meeting of the Rules Committee to advise me as to how to cover more questions, because we are very badly stuck up and Members who do not get their chance keep approaching me for other things. So, we will have to revise the procedure now.

Now, Mr. Rajdeo Singh—absent.

Dr. Saradish Roy—absent.

Dr. Ranen Sen—absent.

SHRI PILOO MODY : A very interesting Question Hour!

MR. SPEAKER : I always know that when your name is in the list, others are absent.

Shri Robin Sen—absent. Shri Shashi Bhushan—Absent. Shri C. Janardhanan—Absent. I say, what has happened to them? Have they all gone for some demonstration or what? Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee—Absent. Now, Shri Ramsahai Pandey. Question No. 269.

SHRI PILOO MODY : The Question Hour is over. Sir

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Ramsahai Pandey.

Crush India Campaign in Pakistan

*269. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the 'Crush India Campaign' started in Pakistan recently;

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

(c) the steps taken to apprise the world about this campaign and to counter it?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Government feel that this is yet another instance of war hysteria being whipped up by Pakistan's military rulers to divert attention from their brutal suppression of the people in East Bengal and to project Bangla Desh as an Indo-Pakistan issue. Government have kept foreign Governments constantly informed of the real nature of the Bangla Desh issue and therefore, expect that the international community will not be misled by Pakistan's vicious propaganda campaigns.

SHRI R. S. PANDEY Sir, I am satisfied with the reply. The Question Hour is also over

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Vijay Pal Singh—absent. So, now we are at the end of the list. This is not because of our efforts, but because of the absentees.

SHRI N. K. P. SAIYE : Mr. Piloo Mody deserves to be thanked. This is the first time we have reached the end

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Illegal Entrants From West Pakistan given Shelter in Pakistan High Commission

*243. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUNJHUNWALA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some of the persons from West Pakistan, who entered India illegally and were given shelter in Pakistan, High

Commission, New Delhi, have already been sent back to Pakistan ;

(b) if so, whether Government have made investigations into the matter ; and

(c) if so, how and under whose permission these persons were allowed to go back to Pakistan ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

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

India's New Credit to Ceylon

*246. **SHRI JAGADISH BHATTACHARYYA :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India propose to give a new credit to the extent of Rs. 6 crores to the Ceylon Government ; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The proposal to grant a credit to the Government of Ceylon is at present being discussed with a delegation from the Government of Ceylon.

Foreign Policy Planning Board

*247. **SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MISHRA :**
SHRI J. B. PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) the functions of the Foreign Policy Planning Board ; and

(b) whether any sub-Committees have been constituted under it ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) The functions of the Policy Planning and Review Committee are essentially to study, analyse and review foreign policy issues. The proposals of the Committee are of a recommendatory character for decision by Government.

(b) No, Sir.

Tashkent Type Conference

*248. **SHRI K. BALATHANDAYUTHAM :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the reports that Russia is planning for a second Tashkent type of conference ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) There is no basis for these reports.

(b) Does not arise.

Transit Facilities provided by Ceylon to Pakistan Military Aircraft

*249. **SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM :**
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Ceylon still continues to give transit facilities for the Pakistan military aircraft flying to Bangla Desh ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government of Ceylon have assured us that they are not permitting the transit of Pakistan aircraft carrying arms, military equipment and armed forces personnel.

(b) Government of India welcome these assurances.

Recommendations of Polish Experts on Re-structuring of Coking Coal Mines

*252. **SHRI K. MALLANNA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a team of Polish experts visited India during the month of November, 1971 to advise on problems relating to re-structuring of the coking coal mines taken over by Government recently ;

(b) if so, the nature of recommendations made ; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

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

Discovery of Rich Deposits in Madhya Pradesh

*254. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether rich deposits of gold, beryl, copper, cristline graphite, besalt, pyrophyllite heraites and uranium have been found in Madhya Pradesh .

(b) if so, whether Government would conduct any survey to assess the extent of the deposits and

(c) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) As a result of investigations conducted by Geological Survey of India, sizeable deposits of copper ore in the Malanjkhanda area of Balaghat district, extensive basalt flows in various parts of Madhya Pradesh, minor deposits of barytes in Sidhi district and pyrophyllite in Tikamgarh district have been located. Uneconomic occurrences of gold in Raigarh, Balaghat, Raipur districts and graphite in Surguja district, have been found. No rich deposits of uranium have been located but small indications of radioactivity have been found by the Department of Atomic Energy in certain rocks in Betul, Dind, Raigarh and Surguja districts of Madhya Pradesh. Small occurrences of beryl have been noticed in certain parts of Sidhi, Balaghat, Surguja and Raigarh districts.

(b) and (c). The copper deposits at Malanjkhanda extend over a strike length of about 2.2 km. out of which a strike length of 975 metres has been investigated by drilling and a reserve of 7.14 million tonnes with 1.67% copper has been proved. Further work in this area is in progress.

Further investigations for uranium are also in progress. The other deposits are uneconomic and as such are not being investigated at present.

Discovery of Diamond Belt Near Panna Diamond Belt in Madhya Pradesh

*255. SHRI MUHAMMED SHERIFF : SHRI NARENDRA SINGH :

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

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has reported the discovery of a new diamond belt near Panna diamond belt in Madhya Pradesh ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir

(b) Does not arise.

Job Security to Employees of Coking Coal Mining Industry

*257. SHRI DINEN BHATTACHARYYA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state .

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the Federation of Mercantile Employees' Union, Calcutta regarding the job security of the employee, working in the coking coal mining industry

(b) if so, the main points thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by Government on the representation ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The above Union has requested for safeguarding the interest of the employees of mercantile firms in Calcutta connected directly or indirectly with the work of the coking coal mining industry by maintaining their *status-quo* position and service conditions.

(c) The matter is under consideration and no final decision has yet been taken by Government.

New Proposals for Expansion of Employment Opportunities

*260. SHRI DHARAMRAO AFZAL PURKAR : SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have formula-

ted new proposals for expanding employment opportunities ;

(b) if so, the number of persons being benefited by way of new employment ; and

(c) the new investment involved in these proposals and the investment per job ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes

(b) While precise estimates are not available, large numbers are expected to be benefited by way of new employment opportunities created under the various programmes undertaken by the Central and State Governments, within and outside the Fourth Plan.

(c) While it is difficult to correlate investment per job, the provisions made in the Budget for 1971-72 for some of the more important employment-oriented schemes are given in the Statement which is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Scheme	Budget provision for 1971-72	Rs. crores
1. Development of small but potentially viable farmers.	6	
2. Scheme for marginal farmers and agricultural labour.	3	
3. Development of Dry Farming.	2.16	
4. Rural Works Programme.	20	
5. Area Development-Scheme for development of infra-structure facilities like roads, regulated market, etc.	3	
6. Crash Scheme for rural employment	50	
7. Special provision for programmes for the educated unemployed (including engineers and technicians).	25	

The above provision is exclusive of the amounts to be spent during the year on various other development programmes undertaken by the Central and the State Governments in and outside the IV Plan, which will, *inter-alia* generate, increasing employment opportunities.

**Non-Aligned Countries Communiqué
Regarding Bangla Desh Refugee
Problem**

*261. **SHRI Y. LSWARA REDDY :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the Foreign Ministers of 53 non-aligned countries had approved a communiqué pledging for an international action on Bangla Desh refugee problem ; and

(b) if so, the type of action they proposed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURINDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Joint Communiqué of the Foreign Ministers of the non-aligned countries issued on the 30th of September 1971 contained the following paragraph on developments in Bangla Desh :-

"A humanitarian problem of unprecedented dimensions has arisen as a result of the recent abnormal movement of millions of people crossing international frontiers into India. This massive influx of refugees which is still continuing imposes tremendous burdens on India and calls for early and effective action, including action at the international level, to stem the flow of these refugees, to alleviate their suffering and promote all the conditions necessary which would create confidence and ensure the inalienable rights of the refugees and their return to their homeland safely and speedily."

Reopening of Suez Canal

*262. **SHRI RAJ DEO SINGH :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) whether there is now a prospect of the Suez Canal being reopened ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have begun planning of trade in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) In the course of this year, there have been some discussions aimed at the re-opening of the Suez Canal. No agreement, however, is yet in sight.

(b) Government are closely watching developments in this respect, but concrete follow-up steps can be taken only if it is known if and when the Canal will be re-opened.

Death of Coal Mines in Dhanbad

*263. Dr. SARADISH ROY. Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether four coal miners were killed and a number of coal miners were injured at Bird and Company's Mudedih Colliery near Dhanbad on the 6th September, 1971 during the drilling operations :

(b) if so, whether the accident took place due to unsafe conditions ;

(c) whether the Director-General of Mines Safety has conducted any enquiry about the accident ; and

(d) if so, the main findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Four persons were killed and one was seriously injured, in the accident.

(b) and (c). An enquiry into the accident was conducted by the Director of Mines Safety, Northern Zone. The enquiry revealed that the accident was the result of a sudden collapse of a rib of coal in a stook under extraction in a depillaring panel. The collapse of the rib is considered to be due to an undercut having been made in it.

(d) The workers involved in the accident and the sirdar have been held responsible for the accident—the former for having made this undercut and the latter for having allowed it or having failed to make a thorough inspection to detect the undercut and take steps to rectify the situation.

Probe into Reports of Racket in Steel

*264. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the

Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have ordered a probe into reports of racket in steel recently ; and

(b) if so, the findings thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) and (b). Some reports have been received about mis-use of steel for purposes other than that for which it was allotted. These are being investigated by the Iron and Steel Controller with the help of the Regional Iron and Steel Controllers. Assistance of the C.B.I. is also being taken wherever necessary.

Compensation paid to the Begonia Colliery, Barakar

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

(a) whether Government have taken over the management of Begonia Colliery, Barakar, and

(b) if so, the amount of compensation paid to the said management ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No compensation has so far been paid to the said management.

Attitude of Japan Regarding Bangla Desh

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

(a) the attitude of Japan on the issue of Bangla Desh ; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to strengthen relations between India and Japan ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) There has been no official statement on the question of Bangla Desh by the Government of Japan. However, Japanese leaders and the Japanese press have clearly expressed their concern at the influx of millions of refugees, conveyed deep sympathy with India's economic burden and appreciation of

the humanitarian work done by India in providing relief to the Bangla Desh refugees.

(b) The Government has been taking various steps to strengthen relations between the two countries, such as by exchange of visits of leaders, holding of annual bilateral consultations between the Foreign Offices, participation in trade fairs etc.

Visit of U Thant to India and Pakistan

*267. SHRI C. JANARDHANAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether President Yahya Khan has made a suggestion that U. N. Secretary-General, U Thant should visit India and Pakistan to ease the prevailing tension between the two countries ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. This suggestion was made in President Yahya Khan's reply dated 21st October to a letter addressed by the Secretary-General of the U. N. to the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan on 20th October, 1971, drawing their attention to the growing tension in the Indian sub-continent. He expressed the view that such a visit by U. Thant "will have a salutary and desirable effect and further the cause of peace".

(b) The Prime Minister sent a reply to the Secretary-General's letter on the 16th of November assuring him of India's support to whatever efforts he can make to bring about a political settlement inside East Bengal which meets the declared wishes of the people there. It has been suggested to the Secretary-General that his efforts should be directed towards the root of the problem which is the fate of 75 million people of East Bengal and the need for respecting their inalienable rights. Good offices which equate India and Pakistan would only divert attention from the main problem and convert it into an Indo-Pak dispute which would increase tension and not reduce it. Copies of the Secretary-General's letter and our reply were placed on the Table of the House in reply to Unstarred Question No. 690 on the 18th November, 1971.

पूर्वी क्षेत्र के लिये विकास योजना

*268. श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : क्या

विदेश व्यापार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या अमरीकी सीनेट शरणार्थी उप-समिति के अध्यक्ष, श्री कैनेडी ने सुझाव दिया है कि आसाम, त्रिपुरा, मेघालय, बंगाल, बिहार और उड़ीसा में सम्बन्धित भारत के पूर्वी क्षेत्रों के सघन विकास के लिए एक अलग विकास योजना होनी चाहिए और इस प्रयोजनार्थ अलग से अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय सहायता दी जानी चाहिए ताकि भारत पूर्वी बंगाल के विस्थापितों के आगमन में उत्पन्न विषम समस्या का मामना कर सके ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार की इस पर क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ?

विदेश मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री मुरेन्द्रपाल सिंह) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न नहीं उठता ।

Visit of External Affairs Minister Abroad

*270. SHRI VIJAY PAL SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of countries which he visited during the inter-session period of Parliament ; and

(b) the names of countries which had agreed to support our stand on Bangla Desh ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : (a) and (b). I visited Ceylon, Nepal and Indonesia during the inter-session period of Parliament, apart from my visit to New York to attend the General Assembly Session. On my way back from Indonesia, I made a brief stop-over in Singapore on 15th August, 1971.

In all the countries visited, I found appreciation of the gravity of the present situation and the stand of the Government of India on Bangla Desh. The joint communiques/press statement issued at the conclusion of the visits are laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-111/71].

Setting up of Aluminium Plant in Palamu (Bihar)

1594. KUMARI KAMALA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is sufficient bauxite ore in the District of Palamu (Bihar) for opening of one Aluminium factory ;

(b) whether there is any proposal to set up an Aluminium Plant there in the near future ; and

(c) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The major bauxite deposits of Bihar are located in the western side of Ranchi district and on the adjoining high-lands of Palamu District. The total reserves of bauxite deposits in Bihar are 31.24 million tonnes, out of which only 12.54 million tonnes are in the measured category, and these lie within the lease hold of Hindustan Aluminium Corporation, Indian Aluminium Company and the Aluminium Corporation of India. Since these Companies are already utilising these deposits for their alumina Plants and Smelters at Renukoot, Muri/Hirakud, and Asansol, it is not possible to plan a new Aluminium Smelter based on Palamu bauxite deposits till new ore reserves are located and proved in detail by the Geological Survey of India in collaboration with the Directorate of Geology and Mining, Government of Bihar.

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

Import of Steel from Japan

1595. KUMARI KAMLA KUMARI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian ships go to Japan with iron ore from India and come back quite empty ;

(b) whether Government propose to import steel by the Indian ships which come back quite empty to save foreign exchange ; and

(c) whether Government also propose to import steel from Japan in lieu of pig iron and scrap lying with the Railways ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND

MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c). Import of steel from Japan against export of pig iron is already being made. Information on other points is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House.

Expenditure incurred on Development of Mines by National Mineral Development Corporation

1596. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of expenditure proposed to be incurred by the National Mineral Development Corporation on the development of mines in the Eastern States of Assam, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Union Territories of Manipur, Tripura and NEFA area during the Fourth Five Year Plan ; and

(b) the amount so far spent for the development of mines in the above States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No expenditure is proposed to be incurred by the National Mineral Development Corporation on the development of mines in these States and these Union Territories during the Fourth Five Year Plan.

(b) The information is being collected and will be furnished shortly.

Implementation of recommendations of Coal Mines Wage Board

1597. SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether though more than four years have passed since the recommendation of the Central Wage Board for Coal Mining industry were accepted by Government, those recommendations have not yet been implemented in collieries situated at Baragolai, Ledo, Tipling, Delini and such other private Company's collieries in Assam ;

(b) whether in spite of several representations to both the management and the appropriate authority, the attitude of the management has not changed ; and

(c) if so, the steps Government have taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : (a) and (b). Yes.

(c) The recommendations are not enforceable statutorily. However, efforts continue to be made for securing implementation through persuasion and advice.

Distribution of Steel in Assam

1598. **SHRI ROBIN KAKOTI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quota of steel and stainless steel allotted to various industries in private sector and also to Assam Small Industries Development Corporation in Assam in 1968-69, 1969-70 and 1970-71 ; and

(b) the names of industries, if any, to whom direct quota of steel or stainless was issued by Government during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Lock-out in collieries

1599. **SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of collieries under lock-out all over the country upto 31st October, 1971 State-wise ;

(b) the total number of workers thrown out of employment due to these lock-outs ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to lift the lock-out ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Union agreement with management accepting lower wages

1600. **SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the Collieries where

the Trade Unions had entered into agreement with the management accepting lower wages than prescribed by the Coal Wage Board all over the country, State-wise ; and

(b) the names of the Unions and their Central affiliation, State-Wise ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : (a) and (b). There are about 700 collieries and full information about agreements in all the collieries is not available. However, if information is required about collieries in a particular area, steps can be taken to collect it.

Provident Fund School for textile industry

1601. **SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of members who have already joined the scheme of Provident Fund in the textile industries and other factories in Private Sector upto 31st October 1971, separately ;

(b) whether this scheme has shown successful results and is advantageous to the workers ; and

(c) if not, the drawbacks and the measures being adopted to make it well operated and successful ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : (a) The Employee's Provident Funds and Family Pension Fund Act, 1952 does not make any distinction between the private sector establishments/factories and others. Information regarding the number of subscribers as on 31st October, 1971 is not readily available. However, the total number of subscribers in the covered establishments/factories both exempted as well as non-exempted stood at 60.44 lakhs as on 30.6.1971.

(b) The Employees' Provident Fund is playing significant role in providing a substantial measure of financial security and monetary assistance to worker-members in the shape of retiral benefits.

(c) Does not arise.

Family Pension Schemes in textile mills

1602. SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of labourers who have joined the Family Pension Scheme in the textile mills upto the 31st October, 1971 and the number of total workers in textile industries in India ;

(b) whether the labourers are disinclined to join this scheme ; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures Government have taken or intend to take to get the support of the labourers towards the family pension scheme ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha in due course.

Ministerial delegations sent to foreign countries during last inter-session periods

1603. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a number of Ministerial delegations were sent to foreign countries during the last inter-session periods ;

(b) if so, the countries visited and the reaction observed in those countries ;

(c) the names of Ministers and Members of Parliament included in these delegations and the basis of their selections ; and

(d) the expenditure involved for the purpose ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTRNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The countries visited by the Ministerial delegations during the last inter-session period are :

1. Indonesia
2. Nepal
3. Ceylon
4. Zambia
5. Tanzania
6. Burundi
7. Uganda
8. Kenya
9. Somalia
10. Ethiopia
11. Zaire (formerly Congo, Kinshasha)
12. Nigeria
13. Ghana
14. Senegal
15. Sierra Leone
16. Guinea
17. Argentina
18. Chile
19. Peru
20. Brazil
21. Venezuela
22. Ecuador
- 23.

Guyana 24. Trinidad & Tobago 25. Jamaica
26. Panama 27. Nicaragua 28. Cuba and
29. Mexico.

All the countries visited have in varying degrees appreciated the stand of the Government of India. There is a growing realisation of the international responsibility for the refugees and of the urgent need for the creation of conditions inside Bangla Desh to stop their further influx into India and facilitate the return of those already in India. It is increasingly realised now that the military rulers of Pakistan must come to terms with the already elected representatives of the people of Bangla Desh for a political settlement.

(c) The following Ministers were included in these delegations :

1. Sardar Swaran Singh, Minister of External Affairs.
2. Shri H. R. Gokhale, Minister of Law.
3. Shri Raj Bahadur, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Transport and Shipping.
4. Shri Ghanshyam Bhai Oza, Minister of State in the Ministry of Industrial Development.
5. Shri K. C. Pant, Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

These Ministers were sent as special representatives of the Prime Minister to impress upon the governments of the countries visited, the gravity of the situation and the urgent need for a political solution with the already elected representatives of the people of Bangla Desh. No M. Ps. were included in the ministerial delegations.

(d) Rs. 2,51,500.00 approximately.

Purchase of Six-door Car from France

1604 SHRI BIRENDRA SINGH RAO : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have purchased a six-door car from France at a cost of Rs. 2,20,000 for the use of high dignitaries and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) A Mercedes-Benz six-door car has been

purchased from West Germany at a total cost of Rs. 1,64,000/- This includes the cost of spares for 2 years maintenance of the car

(b) The car has been purchased for use in connection with the State visits of foreign dignitaries to India

Requisitioning of Police by Management of Agnigundala Lead Mines

1605 SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that when an industrial dispute was pending with the Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Vijawada, the management of the Agnigundala Lead Mines requisitioned the police force to brow-beat the workers :

(b) if so, the authority as well as the necessity for bringing the police against the workers :

(c) whether Government are also aware that when the workers went to the work spot on the 18th July, 1971 the police drove the workers away even after the facilities demanded by the workers were provided by the management, and

(d) whether Government would fix the responsibility for such unprovoked exhibition of force and assure that such occurrences do not happen again ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (d). The responsibility for the maintenance of law and order is essentially that of the State Government. It is, however, understood from the State Government of Andhra Pradesh that the management of Agnigundala Lead Mines did not requisition the police and the police picket was posted near the mines to maintain law and order, in view of the strike at the mines. The State Government denied that the police drove away the workers on the 18th July, 1971 and indulged in unprovoked exhibition of force

Apprising Opposition Leaders about Developments in Bangla Desh

1606 SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Prime Minister kept the leaders of the opposition parties frequently informed about the internal and external developments regarding Bangla Desh ; and

(b) if not, the reasons for not holding any such meeting after the Budget Session of the Lok Sabha, although many developments took place in regard to Bangla Desh ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b) During the inter-session period the Prime Minister was out of the country for 3 weeks. Before that, as and when necessary the Prime Minister had contacted those leaders of the Opposition who were readily available individually. Soon after her return from her foreign tour she had a meeting with the Opposition leaders before the current session of Parliament began.

Developments in Bangla Desh

1607. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the important developments which occurred in Bangla Desh since the middle of August, 1971 ; and

(b) the reaction of Government of India thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The tempo of the resistance activities of the freedom fighters in Bangla Desh has grown considerably. The Government of Pakistan have continued their repressive measures and atrocities, thereby reducing to a force measures like the general amnesty, induction of a civilian government etc. which were intended to delude international opinion. The exodus of refugees fleeing from East Bengal to India continued and between the 15th August and 22nd November, 1971, as many as 2.23 million entered India. The Government of Pakistan also created serious tensions on the border with India, both in the East and in the West, by mobilising all its forces along the border with a view to attracting international intervention and converting the Bangla Desh issue into an Indo-Pakistan confrontation.

(b) These developments have confirmed that there is no military solution to the problem of Bangla Desh and that only a political settlement between the military rulers of Pakistan and the already elected representatives of the people led by Sheikh Mujibur Rehman can resolve the present tension and conflict.

**Mediation over Bangla Desh
Refugees Affairs**

1608. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have considered to have the Bangla Desh refugees affair mediated by any foreign country ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Offer of Mediation by U. K. on East Bengal Problem

1609. SHRI M. M. JOSEPH .

SHRI K. M. MADHUKAR :
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU .

Will the Minister of EXTRNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any mediation offer by U.K for bringing about a solution to the East Bengal problem ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Government have seen statements ascribed to British leaders in the press and also certain statements made by the British Government in the House of Commons offering help over the Bangla Desh problem if both India and Pakistan ask for it. However, the Government of the United Kingdom have been made aware that the real issue in Bangla Desh is that of getting military rulers of Pakistan to respect the legitimate aspirations of the people of Bangla

Desh by arriving at a political settlement with the already elected representatives of the people of Bangla Desh. Since Bangla Desh is not an Indo-Pakistan dispute, the question of any mediation between India and Pakistan over it does not arise.

**Discovery of Platinum Deposits by Geology
Department of Nagpur University
in Maharashtra**

1610. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the preliminary survey conducted by a team of Nagpur University's Geology Department have discovered platinum deposits in Bhandara district of Maharashtra ;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to conduct further detailed survey of the area ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINFS (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). Discovery of larg. deposit of platinum was reported in Bhandara district, Maharashtra by a Naepur University Team recently. On receipt of this report, the Geological Survey of India undertook geological studies of the area and collected samples to test incidence of platinum in the rocks. The data so far available from these samples indicate only traces of platinum which are irregularly and sparingly disseminated in the rocks. Further work by the Geological Survey of India is in progress.

(c) Does not arise.

Discovery of Minerals used for Manufacture of Special Steel in Tamil Nadu

1611. SHRI B. N. REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether molybdenite a mineral of strategic importance used in the manufacture of special steel, has been struck recently near Palani in Madurai District (Tamil Nadu) ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to

survey the area and mine the ores thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) and (b). As a result of investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India molybdenite mineralisation in aplite and granite varying in width from 0.50-2.20 metres has been traced over a distance of 44 metres in an east-west direction along the southern boundary near Karadikuttam, Madurai District, Tamil Nadu.

(c) So far a total of 2271 metres has been drilled in 23 boreholes. Further drilling is being continued to assess the depth and strike persistence of mineralisation. Geophysical survey employing Induced Polarisation (I.P.) method, is also being continued. Bulk samples collected by pitting showing molybdenite mineralisation are being tested for beneficiation studies. Tests carried out by National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur have given promising results for 2 samples.

The question of ore mining can be taken up only after the investigations by the Geological Survey of India are completed.

Mineral Deposits in Tamil Nadu

1612. SHRI MANORANJAN HAZRA: Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether any steps have been taken by Government to trace gold deposits in Nilgris District (Tamil Nadu) and magnesite in Thiruvanamalai (North Arcot District), Tamil Nadu and patches of bauxite in Salem District, Tamil Nadu and Sulphur Pyrrhotite in Noth Arcot District, (Tamil Nadu) ;

(b) if so, the main features of the survey ; and

(c) the time by which the mining work is proposed to be started ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) to (c). The Geological Survey of India has conducted investigations in Tamil Nadu for gold in Nilgris, magnesite in Thiruvanamalai (North Arcot District), bauxite in Salem District and Sulphur Pyrrhotite in North Arcot District. Details of the investigations

and the action taken to exploit some of these deposits wherever feasible is given in the statement laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Gold :

Nilgris district

The possible reserves of gold ore in Skull-Victoria Reef over a strike length of 900 metres was computed to be 1,603,800 tonnes with an average gold content of 1.9 gram per tonne. The drilling however, proved that there is no economically workable gold deposits available in this area.

Occurrences of gold in the Adathurai area have also been noticed. Further investigations and collection of samples in this area will be continued during the current field season. Further investigations will be conducted if the results are found encouraging.

Magnesite

Thiruvanamalai, North Arcot District

The Magnesite reserves near Torappadl, Chengam Taluk, North Arcot district, have been estimated at 5,914 tonnes (measured reserve) upto 1.74 metre depth, 16,994 tonnes (indicated reserve) upto 5 metres depth and 84,969 tonnes (inferred reserve) upto an assumed depth of 25 metres. The reserves, which are small, have been brought to the notice of the Hindustan Steel Ltd., for examining the possibility of mining these deposits.

Bauxite

Salem district

The bauxite reserves on the Shevaroy Hills and the Kollai Malai Hills, Salem district have been estimated at 2.24 million tonnes with 35% Al_2O_3 and above and 2.59 million tonnes (indicated reserves) with 35% to 50% Al_2O_3 respectively.

At present, the Madras Aluminium Company Ltd. are mining the Shevaroy Hills deposits for use in their aluminium plant at Mattur. A few of the bauxite occurrences on the Kollai Malai Hills have also been leased to the Madras Aluminium Company Ltd. The Geological Survey of India is continuing prospecting in other occurrences to assess their potentiality.

Sulphur (Pyrrhotite)**North Arcot District**

A detailed investigations and re-examination of the pyrrhotite deposits in Thaniar R. Polur Taluk, North Arcot district have been taken up by the Geological Survey of India in 1969-70 and 1970-71 for assessing their full potentialities. The work included 1,168 sq km. of plane table mapping (scale 1:2,000), 50 sq km. of large scale (scale 1:15,840) mapping around the area for possible extensions of the sulphide deposits, 63,315 cu.m. of trenching and collection of 145 groove samples for computation of tenor and ore reserves. Re-examination established the continuity of the sulphide deposit over a considerable strike length and also existence of several richer zones of mineralisation apart from the known occurrences.

Analytical results for the groove samples are awaited and further work on the sulphide deposits will be based on the results obtained.

Discovery of Mercury in Kerala

1613 SHRI C. K. CHANDRAPPAN
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether mercury has been found in large quantity in loose form in North Malabar in Kerala

(b) whether the Kerala Government had approached the Centre for conducting a thorough investigation by the Geological Survey; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN): (a) As a result of investigation carried out by the Geological Survey of India, traces of native mercury were found at Badagara, Kozhikode district, Kerala.

(b) and (c). A request has been received from the Government of Kerala for accelerating exploration work for mercury in the State. The Geological Survey of India has already given priority attention to this work during the current field season.

The samples analysed so far have not yielded any positive result. However the work is in progress and further acceleration

of work will depend upon the results obtained.

HRA/CCA to E.S.I.C. Employees in Calcutta

1614 SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Employees State Insurance Corporation, Employees' Union, Calcutta in support of their demand for payment of House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance to the employees posted around cities of Calcutta and Howrah;

(b) if so, the salient points thereof,

(c) whether Government have approved this demand; and

(d) if so, the extent thereof.

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) Yes

(b) In the West Bengal Region of Employees' State Insurance Corporation, there are 9 offices of which 20 offices are situated within the city limits of Calcutta and Howrah where House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance are admissible at the rates for "A" class cities and 29 offices are situated in the 'non-allowance area' outside the city limits of Calcutta and Howrah where either no such allowance is admissible or only House Rent Allowance is admissible at the rate for a "C" class city. As a result on their posting in 'non-allowance area' the employees have to suffer reduction in their emoluments. The Union has demanded that House Rent Allowance and City Compensatory Allowance at the rates for Calcutta and Howrah may be paid to all employees of West Bengal Region posted in and around Calcutta and Howrah within the limits of Greater Calcutta.

(c) and (d). The employees of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation are treated at par with the employees of the Central Government in matters of pay and allowances. The question of grant of House Rent Allowance at a uniform rate to all employees in Metropolitan Districts is under consideration of the Government.

Strike in Cochin Port in October, 1971

1615 SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether there was a strike in the Cochin Port in the month of October 1971

(b) if so, the estimated loss as a result thereof

(c) whether the workers demand to examine the body of a worker by the Dock Labour Board doctor who died abroad a ship due to heart attack was met and

(d) if so, the specific rules in this regard and the steps taken to ensure that such situation does not occur in future ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADIKAR) (1) There was work stoppage on the 27th October, 1971. Work was resumed on the 28th at 00:00 hours.

(b) There was no financial loss as such however the strike resulted in delaying the stevedoring operations.

(c) The Cochin Dock Labour Board wanted to remove the worker by ambulance to the fully equipped Port Hospital for immediate attention as per the existing practice, but a group of workmen prevented the patient from being removed to the Port Hospital and demanded that the Dock Labour Board doctor should go on board the ship to examine the worker. Thus demand was not met as it was against the standing practice. However after discussions, the agreed to get the worker being examined by a Government doctor arranged by the Steamer Agents.

(d) No specific rules have been laid down in the matter and the practice followed is to take the patient to the Port Hospital which is very near to the Wharves/steamer and equipped with adequate medical staff and equipments. The matter is being considered by the Dock Labour Board and a decision on the procedure to be followed in future is expected to be taken at the next meeting of the Dock Labour Board.

Import of Fertilizer

1616 SHRI S. M. BANERJEE Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to refer

to the reply given to Starred Question No 508 on the 3rd December, 1970 regarding Mode of import of fertilizers from foreign countries and state

(a) the reasons why different method of making purchases of fertilizers was adopted in 1970 by not sending any delegation abroad as in the past,

(b) whether by sending delegation abroad in the past, a net saving of Rs 75 crores had been achieved,

(c) whether the price paid to Nitrex for Ammonium Sulphate was higher than that quoted by the firm initially and much higher than the price at which they sold to other countries, and

(d) the action Government propose to take to investigate into this loss to the tune of several lakhs of rupees ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D R CHAVAN) (a) The same procedure as followed in the part of sending a Delegation abroad for negotiations was also followed in 1970,

(b) Yes,

(c) Ammonium Sulphate was not purchased during 1970

(d) Question does not arise

Construction of East-West highway in Nepal

1617 SHRI M M JOSEPH Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have taken any decision on the construction of Central Sector of the 1100 km east-west highway in Nepal and

(b) if so what is the decision ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAI SINGH) (a) and (b) The matter is under consideration of the Government of India and a decision will be taken shortly

दिल्ली मे कोयले को कमी

1618 श्री हेमेन्द्र दलीप सिंह बनेरा :
भा दलीप सिंह

क्या इस्पात और खान पन्नी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क्र) क्या गत दिनों मे दिल्ली मे पत्थर के दोयले का अभाव हुआ था ,

(ख) क्या दिल्ली में पत्थर के कोयले के अभाव की स्थिति पुनः उत्पन्न होने की संभावना है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो हमके निराकरण हेतु किये गये उपायों का व्यौरा क्या है ?

इस्पात और लान भवालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) और (ग). नवम्बर, 1971 में कोयला चूर्ण और सापठ कोक दोनों के ही आवंटन में सुधार हआ है। रेल विभाग द्वारा नवम्बर, 1971 से परिचिम बगाल-बिहार कोयला क्षेत्र से लदान की स्थिति को सुधारने के लिए विशेष कदम उठाए गये हैं।

Homes for displaced persons from
East Bengal

1619. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Home set up for displaced persons from East Bengal so long treated as permanent liabilities ;

(b) the measures so far undertaken to give them adequate facilities for training in trades and technical matters so as to make them duly qualified to undertake a self-reliant profession ; and

(c) the long-term plans to secure suitable avenues for the growing children now living on doles as camp inmates ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) With a view to accommodate Permanent Liability families of old and infirm persons and unattached women and orphans of new migrants from East Pakistan in Camps (i. e. those who migrated to India on or after 1.1.1964 and before 15th March, 1971), it has been decided to set up 6 new Permanent Liability Homes in different States to accommodate 4,400 such families as under :

Location of Permanent Liability Home	Capacity (families)
Mana, Raipur (M. P.)	2,000
Amtali (Tripura)	300
Bamunigaon (Assam)	1,000
Tura, Garo Hills, (Meghalaya)	300
Birsi (Maharashtra)	300
Sunabeda (Orissa)	500
Total :—	4,400

Pending completion of construction work for these homes, Permanent Liability families are accommodated in the transit Camps/Centres. At Mana in Madhya Pradesh, the work was to be taken up in 4 Phases out of which Phases I and II have been completed and 1050 families shifted to the Home. The Home at Amtali in Tripura is under construction. 85 families have been accommodated in the completed portion of this Home. The construction work of Permanent Liability Home at Birsi in Maharashtra has been completed but no families have been moved there so far, as the building had to be used for accommodating new migrants of 1970 influx. Some of the Permanent Liability families of new migrants have also been accommodated in the existing Permanent Liability Homes at Mahila Ashram Karnal (Haryana), Durgakund Home, Varanasi (U. P.) and Daliganj Home, Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), etc. run by the Department of Social Welfare.

(b) and (c). The Permanent Liability families while in camps are given various relief benefits, education and training facilities which are otherwise admissible to non-Permanent Liability families during their stay in transit camps/centres pending their movement to rehabilitation sites etc. Facilities are being provided for training in Carpentry, Bamboo Products, weaving, tailoring, embroidery, knitting, batik printing, handicraft, & toy making etc. At some Permanent Liability Camps Tailoring Centres have been opened to make the Permanent Liability Category of inmates of these Camps/Homes self-reliant. Besides some suitable ladies are sent for Auxiliary Nursing cum-Mid-Wifery Courses at a training centre at Mana Camp in Raipur District of Madhya Pradesh. Besides normal educa

tion provided to children of Permanent Liability families, facilities also are provided for training children in various trades in the Industrial Training Institute, Heavy Vehicle Mechanics-cum-Drivers' Training and Auxiliary Nursing-cum-Mid Wifery Training courses for which training Centres are already functioning at Mana Camp.

Rules governing operations of Foreign Information and Cultural Centres

1620 SHRI MUHAMMFD SHERIFF : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently circulated a new set of rules governing the operations of foreign information and Cultural Centres in India ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A copy of the circular note dated September 10, 1971, circulated to all foreign Missions is placed on the table of the House. [Placed in Library See No. LT-1112/71]

Pakistan President's willingness to meet Indian Prime Minister

1621 SHRI P VENKATASUBBAIAH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state .

(a) whether Pakistan President has shown his willingness to meet the Prime Minister of India in order to make an attempt to defuse the tension ,

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

(c) whether there is any likelihood of a meeting between the two to discuss mutual problems ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have seen reports to this effect.

(b) and (c). The Bangla Desh issue is a question of the refusal by the military rulers of Pakistan to recognise the legitimate and democratic aspirations of the

people of East Bengal. It is thus an issue between the military rulers of Pakistan and the already elected representatives of the people of East Bengal. Any suggestion to have an Indo-Pakistani dialogue on the Bangla Desh issue is wholly irrelevant and is obviously an attempt to make it appear to be an Indo Pakistan dispute, which it is not.

Protest against Pakistan Radio tirade against All India Radio

1622. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any protests have been and are being lodged with the Pakistan Government regarding the tirade being carried out by the Pakistan Radio against the All India Radio ; and

(b) if so, whether any improvement is likely in the situation ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No protest has been lodged with the Pakistan Government specifically regarding the tirade carried out by the Pakistan Radio against AIR. Government have lodged protests with the Government of Pakistan against false propaganda against India whenever necessary.

(b) Government feel that an improvement can take place only if the Pakistan regime abandons its policy of hostility towards India.

Views of Arab Republic of Egypt on Bangla Desh

1623. SHRI S C SAMANTA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attitude of the Government of Arab Republic of Egypt with regard to the Bangla Desh affairs is still pro-Pakistan and the efforts of the Government of India have not succeeded so far in bringing the truth home to them ; and

(b) the result of President Tito's visit to Cairo after visiting New Delhi ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of India have taken diplo-

matic, and other, steps to apprise the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt of the real situation in East Bengal and of the refugee problem. The Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt have now expressed greater understanding of our assessment of the situation. They took a constructive stand at the Consultative meeting of the Non-Aligned countries at the Foreign Ministers' level held in New York on 30 September 1971. We are, however, aware of the fact that the Egyptian authorities have not made any public statement.

(b) While in Cairo on 20 October 1971, President Tito was reported to have discussed the Bangla Desh situation with President Sadat of the Arab Republic of Egypt. It is felt that the Government of

the Arab Republic of Egypt now have a greater awareness of the situation in East Bengal and of the refugee problem.

Performance of Iron and Steel and Coal Industries

1624 SHRI M RAM GOPAL REDDY
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) the performance of basic and capital goods industries like iron, steel and coal in 1969, 1970 and first half of 1971, and

(b) whether they have recorded any decline, if so the reasons thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) (a) and (b)

	Production			(In million tonnes)	
	1968	1969	1970	Jan-June 1971	Jan-June 1970
Saleable Pig					
Iron	1 47	1 56	1 39	0 48*	0 56*
Steel Ingots	6 45	6 48	6 23	3 01*	3 01*
Finished Mild Steel	4 44	4 77	4 64	2 19*/n	2 28*/n
Coal	70 80	75 46	73 69	34 40	37 98

* Data pertains only to main producers

/* Finished steel + 90% semis

It will be seen from the above data that production in 1970 was higher than in 1968. Production in 1970 was slightly lower than in 1969. Production during Jan-June 1971 was also marginally lower than the corresponding period of last year. The steel industry and problems associated with shortage of coke, labour unrest and operational difficulties Coal production ^{2/} was hindered by transport difficulties.

Conference on Bangla Desh

1625 SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM
Will the Minister of EXTRNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether a Conference of more than 20 countries was held recently in New Delhi to discuss the situation in Bangla Desh,

(b) if so the subjects discussed in the conference

(c) whether the Conference approached

the Government of India to participate in it and

(d) if so the steps taken by Government of India on the requests and decisions arrived at the conference?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) A non official International Conference on Bangla Desh was held in New Delhi from September 18-20 1971 in which the delegates from more than 20 countries were present

(b) The agenda of the Conference is reported to have comprised a presentation of the case for Bangla Desh, support for the freedom struggle and the Bangla Desh Government and the obligations of the international community both Governmental and non-Governmental

(c) and (d) Since the Conference was non-official, the question of Government of

India's participation in it does not arise. Government have, however, taken note of the resolutions adopted by the Conference.

(c) whether any foreign collaboration is involved therein ; if so, the main features thereof ?

Applications for Mini Steel Plants

1627. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :
SHRI R. P. ULAGANAMBI :

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

(a) the number of applications for mini steel plants received from the States, State-wise ;

(b) the Mini Steel Plants to whom letters of intent have been issued so far ; and

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c). It is presumed that the question refers to Industrial licence applications submitted by the State Governments through their State-owned Industrial Development Corporations for units manufacturing Steel Ingots/Billets using electric furnaces and either conventional or continuous casting of the molten steel. The details of such applications are furnished belows :

S1. State Undertakings No.	Item of manu- facture	Capacity (tonnes)	Location	L/I COB Licence issued on
1. The Tamil Nadu Industrial Development Corporation.	Steel Billets	1,00,000	Arkonam Tamil Nadu	10-4-67
2. (i) The Orissa Industrial Development Corporation.	-do-	80,000	Orissa	8-9-70
(ii)	-do	-do-	2,40,000	-do-
				Under considera- tion
3. The Punjab State Industrial Development Corporation.	-do-	50,000	Ludhiana Punjab	24-12-70
4. The Haryana State Industrial Development Corporation.	-do-	50,000	Haryana	18-6-71
5. The U. P. State Industrial Development Corporation.	-do-	1,00,000	U. P.	28-6-71
6. The Andhra Pradesh Industrial Development Corporation.	(i) Steel Billets, (ii) Wire- rods.	50,000 20,000	Andhra Pradesh	11-11-71
7. The Rajasthan State Industrial Development Corporation.	Steel Billets	65,000	Rajasthan	Under considera- tion

No application for approval of foreign collaborations has yet been received from any of the above State Undertakings.

