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Thursday, February 22, 1968
Phalgun 3, 1889 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Fourth Session)



(Vol. XII contains Nos. 1-10)

**LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI**

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C O N T E N T S

No. 9.—*Thursday, February 22, 1968/Phalguna 3, 1889 (Saka)*

COLUMNS

<p>Oral Answers to Questions —</p> <p>*Starred Questions Nos. 213, 227 and 213 to 215.</p> <p>Written Answers to Questions —</p> <p>Starred Questions Nos. 212, 216 to 226, and 228 to 240.</p> <p>Unstarred Questions Nos. 1516 to 1534, 1536 to 1547, 1549 to 1551, 1553 to 1559, 1561 to 1610, 1612 to 1641, 1643, 1644, 1646 to 1650, 1650-A, 1650-B and 1650-C.</p> <p>Short Notice Question No. 1</p> <p>Papers Laid on the Table.</p> <p>Opinions on Lokpal Bill</p> <p>Demands for Supplementary Grants (Railways), 1967-68</p> <p>Public Accounts Committee —</p> <p>Fourteenth Report</p> <p>Business Advisory Committee—</p> <p>Fourteenth Report</p> <p>Motions of thanks on President's Address</p> <p>Shri N. Sreekantan Nair</p> <p>Shri Hanumanthaiya</p> <p>Shri K. P. Singh Deo</p> <p>Shri R. D. Bhandare</p> <p>Shri Anbazhagan</p> <p>Shri Jagiwan Ram</p> <p>Shri Manglathumadam</p> <p>Shri Bedabrata Barua</p> <p>Shri P. Gopalan</p> <p>Re. Inquiry into Circumstances of Death of Shri Deen Dayal Upadhyaya</p> <p>Discussion on Incident involving Delhi-Howrah Express at Luckeesarai Railway Station</p> <p>Shri Madhu Limaye</p> <p>Shri Yamuna Prasad Mandal</p> <p>Shri S. M. Banerjee</p>	<p>2557—87</p> <p>2587—2606</p> <p>2606—2704</p> <p>2704—05</p> <p>2705—07</p> <p>2707—08</p> <p>2708</p> <p>2709</p> <p>2709—15</p> <p>2715—30, 2731—2802</p> <p>2715—22</p> <p>2722—29, 2731—39</p> <p>2739—46</p> <p>2746—56</p> <p>2756—72</p> <p>2772—86</p> <p>2786—91</p> <p>2791—98</p> <p>2798—2802</p> <p>2730—31</p> <p>2802—42</p> <p>2802—09</p> <p>2809—11</p> <p>2811—14</p>
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*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 Sitaram Kesri	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2814—15
Shri Lobo Prabhu	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2815—16
Shri N. T. Das	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2816—21
Shri S. Kandasappan	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2821—25
Shri Jyotirmoy Basu	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2825—27
Shri Sheo Narain	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2827—30
Shri Lakhon Lal Kapoor	.	.	.	.	9	.	.	2830—32
Shri C. M. Poonacha	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	2832—42

LOK SABHA

Thursday, February 22, 1968/Phalgun
3, 1889 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the
Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER in the Chair]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Samanta.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: Sir, I suggest that Question No. 227 may also be taken up along with this.

MR. SPEAKER: All right.

Delhi Milk Scheme

*211. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA:
SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that lack of regular supply of milk of the requisite standard by the Delhi Milk Scheme and consequent rise in the price is due to mismanagement;

(b) whether it is also a fact that suppliers of milk in villages are not satisfied with the present set up of management resulting in irregular supplies of milk to the Delhi Milk Scheme; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government to improve the administration of the Delhi Milk Scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

दिल्ली दूध योजना द्वारा बेचे जाने वाले दूध के मूल्यों में बढ़ि

*227. श्री हरदयाल देवभूण :

श्री ईश्वर रेड्डी :

श्री यशपाल सिंह :

क्या साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की हुपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली दूध योजना ने उनके द्वारा बेचे जाने वाले दूध के मूल्यों में बढ़ि कर दी है ;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि दिल्ली प्रशासन ने दूध के मूल्य में इस बढ़ि के लिये केन्द्रीय सरकार से विरोध प्रगत किया है ;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि सरकार को इस संबंध में उपचोक्तामाओं से भी बहुत से अध्यावेदन मिले हैं ;

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस संबंध में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है ; और

(ङ) मूल्यों में बढ़ि के क्या कारण हैं ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI SHINDE): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) No Sir.

(c) Yes Sir.

(d) Price was revised taking into consideration all the aspects of the case.

(e) Following are the main reasons:

(i) Substantial increase in the purchase price of milk.

(ii) All round increase in the cost of stores including skimmed milk powder.

(iii) Increased expenditure on account of wages, salaries, dearness allowance etc.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Is it not a fact that most of the management personnel are non-technical people and that they do not get on well with the vendors?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: It is not true that most of the management personnel are non-technical. In fact, this question was thoroughly gone into by a team of experts two years ago and they had suggested that some additional officers should be posted like Deputy General Manager, Manager (Quality Control), Manager (Procurement), Manager (Processing), Controller of Stores, Enquiry Officer, Executive Engineer, Stores Officer, Co-operative Extension Officer and Security Officer. With the appointment of competent officers in those posts the DMS is completely equipped with technical staff.

SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: May I know how many complaints are received by either the Ministry or the DMS from Members of Parliament and Government officers about the supply of milk?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: I can give a general figure about the number of complaints. But I cannot give the break-up between Members of Parliament and others. On an average, we receive about four complaints a day and they mostly, relate to delivery not being in time.

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा : मैं सवाल पूछने से पहले मंत्री महोदय को कुछ डिटेल देना चाहूँगा। 1962 में दूध की कीमत 62 पैसे पर लिटर थी और अब उस की कीमत 104 पैसे पर लिटर है। इस का कारण उन्हें यह बतलाया है कि मजदूरी में इजाफा हो गया है और दूध के खरीद की कीमत में इजाफा हो गया है। यह बड़ा महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न है इस लिये थोड़ा लम्बा हो जायेगा। मैं मंत्री महोदय की किताब से ही यांकड़े दे रहा हूँ। मैं समझता हूँ कि उन का कहना ठीक नहीं है, घाटे का कारण कुछ और है। वह कारण यह कि पहले तो बटिया किस्म की बोतलें खरीदी जाती हैं जो कि टूट जाती हैं। उन्होंने जो 1 करोड़ 40 लाख रु० का घाटा बतलाया है उस में से 5 लाख रु० का घाटा बोतलों के टूटने के कारण है। यह उन की रिपोर्ट में है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : क्या आप इस तरह से सारी रिपोर्ट पढ़ सकते हैं?

श्री प्रेम चन्द वर्मा : मैं केवल यह बतलाना चाहता हूँ कि यह बोतलें बटिया खरीदते हैं और उसके लिये पैसा ज्यादा देते हैं। दूसरी बात यह कि दूध खरीदने का जो खर्च है वह कई जगहों पर तो 6.47 पैसे पर लिटर है और कई जगहों पर 3.4 से लेकर 4.6 पैसे पर लिटर तक है। तीसरी बात यह है कि वहाँ पर चोरियां बहुत होती हैं। इस चोरी के तारे में मैं बतलाना चाहूँगा कि क्या है। 1965 में 6750 पैकेट मक्कन प्रोड्यूस किया गया, लेकिन रिसीव किया गया कुल 1750 पैकेट। इस तरह से 5,000 पैटेक एक रोज़ के किसी अकाउंट में नहीं है। साथ ही एक रोज़ में 850 किलो धी प्रोड्यूस किया, लेकिन वह किसी भी हिसाब में नहीं आया। इसके अलावा 44,973 रु० का घाटा कैन्स पर है। मैं मंत्री महोदय से जानना चाहूँगा कि

इन डिटेल्स के बारे में उन का क्या कहना है।

SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE: Some defects can always be pointed out and there can always be scope for improvement. But the impression should not go round that the Delhi Milk Scheme is no functioning satisfactorily. In fact, as far as the operating costs of the Scheme are concerned, the expert team which was headed by Dr. Kurien with which the General Manager of the Bombay Milk Scheme was also associated had prescribed some norms which include also the breakage, administrative costs, etc. They said that, normally, the costs of distribution, procurement, administration, etc. should not be beyond 21 p. a litre. The Delhi Milk Scheme has been operating below that level. This was the recommendation in 1964-65. There has been some additional expenditure as a result of price rise thereafter. The main reason why the Delhi Milk Scheme is incurring losses is due to the fact that the purchase price of milk is very high as compared to the prices prevailing in the past years. Two years back, the average procurement price varied from Rs. 65 to Rs. 67 a quintal. Now, the average procurement price is about Rs. 90 a quintal. If we add the cost of procurement, distribution, etc., the average cost of milk comes to Rs. 1.10 a litre while we are selling at Rs. 1.04 a litre. As compared to many other milk schemes in other cities of the country, this is the cheapest milk available in the country. (Interruption) Let me explain it. Whether you agree with me or not is a different thing. In Bombay, for instance, the milk price is Rs. 1.70 a litre and, similarly, in a number of other cities, the milk price is very high as compared to the price at which the milk is sold in Delhi.

श्री प्रेम चन्द बर्मा: मंत्री महोदय ने चौरियों के रोकने के बारे में कुछ नहीं कहा।

अध्यक्ष महोदय: वह उस को रोकने की कोशिश करेंगे।

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: The answer that the hon. Minister has just now given evades the real issue. I want to know whether it is a fact that the Delhi Milk Scheme has not been able to meet the demand of the people for milk and that there are a large number of applicants whose applications are just filed there. I want to know their number and when they will be supplied milk. Secondly, I want to know whether it is a fact that the main cause of mismanagement and costly milk in Delhi is that all the private dairies have gone out and there is, the monopoly of the Delhi Milk Scheme. Will the Government consider the opening of other dairies either in the cooperative sector or in the private sector in Delhi so that there will be competition and there will be cheaper milk available in Delhi?

SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE: It is true that the demand of milk is much more than the supply, at present and, in fact, there is a waiting list of more than 15,000 persons. But the main difficulty is this. The producers of milk expect a higher price while in the city there are many people with low income who expect that the milk should be available at a lower price. Unless this conflict is resolved, I do not think the supply position can be improved. About the second part of the question, many private dairies are operating in Delhi although the expert team had recommended that if the Delhi Milk Scheme is to function effectively, at least new dairies should not be allowed in the area of operation of the Delhi Milk Scheme. The private dairies which are operating in New Delhi are selling milk at a much higher price than that of D.M.S.

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK: I was talking about a big dairy of the type of D.M.S. Let him answer my question. Sir. I was not talking about

one-man or two-men dairies. I was asking about opening a private dairy on a large scale as the D.M.S. dairy.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: At the moment there is no law to prevent that. Any private person can establish a dairy. We are trying to consult the U.P. and Haryana Governments whether milk control orders can be enforced, but that is a matter under consideration. At the moment, there is no law prohibiting any private party establishing a dairy.

SHRI DATTATRAYA KUNTE: Is it not a fact that, though the Delhi Milk Scheme may have technical staff now, they have no cattle of their own and they purchase milk from the contractors who also have no cattle of their own? They are, therefore, depending on contractors who are interested in making money and who are not interested in the development of cattle or of milk.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: The hon. Member is right. In fact, the expert team came to the conclusion that as a result of the middlemen, a sound system of procurement was not being built up, and that was why the expert team suggested that cooperatives of producers should be organized, but there are a lot of difficulties in this, though we would very much like to encourage formation of co-operatives of producers so that the middlemen will not try to exploit the position.

श्री कांबर साल गुप्त : दिल्ली में दूध की रेखुलर और एडीक्वेट सप्लाई के लिए डी०एम०एस०के पास कोई पर्याप्त स्कीम नहीं है और यही कारण है कि ठीक तरह से दूध का वितरण यहां पर नहीं होता है और जितनी मात्रा में होना चाहिये नहीं होता है। दूध की सप्लाई का जहां तक संबंध है वह भी पहले के मुकाबले बहुत गिर गई है। जनवरी 1967 में जहां 2145 किवटल सप्लाई थी दिल्ली में वहां जनवरी 1968 में वह घट कर 1477 किवटल ही रह गई। मैं जानना चाहता

हूं कि यह सप्लाई क्यों गिर रही है? आपको यह भी ध्यान में रखना होगा कि दिल्ली की पापुलेशन बढ़ रही है। क्या इसका कारण यह है कि दिल्ली के आसपास मिल्क प्रोडक्ट्स की हुत सी नई फैक्ट्रियां लगी हैं या जो पहले से लगी हुई हैं उनका एक्सपैशन हो रहा है? क्या मंत्री महोदय दूध की एडीक्वेट और रेखुलर सप्लाई के बारे में इस प्रकार का कोई निर्णय लेंगे कि जो भी आसपास दिल्ली के यह फैक्ट्रियां हैं जोकि मिल्क प्रोडक्ट्स बनाती हैं उसका एक्सपैशन न हो और नई मिल्क प्रोडक्ट्स की फैक्ट्रीज न लगे ताकि लोगों को दूध ठीक तरह से मिले?

मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या आपके पास कोई लांग टर्म स्कीम है जिससे कि दिल्ली वालों को आप काफी मात्रा में दूध सप्लाई कर सकें और रेखुलरी सप्लाई कर सकें? इसके लिए क्या आपने कोई योजना बनाई है और अगर बनाई है तो क्या बनाई है?

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: It is true that the Delhi Milk Scheme is facing competition as a result of a number of milk product factories which are already in existence—some of them are expanding and new units are also coming up. That is why, as I mentioned, the Government of India is considering a proposal whether at least it should not be possible to prevent new milk product factories coming up in the Milk Scheme areas round about Delhi, but it can only be done in consultation with the Delhi Administration, Haryana Government and U.P. Government. As far as the proposal of the Government of India is concerned, the Delhi Administration and the Haryana Government have concurred with that, but we have not received the concurrence from the U.P. Government and I think it will take some time. As soon as their concurrence is received, this matter can be given further thought to.

As regards the supply, the impression of the hon. Member is not correct and I would like to dispel that, because in the year 1965....

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: I gave him the figures for January 1967 and January 1968; I did not talk about 1965.

SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE: As far as the day-to-day supplies are concerned, we were distributing 2,28,000 litres a day a few months earlier, and even now, the distribution level continues to be 2,21,000 litres a day. So, there is not much difference as far as the distribution level is concerned.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Between 1967 and 1968.

SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE: Even today, the distribution level is 2,21,000 litres a day.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Let us know about January 1967.

SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE: Even today, even in February, it continues to be the same. But the procurement has gone down and we are in a position to maintain this level of milk distribution by using skimmed milk powder.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: What about the long-term scheme for adequate supply? It is very important question.

SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE: So many questions are asked at a time that it naturally becomes difficult to keep track of all of them.

I can only say that experts have made suggestions for expanding the Delhi Milk Scheme. As far as the handling capacity is concerned, we have already plans a foot to expand the Delhi Milk Scheme. As regards procurement, as I have already said, unless the interests of consumers as well as producers are reconciled and reasonable price fixed for the pro-

ducer, it would not be possible for us to get adequate supplies for Delhi Milk Scheme and expand the scheme.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA: From the reply the hon. Minister has given so adequately, I find that procurement is inadequate and distribution is faulty and that they have no plans for the future. In the light of this, is he going to disband this milk supply scheme so that we get milk from the bazar as we used to get before? If he is not going to do that, may I ask him what he is going to do to supply milk to poor people, to class IV servants and others, whose wives and children are suffering from TB and other wasting diseases? They come to us and want our certificates, and we try to help them. But the milk supply scheme is not able to give milk to these persons who are suffering from consumptive and other diseases.

SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE: There is no intention whatsoever to disband the Delhi Milk Scheme. In fact, the hon. Member himself recognised the value of the scheme in Delhi whatever be its inadequacy. It is so popular that there is so much demand and thousands of consumers are on the waiting list. Purified pasteurised milk bottled under hygienic conditions are supplied to consumers as a result of this scheme.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA: Is there any priority for supply to those persons who are suffering from consumption and other wasting diseases?

MR. SPEAKER: Shri Kundu.

SHRI S. KUNDU: We have discussed this a number of times. There are two things which I want to bring to the notice of the Minister. One is that there are thousands of spurious cards due to which there is a shortage of milk supply. I am told that some people take 60-70 bottles and some Parliament Members are no exception. I want to know what Government are going to do about it.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: Why does he bring in Parliament Members in this manner?

SHRI S. KUNDU: What does he mean? Are they coming from heaven?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: May I say this to the angry Member? It is becoming a fashion to drag in MPs into everything....

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: We respect the Opposition leaders. But I protest against this sort of remark.

SHRI S. KUNDU: I am not yielding.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY: There is nothing to object.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: This cheap fling does not redound to anyone's credit. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: May I request all hon. Members who are standing, including Shri Sheo Narain to sit down? Let Shri Kundu proceed with the question.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: On a point of order.

MR. SPEAKER: After Shri Kundu has asked his question.

SHRI S. KUNDU: I want to know what steps the Minister has taken to stop this circulation of spurious cards. Secondly, there are about 1500 students employed on a part-time basis in this. They are arbitrarily dismissed, harassed, and subjected to bad behaviour. Of late the officers have taken to dubious methods so that less number of students are employed in the Delhi Milk Scheme. I personally know that very good students were employed.

MR. SPEAKER: You are expected to ask a question now. You are educating the Minister.

AN HON. MEMBER: It is necessary.

SHRI S. KUNDU: I want to know why these things have been done and whether the Minister is prepared to pull up the administration to cure it of these things.

MR. SPEAKER: Yes, he is certainly prepared.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE: As far as the first part of the hon. Member's question is concerned, there are certain spurious cardholders in the sense that when some citizens leave Delhi, instead of surrendering their tokens to the Delhi Milk Scheme, transfer them to certain private individuals and there is some misuse of these tokens to a certain extent. But we have put up a detection squad and have succeeded in recovering a number of such cards which are being misused.

In regard to the dismissal of some depot managers etc., a number of malpractices were being indulged in by depot managers. Bottle seals were tampered with; milk was adulterated. During the last one year we have dismissed, as a result of such changes about 100 depot managers and I think we have to continue to take strict action against persons who indulge in indiscipline and malpractices.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: Sir, my appeal to you is this. We are all interested in upholding the dignity and decorum of Parliament. I am not one of those who are interested in decrying Parliament or its Members.. (Interruption).

MR. SPEAKER: He will come to the question now. After all, everybody has got some preface or the other, not only he. Why take objection only to Shri Hanumanthiya? Let him ask the question now.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: The hon. Member, against the provisions of the Rules, has made an allegation against Members of this House. It is a matter of privilege. If he has got any Member particularly in view, it is open to him to mention his name and the facts of the case to you or to the Minister concerned. We shall certainly investigate it. But for him to make a general allegation against Mem-

bers of Parliament that they are doing like this will be playing to the gallery and it is a dishonest approach to the problem. (Interruption).

SHRI HEM BARUA: When Shri Kundu said that, he used the words "some Members of Parliament" and Shri Hanumanthaiya has taken all Members of Parliament into his ambit.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: Let him produce the names. I will ask him to produce the names.

SHRI HEM BARUA: Shri Kundu is not a policeman. When I raised on the floor of the House the matter of certain Members of Parliament subletting their flats, I was not asked to produce evidence and I said that I was not going to produce evidence because I was not a policeman. It is the business of the Government to find it out.

SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Regarding the Delhi Milk Scheme, the hon. Minister referred to the Kurien Committee Report but I am afraid, in mentioning whatever he did about the Delhi Milk Scheme, he seems to have either forgotten the Kurien Committee Report or seems to tear it to pieces. The Kurien Committee Report said that there would be a 10 per cent decrease in winter prices but this time there was a 30 per cent increase in the winter prices. The Kurien Committee wanted four dairies to be set up around this area—they called them the balancing dairy factories—but nothing of the sort was set up. The question that I would like to ask is that since it was the very basis of the Kurien Committee Report that the area around Delhi should be developed for Delhi like in Anand, raising the milk prices is calculated to destroy the very basis of the Kurien Committee Report and, therefore, in the opinion of the people of Delhi it is no longer the Delhi Milk Scheme but the Delhi Milk Scandal.

SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE rose—

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM): What is there to answer?

Parliamentary Privileges

*213. SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to appoint a Parliamentary Committee for codification of the Parliamentary Privileges; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): (a) and (b). No; Sir. However, the whole matter is being considered in consultation with (i) Press, (ii) Presiding Officers in Parliament, and (iii) the leaders of various political parties/groups in Parliament.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: These parliamentary privileges do not come from any exalted position of the legislatures or Parliament or their members, but these rights are absolutely necessary for the proper and effective functioning of a legislative body. So, in view of that we find that Government has not taken any decision yet to codify the parliamentary privileges, though we find often-times there is contradiction, there is conflict, between the parliamentary privileges and the rights of the members.

We have had the sad experience of the U.P. Vidhan Sabha in Keshav Singh's case when the legislature ran after the High Court and the High Court ran after the legislature. So, I would request the hon. Minister to take effective steps for codification of these parliamentary privileges as early as possible because....

MR. SPEAKER: He need not give reasons. Let him put the question.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: In the absence of codification we find some outsiders characterised an hon. member of this House as a liar and he raised a privilege motion, but that motion was lost.

MR. SPEAKER: I will have to go to the next question.

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: These parliamentary privileges or any privileges of the House regarding Members of Parliament and the legislature are being outraged by the majority of the Treasury Benches.

MR. SPEAKER: Will he kindly sit down?

SHRI B. K. DASCHOWDHURY: I would like to know by what time the hon. Minister will codify these parliamentary privileges.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: I hope the hon. member was here in the House when the Deputy Prime Minister spoke on the 15th of this month, and said that codification should be done, but as you are aware, there was a seminar organised by the Institute of Constitutional and Parliamentary Studies, and various dignitaries, including yourself were invited, and the opinions expressed by them were divergent in nature and no consensus could be arrived at. Anyway, we are considering the entire matter, and if necessary it will be referred to the Privileges Committee.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : संसद-कार्य मंत्री ने अपने उत्तर में कहा है कि उन्हें नियमित अलग अलग दलों को इस संबंध में पत्र लिखा है कि और वह कोई कमेटी बनाने पर विचार कर रहे हैं। यथा यह अच्छा नहीं होगा कि इस संबंध में कोई भी निर्णय लेने से पहले एक ऐसी समिति बने, जिस के अध्यक्ष स्पीकर के नाते आप हों, और जो प्रस्तुति के सभी पहलुओं पर विचार कर के कोई निर्णय करें? मैं नहीं विश्वासता कि इस दारे में अलग अलग दलों से विचार-विनियम करने का क्या उपयोग होगा।

क्यों न आप की अध्यक्षता में एक समिति बना कर यह मामला उस को सौंप दिया जाये और वह इस दारे में निर्णय करे?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : इस सुझाव से मेरी असहमति नहीं है। मैं अध्यक्ष महोदय से बात करूँगा और जैसी उन की आज्ञा होती, वैसा ही करने का यत्न किया जायेगा।

श्री शिव नारायण : क्या पालियामेटरी एकेयर्ज मिनिस्टर सब राज्यों के पालियामेटरी एकेयर्ज के मिनिस्टर्स, स्पीकर्ज और पालियामेटरी टिस्टम के एक्सपर्ट्स की एक कांफ्रेंस बुला कर और आप की अध्यक्षता में एक कमेटी बना कर इस दारे में विचार करेंगे?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : यह बड़ा अच्छा सुझाव है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : श्री शिव नारायण के प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं दिया गया है।

एक माननीय सदस्य : वह लाजवाब है।

SHRI HEM BARUA: Since the parliamentary privileges exist and we have been so long functioning within the framework of those privileges, what purpose does the Minister propose to achieve by trying to codify the privileges? The privileges already exist.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The privileges already exist, it is true, but they exist in terms of the privileges that were there, when the Constitution came into being, of the House of Commons. So, there are two opinions that by codification, as you said at that seminar, precision may be gained at the sacrifice of the substance of power, but there are opinions also in favour of codification, and all these things are going to be examined, and examined under the auspices of the Speaker.

SHRI SWELL: In view of what happened in the West Bengal Assembly when the Speaker adjourned the House *sine die* without taking the pleasure of the House or the wishes of the members, does the Minister think that the codification of the privileges of Parliament or the legislature—in this case Parliament is also a legislature—and of the members of the House has become urgent?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Actually, I referred to what the Deputy Prime Minister said on the 15th of this month.

SHRI SWELL: I am asking whether in view of the recent developments the Minister considers that the codification of the members' privileges is urgent.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: That was what I meant to say.

SHRI LILADHAR KOTOKI: We base our privileges on the practices in the House of Commons and it May's Parliamentary Practice. There are cases here which are not covered by the instances given on May's Parliamentary Practice. If that is so, how is it that the Government have not yet made up their mind to take the necessary steps in order to codify privileges of this Parliament and also of the other legislatures?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The whole question covers various points. Under a written constitution there could be different types of practices. The moment we codify them, it may be that some of the privileges might also be curtailed. When you do not codify them, you can go on expanding them according to your own regulations.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Are the Government in a position to tell the House if they have any plan to codify the relations between the Parliament and the civil servants?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: How does that question arise? This is a specific question.

SHRI K. M. KOUSHIK: Some of our laws are almost dead letters; no action is being taken against people who violate them. In view of this, is it necessary to codify the law of privileges and circumscribe ourselves instead of leaving it to the development of healthy conventions?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: I said in my original reply that it was being considered.

श्री मृत्युजय प्रसाद : मैं यह जानना चाहूँगा कि 21 नवम्बर, बंगाल की विधान परिषद् में एक सदस्य ने बहाँ के अध्यक्ष की कुर्सी दबखल कर ली और अध्यक्ष को छाड़े रहना पड़ा, ऐसी बातों के लिए भी उस में विचार किया जायगा?

श्री मधु सिंहये : अध्यक्ष महोदय, असल में जो सवाल उठा है उस पर जो संविधान की धारा 105(3) है उस की रोशनी में हमें सोचना चाहिए। इस धारा में कहा गया है :

"In other respects, the powers, privileges and immunities of each House of Parliament, and of the members and the committees of each House, shall be such as may from time to time be defined by Parliament by law, and, until so defined shall be those of the House of Commons of the Parliament of the United Kingdom,...."

तो हमारे संविधान ही में कानून की या उसकी संहिता बनाने की बात कही गई है। अब इस में दिक्कत यह है कि सुप्रीम कोर्ट का इस के बारे में एक फैसला हुआ है कि यदि कोई कानून बनता है, संहिता बनती है तो फिर हमारे जो बुनियादी नागरिक स्वतंत्रता के अधिकार हैं उन में और इन विशेषाधिकारों में कहाँ टकराव होता है उसके बारे में दबखल देने का सुप्रीम कोर्ट को अधिकार होगा। इसलिये

रंगा सहब जैसे कई सदस्य उसा सोचते हैं कि हम कानून न बनाएं। लेकिन क्य मंत्री महोदय ने इस बात पर भी विचार किया है कि कानून के अलावा एक प्रब्रह्म समिति आप की अध्यक्षता में बने और वह कुछ आत्मनियंत्रण जिस को कहते हैं उस रूप में लोक सभा के लिए कोई मार्ग-दर्शक सिद्धांत बनाए, अगर इस तरह की प्रब्रह्म समिति का सुझाव आता है तो इस को वह मानेंगे?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह: करीब करीब यही प्रश्न माननीय श्री बाजपेयी जी ने रखा था और उस को मैंने मान लिया कि अगर अध्यक्ष जी की आकृता हो तो उस के अनुकूल हम लोग कार्य करने के लिये तैयार हैं।

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: We are already suffering from over-legislation and their non-implementation. In the light of this, may I know whether the Minister appreciates the establishment of healthier conventions rather than codification of matters like privileges?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: There is a powerful opinion about that also.

SHRI E.K. NAYANAR: When President's rule is introduced in a State, article 356 (1)(b), says:

"declare that the powers of the Legislature of the State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of Parliament".

According to today's newspaper reports, after President's rule has been introduced in West Bengal, a minister who lost his job entered into the office and performed his duty. That photo was also taken. May I know whether this matter will come under the privileges of Parliament because under the Constitution, the powers of the Legislature of the State shall be exercisable by or under the authority of Parliament?

MR SPEAKER: How do you expect that to be taken up here? No

श्री अच्चल सिंह: क्या मंत्री महोदय जी प्रविलेज का सवाल सामने आया है उसके साथ साथ जो सदस्य हैं उन के कर्तव्यों का भी ध्यान दिलायेंगे कि उन के क्या कर्तव्य हैं, उन्हें क्या करना चाहिए?

डा० राम सुभग सिंह: वह भी दिलाना चाहिए। उस में क्या मतभेद हो सकता है?

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: In view of the lack of decorum and disorder in this House and in the legislatures, may I know whether along with the privileges of members, Government will also undertake to codify the duties of the Members?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: That is also understood.

SHRI NARENDRA SINGH MAHIDA: Before considering this matter, will the Minister kindly get information about the rights and privileges of Members of Parliaments of other countries in the world?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: We are examining that.

† Migrants from East Pakistan

*214. SHRI ONKAR LAL BERWA: SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN: SHRI ANBUCHEZHIAN: SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to set up new houses and also to expand the present houses for rehabilitating the persons belonging to the permanent liability category among the new migrants from East Pakistan;

(b) if so, the total number of such persons;

(c) whether their number is increasing every year; and

(d) the States where these houses will be set up?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) It is proposed to utilize the vacancies already existing in the Homes set up earlier and to set up new Homes in different States for accommodating new migrant permanent liability families from East Pakistan.

(b) and (c). At present there are 4,433 families of the permanent liability category, comprising 15,379 persons, in different camps. Their number is increasing every year on account of continuing influx.

(d) It is proposed to set up two Homes in Assam, two in Uttar Pradesh, one each in Tripura, Orissa, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh.

श्री श्रोकार लाल बेरवा : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूँ कि इन्होंने राजस्थान की कोटा तहसील के शहरावाद से बंगलियों के लिए, पूर्वी पाकिस्तान से आये हुए विस्थापितों के लिए एक कालोनी बनाई, उस में 5 लाख का घोटाला हो गया, उस को भाई लोग खा गए, वह नेस्तनाबूद हो गई तो उस के बारे में सरकार क्या कार्रवाही कर रही है? क्या कोई नई कालोनी बसाने जा रही है और यह जो चार विकास अधिकारी खा गए उस की जांच करने के लिए सरकार ने कोई निर्णय किया है? यदि हाँ, तो क्या?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: All the existing homes are under the administrative control of the Social Security Department. As I said, the permanent liability category families are to be accommodated in the existing homes and it is also proposed to set up new homes. As I said, the homes are under the administrative control of the Social Security Department and if the hon. member addresses his question to that Department, he may get the answer.