Activities of Nepalese citizens in India

1628 SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK
Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are aware that some Nepalese citizens residing in India have been indulging in activities prejudicial to the friendly relations between India and Nepal,

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to check such activities, and

(c) the steps taken to make the Government of India's position clear in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) and (b) Government are not aware of any such activity by Nepalese citizens residing in India

(c) Government have made it clear that they will not allow any hostile political activity to take place on Indian territory directed against a friendly country or permit the launching of an armed struggle against such a friendly State

हिन्दुस्तान जिक लिमिटेड मे लगो पू जी

1629 डा० सर्वीनारायण पटेल क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि

(क) हिन्दुस्तान जिक लिमिटेड मे इस समय कितना सरकारी रूपया लगा हुआ है,

(ब) क्षमता वा कितना प्रनिगत उत्पादन प्रति वर्ष हुआ है, और

(ग) अब तक कितना नाम और हानि हुई?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय मे राज्य मंत्री (धी शाहनवाज खान) (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार न 20-11-1971 तक हिन्दुस्तान जिक लिमिटेड मे 1,584.55 लाख रुपये का विनियम किया है जिसका ब्योरा नीचे दिया गया है

(I) ब्योर पू जी 953.75 लाख रुपये
(II) उधार पू जी 930.80 लाख रुपये

योग 1,884.55 लाख रु०

(ग) प्रतिवर्ष उपयोजित उत्पादन क्षमता की प्रतिशतता नीचे उपर्याप्त है

वर्ष	जस्ता प्रदावक	सीसा प्रदावक
1968-69	50 4%	5 %
1969-70	55 1%	45%
1970-71	59 6%	41%
1971-72	66 3%	28.3%
(31-10-1971 तक अनुपार्ति उपलब्धि)		

(ग) कम्पनी द्वारा वर्ष-वार उगाजित लाभ/उपगत हानि नीचे उपर्याप्त है

वर्ष	लाभ	हानि	कुल हानि	लाख रुपयो मे
				लाख रुपयो मे
1966-67	54	—	—	—
1967-68	1.95	—	—	—
1968-69	—	35.8	35.81	—
1969-70	—	48.27	84.08	—
1970-71	—	117.74	122.06*	—

*कुल हानि मे अवनानि वा वारगा समस्त वर्षों के लिए 1970-71 मे प्रभावित मूल्य हास की पद्धति मे परिवर्तन है।

Central Manpower Agency to evolve Employment Policies

1631 SHRI NIHAR LASKAR Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a Central manpower agency to evolve employment policies and to co-ordinate implementation, and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) No such decision has been taken by the Government

(b) Does not arise.

Unutilized trucks for Bangla Desh refugees

1633. SHRI BISHWANATH JHUN-JHUNWAIA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 400 brand new trucks which were donated by the UN Focal Point for being used for rehabilitation work for the refugees coming from Bangla Desh are lying unutilised in the open since August, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the same ;

(c) whether the main reason for the non utilisation of the trucks is that the Central Relief Co-ordination Committee which is located in New Delhi could not make up its mind about its utilisation ; and

(d) if so, the present state of affairs with regard to the trucks and whether any of the trucks have become unserviceable ; if so, their number ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADIKAR) : (a) and (b) No, Sir. 228 Japanese trucks which were received through the UNICEF at Calcutta between 31st August and 1st September, 1971, were detained in Calcutta for some time as they could not be moved to the places of destination owing to disruption of land route communication. All the vehicles were moved to the places of destination as soon as the roads were opened in the beginning of October, 1971.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No truck has become unserviceable due to long detention. However, some Bedford and Dodge trucks from U.K. were received in damaged condition and required repairs before being put on the road.

Supply of Coal to Brick-Kilns in Bahraich, U. P.

1634. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of brick-kilns in the district of Bahraich, U. P. which operate with coal and the annual requirement of coal by these brick-kilns ;

(b) whether there has been practically a very meagre supply of coal to the brick-

kilns with the result that they are living idle ; and

(c) whether Government will take early steps to supply coal in adequate quantity to the district ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) 66 brick-kilns with an annual requirement of 20 rakes of slack coal.

(b) Yes, Sir. It has been stated by the U. P. Government that a majority of the brick-kilns are lying idle.

(c) One rake of slack coal was allotted by the Railways for Bahraich District on the 4th November, 1971. The Government of U.P. pursuing this matter with the Railways

Production of Coal

1635. SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is likely to be a fall in the production of coal in the current year ;

(b) if so, the extent of fall expected ;

(c) the reasons for the fall in production ; and

(d) the steps taken to step up production ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir

(b) The expected fall in production in 1971 may be of the order of about 5 million tonnes as compared to the production of 73.69 million tonnes achieved in 1970.

(c) Inability of the Railways to provide the required number of wagons, resulting in heavy accumulation of stocks at pit-heads and heavy monsoon which caused waterlogging of some working faces and inundation of a number of mines.

(d) The Railways are making efforts to increase the availability of wagons for the transport of coal. Effect of the monsoon has also now receded and it is expected that the production may pick up.

Expenditure on Bangla Desh refugees

1636. SHRI SHYAMNANDAN MI-SHRA :
SHRI RAM KANWAR :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the month-wise total expenditure incurred by all the Ministries concerned on the Bangla Desh refugees since March, 1971 ; and

(b) whether Government have any information about the expenditure incurred by the State Governments ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The expenditure on Bangla Desh refugees is incurred by several Departments of the Government of India. Figures of monthly total expenditure are not readily available and will have to be collected and compiled.

(b) Actual expenditure so far incurred by various State Governments has not yet been reported. The average daily *per capita* expenditure on relief assistance to Bangla Desh refugees is about Rs 3/- and the entire expenditure will be re-imbursed by the Centre.

Facilities provided by Ceylon to Pakistan military planes and naval vessels

1637 SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM :
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether during his visit to Colombo in September last, he had taken up with the Ceylonese authorities the question of fuelling facilities being given by that country to Pakistani military planes and naval vessels ;

(b) if so, the position taken by Ceylon on this issue ; and

(c) whether Government are satisfied with Ceylon's position in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Government of Ceylon have assured us that they are not permitting any Pakistani military aircraft and naval vessels carrying

arms, ammunition and Defence forces personnel to transit Ceylon.

(c) Government welcomes these assurances.

South East Asian countries stand on Bangla Desh issue

1638. SHRI S. A. MURUGANANTHAM : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts made by Government to explain India's position on Bangla Desh issue to South East Asian countries, and seek their support to solve the issue ; and

(b) the outcome of the efforts made in this connection ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government had deputed the Education Minister and the Minister of External Affairs to visit various South East Asian countries to impress upon them the gravity of the situation and the urgent need for a political solution with the already elected representatives of Bangla Desh so as to ensure the early safe return of the refugees to their homeland. The Union Education Minister visited Thailand, Malaysia and Australia in June, 1971. The Minister of External Affairs visited Indonesia and Singapore in August, 1971 and Ceylon in September 1971.

(b) All the countries visited have in varying degrees appreciated the stand of the Government of India. There has been full appreciation and concern over the humanitarian aspects of the refugee problem.

Rehabilitation of Bangla Desh refugees in Hazaribagh, Bihar

1639. SHRI P. M. MEHTA :
SHRI P. GANGADEB :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry have decided and are making arrangements for permanent rehabilitation of 10,000 Bangla Desh refugees who are at present living in temporary sheds at the Hazaribagh district in Bihar ; and

(b) if so, whether Government have decided to settle them permanently in India ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHANDILKAR) : (a) There are no Bangla Desh refugees living in Camps Hazaribagh District in Bihar.

(b) Does not arise

Visit of Minister of External Affairs to Nepal

1640. **SHRI P. M. MEHTA :**
SHRI P. GANGADEV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether he visited Nepal and had discussions with the Prime Minister of Nepal ;

(b) if so, the subjects discussed ; and

(c) the issues on which both the countries agreed to cooperate with each other ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Matters of bilateral interest as well as international issues were discussed.

(c) The two countries agreed to work in co-operation to further strengthen the links between them. A copy of the joint communique is placed on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1113 /71]

Dharna in British High Commission by British subjects of Indian origin

1641. **SHRI P. M. MEHTA :**
SHRI P. GANGADEV :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether 33 British subjects of Indian origin squatting inside the British High Commission in New Delhi have been without food and water from October 1st, 1971 and are also penniless ;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) whether they could not get jobs in India and they are being told to wait for the last 24 years till their turns come ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) 33 British passport holders of Indian

origin from East Africa staged a peace-ful sit-in within the premises of the U. K. High Commission in New Delhi from 13th October to 3rd November, 1971. Their object was to secure urgently entry vouchers for Britain where they wished to immigrate having been compelled to leave East Africa.

The Government of India have taken every opportunity to impress upon the U. K. authorities that British passport holders of Asian origin are solely a British responsibility, and should be allowed entry facilities into the U. K. freely and without discrimination. As present, the U. K. authorities operate a system of annual quotas for entry vouchers for such persons from East Africa. The Government of India have urged that the quotas should provide also for British passport holders of Asian origin from East Africa who happen to be in India.

Violation of air space of Pakistan by India

1642. **SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan Radio has alleged violation of its air space by Indian military aircraft on the 16th October, 1971 said to be a Canberra in the West Pakistan Sector at Bahawalnagar about 6.5 km inside Pakistan across the Rajasthan border ;

(b) whether it has also alleged that India has been violating the Pakistan air space for some time in East Bengal and West Pakistan ;

(c) if so, the facts of the matter ; and

(d) the action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). To cover their own violations of Indian airspace, Pakistan has from time to time levelled allegations against India. Government have rejected such baseless allegations.

Setting up of industrial estates for refugees from Bangla Desh in West Bengal

1643. **SHRI M. KATHAMUTHU :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Committee to Review

rehabilitation work has recommended setting up of industries estates and development of industrial areas in certain districts in West Bengal where there is heavy concentration of Bangla Desh Refugees ; and

(d) if so, what decision has been taken thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHANDILKAR). (a) The Committee of Review has not made any recommendation regarding setting up of industrial estates and development of industrial areas in certain Districts of West Bengal for the rehabilitation of the evacuees from east Bengal who have come over to India as result of the recent strife over there.

(b) Does not arise.

Working of Hindustan Steel Limited and Heavy Engineering Corporation Ranchi

1644. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA :
SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA :

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

(a) whether Government propose to inquire into the working of Hindustan Steel Ltd. and Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi ; and

(b) if so, the objectives of such study ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN). (a) No. Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Conference of Labour Commissioners

1645. SHRI K. MALLANNA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received the report of Conference of State and Central Labour Commissioners ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made ; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHANDILKAR) : (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House giving the main conclusions/recommendations of the Report of the First Conference of Labour Commissioners and the action taken by Government thereon. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1114 /71]

बेरोजगारी मिटाने के लिए विदेशी सहायता

1646. श्री महार दीपक सिंह शाक्य : क्या अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताते की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या बेरोजगारी की समस्या को मिटाने में विदेशी सरकारे भी भारत की सहायता करती हैं ?

अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० के० स्वादिलकर) : जी नहीं। फिर भी दश में कई ऐसी प्रायोजनायें हैं जो विदेशी महयोग से चलाई जा रही हैं और जिनके कारण रोजगार के अवसर प्राप्त होंगे।

Production of non-ferrous metals

1648. SHRI S. R. DAMANI : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made on the various proposals to increase production of non-ferrous metals ;

(b) whether examination has been completed of the feasibility report of recovering Nickel from the Sukinda deposits and if so, the findings thereof ; and

(c) the time by which final decisions will be taken on all these proposals in view of the shortage of these crucial metals and the mounting import bill every year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). A note indicating the programme of the various projects to increase production of Non-ferrous Metals is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-1115 /71]

Mediation proposal from Iran

1649. SHRI PILOO MODY: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government of India has been drawn to a report in the Hindustan Times of the 17th September, 1971 stating that Pakistan has proposed to the Soviet Union and Iran to mediate in its differences with India over Bangla Desh issue ;

(b) if so whether Government of India has received any communication in this regard formally or informally either from Pakistan or through Iran ; and

(c) if so, the reaction of the Government of India in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH): (a)

Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise

Reduction in work-load in inspection wing

1650. SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the work load of the inspection wing of his Ministry was reduced during the period from 1st March, 1970 to 31st March, 1971 as compared to the corresponding period in the previous years ;

(b) if so, how much and the reasons thereof ; and

(c) the future prospects in this connection ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The work-load in the Inspection Wing was reduced by about 16.5% in terms of the value of the stores inspected in 1970-71 as compared to 1969-70. This is mostly attributable to the disturbed conditions in the Calcutta Circle and labour trouble in the major steel plants.

(c) The work-load during the current year is expected to go up due to purchase of stores for the Bangla Desh refugees and other urgent requirements.

Supplies indented for Defence requirements

1651. SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total value of supplies indented with them in connection with Defence requirements for the period from 31st March, 1970 to 31st March, 1971 ;

(b) the value of the requirements actually met ; and

(c) the reasons for not meeting the indented requirements ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (c). It will not be in the public interest to furnish this information.

Purchases made by DGS & D from indigenous sources

1652. SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT: Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of purchases made by DGS & D from 31st March, 1970 to 31st March, 1971 from indigenous sources ;

(b) the total amount of purchases made during this period from small scale industrial Units ; and

(c) the steps taken to encourage small units for making supplies ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Rs 518.30 crores.

(b) Rs. 42.64 crores.

(c) The Government's policy is to encourage through the State Purchase Programmes, the production and utilisation of cottage and small scale industries' products. In pursuance of this policy, the small scale units are being provided with the following important facilities and concessions to ensure their effective participation in the central purchase programmes :

(i) Reservation of as many items in Group IV as possible, for exclusive purchase from the small scale units. At present the number of such items is 167.

(ii) Grant of price preference to these units upto 15% over the large scale units on tender to tender basis subject to quality, specification,

delivery by the small scale units being satisfactory.

(iii) Preference to the products of the small scale units over the products of other manufactures in case where quality etc. are comparable.

(iv) Supply of registration forms free of cost to bona-fide small scale units and relaxation in the matter of having their own testing facilities as a pre-requisite of registration with the DGS & D

(v) Exemption from Security Deposits of the small scale units produce a competency certificate from the National Small Industries Corporation.

(vi) Supply of advertised tenders, specifications and Drawing to the Small Scale Industrial units free of cost.

(vii) Deputation of inspection teams to the industrial estates and units in different States to educate them with technical know-how.

Employment Exchange in Gujarat

1653. SHRI VFKARIA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Employment Exchanges in Gujarat ; and

(b) the number of job seekers registered in those Employment Exchanges district-wise and category-wise, upto 31st March, 1971 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHANDILKAR) : (a) 21.

(b) The available information is given in the attached statement.

Statement

Name of Employment Exchange in Gujarat State.	No. of job-seekers on live register as on 30.6.1971*				
	Below Matric (including illiterates).	Matriculates.	Higher Secondary (including Intermediates/ Under-graduates).	Graduates (including Post-graduates)	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Amreli	1,559	998	111	220	2,888
2. Ahmedabad	9,673	12,644	1,632	2,582	26,531
3. Baroda	7,934	4,679	221	1,233	14,087
4. Bhavnagar	4,546	3,269	336	772	8,923
5. Bhuj-Kutch	2,544	1,585	65	185	4,379
6. Broach	2,595	3,104	278	508	6,485
7. Bulsar	2,847	3,014	214	587	6,662
8. Ahwa-Dangs	291	75	—	10	376
9. Godhra	7,636	3,343	230	424	11,633
10. Himatnagar	3,227	3,168	311	360	7,066
11. Jamanagar	4,846	2,390	115	458	7,809
12. Junagadh	4,078	2,641	257	641	7,617
13. Mehsana	4,088	5,497	160	914	10,665
14. Nadiad	7,169	4,904	328	1,186	13,677

* The information relating to educated job-seekers (Matriculates and above) registered with Employment Exchanges is collected at half-yearly intervals ending June and December each year

1	2	3	4	5	6
15 Palanpur	2,551	1,574	101	159	4,385
16 Rajkot	5,365	3,798	514	891	10,568
17 Surat	4,282	3,115	357	979	8,733
18 Surendranagar	3,067	1,461	174	359	5,061
19 Gandhinagar	4,882	2,262	197	456	7,797
20 P & E Branch** Ahmedabad	—	—	—	302	302
21 S E E P H, (a) Ahmedabad	175	208	—	40	423
TOTAL	83,355	63,819	5,607	13,286	1,66,067

Requirement of Steel in West Bengal

1654 SHRI S P BHATTACHARYYA
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES
be pleased to state

- the total quantity of steel required annually in West Bengal and
- the quantity of steel actually supplied to West Bengal against its requirements?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE
MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES
(SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) Data
have not been compiled regarding the steel
requirements of individual States, nor are
allocations of steel made statewise

(b) Information is being collected about
actual despatches of steel to consumers in
West Bengal and will be laid on the Table
of the House

Principles of price fixation of steel

1655 SHRI S P BHATTACHARYYA
Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES
be pleased to state the main principles of
price fixation of steel?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND
MINES (SHRI S MOHAN KUMAR-
MANGALAM) The last general increase
in steel prices was with effect from 1st
January, 1970 Basing the calculations on
the capital block of the private sector steel
companies Government, at that time took
into account the following factors:

- the cost increase arising from escalat-

ing factors since 1964 which were not
covered by increase in price since that
year

(ii) the higher increased depreciation
charges consequent on additional investment
in the following five years in fixed assets on
account of replacement and modernisation
programmes.

(iii) the increased interest charges consequent
on additional borrowings for financing
the replacement and modernisation programmes and

(iv) an element of increase provided for
to cover wage increases as a result of negotiations
then in progress

मध्य प्रदेश मे चीनी उद्योग के लिए दूसरे महीने
बोर्ड की शिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित करना

1656 डा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पांडेय क्या
अम प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री यह बनाने की कृता
करेंगे कि

(क) मध्य प्रदेश तथा राजस्थान की किन-
हिन चीनी मिठो ने दूसरे चीनी महीने बोर्ड
की शिफारिशो के आवार तर अपने रमंचारियों
को रहत दी है और ऐसी कौन-कौन सी मिले
है जिन्होंने उन मिठारिशो पर अमल नहीं
किया है,

(ख) क्या उक्त राज्यों की चीनी मिलो के
अभिन तथो ने सरकार से शिकायत की है कि

** P & E - Professional & Executive

(a) S E E. P. H - Special Employment Exchange for Physically Handi-
capped.

उन्हें उक्त मज़ूरी बोर्ड की सिफारिशों का लाभ मिलों द्वारा नहीं दिया गया है ; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बंध में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

थम और पुनर्वास मन्त्री (श्री आर० के० खाड़िलकर) : (क) से (ग). राजस्थान के संबंध में सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है । जहां तक मध्य प्रदेश का संबंध है राज्य सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि निम्नलिखित चार चीनी मिलों ने दूसरे चीनी मज़दूरी बोर्ड की सिफारिशों के आधार पर सहायता मंज़ूर की है :—

- (1) ग्वालियर शूगर कम्पनी लिमिटेड दाबा ।
- (2) भोपाल शूगर इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड, साहेर ।
- (3) जीवाजी राव शूगर मिल्स लिमिटेड, दालोदा ।
- (4) जाओरा शूगर मिल्स प्राइवेट लिमिटेड, जाओरा ।

सेठ गोविंद राम शूगर मिल्स, माहिदपुर ने शिफारिशों स्वीकार नहीं की हैं परन्तु 10 रु० की तर्दश वृद्धि मंज़ूर की है । राज्य सरकार ने मज़दूर संघ, माहिदपुर को औपचारिक विवाद उठाने की सलाह दी है ।

Rations and other assistance to non-camp refugees

1657. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether about 35 lakhs of non-camp refugees are not given ration and other Government aids ;

(b) if so, the reasons for such policy ; and

(c) whether these non-camp refugees would also be given ration and other assistance as given to camp refugees ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : (a) and (b). No, Sir, they

are not given. About 30 lakhs refugees living outside camps are not being allowed ration and other Government-regulated relief assistance because it was felt that persons who were really in need of Governmental assistance have already moved into camps. Apart from this, it is difficult to distribute rations to refugees not living in Camps, who are scattered all over the country. Moreover, the concession, if allowed, is likely to be abused.

(c) The cost of distributing free rations to refugees living outside the Camps will impose a heavy burden on the country's economy. A proposal is, however, under consideration to allow those non-camp refugees, who are in indigent condition, to move to camps, after proper screening, so that they may be eligible for Government-regulated relief assistance.

Blankets supplied to Bangla Desh refugees

1658. SHRI SAMAR GUHA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state the total number of blankets supplied to the refugees so far ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) : 5,49,960 blankets have been supplied till 19.11.1971 to various States/Camps for distribution to refugees from Bangla Desh, as detailed below :-

Meghalaya	...	3,55,000
Tripura	...	1,74,200
Assam	...	14,760
Iradatganj (Allahabad)	...	6,000
		5,49,960

Damage of Blast Furnace at Durgapur

1659. SHRI SATYENDRA NARAIN SINHA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the blast furnace at Durgapur was deliberately damaged by the workers ;

(b) if so, the nature and extent of the damage ;

(c) the loss suffered in terms of money and in production ; and

(d) whether it has been repaired ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

Training and Employment to Technical Job seekers

1660. SHRI RAJDEO SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts Government have made to train and provide employment to young doctors, experienced engineers, highly skilled craftsmen such as millers, precision turners and fitters ; and

(b) the results thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). Adequate facilities have been created in the country for institutional and on-the-job training for these and other categories.

While precise estimates are not available, large numbers belonging to these and other categories are expected to be employed under the various programmes undertaken by the Central and the State Government within and outside the Fourth Plan.

Entry of Omega team to Bangla Desh

1661. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether an organisation named Omega consisting of people moved by humanitarian consideration tried to enter Bangla Desh through India with food and medical materials for the succour of the people of Bangla Desh ;

(b) if so, the result thereof ; and

(c) the reaction of the Government of India thereto ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) to (c) The organizers of a voluntary organization, Omega have informed the Government of India that they have carried out a number of missions into Bangla Desh for distributing food, clothes, blankets and

medicines to the needy people there. The Government of India appreciate all humanitarian efforts to relieve sufferings in Bangla Desh.

Visit by an Assistant Secretary of State of U. S. A.

1662. DR. RANEN SEN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mr. David M. Abshire, Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations in U. S. State Department has visited Dacca, Calcutta and New Delhi several times recently and has met the high Government officials of Pakistan and the Ministers of India and some officials ; and

(b) if so, the nature of the mission ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Mr. David M. Abshire, U. S. Assistant Secretary of State for Congressional Relations visited India from August 31, 1971 to September 2, 1971. During his stay, he visited Calcutta and Delhi. In Calcutta, he saw the refugee camps and in the Delhi he had meetings with the Minister of State for Rehabilitation and the Foreign Secretary. The situation arising out of the massive influx of refugees into India from East Bengal was explained to him. He also visited Dacca and Islamabad on the same tour. Government is not aware of any other visit by him to the sub continent.

Lay-off of Workers of Indian Iron and Steel Company's Kulti Works, Asansol

1663. SHRI ROBIN SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the management of finishing section of Indian Iron and Steel Company's Kulti Works, Asansol (West Bengal) had laid off 150 workers on the 23rd August, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the reasons for the lay-off ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to lift the lay-off ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) According to informa-

tion given by IISCO, about 150 workers of the finishing section in Kulti Works were laid off for the whole of 24th August, 1971 and in the 'A' Shift of 25th August, 1971.

(b) The lay-off was declared following a strike resorted to by the Crane drivers from 19th August, 1971.

(c) As result of a settlement arrived at in a bipartite meeting between the Union and the Management, the strike by the Crane drivers was called off and normal works was resumed from 'B' Shift on 25th August, 1971.

Lock-out in Sheet Mill of Burnpur, Asansol

1664. SHRI ROBIN SEN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the sheet mill of the Burnpur Works of Indian Iron and Steel Company, Asansol, West Bengal has been locked out on the 1st October, 1971 ;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ;

(c) the total number of employees rendered jobless due to this lock-out ; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to lift the lock-out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAH NAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (d). According to Messrs Indian Iron and Steel Company, a lock out was declared by the management in the Sheet Mill of their Burnpur Works on 2.10.1971 in consequence of a stay-in-strike resorted to by workers of the hot mill section of the Sheet Mill with effect from 26-9-1971. The total number of workers affected by the lock out was about 1450. The lock out was lifted in accordance with a phased programme with effect from 18-10-1971 following a settlement before the Deputy Labour Commissioner, Government of West Bengal, Durgapur. All the locked out employees rejoined duty by 22-10-1971.

Workers' Dues In Pure Shitalpur Colliery, Asansol

1665. SHRI ROBIN SEN :

SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL :

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of outstanding dues

due to the workers of Pure Shitalpur Colliery, Asansol ;

(b) whether a certificate case has been filed for realisation of the dues ; and

(c) if not, the action Government propose to take to realise the dues ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Dues of Workers of East Jambad Colliery

1666. SHRI ROBIN SEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount of outstanding legal dues due to the worker of East Jambad Colliery ;

(b) whether the workers of East Jambad Colliery through their union raised the dispute before the Assistant Labour Commissioner (C), Raniganj for the payment of the dues ;

(c) if so, whether a certificate case has been filed for the realisation of the dues ; and

(d) if not, the action Government propose to take to realise the dues ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Deposits of Rock Phosphate in Rajasthan

1667. SHRI HAMENDRA SINGH BANERA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether in the recent survey, the Geological Survey of India has discovered huge deposits of rock phosphate in the Bhilwara District of Rajasthan ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to explore that mineral ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

**Objectionable Films on India Being
Displayed in Foreign Countries**

**1668. SHRI BIRENDER SINGH RAO :
SHRI N. SHIVAPPA :**

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that objectionable films which were not permitted to be displayed in India have been sold by the B.B.C. to some foreign countries ;

(b) if so, the names of such countries to whom these films have been sold ;

(c) whether these objectionable films are being displayed by them ; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

**Review of Rehabilitation Work In
West Bengal**

**1669. SHRI HARI KISHORE SINGH :
SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY :**

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by the Chatterjee Committee to review the Rehabilitation work in West Bengal ; and

(b) the decision of Government on these recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). The Committee of Review of Rehabilitation work in West Bengal have so far submitted nine Reports, particulars of which are given in the attached statement.

Recommendations of the Committee have, by and large, been accepted in respect of 4 reports. The remaining 5 reports are under consideration, in consultation with the West Bengal Government and concerned Ministries/ Departments.

Statement

1. Interim report on rehabilitation of

Displaced Persons from East Pakistan living at Asrafabad Ex-camp site and Vagrants' Homes.

2. Educational facilities for new migrants in West Bengal.
3. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan at ex-camp West Bengal.
4. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan squatting on Government and requisitioned properties in West Bengal.
5. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons through Poultry Schemes in West Bengal.
6. Rehabilitation of Displaced Persons at Bagjola Group of Ex-camp sites in West Bengal.
7. Medical facilities for the benefits of new migrants in West Bengal.
8. Industrial Training Institutes for displaced women from East Pakistan in West Bengal.
9. Establishment of Industrial Estates in West Bengal for rehabilitation of Displaced Persons from East Pakistan.

Evacuee Agricultural Lands in Rajasthan

**1670. SHRI PANNA LAI BARUPAL :
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND
REHABILITATION be pleased to state :**

(a) whether in July, 1959 instructions were issued by the Chief Settlement Commissioner, Department of Rehabilitation to the Regional Settlement Commissioner, Rajasthan vide this letter No. F. 7/11/59-Policy 11, dated the 8th July, 1959 that all pre and post-partition tenants of evacuee agricultural lands in Districts, other than Alwar and Bharatpur should be offered the lands in their occupation at the rate of Rs. 450/-per standard acre ; and

(b) if so, how much land has so far been offered to the eligible tenants in District Ganganagar in accordance with the above instructions and how much more land still remains to be offered ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 51 Bighas of the land have been offered to the eligible tenants in District

Ganganagar in accordance with the instructions dated 8th July, 1959 and 119-15 Bighas of the land still remains to be offered. 3 cases are pending for enquiry and order before the Managing officer.

Promotion to Assistant Engineers of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

1671. SHRI N. E. HORO : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether some Members of Parliament have requested him to do justice to the Assistant Engineers of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, who have been denied the promotion scope ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMAR A. MANGALAM) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This is a matter for consideration by the Company, who have examined it and are taking necessary action.

Attitude of Indonesia and Malaysia on Bangla Desh

1672. SHRI SHASHI BHUSHAN : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the attitude of Indonesia and Malaysia on the issue of Bangla Desh ;

(b) whether these two countries are in any way supporting West Pakistan on the issue of Bangla Desh ; and

(c) whether these countries have shown any interest in the solution of the Bangla Desh problem in the way which is acceptable to the people of Bangla Desh ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Governments of Indonesia and Malaysia have been consistent in their sympathetic attitude towards the problems arising from the influx of refugees from East Bengal.

(b) and (c). Both Indonesia and Malaysia have maintained that they cannot interfere in what they regard as an 'internal affair of Pakistan.'

Deposits of Copper Mines in Madhya Pradesh

1673. SHRI G. C. DIXIT : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India have discovered a considerable deposits of copper mines in Balaghat District in Madhya Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the main features thereof ; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to locate and utilise these copper deposits ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). As a result of systematic geological and geochemical investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India, reserves of 7.14 million tonnes with 1.67% copper have been estimated so far over a commulative strike length of 975 metres at Malanjkhand in Bihat Tehsil, Balaghat district, Madhya Pradesh. Further work is in progress.

(c) The entire area is being geologically mapped in detail. Drilling is in progress and a programme of exploratory mining is also being taken up shortly. Depending on the results of exploratory mining and beneficiation, a feasibility study will be made for optimum development of the deposit.

Restrictions on Indian Diplomats in Islamabad

1675. SHRI R. S. PANDEY : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Pakistan has placed restrictions on the movement of the staff of the Indian High Commission in Islamabad and no member of the staff is being allowed to come to India even in emergent cases ;

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

(c) the steps taken by Government the safety and security of the personnel of the Indian High Commission in Islamabad ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) The Government of Pakistan had placed such restrictions on the staff of the Indian

High Commission in Islamabad with effect from the third week of April, 1971. These restrictions have now been lifted with effect from November 18.

(b) The Government of India imposed reciprocal restrictions on the staff of the Pakistan High Commission in Delhi. These restrictions have also been lifted with effect from November 18 following the lifting of restrictions by the Government of Pakistan on the staff of the Indian High Commission in Islamabad.

(c) The Government of India have drawn the attention of the Pakistan Government to their obligations under the Vienna Convention, 1964.

Sale of Steel in Black Market in U.P.

1676 SHRI VIJAY PAI SINGH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report published in the Blitz dated the 7th August, 1971 under the caption "Steel allotted to Uttar Pradesh sold in black market" ;

(b) if so, the facts of the case ; and

(c) the steps taken to put an end to the corrupt practices in which high officials are involved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is being investigated by the Iron & Steel Controller, Calcutta and his report is awaited.

(c) Any case of misutilisation of steel coming to the notice of Government will be duly investigated, with the help of the Central Bureau of investigation where necessary. Action against the people concerned including officials if any, will be taken whereas justified.

Registration of Unrecognised Re-rolling Mills

1677. SHRI NARFNDRA SINGH . Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been any policy announcement to register unrecognised re-rolling mills in case they were upto certain

standards and were located in industrially backward States ; and

(b) if so, the names of such re-rolling mills registered in consonance with that Policy ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Employment of Workers by Unregistered Re-rolling Mills

1678. SHRI NARFNDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the unregistered re-rolling mills are providing jobs to about 36,000 workers as against only 12,000 workers employed by the Members of the Steel Re-rolling Mill Association of India ;

(b) whether Steel Re-rolling Mill Association are allotted fifteen times more quota of raw materials at a cheaper rate as compared to the unrecognised re-rolling mills ; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House

Allotment of Billets to Registered Re-rolling Mills

1679. SHRI NARFNDRA SINGH . Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether full quota of billets was allotted to registered re-rolling mills which had not been running at all or had been running only occasionally ;

(b) whether this quota was sold at very high rates in the market in the name of re-rolled materials ;

(c) the rates in both the cases ; and

(d) the steps taken to check this malpractice ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). Reports have been received by the Govern-

ment that a few Billet Re Rolling Mills which were not in operation had been receiving billets. The matter is being investigated by the Iron and Steel Controller.

(d) Regional Offices of the Iron and Steel Controller have been set up in different parts of the country and one of their functions is to check misuse of steel. The Iron and Steel (Control) Order has also been amended to provide that utilisation of steel for purposes other than that for which steel is allocated or applied for is now a violation of the Control Order and as such would attract the penal provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. In investigating such complaints the assistance of CBI is also being taken wherever necessary.

पाकिस्तान द्वारा हथियाई गई भारतीय नौकाओं का प्रयोग

1680 श्री हुक्म चन्द व्यवाय क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करें।

(a) क्या पाकिस्तान द्वारा 1965 में हथियाई गई भारतीय नौकाओं पर प्रयोग अपनी सचार व्यवस्था का कायम रखने के लिए तिया जा रहा है श्रीर

(ग) इस पर मराराव की प्रतिक्रिया क्या है और मराराव भवित्व में इस सम्बन्ध में क्या कदम उठाने जा रही है?

विदेश मन्त्रालय में उप मन्त्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) (र) सरकार ने इस बायां रो वार्फ मूचना प्राप्त नहीं की ।

(ग) प्र न नहीं उठाना ।

False Propaganda regarding return of Refugees from India

1681 SHRIMATI SAVITRI SHYAM Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn towards a news item published in the *Indian Express* dated the 24th September, 1971 in which Pakistan is reported to have claimed the return of about 60,000 displaced persons to Bangla Desh,

(b) if so, the reaction of Government of India, and

(c) the steps which are being taken by Government to refute false and baseless claims of Pakistan in foreign countries and other international agencies about the return of refugees?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) Yes, Sir The news item mentions the claim of Radio Pakistan that another 5 600 refugees had returned home to East Bengal

(b) The Government of India consider such Pakistani claim about refugees returning to East Bengal as mere propaganda since the influx of refugees into India from the military repression in East Bengal continues unabated.

(c) Government are keeping the international community constantly informed about the continuing influx of refugees into India whose number has reached almost 10 million and which gives the lie to Pakistani propaganda about refugees returning to their homes.

Contract System in Tata Engineering and Locomotive Company, Jamshedpur

1682 SHRI R P DAS Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the prevailing contract system in Tata Engineering and Locomotive Company, Jamshedpur employing a large number of workers in the factory under daily rates contract system, denying them prescribed rates of wages and other benefits under the labour law.

(b) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the joint report of the Inspectorate of Factories and State Labour Department of Bihar with regard to this and

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

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR) (a) to (c) The matter falls in the State sphere

Jobs to People in Identified Backward Areas

1683. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government have drawn up comprehensive schemes to provide more jobs to the people living in identified backward areas ; and

(b) if so, the salient features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). Keeping in view the special needs of the weaker sections and areas (including backward areas), the Government have formulated certain special schemes which are being implemented currently. These schemes relate to Small Farmer's Development Agencies, Agencies for Marginal Farmers and Agricultural Labour, Rural Works in the chronically drought prone areas, Dry Farming, Area Development in the command areas of irrigation projects and Crash Scheme for rural employment. For details in respect of these schemes reference is invited to the statement laid on the Table of the House in reply to parts (a), (b), (c) and (d) of Starred Question No. 970 on 7.7.1971.

Alleged Ineffective Management of National Coal Development Corporation

1684. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a three-day meeting of experts of the Administrative Staff College, Hyderabad ; the National Coal Development Corporation and the Department of Mines was held in the first week of September, 1971 ; and

(b) if so, the salient features of the discussion held and the decision taken and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Yes, Sir. A three day seminar was organised by the National Coal Development Corporation and the Singareni Collieries in collaboration with the Administrative Staff College in the first week of September, 1971, at New Delhi.

(b) The seminar was designed to provide

to the senior executives of the two Companies fresh perspectives in modern managerial approaches in order to improve the current operations and future prospects of the two Companies. No decisions were taken at the seminar.

Requirement of Steel for Industrial Development in State

1685. SHRI B. R. SHUKLA : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of steel requirement of each State at present per annum ;

(b) whether as a result of industrial developments being undertaken by Government on account of identification of backward areas for Industrial development in each State, the demand of steel is likely to go up considerably ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to meet the demand on this account ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Data have not been compiled regarding the steel requirements of individual States. The Steering Group on Iron and Steel, had, however, estimated the domestic demand for finished steel in 1971-72 at 6.05 million tonnes.

(b) it is too early to assess the effect on steel requirements. Estimates of steel requirements take into account an overall increase in industrial development.

(c) all possible steps are being taken to increase indigenous availability by increasing production, regulating exports, importing such categories of steel which are inescapable and streamlining distribution. Long term measures include the setting up of three new steel plants at Salem, Visakhapatnam and Vijayanagar.

Problems of East Bengal Displaced Persons

1686. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the residuary problems of East Bengal displaced persons still claiming the attention of the Central and State Governments awaiting proper redress ;

(b) the steps taken by Government of

India to fulfill the legitimate demands of the displaced persons specially with regard to Housing and Employment ; and

(c) the financial estimates, if any, for final adjustment of claims of displaced persons ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c) The problem of rehabilitation of old migrants who migrated from East Pakistan upto 31-3-1958 had, by and large been completed by 1960-61 except some residuary problem, for which a sum of Rs. 21.88 crores was assessed in 1961-62 in consultation with the West Bengal Government.

2. As saturation point had already been reached in West Bengal, a policy decision was taken in 1964 in consultation with the West Bengal Government that new migrants (*i.e.* those who came from East Pakistan from 1-1-1964 onwards) who sought admission in relief camps and were sponsored by the West Bengal Government, would be given rehabilitation assistance outside West Bengal.

Committee of Review :

The Government of India appointed in January, 1967 a Committee for review of rehabilitation work in West Bengal. The Committee was asked, *Inter alia* to—

(a) evaluate the working and results of rehabilitation measures undertaken in West Bengal after the residuary assessment ;

(b) to recommend measures including financial assistance in respect of the old migrants for the following --

(i) Development of colonies ;

(ii) Acquisition of land for resettlement of P. L. Home families :

(iii) Rehabilitation loans to those covered in the assessment of the residuary problem ; and

(iv) Technical training and industrial scheme ; and

(c) to assess the nature and size of the problem created by the new migrants and to recommend to the extent necessary, financial assistance for their technical training, employment, educational and medical facilities.

4. The Committee has so far submitted 9 Reports. The Government of India have

accepted, by and large, recommendations in respect of 4 Reports and have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 545.20 lakhs for the implementation of the various schemes. The remaining 5 Reports are under consideration.

Strike by Employees of Statistical Institute, Calcutta

1687 **SHRI SAROJ MUKHERJEE :** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the strike launched by the employees of the Statistical Institute, Calcutta in protest against the arrest of one of their colleagues ;

(b) if so, the reasons for this arrest ; and

(c) whether Government are considering to release him ; if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and would be laid on the Table of the House as soon as possible.

Explorations by Geological Survey of India

1688 **SHRI K. SURYANARAYANA :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the explorations made by the Geological Survey of India in the last 12 months have proved additional reserves of Coal, Copper, lead-zinc, and Bauxite in various places of the country ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof and the action taken by Government thereon ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAIINAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). As a result of investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India, additional reserves of coal, copper, lead-zinc and bauxite, have been outlined during the last 12 months in various parts of the country. Action regarding working of the deposits will be considered when a clear picture, in each case, of the total reserves available for exploitation is obtained for

which investigations are in progress. A their locations is laid on the Table of the statement showing the reserves outlined and House.

STATEMENT

Mineral	Total additions outlined in last 12 months.	Break-up
Copper ore	6.556 million tonnes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 6.00 million tonnes at Malanjkhand, Balaghat district, Madhya Pradesh. 2. 0.156 million tonnes in Ingaldahalu-Kunchiganahalu, Chitradurga distt. Mysore, 3. 0.4 million tonnes, Bayanbil, Singhbhum distt. Bihar.
Lead-Zinc ore	6.525 million tonnes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 0.65 million tonnes, at Karempudi, Agnigundala Belt, Andhra Pradesh. 2. 0.60 million tonnes, Ambaji-Kembaria sector, Banaskantha district, Gujarat. 3. 4.535 million tonnes, Baroi Mogra, Zawar Belt, Rajasthan. 4. 0.74 million tonnes, Sindesh-was Block, Rajpura-Bethumni Belt, Udaipur district, Rajasthan.
Bauxite	9.7 million tonnes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 4.00 million tonnes-Dhulupal block, Ranchi district, Bihar 2. 1.00 million tonnes, Mahadevia, Jamnagar district, Gujarat. 3. 4.00 million tonnes-Supkhar and Kotpahar blocks, Balaghat district, M.P. 4. 0.7 million tonnes-Kuddarka and Manipur, S. Kanara, Mysore.
Coal	174.22 million tonnes.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 3.82 million tonnes, Godavari Valley, A. P. 2. 20.15 Jharia, Bihar 3. 36.96 N. Karanpura, Bihar, 4. 3.15 Deltonganj, Bihar 5. 7.75 East Bokaro, Bihar. 6. 8.88 Rajmahal, Bihar. 7. 1.77 Sonhat, Madhya Pradesh. 8. 85.48 Singrauli, M. P. and U. P. 9. 5.56 Raniganj, West Bengal.