श्री श्रोकार लाल बेरवा : जैसा अभी मंत्री महोदय ने उत्तर दिया कि हमारा काम

तो यह है कि बनादो, चाहे कोई ले जाय, तां ल जाय, उसकी जिम्मेदारी पुनर्वास विभाग पर नहीं है। यह गलत बयानी है, उसकी पूरी जिम्मेदारी पुनर्वास विभाग पर है, और इस लिये मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान से जो रिफ्पैक्यूजी राजस्थान में आये, उन के बसाने के लिये वहाँ श्री बृज सुन्दर शर्मा को, जो इस समय वहाँ के कृषि मंत्री हैं, एक हजार डेरों के लिये रुपया दिया गया, वे डेरे कहाँ बनाये गये? क्या आपने इसकी जांच की है?

श्री अमृत नाहाटा : वह कृषि मंत्री नहीं है, राजस्व मंत्री है।

श्री श्रोकार लाल बेरवा : राजस्व मंत्री होंगे, क्या आपने कोई जांच की कि वह रुपया कहाँ चला गया और डेरे कहाँ बने?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: Sir, I have no answer to give.

SHRIMATI JYOTSNA CHANDA: May I know from the hon. Minister whether the Central Government has requested the Assam Government to appoint Registration Officers to expedite matters so that the migrants coming after 1964 will be registered; if so, how many of them have already been registered and whether any scheme has been sponsored by the Government to rehabilitate them either in Assam or elsewhere?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: All the families of the permanent liability category have been registered and accounted for. The total number of families, I may mention for the information of the hon. Member, in Assam is 1474. We are proposing, as I mentioned earlier, to construct some new homes where the remaining families could be accommodated.

DR. RANEN SEN: Is it known to the Minister that for some time past, in the last few years, PL camps everywhere, in West Bengal, in Assam and also outside Assam, have been in a

tottering condition so much so the permanent liability category people are in a very miserable state of affairs? Recently the Review Committee headed by Shri N. C. Chatterjee, M. P., set up by the Government of India has recommended adequate protection to the permanent liability category of people and also to make suitable arrangements for them. If that is so, if such a report is in the hands of the Government, may I know what step has been taken in the meantime by the Government to see that the PL camps are properly re-constructed and the people are given proper facilities there?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: Just now I mentioned that the existing permanent liability category homes are under the administrative control of the Social Security Department. As regards families of permanent liability category that are there in the camps, to provide accommodation for them we are proposing to construct a number of new homes. In those homes these persons would be accommodated, they would be looked after for a year or two by the Rehabilitation Department and after that these families would be handed over to the Social Security Department to be looked after by them.

श्री सीताराम केसरी : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि पूर्वी पाकिस्तान से जो शरणार्थी कटिहार में आये, उन को जो कर्ज के रूप में अपर्याप्त सहायता दी गई, क्या उन लोगों का कोई आवेदन-पत्र आपके पास आया है जिसमें उन लोगों को अपर्याप्त सहायता जो दी गई है उसे आप माफ करने के लिये आग्रह किया है?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: That is an entirely different question. This is about the permanent liability category of migrants.

श्री हुकम-चन्द्र कछवाय : अभीहाल में आपने एक बिल पास किया है, जिसके बारे में ऐसी भावना बताई गई थी कि जिन शरणार्थियों

को बसाया गया है और जितनी पूँजी उन पर बच्चे की गई है, वह उन से बसूल की जायगी। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि जो शरणार्थी वहाँ से आये हैं, जो अपनी सारी सम्पत्ति वहाँ पर छोड़ कर आये हैं और जिनको अब आप बसाने जा रहे हैं, क्या उनसे भी आप मुआवजा लेंगे, जितनी पंजी आप इस बक्त लगायेंगे, वह उनसे बसूल की जायगी तथा कितनी पूँजी लगाने का आपका इरादा है?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: I am surprised by the question: The Bill was recently passed—the Displaced persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) (Amendment) Bill. The purpose of that Bill was different. The question of recovering any amount from those permanent liability camp families does not arise at all.

SHRI G. S. REDDI: Some immigrants from East Pakistan were settled in Nagarjunasagar and Vijayapuri area. May I know what has happened to those residents and what is the experience of the Government in regard to that settlement?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: There is no P. L. family there.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I understood the Minister to say that somewhere about 15,000 odd persons at present are in need of homes and that attempts would be made to provide them the vacancies in the existing homes. What is the number of such vacancies at present and where are these homes situated?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: I will mention the number of vacancies. As a matter of fact, about 719 families have already been accommodated in three or four homes. I may mention the names of those homes: Kasturbai Niketan, New Delhi, where about 152 families have been accommodated. Then, in the Meherpur Home, 264 families are accommodated; Dalliganj Home, Lucknow—30 families. Then, in the Improvised P. L. Home, Arun-

dathi Nagar, Tripura, about 273 families have been accommodated. And there are other homes such as the Deoghar Home in Bihar.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What is the number of vacancies?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: In Deogarh, only five families are proposed to be accommodated. In the Mahila Ashram, Karnal, Haryana, about 100 families are proposed to be accommodated, and in the Varanasi Homes in Uttar Pradesh, about 50 vacancies are there and 50 families are proposed to be accommodated.

MR. SPEAKER: If it is a very big list, you can place it on the Table of the House.

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: Yes, Sir, it is very big. 310 families are proposed to be accommodated as against the existing vacancies.

श्री लखनलाल कपूर : सन् 1955 में एस० आर० सी० कमीशन की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार बिहार का कुछ भाग पश्चिमी बंगाल में आमिल किया गया था—पश्चिमी दीनाजपुर जिला, सलीमपुर सब-डिविजन, उस के बारे में कमीशन ने रिकमेंड किया था कि उस में नये रिफ्लूजी नहीं बसाये जायेंगे। मैं जानना चाहता हूँ कि उस जरिये में अब तक कितने रिफ्लूजी आपने बसाये हैं?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): This question really does not arise because this is only a question of accommodating the permanent liability families, that is, those who are old and infirm, and the question is, how many are there and how they are going to be accommodated. This does not refer to all the refugees and whether all of them have been rehabilitated.

श्री श्रो० प्र० त्यागी : क्या सरकार ने असम, नेपाल और काश्मीर में, जहाँ जगह ज्यादा है और पौपूलेशन कम है, इन शरणार्थियों

को बसाने की चेष्टा की है? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूँ कि अण्डेमान-निकोबार में आपने कितनी फैमिलीज बसाने के लिये बेजी हैं?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: This again is a different question.

श्री यशवन्त तिहु कुशवाह : पाकिस्तान से आये हुए पुराणे महानभावों की जो सन्पर्दि और जायदाद पाकिस्तान में छूट गई है, उस को इन्हें दिलाने के लिये भारत सरकार ने प्रयत्न कर रही है, क्या उस में पाकिस्तान द्वारा संतोषजनक ढंग से सहयोग दिया जा रहा है?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: That does not arise out of this question.

SHRI C. C. DESAI: So far we have been talking about the rehabilitation of refugees from East Pakistan. What I would like to know from the government, particularly from the Prime Minister or the Deputy Prime Minister, because it is a matter of policy is whether the Government of India is encouraging the emigration from East Pakistan.

MR. SPEAKER: This question is about housing.

SHRI C. C. DESAI: I know. But if the refugees do not come, we do not have to provide them with houses. So, I want to know whether it is the policy of the government to encourage emigration from East Pakistan, because the more the number of refugees coming the less the number left behind and they will also try to come because they are in a small minority. Then we will have to support all of them. Have Government taken that aspect into consideration?

SHRI D. R. CHAVAN: May I request the hon. Member to look at the main question and then ask supplementaries?

Job Security in Foreign Oil Companies

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*215. SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
SHRI DEVEN SEN:
SHRIMATI JYOTSNA
CHANDA:

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

(a) whether the Commission of Enquiry appointed to go into the problem of job security in foreign Oil Companies and Refineries has submitted its report,

(b) if not, to what stage it has progressed; and

(c) the extent to which since appointment of the Commission, the firms concerned have gone head with the introduction of automation and reduction in their staff strengths?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) No, Sir. The Commission is required to submit its report before June 1, 1968.

(b) The work is progressing satisfactorily and the final arguments would be heard in the next month.

(c) A few complaints regarding reorganisation in offices and reduction of staff were received; these were forwarded to the Commission.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: I want to know whether it is not a fact that both the management of these oil companies as well as the employees have agreed that, pending the final report of this Commission, neither side would undertake any sort of unilateral action in the matter affecting job security and, if so, whether any cases have been brought to his notice where despite this agreement certain of these managements are unilaterally going on with their plans of re-organisation and rationalisation leading to retrenchment?

SHRI HATHI: Yes, at the time of this tripartite meeting this was suggested and we wanted that pending the report of the Commission no unilateral action should be taken. For two or three months they did not take any action, though they have not actually agreed to that, as the hon. Member knows. But, some complaints have been received and Government have forwarded all these complaints, 6 or 8 of them, to the Commission to look into them.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: More specifically, is the Minister aware of the fact that on the 7th December 1967 the management of Burmah-Shell has issued a circular, introducing what is known as the EDP coding system, which is the method, of facilitating the computerisation of clerical work? Does he know that this matter was raised in the recent meeting at Calcutta and the Committee expressed helplessness and advised the employees to take whatever course they liked?

SHRI HATHI: Does the hon. Member mean that the matter was raised before the Commission? Well, I have no information as to what transpired at the session of the Commission.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: Has he no information about the introduction of EDP coding system?

SHRI HATHI: No, I have no information.

श्री देवेन सेन : मंत्री जी बतलायेंगे कि चूंकि विदेशी कम्पनियाँ की तरफ से मजदूरों पर अत्याचार चला आ रहा है और चूंकि विदेशी कम्पनियों की मौजूदगी हमारे इंडियन आयल कारपोरेशन की प्रगति में बाधक होती है इसलिए इसका नेशनलाइजेशन करने के लिए सोच रहे हैं ?

SHRI HATHI: The question relates to the appointment of the Commission and the progress of its work. As the hon. Members are aware, this was

being agitated for a long time, four or five years. Ultimately it was decided that we should appoint a Commission of Inquiry to examine the measures by which this retrenchment has been enforced, whether it was *bona fide* or *mala fide*, and what the causes are. It was at the request of the workers that this Commission was appointed.

श्री देशेन सेन : कमीशन के एव्हाइन्टर्मेंट के जरूर से तो अन्याचार होकरा नहीं ।

श्री शिकरे : मैं जानना चाहता हूँ क्या मंत्री जी को जानकारी है कि विदेशी तेल व इनयों ने बालन्टरी रिटायरमेंट तथा रिटायरमेंट की योजना तीन सालों से रखी है और वह कर्मचारियों का हैरसमेंट कर रही हैं जिससे बहुत कर्मचारियों को हानि पहुँची है । विदेशी तेल कम्पनियों कर्मचारियों को रिट्रैच करना चाहती है और दोगुना, तिगुना, चौगुना काम देती है जोकि कर्मचारियों की गतिके बाहर होता है, तो इस प्रकार से कर्मचारी वस्त है, क्या मर्गकार इसको जानकारी करके उन कर्मचारियों के हित संबंधी कार्यवाही करेगी ?

SHRI HATHI: That is exactly the fact to be found out. While the company said that it was a voluntary retirement scheme, the workers say that it is not really voluntary and that they are made to retire, of course, in the name of the voluntary retirement scheme and that they arrange their work in such a way that the workers have no work to do, that they are asked to come to the office and sit there without any work. All these matters are actually being examined, whether it is really a voluntary scheme or it is in fact compulsory but named as voluntary. When the Commission's report comes, we shall find out everything.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अध्यक्ष भूदेव, मंत्री जी ने स्वीकार किया कि

कुछ विदेशी कम्पनियाँ स्वेच्छा से रिटायरमेंट करने के नाम पर कर्मचारियों को मजबूर कर रही हैं कि वह थोड़ा सा रुपया लेकर नोकरी छोड़ दें और जो कर्मचारी ऐसा करते से इन्कार करते हैं उन्हें परेशान किया जा रहा है, तो क्या सरकार विदेशी कम्पनियों को यह नोटिस देने की स्थिति में नहीं है कि जब तक कमीशन आफ इंकायरी की रिपोर्ट नहीं माती तब तक किसी कर्मचारी की छंटनी न की जाय ?

श्री हाथी : मैंने ऐसा स्वीकार नहीं किया कि वे ऐसा कर रहे हैं, मैंने कहा कि वर्कसं की शिकायत है कि कम्पनीज इस तरह से उनको रिटायर करती हैं बालन्टेरिली लेकिन कम्पनीज तो कहती है कि ऐसी बात नहीं है, काम कम हो गया है इसलिए ऐसा करते हैं, जब काम नहीं है तो क्या करें । सच बात क्या है, इसको जानने के लिए हमने कमीशन की नियुक्ति की है ।

SHRI HEM BARUA: Since one of the terms of this Commission is that the *status quo* should be maintained and that has been violated by these companies, as the Minister has already admitted by reducing the staff in the name of re-organisation of the company and when the matter was brought to the notice of the Commission by the Minister the Commission has pleaded its helplessness to the workers, may I know why it is that in order to maintain the dignity of the Commission as also its terms, the Government has not been able to step in on behalf of the workers who are reduced?

SHRI HATHI: In the first place I may submit that the terms of the Commission do not mention what the hon. Member says.

SHRI HEM BARUA: He said like that.

SHRI HATHI: I did not say that; I never said that.

SHRI HEM BARUA: He said that one of the terms of the Commission is that there should be no unilateral decision which means that *status quo* should be maintained.

SHRI HATHI: That was what Shri Indrajit Gupta had asked namely whether when the tripartite meeting was held it was not decided that they should not take unilateral action; and I said that that was the suggestion from the workers. We have put it to them but it was not agreed and the terms of the Commission do not include that.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA: What is the use of the Commission if they go on unilaterally doing like this?

SHRI HATHI: The Commission has to find out the facts.

SHRI HEM BARUA: What is Government doing and what does it propose to do this context? He has not said anything about that.

SHRI HATHI: I have specifically said that this fact, whether these persons are retrenched compulsorily as a result of *mala fide* practices, has to be ascertained by the Commission and if that is so, proper action will be taken then.

SHRI RANGA: In view of the fact that quite a number of these foreign oil companies have not made any secret of their anxiety to reduce their activities and finally to give up their activities here in regard to oil refining, oil extraction and so on, are Government keeping in mind the necessity as well as the possibility of providing suitable employment to these highly technical and other trained personnel, who are employed at present by these foreign oil companies, in our own Indian oil concerns and other concerns connected with the Government?

SHRI HATHI: Yes, Sir; that is a good suggestion and actually we have been trying to see how far the surplus in the foreign oil companies can be absorbed.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: May I know whether the Commission was appointed to maintain the *status quo* or will the Commission give its report when the retrenchment is final and complete?

SHRI HATHI: This Commission has been appointed under the Commissions of Inquiry Act and its duty is to ascertain the facts. As you know, it does not give any judgment.

DR. RANEN SEN: Before this Commission was set up, there was another Committee, the Mehta Committee, appointed by the Government of India which went into the question of voluntary retirement and that Committee came to the conclusion that voluntary retirement was, in fact, not voluntary but coercive and the Government of India, in a sense, had also accepted the recommendation of the Mehta Committee. After that, when the employer refused to abide by that, this Commission was set up. In view of the fact that the employers' attitude was very stiff, when this Commission was set up, why did not the Government of India make such a reference to the Commission? That could have forced the employer not to resort to this so-called reorganisation.

SHRI HATHI: That was exactly the reason to appoint a Commission under statutory powers. A departmental Committee has no power to compel the employer to produce documents and to examine them. That is always the handicap. That is why a statutory Commission has been appointed.

MR. SPEAKER: Short Notice question; Shri Manubhai Patel—absent.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO
QUESTIONS

Imports under P.L. 480

*212. **SHRI HIMATSINGKA:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government expect more of PL 480 imports from U.S.A

during the year 1968 than in the last year, despite the expectations of bumper crops to the tune of 95 million tonnes this year;

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains for which agreements have already been entered into; and

(c) whether this increase in PL 480 Supplies will help avoid deficit Budget in the next financial year and if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

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

Trade Union Rivalry

*216. SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether trade union rivalry is one of the main reasons for not having industrial harmony in the public undertakings; and

(b) if so, whether any final decision has been taken to have one union only in each of those undertakings?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) Yes, trade union rivalry is responsible for some cases of industrial unrest in public undertakings.

(b) No, but the code of discipline lays down procedure for recognition of trade unions by employers.

Resettlement of Repatriates from Ceylon

*217. SHRI ANBUCHEZHIAN: * SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA:

SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:
SHRI Y. A. PRASAD:

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

(a) whether any scheme for the resettlement of repatriates from Ceylon has been drawn up; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). A statement showing the steps taken and the proposals under consideration for the resettlement of repatriates returning to India under the Indo-Ceylon Agreement, 1964 is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-189/68].

Electoral Reforms

*218. SHRI YAJNA DATT SHARMA:

SHRI R. S. VIDYARTHI:

Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 753 on the 19th December, 1967 and state:

(a) whether Government have since taken any decision on the question of changes and reforms in the laws of elections to Parliament and State Legislatures and also to the Offices of President and Vice-President; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI GOVINDA MENON): (a) and (b). The matter is under consideration of Government.

Research on Long Staple Cotton

*219. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA:
SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO:
SHRI Y. A. PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an All-India Co-ordinated Research

Project has been initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to accelerate the tempo of research on the long staple cotton in India;

(b) if so, the different problems which the project engineers will tackle;

(c) the areas where the work of project will be initiated; and

(d) the outlay proposed for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes. Such a project has been sanctioned by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research for implementation all over India with effect from the 1st April, 1967.

(b) The project would tackle the important problems of regional and inter-regional significance pertaining to cotton improvement. It would intensify research work in the Country for increasing the average yield of cotton not only through genetical methods by breeding improved varieties, but also through agro-physiological and disease and pest control work towards solving the problems which limit cotton production.

(c) In Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Mysore, Andhra Pradesh and Madras.

(d) Rs. 56 lakhs for four years from 1st April, 1967 to 31st March, 1971.

व्यापारी फसलें बढ़ाना

* 220. श्री महाराज सिंह भारती : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) नियंत्रित बढ़ाने की दृष्टि से व्यापारी

फसलें बढ़ाने के हेतु चालू वर्ष के लिए बनाये गये कार्यक्रम का व्यूहा क्या है ;

(ख) उस पर कितना धन व्यय होने की संभावना है ; और

(ग) उस व्यय के परिणामस्वरूप उत्पादन में फसलवार कितनी वृद्धि होने की आशा है ?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अनश्च-साहिब शिंदे) : (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार ने कपास, मूँगफली, पटसन, तम्बाकू तथा काजू के विकास के लिए विभिन्न राज्यों के चुने हुए क्षेत्रों में केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं को स्वीकार कर दिया है ।

(ख) केन्द्रीय प्रायोजित योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत लगभग 2.42 करोड़ रुपए व्यय होने की संभावना है ।

(ग) सम्भावित वृद्धि के बारे में अभी कुछ कहना कठिन है ।

Import of Sugar

* 221. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the price at which Government propose to import sugar during the year 1968-69;

(b) how it is proposed to dispose of the imported sugar; and

(c) the price at which the sugar imported is proposed to be sold?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) No proposal to import sugar is under consideration of Government at present.

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

गोरक्षा समिति का प्रतिवेदन

* 222. श्री रघुबीर सिंह शास्त्री :

श्री बहुगुणन्दवी :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार की गोरक्षा समिति का प्रतिवेदन प्राप्त हो गया है ;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस ने क्या मुख्य विफारिशें की हैं ; और

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

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार भवित्वालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अम्बेडकर शिंदे) : (क) जी नहीं ।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता ।

(न) समिति डेटा एकत्रित करने, गवाहों के परीक्षण और इस समस्या से संबंधित महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्नों पर विचार करने में लगी हुई है । तथापि समिति अपनी रिपोर्ट शीघ्र प्रस्तुत करने की इच्छुक है, तथापि अभी यह सब पूरा किया जाना संभव नहीं हो सका है ।

जम्मू तथा काश्मीर में दायर की गई चुनाव याचिकाएं

* 223. श्री प्रकाशबीर शास्त्री :

श्री शिव कुमार शास्त्री :

श्री रामावतार शर्मा :

क्य विधि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या गत आम चुनाव के सम्बन्ध में जम्मू और काश्मीर में दायर की गई चुनाव याचिकाओं पर निर्णय दिया जा चुका है ; और

(ख) इन याचिकाओं पर निर्णय किए जाने में विलम्ब होने के क्या कारण हैं ?

विधि मंत्री (श्री गोविन्द मेनन) : (क) 4 निवार्चन अर्जियां लोक सभा के गत साधारण निवार्चनों की बाबत और 57 निवार्चन अर्जियां राज्य विधान सभाओं के निवार्चन की बाबत फाइल की गई थीं । जम्मू-काश्मीर के राज्य विधान सभा की बाबत निवार्चन अर्जियों में से, दो का निपटारा कर दिया गया । उनमें से एक के भासले में जो कि लूटि के कारण खारिज कर दी गई थी, प्रत्यावर्तन सम्बन्धी आवेदन इस समय उच्च न्यायालय में लम्बित है ।

(ख) राज्य विधान सभा सम्बन्धी अर्जियां जम्मू-काश्मीर लोक प्रतिनिधित्व अधिनियम, 1957 के अधीन गठित पांच निवार्चन अधिकारणों के समक्ष पहल फाइल की गई थीं । सितम्बर 1957 में अधिनियम के संशोधन के पश्चात्, वे उच्च न्यायालय को अन्तरित हो गईं । उनके विचारण के लिए दो तदर्थ न्यायाधीश नियुक्त कर दिए गए ह । अर्जियों का निपटारा करने में विलम्ब के मुख्य कारण हैं: निवार्चन-विधि में परिवर्तन, परिवर्तित विधि के अनुसरण में अर्जियों का उच्च न्यायालय को अन्तरण, और तदर्थ न्यायाधीशों की नियुक्ति में लगा समय ।

Symposium on Cropping Patterns

* 224. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a symposium on cropping pattern was organized by the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi recently;

(b) if so, how many papers were presented to the symposium;

(c) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the observation of Dr. D. R. Gadgil that the bulk

of Agricultural Research was concentrated on irrigation farming and neglecting fifty per cent farmers who worked on unirrigated land; and

(d) the steps being taken to remedy the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, the symposium on cropping patterns was organised by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi, from 27th January to 31st January, 1968.

(b) 127 papers were contributed by the Central Research Institutes, Agricultural University, State Department of Agriculture, Meteorological Department and a few eminent scientists.

(c) Dr. D. R. Gadgil, Dy. Chairman, Planning Commission presided over the General Session of the symposium in which a review of these papers was presented. At the end of the session in the fore-noon of 28th January, 1968, Dr. Gadgil stated that despite our emphasis on irrigation, bulk of the cultivated area in the country is still unirrigated. The problem of un-irrigated areas has to be examined and given due priority in our research programmes.

(d) The Regional committees of the symposium which discussed the detailed papers on cropping patterns from each region also had in view the suggestions of Dr. Gadgil. They finally came to the following conclusion among others:—

"In spite of the emphasis on increasing the area under irrigation, the rainfed area will continue to form the major cropped area in all the regions, particularly, Southern, Northern and Western regions of the country. It is, therefore, recommended that a coordinated research programme on dry farming should be taken

up to evolve newer methods of agronomy, soil and water conservation and cropping patterns in the unirrigated areas".

Food Zones

*225. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some of the State Governments propose to enlarge the Food Zones to enable the farmers get a better price of their produce;

(b) whether the Central Government have been approached by the State Governments in this regard; and

(c) whether concurrence has been given by the Centre and if so, the alterations in the Food Zones that are proposed to be made?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). The Himachal Pradesh Government and the Delhi Administration have been suggesting that these Union territories should be included in the Punjab Food Zone. This together with the continuance or otherwise of Food Zones in general will as usual be considered at the next meeting of the Chief Ministers being held to consider the Rabi grains policy.

Reorientation of Community Development Projects

*226. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have finalised any plans for the reorientation of the Community Development projects; and

(b) if so, the broad details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) and (b). The subject is still under discussion with the States.

Subsidy on Foodgrains

*228. SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN:
SHRI RAMAVATAR
SHASTRI:
SHRI CHENGALRAYA
NAIDU:
SHRI HIMATSINGKA:
SHRI SEZHIYAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have withdrawn the subsidy given on foodgrains supplies to States;
- (b) if so, the saving effected thereby;
- (c) the States which have been affected by this decision; and
- (d) whether any State Government has represented to the Central Government that the subsidy should be continued and if so, which are the States; and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The subsidy has been withdrawn completely in case of imported wheat only while in case of other foodgrains viz. imported milo and imported coarse rice supplies from Central stocks to State Governments, it has only been reduced to some extent.

(b) The saving in subsidy is Rs. 12.00 per quintal in case of imported wheat, Rs. 8.00 per quintal in case of imported milo and Rs. 16.00 per quintal in case of coarse rice w.e.f. 1st January, 1968

(c) The issue prices of foodgrains w.e.f. 1st January, 1968 have been fixed at a uniform rate for all the States. There has thus been no disparity between the States on account of increased issue prices of foodgrains.

(d) A representation was received from the Government of Kerala for the grant of subsidy on account of revised issue prices of rice. This proposal could not be agreed to.

Another representation was received from the Government of Bihar against the increase in the issue prices of imported wheat and milo. The request of the State Government for not giving effect to these revised issue prices in case of their State only could not also be agreed to.

Buffer Stock of Foodgrains

*229. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 39 on the 14th November, 1967 and state the steps since taken to build the required buffer stock of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): All the State Governments and the Food Corporation of India have been urged to maximize procurement of foodgrains. The State Governments are setting aside a part of the procured stocks as a reserve. Restraint is also being exercised in allocation of foodgrains by the Central Government.

बैंकिंग उद्योग सम्बन्धी श्रौद्योगिक समिति

*230. श्री निहाल सिंह: क्या श्रम तथा पुनर्वास मंत्री 21 नवम्बर, 1967 के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 158 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बैंकिंग उद्योग सम्बन्धी श्रौद्योगिक समिति स्थापित करने के बारे

में सरकार ने इस बीच कोई निर्णय कर लिया है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो निर्णय कब तक किये जाने की संभावना है?

अब तथा पुनर्वांत मन्त्री (धी हाथी) :
(क) जी हाँ। समिति की पहली बैठक 23 मार्च 1968 को बुलाई गई है।

(ख) समिति के गठन के सम्बन्ध में एक विवरण सभा पट्ट पर रखा है। [पुस्तकालय में रख दिया गया। दंतिये संख्या LT -187/9 68]

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Fixing of Procurement Prices

*231. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the dates by which the procurement prices of paddy and rice were fixed for the different States of India;

(b) whether the prices were fixed long after the beginning of harvesting which did not benefit the producers; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The procurement prices of standard variety of paddy for all the States were intimated to the State Governments on 10th October, 1967. They were also advised to work out the procurement prices of rice.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Iron and Manganese Workers' Wage Board

*232. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the unanimous recommendation of the Iron and Manganese Workers' Wage Board was accepted by Government in July, 1967 and accordingly two payments by instalment were made by employers to their workers in 1967;

(b) whether it is a fact that subsequently Government referred the award to a tribunal; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) The final recommendations of the Wage Board for Iron Ore Mines (no Wage Board was set up for Manganese Mines) were accepted in June, 1967. Information regarding payments actually made by the employers in pursuance of the Board's recommendations is being collected.

(b) and (c). The recommendations of the Wage Board do not have the force of a statutory award. A dispute between 15 managements and their workmen in the Barbil area over the question of non-implementation of the recommendations has however been referred to the adjudication on 28th December, 1967.

Incentives to Farmers

*233. SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA:

SHRI LILADHAR KOTOKI:
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers have been given any incentives to use improved varieties of seeds and fertilizers during this reason;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the demand for fertilizers has been heavy and Government could hardly meet 30 per cent of it; and

(d) whether Government or certain banks have given loans to the farmers to buy seeds and fertilizers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The demand for fertilizers has been substantially met in 1967-68.

(d) Yes, Sir. The State Government and certain banks, including Co-operative Banks, give loans to farmers to buy seeds and fertilisers.

Fallow Lands under Co-operative Farming

*234. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a survey of land lying fallow which can be brought under cultivation;

(b) if so, the findings thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to introduce Co-operative farming in such lands by organising a Land Army; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) According to land utilisation statistics of the country for the year 1964-65 (latest available), the recorded area of wasteland is 750 lakh acres. However, most of these waste-

lands cannot be brought under cultivation at an economic cost. In order to assess the extent of culturable wastelands available in the country, the Government of India appointed a Wasteland Survey Committee in 1959. This Committee identified 12.23 lakh acres of culturable wastelands in blocks of more than 250 acres.

More recently, the Government of India undertook a second survey of wastelands in blocks of less than 250 acres to supplement the work done by Wasteland Survey Committee. This survey is in progress and so far an area of 44 lakh acres has been located as potentially suitable for cultivation after reclamation.

(c) and (d). The Government has suggested to the States that as a policy the settlement of Government wastelands may be made with the Co-operative Farming Societies on a preferential basis. There is however no proposal to organise a "Land Army" for this purpose. Nor is any such measure feasible not only because Land is a State subject but also because a pooling of the voluntary effort on co-operative basis is preferred to regimentation.

खाद्य क्षेत्रों को समाप्त करना

*235. श्री मधु लिम्बे : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार उन राज्यों को आयातित गेहूं की सप्लाई नहीं करती जो खाद्य क्षेत्रों को समाप्त करने के लिये राजी नहीं हो रहे हैं; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसके क्या कारण हैं?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अमरा साहिब शिंदे) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Procurement of Kharif Cereals

*236. SHRI G. S. DHILLON: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the price scale recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission regarding the procurement of rice and Kharif Cereals has been accepted by the State Governments; and

(b) if not, the difference between the price scale suggested by the Agricultural Prices Commission and the prices actually fixed by his Ministry with the details thereof, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The procurement prices ultimately fixed are somewhat higher than that recommended by the Agricultural Prices Commission.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No LT.188/68].

Prices of Sugarcane

*237. SHRI K. N. PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agricultural Prices Commission has suggested a minimum price and a factory price at which sugarcane should be supplied to sugar mills; and

(b) if so, when this formula is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) While the Agricultural Prices Commission has suggested a minimum price for sugarcane, it has not suggested a factory price at which sugar-

cane should be supplied to the sugar mills.

(b) Does not arise.

हरियाना से मकई का बाहर भेजा जाना

*238. श्री ओ० प्र० त्यागी : क्या खाद्य तथा फूलि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हरियाना की भूतपूर्व सरकार द्वारा जारी किये गये विशेष आदेशों के अधीन वैध परमिटों से बहुत से व्यापारियों ने हरियाना से अन्य राज्यों को मकई भेजी थी;

(ख) यदि हां, तो किन कारणों से सरकार ने उन व्यापारियों की मकई जब्त करके उनके विरुद्ध कार्यवाही आरम्भ कर दी है;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि जब्त की गई मकई खराब हो रही है तथा कुछ समय बाद मनव्यों के खाने लायक नहीं रहेगी; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो इस हानि को रोकने के लिये क्या कार्यवाही की गई है ?

खाद्य, फूलि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्नासाहिब शिंदे) : (क) और (ख). केंद्रीय सरकार द्वारा जारी किये गये उत्तरी अन्तर-राज्यीय मंका (संचलन नियन्त्रण) आदेश, 1967 के उपबन्धों का उल्लंघन करने पर कुछ मामलों के विरुद्ध कार्यवाही की गयी है। इन मामलों से सम्बन्धित कुछ रिट याचिकाएं कलकत्ता, दिल्ली, पंजाब और हरियाणा के न्यायालयों में निलिमित हैं।

(ग) जब्त की गई मक्का जब न्यायालय ने खाद्य नियम के संरक्षण में रखी तब उनी हुई हालत में थी।

(घ) खाद्य नियम ने इस माल को घूप न देने के लिये तत्काल कार्यवाही की ताकि यह माल और खराब न हो।

Strike by Local Dailies

*239. **SHRIMATI TARKESHWARI SINHA:**

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:

SHRI RAM GOPAL SHALWALE:

SHRI BAL RAJ MADHOK:

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

(a) whether all the local dailies observed a strike on the 24th January, 1968 and no paper was brought out on the 25th January, 1968;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) and (b). A token strike was observed on the 24th January, 1968 by the employees of newspaper establishments, to protest against the non-implementation by employers of the recommendations of the Wage Boards for Journalists and Non-Journalists.

(c) The State Governments have been advised to take necessary steps to secure implementation. The matter has also been discussed at a meeting held with representatives of the employers and workers on the 17th February, 1968, at New Delhi.

Pension Scheme for Workers

*240. **SHRI YASHPAL SINGH:**

SHRI DEVEN SEN:

SHRI D. C. SHARMA:

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

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the conversion of Provident Fund in part into old age and survivorship pension and retirement gratuity benefits for workers under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it will be given effect to?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) A proposal to convert a part of the Employees' Provident Fund and the Coal Mines Provident Fund into Retirement-cum-Family Pension is under consideration.

(b) The details have yet to be worked out.

(c) Does not arise.

Death of Fish due to Pollution of Najafgarh Nullah (Delhi)

1516. **SHRI BABURAO PATEL:** Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every day, 15 to 20 maunds of fish die of poisoning due to pollution of the Najafgarh nullah in Delhi which is saturated with toxic waste thrown out by the industrial factories; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) It is a fact that fish die in the Najafgarh nullah in Delhi due to industrial and municipal pollution, although the extent of such mortality has not been accurately estimated.

(b) Two agencies viz. the Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute, Barrackpore and the Central Public Health Research Institute, Nagpur, have investigated into the problem. The Delhi Administration have requested the Delhi Municipal Corporation and Hindustan Insecticides Ltd., to ensure that municipal sewage and industrial wastes are rendered harmless before discharge. The Ministry of Health are dealing with the question of introducing suitable

legislation regarding measures to control water pollution.

Tariff Rationalisation Committee of Post and Telegraphs

1517. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount by way of remuneration perquisites, air fare and the period over which paid to each member of the Tariff Rationalisation Committee of the Posts and Telegraphs, including its Chairman, by Government for studying the rationalisation of Posts and Telegraphs Tariffs;

(b) whether any of the members of the Committee have made any trips to foreign countries; and

(c) if so, the name of the member with particulars of each trip giving details of expenses in Indian and foreign currencies, air fare with dates of each trip and names of countries visited?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-189/68.]

(b) No trip to any foreign country has been made for the Committee's work by any of its members.

(c) Does not arise.

Tariff Rationalisation Committee of P. & T.

1518. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the nature of recommendations made by the Tariff Rationalisation Committee of Posts and Telegraphs; and

(b) how many of them have been accepted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) The Tariff Enquiry Committee appointed by the P. & T. Department has submitted an interim report on 14th February, 1968. Final report of the Committee is still awaited.

(b) This does not arise at this stage.

Transfer of R.M.S. Units to Guntakel

1519. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that one of the Units of the R.M.S. covering a large part of Andhra Pradesh is still located in Madras;

(b) whether Government have received any representation from the R.M.S. employees representing for their transfer to Guntakel; and

(c) if so, the decision taken by Government on their representation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The matter is under examination.

Distribution of Sugar in Orissa

1520. SHRI RABI RAY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the statement of the Regional Manager of the Food Corporation of India in Orissa made at Sambalpur last month that the Food Corporation of India would not risk undertaking distribution of sugar in free market only but would consider undertaking it if the Orissa Govern-

ment authorised them to distribute both the controlled as well as free market sugar; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) The Food Corporation of India has informed the Orissa Government that the Corporation would be prepared to import and distribute controlled sugar but not the free sale sugar in view of the wide fluctuations in its prices.

(b) The Government agrees with the Corporation's view.

Tobacco in Orissa

1521. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether there is any unsold tobacco stock in Orissa at present;
- (b) if so, the quantum thereof; and
- (c) whether Government propose to take any measures to purchase the stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir. No complaint has been received regarding unsold stocks.

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

रुसी ट्रैक्टरों का आयात

1522. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या लाल तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि आवेदकों की मांग पूरी करने के लिए वर्ष 1967-68 में उत्तर प्रदेश भरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से

1000 रुसी ट्रैक्टरों की मांग की थी ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस मामले में सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

लाल, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री ग्रन्था साहिब शिंदे) : (क) अपने राज्य की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने हाल ही में 5,000 रुसी ट्रैक्टरों के नियतनी की प्रार्थना की है ।

(ख) भविष्य में रुस से आयात होने वाले ट्रैक्टरों का नियतन करते समय उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की प्रार्थना को ध्यान में रखा जायेगा । फिर भी, ट्रैक्टरों के सीमित आयात और देश के अन्य भागों की अनिर्णीत मांग को दृष्टि में रखते हुए यह सम्भव हो सकता है कि यह मांग पूर्ण रूप से पूरी न की जा सके

Strike by Trade Unions

1523. SHRI LILADHAR KOTOKI: SHRI BENI SHANKAR SHARMA:

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

- (a) whether Government are aware that the trade unions resort to strikes on minor matters when the nation could ill-afford to lose even a day's production; and
- (b) if so, the action which Government have taken to stop such action on the part of trade unions?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) Yes, in some cases.

(b) The Implementation Machinery at the Centre and in the States is entrusted with the task of assisting the employers and workers to settle their disputes amicably and speedily without need to resort to strike.

भारतीय संविधान का प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में
अनुवाद

1524. श्री देवराव पाटिल : क्या इष्टि नंदी यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सभी प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में भारतीय संविधान के अनुवाद कराने का काम पूरा हो चुका है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो यह काम कब पूरा हो जाने की संभावना है; और

(ग) क्या संविधान के हिन्दी अनुवाद का पुनरीक्षण किया जा रहा है?

इष्टि मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री मुंगूनूप सनोम) : (क) और (ख). भारत के संविधान का सभी प्रादेशिक भाषाओं में अनुवाद, उसके प्रवृत्त होने के पश्चात् किया गया था। ये अनुवाद 1951 से ले कर 1955 तक की कानावधि के दौरान प्रकाशित किए गए थे।

(ग) भारत के संविधान का अद्यतन हिन्दी संस्करण निकालने का प्रश्न विचाराधीन है।

Banning Books on South Vietnam by P.M.G., West Bengal

1525. SHRI P. GOPALAN:
SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU:
SHRI P. RAMAMURTHI:
SHRI UMANATH:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Post Master General, West Bengal Circle, in his circular No. 7 dated the 31st October, 1967 banned certain books on South Vietnam; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & COMMUNICA-

TIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes.

(b) The circulation of the publications was prohibited as they attracted the provisions of Notifications Nos. 25-Cus dated 9th March 1960 and 5-Camp (Cus) dated 12th February 1944 issued by the Ministry of Finance under Section 19 of the Sea Customs Act, 1878, deemed to have been issued under Section 11 of Customs Act, 1962.

रूसी ट्रैक्टरों का आरक्षण

1526. श्री श्रोकार लाल बेरेवा : क्या स्वायत तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने रूसी ट्रैक्टरों का कोई कोटा आरक्षित रखा है;

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो किस-किस टाइप के ट्रैक्टरों का आरक्षण किया गया है और कितनी संख्या में; और

(ग) इन ट्रैक्टरों का आरक्षण किस श्रेणी के प्रतिरक्षा कर्मचारियों के लिए किया गया है?

स्वायत्, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्ना साहिव शिन्दे) : (क) रूसी ट्रैक्टरों के प्राथमिक नियतन के लिए प्रतिरक्षा कर्मचारियों के अलावा अन्य कोई भी व्यक्ति हकदार नहीं है। फिर भी, निम्नलिखित संस्थायें पारी से बाहर प्राथमिकता के नियतन के लिए हकदार हैं :—

(1) सरकारी, अर्द्ध-सरकारी अथवा गैर-सरकारी संगठन जिनमें सरकार के अधीनस्थ कृषि विश्वविद्यालय या स्वायत निकाय जैसी संस्थायें शामिल हैं, बशर्ते कृषि कार्यों के लिए ट्रैक्टर की आवश्यकता है।

(2) कृषि उद्योग निगम।

(3) म्यूनिसिपल्टी और ग्राम पंचायतें वह उनको कृषि या उससे संबंधित कार्यों के लिए ट्रैक्टरों की आवश्यकता है।

(4) भूमि रखने वाली शिक्षात्मक संस्थाओं तथा सहकारी संगठनों यदि उनको कृपि कार्यों के लिए ट्रैक्टरों की आवश्यकता है।

प्रतिरक्षा कर्मचारियों के लिए एक कोटा आरक्षित किया जाता है। यह कोटा उत्तरी प्रदेश में किए गए आयात का 17 प्रतिशत होता है और अन्य प्रदेशों में उसका 1 प्रतिशत।

ये सिद्धांत रूस से अयातित डी० टी० 14 बी तथा वाईलरस ट्रैक्टरों पर लागू होते हैं। ट्रैक्टरों की कोई संख्या आरक्षित नहीं की गई है और उपरोक्त बताए गए सिद्धांतों के अनुसार ही प्राप्त प्रार्थना-पत्रों के आधार पर प्रार्थमिकत नियतन किया जाता है। फिर भी, प्रतिरक्षा कर्मचारियों के मामले में, रक्षा भंडालय द्वारा व्यक्तिगत अधिकारियों को निश्चित कोटा वितरित किया जाता है।

(ग) प्रतिरक्षा भंडालय के लिए आरक्षित कोटा में से किसी भी व्यक्ति के लिए, जो फौज में काम कर रहा है या कर चुका है, ट्रैक्टर नियत करने पर विचार किया जा सकता है। फिर भी, जैसा कि ऊपर बताया गया है अलग-अलग लोगों को रक्षा भंडालय (डायरेक्ट्रेट जनरल आफ रिसेटिल-मेंट) द्वारा नियतन किया जाता है।

Sale of Postal Forms

1527. SHRI SAYYAD ALI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state whether with a view to prevent waste and loss of postal forms, Government propose to sell such forms at a nominal cost of one paise each without refund for the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): The Money Order form is already sold at a nominal price of 3 paise each

and this amount is set off against the money order commission at the time of booking. Regarding other forms, there is no proposal to price them with or without a provision for refund. Charges are, however, realised for forms sold in bulk in book form.

Famine Relief Works in Bhiwani Tehsil

1528. SHRI TULSIDAS JADHAV: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount sanctioned by the Government of Haryana under the Famine Relief Scheme for Bhiwani Tehsil; and

(b) the amount spent out of amount sanctioned so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) A sum of Rs. 11.50 lakhs was sanctioned by the Government of Haryana during the current financial year under the head "64-Famine Relief" for relief works in drought affected areas of Bhiwani Tehsil.

(b) the amount spent out of amount sanctioned so far.

Digging of Canals in Bhiwani Tehsil

1529. SHRI TULSIDAS JADHAV: Will the Minister of FOOD & AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Government of Haryana so far on the digging of canals in Bhiwani Tehsil of Hissar district under the Famine Relief Scheme; and

(b) when the work of digging of canals in that tehsil is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Rs.

13,26,622 has been spent so far on digging of canals in Bhiwani Tehsil.

(b) During 1969-70.

Assignment of Land to Fishermen

1530. SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme for the assignment of land to the fishermen living in the squalid conditions in houses built on public lands and for advancement of loans to them through the Co-operative Societies; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). No central scheme has been formulated for assignment of land to fishermen or grant of loans through cooperatives. Several State Governments have liberal housing schemes for fishermen, some of which involve assignment of land and loans for construction of houses. The schemes are eligible for central assistance on the basis of the prescribed pattern of grant to the extent of 20 per cent and loan to the extent of 30 per cent of the expenditure.

Prices of Foodgrains

1531. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO: SHRI D. N. PATODIA: SHRI Y. A. PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prospects of good crops this year has produced any effect on the price of foodgrains; and

(b) if so, the extent to which the prices of foodgrains have come down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) There has been an overall fall in prices of foodgrains between October, 1967 and February, 1968.

(b) The All-India index number of wholesale prices of cereals stood at 220.1 in October, 1967 and came down to 208.1 in the second week of February, 1968.

Subsidy on Foodgrains

1532. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: SHRI R. R. SINGH DEO: SHRI D. N. PATODIA: SHRI Y. A. PRASAD:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formulated any schemes for the utilisation of the money saved as a result of the withdrawal of subsidy on foodgrains for the development of agriculture in the country; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

दिल्ली दूध योजना

1533. श्री ना० स्व० शर्मा :

श्री रामगोपाल शालवाले :

श्री रा० स्व० विद्यार्थी :

श्री शारदानन्द :

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त :

श्री राम चरन :

क्या साध्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) दिल्ली में दूध की मांग पूरी तरह से पूरी करने के लिए दिल्ली दूध योजना की

और कितने दूध की आवश्यकता है;

(ख) हाल ही में दूध के दाम बढ़ाये जाने के बाद दिल्ली दुग्ध योजना द्वारा कितना अतिरिक्त दूध प्राप्त किया गया;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली के आस पास कुछ ऐसी फैक्टरियां हैं जिनमें दूध का प्रयोग किया जाता है, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप दिल्ली दुग्ध योजना को पर्याप्त मात्रा में दूध नहीं मिलता;

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार का विचार इन फैक्टरियों पर कुछ प्रतिबन्ध लगाने का है; और

(ङ) दिल्ली में दूध की सप्लाई बढ़ाने के लिए क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्नासहिब शिंदे): (क) सन् 1964 में दिल्ली दुग्ध योजना की कार्यव्रग्णी का अययन करने वाले विशेषज्ञों के एक दल ने अनुमान लगाया था कि दिल्ली नगर के लिए प्रतिदिन 5,00,000 लिटर दूध की आवश्यकता है। इस समय दिल्ली दुग्ध योजना प्रतिदिन 2,20,000 लिटर दूध को संभाल रही है और विशेषज्ञों के दल द्वारा 1964 में लगाये गये अनुमान के अनसार नगर की मांग को पूरा करने के लिए उसे प्रतिदिन 2,80,009 लिटर अधिक दूध की आवश्यकता है।

(ख) 26 दिसंबर, 1967 से दूध के मुद्यों में वृद्धि के लिए के पश्चात् दूध को कोई अतिरिक्त मात्रा उत्तरव्य नहीं की गई है।

(ग) जी हां।

(घ) इन कारबाहों पर प्रतिबंध लगाने का कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है। फिर भी, केंद्रीय, सरकार राज्य संकारों के संथ परामर्श करके दिल्ली दुग्ध योजना के प्रश्नों के आस पास के कुछ क्षेत्रों में इकट्ठा करने के विषय में दिल्ली दुग्ध योजना को प्राथमिकता के प्रताव पर विचार कर रही है।

(ङ) चतुर्थ पंच वर्षीय योजना की अवधि में दिल्ली दुग्ध योजना को दूध की उपलब्धि बढ़ाने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश के मेरठ जिले, हरियाणा के गुडगांव तथा करनाल जिलों तथा राजस्थान के बीकानेर जिले में, सधन पशु विकास के चार कार्यक्रमों को क्रियान्वित किया जा रहा है।

Stock of Foodgrains with Government

1534. SHRI N. S. SHARMA:
SHRI RAM GOPAL SHALWALE:
SHRI R. S. VIDYARTHI:
SHRI SHARDA NAND:
SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains at present available with the Central Government and the quantity which they propose to stock; and

(b) whether Government propose to give in ration as much quantity of foodgrains as is normally required by an individual in big cities where rationing system is in force?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) At the beginning of February, 1968, about 5.6 lakh tonnes of foodgrains were available with the Central Government, excluding the quantities in transit and in docks and holds of steamers. It is proposed to build up a stock of about 3 million tonnes of foodgrains with the Central and the State Governments.

(b) The quantum of ration is fixed on the basis of availability of foodgrains. It is the endeavour of the Government to make the quantum of ration sufficient to meet normal requirements.

खाद्यान्नों की तकरी

1536. दा० सूर्य प्रकाश पुरी :

श्री रामावतार शर्मा :

क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) पिछले दो महीनों में पुलिस द्वारा दिल्ली के साथ लगने वाले राज्यों से दिल्ली में खाद्यान्नों के चोरी-छिपे लाये जाने के कितने मामलों का पता लगा है; और

(ख) इस संबंध में कितने व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किया गया है और इनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्यवाही की गई है?

खाद्य, कृषि, सारुदारिह विभाग तथा सहकार वंशाय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री अन्ना साहिब गिंदे) : (क) 17

(ख) 17 व्यक्तियों को गिरफ्तार किए गए थे जिसमें से 6 पर अदालत में दोष सिद्ध हुये और 11 के विरुद्ध मुकदमा चल रहा है।

Manufacture of Telephone Equipment

1537. SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided to set up another plant for manufacturing telephone equipment;

(b) the reasons for setting up another plant;

(c) whether Government have received any request from the Government of Rajasthan to locate the plant in that State; and

(d) if so, Government's decision thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes. There is a proposal to set up a new factory for the manufacture of long distance transmission equipment.

(b) The new factory will manufacture transmission equipment to aug-

ment the production of the existing telephone factory at Bangalore for such equipment.

(c) Yes.

(d) No decision has so far been taken about the location of the proposed factory.

Post Offices in India

1538. SHRI MOHAN SWARUP: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the number of post offices in India will touch the one-lakh mark by the end of the current financial year;

(b) if so, the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Posts and Telegraphs Department is losing almost Rs. 1 crore a year on unremunerative post offices; and

(d) if so, the number of such unremunerative Post Offices in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) to (d). The total number of Post Offices in the country is likely to reach the mark of one lakh during the financial year 1968-69 subject to availability of funds and departmental standards being satisfied. Funds are earmarked in each financial year for opening new post offices, which is a continuous process over a long period. No specific provision is made to reach the mark of one-lakh post offices. All new post offices opened are treated as 'experimental post offices' and their financial position examined in each fiscal year. Such of those experimental offices which work within a permissible limit of loss are made permanent and no further review about the loss or gain by such permanent offices is undertaken. During the year 1966-67, the Department had incurred a loss of little over Rs. 1 crore on the

working of experimental post offices which stood as 28,186 as on 31-3-1967.

Milk Procurement by D.M.S.

1539. SHRI NAMBIAR:

SHRI SATYA NARAIN SINGH:
SHRI YOGENDRA SHARMA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total monthly procurement of milk by the Delhi Milk Scheme in December, 1967 and January, 1968;

(b) if so, whether the milk procurement is decreasing from last year;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Government propose to investigate into the matter; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) December, 1967: 59,01,925 litres.

January, 1968:—54,91,852 litres.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Main reasons are:—

(i) Diversion of milk to private trade in Delhi and other urban centres.

(ii) Diversion of milk to milk products factories manufacturing condensed milk etc. in the milk shed of Delhi Milk Scheme.

(iii) Export of milk to milk products factories located outside the milk shed area.

(d) The position is known. There is no control on the transport of milk, its utilisation as condensed milk and similar products, or on setting up milk product factories below a high level of investment. These factors account for insufficient procurement.

(e) Does not arise.

Demands of Circus Employees

1540. SHRI NAMBIAR:

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:
SHRI P. P. ESTHOSE:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to the Unstarred Question No. 3034 on the 5th December, 1967 and state:

(a) whether the Director, Labour Bureau has since completed the enquiry on the demands of the Akhil Bharat Circus Karamchari Sangh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the decisions taken thereon;

(d) if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(e) when the enquiry is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) The Labour Bureau has already conducted a Pilot Enquiry and now proposes to launch the main enquiry soon.

(b) and (c). Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above

(d) The delay was due to the fact that the Akhil Bharat Circus Karamchari Sangh, as well as the Indian Circus Federation, who were requested to furnish a list of Circus Companies together with certain other essential details, have not given the requisite information. There has also been no response at all from the Indian Circus Federation in spite of repeated reminders.

(e) The Enquiry is expected to be completed within six months of its being launched.

Cooperative Store, New Delhi

1541. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL:

SHRI P. RAMAMURTI:

SHRI K. M. ABRAHAM:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the employees of the Cooperative Store

(Coops.), Connaught Place, New Delhi went on strike in 1st week of January, 1968;

(b) if so, what were their demands; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to settle the dispute?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir. The employees of the 'Coops' Connaught Place, New Delhi, went on strike from the 10th of January, 1968, to protest against retrenchment of 16 employees who were considered surplus by the Managing Committee.

(b) The strikers demanded the reinstatement of the retrenched personnel.

(c) The strike was withdrawn unconditionally after a new Managing Committee took over the management. The new Managing Committee reinstated 8 of the 16 retrenched employees.

Rehabilitation Centres for Displaced Persons from East Pakistan

1542. SHRI MOHAMMAD ISMAIL: SHRI GANESH GHOSH: SHRI BHAGABAN DAS:

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 3081 on the 5th December, 1967 and state:

(a) whether the information regarding the number of Rehabilitation Centres set up since partition for the displaced persons from East Pakistan in States and Union territories has since been collected;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

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

(d) when the information is likely to be collected?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) to (d). Yes. Information regarding the number of Rehabilitation Centres set up for the displaced persons from East Pakistan in States and Union Territories other than Assam has since been collected. A statement furnishing the details thereof is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-190/68].

The detailed information asked for by the Hon'ble Members was required to be collected from various districts and local offices involving reference to number of old records. The Government of Assam have been requested to expedite the collection and submission of the required information. The same would be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is received from the Government of Assam.

Refugees from East Pakistan

1543. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of displaced persons from East Pakistan who migrated to India upto December, 1967;

(b) how many of them have been rehabilitated so far and how many remain and the total expenditure incurred on their rehabilitation;

(c) how many displaced persons have been given agricultural land; and

(d) the number of displaced persons settled in West Bengal and the number of those settled in other States, State-wise?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Based on the information available with us, nearly 50.11 lakh persons from East

Pakistan have migrated to India upto December, 1967.

(b) Out of those who were taken in camps, about 29.53 lakh persons have been resettled so far. About 1.01 lakh new migrants are in relief camps awaiting dispersal to rehabilitation sites in various States.

The expenditure incurred on relief and rehabilitation of displaced persons from East Pakistan upto the end of 1966-67 comes to Rs. 258.43 crores. An amount of Rs. 22.44 crores has been provided for this purpose in the Budget estimates 1967-68. The final figures of the current year's expenditure will be available by the end of June, 1968.

(c) About 4.17 lakh families have been settled on agricultural lands.

(d) The position regarding resettlement of displaced persons from East Pakistan in various occupations including agriculture in West Bengal and other States is indicated below:—

Name of State.	No. of persons settled (in lakhs)
West Bengal	20.77
Assam	4.36
Bihar	00.88
Maharashtra	0.11
Tripura	2.05
Madhya Pradesh	0.23
Uttar Pradesh	0.35
Andhra Pradesh	0.03
Andamans	0.13
Dandakaranya	0.46
NEFA	0.12
Other areas (including Manipur)	0.04
TOTAL:	29.53

Hindi Teleprinters

1544. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Hindi Teleprinters to be produced during the year 1968-69 and the target laid down according to the project report;

(b) the orders for Hindi Teleprinters pending at present with Government and whether the entire demand during the year would be met;

(c) the target of production at the end of Fourth Five Year Plan; and

(d) how the target compares with the expected demand during the period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) to (d). The Hindustan Teleprinters Limited, Madras, have on hand firm orders for the supply of 431 Hindi teleprinter machines and this demand will be met in full during the year 1968-69. The production of Hindi teleprinter machines can be further increased depending upon the demand. No specific production targets for Hindi Teleprinters have been laid down either on an annual basis or for the Fourth Plan period.

Suggestions made at Informal Consultative Committee

1545. SHRI PREM CHAND VERMA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the suggestions made at the Informal Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament of his Ministry at its meeting held on the 20th December, 1967 regarding (i) augmentation of timely supply of quality seeds, credit for tractors and irrigation potential, (ii) stopping of diversion of funds meant for agricultural development to other heads, (iii) dairy development programme, and (iv) making available light trac-

tors to small farmers have been considered; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to implement these suggestions and the results expected during the year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-192/68].

पुरुष तथा महिला कर्मचारियों के लिए मजूरी की दरें

1546. श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या

अम तथा पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि विभिन्न उद्योगों में पुरुष तथा महिला कर्मचारियों की मजूरी की दरें भिन्न भिन्न हैं; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस अन्तर को दूर करने के लिये सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है?

अम तथा पुनर्वास मन्त्री (श्री हाथी) :

(क) जी हां, कुछ मामलों में।

(ख) जहां न्यूनतम मजूरी अधिनियम के अन्तर्गत सरकार द्वारा मजूरी निर्धारित की जाती है वहां पुरुष और महिला कर्मचारियों की मजूरी-दरों के अन्तर को कम करने की कोशिश की जाती है, यदि मजूरी दरों में अन्तर लिंग भेद के कारण हो।

पाकिस्तान अधिकृत काश्मीर से विस्थापित हुए व्यक्तियों का पुनर्वास

1547. श्री रघुवीर सिंह शास्त्री : क्या अम तथा पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पाकिस्तान अधिकृत काश्मीर से आने वाले हजारों

विस्थापित व्यक्तियों ने 14 जनवरी, 1968 का जम्मू में प्रदर्शन किया था;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उनकी मुख्य मार्गों क्या थीं; और

(ग) उनको बसाने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कार्यवाही की जा रही है?

अम, रोजगार तथा पुनर्वास मन्त्रालय में उपमन्त्री (श्री दारोच्छान) : (क) जी हां। सूचना मिली है कि कुछ विस्थापित व्यक्तियों ने एसा प्रदर्शन किया था।

(ख) निम्न तीन मांगें की गई थीं :-

(1) नागरिकता के अधिकारों का दिया जाना।

(2) मकानों और जमीनों का स्थायी आवंटन।

(3) उनको अलाट की गई भूमि के मूल्य के रूप में 2500 रुपये अनुग्रह पूर्वक अनुदान से काट दिये थे उनका लौटाया जाना।

(ग) पाकिस्तान अधिकृत क्षेत्रों से आने वाले विस्थापित व्यक्तियों को मकानों के आवंटन तथा और गों की मंजूरी के मामले में पुनर्वास वित्त प्रशासन के त्रह के अतिरिक्त वही मुविधायें दी गई थीं जो परिचम पाकिस्तान से आने वाले गैर दावेदार विस्थापित व्यक्तियों को दी गई थीं। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों से आरे वाले विस्थापित व्यक्तियों को जहां तक उपलब्ध हो सकी कृषि भूमि आवंटित की गई थी। अन्य पुनर्वास उपाय जो किये गये उनमें शहरी क्षेत्रों में बसे व्यक्तियों को अनुग्रहपूर्वक अनुदान के रूप में प्रत्येक परिवार 3,500 रुपये हैं और जिनको कृषि भूमि पर बसाया गया है उन्हें 1,000 रुपये दिये गये हैं।

Agricultural Association Ltd.

1549. SHRI BABURAO PATEL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the names of Directors of the Agricultural Association Ltd., and their qualifications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI B SHINDE): The following are the Directors of the Agricultural Association Limited.

1. Shri Thomas H. Roberts
2. Shri Charles C. Roberts
3. Shrimati Dolly Nanda
4. Shri Rajinder Raikhy
5. Shri Harparshad Nanda
6. Shri Harold E. Nolin
7. Shri Roger W. Rasmussen.

As regards qualifications of the Directors, under the Companies Act, 1956, a company is not required to disclose the qualifications of its Directors. Hence, the information is not available.

R.M.S. Division in Jharsuguda (Orissa)

1550. SHRI RABI RAY:
SHRI SRADHAKAR
SUPAKAR:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of the growing demand from the public in Orissa, Government propose to open another R.M.S division in Jharsuguda in Orissa; and

(b) if so, when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) No, as the new division is not justified.

(b) Does not arise.

Bidi Workers

1551. SHRI P. GOPALAN:
SHRI E. K. NAYANAR:
SHRI A. K. GOPALAN:

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

(a) whether it is a fact that a meeting of the representatives of Bidi workers and Industrialists was convened by him at Hyderabad in December, 1967;

(b) if so, the matter discussed thereat; and

(c) the decisions taken and when the decisions are likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) No.

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

Desert Development Board

1553. SHRI D. N. PATODIA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Desert Development Board has finalised its plan of work for 1968-69;

(b) if so, what are the details in respect of Rajasthan;

(c) whether the Board's targets for 1967 have been fully achieved; and

(d) if not, what is the shortfall and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI B SHINDE): (a) Rs. Sir.