Cost of Iron Structural and Iron Plates

1689. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the high cost of iron structural, iron plates and sheets, three or four times, more than the official rate ;

(b) whether any assessment has been made in this regard ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to stop the black marketing of the steel trade and have a proper distribution system ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). It is true that the open market prices for steel (and not iron) structural, plates and sheets are above the prices of the Producers' stockyards, but they are not three or four times more than those prices.

(c) Steps taken to reduce the high open market prices include broad measures to increase availability by increasing domestic production, increase imports substantially and regulate exports. Efforts have also been made to streamline distribution by channeling almost the entire availability to actual consumers, whose requirements have been screened.

At the same time, in order to reduce undesirable transactions by parties obtaining steel, an amendment has been made to the Iron and Steel (Control) Order in March 1971 which provides that the use of steel for any purpose other than that for which it is allotted or applied for is a violation of that Order and as such will attract the penal provisions of the Essential Commodities Act. Regional Offices of the Iron and Steel Controller have been set up *inter alia* to keep a watch over proper utilisation of steel by individual parties and undertake detailed spot checks where necessary.

Death of a Worker of Bokaro Steel Limited

1690. SHRI KRISHNA CHANDRA HALDER : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Mrs. Anjali Hom, a worker of Bokaro Steel Limited (Dhanbad), who

had been admitted in the Bokaro Steel Limited Hospital for delivery has not been given proper treatment and subsequently died in a Calcutta Hospital ;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from the workers of Bokaro Steel Limited demanding a judicial enquiry in the matter ; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) Late Mrs. Anjali Hom, an ex-employee of Bokaro Steel Ltd., was given the best possible treatment available in the Bokaro Hospital. A senior specialist from Purulia was also sent for consultation. She was transferred to a Calcutta Hospital for more specialised treatment where unfortunately she expired.

(b) and (c). No, Sir. On the complaint of a section of employees alleging that late Mrs. Hom had not been properly treated in the Company's Hospital, the management of B. S. L. set up a high level Enquiry Committee to enquire into the causes of death. The Committee has come to the conclusion that the death of Mrs. Hom did not take place either due to wrong treatment or negligence of the Doctors.

Allegation Against Managing Director of Durgapur Project Limited

1691. SHRI N. SHIVAPPA :

SHRI D. B. CHANDRA GOWDA :

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

(a) whether Government have since inquired into the allegations made against Shri S. Paul, Managing Director, Durgapur Project Limited ;

(b) if so, the conclusions arrived at ; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to be taken by Government in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) A criminal case instituted against Shri S. Paul, the then Managing Director, Durgapur

Projects Ltd. is under investigation by Police.

(b) and (c). Do not arise pending receipt of the results of police case.

Visit of Japanese Mission

1692. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Japanese Mission recently visited India to establish high-level political contacts ;

(b) if so, the names of the members of this Mission ; and

(c) what has been the impact of this Mission on Indo-Japanese relations ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURINDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) A Japanese Parliamentary delegation headed by the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Japanese Lower House of Parliament, Mr. Sakuruchi, visited India from 19 to 25 September, 1971, on the invitation of the Government of India to study the problem of refugees from East Bengal and related questions.

(b) The names of the members of the Mission are :

(1) Mr. Y. Sakuruchi, Leader

(2) Mr. R. Nagata :

(3) Mr. M. Aoki : and

(4) Mr. I. Nakao.

(c) The visit was helpful in promoting greater understanding in Japan about the tremendous problem faced by India about refugees from East Bengal.

E.P.F.O. Employees' Demands

1693. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3021 on the 24th June, 1971 and state :

(a) whether the remaining demands of the employees of Provident Fund Organisation have been met ;

(b) if not, the reasons for the the abnormal delay ;

(c) whether there is a growing discon-

tent among the employees is not conceding their legitimate demand so far ;

(d) whether House Rent allowance has been increased only in the case of metropolitan cities and not for all cities ; and

(e) if so, the reason for this discrimination ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) to (e). The Central Board of Trustees which administers the Employees' Provident Fund has considered the two remaining demands of the nine principal demands made by the All India Employees' Provident Fund Staff Federation. In regard to pay scales, the Board has reiterated its earlier decision of adhering to the Central Government pattern. As for the house rent allowance, the Board has recommended its enhancement, over the existing levels, at 5% at all places other than Bombay and 10% at Bombay. This recommendation of the Board is under Government's consideration.

International Labour Organisation

1694. SHRI D. P. JADEJA : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether a Seminar organised by International Labour Organisation was held during November, 1971 at New Delhi ;

(b) if so, the main recommendations made at the Seminar : and

(c) the reaction of Government of India to those recommendations ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). Final report has not yet been received.

Functioning of Coking Coal Mines taken over by Government

1695. SHRIMATI BIBHA GHOSH GOSWAMI : SHRI SHANKAR DAYAL SINGH :

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

(a) whether the coking coal mines taken over by Government has been inundated with water or choked up with highly

dangerous and inflammable gases following the removal of essential pumps and large ventilating fans by the previous management ;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government for the proper functioning of these coal mines ; and

(c) the action taken against the previous management for their sabotage work ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) There is no report of any of the coking coal mines, taken over by Government, having been inundated with water or chocked up with highly dangerous and inflammable gases.

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

Project to Provide Employment to Bangla Desh Refugees

1696. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had launched some projects to provide some employment to the evacuees from Bangla Desh ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Evacuation of Refugees from Border Areas

1697. SHRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any scheme to evacuate completely the Bangla Desh evacuees from the border areas as the tension mounts in those areas ; and

(b) if so, the broad features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, in order to relieve the border States of the heavy pressure of refugee population in the border areas, it was decided to set up 50

large-sized central camps, each with a capacity of 50,000 persons, either in the interior of West Bengal or in other States wherever sufficient Government land is available.

Closure of Pure Shitalpur Colliery Asansol

1698. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pure Shitalpur Colliery at Andal thana, Asansol (West Bengal) has been closed down since the 28th July, 1971 ; and

(b) if so, the total number of workers thrown out of work due to this closure ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The colliery stopped working from the 24th July, 1971 to 12th August, 1971.

(b) About 700.

Memorandum from Medical Officers of Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi

1699. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any memorandum from the Medical Officers of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi, demanding better service conditions and C.H.S. pay scales ;

(b) if so, the main points thereof ; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to alleviate the grievances of the medical officers there ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). No such memorandum has been received by Government. This is essentially a matter to be considered by the management of the Heavy Engineering Corporation, Ranchi.

S. C. and S. T. Job Seekers

1700. SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Scheduled Tribes and

Scheduled Castes job-seekers out of 5,43,000 job-seekers on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in 1970 ; and

(b) the number of educated Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes applicants who got placements out of 72,024 placements during 1970 ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) Of the total 5,42,851 Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes job-seekers on the live register as on 31-12-1970, 4,49,305 were from Scheduled Castes and 93,546 from Scheduled Tribes.

(b) Educated Scheduled Castes (Matriculates and above)	15,135
Educated Scheduled Tribes (Matriculates and above)	2,374

S C and S T Candidates Trained by Coaching-Cum-Guidance Centres

1701 SHRI T S LAKSHMANAN ·

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates who have been trained by the four coaching-cum-guidance Centres at Madras, Delhi, Jabalpur and Kanpur ; and

(b) the number of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes candidates who were helped to get employment in the reserved vacancies so far ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R.K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The Coaching-cum-Guidance Centres do not give training to the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates. The Centres have been set up with the twin objectives of rendering vocational guidance and employment counselling to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes work seekers. The work done by each of the four Centres during October, 1970 to September, 1971 is as under :—

	Kanpur	Delhi	Jabalpur	Madras
Registration/Group Guidance.	1017	2167	937	234
Pre-submission Guidance	43	1263	867	92
Individual Information and Guidance	1107	741	2033	680
Counselling to Parents.	6	157	37	11
Confidence Building Programmes.	178	812	688	519

(b) These centres do not carry out placement functions. The placement of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe applicants is effected by the Employment Exchanges. The Employment Exchanges at Kanpur, Delhi, Jabalpur and Madras, where Centres are located, places 3,989 Scheduled

Caste and 199 Scheduled Tribe applicants in employment during the one year period from July, 1970 to June, 1971*. Of these 340 Scheduled Caste applicants and 120 Scheduled Tribe applicants had been placed against reserved vacancies.

*Statistics regarding registration and placement of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe applicants are collected from Employment Exchanges at half-yearly intervals, i.e., 30th June and 31st December, each year.

Publication of Career Information Series in regional languages

1702 SHRI P A SAMINATHAN
Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Career Pamphlets, Career Information Series, Career Posters, Handbooks on Training Facilities and such others publications are being published in regional languages, and

(b) if so, the languages in which they have been published ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHA-DILKAR) (a) and (b) Translation of these publications in regional languages being the responsibility of the State Governments, information is being collected from

them and will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as available.

Shortage in occupations

1703. SHRI P. A. SAMINATHAN : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) the nature and kind of occupations in which shortages were reported by the employees during the last three years

(b) the total number of applicants in these categories seeking employment during the last three years, Year-wise, and

(c) the number of employments secured in such categories during the last three years, Year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHA-DILKAR) (a) to (c) A statement is attached

STATEMENT

Number of applicants placed by Employment Exchanges in occupations which were reported by employers to be in persistent shortages and the number of work-seekers on live register in such occupations

Occupations in which persistent shortages* were reported by the employers	No. of applicants placed during			No. of work seekers on live register as on		
	July 1969	July, 1969 to June, 1970	July, 1969 to June, 1971	30.6.1969	30.6.1970	30.6.1971
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1 Physician, General	165	285	278	785	1626	2423
2 Medical & Surgical specialists	20	28	17	1	7	10
3 Nurse, General	371	402	721	1066	1381	1436
4 Lady Health visitors	117	112	203	321	210	178
5 Pharmacists	1103	953	1043	2188	2238	2385
6 Sanitary Inspectors	2839	2084	2534	1211	1052	1225
7 University Teachers, Surgery & Engineering	204	127	159	39	41	45

* Under the programme for collection Employment Market Information, all establishments in the public sector and non-agricultural establishments in the private sector employing 10 or more persons are submitting quarterly employment returns to Employment Exchanges covering their area. One of the items in the return relates to number of vacancies remaining unfilled at the end of the quarter due to shortage of suitable applicants.

8. Teachers, Secondary School.	13689	15006	15870	24048	28702	34950
9. Teachers, Secondary School (Languages).	2016	2731	3720	6575	7385	8025
10. Teachers, Arts & Crafts and Manual Training.	2014	2042	2734	8077	8971	9654
11. Accountant.	275	208	246	832	754	895
12. Village level workers.	523	428	516	455	427	477
13. Librarians.	361	322	317	1089	1436	1188
14. Stenographers.	2213	2830	3052	8108	10063	12638
15. Typists.	11779	12441	13456	62194	75020	95812
16. Mechanic, precision Instruments.	89	64	50	814	906	737
17. Fitter, General.	2422	2528	2713	23392	24003	26987
18. Die-makers.	11	2	180	133	159	192
19. Turners.	1007	1107	995	10443	10643	18763
20. Millers.	157	155	190	906	961	1311
21. Automobile Mechanics.	747	717	720	10422	11827	13043
22. Grinders.	124	88	136	863	987	1306

Rules regarding Departmental Promotions in Department of supply

to be replaced by persons senior to them in the fresh panel.

1704. SHRI R. P. UAGANAMBI : Will the Minister of SUPPLY be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Rules regarding Departmental promotions in his Department are being changed every year ; and

(b) whether 17 officers were demoted recently as a result of such a change and their juniors were promoted ?

THE MINISTER OF SUPPLY (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN) : (a) No.

Departmental promotions are being made strictly in accordance with Government instructions issued from time to time.

(b) Presumably, the reference is to Assistant Directors (Grade II). As a result of the preparation of a fresh panel in 1971 for making officiating promotions to the grade of Assistant Director (Grade II), 15 officers, who were officiating in the grade of A. D. (Gr. II), on a purely temporary basis, were reverted to non-gazetted posts as they had

Taking over of Coking Coal mines in Jharia area

1705. SHRI DALIP SINGH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Coking Coal Mines in the Jharia area have been taken over by Government ; and

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take to improve the coal industry in these mines ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) The Government have taken over the management of coking coal mines in Jharia and other places.

(b) The Government propose to take all the steps necessary to reorganise and reconstruct the mines taken over, for the purpose of protecting, conserving and promoting scientific development of the scarce resources of coking coal.

रांची स्थित हैं वी इन्जीनियरिंग कार्पोरेशन के विस्थापित व्यक्तियों का पुनर्बास

1706. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष 1967 में गांधी ने हुए साम्प्रदायिक दगो के समय हैं वी इन्जीनियरिंग कार्पोरेशन, रांची में काम बरने वाले विस्थापित मुसलमान अभियों की कुल संख्या कितनी थी ; और

(ख) उनमें से कितने व्यक्तियों को पुनर्बमा दिया गया है और शेष व्यक्तियों को न बसाये जाने के क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्री (श्री एस० मोहन कुमार मगतम) : (क) अगस्त, 1967 में हुए दगो के समय भारी इन्जीनियरी निगम के 687 मुस्लिम कर्मचारी भारी इन्जीनियरी निगम की बस्ती में निगम के बार्टरों में रह रहे थे। इन में से लगभग 500 कर्मचारी परिवारों सहित भारी इन्जीनियरी निगम के केन्द्रीय प्रशिक्षण सम्पादन के दो आर्टिसन होस्टलों में भेज दिया गया थे और बाबी अपनी मर्जी के अनुमार भारी इन्जीनियरी निगम के प्रागण से बाहर दूररे स्थानों पर चले गए थे।

(ख) अक्टूबर 1971 के अन्त तक 72 मुस्लिम कर्मचारी मपरिवार बस्ती के बाटरों में बिस आ गये थे। अन्य कर्मचारियों को फिर से बसाना सभव नहीं हो सका है क्योंकि वे अब भी बस्ती में जाने से डिक्किचाते हैं हालाकि सिविल प्राविकारियों तथा राज्य सरकार द्वारा पुलिस का पूरा तया कारगर प्रबन्ध कर दिया गया है।

यह एक नाजुक सामाजिक समस्या है जिसके समाधान के लिए सभी सब्वित व्यक्तियों को स्वेच्छा से सहयोग देना चाहिए तथा इस काम में कुछ और समय लग जायेगा। इस बारे में सच्चे दिल से प्रयत्न जारी है।

बिहार में धातु शोधक कोयला खानों का काम ठेकेदारों द्वारा किया जाना

1707. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार की जिन धातु शोधक कोयला खानों को सरकारी प्रबन्ध में लिया गया है उनमें से हजारीबाग जिले की कोयला खानों में अभी भी ठेकेदारों द्वारा ही काम लिया जा रहा है ;

(ख) यदि हा तो इसके क्या कारण हैं, और

(ग) इस प्रथा को अभी तक चालू रखने का क्या अधिकारी है ?

इस्पात और खान मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) से (ग). अधिकार में ली गई बिहार के हजारीबाग जिले की कुछेक कोकार कोयला खानों में, केवल उन मदों के लिये जिनके लिये दावे जाच न्यायालय ने ध्यवस्था की थी, मविदा प्रणाली अभी भी जारी है। कोयला उत्पादन जैसे अन्य मदों के बारे में मविदा प्रणाली पहले ही समाप्त कर दी गई है।

कोयला खानों को सहकारिता के आधार पर चलाना

1708. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या इस्पात और खान मंत्री बिहार में गिरीडीह कोयला खानों को सहकारिता के आधार पर चलाने के बारे में 3 जून, 1971 के अतर्राकित प्रश्न संख्या 1264 के उत्तर के मम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गिरीडीह स्थित कोयला खान संख्या 23-वीं को सहकारिता के आधार पर चलाने के लिये लेवर-सहकारिता समिति के साथ इस बीच ऐप्रीमेंट हो गया है ? और

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

इस्पात और खान मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) नियम द्वारा बनाये गये भागीदार कसर के प्रारूप के सचिव, तम सहकारिता समिति, गिरिडीह को दिये जाने से पूर्व निवेशक मंडल द्वारा अनुमोदित किया जाना था । मंडल ने प्रारूप का अपनी 16 सितम्बर, 1971 की बैठक में अनुमोदन किया । तत्पश्चात्, उसे सचिव, सहकारिता समिति को आवश्यक कार्यवाही हेतु, भेजा गया था । राष्ट्रीय कोयला विकास निगम के अध्यक्ष ने सहकारिता समिति के प्रतिनिधियों से अनुरोध किया है कि वे भागीदार विलेख को अन्तिम रूप देने से पूर्व उन से मिले ।

Cyclone in Orissa

1709. SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

- (a) the number of persons uprooted as a result of cyclone in Orissa ;
- (b) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to rehabilitate them ;
- (c) whether they have been provided with necessary food and shelter ; and
- (d) the time by which Government propose to rehabilitate them permanently ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) The number of persons physically uprooted owing to the tidal bore and severe cyclone is estimated by the State Government to exceed five lakhs.

(b) The financial assistance required by the State Government will be considered by the Government of India on the basis of the report of the Central Team which has visited the area. Some funds have already been released to meet immediate requirements.

(c) Emergent relief has been provided to all affected persons for 7 days. Further emergent relief is being provided for areas affected by the tidal bore and severe cyclone. Steps are being taken to provide

shelter and to assist agriculturists to sow a rabi crop.

(d) The various measures proposed by the State Government for permanent rehabilitation are being considered by the different concerned Ministries of the Government of India. It will be possible to indicate after final decisions are taken, the time by which such measures, as may be sanctioned, may be implemented.

Soviet submarines in Indian Ocean

1710. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : SHRI BANAMALI PATNAIK :

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

- (a) whether an Italian journal "Lo Specchio" has carried photographs purported to be showing a USSR submarines at Port Louis and Soviet sailors on the beach wearing caps with an inscription reading "Indian Ocean Fleet" ;
- (b) whether investigations have been carried out in the matter ;
- (c) if so, the outcome thereof ; and
- (d) the action taken or proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government's attention has been drawn to the reports in question.

(b) and (c). Government is aware that the navies of several powers, including that of the Soviet Union, are present in the Indian Ocean.

(d) In view of the possible dangers posed by these presences, Government had already decided to seek support for the implementation of the Lusaka Declaration on this subject.

Procedure of Steel Distribution

1711. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the present steel distribution scheme which requires a cash advance of 10 per cent of the value of the indents for steel to be placed with the producers helps the bigger concerns ;

(b) whether the less affluent fabricators,

just recovering from the recession, find it difficult to keep a sizeable amount of money blocked in the shape of advances and that too without any interest ; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in the matter ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) to (c). The Hon'ble member presumably refers to the earnest money stipulation prescribed by the Joint Plant Committee.

According to the present stipulation, the exemption limit for existing actual users (who have received planning notes from Joint Plant Committee upto 1-2-71) will be calculated on the basis of the best year's despatches in any of the three financial years, 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-1970 plus 100%, minus the backlog as on 1-2-1971, subject to a minimum of 200 tonnes. Where both the figures of best year's despatch plus 100% and the outstanding on 1-2-1971 are less than 200 tonnes, the exemption limit will be 200 tonnes.

It is only if consumers wish to book orders beyond the exemption limits granted as above that they will have to pay earnest money at 10%. Thus all actual users will be able to have their indents planned without paying any earnest money to cover very much more than the level of dispatches they are likely to get from the Steel Plants.

2. It has since been decided that the despatches to Small Scale Industries will be canalised through the respective State Small Scale Industries Corporations. Such Corporations have been fully exempted from payment of earnest money. Small Scale units are therefore not likely to face any hardship.

Pakistan's complaint against India to Secretary-General, U. N.

1712. SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Pakistan has complained to the United Nations Secretary-General against what is called "India's open interference in its internal affairs" ;

(b) whether Pakistan has also accused India of posing a threat to peace in the sub-Continent ;

(c) if so, the reaction of the U. N. Secretary-General thereto ; and

(d) the action taken by Government in the matter ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). Pakistan has made allegations to this effect in an *aide memoire* addressed to the Secretary-General on August 13, 1971, as well as in statements made by its delegates in the current session of the General Assembly.

(c) He has, drawn the attention of the international community to the situation in East Bengal in the introduction to his annual report to the General Assembly, stating that the problems born of a disaster of such vast proportions can be solved only if a political solution based on reconciliation and the respect of humanitarian principles is achieved.

(d) The allegations made in the Pakistani *Aide Memoire* of August the 13th were patently false and baseless and the Government has decided not to send a written reply to it as it would only have fulfilled Pakistan's objective of fomenting a controversy and converting the Bangla Desh issue into an Indo-Pakistan dispute, thereby diverting international attention from the internal situation inside East Bengal. The oral allegations made by Pakistani delegates were, however, effectively countered by the Foreign Minister and India's Permanent Representative to the U. N. during discussions in the General Assembly and its Committees.

Survey conducted by Geological Survey of India for locating Gold Deposits in Kerala

1713. SHRI A. K. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Geological Survey of India has conducted any survey in Kerala State for locating gold deposits ; and

(b) if so, the main features thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) : (a) and (b). The investigations carried out by the Geological Survey of India for gold in

Wyand gold field which extends from Nilgiri district (Tamil Nadu) to Kozhikode district in (Kerala) has revealed poor gold mineralisation on Kerala side and therefore does not warrant any mining activity. Investigation of alluvial gold in Nilambur Valley in Kozhikode district has also indicated the reserves too small for any viable economic exploitation.

U.S. Arms Aid to Pakistan through Third Countries

1714. **SHRI C. JANARDHANAN :** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the U.S.A. continues to supply military hardwares to Pakistan through third countries ; and

(b) if so, the quantity and value of such supplies received by Pakistan, since March, 1971 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) and (b). The U.S. Government have denied that the US Government is supplying military hardware to Pakistan through third countries. According to them, since March, 1971, no requests for such transfers have been received and no permission has been granted.

भारतीय दूतावासों पर व्यवस्था

1715. श्री मुल्की राज सेनी : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन-किन देशों में भारत के दूतावास हैं ;

(ख) उन पर सरकार का प्रति वर्ष कितना व्यवस्था होता है ; और

(ग) भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा अधिकारी भारतीय सिविल सेवा में कौन-कौन से अधिकारी राजदूत के रूप में नियुक्त हैं ?

विदेश मन्त्रालय में उप-मन्त्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र पाल सिंह) : (क) से (ग). विवरण सदन की मेज पर रख दिया गया है। [प्रधानमंत्री में रखा गया देखिये संख्या एल० टी०—1116/71]

Grant of City Allowance to Employees of Rourkela Steel Plant

1716. **SHRI GAJADHAR MAJHI :** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any provision of allowing the employees of Hindustan Steel Limited to draw City Allowances including House Rent and City Compensatory Allowance ;

(b) whether the employees of Rourkela Steel Plant are getting City Allowances ; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARA-MANGALAM) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In terms of the rules of the Company governing the grant of house rent and city compensatory allowances, these allowances are admissible to employees stationed at certain localities specified in this behalf on the lines of the corresponding rules of the Central Government. Rourkela is not one of the localities so specified.

गंर-मान्यता प्राप्त यूनियनें

1717. श्री हुकम चंद कछवाय :

श्री आर० बी० बडे :

क्या अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने कुछ थ्रिमिक यूनियनों से, जो अभी तक मान्यता प्राप्त नहीं हैं, मान्यता के संबंध में विचार करने के लिए यूनियनों की संख्या तथा सदस्य संख्या के सम्बन्ध में स्टेटमेंट मांगा है ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बीच किन-किन यूनियनों ने इस प्रकार का स्टेटमेंट सरकार को दिया है और अखिल भारतीय स्तर पर उनमें से प्रत्येक की सदस्य संख्या कितनी-कितनी है ?

अम और पुनर्वास मंत्री (श्री आर० कौशिलकर) : (क) श्री (ख). थ्रिमिकों के कुछ केन्द्रीय संगठनों से अनुरोध किया गया था कि

वे अपने से सम्बद्ध मजदूर संघों की 31 दिसंबर 1970 को सदस्य-संसद्या और संघों के अन्य ध्योरों से सम्बन्धित इपने दावे भेजे ताकि त्रिपक्षीय सलाहकार नियमों में श्रमिकों के प्रतिनिधित्व के प्रश्न पर विचार किया जा सके।

जिन संगठनों ने अपने दावा-ध्योरे भेज दिए हैं, उनके नाम इस प्रकार हैं —

क्रमांक	संगठन का नाम
1.	भारतीय मजदूर संघ, बम्बई।
2.	सेटर आफ़ इडियन ट्रेड यूनियन्स, कलकत्ता।
3.	यूनाइटेड ट्रेड यूनियन कार्प्रेस, लेनिन सारानी, कलकत्ता।
4.	लेवर प्रौद्योगिक फेडरेशन मद्रास।
5.	नैशनल कट आफ़ इडियन ट्रेड यूनियन, कलकत्ता।
6.	इडियन फेडरेशन आफ़ इन्डिपेंडेंट ट्रेड यूनियन्स, कलकत्ता।

उनके सदस्य सर्वया सम्बंधी दावों का प्रारम्भिक सत्यापन किया जा रहा है।

आम इडिया लेवर कान्फेस में सी० आई० टी० पू० द्वारा माग लेना

1718 श्री हुकम चंद कछवाय
श्री आर० बी० बडे।

क्या अब और पुनर्वासि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगा कि

(क) क्या माह अक्टूबर, 1971 में दिल्ली में सम्मन्न हुई आल इण्डिया लेवर कान्फेस में सी० आई० टी० पू० जो मान्यता प्राप्त अम सत्या नहीं है को भी भाग लेने के लिए आमत्रित किया गया था,

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं; और

(ग) मान्यता प्राप्त अन्यूनियनों को उक्त कान्फेस में क्यों आमत्रित नहीं किया गया था?

अब और पुनर्वासि मन्त्री (श्री आर० बी० लालिकार) (क) से (ग) देश में मजदूर संघ संगठनों के आधारभूत दावों में जो परिवर्तन हो रहे थे, उन्हे ध्यान म रखने, सी० आई० टी० पू० को उसकी प्रारंभिक पर और उसके अन्ने खबर पर नई दिल्ली में, अक्टूबर 1971 में हुए भारतीय श्रम सम्मेलन के 27वें सत्र में एक प्रेक्षक भेजन वी अनुमति दी थी। यह एक अतिरिम व्यवस्था थी जो एसे किमी निरांय के लिए, जो त्रिपक्षीय निरायों के गठन, जो सम्मेलन के समक्ष विचार रीत विषय था, के बारे में अन्ततः लिया जाए, हानिकार नहीं थी। मरकार के विचार म एमी गविधाये श्रमिकों के किमी अन्य संगठन ना देना न्यायोचित न होता।

कराची स्थिति भारतीय हाई कमिशनर की तलाशी

1719. श्री आर० बी० बडे

श्री हुकम चंद कछवाय

क्या विदेश मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेगा कि

(क) क्या विदेश घोषणा पत्र का उत्तरधन करने हुए वर्ष 1965 में कराची रियति भारतीय हाई कमीशन की तलाशी ली गई थी,

(ख) यदि हा, तो इसके क्या कारण थे, और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में सरकार न बया राय वाही की है?

विदेश मन्त्रालय में उष-मन्त्री (श्री सुरेन्द्र-पाल लिह) (क) जी हा।

(ख) पाकिस्तानी अधिकारियों ने इन राजनयिक अधिकारी एवं उन्मुक्तियों के उत्तराभास के लिए कोई वैध वारण नहीं बताए।

(ग) सरकार ने भारतीय हाई कमीशन के साथ किये गये दुःखद व्यवहार के बिरुद्ध कठोर शब्दों में विरोध प्रकट किया था। हाई कमीशन और इसके सदस्यों की सम्पत्ति को नुकसान पहुँचाये जाने के लिए पूरे मुम्रावजे की मांग के साथ-साथ पाकिस्तान सरकार द्वारा मार्फी की मांग भी गई थी।

Implementation of Bonus Formula

1720 SHRI SOMCHAND SOLANKI : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the announced Bonus Formula has been implemented in all the States ; and

(b) whether it has been implemented in all the industries or not ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). Information is not available.

Allotment of Land in Kharera Village, Delhi

1721 SHRI DALIP SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state .

(a) the total area of Abadi Dehs of village Kharera (Delhi) and whether it has been allotted to somebody ;

(b) the number of persons to whom this land has been allotted ;

(c) the number of industries running on this land and whether all these factories are granted licence ; and

(d) if not, the action Government have taken against the defaulters ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) : (a) and (b). According to revenue record, Khasra No. 395, measuring 26 bighas and 5 biswas was shown as Abadi Deh and was taken over as evacuee property and sold to six persons along with two pieces of agricultural land measuring 3 bighas and 18 biswas.

(c) Three industries. Two have not municipal licences valid upto March, 1972,

and the third is registered with the Directorate General of Technical Development.

(d) Does not arise.

Setting up of Steel Plant at Salem

1722. SHRI S. NARASIMHA REDDY : Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Consultants engaged by the Steel Ministry have, after further detailed investigation, expressed doubts as to the suitability of Neyveli Lignite and Kanjamalai's iron ore and the manufacturing process based on which the steel plant is being established at Salem ; and

(b) if so, whether the report of the findings will be placed on the Table ?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI S. MOHAN KUMARAMANGALAM) : (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Consultants will be available in the Techno-economic Feasibility Report on the Salem Steel Project, to be submitted by them shortly. The Consultants have, however, indicated in the meantime that Neyveli Lignite char would not be suitable for production of special steels envisaged at Salem, due to high sulphur content in the char. As regards Kanjamalai iron ore, they are of the view that the ore can be beneficiated and pelletised for production of hot metal by electric smelting process.

Reaction of China to Indo-Soviet Peace Treaty

1723. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether China has sent any official reaction to the signing of Indo-Soviet Treaty to India or has conveyed its reaction through any other diplomatic channel ; and

(b) if so, the reaction conveyed ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Invitation to India to Attend Non-Aligned Group's meeting at New York

1724 **SHRI CHINTAMANI PANI-GRAHI** Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state

(a) whether Government received any invitation to attend the meeting of the non-aligned group, which was held in New York and

(b) whether Government have received any communications from the non aligned group since August, 1971 ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAI AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) (a) Yes , Sir

(b) The Government of India keeps in close and continuous touch with members of the non-aligned group India participated in the Consultative Meetings, both at the official and Ministerial level, of the non-aligned countries held in New York in September, 1971 As a member of the Preparatory Committee India is also fully associated with the preparations for similar meetings to be held next year

Foreign Personnel Working in Relief Camps in West Bengal

1725 **SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND RLHABILITAT'ON be pleased to state

(a) the number of foreign personnel working in the relief camps in West Bengal ,

(b) whether India could utilise its man power to replace them , and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha

Location of Zinc Factories

1726 **SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state the places where the Zinc factories in the

private and public sector in the country are situated ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) At present there are two Zinc Smelters in the country one at Alwaye (Kerala) in the private sector and the other at Debari near Udaipur (Rajasthan) in the public sector

Production in Cominco Binani Zinc Limited, Kerala

1727 **SHRIMATI BHARGAVI THANKAPPAN** Will the Minister of STEEL AND MINES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Cominco Binani Zinc Limited Kerala has been out of production due to the labour trouble , and

(b) if so the facts thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL AND MINES (SHRI SHAHNAWAZ KHAN) (a) and (b) The Zinc Smelter of M/s Cominco Binani Zinc Limited, at Alwave, was out of production due to strike by the workers during the period 13th March to 7th June, 1971

The strike, it is reported, was in protest against disciplinary action taken by the management against an employee for damaging a vital equipment of the factory

Review of Progress of Worker's Education

1728 **SHRI M. KATHAMUTHA** Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state

(a) whether Government have received the progress of worker's education in the country , and

(b) if so the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR) (a) and (b) The Worker's Education Scheme has been recently reviewed, first by the National Commission on Labour and then by the Estimates Committee of the Parliament Their recommendations are under Government's examination .

Discrimination against Indians in Canada

1729. SHRI M M. JOSEPH : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether a socio-economic survey in a province of Canada had shown that Indian community there had experienced discrimination in different forms ; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SURENDRA PAL SINGH) : (a) Government have seen a copy of the article entitled 'Saskatchewan Survey Finds Discrimination A Reality', published in the Canadian India Times of October 7, 1971.

(b) According to Government's information, the persons of Indian origin do not suffer from any perceptible discrimination in Canada. When a person seeks and is granted citizenship of a country they owe loyalty to their country of adoption and there should be no question of complaining against it to their country of origin.

12.01 hrs.

**RE : ALLEGED ATTACK ON
CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY
PREMISES**

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour)—*Rose.*

MR. SPEAKER : Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, the students' unrest and youth trouble is there everywhere, in all the universities ; something is going on here and there ..

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, I will just take half-a-minute, just to bring it to the notice of the House...

MR. SPEAKER : Not more than that. But don't make it a precedent.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am not taking it as precedent, Sir. I have received the following telegram from the General Secretary, Students' Federation of India, Calcutta :

"Unruly boys attacked the premises

of the Calcutta University and ransacked and set fire to valuable papers, records, furniture, Students' health board room and damaged an ambulance. The attack took place in the presence of Police. For last 2 years set of boys have completely disrupted academic atmosphere creating panic among students. Today the same terror tactics are pursued openly in the presence of police. Immediate intervention solicited for formal functioning of educational institutions. These boys belonging to Chhatra Parishad. Strongly condemn their action."

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY (Cooch-Bihar) : We strongly deny that ; these are not belonging to Chhatra Parishad. These are CPM boys. I want to make it clear, Sir.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : He does not know anything (Interruption)

MR. SPEAKER : Order, please. Papers to be laid on the Table ; Shri Khadiikar.

12.03 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

**WEST BENGAL EMPLOYEES' PAYMENT OF
COMPULSORY GRATUITY ACT**

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SIIRI R.K. KHADIKKAR) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the West Bengal Employees' Payment of Compulsory Gratuity Act, 1971 (President's Act No. 7 of 1971) Published in Gazette of India dated the 28th August, 1971, under sub-section (3) of section 3 of the West Bengal State Legislature (Delegation of Powers) Act, 1971. [Placed in Library. See No. LT—1108/71.]

ANNUAL REPORT ETC. OF CENTRAL WAREHOUSING CORPORATION

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ANNASAHIB P. SHINDE) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report (Hindi and English versions) of the Central Warehousing Corporation, for the year 1970-71 along with the Audited Accounts and the Audit Report thereon, under sub-

[Shri Annasahib P. Shinde]

section (11) of section 31 of the Warehousing Corporations Act 1962 [Placed in Library]
See No IT-1109/71]

STATEMENTS SHOWING ACTION TAKEN BY GOVERNMENT ON ASSURANCES, ETC

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE

Fourth Lok Sabha

1	Statement No. XXXV	Fourth Session, 1968.
2	Statement No. XXIX	Fifth Session, 1968.
3.	Statement No. XXI	Sixth Session, 1968
4	Statement No. XXVII	Seventh Session, 1969
5.	Statement No. XVII	Eighth Session, 1969
6.	Statement No. XV	Ninth Session, 1969
7	Statement No. XVII	Tenth Session, 1970.
8	Statement No. VIII	Eleventh Session, 1970.
9	Statement No. VII	Twelfth Session, 1970.

Fifth Lok Sabha

10	Statement No. IV	First Session, 1971
11.	Statement No. III	Second Session, 1971.
12	Statement No. IV	Second Session, 1971
13,	Statement No. V	Second Session, 1971

[Placed in Library. See No LT-1110/71]

12 04 hrs

MESSAGES FROM RAJYA SABHA

SECRETARY Sir, I have to report the following messages received from the Secretary 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 22nd November, 1971, agreed without any amendment to the International Airports Authority Bill, 1971, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 31st July, 1971."

(ii) "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 23rd November, 1971, agreed without any amendment to the Coal Bearing Areas (Acquisition and Development) Amendment and Validation Bill, 1971, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 12th August, 1971."

12 05 hrs

STATEMENT RE CONDITION OF BANGLA DESH REFUGEES IN CAMPS IN MEGHALAYA

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI R K KHADILKAR). I wish to make a statement regarding the condition of Refugees from Bangla Desh in Camps in Meghalaya.

Sir, can I lay it on the Table of the House.

MR. SPEAKER : That is right.

SHRI R. K. KHADILKAR : I lay the statement on the Table of the House.

Statement

According to the information available some barracks in the refugee camp at Moilam were gutted by fire which broke-out at about 1.30 A.M. on the 29th October, 1971, and about 15,000 persons were affected. Three persons died and four were injured. On the same night and on 13-11-1971 and 20-11-1971, three other fires broke-out in the same camp. There had been no loss of life or any significant damage to property in the second fire on 29-10-1971 and that on 13-11-1971. On 20-11-1971, however, 2112 persons were affected and 4 persons died. The cause of the fire is under investigation. The possibility of this being a case of sabotage cannot be ruled out. Security arrangements have been tightened to guard against sabotage activities by Pakistan agents in the border areas.

Those refugees who were affected by the fire were given necessary relief assistance in the shape of ration/free cooked food, wearing apparel and blankets. Alternative accommodation was also offered to them in some barracks available but the refugees declined to move because they were afraid of Pakistani shelling. Orders have now been issued by the Government of Meghalaya to construct barracks with refugee labour and Government material for those who have been affected.

Clothes and blankets have already been supplied to the refugees, who were needy and deserving, out of donations received from the voluntary organisations.

The Government of Meghalaya, along with other State Governments was authorised to arrange for the purchase and supply of clothes to all the refugees in camps as early as on 2nd September, 1971. The Government of Meghalaya have invited tenders for supply of clothes and tenders are in the process of finalisation. It is expected that distribution of clothes will commence in about a week or 10 days time.

As regards supply of blankets, it is understood that the entire requirement of camp refugees in Meghalaya to the extent of 3.55 lakh blankets has been supplied and distribution of blankets is in progress.

12.06 hrs.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS (VIENNA CONVENTION) BILL¹

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI SWARAN SINGH) : I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to give effect to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961) and to provide for matters connected therewith.

MR. SPEAKER : The question is :

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to give effect to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations (1961) and to provide for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

SHRI SWARAN SINGH : Sir, I introduce the Bill

12.07 hrs

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE :
RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES
ORDINANCE AND RAILWAY
PASSENGER FARES
BILL --*Contd.***

MR. SPEAKER The House will now take up further discussion of the following resolution moved by Shri Alal Bihari Vajpavee on the 24th November, 1971, namely :—

"This House disapproves of the Railway Passenger Fares Ordinance, 1971. (Ordinance No. 17 of 1971) promulgated by the President on the 22nd October, 1971."

The House will also take up further consideration of the following motion moved by Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi on the 24th November, 1971, namely :—

"That the Bill to provide for the

*Published in the Gazette of India Extraordinary Part II, Section 2, dated 25-11-71.

†Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Mr. Speaker]

levy of a tax on railway fares, be taken into consideration".

श्री सरल पट्टी (गाजीपुर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, कल मुझ से पूर्व बक्साओं ने यह बात साफ़ तौर से कही कि रेलवे भाड़े में दृढ़ि करने का जो तरीका इस सरकार ने अपनाया वह बड़ा निष्ठनीय था । जब माननीय मंत्री जी बोल रही थीं सदन में तब उन्होंने बतलाया कि आर्डिनेन्स क्यों लाया गया । उन्होंने यह बतलाया कि चूंकि लोक सभा का अधिवेशन होने वाला नहीं था इसलिए मजबूर होकर इस आर्डिनेन्स को लाना पड़ा । कम से कम मंत्री जी को यह मालूम होना चाहिये था लोक सभा का सेशन 15 नवंबर से होने वाला है, और यह टैक्स भी 15 तारीख से ही लगने वाला था । ऐसी दशा में यह बहाना बनाना कि लोक सभा का अधिवेशन होने वाला नहीं था इसलिए वह इस आर्डिनेन्स को लाई, बिल्कुल अनैतिक और गलत है । इस टैक्स को लगाने के पहले कम से कम लोक सभा को विश्वास में लिया जाना चाहिए था ।

सबसे आश्चर्यजनक बात यह है कि रेलवे में टैक्स बढ़ाया जा रहा है और यह कहा जा रहा है कि गवर्नरों का सम्मेलन हुआ, मुख्य मंत्रियों का सम्मेलन हुआ और उसमें यह तथ किया गया कि बंगला देश के शरणार्थियों की समस्या को हल करने के लिए टैक्स लगाना आवश्यक है । मगर उस सम्मेलन में इस बात पर बहुत नहीं हुई कि रेलवे में जो भ्रष्टाचार है, जो लगत तरीके से पैसा खर्च किया जाता है उस पर कोई प्रतिबन्ध लगाया या नहीं । साथ ही इस सम्मेलन में जो लोग आए थे, उन्होंने इस बात पर बहुत नहीं की कौन से ऐसे गैर अहंकारी खबरें हैं जो घटाये जा सकते हैं । बंगला देश के शरणार्थियों के नाम पर मैं नहीं समझता कि सरकार को इस देश की गरीब जनता की जेब काटने का अनैतिक या वैधानिक अधिकार है । किर भी देश की जनता पर

जबदस्ती एक बड़ा बोझ लादा जा रहा है । अगर यह सरकार एधर कंडिशन्स ब्लास्ट में असने बाले यात्रियों पर सरचार्ज लगाती तो यह बात मेरी समझ में आती, लेकिन जिन लोगों को गाड़ियों में बैठने की जगह नहीं मिलती जो आम तौर से तीसरे दर्जे के मुसाफिर हैं और छतों पर चलते हैं या पटरियों पर लटक कर यात्रा करते हैं आज उन पर टैक्स लगाया जा रहा है । इस से न तो आप का उद्देश्य पूरा ही सकता और न इस देश में आप का आदार हो सकता है ।

हमारे रेलवे मन्त्री जी ने स्वयम् स्वीकार किया था—इस समय रेलवे मन्त्री हैं नहीं, उन को यहाँ होना चाहिये था—कि मोगलसराय और दूसरी जगहों में इतनी ज्यादा चोरियां होती हैं कि अगर उनको रोका जाये तो इस देश में और टैक्स लगाने की ज़रूरत न पड़े । एक तरफ तो हमारे देश में 700 करोड़ रुपया टैक्स वाली है जो कि बसूल नहीं हो रहा है, दूसरी तरफ 70 करोड़ रुपये के नये टैक्स लगाये जा रहे हैं । मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि इस का जस्टिफिकेशन क्या है । जो रुपया टैक्स का बाकी है वह इस लिए बसूल नहीं हो रहा है कि बड़े बड़े लोगों के पास है जबकि किराया आम लोगों पर बढ़ाया जा रहा है । हमारे रेलवे बोर्ड के जो बड़े बड़े अफसर हैं, जिनकी तन्त्वाधीन साधे तीन और चार हजार रुपया मासिक है, उनकी समझ में नहीं आता कि देश की गरीब जनता पर टैक्स लगाना कहाँ का न्याय है ।

12.09.

[SHRI SEHRYAN in the Chair]

मैं कुछ मिसालें रेलवे के भ्रष्टाचार की देना चाहता हूँ । मैं समझता हूँ कि इस टैक्स को लगाने के बजाय मगर आप रेलों के अन्दर ऐसी व्यवस्था कर सकें कि वहाँ पर जो गलत तरीके से पैसा खर्च होता है उसको रोका जा

सके, तो इस टैक्स को लगाने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं होगी। मैं नार्थ इस्टर्न रेलवे के बहुत से डलाको में गया हूँ वहां पर बड़ी अधिकस्था चल रही है। एक और कहा जाता है कि रेलवे के पास पैसा नहीं है और छोटे छोटे कर्मचारियों, औथे दर्जे के कर्मचारियों को रिट्रेक्च कर दिया गया है जिसके कारण नार्थ इस्टर्न रेलवे में बड़ा भारी आः लेन चल रहा है दूसरी ओर आम सभों को बड़ी बड़ी तन्त्रिकाएँ दी जा रही हैं। गोरखपुर में 52 आदियों को निवाल दिया गया है वयोंकि रेलवे के पास पैसा नहीं है लेकिन मच्ची बात यह है कि अधिकारी सिर्फ पाकिस्तान के रिफूजियों के नाम पर अपन झटाचार को जारी रखना चाहते हैं। यह सरकार कोई भी बुनियादी परिवर्तन करने के लिए तैयार नहीं है, वही पुण्यनांग, वही पृथग टैक्स इस सदन में जात रहते हैं। स्वयम सरकार भी जानती है और हम भी जानते हैं कि अगर सरकार द्वारा मोनोपोली उद्योग अपने हाथ में ले लिए जायें तो हमारे देश में विना कोई टैक्स लगाये हुए ही शरणार्थियों की समस्या हल हो सकती है। उन की तरफ इनकी निगाहें नहीं हैं। गरीब जनता की जेब काटना इनका पेशा बन गया है। ऊची ऊची और बहुत बड़े चढ़ कर बातें की जाती हैं लेकिन सही मानों में उन पर अमल करने की तनिक भी कोशिश नहीं की जाती है। समाजवाद और दुनिया भर की बातें होती हैं। तमाम लोग यह चाहते हैं कि शरणार्थी समस्या हम हो। लेकिन वह हल नहीं हो रही है। अभी तक बन्दीय सरकार वहां को सरकार को रिक्गनाइज करने का भी साहस नहीं कर रही है जबकि वहां पूरे तौर पर एक लीगल गवर्नमेंट काम कर रही है। हमारे देश की जनता के ऊपर रिफूजीज का नाम लेकर नए टैक्स लगाने का बहाना यह सरकार कर रही है। किस तरह से फिज्जलखर्ची में यह सरकार इडल्ज है, इसकी कुछ भिसाने में आपके सामने रखना चाहता हूँ।

लखनऊ के पास बंदरिया बाग में चार बंगले फर्निश कराए गए हैं और उनको फर्निश कराने पर डाई लाल रुपया लख दिया गया है। मजे की बात यह है कि वे बंगले किराए पर लिए गए थे। क्या कभी इस सरकार ने वहां के जनरल बैनेजर से यह पूछा है कि जब देश पर सकट है तो यह डाई लाल रुपया बगलों को फर्निश कराने पर क्यों लर्ज किया गया है? इसकी क्या ज़रूरत थी? क्या मामूली फर्निचर इस्टेमाल वे नहीं कर सकते थे? रेलवे के अधिकारी इस सकट की बड़ी में इस तरह से अन्धाघुन्ध लर्ज करते हैं उनकी तरफ सरकार की निगाह बही जाती है। गरीब जनता पर टैक्स बढ़ाने के लिए यह सरकार सदन में बिल लाने और उनको पास कराने के लिए बहत उत्सुक रहती है।

बादशाहनगर में जो लखनऊ के पास है एक ओबर लिंज बनाया गया है। वहां पर 54,000 रुपया एक कार्ट्रिजटर को गलत पेमेंट कर दिया गया। यह इसी 1970-71 में हुआ है। लेकिन किसी के खिलाफ कोई एक्शन वहां नहीं हुआ है। कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है कि गलत पेमेंट कैस किया गया।

रेलवे के अधिकारी इतने बड़े झटाचारी हैं कि ये रेलों के सामान से अपनी कारे तक रिपेयर करते हैं। गोरखपुर के डिप्टी डी०सी० एम० ई० की बात में आपको बताता हूँ। आजकल जो वहा डीजल हजन का कारखाना है वहा मोटर के बहुत से पाट मिल जाते हैं, मशीनरी भी तकरीबन सारी मिलती जुलती है। गोरखपुर के डिप्टी डी०सी० एम० ई० कानपुर में अपनी कार बुक कराने के लिए जब ले गये तो वह दस रुपये में कार गोरखपुर से बुक कराना चाहते थे। जब बुकिं कर्ले ने दस रुपये में कार बुक करने से मना कर दिया तो उसको कहा गया। कि अगर तुम बुक नहीं करोगे तो तुम्हे मुद्रितिल कर दिया जायेगा। तीन दिन के बाद कार बुक कराई गई और दस पर वह

[बी सरकू पांडे]

एसीगेशन लगाया गया कि हमारी कार बुक करने से इसने मना कर दिया। उसके लियाक एकशन लिया गया और आज नतीजा यह है कि वह आदमी पागल होकर पागलखाने में पड़ा हुआ है। जिस कमंचारी ने साहस का परिचय दिया और जो ईमानदार है वह जेलखाने में है और जिसकी कार पकड़ी गई है और जिसको सी०बी०आई० के अफसरों ने जाकर पकड़ा है और जिन कमंचारियों ने जाकर बताया कि ये कार से जा रहे थे वे सारे ट्रांसफर कर दिये गए हैं या मुअतिल कर दिए गए हैं। जो डिप्टी डी०सी०एम०आई० है वह गिरफ्तार नहीं हुआ है वह बैठा हुआ है। यह सारा भ्रष्टाचार का अखाड़ा है। भ्रष्टाचारियों को यहां कोई पकड़ने वाला नहीं है।

गोंडा लोको शैड के अन्दर एक लंडों की जमात है। वहां का जो फोरमेंट है वह तमाम गुडों को हटक्टा करके रखता है। वहां पर पचास हजार रुपया ऐसे आदमियों को दिया गया, ऐसे लोगों को उसका पेमेंट कर दिया गया जिनके नाम बगैर ह तक का पता नहीं है। जिन्होंने काम नहीं किया उनको पचास हजार रुपया गलत तरीके से पेमेंट किया गया है। कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है।

सोनपुर में और गोंडा में रेलवे हैडक्वार्टर थे। यह फैसला कर दिया गया था 1958 में ही कि जो पुराने डिविजन हैं उनको तोड़ दिया जाये। उसके बावजूद गोंडा और सोनपुर में 1966 में रेलवे के बवाटर बनाए गए और दफ्तर बनाए गये। लगभग दस लाख रुपया उन पर लंब किया गया। आज भी आप चल कर उन मकानों को देख सकते हैं। 1958 में फैसला हो गया था कि वहां के डिस्ट्रिक्ट हैडक्वार्टर तोड़ दिये जायेंगे लेकिन फिर भी 1966 में वहा बवाटर बनाए गए। अत वहां उन सरकारी मकानों में गधे बास करते हैं। दस लाख रुपया लंब करके बैठे हुए हैं, कोई पूछने वाला नहीं है।

गोरखपुर और अपरा के बीच यह करोड़ रुपया लंब करके स्टेंडर्ड थी इंटरस्लाइन सिस्टम बनाया था। उसके साल भर बाद उस को तोड़ दिया गया और उसकी जगह पर संटूल ट्रैफिक कंट्रोल सिस्टम बनाया गया और उस पर आठ करोड़ रुपया लंब किया गया। इनको एक साल के बाद यह मालूम हुआ कि गलत काम हुआ है और यह करोड़ रुपया पानी में बह गया। आठ करोड़ रुपया बाद में खंब बनाया गया।

जहां रेलवे के अधिकारियों ने इतनी भारी लूट मचा रखी है तो कम से कम आप देश पर तो दया करें। आपने जो मगरमच्छ पाल रखे हैं ये न केवल रेलवे को बल्कि देश को भी खा जायेंगे। रेलों में सारे का सारा धाटा इनकी बजह से हो रहा है। आज हालत कहां तक आ पहुँची है, इसको आप देखें। हम लोग स्टेशनों पर चाय पीने जाते हैं तो वहां पर काकरी नहीं मिलती है। मालूम करने पर बताया जाता है कि रेलवे के अफसरों के घर शादी में वह चली गई है।

मजदूरों ने जिस कर्तव्य परायणता का परिचय दिया है, इसको आप देखें। चीनी और पाकिस्तानी हमले के बहुत उन्होंने जाग जाग कर रात में गाड़ियां चलाई। जो खलासी थे जो कुली थे, जो तीसरी और चौथी थेरें के कमंचारी थे उन्होंने अपनी जान की बाजी लगा कर देश की रक्षा की। आज वे निकाले जा रहे हैं। ये जो बड़े बड़े मगरमच्छ हैं, रेलवे बोर्ड के बड़े बड़े अफसर हैं, जनरल मैनेजर हैं वे सारे का सारा धन बुरी तरह से रेलों का बरबाद कर रहे हैं।

ऐसी अवस्था में अगर दरमसल आप यह चाहते हैं कि देश का कल्पाणा हो, लोगों का उत्साह बना रहे तो आपको इस टैक्स को बापिस ले लेना चाहिये। हम सब लोग इस पक्ष में हैं कि बंजरा के अधिकारियों की मदद की

जाये। लेकिन यह रास्ता मदद करने का नहीं है। ऐसा करके आप एक और कंफट खड़ा कर देग। रुबामरुहाह आप अपोजीशन खड़ी न करें और भगडा न बराये। पहली बात तो यह है कि टैक्स लगाने का जो रास्ता था वह ही गलत था। आप तो जानते ही थे कि पालिमेट की बैंठ प्रफ़ नवम्बर से शुरू होने वाली है। आप भी को देते थे कि पालिमेट स पर बहस बरे और तब आप इसको लागू करे। दूसरी बात यह है कि रेले ऐसा करना है जो हमेशा मुनाफा दिखाता है। यही ह आज तक। लेकिन पिछले कुछ दिनों से तो पर घाटा दिखाया जा रहा है। ये सारे बड़े लोग जो हैं इहोंने रेलों में लूट मचा रखी है। इस बास्ते में चाहता हूँ कि इस पर आप पुनः विचार बरे। बम से बम आप थर्ड बलाग के मुगाफरों पर तो वह टैक्स न लगाये। यह जो सरचार्ज है उनपर इसको नगाना बड़ा अन्यायपूरण होगा। अगर आपको लगाना ही है तो एयर कार्डिशन कम्पार्टमेंट में जो लोग सफर बरन हैं उन पर आप लगा दें। बाको के जो लाग ह वह इस कर को देने की स्थिति में नहीं है।

अगर आप इस टैक्स को बापिस ले ले तो सब से अच्छा होगा। बापिस लेकर आप देखे कि रेलों में बहा बहा इकोनोमी हो सकती है, किस तरह से धन बचाया जा सकता है। एक अच्छा उदाहरण आप दश के सामन रखें। रेलों के बड़े बड़े प्रधिकारियों ने जो लूट मचा रखी है उनको आप रोकें। यहा कहा जाता है कि सामान महगा हो गया है। मैं आपको एक मिसाल देना चाहता हूँ। गोरखपुर में एक सिगनल का कारखाना है। जो पहले सामान बाहर से आता था वह सारे का सारा अब वहाँ तैयार होता है। आप जानते ही हैं कि पूर्वी उत्तर प्रदेश पिछड़ा हुआ है, वहा कोई बारखाना नहीं है। रेलवे के अधिकारी अब इस में इटरेस्टड हैं कि वहा भी वह कारखाना हटा कर अन्यथा किसी प्रान्त में ले जाया जाये। वह एक ही कारखाना है और उसको भी

बरबाद करने की कोशिश की जा रही है। यह दिखाने की कोशिश की जा रही है कि यह कारखाना यहाँ बाटे में चल रहा है इस बास्ते इसको किसी अन्य प्रान्त में ले जाया जाए। यह अन्यथा चल रहा है।

मैं निबेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि इस टैक्स को बापिस ले लिया जाए। यदि आप दश को समाजबाद की ओर ले जाना चाहते हैं तो इस को बापिस लेना अनिवार्य है। मुझे कल एक सज्ज मिले। कहने लगे कि «ताड़ये कि लड़ाई होगी या नहीं, हमने कहा आपको इसमें क्या इटरेस्ट है, वह कहने लगे कि मैंने कम्बल मप्लाई करने का टेरा ले रखा है। उनका मतलब क्या था? यह था कि अगर लड़ाई होगी तो एक रुपये का कम्बल सौ रुपये में बिके यह दश की टेंडर्सी है। मुनाफाखोरों की यह मनोवृत्ति है। जो बड़े बड़े मोनोपोली धराते हैं इनकी आप पराधिये। उन से धन लीजिये। हम आपके साथ हैं। गरीब जनता की जेब आप न काटिये। इससे देश की समस्या और बंगला विस्थापितों की समरया हल नहीं होगी। इससे देश के लोग आनंदोलिन होंगे। जो टैक्स देने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं उनको आप टैक्स देने के लिये मजबूर करें तो देश के लिए यह अच्छा उदाहरण नहीं होगा। इस बास्ते इस बिल को आप बापिस ले लें। देश में एक नई परम्परा आप चलायें। एक बार ऐसा हुआ था कि इस सदन में सभी और में जब एक विधेयक का विरोध हुआ था तो उसको मन्त्री जी ने बापिस ले लिया था। श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी बैठी हुई है। उनसे मैं प्रार्थना करता हूँ कि गलत तरीके से वह जो टैक्स लगा रही हैं, ऐसा न करना और इसको बापिस लेकर कम से कम वह उत्तर प्रदेश का नाम छंचा करे।

SHRI HUKAM CHAND KACHWAI
(Morena) Sir, there is no quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN Let the quorum bell be rung—Now, there is quorum. Shri Chittibabu.

***SHRI C CHITTIBABU** (Chingleput)
 Mr Chairman, Sir, I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the discussion on the Railway Passenger Fares Bill, which is before the House to replace the Ordinance promulgated by the President on the 22nd October, 1971. The Bill provides for the levy of a tax on railway fares to meet the growing expenditure on the maintenance of 10 million Bangla Desh refugees. All our countrymen from Himalayas to Cape Camorin are behind the Government in their humane endeavour and there is no doubt that they will unanimously extend their whole hearted cooperation to the Government in their effort to tide over the unprecedented and huge economic burden cast on the country. But, I would like to know whether this kind of levy will be extended from year to year or it is just a temporary measure to prevent our economy from being completely disrupted by the unending influx of refugees from Bangla Desh. I do appreciate that it is a laudable objective based on humanitarian considerations to give succour to the suffering refugees. At the same time I would like to know by what time they are likely to return to their country. I ask this question because our Prime Minister has not informed this House about the time by which these refugees are likely to go back. In Pakistan national emergency has been declared and the people of Pakistan are being prepared to face an eventual war with India. In fact there is war hysteria throughout Pakistan. On the other hand the countries of the world have appreciated the restraint shown by India at this critical juncture.

I would like to point out here that this is the first time in the independent history of our country recourse has been taken by the Government to promulgate taxation proposals through presidential Ordinances. When the late Lal Bahadur Shastri was the Prime Minister this procedure was not adopted. At the time when Jawaharlal was the Prime Minister, the then Speaker of Lok Sabha, Shri Mavalankar objected to the procedure of issuing taxation ordinances during inter session. Even our present Speaker pointed out that just a few days before the Lok Sabha met such Ordinances involving taxation proposals should not have been promulgated. I

would only say that the issuance of taxation ordinances during inter-session, especially just a few days before the Parliament is to meet is not conducive to sound parliamentary conventions.

Sir the Government, instead of issuing so many Ordinances, could have as well presented a Supplementary Budget during this session so that the people would have known the taxation burden in its entirety. It is also not clear whether these taxes have been imposed temporarily or on a permanent basis. It is also not clear as to the amount of revenue the Government will be getting from this levy. I have been hearing the plea of the Ministers in support of these ordinances that the Departmental machinery and the officials have to be given time for working out the taxation proposals and that is why these ordinances were issued. I would like to ask have the departments not worked out earlier such taxation proposals? Are the officials so inexperienced as to require time for working out the details of taxation proposals? Year after year in every Budget taxes have been levied and the Departments have been implementing them. I am not able to appreciate the explanation given by the Ministers in this regard.

At the behest of the Centre, the Governors have also issued such ordinances levying taxes. This only shows that the Centre has also tried to curb the powers of the State Legislatures. I would only say that, however laudable the objective may be, the Government should not set up precedents which go against the spirit of democracy functioning.

From these taxes, it is estimated that a sum of Rs. 30 crores will be collected by 31-3-1972. What is the income from the passenger fare tax? Just before the parliamentary elections, the country was inundated by the slogan of *Garibi hatao* from the ruling party. But, after the Bangla Desh crisis this slogan has been given a go by. In fact, it is known to everyone that poverty in the country has increased and it is more widespread now. None can dispute the fact that of the total railway passengers, nearly 90% belongs to the category travelling in III class. I would not have minded if taxes had been levied on passengers travelling in I Class and in

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

Air conditioned Class. I do not also object to the tax on inland air fare tax. But the taxes on railway fare and postal articles are against the professed sympathy of the ruling party to the poor people of the country. Are they going to create a socialistic State with this approach to common people and to their problems?

In reply to my unstarred question No. 1354 on 23-11-71 the hon. Railway Minister has stated that during the first six months of this year, the railway earnings have gone up by Rs. 7 crores more than the budgeted estimate, while the working expenses of the Railway have also gone up by Rs. 24 crores as compared to the anticipated expenditure in the Budget. If the administrative expenses go up by Rs. 17 crores in six months I do not know how the Railway Ministry is going to achieve its target of development. I would like to request the hon. Railway Minister to explain this point.

Are there no alternatives at all for the Department to raise the requirement amount of revenue? It is estimated that the thefts on the Railway come to Rs. 17 crores in a year. The amount of compensation paid for pilferages also comes to Rs. 20 crores a year. If the Railway Administration gears up its machinery to check and control the thefts and pilferages, they would get Rs. 37 crores a year, instead of the paltry sum of Rs. 5 crores which they are likely to get through this levy on passenger fare. I would request my hon. friend, Shri Shafi Quereshi, to explain the steps taken by the Railways to eradicate this evil.

It is estimated that the population of the country increases by 2 crore and 40 lakhs a year. During the past 24 years, approximately the population would have gone up by 25 crores. This would naturally have resulted in increased travelling public and the income of the railways would have gone up considerably. It might be argued that due to rapid increase in the cost of industrial raw materials, the expenditure on the Railways has gone up. It is not that the Railways alone have been afflicted by the price rise. In fact, 55 crores of our people have been suffering untold miseries on account of the rising cost of living. It is also estimated that by the end of 1972 the number of unemployed in the country would be 4 crores and 20 lakhs. What steps have been taken by the Government

to create employment opportunities for these young men? I would appeal to the Minister, not as a number belonging to the Opposition party but on behalf of the poor people of the country, that the taxes to be levied on passenger fare and on postal articles should be withdrawn.

I would refer to the fact that in the matter of railway development Tamil Nadu has been completely neglected. We have been demanding for decades for a railway line between Trivandrum and Cape Comorin which will connect Nagercoil also. Similarly, we have been pleading for Chinna Salem-Chingleput railway line. But the stock reply of the Railway Ministry that they have not got adequate funds to undertake these schemes. There is no double track at all in Tamil Nadu. The people of Tamil Nadu have been asking for a double track for a distance of 18 miles from Tambaran to Chingleput, but they are told that electric trains are running on this track. There is another long standing demand of the people of Tamil Nadu. There is broadgauge line up to Arkonam and they have been asking that this broadgauge line should be extended upto Chingleput via Conjeevaram. It is a distance of only 30 miles. It need not be a double track, but only the extension of broadgauge line from Arkonam upto Chingleput. If this is done there will be broadgauge connection at Chingleput. But no attention has been paid to this problem by the Railway Ministry. How are they going to lift the lignite from Neiveli to Salem, where steel plant is coming up? Inspite of repeated requests from the Tamil Nadu Government that there should be double track between Neiveli and Salem if the Steel Plant is to come up within the targeted date no action has been taken so far. I am unable to understand the negligence shown by the railways so far as development of railway system in Tamil Nadu is concerned.

I would also request the hon. Deputy Minister of railways to pay some attention to the type of food served by the railway catering department, since has himself personally seen at the Central Station what kind of food is served to the passengers. The running staff of the catering department has not been provided with winter clothing. The Members of Parliament from Tamil Nadu have been appealing for years to the Ministry that the running staff coming to

[Shri C Chittibabu]

North should be provided with winter clothing, but so far our request has gone unheeded

I would urge that in the interest of the poor people travelling in III class the passenger fare tax should be withdrawn. Instead of creating new posts of General Managers, for the time being the administrative expenses of the Railways could be considerably reduced. If this is done, there will be no need to levy this additional tax at all.

It is stated that a sum of Rs 3 crores is being spent every day on the Bangla Desh refugees. When is it going to end? Before this session comes to a close the Prime Minister should inform the house by what time they will be going back to their country. If our people are not given a definite idea about this, they will lose their faith in the present Government and quite likely they will start violent agitations. I came across a report of the Reserve Bank that thousand crore have been taken by the Centre and the State Government as overdraft. I would like to know the steps taken by the Government here to clear such huge overdrafts and how the enormous amounts of loans are going to be repaid. If this is not done, the country's economy will be beyond redemption. If the Government take recourse to the issuance of presidential ordinances to collect new taxes then the people rise in revolt and it may not be surprising that the entire country may become a bloody garden of revolution. I would request the Government to see the writing on the wall and withdraw the tax on the passenger fare affecting the common travelling public in III class.

I thank you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the debate.

SHRI P VENKATASUBBAIAH
(Nandyal) Mr Chairman, Sir, this is another Bill, replacing an ordinance that has been formally promulgated by the President. The main object of the Ordinance and the Bill is to collect additional revenue as railway fare to meet the increased expenditure on account of the problem created by the influx of a large number of refugees from Bangla Desh. When a Bill of this nature is being discussed in this House it is but natural that the members who participate in the debate will bring in

all types of issues which may not be directly connected with the present Bill but which have a bearing on the working of the railway system as a whole.

The railways have been working at a loss for the last few years and specially for the last three or four years the budget of the railways has been showing a gap between revenue and expenditure. But, on some pretext or another, direct increase in freights and fares was postponed and only indirect taxes were levied which will not attract the attention of the Members of Parliament. I personally feel that if only the entire system is overhauled and put on proper gear there is no need for the Ministry to come forward with a Bill of this nature because they can economise in expenditure in several directions.

I know that our country is facing a stupendous problem of feeding millions of refugees. Though we have allotted Rs 60 crores in our Central object for rehabilitation of refugees, the expenditure is mounting up and the figure has already gone up to Rs 200 crores. Government have devised various measures to make up this huge deficit. But I doubt the wisdom of collecting small amounts by piecemeal legislation here and there are taxes on a large number of items. In some cases it may even result in the expenditure on collection of tax being much more than the tax collected. So, it would have been better if they had come forward with one comprehensive Bill to collect increased revenues. It is true that if they resort to deficit financing it may have repercussions on the economy of the country but there are certain avenues which can be tapped for taxation. So, they could have resorted to direct taxes and appealed to the sentiments and patriotism of the people for collection of those taxes.

In the present case, the States have also been brought into the picture. I do not know how it will be apportioned between the States the growing expenditure of refugee rehabilitation.

How are the States going to play their role in the overall matter? I do not know. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons, it has been stated

"In order to meet the expenditure on the relief of Bangla Desh refugees, it

was agreed at the meeting of the Governors and Chief Ministers of States held at New Delhi on the 12th October, 1971 that both the Centre and the States would levy such additional taxes as would be necessary and that the revenues so realised by States would be placed by the States at the disposal of the Centre for the said purpose "

Now, the State Governments have started levying additional taxes. The Andhra Pradesh Government also are intending to levy certain additional taxes. Other States will also follow and resort to additional taxation. In addition, the Central Government will come forward with additional taxation proposals. The sum-total of it will be that it will adversely affect the living of common man and it will also have an adverse effect on the economy of the nation.

When we talk of the railway administration and railway fares, I do not know whether the Railway Minister particularly and the Finance Minister have thought out a sort of comprehensive plan to see that the common man is taxed to the barest minimum, and simultaneously, the efficiency of the railways will go up. A passenger or a person who sends parcels or some such things will willingly pay if he feels that the railways are discharging an efficient service to the common man. In the absence of that, I feel, this will prove an additional burden and the people will not be happy to pay these additional taxes.

Soon after Shri Hanumanthaiya took over the charge as the Railway Minister, he said that every effort will be made to improve the revenues and that he will be in a position to present a surplus budget for the Railways. I have yet to see whether any such efforts are being made in this regard.

Several other factors that have been mentioned by my hon. friends who have preceded me with regard to the facilities that are to be provided to the travelling public must be taken into consideration. All these factors must be taken into consideration whenever the Government comes forward with such tax measures. I hope the hon. Minister will look into it and have a comprehensive examination of all matters and see that the travelling public and the common man will feel not only his patriotic duty to bear the addi-

nal burden but will also feel that the railways deserve to be paid more.

I appeal to the hon. Minister to take all this into consideration whenever he comes forward with such measures.

श्री धनशाह प्रधान (गहडोल) : सभापति महोदय, रेलवे के वित्त में निरतर गिरावट होती चली जा रही है। आज 10 बजे से रेलवे में घाटा हो रहा है, यह वास्तव में बड़ी चिना की बात है। ने ने के दूसरे बजे को पूरा करने के लिए ग्रभी पिल्ले बजाए पर किगये बढ़ाये गये, अभी 'महीने भी नहीं दीते कि फिर दोबारा बड़ा जबरदस्त भार जनता पर ढाल दिया गया। इस प्रकार से यह गरीब जनता के साथ अन्याय हो रहा है। बगला देश से आंगनगार्थियों के व्यय के लिये रेल मत्रालय जिम तरह से किराया बढ़ा रहा है, यह देश की जनता के प्रति अनुचित कदम है और मैं इसका घोर विरोध करता हूँ।

क्या मैं रेल मत्रालय से जान सकता हूँ कि विडव में गंगा कौन-मा देश है जिसकी सरकार इस तरह से ग्रिविक ने अत्रिक कर अपनी जनता पर लगा रहा है। मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो कर आप लगा रहे हैं, उसके बारे में आप ने क्या अनुमान लगाया है, ताकि जनता को मालूम हो सके कि किस हद तक हम बंगला देश के शरणगार्थियों की महायता कर सकते हैं। जब यह सरकार बंगला देश को मान्यता नहीं देनी है, तो उसको कोई हक नहीं है कि उनकी सहायता के लिये रेलवे या डाकन्तार विभाग के द्वारा इस तरह से कमर तोड़ कर लगाये। आज हमारे देश पर एक जबरदस्त सकट आया हुआ है, और इधर हमारे देश की जनता को विभिन्न प्रकार के टैक्स लगा कर हर तरह से परेशान करने की व्यवस्था की जा रही है।

आज जहां पर रेलों की व्यवस्था नहीं है, वहां पर रेलों की व्यवस्था करने की तरफ आपका कोई ध्यान नहीं है। मेरे देश में

[श्री धनशाह प्रधान]

झड़ोल से कोरबा तक बाया बिलामपुर एक ढी चलती है, एक दूसरी गाड़ी कटनी से हृड़ोल तक जाती है, ये दोनों गाड़ियां सात-तिथे घंटे तक खड़ी रहती हैं, इन दोनों गाड़ियों ने चिरमिरी तक ले जाया जा सकता है।

चाहता हूँ कि सरकार इस तरफ शीघ्रता दे।

आपके टिकट चैक्स ने धाधली मवा रखी लोगों पर अलग से टैक्स लगा रखा है ताके बारे में लोग कहुँ भी नहीं जानते हैं। नको हर तरह से परेशान किया जाता है।

प्राज रेलवे सचालन का खर्च बढ़ता चला रहा है। यदि रेलवे विभाग ध्यान में रखते हुए की चेष्टा करे तो वर्तमात दरों को बढ़ाने जस्ते न पड़े और आपके घाटे की पूर्ति हो सकती है। आपके रेलवे की करवस्था में काफी खामिया है भ्रष्टाचार ज्ता जा रहा है। मैं माननीय रेल मंत्री से आग करता हूँ कि आपने जो रेलवे कर गया है, इसे बापम ले, गन्धर्था भारत की तत्त्व गत रास्ता अपना सकती है।

श्री हुक्म चन्द कक्षाय सभापति नेदय मुझे भी पाच मिनट के लिये बोलने शा जाये।

MR CHAIRMAN No, Please One member from your Party has already spoken

Mr Shiban Lal Saksena

PROF S I SAKSFNA (Maharaj) During the last thirty-five years my parliamentary life, I have never seen such a large number of ordinances passed in such a short time. The lightness with which the Government passes the ordinances was shown yesterday when the all Coms Bill was being passed. There was no necessity for it. Even then, an ordinance was passed for it. I hope, Sir, Government will consider the observations of the late Shri Mavalankarji, when he said that ordinances are a denial of

democracy and they should not be resorted to on such flimsy pretexts. This is one of the things which, I hope, the Government will take to heart and will not insult this House in this manner in future.

It is most objectionable to pass ordinances for taxation purposes. It has never been done before. It is for the first time that we see so many ordinances passed for purposes of taxation. These ordinances are taxing the poorest of the poor. They have taxed all the essential commodities of public use. They have taxed Railways which everybody uses. Everybody who pays more than Re 1 as railway fare is taxed. Similarly, in regard to postage stamps and in regard to newspapers, these taxes will hit the poor. If this is socialism, what kind and variety of socialism is this? Is this the way to remove poverty?

Therefore Sir I hope that Government will try to see that these taxes are replaced by other taxes which can be levied on the richer people who can afford to pay. If they want, let them tax air-conditioned travel, air-travel etc of those who can afford to pay. They are taxing everybody who pays more than Re 1 railway fare and this is something preposterous. This amount of Rs 70 crores could have been collected by savings in the various departments.

I hope Government will try to see that these taxes are replaced by some other measures to get this much money by saving and by taxing the rich.

It is most surprising that the Bangla Desh refugees should have been selected as the reason for the promulgation of these ordinances. The whole country is one in trying to help them, but we should not tax the people on their account. We are spending from the general revenues for their upkeep. Why should we say that we are taxing for their sake? This is something which is not in good taste.

I would have agreed to pay taxes if there had been a war. Even though Pakistan is trying every day to provoke us, still, we have not declared war. We should go out for all-out war and liberate Bangla Desh in a week's time and liberate occupied Kashmir and teach Pakistan a lesson for ever. In that case I will support any amount of taxes for meeting the war expenditure. The problem of refugees has

been created by your wrong policies. If you decide to wage war, the whole House would have been ready to vote any amount of money for meeting the expenditure of the war. Everybody would tighten his belt to pay these taxes. Today there is no war and these taxes on the poor cannot be justified.

I hope the Government will take heed of my warnings and withdraw these taxes which are hitting the poor. Thank you.

श्री रामकृष्ण (तोक) सभापति महोदय, रेलो के किराये में जो बालतरी की गई है बगला दण के विषय, मैं उसका विरोध करने के लिये रुक्खा हुआ हूँ। खास तौर से जहाँ तक तीसरे दर्जे के यात्रियों का यब्द नहीं है मैं अच्छी तरह में देखता आ रहा हूँ क्योंकि तीसरे दर्जे के यात्रियों में मेरा विशेष सबध रहता है कि जो धोड़ी सी बोगिया तीमर दर्जे की रहती है उनमें एक गाड़ में 50-50 और 60-60 यात्री भर जाते हैं लेकिन आज तक सरकार ने उनाँहोंने तरफ कोई भी ध्यान नहीं दिया है। सरकार वा उन तीमरों दर्जे के यात्रियों की उल्लेपा ॥ १ ॥ कोई लगाल नहीं है। जो मेल ट्रेम चलती है उनमें मुद्रित मात्रा या दो छिप्प तीसरे दर्जे के लगाए जाते हैं जिसमें उन यात्रियों को बड़ी बिनाई का सामना करना पड़ता है।

इसके अतिरिक्त रेलवे के चनुथ थ्रेगी के जो कर्मचारी हैं उनके सबध में भी मैं कुछ निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ। अभी मैं यद्य प्रदेश में रेतलाम यार दूदर गया था। वहाँ पर रेलवे के जो बड़े कर्मचारी हैं वे इन कर्मचारियों का बड़ा शोषण न रहते हैं। इन कर्मचारियों को नाजायज तार पर दबाया जाता है और प्राग बढ़ने का भीना नहीं दिया जाता है। इनी प्रबार की रिप्रिटेशन राजस्थान में जयपुर में भी है। इन कर्मचारियों की बात का कोई भी सुनन बाला नहीं है। इनकी मही बात को भी कोई मांगने के लिए तैयार नहीं होता है। यदि कुछ लोग जागे वहने की कोशिश करते हैं तो उनको दबा दिया जाता है।

सभापति जी, मेरे निर्वाचन क्षेत्र टाक एक तीस-चालीस मील का टुकड़ा है जहाँ रेलवे लाइन का निर्माण करने के लिए सन 195 में वहाँ के जनप्रतिनिधि मार्ग करते आ रहे लेकिन उसपर सरकार कोई भी ध्यान नहीं रही है। पिछली लोक सभा में जब बाबू जन जीवन गम जी रेल मरी थ तो उन्होंने टो मे जाकर वहाँ की जनता को प्राप्तवासन दिया लेकिन उनको आज तक पूरा नहीं किया गया। मैं मत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करूँगा। मेरे निर्वाचित्र क्षेत्र टाक में रेलवे लाइन निर्माण शीघ्र कराया जाये क्योंकि इस अभाव में वहाँ की पाच लाख जनता बड़ी किंवद्दि में है।

मध्यापति महोदय, रेलवे स्टेशन पर गर्दन प्रनपढ़ भोली-भाली जनता टिकट खरीदने लिए जब पाच या दम रुपये का नोट देती तो उसमें यह कह दिया जाता है कि तुमने रुपये का नोट दिया है। ग्रस्तर इस प्रबार बाक्ये इक्कने में आते हैं। इसलिए मैं निवेदन करूँगा कि स्टेशन पर टिकट देने वाले बाबू ना मझी प्रबार से आचरण करने के लिए कर जाय। उनको आदेश दिये जाये कि इस प्रकार से भोली-भाली जनता का शोषण बद कर जाय। साथ ही मैं निवेदन करूँगा कि तीसरे दर्जे के यात्रियों पर जो कर बढ़ाया गया उनको बापिस लिया जाय। इन शब्दों के सामने अपना भाषण समाप्त करता हूँ।

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI (Lakhnupur) I rise to support this Bill which seeks to levy certain taxes on railway passengers. We must distinguish these taxes from increases in railway fares. This is not an increase in railway fares, it is simply a tax temporarily imposed on railway passengers, which will go for the benefit and the welfare of the crore of people who have come to our country from Bangla Desh.

I am surprised that those who used to shed tears for these unfortunate men and women children and mothers who have suffered a lot, who have been uprooted, w

[**Shri Biswanarayan Shastri]**

have left their country and come to our country in great Panic and to whom we are giving shelter, are now opposing this measure which seeks to give them some help. I see no point in protesting against or opposing these measures.

It has been argued that even the third class passengers are made to pay some tax. I must say that in such an emergency which prevails in our country, the entire population should feel that they are paying something for the cause of the nation and for the welfare of the one crore of uprooted people. Therefore, there is nothing in the nature of any injustice if the Bill makes even the third class passengers pay 5 per cent more on their travelling expenses. On the other hand, those who can afford to travel in third class by paying some amount are surely better off than the thousands of others who cannot afford even to travel by train. Therefore, there is no irregularity and no justice and no indiscrimination if these richer passengers are made to pay for the benefit of those uprooted and unfortunate people who have been forced to leave their territory and come to our country.

In this connection, I take this opportunity to ventilate some of the grievances of my State.

MR. CHAIRMAN : He may continue after the lunch recess.

13.00 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha reassembled after Lunch at four minutes past Fourteen of the Clock.

[**MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]**

SHRI SAMAR GUHA (Contai) : Sir, I want to draw your attention to a very important incident of tampering with the loyalty of a patriotic Indian by the wife of the High Commissioner of Pakistan. Recently, there was a special prayer held in the shrine of Nizammuddin Aulia for the success of the freedom movement in Bangla Desh. But then, the wife of the High Commissioner of Pakistan who went there,

abused the Chief Imam there, remonstrated and insulted him saying that "you have done wrong and you have acted as a traitor to our country and you should not have done this." The Government should make a statement whether it is permissible to do this to a patriotic Indian, whether his loyalty could be tampered with and he can be threatened and abused in this way. I wish to draw the attention of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to make a statement in the matter, whether it is permissible.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Order, order. **Shri Biswanarayan Shastri.**

14.4½ hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES ORDINANCE AND RAILWAY PASSENGER FARES BILL—*Contd.*

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : Mr. Deputy-speaker, Sir, as I have said before, I take this opportunity to mention some to the urgent needs of my State so far as railways are concerned. Not only the industrial development of Assam depends on the importance of the railway system but the safety and security of the entire Northeastern region depends on it. Therefore, I hope the Railway Minister will pay his attention while collecting tax from the passengers which is levied by this Bill.

The people of the north-eastern region are destined to live in a peculiar geopolitical situation. That condition is not our creation. We are destined to live in such a condition. The link of that region with the rest of the country is by a narrow corridor which is less than 40 miles. By that corridor run our national highway, the broad gauge and metre gauge railway lines and the crude pipeline which brings crude oil from Assam.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : What has it got to do with the present Bill?

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : I am taking this opportunity to urge upon the Government that adequate attention should be paid to this aspect as there is acute scarcity of steel, cement and other things in Assam.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Please be relevant to the Bill. It relates only to the levy of tax on fares ; it has nothing to do with the problems in those areas which you are referring to. Kindly be relevant.

SHRI BISWANARAYAN SHASTRI : This aspect cannot be ignored. The recent opening of the Farraka barrage had lessened the mileage and the time but it does not solve the problem because transhipment takes place.