(b) The Desert Development Board has decided that the following concrete programme should be consider-

ed for execution in 1968-69 in Rajasthan State:

- (i) In Barmer district, a scheme should be prepared for the renovation of about 10 tanks and the protection of their catchment areas;
- (ii) In Jaisalmer district, a programme of pasture and fodder development should be taken up on the basis of water available from certain tube-wells which might otherwise remain undeveloped in this areas;
- (iii) In Jodhpur district, soil and water conservation work should be taken up along with a scheme for piped supply to some villages in Loni tehsil.

(c) and (d). No definite targets were fixed for 1967-68. However, it had been decided to take up work on a pilot basis in one C. D. Block in each of the 3 States of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana. These Blocks were as follows:—

- (i) Luni Block in Jodhpur district in Rajasthan.
- (ii) Mohindergarh II Block in Mohindergarh district in Haryana.
- (iii) Santalpur area in Banaskantha district in Gujarat.

It was proposed to carry out scientific surveys of the resources of these Blocks with a view to prepare detailed project reports for them for implementation during 1968-69. However, the Desert Development Board, at its first meeting held on the 25th January, 1968, considered the programme to be taken up for the development of desert areas and decided to give up the Block approach altogether. It recommended that if a particular activity was considered to be worth taking up, it need not be confined to the limits of one Block in each State as had been the thinking so far. Accordingly, detailed schemes

are now being prepared by the State Governments of Rajasthan, Gujarat and Haryana in regard to the programmes to be taken up for execution during 1968-69 on the basis of activities considered most suitable in the circumstances prevailing in each of these States.

Import of Rice

1554. SHRI T. D. RAMABADRAN:
SHRI MAYAVAN:
SHRI DEIVEEKAN:
SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR
SHAH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether it is a fact that Government have approached Thailand and Burma for the supply of rice;
- (b) if so, their reaction thereto;
- (c) the total quantity of rice to be imported from these countries;
- (d) whether any other country has been approached for the supply of rice; and
- (e) the total quantity of rice required during 1968 for distribution in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Negotiations are still in progress with these countries and the quantities of rice likely to be available are not as yet known.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) The quantity of rice required for the public distribution system from central and state stocks during 1968 is estimated at about 33 lakh tonnes.

Investment of Provident Fund Money

1555. SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR
SINGH:
SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

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

(a) whether the Central Board of Trustees of the Employees Provident Fund which met recently in Delhi had discussed the question of evolving a proper policy in regard to the investment of provident fund money;

(b) if so, what decisions have been taken by the Board in this connection; and

(c) whether Government have approved their decisions?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) Yes.

(b) The Board has recommended that in order to give a fair rate of interest to the subscribers, the investment pattern for the Fund should be liberalised at least to the following extent to begin with:—

(i) 50 per cent in Central Government securities;

(ii) 50 per cent in State Government or other Government guaranteed securities, like the bonds of Electricity Boards, State Housing Boards etc., or in the fixed deposits of the State Bank.

It has also suggested that any restrictions imposed by Government on the investment of provident funds should be imposed uniformly on all non-Governmental provident funds and that there should be no discrimination against Employees' Provident Fund.

(c) The recommendation of the Board is under examination.

Direct Dialling between Delhi and Bangalore

1556. SHRI K. LAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the stage at which the proposal for direct dialling between Delhi and Bangalore stands at present; and

(b) when the scheme is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) For providing subscriber trunk dialling between Delhi and Bangalore, Trunk Automatic Exchanges have been planned at Delhi and Madras. The Trunk automatic exchange at Madras has already been commissioned. The one at Delhi is in an advanced stage of installation and is expected to be commissioned by the end of 1968.

(b) Direct dialling between Delhi and Bangalore will be available when the two trunk automatic exchanges are commissioned and interconnected. This is expected to be achieved before March 1969.

Direct Dialling in big Cities

1557. SHRI K. KAKKAPPA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any phased programmes to have a direct dialling in big cities throughout India have been arranged;

(b) if so, the names of those cities under consideration; and

(c) when the direct dialling to these cities will be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes.

(b) The following 17 stations are proposed to be connected to the first

4 TAXs for providing Nation-wide subscriber trunk dialling facility:—

Agra
Ahmedabad
Bangalore
Bombay
Chandigarh
Coimbatore
Delhi
Jaipur
Jullundur
Kanpur
Lucknow
Madras
Patna
Poona
Srinagar
Surat
Varanasi

(c) During 1968-69.

संसद् सदस्य का किसी राज्य में मन्त्री होना

1558. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या विधि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कोई संसद् सदस्य संसद् की सदस्यता से त्याग पद दिये बिना राज्य में कितनी अवधि तक मंत्री पद पर रह सकता है; और

(ख) क्या ऐसा व्यक्ति छः महीने की अवधि पूरी होने से पूर्व मंत्री पद से त्याग पद दे सकता है; और पुनः छः महीनों के लिए मंत्री नियुक्त हो सकता है?

विधि मन्त्री (श्री गोविन्द मेनन) :

(क) और (ख) : संविधान के अनुच्छेद 164(4) के अधीन कोई व्यक्ति राज्य विधान मंडल का सदस्य हुए बिना छः मास की कालावधि के लिये मंत्री बन सकता है। भ्रतः कोई संसद् सदस्य कुल मिलाकर छः मास की कालावधि के लिए संसद् सदस्य और साथ ही राज्य सरकार का मंत्री बना रह सकता है। तत्पश्चात् यदि वह राज्य विधान मण्डल के सदस्य के रूप में निर्वाचित

या नाम निर्देशित होने में असफल रहता है (जिस दशा में वह अनुच्छेद 101 (2) क आधार पर संसद् सदस्य नहीं रहेगा), तो वह अनुच्छेद 164(4) के कारण राज्य सरकार का मंत्री न रहेगा।

राज्य सहकारी बैंक

1559. श्री रामावतार शास्त्री : क्या शास्त्र तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) भारत में इस समय कुल कितने सहकारी बैंक हैं;

(ख) नियमों के अनुसार सहकारी बैंकों के प्रबन्ध निदेशकों की नियुक्ति के लिए क्या न्यूनतम योग्यता होनी चाहिए;

(ग) बैंकों के उन प्रबन्ध निदेशकों की संख्या कितनी है जो बैंकिंग प्रक्रिया प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त हैं अथवा जिन्हें बैंकिंग प्रक्रिया की पूरी जानकारी है;

(घ) क्या सरकार किसी ऐसे प्रस्ताव का विचार कर रही है, जिसके अनुसार बैंकिंग प्रक्रिया में प्रशिक्षण प्राप्त व्यक्तियों को ही सहकारी बैंकों के प्रबन्ध निदेशक नियुक्त किया जा सके और इन पदों पर भारतीय प्रशासनिक सेवा के अधिकारियों को नियुक्त न किया जाये; और

(ङ) यदि हां, तो इन बारे में कब तक निर्णय किये जाने की सम्भावना है और यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

शास्त्र, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री एम० एस० गुहरदस्तामी) : (क) पच्चीस।

(ख) तथा (ग). भारत सरकार ने कोई योग्यता अथवा प्रिविलेज निर्धारित नहीं किया है। प्रबन्ध निदेशक की नियुक्ति और उसकी भर्ती के लिए अपेक्षित योग्य-

ताए आंतरिक प्रशासनिक मामले हैं जो बैंक के प्रबन्ध मण्डल तथा सम्बन्धित राज्य सरकार के अधिकार खेत्र में आते हैं और बैंक के उप-नियमों तथा राज्य में लागू सहकारी कानून के नियमों के अधीन शासित होते हैं।

(घ) जी नहीं।

(ङ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Milk Booth at Thyagaraj Nagar, New Delhi

1561. SHRI M. L. SONDHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Welfare Organisation and the people of the Thyagaraj Nagar (Prem Nagar), New Delhi have been representing for the last six years for the opening of a new milk booth in that area; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Delhi Milk Scheme in this connection?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) There are already two D.M.S. milk booths in Sewa Nagar to cater to the needs of the token holders of Prem Nagar. The question of opening new milk booths in Prem Nagar will be considered when more milk is available.

Rice Supply to Kerala

1562. SHRI ANBUCHEZHIAN: SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to supply 50,000

tonnes of rice a month to the Kerala Government;

(b) if so, what is the total demand of the Kerala Government;

(c) the reasons for not supplying the full demand; and

(d) whether Government propose to give full quota of rice to the Kerala Government in view of the bumper crops in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

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

(d) It is proposed to give to Kerala as large a quota of rice as is possible within the limits of availability with the Centre, taking into consideration the needs of other deficit States.

Rice Mills in Assam

1563. SHRI ANBUCHEZHIAN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Rice Mills in Assam are facing prospects of closure because of the inadequate supply of paddy by the Food Corporation of India and Apex Marketing Society; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to prevent these closures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as it is received.

East Bengal Refugees in Purnea District (Bihar)

1564. SHRI SITARAM KESPI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND

REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have asked the refugees from East Bengal settled in Purnea district of Bihar to repay the subsidies and loans they had received for rehabilitation;

(b) the terms and conditions on which the financial assistance was given to them;

(c) whether requests have been made by the refugees to waive repayment of the assistance; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Financial assistance rendered to displaced persons in the shape of grants does not call for recovery. When assistance takes the form of loans, the amount is recoverable according to the terms of the loan advanced to displaced persons. In all cases in which according to these terms, instalments have become due, the State Government concerned is taking suitable action for recovery.

(b) The financial assistance was given by way of grants-in-aid for cash doles, rations, clothing, blankets, utensils, milk, marriage expenses warm clothing, medical and educational facilities, maintenance, etc., and loans for settlement in agricultural and non-agricultural occupations. The loans are repayable in easy instalments over a period of 6 to 20 years according to the nature of each loan, after giving remission as below:—

(i) loans advanced to displaced persons from East Pakistan for their rehabilitation will be remitted upto the extent of Rs. 1,000 in each case;

(ii) if after remission as at (i) above, there is any balance

left, the amount in excess of Rs. 2,000 only will also be remitted; and

(iii) No interest will be charged on the amounts remitted.

The remission, however, does not apply to Contributory House Building loans, Professional and Higher Business loans and Rehabilitation Finance Administration loans.

(c) and (d). A joint request received from the displaced persons of Katihar, District Purnea, has been considered. The applicants have been informed that their request for remission of house-building loans and loans for professions, cannot be granted.

Labour Unions

1565. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the present system of registering trade unions with a minimum number of seven persons has led to the formation of a number of Unions in the same industry and establishment;

(b) whether such formation of unions has been one of the causes of labour trouble in industries; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to amend the relevant rule to overcome the existing trouble?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) Yes.

(b) On account of multiplicity of unions, there have been cases of inter-union rivalry resulting in disruption of industrial harmony.

(c) Certain suggestions have been made to Government in this regard. The National Commission is also seized of the problem. The matter will be examined on receipt of the Commission's report.

Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee

1566. SHRI SITARAM KESRI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that meetings of the Delhi Telephone Advisory Committee for the purpose of allotment of telephones are not held at regular intervals; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) and (b). The meetings of the Telephone Advisory Committee are normally required to be held at least once in every quarter. The T.A.C. at Delhi did not meet for some time as it was under reconstitution. The Committee was reconstituted in November, 1967 and has already met on 29th November, 1967, 24th January, 1968 and 15th February, 1968.

Automatic Telephone Exchange in Bhubaneshwar

1567. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to introduce an Automatic Telephone Exchange in Bhubaneswar will materialise; and

(b) if so, when this will be opened?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS & COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes.

(b) Early in 1970.

Procurement Prices of Rice and Paddy in Orissa

1568. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the procurement prices for rice and paddy fixed for Orissa;

(b) whether these prices have been fixed in consultation with the State Government; and

(c) how they compare with the procurement prices in West Bengal, Andhra Pradesh and Bihar for the 1968-69 crop year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Procurement prices for 1967-68 crop:

Orissa	(In Rs. per quintal)
Paddy Common	48.00
Rice Common	82.47 (ex-mill price)

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Does not arise as the procurement prices have not been fixed for 1968-69 crop so far.

Head Post Offices in Orissa

1569. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether each District in Orissa has by now a Head Post Office;

(b) whether any of the existing Head Post Offices have been bifurcated in Orissa; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to have one more Head Post Office in the Puri District?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes.

(b) Yes, A statement showing the districts with more than one Head Post Offices is placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-192/68.]

(c) The proposal for upgrading Nayagarh Sub-Office as Head Office was considered but it has been drop-

ped as the same was not found justified according to Departmental standards.

Post Offices, Telegraph Offices and Public Call Offices in Orissa

1570. SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of post Offices, Telegraph Offices and Public Call Offices proposed to be opened in Orissa State during 1968-69;

(b) the number out of them proposed to be opened in rural areas; and

(c) the total allocations made for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Subject to fulfilment of Departmental standards and availability of funds, it is proposed to establish 200 Post Offices, 20 Telegraph Offices and 11 Public Call Offices in Orissa during 1968-69.

(b) Post Offices: .. 190

Telegraph Offices: 20

Public Call Offices: .. 11

(c) Precise information can be known only after the budget is voted.

Fish sold by Fish Marketing Corporation of India in Calcutta

1571. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: SHRI GANESH GHOSH: SHRI BHAGABAN DASS:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state the total quantity of fish sold by the Fish Marketing Corporation in Calcutta during the period from the 1st April, 1967 to the 31st December, 1967?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD,

AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): The Centre Fisheries Corporation Ltd., Howrah sold a total quantity of 4,24,884 kilograms of fish in Calcutta during the period from 1st April, 1967 to 31st December, 1967.

Telephone Connections in Sagar Post Office (West Bengal)

1572. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a telephone connection in Sagar Post Office, 24 Parganas, West Bengal; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to instal a telephone there?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) No.

(b) Yes. A proposal to connect Sagar with Diamond Harbour by V.H.F. Link has already been approved.

Conditions of Service in F.C.I.

1573. SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the existing terms and conditions of service of the personnel in the Food Corporation of India for (i) direct recruits, (ii) for people transferred from the Food Department; and

(b) how many Officers in the Food Corporation of India have been drawn from (i) outside and (ii) other State and Central Government Departments and what are their terms of service?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The exis-

ting terms and conditions of service of direct recruits in the Food Corporation of India are governed by the draft staff regulations framed by the Corporation. The transferees of the Food Department, pending their final absorption in the service of the Corporation, are treated as on foreign service and their service conditions are regulated according to the foreign service terms prescribed by the Central Government except that these transferees are not given deputation allowance.

(b) A statement showing the number of officers and staff category-wise working in the Corporation and the sources from which they have been drawn is laid on the table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-193/68]. Their terms of service are decided in consultation with their respective parent departments.

Haryana's Offer for Supply of Wheat

1574. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Haryana Government has offered the Central Government 40,000 tonnes of wheat to be purchased from that State; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). The offer from the Government of Haryana was of 49,000 tonnes of wheat which has been accepted and allocated to deficit States.

Sugar Production

1575. SHRI MOHSIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether sugar production has increased since the policy of partial decontrol was enforced; and

(b) if so, to what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). The policy of partial decontrol has helped in increasing supplies of sugarcane to the sugar mills with the result that the production of sugar upto 15th February, 1968 during the current season is 15.62 lakh tonnes as compared to 15.42 lakh tonnes upto the corresponding date last year. Production would have been much lower if this policy would not have been adopted.

Sugar Production

1576. SHRI MOHSIN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total sugar production in the country at present; and

(b) the total requirement of sugar for consumption in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) 15.62 lakh tonnes during the season 1967-68 upto 15th February, 1968.

(b) The internal consumption of sugar during 1967-68 (November, 1967—October, 1968) is estimated at 20.7 lakh tonnes at the present level of release.

Supply of Free Postage Stamps to Members of Parliament

1577. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal under consideration to provide free postage stamps to Members of Parliament for their public work; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Rehabilitation of Victims of Indo-Pak Conflict

1578. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether all the persons who had been uprooted on the Punjab border as a consequence of the Indo-Pak. conflict of 1965 have been rehabilitated;

(b) if not, the number of persons who have not so far been rehabilitated; and

(c) whether the Punjab industry which had been hit hard as a result of the Indo-Pak. conflict has been restored to normalcy?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) and (b). All the up-rooted families in Punjab have been given rehabilitation assistance and by and large all of them have since been resettled. There are, however, a few cases under consideration for giving further rehabilitation assistance to some families.

(c) Several short-term and long-term measures were taken to assist the industries in Punjab which had been hard hit during the Indo-Pak. conflict. Among other measures, Rs. 75 lakhs were provided for giving financial assistance to owners of small-scale industrial units.

Telephone Connections at Chandigarh

1579. SHRI SHRI CHAND GOEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for telephone connections at Chandigarh at present; and

(b) the number of telephone connections which Chandigarh is likely to have by the end of 1968?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) The number of applications pending for telephone connections at Chandigarh on 31-12-1967 was 2,000.

(b) 3,138 connections were working at Chandigarh on 31-12-1967 and about 400 new connections are likely to be provided during 1968.

Cost of Sugar Production

1580. SHRIMATI SUSEELA

GOPALAN:

SHRI C. K. CHAKRAPANI:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CULTURE be pleased to state the cost of production of sugar and khandsari in different areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): The fair ex-factory prices of levy sugar for 1967-68 for the 5 zones recommended by the Sugar Enquiry Commission and worked out in accordance with the provisions of Sub-Section (3C) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 with the help of the Cost Schedules of the Sugar Enquiry Commission are as under:

(Rs. per quintal)

Ex-factory Price

ZONE-I

(Gujrat, Maharashtra, North Mysore and North Andhra Pradesh)

145.00

ZONE II

(Orissa, rest of Andhra Pradesh, So. Mysore, Madra Ponicherry and Kerala)

161.00

(Rs. per quintal)
(Ex-factory Price)

ZONE III

(Meerut, Muzaffarnagar and Bulandshahr districts of West U. P., Punjab, Haryana, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh) 169.50

ZONE IV

(Central and rest of West U. P.) 156.00

ZONE IV

(East U. P., Bihar and West Bengal) 158.00

Assam 167.50

Cost of production of khandsari in different areas of the country is not available.

Construction of Quarters for P. & T. Staff in Kerala

1581. SHRI P. VISWAMBHARAN:
SHRI VISWANATHA
MENON:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of towns in Kerala where the Posts and Telegraphs Department have acquired land for the construction of staff quarters since the formation of the Kerala P&T Circle;

(b) the places where staff quarters have been constructed and the number of quarters constructed thereat; and

(c) when the Posts and Telegraphs Department propose to construct staff quarters in Trivandrum?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) 5, viz., Trichur, Alleppy Ernakulam, Kottayam and Cannanore.

(b) 138 departmental quarters and 648 rented quarters have been provided to P&T staff in Kerala at different stations. In addition to this, sanction for construction of 52 units at Trichur has been issued. Sanction for construc-

3233 LS—4

tion of 133 units at Ernakulam is likely to be issued shortly.

(c) A site for staff quarters has been selected at Trivandrum. After this is acquired, action will be taken for construction of quarters subject to availability of funds.

बिहार में सामुदायिक विकास परियोजनायें

1582. श्री शिवपूजन कमस्त्री : क्या बासाध तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या बिहार में सामुदायिक विकास योजना कम कर दिये गये हैं;

(ख) क्या इस मामले में केन्द्रीय सरकार से परामर्श किया गया था; और

(ग) क्या इनकी संख्या में कमी करने से इनका कार्य क्षेत्र बढ़ जायेगा जिसके परिणामस्वरूप लोगों के साथ सम्पर्क कम हो जायेगा ?

खाद्य, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार भवनालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री एम० एस० गुप्तादस्वामी) : (क) से (ग) बिहार सरकार से मांगी गई जानकारी की प्रतीक्षा है।

उत्तर प्रदेश में शीतागार के लिये केन्द्रीय सहायता

1583. श्री गिहाल सिंह : क्या खाद्य तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(व) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने आलू की खेती बढ़ाने के उद्देश्य से बीज जमा रखने के लिए एक शीतागार स्थापित करने के लिए एक करोड़ रुपये मांगे हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार को यह राशि न दिये जाने के क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या उत्तर प्रदेश में आलू जमा करने के लिए एक शीतागार स्थापित करने का विचार है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो उसका व्योरा क्या है?

लाल, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री ग्रन्थ साहिब जिन्दे) : (क) जी हां।

(ख) गैर सरकारी लेव में 24 श्रीतागार स्थापित करने के लिए 36 लाख रुपये और लूरकारी लेव में 2 श्रीतागार स्थापित करने के लिए 16 लाख रुपये अधीक्षीत् 52 लाख रुपए की राशि राज्य सरकार को स्वीकृत की गई है। यह अधिकतम राशि है जो किसी एक राज्य को स्वीकृत की गई है। अगले वित्तीय वर्ष में अधिक धन स्वीकृत करने के प्रश्न पर भी विचार किया किया जाएगा।

(ग) जी नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता।

उत्तर प्रदेश में गोदाम

1584. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या लाल तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने रक्षित भण्डार के लिए हृषि विभाग के गोदामों की क्षमता बढ़ाकर 80 लाख मीट्रिक टन करने के उद्देश्य से केन्द्रीय सरकार से छाड़े तीन करोड़ रुपये की मांग की है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस बारे में सरकार की क्या प्रतिक्रिया है; और

(ग) क्या सरकार का विचार उद्देश्य गोदाम बनाने तथा राज्य सरकार को किराये पर देने का है?

लाल, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री ग्रन्थ साहिब जिन्दे) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

(ग) जी नहीं।

नेपाल की सीमा के अन्दर भारतीय प्रक्षेत्र

1585. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या लाल तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जिन भारतीय किसीनों के प्रक्षेत्र नेपाल में भारतीय सीमाओं के साथ हैं; वे अपने खेतों की उपज भारत में नहीं ला सकते;

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि इस सम्बन्ध में उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार को पत्र लिखा है; और

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

लाल, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री ग्रन्थ साहिब जिन्दे) : (क) तथा (ख) भारत नेपाल व्यवहार तथा परिवहन संघर्ष के अधीन भारत तथा नेपाल के बीच खाद्यान्नों के संचलन पर कोई प्रतिबन्ध नहीं है। तथापि उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने हाल ही में यह सूचना दी है कि उनके पास कुछ शिकायतें अधीयी हैं कि नेपाल सरकार की जांच चौकियों ने भारत में खाद्यान्नों के लाने में कुछ कठिनाइयां उत्पन्न कर दी हैं।

(ग) उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार की रिपोर्ट की जांच की जा रही है।

समस्तीपुर चीनी मिल

1586. श्री निहाल सिंह : क्या लाल तथा हृषि मंत्री 14 नवम्बर, 1967 के अतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 253 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या समस्तीपुर चीनी मिल को

सरकारी नियंत्रण में लेने के सम्बन्ध में विचार करने वाली समिति द्वारा प्रस्तुत किये गये प्रतिवेदन पर सरकार ने इस बीच विचार कर लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या नियंत्रण किया गया है; और

(ग) इस मिल को अपने नियंत्रण में लेने से कितना व्यय होने की सम्भावना है?

उत्तर, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अम्बा साहित शिंदे) : (क) आंर (ख). समिति द्वारा प्रस्तुत किए गए प्रतिवेदन पर विचार करने के बाद केन्द्रीय सरकार ने उद्योग (विकास तथा विनियमन) अधिनियम 1951 की धारा 18ए की उप-धारा (1) के खण्ड (बी०) के अन्तर्गत मेरसर समस्तीपुर सट्रल शूगर कम्पनी लिमिटेड, समस्तीपुर (विहार) का प्रबन्ध अदेश सर्कारी एस० आर० 4460-18ए / आई० डी० आर० ए० / 67 दिनांक 14 दिसम्बर, 1967 जो कि भारत के असाधारण राजपत्र के भाग 2 खण्ड 3 (11) दिनांक 14 दिसम्बर, 1967 में व्यक्तित्व किया गया था के अनुसार दो वर्षों के लिए नियवण में लेने हेतु एक व्यक्तियों का एक बोर्ड नियुक्त किया है।

(ग) उपर्युक्त मिल को नियंत्रण में लेने में 712.30 रुपये व्यय हुये हैं।

Procurement Prices of Rice and Paddy in Orissa

1587. SHRI SRADHAKAR SUPAKAR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the procurement prices of rice and paddy fixed for Orissa are much lower than those prevailing in the neighbouring states of West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) whether as a consequence thereof, there is a lot of smuggling of rice from Orissa to all the neighbouring States?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI B SHINDE): (a) The procurement prices of paddy and rice fixed for Orissa is higher than the price of paddy and rice in Andhra Pradesh. It is somewhat lower than the procurement prices fixed for Bihar and West Bengal. The prices fixed in Madhya Pradesh are slightly higher than in Orissa.

(b) It does not appear to be correct to say that a lot of smuggling of rice from Orissa to neighbouring States is taking place.

Prices of Rationed Foodgrains in West Bengal

1588. DR. RANEN SEN: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of rationed foodgrains in the statutorily rationed areas of West Bengal have been raised by the authorities; and

(b) if so, whether the Centre was consulted before the increase in prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI B SHINDE): (a) The prices of rice and wheat have been raised. Part of the rise was due to withdrawal of subsidy by Government of India and the rest due to increase in the procurement prices of paddy and rice in West Bengal and to the withdrawal of the State Government subsidy.

(b) No, Sir.

Cooperative Farming

1589. SHRI HIMATSINGHA: SHRI Y. S. KUSHWAHA:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) how far the target fixed in the Third Plan relating to the promotion

Co-operative farming has been achieved in each State and which of the States are lagging behind in this respect; and

(b) the assistance proposed to be given to the States in promotion of Cooperative Farming during the year 1968-69?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) During the Third Plan 318 pilot projects, each comprising 10 cooperative farming societies, were planned to be organised in selected Community Development Blocks in the country. Societies formed outside the pilot areas were also to be encouraged and assisted. A statement showing state-wise figures of the programme for pilot societies in the III Plan and the actual number of pilot and non-pilot societies organised upto 31-3-1966, with particulars of membership and area thereof, is laid on the Table of the House [Placed in Library. See no. LT-194/68.]

(b) The provision proposed in the Ministry's budget for 1968-69, for assistance to the State Governments for Cooperative Farming programme is Rs. 53.40 lakhs.

Acquisition of Fallow Land of Former Princes and Jagirdars

1590. SHRI HIMATSINGKA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that some of Chief Ministers propose to acquire vast tracts of cultivable fallow lands in the possession of former princes and jagirdars for increasing agricultural production;

(b) if so, the estimated acreage of such land with the former princes;

(c) whether there are any legal difficulties in this regard; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof and the steps taken to overcome such difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No. Zamindaris, Jagirdaris and other Intermediary tenures have generally been abolished in all States. The ex-Rulers and ex-Jagirdars hold land as any other holder subject to ceilings in force in the States.

(b) Information is not available.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Prices of Foodgrains

1591. SHRI BENI SHANKER SHARMA:
SHRI LILADHAR KOTOKI:
SHRI SHRI GOPAL SABOO:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any such assurance that the prices of foodgrains would not be allowed to fall below the procurement price has been given to the farmers; and

(b) if so, the action taken to arrest the fall of prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) wherever the prices tend to fall, the Food Corporation of India and the State Governments step in to make purchases at the procurement prices.

बिहार को चावल की सप्लाई

1592. श्री भोगेन्द्र ज्ञा : क्या लाला दया हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि 1967 में

केन्द्र से अनाज प्राप्त करने वाले राज्यों में केवल विहार ही एक ऐसा राज्य था जिसको उस वर्ष चावल नहीं दिया गया था; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इसके क्या कारण थे?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अम्बा सरहिंद शिंदे) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Building for Post Office at Ernakulam

1593. SHRI VISWANATHA MENON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are considering to construct a three-storeyed building on the plot where the present College, Post Office is situated at Ernakulam; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes.

(b) The construction of the building is likely to be taken up during 1968-69 subject to the availability of funds.

Bar Council Examinations

1594. SHRI VISWANATHA MENON: Will the Minister of LAW be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any petitions from Law students so as to do away with the Bar Council examinations; and

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

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW (SHRI M. YUNUS SALEEM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under the consideration of the Government.

South Post Office (Karithala) of Ernakulam

1595. SHRI VISWANATHA MENON: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that South Post Office (Karithala) of Ernakulam is a very small one and it is not possible to accommodate all the employees working there;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to shift the said post office to a bigger building; and

(c) whether Government propose to locate the Post Office at Mahatma Gandhi Road, Ernakulam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes, There is shortage of 477 sft. of floor area.

(b) Yes.

(c) A new Post Office has been sanctioned for Mahatma Gandhi Road, Ernakulam and will be opened when a suitable building is available.

पौधे संरक्षण निदेशालय के विमान

1596. श्री जार्ज करनेन्डीज़ : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) चौथे संरक्षण निदेशालय के (उद्घाटन स्कैम) के पास कितने विमान हैं और उन्हें किन वर्षों में अर्जित किया गया था तथा कितना मूल्य दिया गया था;

(ख) पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान वर्षावार, इन विमानों ने छिह्काव के कुल कितने बंटे उड़ान की और उन्होंने कुल नितना एकड़ मूल्य पर छिह्काव किया; और

(ग) सिल्जे तीज बच्चों में वर्षेवार इन विमानों के रख-रखाव पर तथा उद्यन स्कूल्स के संचालन पर, आलग-आलग, कितना खर्च आया?

खाद्य, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य-मन्त्री (श्री अन्नासाहिब शिंदे) : (क) खाद्य और कृषि संचालन के पास 7 विमान हैं, उनमें से एक को सन् 1956 में, एक सन् 1961 में, एक सन् 1962 में और चार को सन् 1964 में अर्जित किया गया। इनमें से 5 को उपहार के रूप में प्राप्त किया था, और दो को 60,190 डॉलर प्रति विमान की लागत पर खरीदा गया था।

(द)

वर्ष	फ्रिक्कार्ड के लिए छाए	किसी एक भूमि पर गए वर्षेवार घन्टे	किया गया वर्षेवार
1964-65	440.10	45,648	
1965-66	726.30	1,10,000	
1966-67	777.35	2,09,330	

(ग)

वर्ष	देखरेख पर आया खर्च	उद्यन स्कूल के संचालन पर लागत
1964-65	1,57,500	1,37,200
1965-66	2,07,000	4,15,500
1966-67	4,38,000	6,62,300

Aerial Spraying over Plants

1597. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number and names of firms in the private sector engaged in aerial spraying over plants;

(b) the number and types of aircraft owned by them; and

(c) the amount of foreign exchange sanctioned for them during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASHIB SHINDE): The following statement gives the names of the firms in the private sector engaged in agricultural aerial spraying and the number and types of aircraft owned by them:—

Name of the firms	No. of aircraft	Type of aircraft
1. M/s. Cambata Aviation (P) Ltd.	9	(a) 8 Helicopters. (b) 1 Fixed-wing aircraft
2. M/s. Helicopter services (P) Ltd.	4	Helicopters
3. M/s. Indanier Co. (P) Ltd.	3	Fixed-wing aircraft
4. M.S. Aviation Service Corporation	5	Fixed-wing aircraft
5. M/s. H. S. Sobha Singh (P) Ltd.	1	Fixed-wing aircraft
6. M/s. Khemka Aviation (P) Ltd.	1	Fixed-wing aircraft
7. M/s. Bharatair	2	Helicopters.

(c) The information about the foreign exchange sanctioned during the last three years is being compiled and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Tripartite Indian Labour Conference

1598. SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) when the next meeting of the Tripartite Indian Labour Conference will be convened;

(b) the main issues that will be tackled by the Conference;

(c) whether any suggestions have been received from the Central Organisations of labour for consideration by the Conference; and

(d) if so, the nature thereof and from whom these were received?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) The next session of the Indian Labour Conference will be convened on the 20th and the 21st April, 1968.

(b) The agenda of the Conference has not yet been finalised.

(c) Yes.

(d) A list of suggestions for the agenda received so far from the Central Organisations of labour is placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-195/68].

Bataidari System

1599. SHRI SHIVA CHANRA JHA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to formulate any national policy concerning the Bataidari (Share-cropping) system in Indian agriculture;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the reaction of Government to the Bataidari Bills being on the anvil in the State Governments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). Proposals for land reforms including policy concerning the bataidari (Share cropping) system are contained in the Five Year Plans. Land being a State subject, these proposals are in the nature of a broad common approach which have to be adapted and pursued in each State with due regard to local conditions and in response to local needs.

(d) The action taken by State Governments for implementation of land reforms has been indicated in the review on 'Implementation of Land Reforms' by the Land Reforms Implementation Committee of the National Development Council, which has since been published.

Industrial Relations

1600. SHRI SHIVA CHANDRA JHA: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have tried to apply the Gandhian principle of trusteeship in the industrial relations;

(b) if so, the industries in which it has been applied and the success achieved so far; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Government's policy is aimed at bringing about harmonious industrial relations by promoting a sense of identification between employers and employees. This policy has been practised with a fair measure of success.

(c) Does not arise.

चीनी के मूल्य

1601. श्री मधु लिम्पे : क्या खाद्य तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने विभिन्न राज्यों की राजधानियों, औद्योगिक नगरों तथा ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में नियंत्रित दरों तय खुले बाजार में बेची गई चीनी के बारे में आवश्यक जानकारी एकत्र कर ली है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका न्यौता क्या है?

खाद्य, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा संहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य-मन्त्री (श्री अन्नासाहिब शिंदे) : (क) और (ख). फरवरी 1968 के मध्य में विभिन्न महत्वपूर्ण खपत केन्द्रों पर नियंत्रित तथा खुले बाजार में बिकने वाली चीनी के मूल्य बताने वाला एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा गया है। [पुस्तकालय में रखा गया। देखिये संख्या LT-1024/68]। ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में चीनी के लिये मूल्यों के बारे में सूचना उपलब्ध नहीं है।

राज्यों द्वारा प्राप्त तथा उन्हें भेजे गये खाद्यान्नों की मात्रा में अंतर्गत

1602. श्री मधु लिम्पे : क्या खाद्य तथा हृषि मंत्री 5 दिसम्बर, 1967 के प्रतारंकित प्रणत संख्या 3010 के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि प्रति मास केन्द्र द्वारा भेजे गए तथा राज्यों को प्राप्त खाद्यान्नों के आकड़ों में थोड़ा अन्तर होना निश्चित है; लेकिन अन्त में इन आकड़ों को एक ही होना चाहिए; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो भिन्न-भिन्न राज्यों के साबन्ध में वर्ष 1967-68 में पहले छ: महीं के कड़े क्या हैं?

खाद्य, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा संहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्नासाहिब शिंदे) : (क) केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा खाद्यान्नों का प्रेषण और राज्यों द्वारा उसकी प्राप्ति करना एक निरन्तर प्रक्रिया है। अतः किसी अवधि विशेष के प्रेषण सम्बन्धी आकड़ों तथा उस अवधि में प्राप्त किये गये खाद्यान्नों की मात्रा के बीच सदा अन्तर बना ही रहेगा।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Sale of Indigenous Wheat in Delhi

1603. SHRI HIMATSINGKA:
SHRI ANBUCHEZHIAN:
SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration has requested the Central Government to reduce the price of indigenous wheat and has also requested to permit free sale of wheat in the capital and restrict the sale of imported wheat through ration shops; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHEB SHINDE): (a) and (b). The Chief Executive Councillor, Delhi Administration, informally raised the question of reducing the issue prices of wheat supplied through ration shops. The Delhi Administration have decided to permit free sale of wheat and rice in the open market within the Union Territory with effect from 21st February, 1968. However, distribution of Government food grains on an informal rationing basis would continue.

Fixation of Minimum Wages in Cement and Cotton Mills

1604. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any minimum wages have been fixed for the various categories of workers in Cotton Spinning Mills and Cement Producing Mills;

(b) if so, what are the daily wages for work-charged employees and the monthly salaries for other employees of the establishments; and

(c) if the reply to Part (a) above be in negative, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) to (c). The fixation of minimum wages in these two industries/employments falls in the State sphere.

Community Development Blocks

1605. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the Community Development Blocks in the country under different heads during the period from 1964-65 to 1966-67; and

(b) the percentage of the amount spent on their establishment?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) Allotment of funds is not made by the Centre according to individual heads of expenditure. Actual expenditure out of the Block schematic budget under different heads, as reported by the States, was as follows:

(Rs. in crores)

Heads		1964-65	1965-66	1966-67*
I. Block Headquarter (including transport, seed information centre, office equipment etc.)	store,	17.29	17.38	17.95
II. Agricultural Development				
(a) Agriculture and Animal Husbandry	•	6.85	7.93	3.89
(b) Irrigation and reclamation	•	12.63	11.25	3.96
III. Village Industries		2.66	2.52	1.47
IV. Amenities				
(a) Health & Rural sanitation	•	4.03	4.43	2.43
(b) Education	•	2.92	3.16	1.21
(c) Social Education	•	2.78	2.49	1.57
(d) Communication	•	3.26	3.37	2.75
(e) Housing	•	1.83	1.96	1.00
V. Unclassified (including imported equipment, suspense charge etc.)		0.31	0.49	1.89
TOTAL	•	54.58	54.97	38.12

*Provisional

(b) The percentage of expenditure on Block headquarters (including transport, seed store, information centre, office equipment etc.), as com-

pared to total expenditure out of the schematic budget, came to 31.7, 31.6 and 47.1 respectively during 1964-65, 1965-66 and 1966-67.

Import of Tractors

1606. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tractors imported from foreign countries during the years from 1964-65 to 1966-67 and the selling prices fixed for various makes of tractors;

(b) whether it is a fact that on account of the large percentage of commission allowed to the importers and dealers, the cost of tractors is prohibitive for the farmers;

(c) whether Government have any scheme for the import of tractors direct by farmers for their use with a view to eliminate the middle man's commission; and

(d) whether Government have any scheme to provide facilities for repair of tractors of farmers by opening workshops to avoid exploitation by private workshop owners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) The following numbers of agricultural tractors were imported between 1964-65 to 1966-67:—

1964-65	...	2323
1965-66	...	1989
1966-67	...	2591

During the period under reference the prices (pre-devaluation) of the following tractors which accounted for the bulk of the imports were as indicated against each:—

Zetor 3011 (Czechoslovakia)	Rs. 9326.00
DT-28 (Soviet Union)	Rs. 7500.00
DT-14B (Soviet Union)	Rs. 4200.00
Byelarus (Soviet Union)	Rs. 10,300.00

These prices were exclusive of customs duty, handling, clearing, port and other miscellaneous charges; the

prices did not also include cartage, packing and transport charges. These charges which differed for different consignments and for different places were added to the ex-port prices mentioned above.

After devaluation and during the above period the DT-14B and the Byelarus tractors alone have been authorised for commercial import. The ex-godown port prices of these two models are as follows:—

DT-14B Rs. 6931.00 (including, handling clearing etc., at port of disembarkation).

Byelarus Rs. 15045.00

The prices of Byelarus tractors mentioned above are exclusive of handling, clearing, port and other miscellaneous charges, the actuals of which (subject to a ceiling of 3 per cent on the net c.i.f. value) are added to the price.

Besides for both DT-14B and Byelarus tractors the actuals of customs duty, if any, cartage, packing transport and insurance charges are also added to the price. These charges differ for different consignments and for different places. Some Zetor 3011 tractors authorised for import prior to devaluation were received after devaluation and were priced Rs. 14688.00 exclusive of the aforesaid charges.

(b) No, Sir. The Commission allowed to the agent is 20 per cent of the CIF value of Rs. 5513.00 in the case of DT-14B tractors and 16½ per cent of the CIF value of Rs. 12785.00 in the case of Byelarus tractors. These commissions also include 1½ per cent payable to the State Trading Corporation as its service charges. These tractors are very reasonably priced.

(c) Some measures are under contemplation. However, it has been decided that henceforth the distribution of tractors would, to the extent possible, be entrusted to agro-industries corporations and a beginning has been made with the appointment of the agro-industries corporations of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar as the agents for imported Zetor-2011 tractors.

(d) Yes, Sir, a scheme to this effect is under formulation.

Rehabilitation of Refugees from East Pakistan

1607. SHRI GADILINGANA GOWD: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by Government for the rehabilitation of persons who came from East Pakistan and the number of persons so far rehabilitated;

(b) the pattern of assistance given to each person; and

(c) the basis on which the financial assistance or otherwise was fixed?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND, REHABILITATION (SHRI D. R. CHAVAN): (a) Out of those who were taken in camps about 29.53 lakh persons have been resettled so far.

A sum of Rs. 258.43 crores was spent on the relief and rehabilitation of migrants upto 31st March, 1967. An amount of Rs. 22.44 crores has been provided for this purpose in the Budget Estimates 1967-68. The final figures of the current year's expenditure will be available by the end of June, 1968.

(b) A statement showing the broad pattern of assistance now being given to displaced persons is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-196/68.]

(c) The pattern of assistance is fixed after taking into account the minimum requirements of displaced persons, their general economic condition prevailing price level and all other related factors.

पैकेज प्रोग्राम

1608. श्री देवराव पाटिल : क्या साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार द्वारा 1963 से चलाये जा रहे पैकेज प्रोग्राम के 1969 से समाप्त किए जाने की सम्भावना है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं?

साथ, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री ग्रन्थ-साहित्य जिन्हे) : (क) जी नहीं।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं होता।

रियायती (राज सहायता प्राप्त) दरों पर खाद्यान्नों की सल्लाई

1609. श्री देवराव पाटिल : क्या साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) किन-किन राज्यों में उन व्यक्तियों को जो एक विशेष सीमा से अधिक बेतन ले रहे हैं, रियायती दरों पर खाद्यान्न नहीं दिये जाते;

(ख) किन-किन राज्यों ने एक विशेष निर्धारित सीमा से अधिक बेतन ले रहे व्यक्तियों को नियंत्रित मूल्यों पर खाद्यान्न न देने का निर्णय किया है और इस प्रयोजन के लिये बेतन की क्या राशि-सीमा निर्धारित की गई है; और

(ग) इसके फलस्वरूप केन्द्र द्वारा सम्प्लाई किये जाने वाले मासिक राशन में कितने प्रतिशत की कटौती की गई है ?

साथ, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास, तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री प्रभास-साहिब तिन्हे) : (क) और (ख). केन्द्रीय सरकार के पास उपलब्ध सूचना के अनुसार गुजरात और मध्य प्रदेश में उचित मूल्य की दुकानों से खाद्यान्न देने के लिये आय सीमा निर्धारित की गयी है। गुजरात में यह आय सीमा प्रति परिवार प्रतिवर्ष हृषि आय को छोड़ कर 6000 रुपये निर्धारित की गयी है। मध्य-प्रदेश में 300 रुपये मासिक से अधिक आय पाने वाले व्यक्तियों को उचित मूल्य की दुकानों से खाद्यान्न नहीं दिये जाते हैं।

(ग) इस में कोई कटौती नहीं की गयी है। केन्द्रीय पूल से राज्यों की खाद्यान्नों की सम्प्लाई केन्द्र के पास कुल उपलब्ध और विभिन्न कमी वाले राज्यों की आवश्यकताओं के आधार पर की जाती है।

New Post Offices in Rural Areas

1610. SHRI MANIBHAI J. PATEL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have to incur loss in opening new Post Offices in the rural areas;

(b) the total loss incurred on this account during the year 1967-68;

(c) the number of Post Offices opened in India and Madhya Pradesh separately during the above period; and

(d) the number of Post Offices opened in urban and rural areas during the above period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) Yes.

(b) Not yet known, as the financial year has not closed.

(c) India	506	} as on Madhya Pradesh 46
India	429	
India	77	} as on Madhya Pradesh 7
Madhya Pradesh	39	

इसराईल में सहकारी खेती

1612. श्री ओ० प्र० त्यागी : क्या साथ तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार को इस बात का बता है कि इसराईल में सहकारी खेती को बहुत सफलता मिली है ; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो क्या उनकी कार्य-प्रणाली का अध्ययन करने और उसका भारत में उपयोग करने का सरकार का विचार है ?

साथ, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य-मंत्री (श्री एम० एस० गुडपादस्वामी) : (क) जी हाँ, सामान्यतः यह समझा जाता है कि इसराईल में सहकारी खेती सफलतापूर्वक लागू की गई है।

(ख) इसराईल में सहकारी आन्दोलन, जिसमें सहकारी खेती भी शामिल है, का अध्ययन 1959 में भारत सरकार द्वारा गठित एक समिति ने किया था। इस अध्ययन से इसराईल में सहकारी खेती की जिन मूल्य वालीं का पता चला, उन्हें भारत सरकार ने तीसरी योजना के सहकारी खेती कार्यक्रम को तैयार करते समय ध्यान में रखा था।

कार्मिक संघ

1613 श्री ओ० प्र० तथारी : क्या अम तथा पुनर्वास मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार श्रमिकों के हितों को ध्यान में रखते हुए मजदूर संघों की वाहन तर्फ़ों निहित स्वार्थी से रक्षा करने के लिये किसी प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है?

अम तथा पुनर्वास मन्त्री (श्री हाथी) : (क) और (ख). यूनियनों के पदाधिकारियों में बाहर के व्यक्तियों की संख्या कम करने के लिये ट्रैड यूनियन अधिनियम, 1926 में संशोधनार्थ सरकार को अनेक मुझाव दिए गए हैं। राष्ट्रीय अम आयोग भी इस समस्या पर विचार कर रहा है। आयोग की रिपोर्ट प्राप्त होने पर इस मामले पर आगे विचार किया जायेगा।

Coal Wage Board

1614. SHRI DEVÉN SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have not so far accepted the recommendations of the Coal Wage Board regarding payment of gratuity to workers;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the coal mine owners are dismissing a large number of miners and workers on the ground of medical unfitness without paying any retrenchment compensation; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to accept the recommendations regarding gratuity thereby protecting the rights of the miners and workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A few complaints of this nature were reported. On the intervention of the Central Industrial Relation Machinery the managements were persuaded not to resort to retrenchment.

(c) The Wage Board recommended that Government should impose a cess on coal and pay gratuity to workers out of the fund so created. It is proposed to consider this suggestion after the recommendations already accepted by the Government have been implemented.

खाद्य नीति

1615. श्री हुकम चन्द्र कथवाय : क्या खाद्य तथा हृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि पिछले वर्ष 26 मई को खाद्य नीति के प्रश्न पर जबलपुर में पुलिस ने जो गोलियां चलाई थीं उसकी जांच करने के लिये मध्य प्रदेश सरकार द्वारा नियुक्त जांच आयोग ने उन आरेपों के संबंध में राज्य सरकार तथा केन्द्रीय सरकार से स्पष्टीकरण मांगा है, जो उसके समक्ष सरकार की खाद्य नीति के बारे में लगाये गये हैं; और

(ख) यदि हाँ, तो इस संबंध में केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा दिये गये स्पष्टीकरण का व्यौरा क्या है ?

खाद्य, हृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य-मन्त्री (श्री अम्बा-सहित शिन्ने) : (क) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने सूचित किया है कि जबलपुर जांच आयोग के सचिव ने आयोग के खाद्य, शिक्षा तथा कराधान से संबंधित राज्य तथा केन्द्रीय सरकारों की सामान्य नीतियों के संबंध में दिए गए व्यानों की प्रतियां राज्य सरकार तथा भारत सरकार की टीका-टिप्पणी, यदि कोई वे आवश्यक समझते हों, के लिए भेजी थीं।

आयोग ने राज्य ग्रन्थालय केन्द्रीय सरकार से कोई स्पष्टीकरण नहीं मांगा है।

(ख) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

हिन्दी विरोधी आन्दोलनों के कारण डाक तथा तार कार्यालयों को पहुंची क्षति

1616. श्री हुक्म चन्द कदमवाय : क्या संबार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि हिन्दी विरोधी आन्दोलन करने वालों ने मद्रास, केरल तथा आंध्र प्रदेश में डाक तथा तार कार्यालयों को काफी क्षति पहुंचाई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस आन्दोलन के परिणामस्वरूप डाक तथा तार विभाग को कितनी हानि हुई और विभिन्न राज्यों में पृथक-पृथक कितने डाकघरों तथा उप-डाकघरों को क्षति पहुंचाई गई ; और

(ग) इस संबंध में कितने व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किये गये और उनके विरुद्ध क्या कार्रवाही की गई है ?

संसद-कार्य तथा संबार विभाग में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री इ० कु० मुजराल) : (क) केरल तथा आंध्र-प्रदेश में डाक-तार कार्यालयों को कोई क्षति नहीं हुई। फिर भी, मद्रास में कुछ कार्यालयों को मामूली क्षति पहुंची।

(ख) आन्दोलनकारियों ने मुख्यरूप से डाक-तार कार्यालयों के बाहर आन्दोलन किया और नाम-दूंगों तथा साइन बोर्डों के हिन्दी अक्षरों के मिटादिय। कहीं कहीं वह हिन्दी के साइन बोर्ड उठा ले गए या उन्होंने उन्हें तोड़ दिया। मद्रास सरकार में जिन डाकघरों पर असर पड़ा उनकी संख्या आठ है। कुछ विभागीय मोटर गाड़ियों को भी मामूली नुकसान पहुंचाया गया। गाड़ियों को पहुंचाई गई क्षति का खर्च अनुमानतः 1200 रुपये से कुछ अधिक होगा।

(ग) इस विभाग को ऐसी कोई जानकारी नहीं है कि इस संबंध में कोई व्यक्ति गिरफ्तार किया गया अथवा नहीं।

Degree in Labour and Social Welfare

1617. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether he is aware that the non-recognition by his Ministry of the M.A. Degree in Labour and Social Welfare of Ranchi University is causing hardship to students of that University especially while seeking jobs like Labour Officers in the Central Pool through the Union Public Service Commission;

(b) whether the same Degree of Patna, Bihar (now at Muzaffarpur) and Bhagalpur Universities is recognised under the Labour Officers (Central Pool) Recruitment and Conditions of Service Rules, 1951;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the steps which Government propose to take to give recognition to the M.A. (L & S. W.) Degree of Ranchi University under the said Recruitment Rules to remove the hardships to students of this University?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) No.

(b) Yes.

(c) and (d). No such complaint has been received. The matter would be examined, if and when any reference is made to Government in this regard.

मध्य प्रदेश में सहकारी जीवनी कारखाना

1618. श्री यशवन्त सिंह कुशवाह : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार के सहयोग से मध्य प्रदेश के भिड जिले में चम्बल

नन्दी के सिंचाई वाले झेव में एक सहकारी चौनी कारखाना खोलने के किसी प्रस्ताव पर दिचार कर रही है; और

(ब) यदि हाँ, तो उसका व्यौरा क्या है तथा इससे क्या लाभ होने की संभावना है?

खाद्य, फूसि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अन्नासाहिब शिंदे) : (क) जो नहीं।

(ब) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता।

Exploratory Tubewells Organisation

1619. SHRI LAKHAN LAL KAPOOR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in a meeting of the Informal Consultative Committee of the Ministry some time back, it was suggested that the work of actual boring of tubewells in the various States may also be undertaken by the Exploratory Tubewells Organisations of the Government of India; and

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

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI SHINDE): (a) and (b). No specific suggestion to this effect has been made at the meetings of the Informal Consultative Committee of the present Lok Sabha for this Ministry although suggestions for accelerating the groundwater development programme have been made. The primary function of the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation is groundwater exploration in the different parts of the country with a view to delineate areas

having groundwater potentiality for development by tubewell irrigation. However, it has, from time to time, been assisting the various State Governments in the construction of production tubewells. With the strengthening of the drilling organisations under the State Governments, the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation is expected to concentrate on its primary objective.

Exploratory Tubewells Organisation

1620. SHRI LAKHAN LAL KAPOOR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Chief Engineer, Exploratory Tubewells Organisation of the Government of India propose to shift one of his Divisions at Varanasi to the South;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the Chief Engineer has visited the South various times for this purpose; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI SHINDE): (a) It is not a fact that the Varanasi Division of the Exploratory Tubewells Organisation is contemplated for shifting to South India. However, the Division now located at Roorkee is proposed to be located in Madras to resume groundwater exploration during 1968-69.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In Madras the groundwater exploration work had to be stopped in early 1964 and rigs diverted to Rajasthan for undertaking construction of production tubewells on behalf of the State Government in the

scarcity areas. Similarly, in Andhra Pradesh, the exploration work could not be undertaken during the Third Plan period due to the pressing needs of the drought affected areas of Rajasthan, U.P. and Bihar. Exploration work is therefore proposed to be taken up in these two States during 1968-69.

Exploratory Tubewells Organisation

1621. SHRI LAKHAN LAL KAPOOR: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total expenditure incurred on the Exploratory Tube-wells Organisation by the Centre (including foreign aid) from 1954-55 to 1966-67 with its break-up;

(b) the total expenditure likely to be incurred during 1967-68 with its break-up;

(c) the total foreign aid in the form of equipments etc. from various International Organisations during the period from 1954-55 to 1966-67; and

(d) the number of sites tested for drilling and actual number of boring in the various States by these organisations during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is given in Annexure I which is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-197/68].

(c) (i) Equipment—Rs. 139.99 lakhs (approx.)

(ii) Services of an American firm of Technical consultants—Rs. 51.83 lakhs (approx.)

(d) A statement giving the required information is given in Annexure II laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-197/68].

भारत के खाद्य निगम के कार्यालय का दिल्ली से स्थानान्तरण

1622. SHRI RAM CHANDRA: क्या खाद्य तथा फूहि मंत्री 21 नवम्बर, 1967 के प्रतारांकित प्रश्न संख्या 1130 के उत्तर के संबंध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या भारत सरकार के खाद्य निगम के कार्यालय की इमारत के अत्याधिक मामिक किराये को बचाने की दृष्टि से और इस बात को भी ध्यान में रखते हुए कि इस निगम का कार्यालय दिल्ली से बाहर है, सरकार का विचार इस निगम के कार्यालय को नई दिल्ली से बाहर स्थानान्तरित करने का है;

(ख) यदि नहीं, तो क्या सरकार ने इस निगम के कार्यालय को किसी सरकारी इमारत में रखने के लिए कोई व्यवस्था की है; और

(ग) इस निगम के कार्यालय को दिल्ली में रखने पर सरकार ने किराये के रूप में अब तक कितनी धनराशि व्यय की है?

खाद्य, फूहि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री प्रसाद-साहिब जिन्दे) : (क) ऐसा कोई प्रस्ताव नहीं है।

(ख) कोई सरकारी भवन उपलब्ध नहीं है।

(ग) निगम को दिल्ली में रखने पर सरकार ने किराये के रूप में कोई धनराशि व्यय नहीं की है। भारतीय खाद्य निगम के दिल्ली स्थित अपने प्रधान कार्यालय के किराये के रूप में अब तक लगभग 5.85 लाख रुपये व्यय किए हैं।

उत्तर प्रदेश में कृषि उत्पादन

1623. श्री राम चरणः क्या साथ तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) उत्तर प्रदेश में कृषि उत्पादन को बढ़ाने के लिये विभिन्न योजनाओं के अन्तर्गत केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा 1968-69 में कितना अनुदान तथा कृषि दिया जायेगा ; और

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने कितनी बनरायिं निवारित किये जाने की मांग की है ?

साथ, कृषि, सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री अम्बा-साहिब विन्दे) :

(क) कृषि तथा अनुदानों के रूप में केन्द्रीय सहायता विकास के मुख्य शीर्षकों के अन्तर्गत ही जाती है, अलग अलग योजनाओं के लिए नहीं । सन् 1968-69 के लिये कृषि क्षेत्र के अन्तर्गत कृषि तथा अनुदानों के रूप में दी जाने वाली केन्द्रीय सहायता को अभी शीर्षकों के अन्तर्गत अन्तिम रूप नहीं दिया गया है ।

(ख) सन् 1968-69 के लिए अपनी वार्षिक योजना प्रस्तावों में, उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार ने कृषि कार्यक्रम के अन्तर्गत 47,03 करोड़ रुपये के खंड का प्रस्ताव रखा था ।

Import of Drilling Rigs

1624. SHRI T. P. SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any amount of foreign exchange has been allocated to States for importing drilling rigs during 1968-69; and

(b) if so, details thereof, Statewise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a)

No, Sir. However, against the foreign exchange released in 1966-67 and 1967-68, some of the rigs under import are likely to reach the country in 1968-69.

(b) Does not arise.

Telephone Connection in Madhya Pradesh

1625. SHRI G. C. DIXIT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications pending for the grant of telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh at present;

(b) the number of applications pending during the last year and the number of connections given during that period;

(c) how long it takes a person to get a telephone connection on the basis of these figures; and

(d) whether it will be possible to meet the demand for telephone connections at the end of the Fourth Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): (a) The number of applications pending for the grant of telephone connections in Madhya Pradesh on 31st December, 1967 was 10,617.

(b) The number of applications pending on 31st December, 1966 was 9,406 and the number of connections given in 1967 was 2,900.

(c) The position varies from exchange to exchange. Delay is negligible in exchanges of 50 lines and below. In other cases, average delay varies from two to ten months, except in Raipur, Jabalpur and Indore, where it has taken three to eight years to get connections.

(d) The demand for new telephone connections has always been on the increase and even though efforts are

being made to step up the production of exchange equipment and other essential stores within the available resources, it is not expected to meet fully all demands for telephone connections by the end of 1970-71. Even if the present waiting lists are wiped out, more will build up by then.

Unemployment of Educated Persons in Madhya Pradesh

1626. SHRI G. C. DIXIT: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of educated unemployed persons in the live registers of various Employment Exchanges in Madhya Pradesh during the period from January, 1965 to December, 1967; and

(b) the number of educated unemployed persons provided with employment by the Employment Exchanges during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) and (b). The information is given in the table below:

Period	I	Number of educated applicants (Matriculates and above) on the live register at the end of the year.*	Number of placements effected in respect of educated (Matriculates and above) applicants during the year
1964	.	44,006	17,463
1965	.	58,520	16,667
1966	.	66,942	15,050
1967	.	83,077	14,714

Loans for Tubewells in Madhya Pradesh

1627. SHRI G. C. DIXIT: SHRI RAM SINGH AYARWAL:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that several applications for the grant of loans for tubewells in Madhya Pradesh have been pending for long with Madhya Pradesh Government for want of sufficient loans from the Central Government

(b) if so, the number of such applications and when the loans are likely to be sanctioned; and

(c) the amount of assistance to be given?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the Government of Madhya Pradesh and will, on receipt, be placed on the Table of the Sabha.

Self-Sufficiency of Seeds in Jammu and Kashmir

1628. SHRI S. C. SAMANTA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any big drive to make Jammu and Kashmir self-sufficient in various seeds and to re-

*Includes employed persons who

registered their names for better em-

new old seeds every three years;

(b) if so, whether any special unit has been set up to speed up the work;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the areas selected for seed farms lie on Jammu-Pak. border; and

(d) whether the Central Tractor Organisation is helping the Schemes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir. The J. & K. State Government proposes to set up 2 big size farms—one at Sonwari in Kashmir province and the other at Pargwal in Jammu province, and to use the existing one at Nandpur for seed production purposes.

(b) Provision of funds has been made in the State budget during 1968-69 and the work is likely to start from April, 1968.

(c) The farms at Nandpur and Pargwal lie on Indo-Pak. border in the Jammu province. Sonwari farm (Kashmir province) is far away from the border.

(d) There is at present no Central Tractor Organisation. The Ministry of Rehabilitation has, however, provided a number of tractors for use in the Chhamb and Jaurian area for resettlement of refugees. These tractors are proposed to be used for the seed farms.

Inspectors in Co-operative Department, Manipur

1629. SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Inspectors of the Co-operative Department, Manipur are on pay strike for the last 3 months;

(b) if so, what are their grievances; and

(c) the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY):

(a) No, Sir.

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

Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department, Manipur

1630. SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the accounts of the Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department of Manipur for the years ending 1965 were recently audited;

(b) if so, the finding of the auditors; and

(c) the action taken on the audit report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHI SHINDE): (a) A special audit of Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department was carried out in 1965-66 covering the period April, 1962 to July, 1965.

(b) several irregularities have been pointed out in the Audit Report.

(c) these are at present under examination by a Committee.

उत्तर प्रदेश में खण्ड विकास अधिकारी और भाग स्तर कर्मचारी

1631. श्री पश्चपाल सिंह: क्या खाली तथा हृषि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने हिंदौयों जारी कर दी हैं कि उत्तर प्रदेश में खण्ड विकास अधिकारियों और भाग स्तर कर्मचारियों को परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रमों का प्रचार करने का काम सौंपा जाये; और

(ब) यदि हाँ, तो तत्सम्बन्धी व्यापार क्या है?