Having said that I must say that this Bill provides for the levy of taxation for the benefit of the unfortunate people who have come to our country and keeping the abnormal situation in view I hope this House will accord its unanimous approval to this Bill.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATAGI) : I should like to thank the hon. Members of the House for the valuable suggestions and I am sure that many of the suggestions extended by them would be of use to the Government in course of time when it could devise means to include some of them at the time when the budget comes into operation. But the fact remains that the entire opposition has united, and I can understand their point also, against taxation by ordinance. I would like to allay their fears as far as possible by explaining the extenuating factors which may or may not meet their charges.

I would like to draw attention to article 123 of the Constitution which lays down :

"If at any time, except when both Houses of Parliament are in session, the President is satisfied that circumstances exist which render it necessary for him to take immediate action, he may promulgate such Ordinances as the circumstances appear to him to require."

I do not think that the country has to be told or the hon. Members have to be told that the circumstances were such and the compulsions behind these exigencies were such that Government thought it necessary to promulgate the ordinance.

They have quoted the ruling of the late revered Speaker, Shri Mavalankar, and the reply given by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru. While they gave one side of the picture, I may be permitted to present the other side.

This is what the late Pandit Nehru said on 13th December, 1950 :

"I think all of my colleagues will agree with you that the issue of Ordinances is normally not desirable and should be avoided except on special and urgent occasions."

We are all of the same view so far as this matter is concerned.

"As to when such an occasion may or may not arise, it is a matter of judgment."

That is where we differ, whether it should have been issued or not.

In his letter of 19th July, 1954, the late Prime Minister Shri Jawaharlal Nehru again said :

"We have been reluctant to issue Ordinances and it is only when we have felt compelled to do so by circumstances that we have issued them. You will appreciate that it is the responsibility of the Government to decide what steps should be taken in a particular contingency."

I hope there are no two views on the issue that there is a contingency now.

"I am myself unable to see why this should be considered undemocratic. Of course, this power, like any other power, may be abused and Parliament will be the ultimate judge as to whether the use of this power has been right or wrong."

So, that shows the reluctance of the Government, whether that Government or this Government today, to issue Ordinances in normal times, which is healthy convention. It is only the particular contingency and the compulsions behind it that have made Government resort to this Ordinance.

It has been said that in the past there has been no taxation by Ordinances, but the history is otherwise. Just for putting the record straight I may point out that earlier there have been some Ordinances where taxation has been levied, for instance. The Mineral Oil (Additional Duties of Excise and Customs) Ordinance, 1958, the Sugar (Special Excise Duty) Ordinance, 1959. The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1965. The Indian Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1966. The Mineral Oil (Additional Duties of Excise and Customs) Amendment Ordinance, 1966 and the Taxation Laws (Amendment)

[Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi]

Ordinance, 1967. I am not trying to justify taxation by Ordinance but only pointing out that there have been instances in the past where there must have been similar circumstances and compulsions behind them. (*Interruption*) We abide by the convention laid down by the ruling of the hon. Speaker, we also share that feeling, but in particular circumstances such measures have to be taken though in normal times they may not be necessary.

Thirdly, they say that the burden will fall upon the third class passengers, that the common man should not have been troubled. They accuse the Government of preaching a socialistic pattern of society and indulging in various slogans, but of hitting the common man in practice. With reference to this particular Ordinance and Bill I will only say that this theory of the common man also has to be exploded. Let us realise that we are a poor country and 75 to 80 per cent of the people constitute the common man, no matter from which walk of life they come. It is a common man's country consisting primarily of people not subjected to luxuries. This myth of the common man has to be exploded once and for all. May I ask hon. members, when the refugees who have been rendered homeless and have been forced by circumstances to take shelter in our country in Assam, Meghalaya, West Bengal and Tripura—in Tripura the influx of refugees is as much as the local population itself—is not the common man already sharing the burden so far as daily food, shelter, etc., are concerned? Is not the common man already bearing there burdens willingly also? Why should we say things here which may directly or indirectly hurt the morale of the people? In Tripura and other States, the local people have been so generous and understanding that they have even sacrificed their wages of labour in order to accommodate the refugees who have been forced to leave their hearth and home. So, the common man is already sharing the burden, whether it is rise in prices, ration, etc. He has never grumbled. Not even the tribals, who may have the apprehension that the refugees may stay on for some time, have objected to it. I do not know how the cultured, educated, highly qualified members of this House, fear that the common man is objecting to that.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond

Harbour): Why is it that you are not collecting the arrears of taxes to the tune of Rs. 862 crores, 92 per cent of them being due from the corporate sector?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I do concede that there are various spheres in which the Government machinery has to be geared up and there has to be streamlining. I think we need the advice and suggestions of hon. members in our efforts. That is where we are united. But let me finish the common man's ideology before I get to the rich man and the tax arrears. So far as this railway tax is concerned, it will affect the people in this way. Not that the Government wanted to hit the common man, but how far it will hit will be illustrated by the following:

So far as the ordinary third class fare is concerned, upto 100 KM, on a fare of Rs. 2.65, the increase will be upto 15 paise. Upto 500 KM, on a fare of Rs. 12.50, the increase will be upto 65 paise. Upto 1000 KM on a fare of Rs. 22, increase will be Rs. 1.10. Upto 4000 KM, in which a person can travel throughout the length and breadth of the country, on a fare of Rs. 72.95, the increase is Rs. 3.65. This is how the third-class ordinary fare will be affected. Those who pay less than one rupee as fare will not be subject to any tax levy whatsoever.

Coming to third-class mail trains, for a fare of Rs. 3.50 up to a distance 100 kilometres the increase would be 20 paise, for a fare of 16.30 for a distance of 500 kilometres the increase would be 80 paise and on 1,000 kilometres or a fare of Rs. 28.50 it would be Rs. 1.45. On a distance of 4,000 kilometres or a fare of Rs. 85.45 the increase would be Rs. 4.25. I wonder how many people undertake a journey of a distance of 4,000 kilometres in our country.

So far as air conditioned class is concerned, it has been suggested rightly which I corroborate, that the people who travel by this class are in a position to pay more. Naturally, in their case the gradation of tax is a little higher, going up to Rs. 32.75 for the longest journey of 4,000 kilometres.

This will show that the charge that this levy is hitting the common man is something which is not borne out by facts. It does not stand to reason, Yet, it has been advocated by the hon. Member,

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : If you take care of the penny, the pound will take care of itself. Don't say that a small increase may not mean anything. You do it three times or four times every year.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATAGI : We will take care of both penny and pound. But will the hon. Member take care of either of them? I want to fight logic with logic.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : I am also willing to fight.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATAGI : So, the charge that why do not we have our sympathies for the common man and that is why we have imposed this levy is not substantiated.

Further, this would exempt 53.8 per cent of the passengers from the tax. As such, this tax does not hurt the common man. Because, the earnings from the third-class itself comes to about 80 to 88 per cent of the earnings. As such, 77 per cent will be exempted from this. Therefore, that argument of the hon. Member falls.

Then a suggestion was made that the third class fare should be exempted from this levy. Let us be realistic. Apart from the calamities like flood havoc and cyclone and the consequent increased expenditure, we are in a developing stage and our plans have to be fulfilled. So, increased taxes are unavoidable. If the tax is not levied on railway fares then the alternative would be to levy it on such articles and instruments which would vitally affect the production. At a time when increased production is the need of the hour and a determined attempt is made by some of the parties to dislocate production by strikes and gheraos, we do not want to impose any additional tax which would affect production in vital sectors of our economy. Therefore, even though we need increased revenue by way of taxes, we do not want the production to suffer. On the other hand, we want production and economic growth to be accelerated in the face of the new challenge we are facing on the borders. We do not want production to suffer by levying taxes on some of the items suggested by some of the hon. Members.

Then on the question why the Ordinance did not come into operation from the date of promulgation, I said that its coming into

force on a particular date was coincidental. It was not the intention of government to either by-pass or ignore or treat with contempt Parliament. It is a sovereign elected body and the question of contempt does not arise.

I think, the very nation itself is rather repugnant and they should have no fear on that. But the fact is that we badly need resources to meet Bangla Desh problem.

I have some of the figures of amounts expected to be collected from various levies and I would like to place them for the benefit of the hon. Members. These are the daily revenues collected from each of the lives imposed under these Ordinances. From the Postal articles, excluding Sundays and Holidays, it comes to Rs. 3,58,000 per day; from excise on newspapers, excluding five National Holidays, it comes to Rs. 1.4 lakhs; from Stamps, it comes to Rs. 575 takhs; from Inland Air Travel, it comes to about Rs. 70,000. The total revenue collected per day so far has been to the tune of about Rs. 11.55 lakhs, or nearly Rs. 12 lakhs. That is an estimate of daily revenue.

Now, the Bill has to be passed by both the House of Parliament and, after that, it will have to receive the assent of the President. After that, certain preparatory steps have to be taken. In the case of each of the Ordinances, as you have seen, that is implied and certain preparatory steps are required. In the case of stamp collections, we require about 70 crores of additional stamps which are necessary and, unless these stamps are printed at the Printing Press at Nasik, I do not think we will be in a position to supply all the stamps wherever they are required. Specially, all the treasuries will be requiring stamps without which the work of the treasuries will be dislocated and the common man will be subjected to a lot of inconvenience. I think, the concern of the common man should be shared by the Opposition parties.

So far as the newspaper levy is concerned, if the newspapers were published and they did not complete all the formalities...

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : That is coming in the next Bill.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATAGI : Yes. The total effect is that certain practical

[Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi]

steps would also be required before they come into operation and, as such mere passage of the Bill alone would not be sufficient and in the public interest, from the point of view of execution, from the point of view of practicality and from the point of view of operation a certain time factor was required. If each day we were to lose Rs 12 lakhs, in a month it will come to about a crore of rupees. I think, it is quite a big amount to be lost in the present contingency.

About the railways I can only say this. One reason why this is also necessary is that we have one of the biggest railways in the world. I am not trying to exonerate the railways on any of the charges that my hon. friends made. We also know there are many things in which the railways are wanting. I am sure the railways will improve their performance. There are difficulties and they have to be fought out. I think the points made by the Opposition parties must have been noted by my hon. colleague, the Railway Minister. They will look into those things. There is definite scope for improvement. There are no two views about it. At the same time our railways happen to be one of the biggest railways in the world. The revised fares have to be provided at all the seven thousand and odd stations that exist in the country and from the public convenience point of view, it was also necessary that revised fares were also published and they were made available at the places they are required. We had to resort to these Ordinances so that we touch those items which would be of mass circulation and which would have mass involvement without, at the same time causing a great deal of expense of the machinery involved.

Further, for the information of the House, I may say that normally, the railways on an operate on like this, on a function like this take from 3 to 5 per cent collection of the octroi duty. But because this happens to be a laudable purpose, they have decided to charge not more than 1 per cent. It does not work out to more than that. I think, that factor should also be taken into consideration. The railways have made special provision for this.

Regarding other things, as to why the Government did not take recourse to other

measures, Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee mentioned a number of other measures, the races, the lotteries, the hotels etc. I think, each of them can be taken on its own merit and each of them requires

MR DEPUTY SPEAKER They are suggestions for action

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI
Yes They are suggestions for action

Then, I may inform the House that some States have already taken some measures. Within their legislative competence, some States have already worked upon this idea and they have imposed certain taxes or duties, whatever they are in the States. These States are Bihar, UP, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra. The details are not available with us but the States have already taken some measures. We also hear that with the Andhra Pradesh Government there is a Bill with regard to this purpose but we are not in a position to say more. What we know is that the States and the Centre and the people at large are united that more resources are necessary.

The Opposition asked 'How far will this be meeting the demand of Rs 560 crores?' This is a limited step but we have to find methods and measures and take steps to see that the money required for a laudable purpose is found. These are the only steps that could be thought of as an immediate measure and the attention and the suggestions of the entire House would be needed for that.

As my hon. friend said, we have ultimately to fall back upon our own resources because in spite of all the work we have not had much from the foreign countries. To the best of our knowledge we have only received about Rs 55 crores up to date so far as foreign countries are concerned although pledges have been made for more. So, we do feel that ultimately the nation as a whole will have to rise up and face the crisis.

Mr Bosu asked what steps have been taken by the Government to gear up its own machinery. It is a very correct question and all I may say at present is that the Government has made certain economy cuts. They may not work out much, but,

in this year, for the whole year, it will work out to about Rs. 50-59 crores. This is only an initial step and, at the same time, attempts are being made to raise our savings. In the Fourth Plan it is expected that our savings may exceed the target of Rs 759 crores and attempts will be made to see that they even go as far as Rs 1000 crores.

Regarding Income Tax arrears attempts have also been made to realise them and various administrative steps have been taken and there is a hope that we may be able to collect over Rs 100 crores.

These steps should have been taken even in the normal course of time but seeing the condition of the time and the exigency of the time, I think it takes priority and we agree with the hon. Members there.

I think there is nothing much that remains after this except to convince the Members that we are no more happy than they in this. Only one point I would like to make. Dav in and dav out the Opposition fears that the Government has some political motivation behind this. The hon. Jana Sangh Member said this is a 'Jan Virodhi'. How far it is 'Jan Virodhi', it will not be far off for them to see. When our colleagues in the Jana Sangh and the entire Opposition united together in the last Lok Sabha elections they were demolished completely and we came back with a massive mandate. How far their charge is correct, it is for them to see and for the people to judge. (Interruptions)

श्री रामावतार शास्त्री (पटना) : यह जन-विरोधी तो है ही ।

श्रीमती सुशीला रोहतगी : अब मैं आप से तक नहीं कर सकती, आप बहुत बुजुर्ग हैं। About the CPM Member, theirs is one party whom I have failed to convince in spite of all my best efforts. I wonder if any one can convince them. I would only ask them to look at their own house which they have done their very best to bring into disorder and we have used all our united efforts to retrieve the same. We cannot go by their advice because we have to see what the result has been and the whole country has seen it for itself.

About hon. Member, Mr. Sarjoo Pandey, a very venerable Member of this House,

he said : "सरकार बुनियादी परिवर्तन नहीं चाहती। गरीब जनता का जेब काटना पेशा हो गया है।"

If it was so, I am afraid, we would not be here and you would not be just isolated in one pocket. It is not our profession. This Government has belief in profession and action simultaneously and these things are not said, they are done. (Interruptions) which only the future can retrieve. I do not know how far it is within your capacity to show to the future that what you are saying is correct.

Shri Chittababu made some very important points. He said : Never before has the country witnessed this, either in Mr. Shastri's time or before that. He said, this was never done. I can say this that never before earlier—either in the time of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, or before—had refugees of one crore come here into our country, sharing our food, sharing our rations, etc. and I can say that this question had never cropped up in the time of Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri or Panditji, and so it is for us now to face this particular problem; that problem has to be met, has to be faced here and now.

SHRI C CHITTIBABU : They had tightened the border security and not allowed the people like you.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : He asked whether this is going to be a permanent or a temporary measure. I may assure the House that this has come as a temporary measure, depending upon the future Bangla Desh solution. But I may say, it is not our intention to keep it permanent. So far as the future is concerned, we will, as and when necessary, come to Parliament again. But I may say this now that this is a temporary tax for the Bangla Desh refugees.

Then another criticism was made : Who bothers about the poor? May I remain in the House that just a couple of days before the Prime Minister left the country on her foreign assignment,—when the country was passing through great stress,—a foundation was laid for one of our biggest steel projects in Salem? Whom is it going to help? It is the poor people whom it is going to help, who will benefit from its production and who will get employment. Therefore, I do not think that such types of criticisms do

[*Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi*]

serve more attention and I think we should not be worried about them. Then the question of overdrafts of the States was raised. The States know how to take care of themselves. We have also stressed that there is financial stringency and the necessary financial discipline should be there.

Mr. Venkatasubbaiah made certain valuable suggestions. Among other things, he made one point that the collection charges involved may be more than the collections, and so it does not come to very much. All along I have been saying that the collection charges will be only Rs. 1 lakh and it is not much and so even that point does not stand.

Finally, Sir, considering the mood of the country, considering the strong morale of our people, considering the moral involvement of our nation on this vital issue, and also considering the fact that there is justice for the disapproval of this measure, I would only request the hon. Members to support this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER Shri Vajpayee—not here All right I will now put Shri Vajpayee's statutory Resolution to the vote of the House The question is :

"This House disapproves of the Railway Passenger Fares Ordinance, 1971 (Ordinance No. 17 of 1971) promulgated by the President on the 22nd October, 1971."

The Resolution was negatived

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER Now the question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on railway fares, be taken into consideration "

The motion was adopted

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We will now take up the clauses.

Clause 2 (Definitions)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is an amendment to Clause 2 by Shri Indrajit Gupta. But under Art. 274 of the Constitution the President's recommendation had to be obtained which he has not done. Therefore, it is out of order and cannot be considered by the House. There is no other

amendment. Therefore, I now put Clause 2 to the vote of the House The question is :

"That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill "

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 (Lev. of tax on passenger fares)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER For the same reason, Shri Bhogendra Jha's amendment to Clause 3 is out of order. There is no other amendment. So, I will put Clause 3 to the vote of the House. The question is :

"That Clause 3 stand part of the Bill "

The motion was adopted

Clause 3 was added to the Bill

Clauses 4 to 8 and the Schedule were added to the Bill.

Clause 1 (Short title and commencement)

SHRI S. N. MISRA (Kannauj) . I beg to move :

Page 1,—

after—line 5, insert—

"(3) It shall remain in force initially for a period of one year but may be extended for a period not beyond two years". (1)

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER I shall not put this amendment to vote.

Amendment No. 1 was put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is

"That clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed".

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed".

The Lok Sabha divided;

Division No. 5]

Awdhesh Chandra Singh, Shri
 Basappa, Shri K.
 Besra, Shri S. C.
 Bhatia, Shri Durgadas
 Bheeshmadev, Shri M.
 Bhuvaranah, Shri G.
 Chakleshwar Singh, Shri
 Chanda, Shrimati Jyotsna
 Chandrakar, Shri Chandulal
 Chandrika Prasad, Shri
 Chhotey Lal, Shri
 Choudhary, Shri B. E.
 Das, Shri Anandi Charan
 Das, Shri Dharnidhar
 Daschowdhury, Shri B. K.
 Dhamankar, Shri
 Dhusia, Shri Anant Prasad
 Dixit, Shri G. C.
 Doda, Shri Hiralal
 Dube, Shri J. P.
 Dumada, Shri L. K.
 Ganesh, Shri K. R.
 Gohain, Shri C. C.
 Gopal, Shri K.
 Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chander
 Gowda, Shri Pampan
 Hansda, Shri Subodh
 Hanumanthaiya, Shri K.
 Hari Kishore Singh, Shri
 Jamilurrahman, Shri Md.
 Jeyalakshmi, Shrimati V.
 Kadam, Shri J. G.
 Kidannappalli, Shri Ramachandran
 Kader, Shri S. A.
 Kapur, Shri Sat Pal
 Kaul, Shrimati Sheila
 Kavde, Shri B. R.
 Kedar Nath Singh, Shri
 Kinder Lal, Shri
 Kotrashetti, Shri A. K.
 Kureel, Shri B. N.
 Lakshminarayanan, Shri M. R.
 Majhi, Shri Gajadhar
 Majhi, Shri Kumar
 Mallikarjun, Shri

Ayes

[14.46 hrs.

Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain
 Maurya, Shri B. P.
 Mirdha, Shri Nathu Ram
 Mishra, Shri G. S.
 Mishra, Shri Jagannath
 Modi, Shri Shrikishan
 Mohapatra, Shri Shyam Sunder
 Negi, Shri Pratap Singh
 Oraon, Shri Tuna
 Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain
 Pandey, Shri Sudhakar
 Paokai Haokip, Shri
 Partap Singh, Shri
 Patel, Shri Prabhudas
 Patil, Shri Krishnarao
 Peje, Shri S. L.
 Qureshi, Shri Mohd. Shaf
 Radhakrishnan, Shri S.
 Rai, Shrimati Sahodrabai
 Rajdeo Singh, Shri
 Ramshekhar Prasad Singh, Shri
 Rao, Shrimati B. Radhabai A.
 Ray, Shri Siddhartha Shankar
 Reddy, Shri K. Ramakrishna
 Rohtagi, Shrimati Sushila
 Roy, Shri Bishwanath
 Sadhu Ram, Shri
 Saini, Shri Mulki Raj
 Sankata Prasad, Dr.
 Savant, Shri Shankerrao
 Sethi, Shri Arjun
 Shambhu Nath, Shri
 Shankaranand, Shri B.
 Shenoy, Shri P. R.
 Shivappa, Shri N.
 Shivnath Singh, Shri
 Shukla, Shri B. R.
 Sohan Lal, Shri T.
 Sonar, Dr. A. G.
 Swamy, Shri Sidrameshwar
 Tiwari, Shri R. G.
 Unnikrishnan, Shri K. P.
 Virbhadra Singh, Shri
 Yadav, Shri Karan Singh
 Yadav, Shri N. P.

Noes

Bade, Shri R. V.
 Bhaura, Shri B. S.
 Chandra Shekhar Singh, Shri
 Chaudhary, Shri Ishwar
 Chittibabu, Shri C.
 Chowhan, Shri Bharat Singh
 George, Shri Varkey
 Goswami, Shrimati Bibha Ghosh
 Haldar, Shri Madhuryyya

Jha, Shri Bhogendra
 Mehta, Shri P. M.
 Mohammad Ismail, Shri
 Mukerjee, Shri H. N.
 Nayak, Shri Baks
 Nayar, Shrimati Shakuntala
 Pandey, Shri Sarjoo
 Pandeya, Dr. Laxminarain
 Parmer, Shri Bhaljibhai

Pradhan, Shri Dhan Shah
 Rao, Shri M. Satyanarayan
 Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar
 Saksena, Prof. S. L.
 Shastri, Shri Ramavtar
 Singh, Shri D. N.
 Sivasamy, Shri M. S.
 Solanki, Shri Somchand

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The result* of the division is :

Ayes : 89 ; Noes : 26.

The motion was adopted.

14.49 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : TAX ON POSTAL ARTICLES ORDINANCE AND TAX OF POSTAL ARTICLES BILL

दा० लक्ष्मीनारायण पाण्डेय (मंदसौर) : माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं प्रस्ताव करता हूँ कि यह सभा राष्ट्रपति द्वारा 22 अक्टूबर, 1971 को प्रस्तुति डाक वस्तुओं पर कर अध्यादेश, 1971 (1971 का अध्यादेश सं० 18) का निरन्तरीक्त करती है।

माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, जैसा कि बक्तव्य में माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने बताया कि बंगला देश के शरणार्थियों के लिये कुछ अतिरिक्त साधन, अतिरिक्त पैसा जुटाने के लिए सरकार ने उक्त अध्यादेश जारी किया तथा उसके स्थान पर बिल भी यहां प्रस्तुत किया गया है। सरकार ने जिस तरह से रेल-भाड़े में वृद्धि की है उसी तरह से डाक-तार की दरों में वृद्धि की जा रही है, स्टैम्प-डिग्री में वृद्धि की बात भी है। मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि बंगला देश की समस्या सारे देश की अपनी समस्या है और इस समस्या के प्रति सारे देश को सहानुभूति है। कोई भी यह नहीं चाहता कि समस्या का हल न हो। सारा देश यह मानता है कि सरकार का इस समस्या के समाधान में जितना भी हाथ बटाया जा सकता है, बटाना चाहिए।

*The following Members also recorded their votes :

Ayes : Shri S. N. Misra.

Noes : Servashri Shri Shankar Prasad Yadav and T. S. Lakshmanan.

मैं पिछली बटनाओं को दोहराना नहीं चाहता, चाहे पाकिस्तान ने हमारे ऊपर आक्रमण किया हो या चीन ने हमारे ऊपर आक्रमण किया हो, देश की जनता ने सरकार के हाथों में कपड़ा, पेसा, चांदी, सोना सब कुछ दिया, सरकार ने चाहे उसका सदृप्योग किया हो या दुरुपयोग किया हो, लेकिन देश की जनता आपने योगदान में पीछे नहीं रही। किन्तु जिस ढंग से ये कर लगाने की बात की गई है, अध्यादेश के द्वारा जिस ढंग से ये कर लगाये गए हैं, उसका हम विरोध करते हैं।

माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, आप जानते हैं, 15 नवम्बर, से यह सदन प्रारम्भ होने वाला था। 22 अक्टूबर, को यह अध्यादेश निकाला गया, सरकार कुछ दिन प्रतीक्षा कर सकती थी। हमारा इस बारे में मतभेद नहीं है कि सरकार समस्या के समाधान के लिए आवश्यक धनराशि संग्रह न करे, लेकिन कुछ दिन प्रतीक्षा करने की बात भी सरकार सहन नहीं कर सकी, और 15 नवम्बर तक भी सरकार इस सिलसिले में अतिरिक्त डाक टिकटों का आवश्यक प्रबन्ध नहीं कर सकी। सारा सदन इस बात को जानता है कि 15 नवम्बर के बाद भी डाक घरों में जिन अतिरिक्त डाक-टिकटों का प्रबन्ध किया जाना था, वह नहीं हो सका, सरकार उस प्रबन्ध में भी असफल रही।

माननीय उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, सरकार ने इस के द्वारा एक बात कही है कि ये टैक्स अस्थायी हैं, स्थायी नहीं हैं। सरकार कई बातों में अस्थायी और स्थायी में भेद नहीं कर पाती। आज हमारी सरकार के कई विभाग वर्षों से अस्थायी चले आ रहे हैं, 10-15 वर्ष नौकरी के बाद सरकारी कर्मचारी, कभी कभी तो 20 वर्ष की नौकरी के बाद भी सरकारी कर्मचारी अस्थायी ही रहता है। हमारे सविष्ठान की घारा 370 भी अस्थायी हैं, सरकार किस को

स्थायी और किसको अस्थायी मानती है, इस बात को समझने का प्रयत्न भी नहीं कर सकती है। शुरू शुरू में बगला देश की समस्या को भी अस्थायी माना गया था, कहा गया था कि 6 महीने में सब लोग चले जायेगे, हमें बहुत योड़े पैसे की आवश्यकता है, इस समय केवल 10 लाख लोग आये हैं, लेकिन जब 60 लाख आ गए तो कहा गया कि हमें अतिरिक्त साधन व धन जुटाना पड़ेगा। सरकार का कहना है कि पोस्टल एटिकल टेक्स द्वारा इस वर्ष के अन्दर हम 3.75 करोड़ रुपया टैक्सो के द्वारा प्राप्त करेंगे, लेकिन अब इसके जरिये आगामी वर्ष के लिए जो कल्पना की गई है, वह 0 करोड़ की है अर्थात् सरकार डेढ़ वर्ष तक तो समस्या को न्याई ही समझती है, इस अर्थ में बगला देश के शरणार्थियों की समस्या हल होने वाली नहीं है इस तरह जिसको आप अस्थायी समझते हैं उसको स्वयं स्थाई मानते जा रहे हैं।

यदि आप इसको स्थायी समस्या मानते तो शायद आगे की कल्पना करके यह बात नहीं कहने। यह समस्या अस्थायी है और कुछ समय के लिए इन करों को आप लगाना चाहते हैं लेकिन आपने आगे की गत क्ष कर अपने तौर पर यह बात सिद्ध कर दी है कि आप इस समस्या को आग भी जारी रखना चाहते हैं। फिर एक करोड़ शरणार्थियों को समस्या कोई साधारण समस्या नहीं है एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या है। इस समस्या के समाधान के लिए सरकार न केवल 70 करोड़ के टैक्सो की बात कही है बिभिन्न उपायों के द्वारा। इन टैक्सों में पोस्टल एटिकलिस पर लगने वाला टैक्स भी है चाहे वह अतदेशीय पत्र हो, लिफाफा हो या इसरी पोस्टल वस्तुयं हो। यहां पर सचार मत्री बेठे हुए हैं, मैं बताना चाहता हूं कि इन टैक्सों का एक असर यह होने वाला है कि अन्तदेशीय पत्र कम लिखे जायेगे, लिफाफे कम लिखे जायेगे और सारे का सारा बोझ पोस्टकार्ड पर ही पड़ने वाला है जिसी महोदय हम बात को समझते स्वीकार करेंगे।

पिछले पांकडे जहां तक मुझे मालूम है और जो मुझे प्राप्त हुए है सचार मत्री इसका खंडन करना चाहें तो कर सकते हैं जहां तक पोस्ट कार्ड का मम्बन्ध है, सरकार का सचार विभाग इस बारे में धाटे में चल रहा है। एक पोस्ट कार्ड पर सरकार की जितनी लागत आती है उतने में वह बेचा नहीं जाता है इसलिए उस पर बाटा जाता है। आज की रिप्पति म अन्तदेशीय तथा दूसरे पत्रों का भार भी पोस्ट कार्ड पर ही पड़ने वाला है परन्तु उस धाट को यहां पर दर्शाया नहीं गया है। यह तो बताया गया है कि लगभग चार करोड़ की आमदनी होगी लेकिन पोस्ट कार्ड पर पड़ने वाला अतिरिक्त भार और बाटा कितना होगा उसको नहीं दिखलाया गया है। यदि उस धाट को भी इसमें सम्मिलित किया गया होता तो मैं समझता हूं उचित होता और वस्तुर्थिः। सामने आता।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं आपका ध्यान धारा 4 की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं। इसमें कम करन और रूट देने की शक्ति बताई गई है। कहा गया है

“जहा केन्द्रीय सरकार की राय हो कि एसा करना लोकान्तर म समीचीन या आवश्यक है वहा, शासकीय राजपत्र मे अधिसूचना द्वारा वह अधिष्ठलक्षी या भूतलक्षी रूप स एसी डाक वस्तु या डाक वस्तुओं के बर्ग वी वावन, जो अधिसूचना मे विनिर्दिष्ट की जायें, इस अधिनियम के अधीन देय कर को गांसी शर्तों पर, यदि कोई हो, जो वह अधिसूचना मे विनिर्दिष्ट करे, कम कर सकेगी या उससे घट दे सकेगी।”

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, मेरी समझ म नहीं आता सरकार किम प्रकार भूतलक्षी प्रभाव उपयोग मे लायेगी? आज हमसे पाच पैसा प्रति एटिकल इकट्ठा किया जाता है और फिर यदि आप पाच पाँच पैसे का भूतलक्षी प्रभाव देना भी चाहे तो वह किस किस की जेब मे जाने वाला है? सरकार उसको कैसे लौटाने वाली है? सरकार उसको लौटा नहीं सकती

[डा० लक्ष्मी नारायण पाण्डे]

है। इसलिए भूतलक्षी प्रभाव को इसमें रखने का कोई अर्थ सिद्ध नहीं होता है। मान नीजिय प्राप अधिनियम के अन्तर्भूत अधिसूचना के द्वारा आप विज्ञापित कर दे कि हम इसको कम करना चाहते हैं परन्तु यदि आप उसको भूतलक्षी प्रभाव देना भी चाहें तो उस व्यावहारिक रूप में दे नहीं सकते हैं। इसलिए मैं समझता हूँ इस धारा में यह दोषपूर्ण स्थिति है। इसके द्वारा आप केवल जनता को गुमराह करना चाहते हैं कि हम कम भी कर देंगे और कूट भी दे देंगे। इसलिए इस में जो भूतलक्षी प्रभाव देने की बात कही गई है मैं समझता हूँ मत्री महोदय उस की तरफ ध्यान देंगे तो बहुत अच्छा होगा। इसमें आपने भूतलक्षी प्रभाव की बात कहकर केवल जनता को विभ्रम में डालने का प्रयत्न किया है।

इसके अतिरिक्त एक बात और मेरी समझ में नहीं आई जिसके सम्बन्ध में मैंने आपना सशोधन भी दिया है और वह यह है कि पहली धारा में जम्मू और कश्मीर को इसमें से निकाल दिया गया है। जम्मू लक्ष्मीर को क्यों छोड़ा गया है यह बात मरी समझ में नहीं आई। हाँ सकता है कि हमसे कोइ पृथक भाव रखत हो और पत्रों द्वारा कुछ ऐसा देखने में आया भी है लेकिन इस बारे में हम यह मानकर चलता चाहिए कि यह सम्पूर्ण भारत वर्ष की समस्या है, वह सकट सारे देश का सकट है, जम्मू काश्मीर इससे अलग नहीं हो सकता है। लेकिन इसमें लिला हुआ है कि इसका विस्तार 'जम्मू कश्मीर के सिवाय सम्पूर्ण भारत पर होगा'। सम्पूर्ण भारत के जो निवासी हैं उनमें जम्मू काश्मीर के निवासी भी शामिल हैं। लेकिन हम उनको निकाल करके बगला देश की समस्या का समाधान करना चाहते हैं। मैं समझता हूँ सरकार की जो दोषपूर्ण नीतिया है उनकी तरफ वह कभी ध्यान नहीं देती है सरकार ने पहले इसके लिए जो अनुमति व्यवह की कल्पना की थी उसमें

दो सौ करोड़ लख होने की बात कही थी, फिर साढ़े चार सौ करोड़ लख होने की बात कही गई और अब अनुमान है कि 600 करोड़ से अधिक का खर्च आयेगा। यह समस्या इस नीति के कारण है जो बर्तमान सरकार आपना रही है और इसमें वह सफल नहीं होने वाली है। यह समस्या अस्थाई नहीं, स्थायी बनती जा रही है। सरकार को जो राशि बाहर से प्राप्त होने वाली है वह बहुत बड़ी है और उससे बोई काम चलने वाला नहीं है। इस पर आई हुई इस सकट की बड़ी में जबकि पाकिस्तान के द्वारा एक आक्रमण की स्थिति हमारे ऊपर बनी हुई है उसमें सरकार के साथ हमारी पूरी सहानुभूति है लेकिन सरकार ने जिस प्रकार का रख अपना रखा है वह मिन्दनीय है। अध्यादेशों के द्वारा जहा तक कर बसूल करने की बात ह, मैं उन बातों को दोहरा। नहीं चाहता जोकि मैंने विधयक के पुर स्थापित होत समय कही थी। लाकसभा के भूतपूर्व अध्यक्ष श्री मावलकर जी और ३० जवाहरलाल नहरू के बीच में जो पत्र-व्यवहार हुआ था उसको भी मैं यहा पर दाहराना नहीं चाहता। मैं समझता हूँ अध्यादेशों की इस प्रकार से भड़ी लगाना कदापि उचित नहीं ठहराया जा सकता। ऐसे प्रनावशब्द अध्यादेश जिनकी कोई इमरजेंसी न हो जारी नहीं किए जान चाहिए। विशेष रूप से विश्वीय मामले को लेकर कर लगाने के लिए तो अध्यादेश आने ही नहीं चाहिए। सरकार न यहा पर जो करों का बोझ जनता के ऊपर डाला है जोकि कम स कम अध्यादेश के द्वारा नहीं डाला जाना चाहिए था।

एक बात और कहवार ममाप्त बर्खा। सरकार ने रेल भाड़ा बढ़ाया है। मैं उस सबध में कुछ दोहराना चाहता हूँ लेकिन यह कहवा चाहता हूँ कि यदि कोई समाचार भेजना चाहे तो वह भी महणा, यदि कोई समाचार पढ़वा

चाहे तो भी मंहगा। इसमें समाचार पत्रों को भी नहीं छोड़ा गया है। वे भी अब कीमत बढ़ाने लगे हैं। यह तो अपनी अपनी रुचि का विषय है कि कोई हिन्दुस्तान टाइम्स पढ़ता है, कोई नवभारत टाइम्स पढ़ता है तो कोई टाइम्स आफ डिलिया पढ़ सकता है। कोई दूसरे पत्र, लेकिन आपके टैक्स के कागज़ वे भी महगे हो गये। तेमीं दशा में समाचार पढ़ना, समाचार भेजना और रेलो पर आना जाना निरन्तर मंहगा होता जा रहा है। जनता पर यह टैक्सों का बोझ अध्यादेशों के द्वारा लाया गया है और अब बहमत के आधार पर उमकी रखीकृति प्राप्त करने की चेष्टा की जा रही है। सरकार की यह मनोवृत्ति ठीक नहीं है। इस लिए मैं अध्यादेश का विरोध करता हूँ और सरकार न आग्रह करता हूँ कि अध्यादेश के स्थान पर वह जो यह विधेयक लाई है उसको वापिस ले लें। अध्यादेश द्वारा टैक्स लगाने की यह जो प्रवृत्ति केन्द्रीय सरकार ने अपनाई है वह केवल केन्द्र तक ही सीमित नहीं है बल्कि राज्य सरकारें भी अब निरन्तर अध्यादेशों के द्वारा टैक्स लगा रही हैं। अनेक राज्यों ने जैसे मध्य प्रदेश ने अध्यादेश के द्वारा टैक्स लगाने की बात है। दूसरे राज्यों ने भी ऐसा ही किया है। केन्द्रीय सरकार तथा राज्य सरकारों द्वारा इस प्रकार आम जनता की दैनिक कार्तुओं पर जो कर लगाये गए हैं उससे निम्न तथा मध्यम वर्ग भयंकर रूप से प्रभावित हुआ है। मैं समझता हूँ आज के सकट के मध्य में इस प्रकार की सरकार की मनोवृत्ति ठीक नहीं है। सरकार को चाहिये कि अध्यादेश के साथ ही यहा पर उसने जो विधेयक पेश किया है उसको भी वापिस ले।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH): Sir, I beg to move* :

"That the Bill to provide for the

levy of a tax on certain postal articles, be taken into consideration."

As the hon. Members are aware, after discussing the matters with the Governors and Chief Ministers of States, at a meeting held on the 12th October, 1971 certain steps were taken to raise additional resources for being utilised for the relief of Bangla Desh refugees. One such step was the promulgation of the Tax on Postal Articles Ordinance, 1971 (18 of 1971) to provide for levy of a tax at the rate of five paise on all postal articles including money orders, phonograms and telegrams but not including post cards and registered newspapers.

The levy which has come into force from 15th November, 1971 is expected to yield a revenue of about Rs. 10 crores in a full year and of about Rs. 3.75 crores in the current year for being utilised on the relief of the Bangla Desh refugees. In order that the poorer section of the society is not burdened with this levy, post cards have been kept out of its purview. Similarly, the tax will not be levied on "registered newspapers" transmitted by post. Keeping in view the concession in respect of postage available to our Defence forces, exemption from tax has also been allowed on the transmission of forces letters, green envelopes and money orders upto Rs. 30/- per month by Defence Services, by issue of a notification under section 4 of the Ordinance. This tax will be collected by the postal authorities along with the postage, fees or other charges payable in respect of postal articles. As such no difficulty is likely to be experienced in the matter of collection of this tax.

It became necessary to impose this levy through an Ordinance for the following reasons. Parliament was not then in session. Action had to be taken immediately to raise maximum resources. Steps were to be taken to make the special stamps available to the general public before the 15th November, 1971, the date on which the levy was due to commence. It was also necessary to make all other administrative arrangements for the collection of the tax before the said date. The date of effect of the levy had to be kept as 15th November, 1971 as preparatory steps referred to above were necessary to avoid inconvenience to the public. *

*Moved with the recommendation of the President,

[Shri K. R. Ganesh]

15.00 hrs.

I commend the present Bill which seeks to replace the above Ordinance. As the objective underlying the levy is for a very laudable purpose, I request the House to unanimously accept the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : Motion moved :

"This House disapproves of the Tax on Postal Article Ordinance, 1971 (Ordinance No. 18 of 1971) promulgated by the President on 22nd October, 1971" :

"That the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on certain postal articles, be taken into consideration."

*SHRI T. S. LAKSHMANAN (Sri perumpudur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, as a Member elected from Sriperumudur Constituency in Tamil Nadu, this is the first time I participate in a discussion of this House and I am thankful to you for giving me an opportunity to participate in the Debate on the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on certain postal articles.

Just now, the House passed the Railway Passenger fare bill, which is certainly going to affect the poor travelling public in III class. It is estimated that from the three Ordinances involving taxation proposals promulgated by the President during the inter-session, the Government would be able to raise a sum of Rs. 70 crores. It is not known what would be the amount of revenue from the taxes on postal articles. It is also not clear whether these taxes will be for a temporary period or on a permanent basis.

Nobody in this House can deny the fact that by the imposition of tax on inland letters, covers and money-orders the poor people will be hard hit. On one side the railway fare is going up. The prices of newspapers have gone up. The stamp duty has been raised. The prices of essential commodities also are going up steeply.

Besides the Central Government, the Governors of different States have issued ordinances involving taxation proposals. It is accepted that the revenue raised through these sources will be utilised to

give relief and succour to the millions of Bangla Desh refugees. But, at the same time, if the Central Government makes an earnest endeavour to reduce its administrative expenditure, this amount of Rs. 70 crores could be easily raised without taking recourse to taxes affecting the common people.

For example, in the Delhi circle alone, several lakhs of rupees remain outstanding as telephone tariff arrears. If you see all over the country, then this may run to some crores of rupees. Secondly, the Government could easily have raised the premium rate of Postal Life Insurance to the level of premium rate charged by the Life Insurance Corporation. At the moment the Postal Life premium is very much loss. Thirdly, instead of raising the price of inland letters and covers, the Government could have raised the postal charges in foreign postal rates. This would have yielded the necessary revenue.