काल, हाँ; सम्बन्धित विकास तथा सहकार मन्त्रालय में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री एम० एस० गुप्तादत्तसामी) : (क) तथा (ब). जहाँ तक ग्राम स्तरीय कार्यकर्ता का सम्बन्ध है, उसे प्रकाशित कर्तव्यादत् सम्बन्धी काम दिए गए हैं, जबकि केन्द्र सरकार का विचार यह रहा है कि छण्ड विकास अधिकारी और शास्त्र कर्मचारियों को परिवार नियोजन कार्यक्रम के नेतृत्वात् पहलुओं, जो राज्य स्तरीय विभागों के पर्यवेक्षण में मैटिकल तथा पैरा मैटिकल कर्मचारियों पर केन्द्रित रहेंगे, से पृथक् प्रोत्साहनात्मक पहलु को समर्थन तथा संकेत सहयोग देना चाहिए। इस बारे में सभी राज्य सरकारों को लिखा गया है।

Man-hours lost due to Strike in M/s. Firestone Tyre and Rubber Company

1632. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) the number of man-hour lost due to a strike in Messrs. Firestone Tyre and Rubber Company of India (P) Limited, Bombay in the year 1967;

(b) the estimated loss of production on account of the strike;

(c) the causes for the strike;

(d) whether Government propose to use their good offices to end the strike; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):
(a) to (e). Industrial relations in this undertaking fall within the jurisdiction of the Government of Maharashtra.

Implementation of Recommendation of Coal Wage Board

1633. SHRI DEVEN SEN: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recommendations of the Coal Wage Board as accepted by Government have been implemented by the employers of coal mines in India;

(b) whether any of the collieries have implemented the recommendations of the Coal Wage Board on variable dearness allowance at the new enhanced rate and if so, what are their names;

(c) whether it is a fact that most of the employers have failed to pay the legal dues of the workmen in proper time and have introduced a system of arrear payment resulting in reduction of a large portion of workmen's wages in the hands of the employers; and

(d) if so, the steps Government propose to take to remove the difficulties of the workers?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI):

(a) Two hundred and eighty five collieries employing 3,52,952 workers and accounting for 82 per cent of the total employment are reported to have commenced implementation of the Wage Board's recommendations.

(b) Eighty eight collieries have paid variable dearness allowance at the new enhanced rate recommended by the Wage Board. The management concerned are:—

1. Tatas.

2. N.D.C.D.C. Ltd;

3. M/S. Andrew Yule & Co.

4. Singareni Collieries Co. Ltd.

5. MS. Searssole Coal Co. Ltd.

6. Madhabpur, Chora, Manohar-bahal and South Joyramdanga Collieries.

(c) and (d). As stated in reply to part (a) the process of implementation is yet to be completed. Information on the subject continues to be received from field officers who are trying to secure for the workers their dues, as early as possible.

**REBOUTING THE TELEGRAPHIC Tele-Communications Link with
Kashmir**

1634. SHRI HARDAYAL DEVGUN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime during the first week of February, 1968, communications between Kashmir and the rest of the country remained cut-off;

(b) the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a recurring feature during the period of heavy snow-falls in Kashmir; and

(d) if so, the steps which Government have taken or propose to take to maintain telecommunications between Srinagar and Delhi without any break?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL):

(a) Yes.

(b) Unprecedented heavy snow-fall at the Microwave repeater station at Narota (Ht. 9620 ft. above sea level) caused failure of the newly installed Microwave system. The open wire route was also damaged.

(c) Yes, it used to be so far with the open wire lines. However, the new Microwave system had not had enough time to stabilise. Further, the unprecedentedly heavy snowfall had blocked the path of transmission.

(d) Various measures are under examination and necessary action will be taken as soon as weather conditions permit.

**Collection of Land Revenue in
FOOD AND MANIPUR**

1635. SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Land revenue has been collected in the Union Territory of Manipur since 1st January, 1966 at an enhanced rate and on the basis of a new Agricultural year;

(b) whether it is also a fact that land revenue payers are paying land revenue for the year 1966 after they have paid the land revenue for the year 1965-66 till the end of March, 1966;

(c) whether the land revenue paid for the whole year of 1965-66 is made the land revenue for only 9 months from the 1st April 1965 to the 31st December, 1965; and

(d) if so, the total amount collected in excess from the land owners and how it is being refunded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No.

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Gram Panchayats in Manipur

1636. SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Gram Panchayats in Manipur are given the facilities for their association with planning and execution of the development schemes at all levels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the sources of their income and the grants given to them by Government, if any, for the execution of development schemes in their respective villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be placed on the table of the House in due course.

Gram Panchayats in Manipur

1637. SHRI M. MEGHACHANDRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish the two higher tiers in the Gram Panchayats in Manipur at the District and Block levels in Manipur;

(b) if so, when it is likely to be implemented; and

(c) the drawbacks which are in the Panchayat movement in the Union Territory of Manipur at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY): (a) to (c). The Union Territory only has Village Panchayats now. A Bill for setting up of Gram Sabhas with their executive committees called Gram Panchayats at the village level, Panchayat Samitis at the Block level and Rural Area Advisory Committee at the Union Territory level is under consideration. Establishment of these institutions has to await enactment of the legislation.

National Labour Code

1638. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND REHABILITATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether any progress has so far been made towards the evolution of a National Labour Code; and

(b) if so, the nature thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND REHABILITATION (SHRI HATHI): (a) There is no such proposal under consideration of Government.

(b) Does not arise.

Additional Storage for Foodgrains

1639. SHRI VIRENDRAKUMAR SHAH: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while there are prospects of bumper crop this year, the storage facilities available in the country are disproportionately inadequate;

(b) the extent of the approved type of storage capacity available at present in each State and Union territories; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to provide for additional storage facilities in each of the States and Union territories?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND CO-OPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir.

(b). A Statement showing the total storage capacity available with the Central Government, Food Corporation of India, Central Warehousing Corporation, the State Warehousing Corporations and the State Government/Administrations in each of the States and Union Territories, is laid on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-198/68].

(c) The Food Corporation of India are undertaking additional storage construction in the surplus States of Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh and Orissa on a priority basis.

Telephonic Facilities in Chirag Delhi Post Office, Delhi

1640. SHRI ABDUL GHANI DAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no telephonic facilities are provided in the Chirag Delhi Post Office, Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the survey work has been completed;

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in installing a telephone in the said Post Office;

(d) whether the Post Office is also likely to get a public call office facilities;

(e) if so, when; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL):

(a) Yes.

(b) Yes; the cable work has just been completed.

(c) Lack of cable and non-availability of exchange equipment.

(d) Yes.

(e) In May, 1968.

(f) Does not arise.

Soil Conservation for Forest and Agricultural Lands

1641. SHRI HEM RAJ: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that soil conservation for forest and agricultural lands is undertaken by his Ministry and soil conservation in the catchment areas of the multi-purpose projects is undertaken by the Ministry of Irrigation and Power; and

(b) if so, the steps taken to co-ordinate the work?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) No, Sir. Soil Conservation works on forest, agricultural and other lands are carried out by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations as part of their overall development programme. A special Centrally sponsored scheme of soil conservation in the catchment areas of 13 major river valley projects is also implemented by the States as well as some of the project authorities, like the D.V.C., with the financial and technical assistance of the Miinstry of Food and Agriculture, C.D. & C.

(b) Coordination among different agencies is effected through regular field visits and discussions with the State authorities, by technical committees and Inter-ministrial discussions whenever necessary. Progress is also reviewed in detail at the time of annual Plan discussions.

Telephone and Telegraph Offices

1643. SHRI HEM RAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of telephone and telegraph offices sanctioned during the last five years upto the end of December, 1967 with the names of the Telephone and Telegraph Offices, State and Union Territory-wise; and

(b) the number which have been opened and are functioning, State and Union Territory-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL):

(a) and (b). The information is being collected and shall be placed on the Table of the Lok Sabha in due course.

Acquisition of Lands for Housing of P. & T. Staff

1644. DR. M. SANTOSHAM: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have appointed a Committee to examine the question of acquisition of developed lands from the private citizens for the purpose of housing of Posts and Telegraphs Department Staff; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to issue instructions to the State Governments/Union Territories Administrations to refrain from acquiring developed lands for this purpose and instead acquire only undeveloped lands till such time as the Committee has not submitted its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) and (b). No, Sir. But a Committee has been set up to examine the working of the Land Acquisition Act, 1894.

Cost Structure of Sugar

1646. SHRI D. C. SHARMA: SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Tariff Commission has been asked by Government to make a fresh examination of the cost structure of sugar and recommend new cost schedule to determine a fair price for sugar;

(b) if so, the terms of reference; and

(c) when it is likely to submit its report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Tariff Commission has been requested to undertake a fresh examination of the cost structure of sugar and to prepare new cost schedules to determine the fair price payable to the sugar industry. The Commission has also been requested that in formulating its recommendations they should enquire, *inter alia*, into the following points:—

(i) Should the classification of factories into zones be according to the recommendations of the Sugar Enquiry Commission and, if not, on what other considerations? What part crushing capacity of a factory should play in this classification? What should be the zones into which the factories should be grouped, having regard to the basis of classification which may now be recommended by the Tariff Commission?

(ii) While preparing the cost schedules for price fixation, the Commission might recommend the basis on which the provision for depreciation should be made: Whether depreciation to be allowed in the cost structure should be calculated on replacement value or on the written down values of assets and how individual factories which modernise their plant or expand their capacities should be compensated for the investment made?

(iii) Whether provision should be made in the price to compensate units situated in an area which, under free market conditions, would have an inherent advantage over units in other areas due to higher productivity and better efficiency? If so, what should be the provision?

(iv) Whether to encourage organised an efficient system of

harvesting and quick transport of sugarcane from the fields to the factories, ex-field price for sugarcane should be fixed and provided for in the price of sugar?

(v) Whether and to what extent incentives should be given to compensate factories for the loss in recovery of sugar from sugarcane due to early start or working late into the hot weather?

(vi) How far the mechanism of price fixation can be used to induce growers to supply cane to sugar factories regularly irrespective of fluctuations in gur and khandsari prices?

(c) The Commission has been requested to submit its report/recommendations to the Government as early as possible but not later than 9 months from the date of the Resolution i.e., 7th February, 1968.

Rice and Jowar Procurement in Maharashtra

1647. SHRI DEORAO PATIL: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total quantities of jowar and rice procured under the Monopoly Procurement Scheme from the farmers in Maharashtra State in the current year;

(b) whether the target fixed for the purpose has been achieved;

(c) whether the procured quantity of jowar and rice has met scarcity conditions in the State; and

(d) if not, the demand made by the State to the Central Government for supply of foodgrains?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a)

The quantities procured till 10th February 1968 were—

Jowar	38,762 tonnes
Paddy	177,185 tonnes
Rice	24 tonnes

(b) No target has been fixed for procurement of foodgrains.

(c) Maharashtra is a deficit State and the procurement of foodgrains cannot out the basic deficit. In case of any outbreak of scarcity conditions due to future unfavourable natural causes, the affected areas will be taken care of by utilizing the available foodgrains.

(d) The State has not yet made a formal demand to the Centre for any specific quantity for the year as a whole.

घेराव

1648. श्री हुकम चन्द्र कच्छवाय : ब्राह्म अम तथा पुनर्वासि मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) 15 दिसम्बर, 1967 से अब तक विभिन्न राज्यों में ग्रौदोगिक संस्थानों में घेराव की कितनी घटनाएं हुई हैं;

(ख) क्या घेरावों के परिणाम स्वरूप उत्पादन में भारी कमी हुई है; और

(ग) यदि हां, तो विभिन्न राज्यों में घेरावों के कारण गत तीन मास में ग्रौदोगिक संस्थानों को कितनी हानि हुई ?

अम तथा पुनर्वासिमन्त्री (श्री हाथी) :

(क) सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन की मेज पर रख दी जायेगी।

(ख) घेरावों के कारण हानि हुए अम दिनों के अलग आंकड़े उपलब्ध नहीं हैं। परन्तु घेरावों से ग्रौदोगिक उत्पादन को हानि अवश्य हुई है।

(ग) जनवरी, 968 को समाप्त होने वाली तिमाही के दौरान हानि हुए उत्पादन के मूल्य के सम्बन्ध में सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है और सदन की मेज पर रख दी जायेगी।

गोरखपुर डाकघर से पासंल गुम हो जाने की घटना

1649. श्री हुकम चन्द्र कांवाय : क्या संचार मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि जनवरी, 1968 के द्वितीय सप्ताह में गोरखपुर डाकघर से 3500 रुपये की लागत का एक बीमाकृत पासंल गुम पाया गया;

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या गुम हुए पासंल के बारे में अच्छी तरह भानवीन की गई हैं; और

(ग) यदि हां तो गुम पासंल का कब पता चला और इस मामले से सम्बन्धित व्यक्ति के विशद क्या कार्यवाही की गई ?

संसद्-कार्य तथा संचार विभाग में राज्य मन्त्री (श्री इ० कु० गुबराल) : (क) जी नहीं, जनवरी, 1968 में गोरखपुर डाकघर से किसी बीमाकृत पासंल के गुम होने की कोई घटना नहीं हुई। शायद चोरीचौरा उप डाकघर के एक उस नकदी थेले के गुम हो जाने की ओर संकेत किया गया है, जिसमें 4/5-1-1968 को गोरखपुर प्रधान डाकघर के लिए 3500 रुपये भेजे गए थे।

(ख) तथा (ग) जी हां, किन्तु नकदी थेले का अभी तक पता नहीं चला है। जिस कमेंदारी पर शक था, उसे मुअतिल कर दिया गया है और पुलिस द्वारा तहकीकात चल रही है।

सचेतकों का सम्मेलन, शिमला

1650. श्री कंवरलाल गुप्त : क्या संसद्-कार्य मन्त्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि शिमला में हुए मुद्य सचेतकों के सम्मेलन में राजनीतिक दलों, उनके नेताओं तथा सचेतकों को करितप्य तुविधाएं प्रदान करने का निर्णय किया गया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में केन्द्रीय सरकार ने क्या कार्यवाही की है ?

संसद्-कार्य तथा संचार मन्त्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) : (क) अक्टूबर, 1967 में शिमले में हुए छठे अखिल भारतीय सचेतक सम्मेलन की एक सिफारिश निम्न प्रकार हैः—

“केन्द्र की भारतीय राज्यों/केन्द्र शासित क्षेत्रों के सरकारी मुद्य सचेतकों को ही संसद् कार्य मन्त्री बनाना चाहिये; सरकारी उप-मुद्य सचेतकों को या तो उप-मन्त्री बनाना चाहिये अथवा उपमन्त्रियों की हैसियत देनी चाहिये; संसद् / विधान मण्डलों में मान्यता प्राप्त विरोधी दलों के मुद्य सचेतकों को उपमन्त्रियों जैसी प्राप्य सुविधाएं दी जानी चाहिए, और क्षेत्रीय सरकारी सचेतकों तथा संसद्-विधान मण्डलों में मान्यता प्राप्त विरोधी दलों के मुद्य सचेतकों को संसदीय सचिवों जैसी प्राप्य सुविधाएं दी जानी चाहिए। महानगर परिषद् के विभिन्न दलों के सचेतकों को भी उचित भुविधाएं प्रदान करनी चाहिए।”

(ख) यह विषय विचाराधीन है।

Tubewells on Border areas of Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana

1650-A. SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the progress so far made to provide tube-wells in the border areas of Punjab, Rajasthan, Haryana and Gujarat;

(b) the target fixed for the years 1967-68 and 1968-69; and

(c) how far the target has been fulfilled during 1967-68?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI

ANNASAHI SHINDE): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Governments and would be placed on the Table of the Sabha as soon as received.

Long Staple Cotton

1650-B. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a research project involving Rs. 56 lakhs has been initiated by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research to undertake research on superior long staple cotton in order to reduce country's dependence on its imports;

(b) the annual demand of the Indian Textile Industry for cotton staplings;

(c) the amount of foreign exchange involved; and

(d) the total saving of the foreign exchange likely to be affected after implementation of the scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): (a) Yes. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned, with effect from 1st April, 1967, an All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton at an estimated cost of Rs. 56 lakhs spread over four years. The work under the Project would be carried out on an all-India basis in which the cooperation of Central Research Institutes as well as the Agricultural Universities and State Departments of Agriculture will be available. Another special feature of the project is its inter-disciplinary approach, such that the work relates not only to genetic improvement for evolving superior varieties, but also in related disciplines concerned with the control of diseases and pests and fibre quality. The work under the Project will be carried out on a Zonal basis at the following main and sub-centres:—

States	Main Centres	sub-Centres.
Haryana	Hissar	
Punjab . . . . .	..	Ludhiana
Rajasthan	Shriganganagar	Rajasthan Canal area to be fixed.
Gujrat	Surat	Talod, Junagadh and Viramgam
Maharashtra	Akola	Achalpur and Nanded.
Madhya Pradesh	Indore	Khandwa & Badnawar
Mysore	Dharwar	Badravathi, Arbhavi and Siruguppa.
Andhra Pradesh	Tenali	Amravati & Nandyal
Madras	Coinbatore I. A. R. I., New Delhi and Coimbatore. Cotton Technological Research Laboratory, Bombay.	Kovilpatti and Srivilliputhur.

The development programme drawn up for increasing the total production of cotton in India during the Five Year Plan periods would be expected to lead to quantitative self sufficiency in respect of cotton of staple length below 1-1/16". There is, however,

need to intensify the research work for attaining qualitative improvements in the composition of the Indian cotton crops, for producing staples above 1-1/16". The All India Coordinated Research Project on Cotton would accelerate the tempo of research

on superior long staple cotton of 1-1/16" and above for minimising the dependence on imports.

(b) The current demand of the country's cotton textile industry for cotton is of the order of 64-65 lakh bales per year. Out of this requirement, about 8-9 lakh bales are met by imports from abroad which are mostly in long staple. These imports are made partly from global sources involving expenditure in foreign exchange, and partly from the U.S.A. under P.L. 480 against payment in rupees.

(c) The expenditure in foreign exchange on account of imports from global sources is roughly Rs. 51 crores per year at current prices.

(d) It is estimated that the annual imports of foreign cotton stapling 1-1/16" and above are of 8-9 lakh bales costing the exchequer Rs. 51 crores of rupees in terms of foreign exchange every year. With the gradual acceleration in tempo of research on superior long staple cotton of 1-1/16" and above, the dependence on imports to this extent will be minimised.

Indian Teak

1650-C. SHRI CHENGALRAYA NAIDU: Will the Minister of FOOD AND AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the report of the F.A.O., the Indian teak which is already highly priced abroad is likely to be in greater demand in Europe;

(b) if so, the steps which are being taken by Government to increase the production of teak wood for larger export;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the above report of the F.A.O. was discussed at the ninth Commonwealth Forestry Conference held in New Delhi on the 3rd January, 1968; and

(d) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASHAHIB SHINDE): (a) No report of the F.A.O. on the subjects is traceable.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

SHORT NOTICE QUESTION

Navagam Oil Fields

SNQ. 1. SHRI MANUBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some fire accident took place at Navagam Oil Fields in Gujarat on 9th February, 1968;

(b) how many officers received fatal injuries and how many died; and

(c) the extent of the loss caused to the project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND CHEMICALS AND SOCIAL WELFARE (SHRI ASOKA MEHTA): (a) No, Sir. There was, however, an accident resulting in fire at Camayi.

(b) One driver and one cleaner, employed by the tanker contractor, and a production operator employed by the ONGC, were killed.

(c) The loss caused to the project is estimated to be approximately Rs. 100/-,

MR. SPEAKER: Papers to be laid; Shri Govinda Menon.

SOME HON. MEMBERS rose—

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I went to make a submission, Sir. (Interruptions).

MR. SPEAKER: Everyday, you get up and say all that. Yesterday, the B.A.C. met and made the Report. (Interruptions) I cannot help it. I cannot dismiss anybody or appoint anybody. I am not listening; nothing is being taken down. (Interruptions) **

February, 1968, under sub-section (6) of section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-184/68.]

Notifications under Iron Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, and Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act

12.01 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE
Twenty-ninth Report of the Law Commission

THE MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI GOVINDA MENON): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Twenty-ninth Report of the Law Commission on the proposal to include certain social and economic offences in the Indian Penal Code. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-182/68.]

Indian Telegraph (Ninth Amendment) Rules

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Telegraph (Ninth Amendment) Rules, 1967, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 1901 in Gazette of India dated the 19th December, 1967, under sub-section (5) of section 7 of the Indian Telegraph Act, 1885 (Hindi version). [Placed in Library. See No. LT-183/68.]

Notification under Essential Commodities Act

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD, AGRICULTURE, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND COOPERATION (SHRI ANNASAHIB SHINDE): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Indian Maize (Temporary Use in Starch Manufacture) Order, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 283 in Gazette of India dated the 9th Feb-

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR, EMPLOYMENT AND REHABILITATION (SHRI S. C. JAMIR): I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) a copy of the Iron Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess (Amendment) Rules, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 133 in Gazette of India dated the 20th January, 1968, under sub-section (4) of section 8 of the Iron Ore Mines Labour Welfare Cess Act, 1961. [Placed in Library. See No. LT-185/68.]

(2) A copy each of the following Notifications under section 7A of the Coal Mines Provident Fund and Bonus Schemes Act, 1948:—

- (i) The Coal Mines Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 157 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1968.
- (ii) The Andhra Pradesh Coal Mines Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 158 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1968.
- (iii) The Rajasthan Coal Mines Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 159 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1968.
- (iv) The Neyveli Coal Mines Provident Fund (Amendment) Scheme 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 160 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1968.

** Not recorded.

[Shri S. C. Jamir.]

- (v) The Coal Mines Provident Fund (Assam) Amendment Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 161 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1968.
- (vi) The Coal Mines Provident Fund (Rewa and Korea) Amendment Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 162 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1968.
- (vii) The Coal Mines Provident Fund (Talcher) Amendment Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 163 in Gazette of India dated the 27th January, 1968.
- (viii) The Andhra Pradesh Coal Mines Bonus (Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 192 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 1968.
- (ix) The Rajasthan Coal Mines Bonus (Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 193 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 1968.
- (x) The Assam Coal Mines Bonus (Amendment) Scheme, 1968, published in Notification No. G.S.R. 194 in Gazette of India dated the 3rd February, 1968.
[Placed in Library. See No. LT-185/68.]

—
rity named Lokpal for the investigation of administrative acts in certain cases and for matters connected therewith which was circulated for the purpose of eliciting opinion thereon by the direction of the House on the 1st December, 1967.

12 03½ hrs.

DEMANDS FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS (RAILWAYS), 1967-68

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH): On behalf of Shri C. M. Poonacha, I beg to present a statement showing Supplementary Demands for Grants in respect of the Budget (Railways) for 1967-68.

MR. SPEAKER: I am sitting quiet as long as you do not allow me to take up the business of the House. (Interruptions)** You go on shouting. (Interruptions)** Will you kindly sit down? I allowed one statement to be made by the education Minister. If everyday you want to hold up the business of the House, I cannot allow it. (Interruptions)** Nothing is being taken down.

SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR CHATTERJI rose—

MR. SPEAKER: I have no objection. When so many are speaking, you can also speak. Nothing is being recorded. (Interruptions)** What can I do? I cannot force anybody to get up and answer it. I cannot dismiss anybody or appoint anybody. (Interruptions)** What can I do? I cannot help it.

Nothing will be recorded. I am not going to allow this.

(Interruptions)*

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): I beg to lay on the Table Paper No. I to the Bill to make provision for the appointment and functions of an autho-

** Not recorded.

12.05 hrs.

**PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
FOURTEENTH REPORT**

SHRI M. R. MASANI (Rajkot): I beg to present the Fourteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on Appropriation Accounts (Civil) 1965-66 and Audit Report (Civil), 1967, relating to the Ministry of Education.

—

12.05½ hrs.

**BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Fourteenth Report**

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): I beg to move:

"That this House agrees with the Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 21st February, 1968."

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR (Palghat): This is about the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Bill, 1967. Without any discussion the Bill is to be passed! I have an objection, Sir. At least one hour should be allowed for this.

MR. SPEAKER: Yesterday it was to be passed by the House without referring it to the Select Committee. This was discussed as a special case. It was a compromise between the Government and the hon. members there. Instead of passing it here by giving two or three hours, they wanted it to go to the Select Committee, so that it would come back here again. It was a compromise. They said that it would not be a precedent for any future commitment. They agreed that it must go to the Select Committee. This was what was discussed in the Business Advisory Committee. Therefore, I have nothing to say on this

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): On this I want to make a submission.

MR. SPEAKER: Mr. Siddayya.

SHRI SIDDAYYA (Chamarajanagar): Previously this was allotted one hour. This was approved by the House also. Now there is a change...

MR. SPEAKER: He may please sit down. I will explain to him. He has not understood me.

At that time it was to pass the Bill; the time was allotted to discuss and pass the Bill here—one hour or two hours whatever it may be. Now they say that they will send it to the Select Committee. Now it is going to a Select Committee and will then come before the House for discussion. But the Government wanted to have it passed without sending to Select Committee within one or two hours. As a concession to the Opposition demand, I said we shall send it to Select Committee and then after the Committee report, we will discuss it in the House for an hour or two. Actually this is the job of the Minister to explain, not mine.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: About this item, I want to say this. I am a member of the Business Advisory Committee and I agree with the report. I would only request you and through you the Minister of Education, who has just come, to agree to a one-hour discussion on the teachers' strike. I am not irrelevant while making this demand at this stage.

MR. SPEAKER: I won't allow any representation now.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: I would request you to consider this in the larger interest of the teachers. You are angry with me, but not with the teachers.

MR. SPEAKER: Not even with you. I shall be angry with no member of the House.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA (Barmer): It was agreed in the Business Advisory Committee that the Hazari Report would come up for discussion in the first week of this session. Now

[Shri Amrit Nahata.]

two weeks have elapsed. The hon. Minister, Shri F. A. Ahmad had tabled a motion. May I know from the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs when we are going to discuss it?

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: I am prepared to have a discussion if the House sits for longer hours and also on Saturday, day after tomorrow.

SHRI HEM BARUA (Mangaldal): May I submit that for the No-confidence Motion only six hours are allotted? It is a very important matter. I would request that the time be extended to 10 hours. Will it be possible for you to do that?

श्री शिव नारायण (बस्ती) : भव्यक्ष महोदय, मैं विजिनेस के सिलसिले में यह कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम यहाँ पर एक धंडे का लच करते हैं और विजिनेस खत्म करने के लिए 6 बजे तक बैठते हैं। यह कास्टिट्टद्यूशन के बिलाक है। कायदे से हमको 11 बजे से 5 बजे तक बैठना चाहिये। इसलिये हम सोग बीच में जो रिसेस करते हैं उसको बैंच कर दें।

SHRI DATTATRAYA KUNTE (Kolaba): The Report says that one Bill concerning the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes will be referred to a Select Committee? Will it be referred without any discussion? If so, how could it happen unless the relevant rule is suspended? So if we adopt the report as it is just now, it will create difficulties.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: This is done straightway by the office. It is by the House. There is absolutely no procedural difficulty.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: This was a unanimous recommendation.

MR. SPEAKER: I do not mind anything being raised here. I am telling about what happened in the Commit-

tee. There we try to accommodate. I want to make the functioning of this House unanimous. Parties may have their viewpoints different one from another. I am not interested in the Government, in the Opposition. We sit across the Table and try to make it unanimous. Naturally there will have to be give and take on the part of all.

Previously, the No-confidence Motion discussion used to last for two days. This time it is only one issue that is involved straightway. Of course, there are also other issues. I am only talking about what happened in the Business Advisory Committee. One day would be given for that. We could extend the debate till 7 or 7.30 P.M. The Budget will be presented on 29th. The Railway Budget has to be discussed. So many things are there. Therefore, they unanimously agreed after discussion on one day. As I said, it can be extended to 6.30 or 7 P.M. But if something else is demanded on the floor of the House, it will have to go back to the Committee.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY (Kendrapara): We can decide here.

MR. SPEAKER: Then the Business Advisory Committee becomes ineffective. I know we can always review. I entirely agree the House is the Supreme body which has to take a decision. But I thought the Business Advisory Committee, consisting of friends of all parties, is a representative body. If they discuss everything and it is changed here, tomorrow the Business Advisory Committee may say, "You put it before the House, why put it before us, why the Business Advisory Committee at all? You take a decision on the floor of the House." Anyway, I have no objection.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY: If it is taken that way, there will be no need for bringing this matter before the House. Whatever they decide we accept. I agree with what you say that there are other opportunities for discussion, but the Kutch affair is the only thing on which we are going to concentrate in the no-confidence motion, and if only six hours are allotted,....

MR. SPEAKER: You can have one more hour.

SHRI SURENDRANATH DWIVEDY: That is why I was suggesting, let us make it at least 8 hours, if not 10 hours.

MR. SPEAKER: Don't take a decision. Let us see.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Regarding the no-confidence motion, I have one point to make, because if it is really a no-confidence motion, it would have been disposed of on the day it was tabled, or on the day it is going to be discussed. If it is going to be discussed for three or four days, according to me it is not really a no-confidence motion. It should be passed on that very day if they really mean that it is a no-confidence motion.

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी (वलरामपुर): अध्यक्ष महोदय, मंसद्-कार्य मन्त्री को इस तरह की टिप्पणी करने की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है। अब हम को मन्त्री जी अवाहन की रिपोर्ट उसी दिन दे देते तो हम उसी दिन चर्चा के लिये तैयार थे। उसके पश्चात् राष्ट्र की कठिनाई बतलाई कि जो लिंग कार्य-सूची में सम्प्रिलित कर लिए गये हैं उन पर पहले चर्चा होनी चाहिये। दूसरी कठिनाई जो बतलाई गई वह यह कि अभी रिपोर्ट की उपाय नहीं जा सका है। इन्तिये वाद-विवाद को आगे के लिये रखा गया। लेकिन अविश्वास प्रस्ताव एक अविश्वास प्रस्ताव की तरह से ही रखा गया है।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह: अध्यक्ष महोदय,

इस प्रस्ताव की एक दिन फिस्कस कर लिया

जाये। चाहे आप उसे घटे बैठक लीजिये चाहे आठ घटे तक बैठक लीजिये या आधी रात तक बैठक लीजिये उसी दिन उसको समाप्त करना चाहिये।

श्री अटल बिहारी वाजपेयी : अगर आवश्यकता हो तो अध्यक्ष महोदय, आप अपनी राय से भी तो थोड़ा समय बढ़ा सकते हैं।

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Alipore): Even the Business Advisory Committee has not recommended as far as I know that whatever they decided the previous week, namely that the Hazari Committee's Report should be taken up in the first week is not possible. Now the Minister says the discussion of it is conditional only on the House sitting longer, sitting on Saturday etc. At the very beginning of the session, he has started this kind of thing.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: I want to make one point here, because I am very eager to have it discussed. Let them discuss it. What is the good of killing the time on other matters? If you are really keen about it, then discuss it. Don't go to West Bengal and other things.