I would also refer to another important factor which has not been looked into by the Ministry. The 112th Report of Public Accounts Committee has stated as follows :

The postal branch suffered a loss of Rs. 6.16 crores in 1968-69 and Rs. 7.06 in 1969-70. The telegraph branch suffered a loss of Rs. 6.71 crores in 1968-69 and Rs. 6.86 crores in 1969-70. Even after raising the postal and telegraph tariffs, the postal branch suffered a loss of Rs. 2.72 crores in 1970-71 and Rs. 7.16 crores loss was suffered by the Telegraph Department. As on 1.10.1969 the arrears of telephone revenue was Rs. 3.22 crores and Rs. 6.78 crores was outstanding on 1.7.1970 as arrears of telephone revenue. Out of the total arrears of telephone revenue, 50% is to be paid by the Government Departments. I need not say that there are malpractices in the postal department and it is not working satisfactory. I do not know the steps taken by the Ministry to set right the Posts and Telegraphs Department. If they had taken adequate steps to root out the deficiencies, naturally such heavy losses could have been averted. If the telephone charges were being collected on time- there would have been no necessity for this levy now. I do not know the arrears of telephone revenue as on 1.7.71. But, if the sum of Rs. 6.78 crores as outstanding on 1.7.70 had been

*The original speech was delivered in

Tamil.

collected, the present levy would have become unnecessary.

I would urge upon the Ministry that at least now they should adopt remedial measures so that there will be no need for levying new taxes in the coming year. Here, I would like to point out that the cultivator who goes to work when the cock crows and returns home when the owl hoots in the night pays all his dues to the authorities. But the dues of the Government are not paid by only a handful of rich people. It should not be difficult for the Government to take action against these people and collect the dues from them.

In the end, I would like to appeal to the Minister that the tax on inland letters and cover should at least be withdrawn so that the poor people are not unduly harassed by this new levy.

With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI S. N. MISRA (Kannauj) : Sir, the first difficulty I find in regard to this Bill is this. It has been stated in the House itself that the refugee problem is a temporary phase for the country. I would therefore expect that the Central Government should have made it clear that the present legislation was intended only as a temporary measure for a period of one year in the first instance and it may be extended further for a period of two years if necessary. But from the fact that this has not been mentioned in the Bill, it appears that the refugee problem will be a permanent feature for the country.

The second difficulty is that while all the States and Union Territories in the country are bearing the burden of Bangla Desh refugees, one part of the country, *i.e.*, Jammu and Kashmir, has been excluded. This is not compatible with what we call equality in respect of all the States. Jammu and Kashmir should equally bear the burden. If these two amendments are made in the Bill, we can certainly support the Bill.

धीरामावलार शास्त्री (पटना) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, बंगला देश से आये हुए शरणार्थियों की मदद के नाम पर यह बिल पोस्टल आर्टिकल्स पर टैक्स लगाने के लिये पेश किया गया है। इसमें यह बतलाया गया है कि 12 अक्टूबर को राज्यों के राज्यपालों

और मुस्लिमों का सम्मेलन हुआ था उसमें बंगला देश से आये लगभग एक करोड़ शरणार्थियों की मदद के लिए अंतर्रिक्ष साधन जुट ने का फैसला किया गया। उसी फैसले के मुताबिक डाक सामग्रियों पर कर लगाने के अध्यादेश की राष्ट्रपति जी ने घोषणा की। उनकी घोषणा 15 नवम्बर से लागू हुई, जिस दिन से लोक सभा का सत्र प्रारम्भ होने वाला था। इसके पहले जब रेलवे भाड़े में बृद्धि की चर्चा चल रही थी तब बहुतेरे सदस्यों ने यह ठीक ही कहा था कि जब लोक सभा का सत्र तुरन्त ही प्रारम्भ होने वाला था तब इस तरह के आर्डिनेस की क्या आवश्यकता थी। उसकी कोई आवश्यकता नहीं थी। इस तरह से करने से लोगों की जनतन्त्र पर से ग्रास्था कम होती है और यह संसद एक मखौल बन जायेगी।

जब पहले मंत्री जी बोल रही थीं उन्होंने कहा था कि 12 लाख रुपये प्रत्येक दिन के हिसाब से आमदनी आ रही है सब करों को मिला करके सरकार को अब तक 1 करोड़ रुपये से ज्यादा की राशि मिल चुकी है। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम इसको कुछ दिनों के लिये रोक सकते थे। और अगर इस तरह के कानून को लाना ही था तो 15 नवम्बर को सत्र प्रारम्भ होने के बाद इसको बैला सकते थे। लेकिन ऐसा न करके गलत काम किया गया। इसी लिये हम लोग इसका विरोध करते हैं। आम तौर से मैं सब आर्डिनेसों के विरुद्ध नहीं हूँ, लेकिन यहां आप पूँजीपतियों पर, इजारेदारों पर, चोट करने वाले आर्डिनेस लाये, न कि ऐसे आर्डिनेस जिन से आम जनता पर चोट पड़ती हो। इन आर्डिनेसों से आपने आम जनता पर चोट की, गरीबों पर चोट की, मध्यम वर्ग और निम्न मध्यम वर्ग के लोगों पर चोट की, किसान मजदूरों पर चोट की। इसलिए मैं इस तरीके के विरुद्ध हूँ और इस बिल का विरोध करता हूँ।

इस आर्डिनेस के मुताबिक पांच पैसे पंद्रह

[श्री रामावतार शास्त्री]

पैसे बाले अन्तर्देशीय पत्र पर भी बढ़ गए हैं। केवल पोस्ट कार्ड को इससे मुक्त रखा गया है। बाकी तमाम चीजों पर, पोस्टल प्रार्टिकल्ज पर पाच पैसे बढ़ा दिये गये हैं। जो लिफाफा बीस पैसे में मिलता था अब उसके पचचीस पैसे देने पड़ रहे हैं। जहाँ तक मेरी जानकारी है, पचचीस पैसे का लिफाफा दुनिया के शायद किसी भी देश में नहीं है, इससे बहुत कम कीमत में मिलता है। लेकिन यहा दाम बढ़ा दिये गये हैं और शायद सरकार समझती होगी कि लिफाफे कुछ बड़े-बड़े लोग ही इस्तेमाल में लाते हैं अन्तर्देशीय पत्र बड़े-बड़े लोग ही इस्तेमाल में लाते हैं। शायद मनी आर्डर भी सरकार के विचार से बड़े-बड़े लोग ही भेजते हैं। लेकिन मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि करेडो-करोड़ मजदूर जो शारखानों में काम करते हैं, खानों में काम करते हैं, वे जो पैसा मुश्किल से बचा पाते हैं अरनी मजदूरी से से, उसको मनीआर्डर के द्वारा ही भेजते हैं। सभी लोग पोस्ट कार्ड ही नहीं लिलते हैं। बहुत बड़ी सख्त्या में गरीब लोग भी अब लिफाफो का इस्तेमाल करने लग गए हैं, अन्तर्देशीय पत्रों का इस्तेमाल करने लग गये हैं। लेकिन आपने इनकी कीमत को बढ़ा कर उनपर ही बोझ लादा है। इसकी कोई आवश्यकता नहीं थी। इसमें कोई सन्देह नहीं है कि आपको शारणार्थियों की समस्या हल बरन के लिए उनकी मदद करने के लिए पैसे की जरूरत है। लेकिन उसके लिये दूसरे रास्ते हूँ जाने चाहिए थे। ऐसा न करके आपने आम जनता पर टैक्स लगाना ही मुनासिब समझा है। इस बास्ते हम कहते हैं कि यह कारंबाई सरकार की जन-विरोधी कारंबाई है। आप गरीबी हटाने की बात करते हैं, साधारण लोगों को ऊपर उठाने की बात करते हैं, बड़े लोगों को नीचे लाने की बात करते हैं लेकिन मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि आम लोगों में यही धारणा फैल रही है कि उन्हीं पर बोझा डाला जा रहा है और

बड़े लोगों को छोड़ा जा रहा है, उनपर कोई बोझा नहीं डाला जा रहा है। इस तरह के आप गरीबी नहीं मिटा सकेंगे, गरीबों को ऊचा नहीं उठा सकेंगे। इसी अर्थ में तमाम जगह इसका विरोध हो रहा है। जनता ने इसको पसन्द नहीं किया है। लेकिन आपने जो यह कहा है कि शरणार्थियों के लिए जो आजादी की लड़ाई लड़ते हुए याहियाशाही के जुल्मों का मुकाबला करते हुए हमारे यहा चले आए हैं, उन्हें लिए धन की आवश्यकता है, इसके प्रति जनता की हमदर्दी है। लेकिन वह समझती है कि इस तरह से उनपर टैक्स नहीं लगना चाहिये। लेकिन आपने आम जनता के मर्मस्थल पर चोट बरने की कोशिश की है विस्थापितों के नाम पर। मैं चाहता हूँ कि आप बड़े लोगों पर कर लगाये। किन लोगों पर लगाये, यह मैं आपको बतलाना चाहता हूँ। अगर आप को टैक्स लगाना था तो आप आयातित शाराब पर टैक्स लगा सकते थे। उसपर क्यों नहीं लगाया गया? इस बास्ते नहीं लगाया गया कि उसे बड़े लोग पीते हैं और मध्यम और निम्न आय वर्ग के लोग, गरीब किसान, शहरों में रहने वाले गरीब मजदूर नहीं पीते हैं? जिन के पास ज्यादा पैसा है, जो ऐश करते हैं, जो धन का दुरुपयोग बरतते हैं, जो मौज मेला करते में विश्वास करते हैं, वही इसका इस्तेमाल बरतते हैं। उनपर टैक्स लगाना चाहिये था न कि पोस्टल सामग्री पर।

उसी तरह से हमारे देश में 75 धराने इजारेदारों के हैं, पूँजीपतियों के हैं। उनकी सेकड़ी और हजारों कम्पनियां हैं। उनपर भीर उनके कैपिटल पर, उनकी पूँजी पर आपको सेस लगाना चाहिए था। उनके रिजर्व फड़ पर सेस लगाते। उनके डिविडेंड पर सेस लगाने की कोशिश करते। यह रास्ता था न कि साधारण जनता पर टैक्स लगाने का। आप कम्पनियों का वर्गीकरण कर सकते थे

और वर्णिकरण करके आप सेस लगा सकते थे। अगर आप ऐसा करते तो आपको बहुत पैसा मिल सकता था। अभी जितना पैसा इकट्ठा कर रहे हैं उम्मे कई गुना अधिक पैसा आप एकत्र कर सकते थे। विस्थापितों को हम ठीक से रख नहीं पा रहे हैं, उनके रहने का ठीक से इंतजाम नहीं कर पा रहे हैं, उनके खाने का बंदोबस्त नहीं कर पा रहे हैं। अगर आपने इन लोगों पर टैक्स लगाया होता तो ये सब काम आप आसानी से कर सकते थे। धनी किसानों पर टैक्स लगना चाहिए था।

इसी तरह से इनकम टैक्स का पांच अरब रुपया आज भी बकाया पड़ा हुआ है जो बसूल नहीं किया जा रहा है। आप यह रुपया सख्ती करके बसूल कर सकते थे। यह अरब रुपया ऐसा है जो ब्लैक मनी है। यह वह रुपया है जो लोगों का खून चूस कर पैदा किया गया है, अष्टाव्यार करके पैदा किया गया है। तरह-तरह की घूसखोरी भी चलती है। बड़े-बड़े मगरमच्छ और जनता के दुश्मन इसको दबाये बैठे हैं। जनता का खून चूसते रहे हैं। इसको आप निकालते। उनसे आप लेते। लेकिन आपने यह नहीं किया।

आपने जो डाक की सामग्री पर कर लगाया है इसमें बहुत सा हिस्सा आपके गवर्न-मेंट डिपार्टमेंट्स का भी है। गवर्न-मेंट डिपार्टमेंट्स से पैसा इसके द्वारा फाइनेंस डिपार्टमेंट के पास जाएगा। क्या आपने अन्दाजा लगाया है कि गवर्न-मेट के प्रत्येक विभाग से कितना रुपया आपको मिलेगा और आम जनता से आपको कितना मिलेगा?

इन सब बातों को देखते हुए अगर आप सही मानों में शरणार्थियों की मदद करना चाहते हैं—हम भी मदद करना चाहते हैं, पूरा देश इस मामले में एक है, कोई मतभेद नहीं है—तो आप उन लोगों पर जिनकी हम्मे चर्चा की है, टैक्स लगायें और गरीबों पर टैक्स न

लगायें। अब तो आम जनता के दिमाग में यह गलत भावना फैलने लगी है कि ये विस्थापित कहाँ से चले आए हैं कि हमारे ऊपर ही टैक्स लगने शुरू हो गए हैं। इस तरह की बातें लोग कभी-कभी बोलते हैं। कहते हैं कि यह क्या हुआ, हम तो मदद करना चाहते हैं लेकिन हमारे ही ऊपर टैक्स लग गया है विस्थापितों के नाम पर। इस प्रकार की भावना फैलने नहीं देना चाहिए, इस भावना का प्रचार और प्रसार न हो, इसको आपको देखना चाहिये। यह तभी होगा जब आप ऐसे लोगों पर टैक्स लगाना बन्द कर देंगे जो देने की स्थिति में नहीं हैं। जो बड़े-बड़े इजारेदार हैं, जो पूँजी-पति हैं, जो टैक्सों का रुपया पचाए हुए हैं, ब्लैक मनी रखे हुए हैं, ऐसे लोगों पर आप टैक्स लगायें।

उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, हम इस बिल का विरोध कर रहे हैं और प्रार्थना करते हैं कि इसको बापिस ले लिया जाए—और बड़े लोगों पर टैक्स लगाने वाला बिल सदन के इसी सत्र में लाया जाए और मुझे पूर्ण विश्वास है कि उसका सम्पूर्ण सदन एक मत से समर्थन करेगा और हमारे देश पर भी जो खतरा है, जिसका हमें मुकाबला करना है, उस खतरे के खिलाफ लड़ने में जनता में उत्साह पैदा होगा। आम जनता की जेब पर हमला करके उसमें आप उत्साह पैदा नहीं कर सकते हैं। आप आम जनता को अपने साथ लेना चाहते हैं तो उसकी दिक्कतों को आप समझें और उस पर अतिरिक्त बोझा न डालें और जो लोग देने की स्थिति से हैं, उन पर ही बोझा डालें।

इन शब्दों के साथ मैं इस बिल का जोर-दार विरोध करता हूँ और निवेदन करता हूँ कि इसको मंत्री महोदय बापिस ले लें।

श्री रामकंबर (टोंक) : आडिनेस के द्वारा सरकार ने जो सतर करोड़ का टैक्स शरणार्थियों के खर्च को बहन करने का हवाला दे कर लगाया है और जिस की अब वह लोक

[श्री राम कंवर]

सभा से स्वीकृति लेने हेतु यहाँ एक बिल लाई है, मैं उसका विरोध करता हूँ। यह आवश्यक-जनक बात है कि एक और राष्ट्रपति ने इसी संसद की बैठक बुलाई और दूसरी और इसी ग्राविधि में इन सत्तर करोड़ के टैक्सो के अध्यादेश जारी कर दिये गये और जनता पर इन टैक्सो का बोझा लाद दिया गया। यह इस बात का द्योतक है कि सत्तारूढ़ दल और उसके नेता का इस सदन पर और जन-प्रतिनिधियों पर विश्वास उठाता जा रहा है। इसी कारण से मैं निवेदन करना चाहता हूँ कि पग पग पर उसे दरकिनार करने का प्रयास किया जा रहा है। अगर यह टैक्स इसी सदन में सरकार एक संशोधित बजट के द्वारा लाती तो इस पद्धति के भीतर कुछ बिगड़ नहीं जाता, कोई आफत का पहाड़ तो सरकार पर गिर नहीं जाता। यह तो सर्वविदित है कि सत्तारूढ़ दल को पूर्ण बहुमत इस सदन में प्राप्त है।

जहाँ तक शरणार्थी समस्या का सम्बन्ध है, यह अचानक तो पैदा नहीं हो गई है। पिछले बजट में ही जहा अरबों रुपये के टैक्स सभाएं गए वहा इसे क्यों छोड़ दिया गया? कूँकि इसको तब छोड़ दिया गया इस वास्ते यह इस बात को प्रमाणित करता है कि सरकार अद्वारदर्शी है।

यह जो पाच पैसे वाला टिकट लगाने वाला मामला है, यह बड़ा आपत्तिजनक है क्योंकि गांधों के अनपढ़ और भोले-भाले गरीब लोग इससे बड़ी भारी कठिनाई का अनुभव करेंगे। पाच पैसे बगला देश वाला टिकट अलग से लगाना होगा, इस चीज को ग्रामीण जनता और अनपढ़ लोगों के लिए समझना बड़ा मुश्किल होगा। अगर सरकार को यह टैक्स सभाना ही था तो टिकटों की कीमत ही वह बड़ा देती तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उनको अलग से सास टिकट खरीदने की जरूरत न पड़ती।

सरकार ने इशारा किया है कि बगला

देश की समस्या हल हो जाने के बाद इस प्रकार की जो टिकटें हैं, इनको वह बापिस ले लेगी और यह टैक्स नहीं रहेगा। लेकिन मैं इस चीज की कोई उम्मीद नहीं रखता हूँ। इसका कारण यह है कि कितनी ही बार राजस्थान में अकाल घोषित कर दिये जाने के बाद और किसानों का लगान माफ कर दिये जाने के बाद भी उसको वसूल कर लिया गया है। इसलिए पांच पैसे का टिकट अलग में लगाने का जो प्रावधान किया जा रहा है, उसका मैं मर्ल विरोध करता हूँ।

श्री रामदेव सिंह (महाराजगढ़) : आर्डिनेस के माध्यम में जो पोस्टल आर्टिकल्स की कीमत में वृद्धि की गई है, उसका मैं विरोध करता हूँ। जैसा कि पूर्व वक्ताम् ने बताया है, नगना यह है कि मत्तारूढ़ दल का इस सदन पर से तथा जन-प्रतिनिधियों पर से विश्वास उठाता जा रहा है।

माननीय राज्य मन्त्रिणी ने कहा है कि हम लोग अध्यादेश लागू करने के विरोधी हैं, लेकिन क्या करे, जब क्राइसिस का पीरियड आता है, जब सकटकालीन स्थिति आती है, तो हम मजबूर हो जाते हैं। मैं उनको बताना चाहता हूँ कि जब इंगलैंड पर गोले बरसाये जा रहे थे और घमासान युद्ध हो रहा था, उस जमाने में भी वहाँ पर आर्डिनेस के जरिये कोई कर नहीं लगाया गया बल्कि हाउस आफ बामन्स की बैठक बुला कर कानून पास किया गया। मुझे ऐसा लगता है कि अगर सविधान में कुछ समय के भीतर इस सदन की बैठक बुलाना आवश्यक न होता, तो शायद सत्तारूढ़ दल इस सदन की बैठक ही न बुलाता और जन प्रतिनिधियों को इनोर करके, तरह तरह के बहाने कर के राष्ट्रपति के माध्यम से अपना काम चला लेता।

हमारे देश में जो शरणार्थी आये हैं, उन की देख-भाल और हिफाजत करना इस देश

की नीतिक जिम्मेदारी है। लेकिन जैसा कि श्री मिश्र ने कहा है, ये शरणार्थी इस देश में हमेशा रहने वाले हैं। मुझे लगता है कि हमारा देश युगों तक इन शरणार्थियों की समस्या से घिरा रहेगा। आप इतिहास के पन्ने उलट कर देखें कि वया शरणार्थियों की समस्या नई है। प्रकृति ने जिस देश को एक बनाया है, कुछ राजनेताओं ने जल्दी सत्ता प्राप्त करने के लिए में, विदेशी साम्राज्यवादियों के कुछकों का शिकार होकर, दिल्ली में बैठ कर कागज पर उसकी एकता को भंग कर दिया। प्रकृति कभी इस देश की एकता भंग किए जाने को बदाश्च नहीं कर सकती है।

इसलिए सत्तारूढ दल और उसके प्रधान मंत्री से मेरा निवेदन है कि वे इस समस्या को समझें। या तो प्रेम से और या नलवार से इन दोनों देशों का कानफेडेरेशन बनाना होगा और उनकी सुरक्षा की संयुक्त व्यवस्था करनी होगी, अन्यथा इस तरह की समस्यायें आती रहेंगी और हमें कभी भी उनसे मुक्ति नहीं मिल सकेगी। इस कृत्रिम बनावट को तोड़ना होगा। सत्ता को प्राप्त करने के लिए कुछ राजनेताओं ने युगों से चली आ रही जिस एकता को तोड़ दिया, उसकी फिर से लाना होगा। इसके अलावा हमारी समस्याओं का कोई हल नहीं है।

ये शरणार्थी वापिस जाने वाले नहीं हैं...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We are not discussing about the refugees or confederation. We are discussing about these taxes.

श्री राम देव सिंह : जिस समस्या के नाम पर ये टैक्स लगाये गये हैं, मैं उसी समस्या का जिक्र कर रहा हूँ। जिस मुर्गी को दिल्ली में बैठ कर श्रीमती इन्दिरा गांधी जिवह कर रही हैं, उसको बिहार में बैठ कर श्री भीला शास्त्री जिवह कर रहे हैं। ये टैक्स किन लोगों पर लगाए जा रहे हैं? गांवों में रहने

वाले लोगों पर। आज देश के सारे गांव बेकारी की आग में जल रहे हैं। इस देश में रोजी-रोजगार के अवसर नहीं बढ़े हैं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : We are not discussing about Shri Bhola Paswan Shastri. We are discussing about the taxes proposed by the Central Government on certain postal articles.

श्री राम देव सिंह : यह टैक्स गावों के कामन मैं पर लगाया गया है। इसलिए हमें अधिकार है उसकी चर्चा करने का, उसकी विधियों को एवं सालेन करने का।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The Chief Minister of Bihar is not imposing these taxes. You are a senior Member of this House, you should know.

श्री राम देव सिंह : मैं चर्चा कर रहा हूँ गांवों में रहने वाले कामन मैं की, जिस पर इस अध्यादेश के माध्यम से कर लगाया गया और बता रहा है कि आज उसकी स्थिति क्या है। उस पर कई तरह के टैक्स लगाये जा रहे हैं। मैं समझता हूँ कि नियमानुभार मुझे उस पर बोलने का अधिकार है।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You have a right to speak. You can say, this is imposing a burden on the common-man, but Mr. Bhola Paswan Shastri is not the common-man discussed here.

श्री राम देव सिंह : मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि सरकार उन लोगों पर टैक्स लगा रही है, जिनको वह रोजगार नहीं दे रही है, जिन की हालत बहुत दयनीय है, जो भरपेट खा नहीं सकते हैं जो अपने बच्चों को शिक्षा नहीं दे सकते हैं, बीमार पड़ने पर उनको दबा नहीं दे सकते हैं। सरकार ने जो टैक्स पहले से लगा रखे हैं, वे तो बसूल नहीं हो पा रहे हैं। अगर सरकार उनकी बसूली के लिए अपनी एजेंसी को सक्रिय बनाती, तो मैं समझता हूँ कि उसको मेरे नये टैक्स न लगाने पड़ते।

[श्री राम देव सिंह]

जैसा कि मैंने कहा है, यह शरणार्थियों की प्रावलम कभी साल्व नहीं होने वाली है। तिब्बत से आये हुए लाखों शरणार्थी आज भी इस देश के विभिन्न भागों में बैठे हुए हैं। अब जो शरणार्थी आ रहे हैं, वे भी हमेशा इस देश में बैठे रहेंगे। सत्तारूढ़ दल के लिए तो यह कल्याण की बात हो जाती है। लेकिन जो देश के गरीब लोग हैं जिनको सत्तारूढ़ दल ने भरमा कर, समाजवाद लाने, गरीबी हटाने और परिवर्तन लाने का नारा दे कर जिसके बोट लिये थे, अब वे स्पष्टीकरण मागते हैं, सत्तारूढ़ दल के खिलाफ विद्रोह करते हैं।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : You are going far out of the subject under discussion now.

PROF. P. K. DEO (Kalahandi) : This is directly concerned with this slogan—*garibi hatao*.

श्री राम देव सिंह : शरणार्थियों की प्रावलम को सरकार ने क्रीएट किया है और अब वह अपने आप को बचाना चाहती है।

श्री के० एन० तिवारी (बंतिया) : माननीय सदस्य कुछ समझ कर बोले।

श्री राम देव सिंह : मेरी समझ तो चली गई है तिवारी जी के पास। मैं बोलूँ क्या।

इस प्रावलम को खुद क्रीएट करके अब सरकार चाहती है कि देश की जनता, जिसको सत्तारूढ़ दल ने सब्ज बाग दिखा कर सत्ता प्राप्त की है, उससे स्पष्टीकरण न मांगे। कभी यह याहियाखां की चर्चा करती है, कभी शरणार्थियों की और कभी बाहरी खतरे की।

चूंकि सरकार जन-प्रतिनिधियों को इन्होंने कर के एक आईनेस के माध्यम से टेक्स लगाती चली जा रही है—वह और कितने टक्स लगायेगी, यह कहना मुश्किल है—, इस लिए मैं इस बिल का विरोध करता हूँ।

PROF. S. L. SAKSENA (Maharajganj) : First of all, I oppose this Bill because it has imposed a tax by ordinance. This has never been done before in the history of this House. Secondly, I oppose it because it is stated that this is a tax for the refugees. Sir, the refugees are our guests. Let us not impose a tax in their names and make them unpopular. That is my first point. We must meet all these charges out of our own General Revenue.

I think this sum of Rs. 70 crores could have been raised by savings, by austerity, in spending of the various Ministries and Departments and by other methods. By this measure you have taxed the poorest of the poor; you have put more taxes on essential commodities. You have said that it is a temporary measure and will remain only so long as refugees are here. But how do the Government hope to send the refugees back? They first thought that world opinion would be able to persuade Yahya Khan to negotiate with the Awami League and then the refugees would go back. This has failed. They now think that the Mukti Bahini will win the battle and then the refugees will go back. But I do not think that the Mukti Bahini alone can win the battle and establish the raj of the Awami League. Unless our forces go and attack the forces of Pakistan there, we cannot send these refugees back there. But there our Government are hesitating. It was high time that we fought the Pakistani army and made Bangla Desh an independent country and establish a government there so that the refugees could go back and these taxes might not continue for ever. I hope that Government will now see that Bangla Desh is recognised and we should fight the battle and make Bangla Desh a reality, so that these taxes may not continue.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I have heard hon. Members who have participated in this debate, and I have noted the suggestions made by them. Since yesterday, we have been discussing in this House the series of steps that Government have taken in the form of ordinances and which the Bills that we have been discussing seek to replace.

Out of all the speeches that have been made and the various suggestions made by

hon. Members, two points emerge on which I wish to make my submissions. One is that Government are taking recourse to ordinances and have no faith in the parliamentary procedures and conventions and because of the majority that they have got, they are trying to bypass Parliament. Sir, I submit that we are in an extraordinary situation. Day in and day out, hon. Members themselves have been drawing the attention of Government to this extraordinary situation. It is a continuing situation. Only yesterday, this House heard the speech of the Prime Minister from which the country knew that the military janta in Pakistan had declared an emergency in their country. I think it is not the contention of hon. Members that the compulsions of the situation do not require the taking of certain appropriate steps.

Hon. Members have also said that since Parliament was to meet on the 15th November, it was not necessary to impose these levies and taxes through ordinances. As I have already explained in my statement, the decision to go in for resource mobilisation to meet the tremendous financial burden imposed on the country as a result of the situation on the frontiers and the tremendous burden of the Bangla Desh refugees was taken at a conference of the Chief Ministers and Governors held on 12th October. The Government felt that it was necessary for them to take the Chief Ministers and the Governors into confidence and convey to them the seriousness of the situation and to see their assistance in making the resource mobilisation a success and then take the necessary steps. These steps have been taken as a result of the consensus that was arrived at in that conference.

By means of this Bill which seeks to replace the Tax on Postal Articles Ordinance, we have come before the House within the shortest possible time to have the concurrence of the House for the step that we have taken,

SHRI P. K. DEO : That is mandatory.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : True.

There has been quite a lot of criticism about the use of ordinance. An hon. Member opposite of the CPI and others have welcomed ordinances in the past. It is not just an academic discussion. They have welcomed the ordinances on bank

nationalisation, general insurance nationalisation, the coal mines and so on, ordinances through which the social policy of this Government were given effect to. I can very well understand the opposition of Shri H. M. Patel and Shri P. K. Deo because they are opposed to all decisive steps the Government want to take to give effect to its socialist policies.

SHRI P. K. DEO : It is a perversity of Parliament.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Of course, we have to come to Parliament. Even if we wanted to, we cannot bypass Parliament because we are also answerable to the people. We have been elected and put in power here on the basis of certain values and standards that this Government has set itself for the last 20 years.

SHRI P. K. DEO : Then have a dialogue with the House.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : There is no question of taking up a defensive position. I am submitting that in a growing country like this, in a transitional stage, when we want to usher in a socialist society, there will be many occasions when Government will have to act in a judicious manner bring forth legislation initially through ordinance which will later have to be approved by Parliament.

PROF. S. L. SAKSENA : Not taxation by ordinance.

SHRI P. K. DEO : Like the firman of a Moghul.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Hon. members referred to the correspondence between the former Prime Minister, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, and a former Speaker. I would like to quote from that letter of July 1954 which represents the basic stand of the Government. Panditji said in that letter :

"We have been reluctant to issue ordinances and it is only when we felt compelled to do so by circumstances that we have issued them. You will appreciate that it is the responsibility of the Government to decide what steps should be taken in a particular contingency. The Constitution itself has provided for the issue of ordinances

[Shri K. R. Ganesh]

where such necessity arises and that decision has to be exercised by Government."

In the past two days, we have been trying to convey to the House that in the present situation when there is an urgency there is need for this. Of course, those who do not feel there is an urgency will not accept this argument and I cannot convince them. In this situation, we do not know what is going to happen in the new few days and how many more ordinances have to issue because we are living in an extraordinary situation.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : When Parliament is in session, no ordinance can be issued.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I know. Obviously that cannot be done. I am only meeting an argument. We have issued a very limited number of ordinances and we have also listed the reasons for doing so.

PROF. S. L. SAKSENA : 13.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Also Parliament will have to approve these ordinances and they will be the ultimate judge as to whether the use of these ordinances has been right or wrong. I took the time of the House to quote the letter of the Former Prime Minister only to indicate the view of Government on the issue of ordinances. We contemplate it only in an emergency situation.

There is another point which I would like to make. Hon. Members have submitted that since Parliament was to meet on the 15th November, what was the urgency issuing the ordinance in October. In so far as the taxes on postal articles are concerned, certain administrative arrangements had to be made before these taxes could come into effect. About 200 crores of stamps had to be got ready and distributed to the various post offices. Administrative measures were to be taken to see that all the requirements for introducing this levy were put in. That was why it was necessary.

I would also submit that for everyday, in respect of the various levies which are coming before Parliament, if I am not

mistaken, about Rs. 12 lakhs would have been lost.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour) : I thought that headache should also be shared by the Opposition. They are also elected representatives in the House. You cannot, through that argument justify disregarding this House. (Interruption)

SHRI K. R. GANESH : There was an urgent situation, an extraordinary situation, and in view of the extraordinary situation,—tremendous financial burdens imposed on the country—it became absolutely imperative for the Government to bring this measure. The Government would have failed in its duty if they had not taken these necessary steps to raise resources so that the consequential problems that are arising as a result of the huge deficit could be, to an extent, met.

Hon. Members have also made their views known about the various administrative steps that the Government should have taken. For instance, they have suggested that there should be certain austerity, that taxes should be realised, that smuggling should be curtailed and that black money should be stopped. All these steps have been taken. These steps are being taken. Let me submit to hon. Members that as a result of the less budget—the deficit that was there to the extent of Rs. 200 crores that was put in the supplementary budget some of these measures have already been taken and are under way. For instance, there is the five per cent reduction in non-Plan expenditure ; even the Plan expenditure consideration is going on for seeing if the total Plan outlay could be curtailed without affecting the direction of the Plan. We have informed the House time and again that as far as the arrears of taxes are concerned, Rs. 60 crores to Rs. 70 crores are to be collected, and various other economy measures as have been mentioned in both Houses from time to time have been taken. These steps have already been taken. This burden is there, because it is a continuing burden; day in and day out, this burden goes on increasing. Therefore, it was necessary for both the Centre and the States to raise as many resources as possible so that it may have a viable impact on the total economy of the country.

Thereby, the consequential problem of inflation and all the various other divisive trends in our economy could be remedied.

One hon. Member referred to the Jammu and Kashmir State not being included. It is a well-known fact and we have discussed it in this House a number of times—that due to article 370, it is necessary to take the concurrence of the State and the Home Ministry has already written to the State Government.

The other point which hon. Members have tried to make is that this tax affects the common man and it throws a burden on him.

I have indicated in my speech introducing the Bill that an attempt has been made by exempting the post-cards and registered newspapers to see that at least a larger part of the common man is excluded from the purview of taxation. It will always be a point of difference between the hon. Members on that side and us what is the actual concept of the common man which they are referring to. It is the intention of the Government, whenever taxation measures are introduced as has been done in the present case, to exclude the most vulnerable sections of the society which could not bear any burden. There are sections, I do not deny, who come within the purview of the levy and who, if the Government could avoid it, could have been given those concessions. But in an extraordinary situation like this, we have to utilise every ounce of the resources we can mobilise to meet the situation. It was not therefore possible to exclude more sections of society from the purview of the Bill. With these words, I commend this Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"This House disapproves of the Tax on Postal Articles Ordinance, 1971

Division No. 6]

AYES

[15.53

Aga, Shri Syed Ahmed
Ahmed, Shri F. A.
Ansari, Shri Ziaur Rahman
Awdhesh Chandra Singh, Shri
Bahuguna, Shri H. N.
Banamali Babu, Shri
Banerji, Shrimati Mukul
Basappa, Shri K.
Bersa, Shri S. C.

Bhargava, Shri Basheshwar Nath
Bhatia, Shri Durgadas
Bisht, Shri Narendra Singh
Chakleshwar Singh, Shri
Chanda, Shrimati Jyotsna
Chaturvedi, Shri Rohan Lal
Chhotey Lal, Shri
Choudhary, Shri B. E.
Choudhury, Shri Moinul Haque

(Ordinance No. 18 of 1971) promulgated by the President on the 22nd October, 1971."

The Resolution was negatived.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on certain postal articles, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 3 to 6 were added to the Bill.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : There is an amendment to clause 1—

Shri S. N. Misra is not moving that amendment. So, I shall put clause 1 to the vote of the House. The question is :

"That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Sir, I move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The question is :

"That the Bill be passed."

The Lok Sabha divided.

Darbara Singh, Shri	Pandey, Shri Narsingh Narain
Das, Shri Anandi Charan	Pandey, Shri Sudhakar
Das, Shri Dharnidhar	Pant, Shri K. C.
Daschowdhury, Shri B. K.	Paokai Haokip, Shri
Dhamankar, Shri	Partap Singh, Shri
Dixit, Shri Jagdish Chandra	Patil, Shri Krishnarao
Dube, Shri J. P.	Peje, Shri S. L.
Dumada, Shri L. K.	Radhakrishnan, Shri S.
Gandhi, Shrimati Indira	Raghu Ramaiah, Shri K.
Ganesh, Shri K. R.	Rai Shrimati Sahodrabai
Gautam, Shri C. D.	Raj Bahadur, Shri
Godara, Shri Mani Ram	Rajdeo Singh Shri
Goswami, Shri Dinesh Chander	Ram, Shri Tulmohan
Gotkhinde, Shri Annasaheb	Ramshekhar Prasad Singh, Shri
Gowda, Shri Pampan	Rao, Shrimati B. Radhabai A
Hansda, Shri Subodh	Rao, Shri M. S. Sanjeevi
Hari Kishore Singh, Shri	Ray, Shri Siddhartha Shankar
Jadeja, Shri D. P.	Reddy, Shri K. Kodanda Rami
Jamilurrahman, Shri Md	Reddy, Shri P. Narasimha
Jeyalakshmi, Shrimati V.	Richhariva, Dr Govind Das
Jha, Shri Chiranjib	Roy, Shri Bishwanath
Jitendra Prasad, Shri	Sadhu Ram, Shri
Kadam, Shri J. G.	Saini, Shri Mulki Raj
Kadannappalli, Shri Ramachandran	Sankata Prasad, Dr.
Kader, Shri S. A.	Savant, Shri Shanker Rao
Kailas, Dr.	Seth, Shri Arjun
Kapur, Shri Sat Pal	Shambhu Nath, Shri
Kaul, Shrimati Sheila	Sharma, Shri A. P.
Kedar Nath Singh, Shri	Shenoy, Shri P. R.
Kinder Lal, Shri	Shetty, Shri K. K.
Kisku, Shri A. K.	Shukla, Shri B. R.
Kushok Bakula, Shri	Sohan Lal, Shri T.
Mandal, Shri Jagdish Narain	Sokhi, Shri Swaran Singh
Maurya, Shri B. P.	Sonar, Dr. A. G.
Mishra, Shri Bibhuti	Tiwary, Shri K. N.
Mishra, Shri G. S.	Tombi Singh, Shri N.
Mishra, Shri Jagannath	Tula Ram, Shri
Misra, Shri S. N.	Unnikrishnan, Shri K. P.
Negi, Shri Pratap Singh	Venkateswamy, Shri G.
Oraon, Shri Tuna	Verma, Shri Sukhdeo Prasad
Pandey, Shri Krishna Chandra	

NOES

Bade, Shri R. V.	Krishnan, Shri M. K.
Bosu, Shri Jyotirmoy	Mehta, Shri P. M.
Chandrappan, Shri C. K.	Nayar, Shrimati Shakuntala
Chaudhary, Shri Ishwar	Pandey, Shri Sarjoo
Chittibabu, Shri C.	Parmar, Shri Bhaljibhai
Chowhan, Shri Bharat Singh	Patel, Shri H. M.
Deo, Shri P. K.	Ramkanwar, Shri
Goswami, Shrimati Bibha Ghosh	Saha, Shri Ajit Kumar
Horo, Shri N. E.	Saksena, Prof. S. L.
Jha, Shri Bhogendra	Shastry, Shri Ramavat
Krishna Kumari Jodhpur Rajmata	Singh, Shri D. N.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER : The result*
of the division is :

Ayes: 99 ; Noes: 22.

The motion was adopted.

15.56 hrs.

STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE : INLAND
AIR TRAVEL TAX ORDINANCE, 1971
AND INLAND AIR TRAVEL
TAX BILL

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi) : I beg
to move :

"This House disapproves of the In-
land Air Travel Tax Ordinance, 1971
(Ordinance No. 19 of 1971) promulgated
by the President on the 30th Octo-
ber, 1971."

[SHRI K. N. TIWARY in the Chair]

With the advancement of science and
technology, distance has been shrinking and
air travel is no longer a luxury. It is a
public utility service. There has been a
trend throughout the world to reduce the
air tariff. If you look at the air flight rates
of the different airlines, you will see that
they have been slashed down to a great
extent. The whole purpose is to make it
more useful, so that this amenity may be
more easily available to the people at
large.

We are not satisfied with the present
functioning of the Indian Airlines. It can-
not cater to the needs of the passengers
who would like to go about inside the coun-
try. Many important towns have been
left. We want a closer link of the various
outlying areas by the extension of the IA
Services. At the same time, we expect
it should not pinch the pocket of the poor
man or of the middle-class. It should not
be an item of luxury only to a privileged
few. So, there is a very strong case to
reduce the air tariff in this country. On the
other hand, we find that this utility service,
instead of being made available more easily
to the travelling public, is becoming more
difficult. The air rates have been revised

only a few years ago and now to add insult
to injury, under the pretext of refugees, an-
other 5 per cent levy has been put through
this ordinance.

There have been many speeches here on
the promulgation of ordinances during the
inter-session period. Heavens would not
have fallen if the Government had waited
for Parliament to meet and then brought
forward these measures. There is no justifi-
cation absolutely for this parliamentary
perversity resorted to by Government in the
shape of ordinances. Though it is a
privilege of the Government, it should be
scarcely used. This extraordinary power is
not to be used as and when Government
desires. As pointed out by the Supreme
Court a few months ago, the Government
is not the Grand Mogul that it has in-
herited the powers of the so-called para-
mountcy and it can behave as the Grand
Moghuls used to behave.

Of course, we have got sympathy for
the refugees. But when we talk of refugees,
I am reminded of the guilty men who have
been sitting in the treasury benches who
were responsible for the vivisection of the
Motherland. This refugee problem is a
creation of their own. From the very
beginning, I have been associated with the
constitutional development in the country.
The entire panorama of the holocaust and
transfer of population is just in front
of my eyes. I cannot forget those ghastly
days when in broad day light people used
to be murdered. A geographical absurdity
has been created out of the hunger for
power. They wanted to usurp power at
any cost, even at the cost of dividing this
country. Pakistan, with its two wings at a
distance of nearly 1100 miles, is a geographi-
cal absurdity. It cannot function and it
cannot preserve its integrity. It must dis-
integrate one day.