MR. SPEAKER: Nobody was against it. Let there be no impression that somebody was against it. Congress members have been raising it; after all, in the last session also, they shouted, but important things like the Kutch Award came and some other things came. We could not postpone the Kutch Award. After all, the Budget cannot be postponed, the Railway Budget could not be postponed. These are the things which came, and the Business Advisory Committee took note of these important things.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA (Gurdaspur): Every item recommended by the Business Advisory Committee is subjected to criticism on the floor of the House. Somebody gets up and says something

[Shri D. C. Sharma.]

against one item, somebody else gets up and says different thing against a different item. Therefore, I would request you to expand the Business Advisory Committee, so that all kinds of opinions are represented on it, and if you cannot expand it, then I should suggest very humbly that it may be dismantled.

MR. SPEAKER: All parties are represented on the Business Advisory Committee, including the Congress Party, and decisions are taken. Not only the members, but at times if some member comes to me and proposes something, I request him also to attend. After all, there is nothing like a compulsory number. If anybody brings some matter, I ask him to come to the meeting.

The question is:

"That this House agrees with the Fourteenth Report of the Business Advisory Committee presented to the House on the 21st February, 1968."

The motion was adopted.

12.20 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—*contd.*

MR. SPEAKER: The House will now resume further discussion on the President's Address.

We have been discussing it and we must try to finish it by tomorrow. I shall call the Prime Minister to reply at 2.30 P.M. tomorrow. Most of the parties have availed of their time except for five or six minutes. So also the Congress Party. It has some time. Sreekantan Nair.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR (Quilon): Sir, the President's address is a lamentation of despair and it bristles with contradictions and hypocritical and pious wishes which the President knows cannot be implemented by

the Congress Government. All the high ideals have disappeared from the Congress Party which now wants to stick to power by hook or crook. We know what these policies had led the country into—violent agitations in various parts of the country.

As the President bewails in his Address, there has been a recrudescence of divisive forces causing conflicts and violence either in the name of region, or language or community. In this House I proposed that Parliament should not pass the resolution along with the Language Bill. It was against the very national interest which this House is expected to maintain. But I was shouted down and I was not at the verge of being penalised. What happened after that? This House and the Government thought that the silence maintained by the South was due to the submissiveness of people. No. People revolted in Madras, Mysore and Andhra and even in Maharashtra State. If Kerala and West Bengal have not entered the fray, if they are not on the war path now, it is only because we are slow to move and once we move nothing will stop us.

12.22 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

Normally, one would expect the minority to come to power by winning over the people to its side and thus becoming a majority. If that is prevented by some machinations, there will be revolt. During the 1967 elections the majority of States which constitute our Union came under the non-Congress rule. The Congress manœuvred in such a way that the non-Congress Governments in West Bengal, Bihar and Rajasthan and Haryana had been swept off. Now, they are trying to find ways and means of driving out the Governments which are firmly rooted in Kerala and Madras and other States. But the most dangerous aspects of the Con-

gress move is their inhuman approach to utilise food crisis in deficit areas to upset the non-Congress Governments. This House is aware of the fact that Kerala is a chronically deficit State. We produce only 50 per cent of our requirements of paddy but we produce cash crops which earn more than 10 per cent of the total foreign exchange earnings of this country. Yet, during the past 20 years, not even a fraction of the foreign exchange has been spent for the development of the State of Kerala. All this foreign exchange has been utilised by the Central Government for the development of other States which have a greater pull at the Centre. Up to now, there is not a single unit in my State of Kerala which is of the category of basic or heavy industry. The only major unit which has been offered to us during all these years is the shipbuilding yard. This project has been shunted from the first Plan to the second Plan and from the second Plan to the third Plan and now, it is a will-o'-the wisp in the fourth Plan.

The unemployed and the under-employed of Kerala have been supplied only three ounces of rice for all these years. The Central Government had offered a solemn promise to give us six ounces of rice, but they have never maintained the promise of giving 75,000 tons of rice every month, so much so, we have been forced to issue only three ounces of rice to our people. Even for those three ounces, a subsidy of Rs. 11 per quintal has been taken away by the Centre, so that a year and a half back the Kerala Government decided during the time of the President's rule—not during this Government's time—to put up with the loss and not to pass it on to the people. Naturally, the non-Congress Government which came in its place had to follow suit and we are now bearing Rs. 11 per quintal on the rice we distribute as ration. But on the 1st January, 1968, the Central Government introduced another Rs. 16 as increase in the selling price of rice to the State. So, together with Rs. 11, a subsidy which they have taken away, the over-

all additional price levied by the Central Government is now Rs. 27 per quintal.

In the budget speech of our Finance Minister, Mr. P. K. Kunju, has pointed out that the State will have to put up with a loss of Rs. 25 crores if we have to maintain the present price of rice which is distributed as ration. If we have to lose Rs. 25 crores, that means we have to suspend all our developmental activities and even then, there will be a very serious deficit in our budget. Naturally, the Government has decided not to increase the price of rice. What will it lead to? We will have to run into deficit. The Central Government can refuse us overdraft from the Reserve Bank and the Ministry in Kerala can be kicked out from power and the Central Government can step in. But we decided not to increase the issue price of rice with open eyes, fully conscious of the implications. Our Government is prepared to be kicked out on this issue, so that the Central Government may come in and extract black market prices from the people of Kerala. We want to resist this blackmail which the Centre is forcing on the people of Kerala.

Here there is a very curious phenomenon. We find all over India, clinging to power is the basic or the prime motive of every Ministry of every party. And in Kerala, it may be accused of being a hotchpotch government, but this hotchpotch government is prepared to kick the power from under our feet and challenge the Centre to come and take over power there. What is the basic reason which prompted us to resort to this self-immolation? It is because of the inhuman and diabolic scheme of the Central Government to utilise food as a political weapon against the people of Kerala. I invite the attention of the House to the machinations of the Government on the food front. The non-Congress State of Madras gets Rs. 43, Rs. 45 and Rs. 48 for the three varieties of paddy purchased from

[Shri N. Sreekantan Nair.]

Madras under the levy system. On the other hand, the Congress administered State of Andhra gets Rs. 46, Rs. 55 and Rs. 70 per quintal of paddy purchased from Andhra. The difference between Madras and Andhra levy prices comes to 45 per cent. Andhra gets 45 per cent more price than the DMK-administered State of Madras. Is it fair? Is it a right approach? Why should the people of Madras be denied an equitable price for their paddy? Is it because they are administered by DMK? I fail to understand this attitude.

Computing that 1½ quintals of paddy give 1 quintal of rice, the levy price would come to about Rs. 72½ per quintal for Madras rice, including Rs. 2 for collection and milling and Rs. 6 for transport. On the other hand, it will come to Rs. 77 for Andhra rice. That rice is sold to us at Rs. 96. Just look at the margin. This is over and above the fair margin which the Food Corporation of India gets for collection milling and transport. Does it require Rs. 6 to transport 1 quintal of rice from Madras to Kerala? Even from Andhra it does not require that much. So, there is a fair margin in that. Over and above that, the Central Government takes Rs. 19 as profiteering profit from the Andhra rice and Rs. 23½ as profiteering profit from Madras rice.

Therefore, we find two distinct trends in the food policy of India. One is to show favour to the Congress-administered States like Andhra and disfavour against States like Madras in the levy price. Secondly, because of the Communist-dominated Government of Kerala, our people are denied their legitimate rights.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA (Gurdaspur): You are a man of courage.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: Not only I, but the people of Kerala in general are people of courage. You are challenging that courage now. Otherwise, why do you make a profit of Rs. 19 and Rs. 23½ by selling rice to us

at black-market price? We are a poor people and we cannot afford to pay that much.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please address the Chair.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: I am sorry, Sir.

The position is very clear from a reply given to my question No. 591 on 15th February:

"Procurement price of paddy for 1967-68 season—

Andhra Pradesh	Superfine	Rs. 70.
	Fine	Rs. 55.
	Coarse	Rs. 46.
Madras	Fine	Rs. 48.
	Medium	Rs. 45.
	Coarse	Rs. 43.

It is admitted here that coarse rice is sold to us at Rs. 96.

There is another very curious phenomenon. They have promised to send us 75,000 tonnes of rice every month, but they send us not even half that amount. They have given conflicting replies to our questions. On 15th February, two questions were tabled by the Kerala Members. In reply to one of them Question No. 467, the Minister replied as follows:

"(a) and (b). Total allotment of rice made from the Central Pool to the Food Corporation of India depots in Kerala for the period November 1967 to January 1968 was 1.37 lakh tonnes. This was against Kerala's monthly estimated distribution requirement of 70,000 to 75,000 tonnes."

The same Minister, on the very same day, in reply to another question No. 600, in statement No. II stated that rice allotted to Kerala during this period, November 1967 to January 1968, was only 90.4 thousand tons. The disparity is more than 50 per cent. Why did these two statements differ?

I raised this question with the Ministry here. They said that what was allotted to the depots of the Food Corporation was shown in the answer given in the first instance and what was handed over to the State was given in reply to the second question. Why is it that the quantity handed over to the depots of the Food Corporation is not handed over to the Government of Kerala? Sir, there is a story in the *Vikramadityan Fables*, that a prostitute demanded compensation and filed a suit against a man for dreaming of having spent one night with her. So also I am afraid that the Government of India will file a suit against the Kerala Government for dreaming that they have sent additional quantities of rice to the State.

Sir, when I along with other leaders of the parties which constitute the United Front met the hon. Prime Minister on the Second day of this month and submitted to her that adequate quantities of rice at fair prices should be given to us, her question was, what will you do if we cut off our supplies to you. This House knows what my normal reply would have been and would be at that time. But I kept very self-restrained and replied to her: "Madam, already our farmers are converting the land under cash crops into paddy crops, and thus you will lose valuable foreign exchange". That was my reply. Otherwise I would have told her that if she cut off the Centre's supply we would cut off our relations with the rest of India. That is the only logical reply. Look at the attitude of the Centre.

Sir, there was a ceremony in the Rocket Station at Thumba where the Prime Minister came. For that function, our State Ministers also went there. We were insulted on our own soil. The State Ministers were relegated to the back benches and were not allowed to come anywhere near the front. There was dinner before the Prime Minister left to which our Ministers were not invited. Are not the State Ministers to be invited to

such functions in our own State? This is the attitude shown to the State Government.

When we, naturally, went to submit to her that the prices may not be increased and we may be given adequate supplies, she flew into a temper and told us that she would cut off the entire supply of rice to Kerala.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR (Palghat): Sir, while the Kerala rice position is being discussed, the Treasury Bench is empty.

SHRI N. SREEKANTAN NAIR: Sir, there is a proverb in Malayalam: "ariyum thinmu asarichiyem katichu pinneyum pattikku murmuruppu". The dog ate the rice in the vessel, bit the woman who was cooking it and even after all that the dog was snarling. So also, our ministers were insulted on our own soil; we were offered the quantity of rice to maintain 6 oz. ration; but we were not given the quantum of rice which was agreed upon; for the rice that is given the Central Government is taking blackmarket price; and even after all this, when we, in a humble mood, go to petition to the Prime Minister, she turns round, flares into a temper and says that they will cut off the entire supply of rice to Kerala. That is the attitude of the Central Government. Along with the divisive forces in the country, along with the Mizo Hills and other areas, another area of two crores of people will be added if the Centre continues this attitude. I want only to warn the Central Government. They cannot play with the lives of the people of Kerala in this matter, they cannot take blackmarket prices for the foodgrains that they supply.

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH): The Food Minister will intervene at 3.30 P.M.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA (Bangalore): When I hear the speeches from the opposition I find that some

[Shri Hanumanthaiya]

of the speeches are made with sincerity to solve the problems facing the country while some others are made with the partisan view with the in-built irritant arguments. I was very happy to listen to Acharya Kripalani yesterday, when he made a correct assessment of the political situation. He held not only the Congress Party but also the opposition parties responsible for the various difficulties and crises that the country is facing. It will not be right for me to go into meticulous calculation about the percentage of blame that the Congress Party has to shoulder or some other political parties have to shoulder, but we have to approach the problem in a spirit of patriotism, in a spirit of objectivity. I know personally the sacrifices that have been made by my hon. friend, Shri Sreekantan Nair. I know also that the kind of speeches which he usually makes do not really represent his mind. I know that he is as much a patriot as any of us. Many a time he uses words and arguments which overshoot his own point, his own mind and his own heart. Therefore, I am prepared to take all his arguments and threats with a kind of sobriety, so that ultimately we may sit at a table and see how far these problems can be settled by mutual discussion. Acharya Kripalani made a fervent appeal to all of us in this House, irrespective of party affiliations, to sit together discuss and evolve solutions to the problems we face.

Sir, here I would like to say that I would very much wish hon. Ministers, at least when they come here for a few minutes, to listen to our speeches instead of going on talking among themselves. I protest against it. Many a time the behaviour of a Minister is an irritant in this House. Instead of concentrating upon the points made by the opposition parties, if you go on feeling safe that somebody has appointed you as Minister and treat this House with disrespect,

this is the situation you have to face. I have to state a bitter truth here. Having been a Minister myself for some time, I may say that it is the basic duty of the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and other Ministers to be present in the House when debates of this nature take place. It is during the debate on the President's Address and the budget debate that the grievances of the people are ventilated. If the Ministers say that they have more important work to do, they will be liable to the charge that they are neglecting their responsibility to the House. If the situation today is that they do not command as much respect as they ought to, it is because of their behaviour and their conduct. I have no doubt whatsoever that if they feel that they ought to receive respect in this House, then they ought to be responsive to the suggestions made in this House. Then, I am sure, the political atmosphere would improve and the spirit that Acharya Kripalani envisaged will gather momentum. Such a statement has been incorporated in the President's Address. What is it that is written here? It is:

"Important national problems must be placed above party politics. Government will be ready to sit with Leaders of all Parties and take counsel with them on major issues of interest and importance to the nation."

We have to remember that not only the Government but also all the other political parties sitting in this House have to place important national problems above party politics. Mere accusation that the Congress is taking a partisan attitude would not do any good; nor is it right for any political party here, whether it is the Swatantra or the Jana Sangh or the SSP, to speak in order to strengthen what is called, its own position in the country. If they have that in mind, we will not be able to sit with objectivity of approach. Therefore, the first condition laid by the President is that all

important national problems must be placed above party politics.

As the famous saying goes—Mahatma Gandhi repeated it any number of times—there must be harmony between what we say and what we do. Our religious teachers also say that nudi (word) and nade (deed) in my language, and in Sanskrit vachan and hridaya, must be in harmony. If the Government have not incorporated this sentence with that true spirit, they will not be doing their duty by the country and by the oath they have taken under the Constitution. If the Opposition parties all the time blame the Government for not co-operating with them only for the sake of making a charge with no intention of rising above party politics to solve national problems, they are equally guilty of not doing their duty by the country at this hour of crisis.

Some people may not feel alarmed here but I feel unnerved; I have experience of more than a quarter of a century of political life in Mysore. I thought that the people of Mysore were very mild mannered and that nothing would provoke them; they were such sober people. And today on this question of language Bangalore has seen such disturbances! Even in minor mofussil towns there have been agitations. And all the time we sit here and discuss in order to promote our own personal or party interest! This is not the right approach.

I am happy to see that in this House as well as in the other House repeated appeals have been made by Members who have spoken that a national consensus must be evolved on the language question. But in the President's Address I do not find a reference to that appeal. I know personally that the Prime Minister is anxious to evoke a national consensus on this question. But the President's Address says:

"It is Government's earnest hope that all controversies about language will now be ended."

This is not the position that South India will accept. I must honestly and straightforwardly say that. It does not matter to me whether Hindi becomes the national language or English becomes the national language. I am one of those who think, whatever the name used, God is the same; whatever the language used, knowledge is the same. Therefore I am not a stickler to any language. Let me make it plain. But the language question has arisen in this country and it has to be solved. Whether it is the people of Kerala or of Uttar Pradesh, they are all Indians and they have to sit together, discuss it and settle it. There is no other go. And they have to discuss it in an objective manner as Acharya Kripalani has appealed, so that the integrity and the unity of the country will be maintained. Without that approach, this country, I am afraid, will not remain united.

I met the members of the Students' Action Council in Bangalore. I met the students also. They have got their own doubts. It is not mere parliamentary provisions that did or did not satisfy students, whether it is Banaras Hindu University or Bangalore University. Some of us who claim to be spokesmen in Parliament, the spokesmen of the parties, have to meet students and make them feel that their problems have been considered, their future has been taken into consideration and that we are all working for their ultimate good. There is such a sense of hiatus between the students community and the people who are in office that they are not able to have a dialogue. Consequently, they are not able to pacify them when they get angry. Official functions whether it is launching of Thumba Rocket or it is opening of a bridge, are not the forums where the students community or the people in general and the concerned Ministers can have a dialogue. There are different forums. These are official forums, mostly ceremonial, and they are not meant for mutual

[Shri Hanumanthaiya.]

understanding. Therefore, on the question of language, I beg of this House, as a whole, to see that a conference of national leaders, whoever they are, is convened. They must sit day in and day out and see that a formula is evolved which will be satisfactory to all concerned.

I repeat again that the people of Hindi area need not be meticulous. They have gained the substance of their demand when we accept Hindi as the official link language or the national language. They need not worry about the fringes of benefits either to this State or to that State. Take, for example, the stand of the D.M.K. Party. As we know, they wanted to accept the Bill as it was. It is only when certain amendments were accepted by the Government that they took the extreme stand of abolishing Hindi altogether. I only hope that they will be able to revise their stand, as they revised on the language Bill....

SHRI S. XAVIER (Tirunelveli): Why not suspend the Act?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: That is exactly the point we have to discuss at the meeting of the national leaders.

SHRI S. XAVIER: Why not ask the Government to suspend the implementation of the Act? The Act itself be suspended till your proposal is accepted and the matter is discussed.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: As you know, the Act passed by Parliament cannot be suspended at least without some non-official direction of this House. We could discuss it if there is such conference.

The political parties continuously accuse that the Congress is trying to topple the Opposition Ministries. (Interruption) Let the people understand it. Let us not behave as though we are still in the adolescent stage. The profession of the political parties is to get into power and you cannot get

into power, unless somebody vacates it. You are all the time trying to displace somebody and occupy the place. The Congress is also doing it. This is a fair game. You don't have misgivings over that. But what I object to is the unholy way, corrupt methods and methods not sanctioned by constitutional propriety. These are the very methods that are being pursued by not only the Congress but also by the Opposition political parties. The famous 17 number—I do not know what satanic influence that number has—has played havoc with U.P., with Punjab, with West Bengal and I do not know with what other States it is playing. These floor-crossings also partake of that nature. The Prime Minister some time made an appeal that all the political parties should sit together in order to evolve a code of conduct. The code of conduct should cover not only floor-crossings but also proprieties in the legislature, formation of Ministries and functions. Look at the two Ministers of U.P., while in office, coming and defying law and standing before the Magistrate to exhibit their might! This is an instance which no country in its history has recorded. This is not the way of working a democracy they have a policy, they have a programme, they have got a way, but I cannot really understand what these two SSP Ministers intend to do or what is their approach towards problems. If this is the type of Ministers whose co-operation has to be taken by the other parties, how can it work? Many a Member, including Acharya Kripalani, hoped that ultimately in this country there must be a kind of coalition Government of parties whose political approach or ideology is similar. Very good. But in their practice, if Ministries work in the way they did in U.P. they did in West Bengal, they did in Haryana, they did in Punjab, if the Central Government is formed on that basis and methodology, then, I think, India will go on the certain way of ruin. Therefore, before we ask for co-operation, before

we ask for collaboration, let us clear our hearts, let us clear our minds and reinstate therein well-known Constitutional principles, methods of work and proper ways of tackling the problem. Therefore, national consensus or whatever it is, must be made applicable to political conduct also.

More important than these two is the economic situation. Everybody in this country is complaining about the economic situation, recession, high prices, dearness allowance, and, as Shri Sreekanth Nair said, the problem of rice and food. A time has to come when all parties have to sit together and abolish the zonal system altogether. This zonal system makes for selfishness. It is contrary to the counsels of unity and integrity of this country. We, the people of India, have to be treated as one nation. This zonal system lasts, it is not the DMK that divides the country, but it is the zonal system that will ultimately divide the country. Therefore, every Congressman, who is wedded to the principle of the unity of this country must see that even if the zonal system is adopted, it is a temporary measure and not a long-term measure. It gives umbrage to corrupt politicians, corrupt traders and corrupt officials. Because wherever there is a control and a licence to be given, there is patronage to exercise and patronage inevitably leads many a time to corrupt practices.

Now we encourage labour, we incite labour, having no regard to the productive capacity of the plant and national income. At the same time we want the industrialists to act as trustees. The entrepreneurs are greedy; no doubt, it is their profession to be greedy, to get as much profit as possible. That is a well-known fact. Even Chanakya, 2500 years ago, warned that the merchants are always after their profits. That is their profession...

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: May I request the hon. Member to resume his speech after Lunch?

*Re: Inquiry into death of
Shri Deen Dayal Upadhyaya*

SHRI D. C. SHARMA: He has made a wonderful point. He must be given one hour.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: We adjourn for Lunch.

13 hrs.

The Lok Sabha adjourned for Lunch till Fourteen of the Clock.

The Lok Sabha then re-assembled after Lunch at Fourteen of the Clock.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair]

RE: INQUIRY INTO CIRCUMSTANCES OF DEATH OF SHRI DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA

श्री कंवर लाल गुप्त (दिल्ली सदर) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, आपकी आज्ञा से मैं एक छोटा सा सवाल उठाना चाहता हूँ। जैसा कि आपको मालूम है कि केन्द्रीय सरकार माननीय दीन दयाल उपाध्याय की मृत्यु के बारे में जांच कर रही है और कुछ न कुछ रिपोर्ट बोच बीच में अखबारों में छपती हैं कि पुलिस ने यह निकाला है और यह किया है तो मैं आपके जरिए से माननीय मंत्री महोदय से प्रार्थना करूँगा कि अभी तक उसमें क्या प्रोग्रेस हुई है—क्योंकि सारे देश के लोग हमारे पास आते हैं, मेम्बर्स भी इन्टरेस्टेड हैं, किसी पार्टी का सवाल नहीं है—इसलिए उसमें अभी तक क्या प्रगति हुई है उसके बारे में कल अपना बयान दे दें ताकि लोगों में एक तरह की जो ऐंजायटी है वह दूर हो जाए। दूसरी बात यह है कि सेंटर और स्टेट की पुलिस का जो कोआडिनेशन है, जैसे हमारी सूचना है, वह ठीक नहीं है तो वह कोआडिनेशन ठीक हो उसके लिए वह कोई व्यवस्था करे। मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से कहूँगा कि वह इस सम्बन्ध में लेटेस्ट प्रोग्रेस रिपोर्ट दे दें।

Re: Inquiry into death of
Shri Deen Dayal Upadhyaya

संसद्-कार्य तथा संचार मन्त्री (डा० राम सुभग सिंह) : मैं इस बात को इतिला गृह मंत्री जी को दे दूँगा लेकिन जांच की रिपोर्ट जब आएगी तभी यह सम्भव हो सकता है। अगर उनको कोई इतिला आई होगी तो वह जरूर दे देये।

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: If it is worth reporting, he may do it.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: When the report is submitted, we can do it. It is not submitted every moment.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: I was asking about the progress of the inquiry, not the report.

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : लेकिन पता नहीं प्रति दिन को प्रोग्रेस उनके यहां आती है या नहीं। जहां तक कोआर्डिनेशन का सवाल है, यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट की रिक्वेस्ट पर यह हुआ है।

SHRI SHEO NARAIN (Basti): The UP Government are responsible for the case. They should give a report.

श्री शशि भूषण वाजपेयी (खारगोन) : यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट से भी पूछा जा सकता है।

श्री शिव नारायण : मिनिस्टर साहब कम से कम यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट को टेलीफोन करवा दें। यू० पी० गवर्नमेंट इसके लिए रेस्पासिबिल है।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : कोई गवर्नमेंट बन नहीं होगी तभी तो हो सकता है।

14.05 hrs.

MOTION OF THANKS ON PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS—contd.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: I was saying that the profession of what is called industrialist, entrepreneur or merchant is to make profit. You have to recognise the hard fact. Some of us may say that they are very greedy; but when I look at the labour unions, their demands and methods, I cannot say they are free from these vices either. These two sectors industry and labour, they are holding the consumer to ransom. The type of socialism that we have implemented has created a seller's market. Seller's market means that labour can dictate its own terms, the industrialist can dictate his own price, and the rest of us have to pay the prices through our noses. It is a well known fact that the prices of most of the goods manufactured and sold in India are much higher, and many of them are inferior in quality. The famous example is the Ambassador car. The Government of India had to appoint a committee for the purpose.

Therefore, I want all patriotic members of this House to concentrate on this problem, how to rectify this evil tendency of holding the 50 crores of people to ransom by a few industrialists and by a few more labour unions. A balance has to be struck. It is, after all, the consumer who has to be served. This socialism that we have practised the exaggerated notion we have of our rights, and the temptation of getting votes from one section or the other has made one or the other of us to go on egging these two sectors to levels which are not healthy for the nation. This seller's market must be converted into a buyer's market. It is only then there will be satisfaction in the country, and equitable distribution of wealth in the country. The present trend of creating and pursuing a seller's market, whether it is the public sector or the

private sector, must be seriously taken notice of by every Member of Parliament, and we must all pool our brain power to restore economic balance.

I have got only one appeal to make and then I will deal in five minutes with the Administrative Reforms Commission to which the President has made a reference in his Address. The question is not who should begin this collaboration and cooperation on national issues. Some of my friends in the opposition parties are great patriots. In the Government there are equally great patriots. It is patriotism that has to be the propelling force, and not the office we occupy or the office that we are likely to occupy if a set of people go out of their seats. Objective approach must be adopted for its own sake, whether the other man does it or not. I hope the opposition parties will adopt this high level objective approach, and see that in times to come an atmosphere is created in this country in which Government commands respect, Parliament commands respect, and there is peace and plenty in this country.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN (Mettur): We will try it in spite of your Government.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: Thank you very much. Then please advise people in Madras who go the extreme way not to do so, and I will be one with you. I hope we will collaborate in the matter of pacifying the students in Tamil Nad.

The President has made very kind reference to the Administrative Reforms Commission. He has given the reasons also. I must acknowledge that the first Chairman, Shri Morarji Desai, took great pains in giving shape to the working of this Commission. He organised it, and gave it a great momentum. We appointed 20 study terms, out of which five have not yet given their reports, 15 of them have. We appointed thirteen working groups and ten are yet to report.

The working groups have been appointed for such areas that the Commission need not wait for their recommendations to give its report on the administrative machinery at the Centre and in the States. The Commission is approaching the problem now in a comprehensive manner in the light of the recommendations that have been made by various study teams. I must acknowledge and put it on record that some of the ablest persons in India with a wide administrative background and rich experience have been involved in this work. I do not want to read out their names; most of you know of them. Some of them command respect of all parties and throughout the country. The Commission has profited much by their suggestions and advice. We have already given four reports. As you know the report on the Planning Commission had already been implemented—I mean its advisory role and its constitution.

SHRI RANGA (Srikakulam): You did not want the Prime Minister to be the Chairman but she had been made the Chairman.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: It is a minor matter.

SHRI RANGA: If it is a minor matter, your commission is also a minor commission.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: We have made recommendations to the State Governments to constitute planning boards at the State level where practically there was no planning. Only a departmental secretary adds up the list of demands and calls them a plan. Planning is much deeper and more serious and comprehensive affair than preparing a list of projects and items of work. There are non-Congress Governments in some of the States. They require state level boards in order to implement their own political ideology. Therefore, I am advised that it would be in the interest of the State Governments themselves to constitute State planning boards.

[**Shri Hanumanthaiya.**]

These planning boards will do effective work and make their plans which the Central Planning Commission will ultimately integrate into a national plan.

We have made a significant report on public undertakings. Many recommendations have been made. I wish Parliament discusses this report. It is not enough that reforms are suggested by a few individuals and implemented by some other individuals. Any reform to be worth the name should command wide acceptance among the people. Members of Parliament in particular should know and feel that these reforms are necessary. Such of those reforms as do not find favour with them should be straightway rejected. We are doing an intellectual exercise. There is no question of my personal prestige involved if some recommendations are rejected. It is an intellectual approach and I want Parliament to take interest. Many of our reports deserve to be discussed by Parliament. We discuss annual budget for days and days together. But do you know that the public undertakings in the Government of India alone are 72 in number and the investment made on them is more than Rs. 2,500 crores and it may be another thousand crores of rupees in the next one or two years? This is of such a dimension! But the Parliament has hardly devoted even a day for the discussion of such a vast field. We have made a recommendation that Parliament should annually set apart at least a week exclusively to discuss the working of public undertakings. It is only then that you will be able effectively to exercise parliamentary control over this vast expenditure. I may tell you, one of the reasons for this inflation, for imbalance in our economic advancement, may be this public sector. Its production and income do not come up to what is called the expenditure and investment. We have to balance them.

I am one of those who have faith in public undertakings. I do not want the private sector to do all these things. But, at the same time, I have to point out that the Government of India and this Parliament have accepted the idea of mixed economy. Both the private and the public sector have to co-exist. Therefore, it is no use some of us, all the time, decrying the private sector as if they are traitors to this country, and there is no use some others all the time finding fault with the public sector, saying that these are mismanaged and these are a drain on the resources of the country. These two extreme positions have to be avoided. Parliament has advisedly been pursuing the middle path of the private sector and the public sector co-existing. The pattern of our administrative structure not only in the private sector and the public sector but in the Planning Commission and the general administration should be such that the private sector finds an honourable place of co-operation. All the sectors involved must be made to work enthusiastically for the progress of this country.

The Lokpal Bill is being introduced in pursuance of the recommendations of the Commission. I am very happy that my friend Shri Deo has taken advance interest in it and I am grateful to him.

SHRI P. K. DEO (Kalahandi): But the President's recommendation is being withheld; has he got anything to say on that?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: The latest report we have made is on budgeting, accounting and audit. This is a very important document. Many people do not bother about this side of the administration. Most of them are interested in political matters or, at the most in economic matters. Here, we have proposed a new financial year which is in consonance with our age-old traditions, which coincides

with the working season in this country and which in turn is determined by the pattern of the monsoons. In the official circles, for the last 20 years, there has been an eternal discussion whether the year should be changed or not. Discussion in the secluded corners of offices did not bring about a decision, nor is it possible for such a decision to be taken in that spirit, and in that place. It is Parliament that has to discuss this question and come to a decision.