Now the military regime, a minority
clique, is trying to suppress the aspirations
of the Bengali majority, trying to crush
their culture, trying to put up their own
puppet government. When they failed in
their attempt, they tried to crush it with
all their might. It could have been fore-
seen even in 1947 that these things would
happen. There is nothing new about it.

*The following Members also recorded their votes :

AYES : Sarvashri Pattabhi Rama Rao, Paripoornan and Pajnuli, Raja Kulkarni, Dalip
Singh, Anant Prasad Dhusia, M. M. Hashim, M. Bheeshmadev, and Mallikarjun ;
NOES : Shrimati M. Godfrey and Teja Singh Swatantra.

[Shri P. K. Deo]

16 00 hrs.

The influx of refugees is also there ever since partition. The only difference is that previously they were trickling down, now they are coming in big floods. So, there is absolutely no justification for taking recourse to this Ordinance on the pretext of providing relief to refugees.

What would be the amount that would be raised by this levy? It will bring a revenue of Rs 94 lakhs this year and a revenue of Rs. 25 crores next year if this levy is continued on account of the refugee problem still not being solved. When we consider that there are arrears of tax revenue of nearly Rs. 500 crores, a loss of nearly Rs. 400 crores to the government on account of under-invoicing and over-invoicing of imports and exports, loss on account of loopholes in tax collection and so much of wasteful expenditure, we feel that this levy could easily have been avoided. If only all the loopholes are plugged, they could have easily collected much more than Rs. 2.5 crores and done away with this measure.

Instead of tightening their belts and streamlining the administration, the Finance Ministry have put a further headache on IAC. At a time when they are all anxious to expand their activities, this extra levy will put all sorts of impediments on both IAC and the travelling public. Instead of making this utility service more easily available to the travelling public, and more so to the middle class and poorer sections of the society, this levy makes air travel beyond the reach of many people. That is why I oppose this measure.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI K. R. GANESH) : Sir. I beg to move* :

"That the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on inland air travel, be taken into consideration."

Hon. Members are aware that the question of raising additional resources to meet the expenditure for relief of Bangla Desh refugees was discussed at the last meeting of the Governors and Chief Ministers of States held on the 12th October, 1971. It was agreed that both the Centre and the States should raise additional resources from their respective spheres of taxation

for being utilised exclusively for the relief of Bangla Desh refugees.

Levy of a tax on railway passenger fares was one of the proposals which we have adopted. However, in order simultaneously to levy a burden on the more expensive means of individual travel, it was also decided to levy a tax of five per cent of the fares paid by passengers for inland air journeys commencing on or after the 15th November, 1971. The tax will be collected by the carriers as an addition to the fares payable by passengers and shall be paid to the Central Government. The authority for administering the tax in pursuance of the rules made by the Central Government, is the Central Board of Excise and customs. The tax is expected to yield to the Central Government an additional revenue of about Rs. 2.5 crores in a full year and of about Rs. 94 lakhs in the current year.

It has been necessary to impose this levy through an Ordinance (No. 19 of 1971) for the following reasons :

- (a) Parliament was not in session ;
- (b) Action had to be taken immediately to raise maximum resources, as delays would have impeded our efforts in this direction. Further, steps were required to be taken to collect the tax where advance reservation for journeys commencing on or after the 15th November, 1971 were made ; and
- (c) The date of effect of the levy had to be kept as 15th November, 1971 as preparatory steps were necessary (i) to keep the collection machinery in readiness and (ii) to avoid inconvenience to the travelling public.

The present Bill seeks to replace this Ordinance.

Sir, I move that the Bill be taken up by the House for consideration.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"This House disapproves of the Inland Air Travel Tax Ordinance, 1971 (Ordinance No. 19 of 1971) promulgated by the President on the 30th October, 1971.";

"That the Bill to provide for the levy of a tax on inland air travel, be taken into consideration."

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

*SHRI M. K. KRISHNAN (Ponnani) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I would like to speak in my own mother tongue—Malayalam.

Sir, this Bill seeks to replace the Ordinance promulgated by the President. Myself and my Party are not totally against promulgation of ordinances. But regarding the Ordinance that is under consideration I have to point out one or two things. It is said that this Ordinance was promulgated due to some extraordinary circumstances facing the country. It is quite true that our people and our Government are definitely bound to protect the refugees who have come to our soil from Bangla Desh. We should protect them properly and we have taken up that duty on ourselves. It is said that these taxes are being imposed to find out the resources to meet the expenditure on the refugees.

I do not agree with the argument that the promulgation of the ordinance to levy tax has been necessitated because of the extraordinary situation prevailing in the country. It is not a situation that arose yesterday or today. This situation has been there for the last eight or nine months. When this situation has been in existence for the last eight or nine months I cannot agree that there was need for promulgation of an Ordinance to levy this tax. I do not know whether in our parliamentary history such an extraordinary action promulgating Ordinance to levy tax has been taken before.

Another reason given by the Government for promulgation of this Ordinance is that it will take time to streamline the administration and create more funds. Sir, when was this Ordinance promulgated? The date of this Session was decided and summons were issued to all hon. Members for assembling on the 15th of this month. It was after this that this Ordinance was promulgated. I should say that this is something not only very extraordinary but something by which this Government has brought down the dignity of this House.

In the statement of Objects and Reasons it is said that this levy has been imposed based on the recommendations of the Conference of Governors and Chief Ministers. If they had recommended only this tax on air tickets I would not have objected. We have already passed two Bills, one seeking to levy a tax on railway passenger fares

*The original speech was delivered in

and another seeking to tax the postal articles. In addition to this, Sir, the States have been asked to levy their own taxes and raise more money to help the Bangla Desh refugees. Madhya Pradesh is going to levy additional taxes to raise Rs. 4 crores, Punjab is going to raise Rs 1.25 crores by additional taxes, Himachal Pradesh is going to levy additional taxes to the tune of Rs. 22 lakhs and so on. Bihar is also going to levy additional taxes. In Kerala they are going to raise Rs. 12 crores by additional taxation. In Mysore an Ordinance will be issued and that will be discussed in this House. Similarly, Sir, the Ordinances issued in Bengal and Gujarat also will have to be discussed by this House. Ordinances promulgated in those States seeking to impose a heavy burden on the people will be discussed in this hon. House. That is the extraordinary situation which we are going to face.

Sir, nobody says that we need not find the money for helping the refugees. But is it necessary to tax the 66 lakhs poor railway passengers? Instead of doing that why should not the Government impose more taxes on some 66 big-monied people? It is estimated that Rs. 94 lakhs will be collected from those who travel by air during this current year. Who are the people who travel by air in our country? It is mostly the bureaucrats who do not spend from their pockets. For their travel the Government pays and therefore it is only a question of book adjustment. The Government need not hope to get anything by the levy of this tax because from one account the money will be transferred to another account in the books of the Government and they will not get much extra money.

Therefore, Sir, I oppose the manner in which levies have been imposed by promulgating Ordinances.

SHRI S. N. MISRA (Kannauj) : At the very outset I must say that I am supporting this Bill because it is a tax on those who can afford to pay it.

There are two important factors which must be brought before the House by the hon. Minister. He did not reply in spite of my earlier question. There was, according to him, a conference of the Chief Ministers of the States and then these ordinances were

Malayalam.

[Shri S. N. Misra]

promulgated. If there was a conference, why was this matter not put before the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir so that there could no exclusion...

SHRI K. R. GANESH: He was there.

SHRI S. N. MISRA: so that there might not have been any exclusion of the taxation in respect of Jammu and Kashmir. If he was there, then the burden of the refugees should have been equally borne by Jammu & Kashmir and not only by the rest of India because Jammu & Kashmir forms part of India. I remember that in this very House a statement was made by the State Minister for Law and Justice on 18th November 1971. It was said :

"There was no doubt that Shri Nehru had given the assurance that Art. 370 will be gradually eroded. The position was that the Entries in the Union and Concurrent Lists can be extended to Jammu & Kashmir after consultation and with the concurrence of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir. The various Presidential Orders issued under Art. 370 have extended various laws passed by this august House to the State of Jammu & Kashmir."

My submission before the House is that it is now nearly 25 years that we have not yet been able to attain the in fact and factual integration of Kashmir. It is necessary that in respect of this burden which we are bearing in respect of the Bangla Desh refugees, the Central Government should have insisted upon the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir to agree that this tax should have been leviable in respect of those who are in Jammu and Kashmir also.

There is another aspect which has not been made clear. Though an assurance was given by Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi that it was a temporary measure, I understand that if it is intended to be a temporary measure, in spite of there being a temporary tax, it should have been mentioned that it was initially for a period of one year and it may be extended further for a period of one year and not exceeding one year. Then the position would have been clear that the intention of

the Government is to keep it as a temporary measure and that they do not want to extend it for all time to come, and that they will come with a Resolution or a Bill to delete these provisions. These are the two matters which are necessary, and the hon. Minister, I respectfully pray, should make it absolutely clear that the Bill is for a temporary purpose initially for one year, extendable to a maximum period of 2 years. This should have been extended to the State of Jammu and Kashmir and the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir should have been prevailed upon that this taxation should be co-extensive in that State also. With these words I support the Bill still.

DR. RANEN SEN (Barasat): Mr. Chairman, Sir, we support this Bill which has been brought before the House for approval.

The first reason is this, that for the first time, people who can pay taxes, moneyed people, are being asked to pay some taxes. But, having said this, I want to know as to how much the Government will get as money. After all, what we have been noticing is this, and as far as our information goes, more than 60 per cent of the people who travel by air do travel only at the expense of the Government. So, what does it actually amount to? It is simply a question of book-keeping or book-adjustment. This is our point number one.

My second point is this. Quite a large number of people who are employed in the business houses and business executives travel and they cheat the public exchequer from payment of income-tax. Only those sections of people will be taxed. So, I doubt very much whether Rs. 2.50 crores will be realised. I do not know how this calculation has been made.

Therefore, what I say is this, that though it is a correct move for taxing richer people, who are in a position to pay, the Government should have gone in for getting money from certain other sources, like getting the black money that exists in the country today to the tune of thousands of crores of rupees, taxing richer people, taxing business houses and taxing the monopolies which have sprung up in this country, thanks to the policy of the Congress Government pursued during the

last 24 years. This is just a p'ccemeal attempt of taxation, just in order to help the Bangla Desh refugees and the total amount of money that will be realised will be about Rs. 70 crores or Rs. 80 crores.

I want to know what is the purpose. If daily about Rs. 2 crores or Rs. 3 crores are being spent, for meeting the barest necessities of these hapless people of East Bengal, then this amount of Rs. 70 crores or Rs. 80 crores will last for how long ? Is there any proposal in the offing to bring in certain other tax proposals also ? Generally, the people want to know this because, due to the taxation on the railway fares and also higher postal charges, the common people are affected. Therefore, people are a little apprehensive of the Government's taxation measures as to whether any more taxes are coming after a month or so. May be in the next budget there will be heavier taxation measures. Therefore, Government should explain clearly as to what was the necessity for this sum of Rs. 70 crores or is it just an augury of new taxation on old lines in the name of providing relief to Bangla Desh refugees.

The third point that I would like to make and to which I would like to draw the attention of the hon. Minister Dr. Karan Singh also is this. There are passengers who travel in the norther-eastern side of India. They have no other means of communication. Assam, Tripura, Cachar, Manipur etc. have no other means of communication with the outer world. So, it has to be realised that this tax measure will effect even the poorer people. I do not know whether Government have gone into this question or not.

In the Calcutta airport we find that very poor people who somehow or other find some money want to go to Tripura or Cachar by air. The fares have increased very rapidly these days and they are finding it difficult to travel. Therefore I would like to know whether Government would be prepared to grant some exemption to these people. There are people in Bihar or in calcutta who have to go to these places by air. For instance, there are people from Ranchi and other places in Bihar who have got to go to Assam to Mohanbari or Tezpur. They cannot travel by train; even if they want to travel by train, it would take about seven days to go to Cachar or Manipur or Tripura from

Ranchi or Hazaribagh and other places in Bihar. So, in the interests of justice to these people, I would beg of Government to think over this matter. If they impose the tax in the present form, then it would mean taxing very poor people. I hope our hon. Minister Dr. Karan Singh knows it. And I think he must have seen these poor people and these ordinary people who have to travel by air because they cannot travel for seven days by train. Since there is power to exempt given in clause 5, I hope Government will consider this point and try to exempt this type of passengers travelling in that particular area from this tax, by special notification or otherwise. Otherwise, these people will be put to a lot of harassment. We had been to Meghalaya recently, and we had been sent there by the Rehabilitation Ministry, and we saw people from Calcutta going to meet their relatives who had come from Bangla Desh and who were staying in Myla or Balat just across the border. They had taken the trouble of seeing their parents and other relatives who had come very recently from Bangla Desh. They had to take the whole family there and bring them back to Calcutta or Bihar or elsewhere. If this tax is there, it will put those people to a lot of hardship. Therefore, I would request Government to consider this point and give exemption to such passengers.

Then, I would like to say a word about the improvement of the Dum Dum airport, although I know that it is not connected with this Bill. A number of foreign planes are coming there for the last few months, carrying all sorts of materials for the relief of the refugees. But the Dum Dum domestic airport is absolutely dark in the night. There are very few flashlights there. I have seen passengers coming from outside, from Delhi, Bombay and other places; if there is rain, there is splashing of water on them, because there is very little light there...

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CIVIL AVIATION (DR. KARAN SINGH) : The hon. Member was mentioning about the foreign planes. But do they not use the international airport ?

DR. RANEN SEN : They do use the international airport and that is well-lit. But I am talking about the domestic side. The passengers who are travelling in the domestic area find the domestic area

[Dr. Ranen Sen]

absolutely dark. If only four or five flashlights could be installed there, it would help the passengers very much and the people will appreciate this little generosity shown to them.

Therefore, with these words, I extend my party's support to this Bill and I hope all other sections of the House will do likewise. As I have stated earlier, this is a little attempt to tax the people who can pay and therefore deserves our support.

***SHRI C. CHITTIBABU** (Chingleput) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Minister of State for Finance has brought before this House the Inland Air Travel Tax Bill to replace the Ordinance issued by the President during the inter-session period. To my point raised during the Debate on the Railway Passenger Fare Bill, the Deputy Minister of Finance replied that this tax was only a temporary measure to give relief to the suffering millions of Bangla Desh refugees. I welcome her statement. While I opposed the Railway Passenger Fare Tax and also the tax on postal* articles, I welcome the inland air travel tax. It is common knowledge that only rich people, who are engaged in the business of making money, travel by air to fulfil their engagements. As this tax on inland air travel will not affect the poor people of the country, this Bill has been unanimously welcomed by the members of the Ruling Party as also by the Members belonging to the Opposition parties in this House.

While I extend my support to this Bill, I would like to say a few words. It has been acknowledged by different sections of the society that one-third of the total national income is consumed by the high officials in the Government, who day in and day out undertake rail and air journeys on one pretext or the other while they could easily discharge that kind of urgent functions by talking over the telephone. This way one third of the national income is availed of by them in the form of Travelling Allowance and Daily Allowance for the journeys performed by them on Government duty. I am sure that the country's economy will go to dogs if this is permitted for long. I don't think any Minister can refute this point.

So far as the Indian Airlines is concerned, of late it is showing losses. During the year 1969-70 a sum of Rs. 30.54 crores was given to the Government by the I. A. C. as excise duty. But, to my dismay, I find that the Government have advanced in this year itself a sum of Rs. 3.50 crores to the I. A. C. in the form of equity capital and loan. I do not understand why the excise duty should be taken from the I. A. C. and as a result of which when the finances of the I. A. C. were in a bad shape why the Government should pay back a sum equivalent to that of excise duty to the I. A. C. To my mind, these two issues are inter-connected.

Then, the I. A. C. represented to the Government that it should be exempted from the excise duty if it has to stand on its own legs, but the Government in their wisdom turned down the request of I. A. C. but continue to replenish the diminishing finances of the I. A. C.

All of us are aware that 90% of the seats in the Boeing service of I. A. C. is going empty. I do not know whether it is due to the increase in the air fare or it is due to the fact that the Boeing does not touch all the important cities in the country. I would request the hon. Minister, Dr. Karan Singh to appoint a Committee to go into this question.

I would like to point out to certain regional issues now. In the Meenambakkam Airport, the arrival and departure of the planes are announced only in English and Hindi. There is no announcement about the arrival and departure of the planes in the regional language, and in consequence the air travelling public from the region are greatly handicapped.

As is done in the northern region where Hindi announcements are given about the arrival and departure of the planes, in Meenambakkam also the announcements should be made in Tamil.

MR. CHAIRMAN : This is about the levy on inland air travel, which has nothing to do with language.

SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : My submission to the hon. Minister, Dr. Karan Singh,

*The original speech was delivered in Tamil.

is in connection with the anxiety of the Tamilians in the Madras State. That is why I wish to bring it to the notice of the hon. Minister, in this connection. I hope he will agree that the language of the State should be employed in the announcement about the take-off and touch-down of the planes. It is the ideal of the people of the Madras State. I request that the hon. Minister should consider this matter.

I also request him to provide water facilities at the Meenambakkam airport as is done in Delhi.

AN HON. MEMBER : Other languages also.

SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : You can have it in Telugu at the Hyderabad airport in Andhra Pradesh. You can have it at Nagpur airport in Marathi. I have no objection.

AN HON. MEMBER : Why not all the languages ?

SHRI C. CHITTIBABU : How is it possible ? You can have it at Delhi. Now, we want to have it done in Tamil in Madras. I request the hon. Minister of Civil Aviation to consider my request.

I support the Government in this measure.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : Mr. Chairman, Sir, the mover of the motion disapproving this measure, has laid great stress that the Government has brought this tax through an ordinance and that the Government is by-passing the Parliament. In my submission earlier, while speaking on the Tax on Postal Articles Bill, I had made it clear that we are in a very extraordinary situation and it is in this situation that the resources have got to be mobilised. As a result of the discussion and consultations between the Chief Ministers, the Governors and the Central Government, it was agreed to raise resources both at the Centre and in the States.

In relation to this particular tax, the administrative requirements are so large that it was necessary to give a time-lag before these taxes were coming into effect. I will just give a few details about the requirements that were necessary because action had to be taken earlier on all those points. Air journeys are normally booked in advance

and often a few weeks before the actual commencement of the journey. It was necessary to give the airlines time to collect the tax in respect of journeys which may have already been booked. Administrative and staffing arrangements both at the headquarters and in the air-fields had to be made. Rules had to be framed and the notification for assessment and collection of taxes and other matters had to be synchronised also with the railway fares ; because the air fare being of a more expensive type, it had to be implemented along with the railway fares. These are some of the administrative requirements which necessitated that a time-lag should be there between the date of promulgation of the ordinance and the date on which it comes into effect. For every day, there could be a loss of Rs. 1 lakh if there is delay in implementing the proposals that are contained in this Bill.

There is another point which I would like to submit. It has been argued that has been no precedent as far as taxation through ordinance is concerned.

I would submit for the benefit of the House that the Mineral Products Additional Duties Ordinance was introduced in 1958. There are one or two other examples such as the U. P. Passenger Fares Ordinance and certain other things. My contention in making this statement is that it is wrong to say that there has been no precedent and there were situations in which taxation had to be resorted to through Ordinances.

SHRI R. V. BADE (Khargoe): The objection is for the flood of Ordinances.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : You were not here when I explained with reference to earlier Bills that we were in an extraordinary situation. It will be necessary to take note of that situation and the Government has to do its duty by raising resources.

The point about Jammu and Kashmir was raised by Mr. Misra. He is aware that under article 370 it will not be possible to extend this Bill automatically to Jammu and Kashmir. The Home Ministry has approached the Kashmir Government and as soon as their concurrence comes in, this will be made applicable to them.

SHRI SHIVNATH SINGH (Jhunjhunu): Does not Government want to apply this Bill to Jammu and Kashmir or not ? What is in its mind ?

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The Home Ministry has already written to the Jammu and Kashmir Government. As the hon. Member knows, the Constitutional requirements under article 370 have to be met.

The hon. Member has also mentioned that this was a temporary measure. The Government had levied the taxes to meet the requirements of the Bangla Desh refugees. He suggests that it should be valid for one year or for two years. To do so it will create a lot of complications. Besides the Government can always repeal the Act when there is no need for it. It can be less than one year also, it may be solved within a couple of days. We do not know.

Some hon. Members have asked why other steps have not been taken, namely, economy in expenditure, recovery of arrear taxes and black money, checking smuggling etc. As I submitted earlier these measures had already been taken right from the time the Bangla Desh crisis has been on our hands. Various steps for economy in non-planned expenditure, collection of arrears on income tax and other measures have already been placed before the House from time to time; those steps have already been initiated. These taxation measures are additional efforts of Government at resource mobilisation. Since this tax affects only the more affluent and better placed people in society the House has given its support and I commend this Bill.

DR. RANEN SEN : I referred to the exemption of passengers travelling in the north-eastern area of India.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : The hon. Minister is also here. He has taken note of the point made by hon. Members. There is already provision in the Act to remove any hardships that may arise. That provision is already there.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is : "This House disapproves of the Inland Air Travel Tax Ordinance, 1971 (Ordinance No. 19 of 1971) promulgated by the President on the 30th October, 1971."

The Resolution was negative,

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is : "That the Bill to provide for the levy

of a tax on inland air travel, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Clause 2. Amendment Nos. 3 and 4.

SHRI S. N. MISRA : I am not moving.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is : "That Clause 2 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is : "That Clauses 3 to 9 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clauses 3 to 9 were added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Clause 1. Amendment Nos. 1 and 2.

SHRI S. N. MISRA : I am not moving.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is : "That Clause 1 stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

Clause 1 was added to the Bill.

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is : "That the Enacting Formula and the Title stand part of the Bill."

The motion was adopted.

The Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI K. R. GANESH : I beg to move :

"That the Bill be passed."

MR. CHAIRMAN : The question is : "That the Bill be passed."

The motion was adopted.

16.43 hrs.

**STATUTORY RESOLUTION RE: STAMP
AND EXCISE DUTIES (AMENDMENT)
ORDINANCE AND STAMP AND
EXCISE DUTIES (AMEND-
MENT) BILL**

श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी (शाजापुर) : सभापति महोदय, मैं संक्षिप्त पेश करता हूँ कि वह सभा राष्ट्रपति द्वारा 22 अक्टूबर, 1971 को प्रव्याप्ति स्टाम्प और उत्पादन-शुल्क (संशोधन) अध्यादेश, 1971 (1971 का अध्यादेश संख्या 16) का निरन्तरीकरण करती है।

सभापति महोदय, अब अध्यादेश क्यों जारी करना पड़ा, इस के विषय में मत्री महोदय ने जो वक्तव्य भी दिया, वह कोई समाधान-कारक नहीं है, क्योंकि आज देश में जो स्थिति पैदा हुई है, जिसका बरण अभी मंत्री महोदय ने किया—एकस्ट्रांआर्डिनरी सिन्युएशन—मैं समझता हूँ उडीसा में जैसी परिस्थिति पैदा हुई है, जैसा प्रकोप आया है, जैसी स्थिति तो पैदा नहीं हुई है। The situation is no doubt extraordinary, but it is a man-made tragedy. मार्च-अप्रैल के महीने के अन्दर ही वास्तव में जो कदम लेने थे, वे कदम निये नहीं गये। कारण क्या है—यह तो वे ही जानते हैं, जिन की बजह से यह स्थिति पैदा हुई है, लेकिन शुरू में ही मंत्री महोदय ने जब वजट पेश किया, उस समय इन विस्थापितों के लिए 60 करोड़ रुपया रखा गया था, उम समय भी हमने आपत्ति उठाई थी और कहा था कि यह धन-राशि कम है, क्योंकि स्वयं प्रधान मंत्री जी ने इस बात को स्वीकार किया था कि आनेवाले 6 महीनों के अन्दर लगभग 180 करोड़ रुपये लगेंगे। उस समय शायद हमारी कल्पना यह थी कि बाहर से पैसा आयेगा। किन्तु जो भी यहां से बाहर गया, यही कहा कि हम कोई मदद लेने के लिए नहीं गये, हम तो बंगला देश की स्थिति पर ठीक से प्रकाश डालने गये।

हृष्मेनिटेरियन कन्सीडेरेशन में, मानवता की दृष्टि से यदि कोई दिल खोल कर सहायता दे, तो ठीक है। किन्तु यह आपत्ति तो अपनी ही राजनीतिक गलती के कारण आई थी, जिसका अन्दाजा हम उस समय नहीं कर पाये। इस बात को स्पष्ट रूप में सरकार को स्वीकार करना चाहिये। क्योंकि जब पहले 60 करोड़ रुपये की राजि के लिए आप हमारे सामने आये, हमने उसी समय कहा था कि आप फिर आयेंगे उसके बाद आप 200 करोड़ रुपये का सप्ली-मेन्ट्री बजट लाये, उसके द्वारा भी आप एक सौ करोड़ रुपये की घाटे की मुद्रा पैदा करने वाले थे। उसमें से केवल 50 करोड़ रुपया पुराने प्रोजेक्शन के लिए निकालेंगे, तेसी कल्पना थी। जब 150 करोड़ रुपये की घाटे की मुद्रा आप तैयार कर सकते हैं और जहां लगातार घाटे की मुद्रा से काम चलता है, एक तरह से आप की आदत पड़ गई है, तो फिर यह 70 करोड़ रुपया भी आप उसी में भिला देते तो इससे कौन सी मुसीबत आनेवाली थी। जब हर समय, हर प्लान में घाटे की मुद्रा पर निर्भर करने की आपकी आदत पड़ गई है, तो केवल 70 करोड़ रुपये के लिए आध्यादेश निकालने की बया आवश्यकता थी और वहां भी लोक सभा के अधिवेशन से केवल 15 दिन पहले—यह समझ में आनेवाली बात नहीं है। एकस्ट्रा आर्डिनरी सिन्युएशन 10-15 दिनों में होनेवाली नहीं थी, 15 नवम्बर से लोक-सभा और संसद के सब सदस्य आनेवाले थे, इसी समय इसकी स्वीकृति आप ले सकते थे, इसमें ऐसा कौन-सा आसमान दूटनेवाला था—यह मेरी समझ में नहीं आता है। ज्यादा से ज्यादा इतना ही अन्तर पड़ता कि इसको 15 दिन बाद लागू किया जाता, अब आपने 15 नवम्बर से लागू किया, फिर दिसम्बर में लागू होता।

अभी कहा गया कि पैसे की जरूरत थी, इसलिये इसको लागू किया गया। ठीक है, जिस्मेदारी निभाने के लिये पैसे की जरूरत है और पूरी ताकत के साथ इस को निभाना भी

[श्री जगन्नाथ राव जोशी]

चाहिये, किन्तु सबाल यह है कि इस विपत्ति के मुकावले के लिए जो कदम आप को सुझाये गए थे, क्या वे कदम आपने उठाए ? मुझे याद है जब कामराज योजना के अन्तर्गत मोरारजी भाई त्याग-पत्र देकर बाहर आये तो उन्होंने कहा था कि अगर हम हर टैक्सटमेंट में 10 प्रतिशत की कटौती कर दें तो नये टैक्स लगाने की जरूरत न पड़े । क्या तब से लेकर आज तक ईमान्दारी से इस दिशा में हमने कोई प्रयास किया । हमने अब तक कितनी कटौती की है, अगर इसका आप कुछ उल्लेख इसमें कर देते तो हमें भी अन्दाजा हो जाता कि आप कुछ कर रहे हैं । आज भी यह कहा गया है । राज्यों के गवर्नरों और मुख्य मंत्रियों की कांफेस में इसके बारे में चर्चा हुई । मैं पूछता हूँ—गवर्नर और चीफ मिनिस्टर वयों कहेंगे कि मत लगाओ । आज हम देखते हैं कई राज्यों के मुख्य मंत्रियों के पास आपने स्वयं के हवाई जहाज हैं और उस विभान से केवल अपने दल-गत भगड़ों को निवाने के लिए वे धधर से उधर धूमते रहते हैं, हफ्ते में दो-दो, तीन-तीन बार वे दिल्ली के चक्कर लगाते हैं—यह फिजूलखर्ची नहीं तो क्या है ? अगर प्रदेश के या प्रशासन के किसी काम के लिए सलाह-मणिविरा करने के लिए वे प्रधान मंत्री जी के पास आयें तो वह बात समझ में आ सकती है, लेकिन बहां तो भगड़ों को निवाने के लिए आते हैं, फौरम-एन्टी फोरम के भगड़े के सिलसिले में आते हैं, यह फिजूलखर्ची नहीं है, तो क्या है ?

आपने यह टैक्स किस चीज पर लगाया है—न्यूज-पेपर्ज पर, हमारे देश में तो न्यूज-पेपर्स पढ़नेवालों की संख्या ही बहुत कम है । धीरे-धीरे अब लोगों में पढ़ने की रुचि यैदा होने लगी है, ऐसी स्थिति में यदि आप टैक्स लगायेंगे तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बिलकुल “ईमौरल” है । इससे कितना पैसा निकलेगा, शायद 7 करोड़ रुपया निकलेगा, तो क्या केवल इतने के लिए ही यह टैक्स लगाना जरूरी था । मैंने

अखबार में पढ़ा कि छोटे न्यूजपेपर्स का एक डेपुटेशन आप से मिलने आया था और उस समय स्वयं वित्त मंत्री ने कहा था कि जिस की खपत 15 हजार से ज्यादा नहीं है, उन को एक्सव्लूड किया जायगा, लेकिन इस बिल में तो ऐसा कुछ भी नहीं है । छोटे-छोटे न्यूज-पेपर्स जो जिला भूमि पर या तहसील स्तर पर निकलते हैं, अगर उन पर भी दो पैसा लगा दिया जायगा तो इसका क्या परिणाम निकलेगा, जो सामान्य आदमी थोड़ा पढ़ा लिखा होने के बाबजूद भी इसमें रुचि लेने लगा था, उसकी रुचि समाप्त हो जायगी, इसलिए It is nothing but a disincentive—अगर आप अखबारों को इसमें निकाल देते और पीरियोडिकलज पर ही इसको लगा देते, तो मुझे कोई आपत्ति नहीं थी । लेकिन अखबारों को आप ने इसमें इक्स-व्लूड कर लिया है, इसलिए मैं इसको इमौरल कहता हूँ, वास्तव में इसकी आवश्यकता नहीं थी । फिजूलखर्ची आपने रोकी नहीं । इतना ही नहीं पिछले साल तक अनरियलाइज्ड टैक्स जो ये उनकी राशि कम से कम 556 करोड़ मुझे एक प्रधन के उत्तर में बताई गई थी । वह राशि अब और बढ़ गई है, कम नहीं हुई है । जो मन्त्री महोदय कहते हैं कि हम सब उपाय करते हैं तो यह भी एक उपाय था । क्या यह जो सात मौ या माड़े सात सौ करोड़ की बकाया राशि टैक्स की है उसमें कुछ बमूली नहीं की जा सकती ? क्या उसमें से 70 करोड़ निकालने नहीं जा सकते हैं ? क्या फिजूलखर्ची को रोका नहीं जा सकता है ? तमाम मन्त्रीगण हफ्ते में दो तीन बार दिल्ली आकर जो फिजूलखर्ची करते हैं क्या उसको रोका नहीं जा सकता है ? मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि बंगला देश को लेकर इस देश के कितने लोग विदेशों में हो आये लेकिन उसका नतीजा क्या निकला ? यदि प्रधान मन्त्री को ही बाहर जाकर ठीक प्रकार से प्रकाश डालना था तो फिर बाकी लोगों के जाने की क्या

आवश्यकता थी ? विदेशो में हमारे इतने दूतावास हैं लेकिन फिर भी कितने ही लोग इस देश से दुनिया भर में गये । इतनी फिजूलखची की क्या आवश्यकता थी जबकि एक-एक पैमा बसूल करने के लिए आँडिनेस निकालने पड़ रहे हैं ?... (ध्यवधान)... लाभ तो जरूर होता है लेकिन जब दो, दो पाच-पाँच और दस, दम पैमा बसूल करने के लिए अध्यादेश निकाले गए, हमारे यहा जब ऐसी स्थिति आ गई तो कुछ उसका प्रतिविव भी हमारे व्यवहार में दिखाई देना चाहिए ।

ऐसी स्थिति में मेरा यह कहना है कि केवल इससे वाम नहीं चलेगा, उब तक यह स्थिति चलेगी ? इसमें रेफ्यूजी रिलीफ निवार गया है, इसमें बगला देश का कोई जिम्मा नहीं है । तो भारत में कई प्रशार के रेफ्यूजी हैं । यह समस्या बब तक हल होगी ? कहीं पर तेलगाना की समस्या है तो गुद्ध वाला वारगल में रेफ्यूजी बनता है । उन्होंने देखा है । कहीं पर बेलगाम में कन्नड़ और मराठी की समस्या पैदा होनी है तो बेलगाम का कन्नड़ बोलने वाला रेफ्यूजी बनता है । या कहीं मराठी बोलने वाला रेफ्यूजी होता है । आखिर क्यों ? आपने क्यों यहा पर गोन मोन रेफ्यूजी रिलीफ का शब्द रखा है ? Ultimately this government will have work for the relief of that. इन रेफ्यूजों के आने पर बड़ा दुख है लेकिन बर्मा से पिछले माल रेफ्यूजी क्यों आय ? लका से स्टेटलेस बनकर 5 लाख आरपी आय, पूर्वी अफ्रीका में भी लोग तंयार हो गोर उगलउ में भी ऐसी स्थिति है । तो अपनी राजनीतिक गलनी के बारगे ऐसा होता है । इसलिए जब तक आप राजनीतिक ठीक ढग से नहीं चलाते तब तक वह समस्या हल नहीं होती । पहले आपने 60 करोड़ की मांग की थी और अब 170 करोड़ हो गया । आखिर यह कब तक

चलेगा ? इसलिए मेरा मुझाव है कि आपको राजनीतिक गलतिया नहीं करना चाहिए जिसकी बजह से यह रेफ्यूजी यहाँ पर आये हैं । That hole will have to be plugged. उस विषय को आप बैमे ही छोड़ दे और यहा पर रिलीफ के लिए चिल्लाते रहे । रिलीफ देनी पड़ती है, कोई ऐसी बात नहीं है कि रिलीफ नहीं है परन्तु If it is an extraordinary situation created not by man, नैर्मिक प्रक्रोप से कोई पलड़ आता है, बाढ़ आती है या भूचाल आता है तो यह बात समझ में आनी है । यदि उस प्रकार भी कोई आकस्मिक घटना होती है तो उसके निए मभी को मिलकर पूरी ताकत के साथ उससे निभाना पड़ता है लेकिन यह कोई ऐसी बात नहीं है । माचं अप्रैल से लगा तार यह चालू है, पूर्व वगाल में रेफ्यूजी आने वा सिलमिला जारी है । कोई न कोई ऐसी बात होनी रहनी है जिसमें अपने देश में रेफ्यूजी आते रहते हैं । ऐसी स्थिति में अध्यादेश जारी करना और यह भी जब 15 तारीख में रासद् बैठने वाली थी, तथा वह अगवार जैसी चीज के लिए जो कि मबके काम में आना है, धीरे-धीरे सभी उसको पढ़ने लगे हैं, उस पर टैक्स लगाना बिलकुल अनीतिनु है । उसलिए मेरी प्रार्थना है कि पीरियाडिवल्ग, मैरजी-म के अलावा कम में कम दैनिक पत्रों के लिए जो आश्वासन दिया गया था कि 15 इंजार से ज्यादा जिनकी खपत नहीं है उस पर एस नहीं लगाया जायेगा—यह आश्वासन दिया जाये । इन शब्दों के साथ मैं दसदा उद्वार विरोध करता हूँ ।

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE
MINISTRY OF FINANCIAL (SHRIMATI
SUSHILA ROHATGI) Sir, I beg to
move*

"That the Bill further to amend the
Indian Stamp Act, 1899, the Central
Excises and Salt Act, 1944, and the

*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi]

Union Duties of Excise (Distribution) Act, 1962, be taken into consideration."

Hon. Members are aware that the question of raising additional resources to meet the expenditure for relief of Bangla Desh Refugees was discussed at the last meeting of the Governors and the Chief Ministers of States held on the 12th October, 1971. It was agreed at this meeting that both the Centre and the States would raise additional resources for meeting the above expenditure by the levy of tax, duty or surcharge on certain instruments of mass circulation. The representatives of the States had also agreed that the revenue realised therefrom would be entirely placed at the disposal of the Centre for the above purpose.

In the light of the above decision, the Stamp and Excise Duties (Amendment) Ordinance, 1971 (16 of 1971) was promulgated by the President on the 22nd October, 1971. The said Ordinance provided for the levy, with effect from the 15th November, 1971, of—

(a) an additional duty at a flat rate of 10 paise per instrument on Bill of Exchange, Bill of Lading, Debenture, Letter of Credit, Policy of Insurance, Promissory Note, Proxy, Receipt and Transfer of Shares falling under Entry 91 of the Union List. The additional duty will be collected by means of special adhesive stamps bearing the inscription "Refugee Relief". Under Article 268(2) of the Constitution, the proceeds of this additional stamp duty would accrue to the States. Since the decision is that the States would make available to the Centre the additional revenues so raised, it was decided to collect the additional excise duty by means of special adhesive stamps referred to above as it would facilitate accounting and subsequent transfer of the proceeds by the States to the Centre. The additional stamp duty is likely to yield a revenue of about five crores of rupees in a full year and Rs. 1.9 crores in the current financial year.

(b) An excise duty at the rate of two paise per copy on newspapers and

other printed periodicals. In order to save small newspapers and other printed periodicals from this levy, by a notification, it has been provided that such newspapers and periodicals whose average circulation does not exceed 15,000 copies per publishing per day, will not be liable to pay the above excise duty. By another notification, newspapers and periodicals which are not ordinarily intended for sale have also been exempted from the levy. This would ensure exemption from duty of school and other college magazines, etc. which are distributed free to the students. As in the case of other excisable commodities, the facility of export under claim for rebate or alternatively under bond has also been extended to this item.

In order that there is no interruption in the smooth functioning of this excise duty, certain procedural relaxations like the extension of Self Removal Procedure, simplification of licensing formalities, requirements of gate passes and acceptance of the licensees' records, etc. have also been made.

The above duty on newspapers and other printed periodicals is expected to yield a revenue of Rs. 7 crores in a full year and of about Rs. 2.6 crores in the current financial year.

Under the Union Duties of Excise (Distribution) Act, 1962, the proceeds of Union duties of excise are distributed amongst the States on the basis of the distribution formula laid down in that Act. Since the excise duty on newspapers has been levied for meeting the expenditure on relief of Bangla Desh refugees, it has been provided by amendment of the Union Duties of Excise (Distribution) Act, 1962, that the proceeds of this duty shall not be distributed to the States and will accrue to the Centre.

Sir, it became necessary to impose these

levies through an Ordinance for the following reasons :

- (i) Parliament was not then in session ;
- (ii) Action had to be taken immediately to raise maximum resources, as delay would have impeded our efforts in this direction ;
- (iii) Steps were to be taken to make the special adhesive steps available to the general public before the 15th November, 1971, the date from which additional stamp duty on certain instruments was to be levied ;
- (iv) For the purposes of imposition of excise duty on newspapers and other printed periodicals, it was necessary to initiate licensing formalities and to make the prospective licensees familiar with the excise procedure including the formalities under the Self Removal procedure ;
- (v) It was also necessary to make all other administrative arrangements for the collection of the duties from the appointed date ;
- (iv) The date of effect of the levies had to be kept as 15th November, 1971, as the above preparatory steps were required to be taken to avoid inconvenience to the public.

Sir, I commend the present Bill which seeks to replace the above Ordinance as the objective underlying the Bill is for a laudable purpose, namely, meeting the expenditure for relief of Bangla Desh refugees. I request the House to unanimously accept the Bill.

I move.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Motion moved :

"This House disapproves of the Stamps and Excise Duties (Amendment) Ordinance, 1971 (Ordinance No. 16 of 1971) promulgated by the President on the 22nd October, 1971."

"That the Bill further to amend the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944 and the

Union Duties of Excise (Distribution) Act, 1962, be taken into consideration."

Shri Jyotirmoy Basu—absent ; Shri Bhogendra Jha—absent. Shri Chittibabu.

***SHRI C. CHITTIBABU (Chingleput) :** Mr. Chairman, Sir, the Deputy Minister of Finance has placed before the House the Stamp and Excise Duties (Amendment) Bill to replace the Ordinance issued by the President on 22nd October, 1961. She also referred to the salient features of the Bill.

[**SHRI SEZHIYAN** *in the Chair*]

17.00 hrs.

So far as I am concerned, I support the additional stamp duties, as they have been levied with the express intention of giving relief to the Bangla Desh refugees. But I oppose the levy of 2 paise as excise on the newspapers. The Government do expect to collect a substantial sum from this levy. But I do not know how they are going to collect this from the newspapers owners. By giving a fictitious figure of circulation, the big newspapers try to get excessive quota of newsprint, which they sell later in black market and make huge profits. If the circulation is 2,00,000, they show it as 5,00,000 and thereby hoodwink the Government. Immediately on the levy of 2 paise, they have raised the price of the newspaper by five to ten paise. I would request the hon. Minister to enquire how they have raised the price 5 to 10 paise when the levy is only 2 paise. I would also like to know on what basis the Government is to collect the excise levy—is it going to be on the real circulation or on the fictitious circulation figures given by the newspapers.

It is common knowledge that there is acute scarcity of newsprint in the country. Taking advantage of this scarcity, the big newspapers are selling the excessive newsprint, which they got by showing fictitious figures of circulation, in the black market and they are amassing wealth. I would like the Ministers to go into this question also and take effective steps to curb this unhealthy trend among the big newspapers. It is to be appreciated that the small newspapers cannot stand in competition with these big newspapers. I request that this

*The original speech was delivered in

Tamil.

[Shri C. Chittibabu]

industry should be brought under the purview of the Essential Commodities Act. The poor people are not in a position to go to a cinema by spending Rs 5 or go to other entertainment programmes by spending Rs. 10. They spend their leisure in reading the newspapers which give them an idea about the happenings in the country and abroad. These people are now being deprived of even this petty pleasure. This levy of 2 paise will, as it has happened already, unduly hit the common people.

The Government could have taken recourse to some other method of collecting revenue from the newspaper. If you happen to open an all-India newspaper, say for example, *The Hindu*, *The Times of India* or *The Statesman*; out of ten pages, at least six pages carry only advertisements. For each by advertisement the newspaper gets Rs. 10,000 or more. A particular paper in Tamil Nadu gets an annual income of Rs. 4 crores from advertisements alone. The big newspapers corner all the advertisements issued by the Central Government and by the public sector undertakings. It seems that the public sector undertakings are determined to fatten the belly of big newspapers by giving all their big advertisements to them, at the cost of smaller newspapers which are struggling hard to survive. If the Government had levied a surcharge on the advertisements, then they would have been able to realise the same amount, if not more, which they are likely to get from this 2 paise excise levy.

All the Members of Parliament are given at regular intervals the copies of Annual Reports and other allied documents of the public sector undertakings. One is amazed at the superior quality of printing and the fine paper used in such Reports. There is also glossy cover, which can be seen from a distance lying at the Publication Counter. When the public undertakings, almost all of them, are incurring losses every year, I cannot understand this extravagance. It is also understood that these Reports are printed in private presses who charge exorbitant rates for printing. If the Government give a directive to the public undertakings that all their Reports should be got printed in the Government Presses, then the Government will be able to effect enormous savings. Instead of

levying this 2 paise excise on the newspapers, they could have done this. Here, also, I feel that it is the undeclared policy of the public undertakings to give all uncencouragement to private presses.

There are innumerable money-lenders in the country who charge usurious rate of 25% interest on the poor people who have no other go except to approach them in times of need. They roar in wealth exploiting the poor people. Similarly, in almost all the States there are any number of Chit Funds Whose primary function is to loot the public and to cheat the Government of income tax. The Government could have taken recourse to levy taxes on these money-lenders and the chit-fund organisers in which case they would have got enough funds to give relief to the Bangla Desh refugees.

Similarly, there is an all-India racket of dealing business in Hundis. With mutual connivance they innovate ways and means to deprive the Government and the public exchequer of the tax dues. The rich business men frequently indulge in this pastime. This source has also not been tapped by the Government so far.

I would now come to the plight of small newspapers existing in the different regions of the country. They neither get adequate revenue from advertisements, nor get enough newsprint quota. As I stated earlier, both these items have become the prerogative of big newspapers. As I am myself an Editor of a small paper, I am fully acquainted with the problems of small newspapers and the shady deals of the bigger ones. I have taken pains to narrate the woes of small newspapers because the Ministry may not be so fully acquainted with their problems. The bigger newspapers, especially the English newspapers, have got all-India readership. But the regional language paper caters to the requirements of the local people who are eager to get acquainted with the different problems faced by the country. I am afraid that by this levy of 2 paise, more than the bigger newspapers, the smaller ones will be deprived of readership and having no other support except the readership, they may be forced to wind up. When ignorance is so wide-spread in the country, we cannot afford to harm the interests of

the smaller newspapers, especially the regional language papers.

I have a few suggestions to make on this Bill. The two paise excise levy may be imposed on the papers having a circulation of 50,000 and above. But for the papers having a circulation of 50,000 to 20,000 this levy of 2 paise should be reduced to one paise. The loss of revenue on this score can be compensated by levying a surcharge on the advertisements which the big newspapers get. The newspapers having a circulation of less than 20,000, the weeklies and the monthlies in the regional languages should be completely exempted from this levy. I would also add here that newspapers like NAVAMANI in Tamil Nadu which is run on cooperative basis should be exempted from this levy of 2 paise. I would also appeal to the Minister that an investigation has to be made as to be how the big newspapers have raised the price by 5 paise to 10 paise while the levy is only 2 paise.

As the newspapers in the eastern region of the country have closed down, there is black-out of important news in this sensitive area for the people of this region. When the country is faced with an emergency, when the security of the country is threatened by external aggression, the people living in the border States like Assam, West Bengal, Orissa in the East and in States like Rajasthan, Gujarat in the West, should be kept well-informed of the day to day developments in the country. The economy of the country has not developed so much that the people living in far corners of the country can possess a radio set to get information. The only mass media available for the poor people of the country living in interior and in remote corners are the small regional language papers.

I would once again appeal to the hon. Deputy Finance Minister that she should bring forward amendments incorporating the suggestions made by me earlier. I would conclude by appealing to her that the smaller newspapers having a circulation of 20,000 and less should be exempted totally from this levy, as also the newspapers run by cooperatives.

With these few words, I conclude.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU (Diamond Harbour): Before I start speaking, may I draw your attention to the fact that at

least we expect some Minister from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to be presented here, because we shall be saying things about that Ministry and we expect some replies in regard to those points. Shrimati Sushila Rohatgi is competent enough talk about finance and money matters, no doubt, but we shall be talking about the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting too.

As far as the first part of the Bill is concerned, I would not like to say very much, because here is a position where initially and primarily they are touching people who can afford to pay more. But why is it that they are confining the amount to 10 paise and not increasing it to Rs. 5? If a Bill of lading or a railway receipt is valued at Rs. 2000 or Rs. 3000 or Rs. 5000 or a Bill of exchange is valued at a lakh of rupees, why is it that Government are fighting shy there and confining their heroism to 10 paise only?

I had suggested to Government many a time that in many countries, cheques are taxed. In Britain from which we have borrowed and learnt the banking system, they have a two penny stamp on each cheque. Why is it that our Government are hesitant to put a tax on cheques at least above Rs. 500? When Government need money for a good cause, why is it that they are unwilling to come and present a budget for the purpose? Why is it that they have been underplaying it from the beginning? We understand that the Government and their party are very good at gimmicks. But you feel that your gimmicks are paying you at all? If you ask me—No. You have miserably failed not because your machinery is not there but because of the policy you follow, because of the class character of the Government. I have referred to this in the morning, yesterday and day before that according to the Auditor General, the tax arrears, which Ministers have been trying to mislead the House by quoting lower figures, are to the tune of Rs. 900 crores. Out of that, 92 per cent involves the corporate sector and high personal income groups. Are you afraid of touching them? If you ask me—Yes. So you have to go back to the poor to fleece them.

From 1967 onwards I have been saying here time and time again about the necessity of putting a stop to the evil of over-

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

invoicing and under-invoicing. There was a committee appointed under Shri Kaul. I am sorry to say either with a motive or without knowledge, they have grossly underplayed the evil which is depriving the country of I am not talking about smuggling of currency notes, gold etc -- a foreign exchange of Rs. 400 crores a year. It is not only depriving you of much needed foreign exchange, it is also affecting the internal tax structure. You have not been able to lay your hands on these people. You have just made a feeble attempt and brought out a report which is rather not helpful; on the contrary, it diverts your mind.

Why is it that the recommendation for a tax on advertisements in newspapers has not been accepted? I suppose you are afraid of the big newspapers monopolists lest they may ignore you. They say the truth about you and they refuse to black us out. That is why you are touching the monopolists. I would like to have a reply on this from the Minister.

About the strike by newspapers hawkers in Calcutta, what has been stated is in correct. This is what they have said:

"...that the Calcutta papers have increased prices in 1966 from 16 to 18P, in 1970 from 18 to 20P, in 1971 February from 20 to 22P and in November 1971 the contemplation was from 22 to 26P and this 2 P added to make it 28".

What happened? The moment it was announced, the hawkers were told by their subscribers that they did not want papers. Many of them said that they would like to have their paper once or twice a week because the policy of the Government in the last 5 years has reduced the purchasing power of the common man, in actual fact. May be the rupee value might look impressive to Government, but in terms of the purchasing power it is reduced.

They feel that by this action 10,000 newspaper hawkers would be out of job which means 50,000 people who would starve and be pushed on to the streets, because Government have no scheme to absorb them anywhere so that they could work and live.

There was no reasonable ground for increasing the price as such of the news-

papers. The hawkers were willing on 13 November to sit down with the owners for a discussion and settlement on this question.

But another department of Information and Broadcasting, namely, All India Radio (AIR) had wrongly broadcast that the poor hawkers, because they have been demanding a commission, had gone on strike. This is nothing but a wrong propaganda made by the owners through the All India Radio which is most unfortunate. Today, in India, the press is in the hands of the monopolists, and the Government keep them alive in a healthy state, and in a big way allow them to grow and prosper in its own interests.

We talk about the price-page schedule. The Supreme Court-- we know the character of your judiciary had struck it down. But why no ordinance was brought out then? You could bring out ordinances for so many things. But why an ordinance was not taken out to enforce the price-page schedule? Then, why a Bill was not brought subsequently to make it into an Act? This shows that your promises and your utterances are all hollow.

Then there is widespread malpractice in the distribution of newsprints. And you know that newsprint which costs in the controlled market about Rs. 1,400 a tonne, is sold in the black market at Rs. 2,300, and immediately before the elections, it touched even a price-range of Rs. 3,200 per tonne I am quite sure my hon. colleagues here will agree with me there.

There is one paper in Calcutta—*Anand Bazaar Patrika*. Sometime ago, they were caught red-handed and this Government had struck a deal that "you do not write against us, and we shall not proceed against you." That deal has prevented them from prosecuting a paper which was involved in black-marketing in newsprint.

Then we had a Congress MP, Shri Premchand Verma. He was running a paper. I had been told many times that he drew newsprint but never published a paper. That is your party. We would like to hear what you have done on that

Then, the ABC—Audit Bureau of Circulation. It is nothing but a big joke. There is such a lot of corruption among those who try and deal with this ABC;

they do not know the ABC of honesty. Therefore, I have forwarded a letter to the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, wherein the details of corrupt practices which are adopted by those staff working for this newsprint control have been given. But this Government are not willing to disturb the newsprint monopolists, because there is some understanding among them : a mutual admiration society—scratch each other's back. So, they cannot do it.

I then come to another Bengali Paper, *Basumati*, the editor of which is the former Law Minister of the Congress Government, and a sitting Member of this House, Mr. Asoke Sen. Serious charges have been brought against the *Basumati* in respect of black-marketing in newsprint and unaccounted money to the tune of Rs. 22 lakhs. A CBI enquiry was instituted in May, 1968. Three and a half years have passed, but nothing has happened, because he belongs to the Congress. He is a former Congress Law Minister. If you ask me, he was a Congress unlawful Minister. That is all.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI : Can such remarks be made when the concerned Member is not present in the House.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : It is his job to be present here. The Member is expected to be present here. You must know the rules.

In the last three decades, in Calcutta, not a single new daily paper worth its name has come out. What is the reason ? The readership figure for the eastern region, on the basis of a thousand in population, is very low. If I remember aright, it is 26 per thousand. In the southern region it is about 68. That is the condition.

Today, Mr. Chairman, these newspaper-owners are in a fix. They have shown a highly inflated figure in the ABC, the big joke. Now, the Government will be asking them to pay the paise per newspaper as per the circulation figure of the ABC.

They are finding it difficult to pay that money. Therefore all this trouble is created.

Any newspaper is initially given newsprint enough for printing 10,000 copies. Have we ever worked the economics of

newspapers ? Why not raise it to 20,000 at least to start with if you really mean business ? What has happened with the Newspaper Corporation Finance Bill ? Has a decent burial been given or some other brand of socialism is being tried in the big monopoly press ?

The big newspapers enjoy subsidy from the LIC. Why is that ? There is liberal bank lending to big newspapers. The *Anand Bazaar Patrika* has taken on over draft of not less than Rs. 65 lakhs ; that is what I understand. Newsprint for black-market, advertisement for prosperity and bank finance for survival—a wonderful congregation. They must keep you too alive and prosperous. It is very nice.

The biggest weapon is advertisement and it is used by Mrs. Gandhi in her own interest. What happened ? The *Ananda Bazaar Patrika* had written an article on her visit to Calcutta. The article was found to be bitter for the ruling party. One of the owners was summoned to Delhi and he was rebuked. He was threatened : if you continue to write like this your advertisements will be cut. I do not know what they have done. They must have surrendered.

Take another instance from *Jugantar*. Mr. Vivekananda Mukherjee wrote an article on Bangla Desh refugees. One telephone call went from Delhi to Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh saying : you are a congress man and the father of a congress Minister, what is happening to your paper and why are you publishing such articles ? Vivekananda Babu was told by Tushar Babu : you better stop writing for us. That is the freedom of the Press in this country under Mrs. Gandhi's rule.

The amount of money that is given in the shape of subsidies and advertisements to newspapers is a closely guarded secret, as if it is the personal property of the Ministers and the Government. Many times I want to know the amount given to different newspapers. They have denied me that information and I do not think that they are justified in doing so.

Is it true that advertisements to the tune of Rs. 50 crores are given, out of which only 4 per cent are given to smaller newspapers ? Is it also true that 85 per cent of the public sector advertisements go to the big newspapers and only 15 per cent to the smaller papers ? Is it also true that 10 large newspapers alone consume 75 per cent

[Shri Jyotirmoy Bosu]

of the total advertisement in value? What about having agencies which could cater to all the languages? I have suggested telex and teleprinter machines for different languages. You are not interested in all these things.

The AIR, the All India Radio is fully under Delhi's control. Mr. Chairman, you might be interested to know this because your party was talking about more power for the State Governments. One station director regrettably told me that he had no power over the news editors of the All India Radio. The news editors take directives from Delhi and the State Governments have no say in the matter.

There is a huge monster, the Press Information Bureau. I call it the Press Interference Bureau. It is constantly suppressing the truth and functioning wholly for the Ministers and the Government.

I want to ask another question. What about the Second Press Commission promised on the floor of this House on 28th August, 1969? In spite of all these wonderful deeds what might has this Government to ask this House to approve proposals for levying taxes on the people who are groaning under sever pressure today due to the wrong and motivated fiscal measures.

Shri Bhagat Singh Bla (Jyotirmoy): ममापनि जी, अभी जो हमारे सामने विदेशक है जो अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्षेत्र के स्थान पर आया है वह इस उद्देश्य के लिए रवा गया है कि जो बंगला देश के शारणार्थी हमारे देश में आए हैं उसके चारण जो वोका हमारे ऊपर बढ़ा है उसका एक हिस्सा इससे पूरा किया जाय। इस उद्देश्य के बारे में कोई दो रायें नहीं हो सकती हैं। न इस सदन के भीतर दो रायें हैं और न सदन से बाहर अपने देश के अन्दर दो रायें हैं। सशाल यह उत्ता है कि जो अनिरिक्त धनराशि की आवश्यकता है उसको कहां से लिया जाय। अभी तक जो कुछ भी जो कदम उठाये गये हैं जो अध्यादेश आए हैं या जो विदेशक पारित किये गये हैं या अभी आने वाले हैं उनके आवार पर यह निश्चित सात्रूप पड़ रहा है कि भारत सरकार नेवल

घन अजेंस की बात नहीं कर रही है जिसके कामी और लोत हैं जिनको वह यह नहीं रही है, वह कि जन सभारण पर चोट करने का इस ने निरांय बार लिया है। हम सभी जानते हैं कि लगभग 4 हजार कोड रुपया ऐसा हमारे देश में है जिसे काना रुपया कहा जाना है, जिस का कोई हिसाब नहीं है। याज की मिथित में जो धार वार आहान करने पर भी, अपील करने पर भी, चोरी का रुपया सामने नहीं आया उसके लिए कोई कानून। वन जा सकता है, ऐसी सल्ली की। सकती है, जो कानून है उसको लागू करें उको मजबूर किया जा सकता है कि वह जो रुपा इस प्रकार का है उसका बड़ा हिस्सा मरकार के हाथ में आ जाय। लेकिन न पाएं कोई आवास मरकार कर रही है और न पाएं उसके कोई एलान सरकार कर रही है जिसके धन की यह आवश्यकता बहुत हद तक पूरी हो सकती है। जो यह छोटे-माटे कर लगा कर धन हासिल किया जायगा उससे कई गुना ज्यादा धन उत्ता मिल सकता है। इसी तरह से आयकर का बहुत बड़ा हिस्सा बाकी ५५ लाख से ऊपर आयकर जो बाकी रखे हुए हैं ऐसे दर्जनों परिवार हमारे देश में मौजूद हैं जिनकी सची भा पिछली लोक सभा के सामने सदन में आ चुकी थी। ऐसे लोगों से वह राशि निर्भमता से बसूल की जाय। या अगर उनमें भी थोड़ी बहुत देश भवित है, मानव-भक्ति है तो उनको मजबूर किया जाय कि जो देश का धन वह बाकी रखे हुए हैं, उनके धन की बात में नहीं करता, जो देश का धन और जो कर की चोरी का धन वह रखे हुए हैं उसे वह दें। इसके लिए उन्हें मजबूर किया जाय। लेकिन ऐसा कोई संकेत नहीं आ पाया है कि मरकार ऐसा करने वाली है।

इस तरह से जो अभी कुछ समय पहले श्रीमती मुशीला रोहतगी कह रही थीं, शायद उनको भ्रम है कि जो भी वह कदम उठा रही

है वह करोडपतियों के हिंा में नहीं है या वह आम जनता के ऊपर चौर रुपने वाला नहीं है इसलिए शायद वृंद, जोर से बोल रही थी कि 'मा होता तो वह उधर न बैर होने और हम लोग उपर न होने नेकिन जो यह ठोम रादम उम रहे हैं वृंद न फ नह आम लोगों पर जनमाधारण उ चों तो जो जहीं है और एक-तरफा करोडपति या । । रवागा जा रहा है जो देश ता वन युग उर रुद्र है और देश वा वन गाद नी प्राने याम रो दु है । दूसरी भी वन में है । उमार उपर यामण का गतरा है । उसके लिए सारा देश तंयार । नेकिन उनके द्वारा जाद गी २१ या उम गन तो रूप की प्रोग १० प्राता नहीं हो रहा है । यह जो नींग प्रायादा योग उनसी जग, १०४ या १०५ उन । राष्ट्र प्रद गामने पर रहा है । मौख्य भारत वार वग । । देश के शरणाधियों । । एवं वहां बना वर आम जनता पर यह चोट कर रही है और करोडपतियों के अन्यायपूर्ण दिन उन देश विरोधी है । । सराधगा नींगिणि वर रही है । यह आम जनता के ऊपर जो उम का बोझा मराहार लाद रही है शादय यह ममभ उर लाद रही है ति लोग वर्दान कर ले । यह मही है ति ऐंग मौके पर जो बोझ दिया जा रहा है उसमें भी ज्यादा बोझ बदूरत बरने के लिए देश तंयार है और तंयार होना चाहिए । नेकिन सबाल यह है कि जो धन हमारा पड़ा हुआ है जो करों की चोरी का रूपया पड़ा हुआ है वह नहीं लाया जा रहा है और आम जनगण पर जैमे नेलभाडा बढ़ा कर, तीसरे दर्जे के मुसाफिरों पर ज्यादा भार डाल रहे और इस विवेयक के द्वारा अबल के ऊपर भी टैक्म लगा कर रूपया बुटाने की बातें की जा रही हैं । तो एसी स्थिति में यह सदन के सामने विचारणीय प्रश्न है कि क्या सरकार सोचेगी कि धन ब्रजन के लिए दूसरे स्तोत वह ज़्येंगी या नहीं जो उस के अपने धन के सोत है, जो उसका अपना रूपया चोरी करके रखा हुआ है, उसको लाने की कोगिश करेगी या उसको छोड़ कर आम जनता पर छोटे करने

का काम करेगी ? यह सही है कि आज बगला देश की जो स्थिति है उसमें देश एत-राज करके भी शायद इसी वर्दान कर ने लेकिन यह जो जा । होता जा रहा है इसमें उनका नन चित्र सामन आता जा रहा है और लोग यह नहने लग गये हैं कि यह गदी की तबदीली ईड लेकिन आम जनग के लिए ग्राहिक नीनि वा जल न रुमान है उसमें कोई तबदीली नहीं आ रही । । एवं तरफ तो उम मवैयानिक अविना वोज रहे हैं जिसमें कि हम प्रगतिशील रादम उठा सरे दूरगी शोर जो गणितार मवैयानिक है, ता कानून है, उनका इसामान नहीं उर रहे हैं जहाँ न रु कि करोडपतियों रा मामला । ऐसी जो स्थिति है उसमें मरा सदन में यह ग्राहित होगा और अगर मरवार ग्राम भी मरक न तो अच्छा । कि ग्राम वरनर औ धन्या । देश उम नीनि को बहुत दिनों तरु वर्दान नहीं करेगा, भन जी मकट भी धड़ी में देश उम्बो वर्दान कर जे । ।

नहा नक अवबार गा सबाल आता है यह अवबार का दैमा किसरो दना पड़ रहा है ? अभी श्रीमती नन्दिनी मत्पथी का कलात्मते मे भा । ग हुआ । उन्हान बड़-बड़ अवबार के मालिकों के सामन भाषण दिया कि अवबार की कीमत न बढ़े । तो उनके लिये नी भाषण हो रहा है और नाठको के लिए टैक्म लग रहा है । यह पूजीवाद का हमेशा का गुण है । पूजीपति के लिए थैली, करोडपतियों के लिए थैली और आम जनता के लिए मीठे मीठे शब्द, मीठे भाषण । जो दुनिया सभो पूजीवादी मरकारो का चरित्र है उसी चरित्र में नगे रूप में यह मरकार आ रही है । एसी स्थिति मे मै इस विवेयक का पूरा विशेष करता हूँ ।

मै विशेष तथ्यो मे जाकर सदन का अधिक समय नहीं लू गा । नकिन यह आपह करूणा कि अगर मरकार चाही है कि सभी पक्षो की राय से वह इस विवेयक को पारित कराए तो यह मुनासिब होगा कि इस विवेयक का वह हिस्सा जहा अवबारो की बिक्री का मामला

[श्री भोगेन्द्र भा]

है, उसके बिए संशोधन भी दिया गया है, उसको वह 30 हजार रखे, उसके ऊपर बालो पर लगाए और उसको कडाई से बसूल करे। उसमें बसूली का खर्च भी जो सरकार अधिक बता रही है, वह भी बच जायेगा और द्योदे अखबारों पर चोट भी नहीं पड़ेगी। दूसरी तरफ जो विज्ञापन का एक जरिया है जिसके लिए अभी हमारे मित्र ज्योतिर्मय बसु ने रिमांड दिया है, और सरकार को मालूम भी है कि कितना अधिक सरकारी पैमा उन कानूनियों के हाथ में अखबारों के विज्ञापनों के जरिया जाता है और उस विज्ञापन की आवश्यकता हर हालत में हो, ऐसी वात नहीं है। बहुत से हमारे उपकरण हैं, गार्ड्रीय सम्भाल है जिन के प्रपत्रे पत्र और पत्रिकाएँ हैं वहाँ से मासिक पत्र निकलते हैं और उनमें सरकार विज्ञापन नहीं छपाती है, वरोड़पतियों के अखबारों में देनी है। इसमें भट्टाचार भी होता है। अखबारों के मानिक अफ सरों को नीचे म पंथगी के रूप म कुछ देते हैं। इस तरह में यही एक कायदा बना ले और उस में यह भी होना है कि अखबारों की नीतियों पर भी दबाव आना है, जहाँ तक अखबारों की नीति का मबाल है, पूजीपतियों के अखबार सरकार के मत्रियों की नस्वीर छापते हैं, मत्रियों के भाषण भी छापते हैं लेकिन एक भी प्रगतिशील कदम उठाए तो देश के सभी करोड़पतियों के अखबार उसके खिलाफ हो जाते हैं। सरकारी पैमे पर पलने वाले, आम जनगण के पैसे से चलने वाले ये अखबार आम जनगण के खिलाफ हो जाते हैं। ऐसी स्थिति में क्या सरकार विज्ञापन में कटौती नहीं कर सकती है, या यह जो अपने राष्ट्रीय उपकरण है उसके पत्रों में विज्ञापन नहीं दे सकती है? उससे खर्च बच सकता है और द्योदे पत्रों और पत्रिकाओं को बहावा मिल सकता है।

क्या सरकार यह कर सकती है या नहीं? मेरा आप्रह होगा कि इसमें यह परिवर्तन

सरकार करे और एक परिवर्तन यह कर ले कि एक पैमा या दो पैसा जो बढ़ाया जा रहा है वह पाठकों से न लिया जाय और यह बड़े अखबारों तक ही सीमित कर दिया जाय। 30 हजार या 25 हजार तक डराको रखे और पाठकों से यह पैसा बसूल न किया जाय, यह गेंद सरकार लगा दे तो वात गमध मे आ मकनी है कि जिनके पाम फिलूल पैमा है अखबारों के जरिए भी उनमें लेने का प्रयास मरकार कर रही है और मिर्फ आम जनगण पर चाहे वह ऐलभाडा बढ़ावर हो या पोस्टल ग्राम्प, लिफाफा इनलैंड लैंड पर बढ़ा रह हो, केवल आम जनगण पर लोट नहीं रह रही है। अगर यह थोडे से परिवर्तन मरकार करे, आम लोगों पर जो चोट कर रही है उसमें थोड़ा बचाव करे कि अखबारों के बड़े हए पैसे आम लोगों में बसूल न लिए जायें, अखबारों की कीमत न बढ़ाई जाय इस दौर से इस पर अगर वह राक लगा दे तो ठीक है और अगर यह नहीं तर मकती तो मदन से मेरा आप्रह होगा और उस विधेयक के विलाफ मत देने के लिए हम मजबूर हो जाएँगे। सरकार अभी भी मोब सकती है तो सोचे नहीं तो जनता एक ही नारा लगायेंगी और लगाना चाहिए, देश एक ही मतलब निकालेगा कि करोड़पतियों को सरकार दे कर आम जनता पर चोट करने का बगला देश के नाम पर एक बहाना ढूढ़ रही है। जो एक जायज बात है जिसके लिए सारा देश साथ देगा, वह न करके, आम जनगण पर चोट करके उसके उत्साह को कुछित करने का बातावरण यह सरकार पैदा कर रही है।

PROF. S. L. SAKSENA (Maharajganj): Sir, in all my parliamentary life of 35 years, 18 years in UP Assembly and 17 years in this Parliament, I have never seen an instance where 13 Ordinances were passed within the course of one month. These Ordinances are, in the language of the Late Speaker, Shri Mavalankar, a negation of democracy.

Secondly, never before have I known of such huge taxes being imposed by Ordinance. Most of these 13 Ordinances impose taxes on the poorest of the poor.

Thirdly, these Ordinances were promulgated on the 22nd October, when Parliament had already been summoned to meet on the 15th November. Heavens would not have fallen if government had waited for three weeks and more and imposed these taxes through legislation. Sir, I consider these Ordinances to be an insult to this Parliament.

Fourthly, Sir, I oppose these Ordinances because they impose taxes in the name of Bangla Desh refugees. Bangla Desh refugees are our guests and we should meet the expenses on them from our general revenues and we should not have imposed these taxes in their names on the poorest of the poor to make refugees unpopular.

Fifthly, Sir, I am sorry that most of these taxes are on the poorest of the poor. Except the tax on air travel, which I approve of, all the other taxes, like taxes on railway fares, postal articles and newspapers are taxes on the most essential needs of the poorest people. In fact, the tax on newspaper is a tax on knowledge. These taxes should never have been imposed. The sum of Rs. 70 crores, which these taxes will yield, could have been obtained by practising austerity and savings in all departments of Government.

Sixthly, it has been said that these taxes are temporary and will last only till the refugees are here. But how and when will the refugees go back? The Government first said that world opinion will force Yahya Khan to come to terms with Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his Awami League. But nothing like that has so far happened and instead the Pakistan army is stationed on our border and is bombarding our territory every day and our citizens and soldiers are being killed. Yet, our Government is still hesitating to call Pakistan's bluff and to teach it a lesson. I say that the refugees will go back to their homes in Bangla Desh only when we send our forces inside to conquer the Pakistan army and establish the Awami League Government in independent Bangla Desh. Since all the properties and land of the refugees have been looted, our forces may have to help them in getting back the possession of their lands and property in their villages.

To make these taxes really temporary and to enable the refugees to go back at the earliest possible time, I think the time has come to extend immediate recognition to the sovereign independent government of Bangla Desh and to defeat the Pakistan army once for all by teaching it a lesson which it may never forget both on the eastern front and the western front. This time there should be no Tashkant and the whole of occupied Kashmir should be liberated by our forces in a short and swift blitzkrieg. Further delay will be suicidal.

Sir, our government missed the bus in April last. If we had recognised Bangla Desh Government at that time and had sent our troops on a mission of mercy into Bangla Desh then, a million people would not have been butchered and these ten million refugees would not have been uprooted from their hearths and homes. Let us not miss the bus a second time now. Our army should now be given orders to march and conquer the enemy once and for all.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Mr Chairman, I would like to supplement what my colleagues on this side of the House have said about this Bill. You will find from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, not only of this Bill but of the other two Bills relating to postal articles and railways fares, that the general justification for these measures is that it was agreed at the meeting of the Governors and Chief Ministers of States held at new Delhi on the 10th October, 1971 that both the Centre and the States should levy taxes, duty and surcharge at appropriate rates on instruments of mass circulation falling within their respective fields.

What has attracted the notice of these rulers of ours is instruments of mass circulation. That means, from the very conception of this, the real mentality of this Government, when it comes to levying burdens, becomes quite clear. Articles of mass circulation means and must mean articles of mass consumption or the type of articles which the common people and the poorer sections of the people have to consume or use. It is very clear in their own statement. This formula itself implies that the richer sections of the people, the big owners of property and so on will be exempted from the scope of these taxes. They have already

[Shri Indrajit Gupta]

selected their target, that is articles of mass consumption or instruments of mass circulation, as they call it. It shows the anti-people outlook behind these series of measures. Therefore we are opposing it totally. Not because we are against raising of resources to meet the requirements of Bangla Desh refugees—that is something we all want—but as my other colleagues, on this side, have pointed out, it is the procedure, the attitude, the mentality of the Government and the type of measures they are introducing. We are totally opposed to it.

They will not touch the richer sections. They are not called upon to make the sacrifices at this hour of emergency in the country. All the lectures of patriotism, sacrifice and everything are only meant for the middle class people, the poorer people, the working people and so on. The richer people are not required to do anything.

As my hon. friend said, it is a tax on knowledge. You are compelling people to cut down their reading of newspapers and periodicals. This is what it comes to. There are many people who keep two newspapers, in many places, in my cities. This will compel them to give up at least one paper. This is what it comes to. In many cases, the people will not be able to afford the luxury of keeping newspapers at all.

Here, I would like to seek one clarification from the hon. Minister. At the time of the introduction of the Bill, I had raised this point also and, at that time, if I remember aright, she had said that, later on after the Bill is passed, it is the Government's intention to frame certain rules and make certain exemptions and, she said, as a result of that, 90 per cent of the newspapers will eventually not have to pay anything, that this tax will not fall on them. This is what she said.

Now, they have circulated a statement explaining the reasons which necessitated the promulgation of the Ordinance. In that statement, you will find that they have calculated that the income that they will get, that they expect to get, from the levy on newspapers is Rs. 7 crores in a year. I am not much of a mathematician. But as far as I understand—if I am wrong, you Sir, will kindly correct me, I was working

it out while sitting here—Rs. 7 crores means 700 crores paise. 700 crores paise is what they expect as income from tax. 700 crores paise divided by 2, at 2 p per copy, works out to 350 crore copies. There are 365 days in a year. So, roughly with a little margin, of course, you can say it works out to 1 crore copies per day.

She says that they are going to make rules and give exemptions which will leave out 90 per cent of the papers in the country. So, only the remaining 10 per cent accounts for 1 crore copies per day. I do not know if this is the position. I am very much surprised. I would like her to explain 10 per cent of papers in the country account for 1 crore copies of circulation per day.

MR. CHAIRMAN It can be the number of papers, not the number of copies. Suppose there are 100 papers. 10 papers may contribute about 90 per cent of the circulation.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA I do not know. Let her tell us. And then if 90% of the papers are going to be left out, but there is nothing in the Bill to indicate that. I do not know whether we can call them assurances what she is giving us. There is nothing in the Bill. In the Bill there is a uniform levy on all papers, big, small, medium and everybody. But if 90% of the papers are going to be left out, then what was the great necessity, I would like to know, of picking on this particular type of impost when so many other types of levies could easily be imposed on those sections of the people who would not be hurt so much?

For example, in the private corporate sector in this country there are firms, big firms, medium-sized firms and small firms. Why could not a cess, a particular cess, a special cess in the name of refugee relief be imposed on the invested capital, the reserve fund and the dividends of these companies? You can exempt some companies, if you like. You could make a graded cess, if you like, according to the size of the company. I don't mind. But why should not the private corporate sector, at this hour of emergency, be called upon also to make some sacrifice and since it is supposed to be a temporary duty which, we have been promised, will be withdrawn

once this refugee problem is no longer there, they could easily afford to pay a cess and that cess can be calculated without any difficulty on their declared invested capital, their accumulated reserves and their dividends from year to year. Why don't the Government think of that?

Why don't you levy a tax on imported liquor and imported alcohol? May I know? This is a great State and Government which talks about abstinence from consumption of liquor. What about a cess on imported liquor which is found available everywhere in the country and flowing like water? Why don't they think of placing a cess on that?

Why don't they place a cess on rich landlords per acre of land? You decide whom you would call rich landlords. You decide and we don't mind and then say per acre of land, they will have to pay this much cess for the Bangla Desh refugees.

All this sacrifice all the tears and all the patriotism must be only the monopoly of the poor of this country? And you expect us to support this kind of measure?

I am sure the hon. Minister will not reply to these points but I have to go on record because our Party is totally opposed to this.

I do not wish to add to what Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu has said as to what goes on in the newspaper world. But, about black money, at least there is one specific form of black money earnings which goes in this industry, this newsprint business. Everybody knows about it. But that does not attract the attention of the Government.

Then, why not a tax on advertisements which I always support? Why not tax the advertisements which these big newspapers receive? Bulk of their revenue comes from advertisements. Nowadays the newspapers are hardly worth reading, some of them, because on each page the reading matter is probably not even 10% of the page. 90% is nothing but advertisements. Why could not you put a cess on that? It is simpler and easier to collect.

Sir, I do not wish to take much time of the House because this series of Bills are all of a piece. They all betray the same mentality and if this is the way you propose to finance either the refugee relief or the

war preparations or war expenditure, if it is thrust upon us by Pakistan, then all I can say is that this is not the way that you can rouse the people's enthusiasm and morale in this country. If you talk big and if you expect people to sacrifice, then the sacrifice must be spread out in such a way that those people who could afford to sacrifice more, must be called upon to sacrifice more.

But, here, the process is being reversed. Therefore, we to tally opposed this Bill and we call upon the Government to try to realise even at this late hour that this is not the way. We are paying all sorts of tributes which are rightly deserved by our heroic Armed Forces fighting on the front but the people in the rear are no less important at a time of emergency. You cannot help the front while the rear gets disrupted and the people in the rear made to suffer unnecessarily or are allowed to be fleeced and exploited by rich propertied and propertied classes.

Therefore, I warn the Government that if they persists on following this path, they are going to disrupt the unity of the people. The national unity which is required at this time will be weakened and disrupted if they follow such an inequitous path of forcing and imposing burdens on those sections who can least bear them. Therefore, I ask the Government to withdraw this Bill. If they do not withdraw it, we will continue inside and outside the House to oppose it lock, stock and barrel among the people.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Sir, May I make a submission? The Minister from the Information and Broadcasting Ministry should be present when reply is given. We have said many things which involve this Ministry. It is no use hearing the repetition of the same thing from the Minister of Finance which really cuts no ice so far as we are concerned...

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is not for me to compel; it is for the Government to take note of.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU : Will you kindly convey the feelings of the House, Sir?

MR. CHAIRMAN : It is on record; Government should know it. The hon. Minister.

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): Mr Chairman, Sir, when we took up earlier the Railway Passenger Fares Bill, we had met with some of the objections and charges brought about by hon. Members from the opposition. I do not think it is necessary for me to repeat all of them or to unduly take the time of the House, but just to put the record straight, I wish to say this. Shri Indrajit Gupta himself said that he does not expect me to answer some of the allegations but that he wanted to put them on record. So, I may follow the practice. I wish to say that it is with utmost reluctance that the Government had to bring forward this ordinance; that is due to the extraordinary situation and the exigencies of the situation; it was only due to the compulsion of the circumstances that we have been compelled to have these ordinance, promulgated. I am sure the entire House will realise that never was there a greater necessity for this than it is now.

I can understand the objection of the hon. Members that there had been taxation by ordinance. That is not a very palatable idea, but this has been necessitated by the peculiar circumstances and compulsion of events. I would like to mention that there have been similarly six other occasions when taxes have been imposed by ordinances. For the information of hon. Members, I just want to mention them. They are :

1. Mineral Oil (Additional Duties of excise and Customs) Ordinance, 1958.
2. Sugar (Special Excise Duty) Ordinance, 1959.
3. Indian Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1965.
4. Indian Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1966.
5. Mineral (Amendments) Additional Duties of Excise and Customs (Amendment) Ordinance, 1966.
6. Taxation Laws (Amendment) Ordinance, 1967.

That does not mean that we would like to have ordinances; that only shows that we have done this earlier. Some Members said that never before has there been taxation by ordinances. That is why I am saying this...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That was in the inter session period.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Shri Shibban Lal Saksena, who hails from U. P., said that never before in his life has he seen such a spate or flood of such ordinances. But I would like to ask; has there been, in his or in our life-time, such conditions as are prevailing now, the flood or the spate of the refugee of one crore, which is a novel type of aggression, which is perpetrated on our country ?

AN. HON. MEMBER : In the world.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: Yes, in the world. Have we ever seen before the calamity of a flood of devastating nature which has been calculated roughly at the cost of Rs. 525 crores in this particular year ?

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: That shows your lack of planning, lack of action.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: If you have the power and the capacity to stop flood that is a different matter but we do not have the capacity. Have we ever witnessed the type of cyclone damage that we faced recently in Orissa ? These are things which have never been witnessed before. In spite of this, in spite of floods and the spate of refugees who have come from there...*(Interruption)*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order please. Let the Minister continue.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I have heard hon. Members with great respect. May I be given 5 Minutes ? I will not take much time of the House, just to put it on record, nothing more, nothing less.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: You are a lady; we will expect you to talk unmixed untruths.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: If there is anything in your dictionary which is absolute truth...

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: I am talking about your unmixed untruth.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I am sorry our dictionaries do not tally together; the definitions are not the same.
(Interruption)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Jyotirmoy Bosu, when you are talking, you expect others to listen. When others are speaking you must also be patient.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: So, Sir, what I have said just now answers the point as to why ordinances had to be promulgated.

Apart from that, certain relevant fears have been expressed by some hon. Members, and I would like to put them at rest if possible. The first point is that there had been no assurance or there had just been an assurance which had not been put into effect, as mentioned by Shri Indrajit Gupta in regard to exemptions. I may tell him for his information that a notification has already been issued on the 5th November. I am speaking subject to correction in regard to the date under which this exemption has been given to newspapers publishing 15,000 copies per day.

18. hrs.

For his information, I may also say that the proposal has been that about 75 per cent of newspapers will be wholly exempt from the payment of the duty...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: From 90 per cent it has now come down to 75 per cent?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I do not know what has come from what. 75 per cent of the newspapers will be wholly exempt, and out of the remaining 25 per cent only...

MR. CHAIRMAN: The point that Shri Indrajit Gupta had raised was this. Does the 90 per cent represent 90 per cent

of the copies circulated or 90 per cent of the number of newspaper? Has the hon. Minister got that information?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I am afraid I cannot give a categorical reply to that just now. But it will be conveyed to hon. Members. It can be calculated at the same time that even...

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Since a very important point has been raised, namely whether 90 per cent represents the number of copies circulated or the number of newspapers, she can reply tomorrow after going into it further...

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: She may explain how they have calculated that Rs. 7 crores would be raised, because that is the figure given in the financial memorandum as being the anticipated revenue from the tax on the newspapers. If she can explain this calculation, it would become clear.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BOSU: It is already part six of clock. We are to be free after six o'clock. It is already one minute past six o'clock.

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I would like to clarify this point...

MR. CHAIRMAN: How much time is the hon. Minister likely to take?

SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI: I shall take quite some time.

MR. CHAIRMAN: She may continue her speech tomorrow.

18.01 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday, November 26, 1971/ Agra-hayana 5, 1893 (Saka).