We have also recommended the institution of Audit Boards in public sectors. We want performance budgeting. There are very many new and modern ideas which we have incorporated in our recommendations. I wish that all these reports are discussed at least for one or two hours so that Parliament may correctly be informed of our recommendations, so that the country through Parliament may know what exactly are the implications of these recommendations. I want to give one warning. Many a time, the recommendations are processed by the Secretaries, who are mostly ICS people. We ourselves examine the Secretaries, take their advice and make the report. If the recommendations are to be processed again by them, the labour that we put in to that extent is superfluous.

Look at these public undertakings. We have recommended that as in England, France and Italy, Corporations should be formed. But all these Economic Secretaries have joined in a conference and voted in their own favour, saying that the corporations need not come into existence. They are afraid that so much power and patronage will go out of their hands. I have to state these things in this hard manner, because no reform can be implemented with soft words. Here is a question on which I want the verdict of Parliament and not of Economic Secretaries. All of us think subjectively, how far it affects our pay, prospects, prestige and patronage. But Parliament is not made that

way. Public Undertakings report, especially, ought to be discussed by Parliament before it is implemented by Government. If that is not done and if the advice of the Secretaries alone is accepted I may straightway say that the vested interests have had their innings. I am not speaking as a Congressman. We have reached a stage when we should forget on some issues at least that we are Congressman or we belong to PSP, Jan Sangh or DMK. We have to raise ourselves above parties especially in the matter of administrative reforms and think on higher level.

SHRI S. K. TAPURIAH (Pali): What about the size of the Cabinets?

SHRI P. VENKATASUBBAIAH (Nandyal): Perhaps he is envious!

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: We appointed a study team under the chairmanship of Mr. Barve and they gave an interim report. But Mr. Barve died. May his soul rest in peace! In that vacancy, I appointed Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, as Chairman of that study team. He gave the report last week. The Commission is going to make recommendations about the size of the ministries not only at the Centre but also in the States.

SHRI TENNETI VISWANATHAM (Visakhapatnam): What about the size of the ministers?

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: That has to be determined by the Food Minister! (Interruptions).

It is not that India did not know the pattern of good Government, whether it is the ministries or Secretariat. For some time standards have been set at nought for personal or group reasons not merely by the Congress party but by other parties also. I would have been the first man to congratulate the non-Congress ministries if they had run their governments on the best lines which are known to us. We studied these things

[Shri Hanumanthaiya.]

even in our college days. But when I see that 39 ministers were sworn in in Bihar and more are coming, I feel like resigning from the chairmanship of the commission. What is the reform we could introduce in such a State? Political demoralisation has gone to such an extent in some of the States that every defector has a place in the ministry of one variety or the other. This is the moral and political degradation to which the administration has been reduced. Parliament, as I said, has to make up its mind to act unitedly. That unity alone can lift this administration out of the mishaps, out of the mire and rut into which it has fallen.

Sir, I thank you very much for having given me this latitude. I hope, you as well as other thinkers in the country, will in your own way help this effort of national unity, national thinking and national solution of big problems facing this country.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO (Dhenkanal): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, after fifteen years of planning the President in his Address states that as a result of drought there has been a decline in agricultural production which has adversely affected industrial output, slackening of demand for capital and producer goods, rise in unemployment of skilled manpower as a result of slowing down of industrial expansion, persistent upward movement of costs and prices adversely affecting the competitiveness of our exports the expansion of which remains a national objective of the highest priority, and adverse balance of trade and the substantial burden of debt servicing, combined with unavoidable imports of foodgrains and raw materials for export production which continued to make our foreign exchange position difficult over the year resulting in a decline in the foreign exchange reserves.

The very fact that agriculture is the basic industry of our country

which provides food to our people, raw materials for our industry and full employment has been hammered on deaf ears for the last nine years by spokesmen from my party. At last now better sense has prevailed and Government has realised it.

In the President's Address he says that there has been a decrease in the rise of wholesale prices and it is now only 5.7 per cent corresponding to 16 per cent in 1966. In spite of the production having increased by 20 million tonnes in the matter of foodgrains there is still an increase of 5.7 per cent in the wholesale prices. The reasons are not far to seek. The producers and consumers did not receive the benefit of this increase in production and it was frittered away by zones and unnecessary controls. It should be remembered that one good harvest like one swallow does not make a summer of content.

It is a matter of great admiration that our agronomists, scientists and plant experts have made a technological break-through in agriculture by producing high-yielding seeds. Unfortunately they are so inadequately supplied and they are blackmarketed by certain agencies that they lose their very purpose.

Another thing which should not be lost sight of is the lessons which we have learnt from the unprecedented drought. India is still dependent mainly on rainfall for its agriculture as it did centuries ago. What the technological break-through in agriculture needs is the required inputs for development of agriculture. They are: plentiful irrigation facilities and flood control measures. They should be given top priority and quickly implemented. In 1948-49 there was only 18.9 million hectares of land under irrigation. In 1965-66 there were only 31.7 hectares under irrigation. That means that in 20 years only 13 million hectares have been brought under irrigation, which is grossly inadequate.

The importance of minor and medium irrigation in India cannot be over-stressed for in a developing nation in the tropics where the rainfall is seasonal and is concentrated in the compass of a few weeks a little delay means drought and a little over-dose means flood, as exhibited in parts of UP, Rajasthan and Orissa, where 7 districts out of 13 districts were ravaged. The other inputs like credit, fertilizer, electric power and increasing incentives to farmers for getting the best price for their produce and a guaranteed minimum floor price will go a long way in improving agricultural production.

Here I must point out that there is inequitable distribution of irrigation and flood control measures. Coming to irrigation, it is 44 per cent in Punjab—3.8 million hectares out of 8.5 million hectares—whereas in Madhya Pradesh it is only 3 per cent; 9 million hectares out of 25.7 million hectares. In Orissa it is 11 per cent; 1.14 million hectares out of 9.44 million hectares. If there had been equitable distribution and development, those areas which are under chronic drought conditions would have had sufficient water and they would have had tided over their difficulties. Orissa is the worst sufferer because during the last three years it has been affected by drought and this year 9 districts out of 13 districts have damage to crops and loss in yield.

It is a matter of deep regret that such national calamities of magnitude and severity as the cyclone of Orissa, when 1 million people were affected, the cyclone in Madras and the earthquake in Koyna did not find a place in the President's Address, although they were matters of deep concern to the people of India.

Now the Government seems to be very apprehensive and concerned about the violent agitations, divisive and separatist forces, law and order situation in the strategic border areas created by unpatriotic elements which are weakening the democratic

institutions and systems. The reason is not far to seek. It is a reaction to the political, economic and social instability which has been the legacy of 20 years of uninterrupted Congress misrule. In spite of their having an overwhelming majority, when they could amend the Constitution as they liked and had the political stability, they could not give the country economic stability which it so dearly wanted. The Congress Government started pursuing after dogmas and so-called socialistic pattern of society, where the only beneficiaries were a new class of commissars, bureaucrats and technicians who exploit the peasants and workers and live on the fruits of their labour through their control over the State machinery. A new class of State capitalists more ruthless and exploitative than private capitalists came into the scene. As a result, the people out of disgust, frustration and disillusionment voted the Congress out of power in 9 out of 17 States in India. The Congress not abiding by the verdict of the people, are now trying to sneak into the Ministries through the backdoor by using the institution of Governors to topple the non-Congress Ministries and by installing minority governments. What the Congress Government did not do in 20 years when they had political stability, they expect the non-Congress governments in States to achieve in 11 months.

Moreover the highly qualified technical people are facing unemployment. Instead of providing them with employment facilities, Government are shirking their responsibility and are sermonising them on the dignity of labour. If the Government cannot give them adequate facilities here, they should not be debarred from seeking rehabilitation or employment outside the country which will also bring us foreign exchange.

Our Government has taken pride that we are hosts to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development which is deliberating on

[Shri K. P. Singh Deo.]

bridging the economic gap between the developed and the developing nations and the President has claimed in his speech that the disparities between the rich and the poor nations constitute the foremost cause of instability and tension in the world; but, yet, so little has been done in trying to remove the disparities and the imbalances in development within the States in our country;

I would cite the case of an underdeveloped and economically backward State like Orissa which has one of the lowest per capita incomes in the country and where there are enough potentials for developing industry, irrigation, power, communications and port facilities which directly and indirectly builds up the rural economy from which 80 per cent of our people come and which will do a lot in developing the economy of the country. Investing in productive sectors like the Talcher industry complex, a major resources development project envisaging the usage of high grade non-coking coal, which could be a pioneering industry to the country, for producing urea fertilisers, would give rise to employment to engineers, would remove some of the disparities and would also give inputs for agriculture thereby reducing our dependence on foreign aid.

While the President declared the Government's intention to promote efficient handling of our international trade and the development of merchant shipping and port facilities, no mention has been made regarding developing.....

SHRI RANGA: Sir, is Shri Gujral also a speaker? There must be some discipline in the House. It must be the same for everybody. What is the big idea of these ministers standing here like lamp-posts while other people are on their feet according to your orders? When he is drawing the attention of ministers, he comes non-

challantly as if it is of no consequence at all. We must show respect to each other.

श्री शशि भूषण बाबूपेयी (खारगोन) : यह क्या बात है कि माननीय सदस्य हर बात शिक्षा देने वाले हो जाते हैं। यह कोई तरीका है? किसानों के ये अपने आपको लीडर कत लेकिन महलों में खेती करते हैं।

SHRI RANGA: What is it that you are objecting to? Is it wrong for me to say that he is wrong in standing up when the other speaker is speaking?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI I. K. GUJRAL): Sir, I have great respect for Professor Ranga. As you know and he also knows, I am one of those who have great respect for parliamentary procedure. But if he catches me at that particular moment when I am standing up to move out, I do not know what I should do.

SHRI RANGA: What is he saying? Is he apologising to you or not?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: When you drew my attention, immediately he sat down. Sometimes it so happens that in the gangway people go on talking standing. This is not good. I would request all Members that they should avoid it.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: It should not be done by Treasury Benches.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: It is the concern of all Members.

SHRI S. XAVIER: Now that it has been pointed out, they must express regret.

SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO: No mention has been made regarding developing and construction of a general cargo berth for Paradeep Port, which is the deepest sea port in India and which is now exporting iron ore and chromite to Japan. It has recently been taken over by the Government of India without paying a single paisa compensation to the Government of Orissa which had spent Rs. 15.8 crores in developing it.

No mention has been made of the development of minor ports which play a significant role in the country's port activities by relieving congestion from the major ports and providing cheap transportation for distribution of goods handled from major ports to the hinterland and also for defence purposes. In this context, I would say that it is of the utmost urgency that the minor ports of Chandoi between the major ports of Haldia and Paradeep and that of Gopalpur between Paradeep and Vishakhapatnam should be constructed and developed without delay.

It is only by appreciating the difficulties of different States and sympathetic understanding of their problems irrespective of their party affiliations that there can be mutual cooperation between the State and Central Governments which is necessary for our national unity and harmony.

While joining with the sentiments of the President in wishing the boundary disputes between Maharashtra and Mysore and between Mysore and Kerala to be satisfactorily solved, it is regrettable that the boundary disputes between Orissa and Bihar for the tract of land which is known as Saraikele, Kharwan and Singhbhum which has been hanging fire for the last twenty years, which has been creating bad blood between the people has not been mentioned. So, I respectfully, urge upon the Government to appoint a Boundary Commiss-

sion and to see that the State Government which for the last twenty years has been repressing the people there by trying to suppress the Oriya schools, institutions, dance, and drama, is stopped and that the problem solved satisfactorily.

It is heartening to note that the Government have gone ahead with the expansion and the modernisation of the Navy which will be called upon to perform its now task according to the geo-political and geo-physical situation which will arise when the British and the American fleets will be pulling out of Singapore and the Pacific Ocean. As the largest democracy and as the leader of the Afro-Asian nations of which we are proud to call ourselves, we should make a move towards trying to have a joint defence security of the South East Asia with India, Japan, New Zealand, Australia and the friendly countries in between.

The Government are making serious efforts to promote self-sufficiency in defence production but they should not lose sight of the fact that in an era where nuclear deterrence is one of the strategies of defence, where conventional weapons are no match, this joint defence security of South-East Asia is all the more important and it is the only step which can save us from nuclear blackmail of Chinese communistic imperialism.

Lastly, the President, in his Address, says:

"A year ago, the prospects looked bleak and there were dark forebodings about the future, the clouds are now beginning to lift."

These words can only be a consolation to the Members adorning the Congress Benches and no one else in the country.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE (Bombay Central): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I

[Shri R. D. Bhandare.]

have heard the speeches of the Members of the Opposition very patiently and very carefully. I do not know whether they are prepared to accept the fact that because of the two wars and the two droughts unheard of, the economy of the country suffered a heavy blow and the fact that in spite of that, our country is recovering. I do not know whether my friends are aware of the fact that in the foreign countries, the propaganda was carried on consistently and persistently both in the press and on the television that a number of persons in India were dying of starvation and hunger. The propaganda was virulent and the impression was created in the minds of the common people in the foreign countries that India was a land of starvation and hunger. There was a time when they used to say whenever they happened to meet delegates from India at the UNO, that India was a land of plenty, where honey and milk flow in plenty. But now India is a country where famine, starvation and deaths are taking place. This type of propaganda furnished the fair name of India. But then whatever may be the propaganda that might have been carried on in foreign countries, the fact remains that people in India have braved these difficult times; the Governments both at the Centre and in the States have stood up to their duty and foreign aid was also given at the critical time, more especially food aid by the United States of America. Therefore, one must be justifiably proud of our country, thinks to the people, Government and foreign aid. Now we are heading towards self-sufficiency. My friends may be cynical and say that we may again suffer from drought and famines, but I have no doubt in my mind that, since all sorts of measures are taken and the Rain God is also merciful, we are bound to be heading towards self-sufficiency and self-reliance.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, I would

like to point out that, under the name of self-sufficiency, the nation of social justice should not be forgotten at all. I am saying that the notion of social justice should not be forgotten. The other day, my hon. friends on this Bench said that Rs. 1200 crores should be distributed to the farmers. I agree there, but then we know that India is a land of villages and agriculture is the main means of living of the Indian people. Therefore, the question that I would like to raise is how this means of living is distributed among the people. I will give you the figures. These figures are obtainable after the Land Ceiling Acts have been passed by the various States. The means of living is distributed like this: 19.8 million landholders hold only 9 million hectares and 2.1 million landholders hold 38.6 million hectares. This is the unequal distribution of the means of living of the Indian people. When we talk of taking all sorts of measures such as supply of fertilisers, providing facilities for irrigation, providing high-yielding varieties of seeds, how are we to give justice to those who are landless and the agricultural labourers? Even today fallow and cultivable wasteland is lying idle. To what extent is cultivable and wasteland is lying idle? In 1951, 12 crores of acres of fallow and cultivable waste and was lying idle. Today 9½ crores of acres of fallow and cultivable wasteland is lying idle. When there are thousands and millions of landless persons and agricultural labourers, how it that the Government is not prepared to distribute this land to the landless to bring the fallow and cultivable wasteland under plough? Sir, since I have made mention of the agricultural labourers, let us know what is the magnitude of the problem. Has the Government paid any attention to understand the dimension and the magnitude of the problem of the agricultural labourers? Sir, you are aware of it. You are aware of the fact that in 1951 the First Inquiry

Committee was appointed on the subject of agricultural labourers. The Second Committee was appointed in 1956-57 and the report was submitted. What is now the position? What now are the conditions of the agricultural labourers? Nobody knows. 10 years have passed, but nobody bothers to look into the conditions of the agricultural labourers. The Government had not bothered to know as to what is the annual income of the agricultural labourers. Has it gone down or has it gone up? The Government has not bothered to make inquiries as to what is the indebtedness of the agricultural labourers. During these ten years, what has happened? Has it increased or decreased? Nobody knows. What are the conditions of living of the agricultural labourers?

AN HON. MEMBER: Do you know, Sir?

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE: I do not know whether my hon. friend knows it. I work in the Agricultural labour field. He does not know. He may be knowing that I am simply an advocate or a Member of Parliament. I do not know whether he belongs to the Communist party or S.S.P., or any other party. Let me tell you, Sir, of the fact that I worked with all these people. I know their mind. I know what is their psychology so far as the agricultural labour is concerned. When the Land Ceiling Act was passed I was instrumental in putting forth the proposition that 'the smaller the unit, the more is the labour input and more is the production,' and therefore the land ceiling should be brought down to such an extent to enable surplus land, to be distributed among the landless. I told this across the table to all these parties in opposition. Fortunately you are my witness. I am not telling something which is untrue. I know how their psychology works. what is their attitude to the problem. They therefore, need not me these questions. The agricultural

labours in 1951 were mentioned to be 11 crores. What is their number now? Nobody knows. As I said Sir, what is the reason? We must find out the reason. The only thing which I would like to suggest is this. There is a callous disregard or apathy on the part of the Government towards the problem of the agricultural labourers. What then is the remedy? The remedy is threefold. The first remedy which I would like to suggest is this. Redistribute the surplus land, after bringing down the land ceiling to the extent of 30 crores. I would like to suggest this and I do not want to dilate more on this point. The second remedy I wish to suggest is distribute fallow cultivable waste land to the landless and agricultural labourers.

What happened to the Minimum Wages Act? We have talked of social justice to be given to these people. But the Minimum Wages Act is not implemented. Nobody bothers to implement the Minimum wages Act. Therefore, if at all there is doubt, or, as my hon. friend has asked whether I know the problem of the agricultural labourers. Well, it is the duty and function of the Members of the Parliament to know and in order to know, let there be a fresh Inquiry Committee to go into the conditions of the agricultural labourers.

I would like to make a reference to page 8 of the Presidents speech to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But I do not know whether the Government is serious in improving the social and economic conditions of these people.

I am not the first to raise such a question. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes constitute one-fifth of the sub-merged humanity of this country. The founding fathers and the Father of the Nation had therefore to pay so much attention and importance to their welfare that they had not only envisaged but enshrined

[Shri R. D. Bhandare]

in the Constitution of India 'a Special Chapter',—the Chapter XVI. They incorporated in the Constitution articles 15, 16, 17 and 46 in order that the condition of these people could be improved and ameliorated and they could be uplifted and brought on par with the others. Not only did they incorporate these principles and special provisions in these articles, but the founding fathers—I think everybody has forgotten this aspect—had created Constitutional Authorities to look after the interests of these people. Article 338 says that there shall be a special officer, namely, the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. This is followed by article 340 which says that there shall be a Commission for the Backward Classes to look after the interests of the backward classes, and as see to what extent they have developed. What has happened to these constitutional authorities?

There is also a third constitutional authority under the Constitution, namely, the Election Commissioner. What is the position of the Election Commissioner and what is the position of the Commissioner for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes? The position of these, the latter, constitutional authorities has been so much devalued as to pale into insignificance. The poor Commissioner for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes is always bemoaning that no information has been given to him by the Government Departments. I do not know whether the State Governments or even the departments of the Central Government have understood the constitutional status and position of the Commissioner. A special responsibility was put on the President. He has to appoint the Commissioner. The Commissioner has to make a report to the President. The President then causes that report to be laid before the House, meaning

thereby that the Government must implement the recommendations made by the Commissioner for S.C.&S.T. I have gone through the debates when this provision leading with the S.C.&S.T. was incorporated in the Constitution. The founding fathers, more especially Dr. Ambedkar, would ever have agreed to such a devaluation of the position of this Constitutional authority. They were under the impression that here was a Constitutional authority envisaged in the Constitution to look after the interests of this section of our people and the Governments, both at the Centre and in the States, would be afraid of the powers and position the Commissioner wielded and therefore they would implement the suggestions made by him. That was the idea, the intention, the basis and the genesis of these constitutional authorities. But I am really sorry to say that these officers have simply become clerks, despatch clerks. They prepare the report on the material supplied by different departments and, hand it over to the President. The Report is brought here. What do we find? 'No information.' 'Not available', 'not available', 'not available'; seven times this is repeated on every page of the report. This is the position.

What about the backward Classes? The Commissioner was appointed twice and his report was submitted. It is now lying in the dust-bin. Nobody bothers.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE (Kanpur): Is the Commissioner available?

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE: I need not pay attention to that interruption.

15 hrs.

I am talking of the Report of the Commissioner which is lying in the

dust-bin. What is the result? The result is that the dream of the Father of the Nation, the dream of the founding fathers, has vanished, evaporated, evaporated into thin air and the fate of the S.C. & S.T. remains the same as before. Nobody bothers, Governments both in States and at the Centre, have no qualm of conscience. Only the other day, our Social Welfare Minister said that the State Governments are not prepared to listen to us. Why is it that they are not prepared? You have got power under the Constitution, they must respect the authority created under the Constitution, they must also implement the principles enunciated in the Constitution, enshrined in the Constitution. Even the Minister at the Centre says that he is helpless. What is the remedy? The remedy is to restore the position of the Scheduled Castes Commissioner, reappoint, if necessary, the Commissioner for Backward classes. But if these things cannot be done—I am quite aware of the difficulties, because since the position of the Commissioner is devalued, it is very difficult to restore it—let there be a separate Minister, a powerful, independent Minister at the Centre in charge of the social welfare of these people. Why is it I am suggesting it? I am suggesting it because the Minister now has to look after so many portfolios. Therefore, I would like to have a separate ministry to look after the interests of these down trodden people.

The Minister should belong to these classes, because it is a question of psychology. I have been studying the psychology of the Members belonging to the scheduled castes. Whenever a proposal is made here, they always look at it with suspicion, doubt. These people must therefore develop a sense of participation and sense of justice. Once a Minister drawn from their own classes is installed, they are bound to think that justice is done to them. At least, justice would appear to have done to them. It

is because of this psychology that I am suggesting this.

The question of facilities to Buddhists has been hanging fire for a long time. I am glad that hon. Prof. V. K. R. V. Rao is here. He knows that I submitted a document dealing with the facilities to the New Converts to Buddhism in 1964. I used to come to this place, to the Government, to the Planning Commission, right from 1964, praying, requesting, placing before them facts and figures dealing with the lot of these people, their poverty, their misery. No attention has so far been paid. Ultimately I thought that the conditions in the country were changing so fast and that danger to democracy itself arose, I decided to join the Congress, not only for the purpose of getting these facilities to the Buddhists, but a party which would at least adhere to the constitutional provisions. I came here. But nothing has been done so far as the Buddhists are concerned.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You will have to conclude now.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE: I therefore urge,—I hope it is not too late,—upon the Government to look into the problems and extend the facilities to the Buddhists.

Lastly, much has been said about floor-crossing. Everybody is out to condemn it. I do not know whether, in fact, they have gone deep into the genesis and the basis factors which should be the ruling passion of Indian life. I will not condemn floor-crossing provided it is for the purpose of polarisation of politics. Everybody must encourage it if there is polarisation of politics. If there is crossing for the purpose of getting power, for opportunism, then it must be condemned at all costs and by all. I should, therefore, request the Congress Party in

power not to encourage those who are hankering after ministership. They should never get ministerships. I certainly welcome two persons in India, Mr. D. P. Mishra and Mr. C. B. Gupta. When they are dethroned from power, they did not try to get some individuals who are after ministership in order to form the ministry. That should be the approach of others including the Opposition parties.

SHRI S. M. BANERJEE: Mr. C. B. Gupta is doing it.

SHRI SHEO NARAIN (Bast.): It is nonsense. I have 200 members in the U.P. party and none of them are going to this side or that side. He should not say this.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE: The Opposition parties formed governments in nine out of sixteen States. But the different parties with their conflicting ideologies and programmes and policies, how long can they carry on? They are crumbling like castles build of sand.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: He must conclude now! he has taken much more time than is due to him.

SHRI R. D. BHANDARE: Lastly, I should say a word on foreign policy. I have seen the world. We should re-cast our foreign policy based on two principal factors—interest of the country and strength of the country. These are the principles on which other countries base their foreign policy. One last line. In the United Nations we spoke of Israel and said: let not the fruits of aggression be allowed to be enjoyed by the aggressors. What happened to China?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: You have taken twenty-five minutes. You must conclude.

SHRI D. R. BHANDARE: May I complete this sentence? Why is that we allow some area still in possession of China....(Interruptions.) Should we not change our attitude towards Tibet? Should we not recognise Tibet and give support to Dalai Lama so that Tibet can be freed and can stand on its own and also get its seat in the United Nations?

Lastly, I must thank you for allowing me this latitude.

SHRI ANBAZHAGAN (Tiruchengode): At the outset, I wish to submit that the DMK abstained from the joint session addressed by the revered President, not because of any disrespect for the person or office but because of the Union Government's acts of commission and omission in responding to the demands of the people from different parts of the country.

Sir, the Union Government have failed in carrying out their responsibilities to the public, as we very well know that the directive principles enshrined in the Constitution are not at all cared for. I would like to refer to Mr. Bhandare's speech which we have just now heard, in which he said that the backward classes, the depressed classes and all of them are even now in the same old condition as they were in pre-Independent India. As such, the DMK party considered, in order to register its protest and its regret, to abstain from the joint session. Some Members asked whether, such a thing would have happened, that is, the walk-out of Prof. H. N. Mukerjee and some others, and in our case, the staying back, if the nominee suggested by the Opposition parties was elected to the high office, and whether the Opposition would have done like this. Such a question was put by the

hon. Members of the ruling party. I would like to say that our position would have been the same, whoever may be the person who is elected to that high office. Even now, I wish to thank the revered President for his address, not on this occasion but for his address given at the inauguration of the World Tamil Conference at Madras.

SHRI HANUMANTHAIYA: Did you not thank him then?

SHRI ANBAZHAGAN: Our Chief Minister, on behalf of our Government, has expressed his thanks there. We feel we are very much indebted to such an address by our revered President who has more or less characterized, Tamil language and culture deserve special commendation. Most of the Members of Parliament belonging to the northern part of this country should at least once go through that lecture.

SHRI D. C. SHARMA: I have read it.

SHRI ANBAZHAGAN: We, the DMK, are one with the President when he condemns the hooliganism and unlawful activity of any section whomsoever might have been behind these unlawful acts. We agree that violent agitations in the streets weaken the democratic system and undermine the foundations of national unity. Reasoned debate and persuasion are the only ways of democratic functioning, as is stated by the President. But when any amount of reasoning fails to convince the good sense of those who are in power and persuasion is construed as a sign of weakness, the people feel that they have no other alternative except to start agitation and demonstrate their protest on a large scale.

On many occasions, only agitation has brought success and the Government has yielded only after we have seen such large-scale agitation. The psychology of the Government is not

to yield to reasoning either on arguments or on persuasion but to bow down before violence. This is the main reason for the people for taking the law in their own hands. We as a political party are trained in such an ideology that we rely only upon democratic means and peaceful methods, to achieve our objectives. We condemn all sorts of violent acts in unequivocal terms. The hon. Members were especially agitated very much when they referred to the incidents that happened in the southern part of the country, some students agitating against the imposition of Hindi and when they were putting into fire Chapter XVII of the Constitution and all that. I would like to assure the House that the Madras State Government and our Chief Minister, Mr. C. N. Annadurai, though in principle we are also anti-Hindi and are against the imposition of Hindi, have taken all necessary steps in order to maintain law and order, and those who are culprits or those who have committed such crimes are now booked by the police of the State. Therefore, I feel that Parliament Members need not be agitated over such issues. The Madras Government will look into it, as any other Government will do which has regard for law and order will do.

It is natural for the affected people, who are very much perturbed and agitated in their minds to think on lines of agitation. Whether you approve of the different ways and means of agitation followed by the people in different parts of the country, when there is room for agitation, it should be understood that those who are concerned with it should look clearly into the matter with full concern in order to solve the issues. On such issues as the official language problem, the whole responsibility for the agitation in the southern part of the country squarely lies with the Union Government and on no one else. I wish the Home Minister is present here. I want to say that the whole responsibility for any type of

[Shri Anbazhagan.]

agitation in any part of the country on the language issue, especially on the official language policy adopted by the Government, lies completely on this Government.

The President in his Address has said that the over-riding objective of our Government's policy is to strengthen the unity of the country and to promote the integration of the people. I wish it is true, but in fact, it is not. Whatever the President might have meant, that object is not carried out by his Government. The object is simply to impose Hindi in the name of unity. They consider that by imposing Hindi, they are going to achieve the integration of the people. But the actual conditions are quite opposite. Because of the imposition of Hindi, the people feel that they are differentially treated because of their languages. You cannot root out the languages of the people on any account. Their languages have existed for thousands of years and they are going to stay with them. The imposition of Hindi may be acceptable to some people, but not to many. As such, whether the over-riding objective of serving the cause of integration and unity of the country is going to be achieved by the present policy of the Government has to be reviewed. Whether that over-riding objective will be served by the Official Language Amendment Bill and the connected resolution is very much doubted. On the other hand, the administration of the country is now divided into two compartments the English section and the Hindi section. It has paved the way to differentiate between Hindi India and English India. I wish, we bestow some more attention on this problem. The non-Hindi people and the non-Hindi States are to be administered through English at the central level while the Hindi-speaking States and their people will be administered in their own language, i.e., Hindi. The advantage accrues to the Hindi people while disadvantage is the result

for the non-Hindi people. Not only that. English is accepted as the common language for Tamilians, Andhras, Kanndigas, Keralites, Bengalis and Assamese and their languages have no room in the central administration, while for the Hindi people and their allies, Hindi is provided and they are not amenable to accept the same English, which is the common language for all the other people I have just mentioned.

What is the reason? It is all due to the fault committed by the members of the Constituent Assembly who had conceded to the demand of the Hindi fanatics in those days that Hindi should be the official language of the Union. They were not able to think and consider the implications of such approval at a later stage. In the present day context, if the same Constituent Assembly, with the same members, were to meet once again, if that is at all possible—it is left to God—and if they would withdraw any part of the Constitution they have framed or rescind any clause, it will be the chapter connected with the official language of the Union. I would like to refer to late Dr. Subbarayans note of dissent to the report of the Official Languages Commission. There he said:

"The advisability or feasibility of having more than one language, for example, three as in the case of Switzerland, two as in the case of Belgium and Canada, as official languages for a vast country, (more or less a sub-continent) like India, was not taken up at that time when it was considered in the Constituent Assembly."

Only because of the importance of the Hindi-speaking people of the Constituent Assembly Hindi was given such a status which is not approved by the non-Hindi people at present and that is well established by the continued agitation.

Very often our friends refer to Gandhiji for acceptance of Hindi as the official language of the Union. It is well known to those who have gone through the history of the Congress that his desire was that Hindustani should be adopted both in Devnagiri and Urdu scripts as the national language. He never meant the present-day Hindi which is sponsored by those who are in office today. There was Hindi-Urdu controversy in those days and he wanted to solve the issue by adopting Hindustani which was a neutral language for both Hindus and Muslims. It is understood that Gandhiji was not keen in making it as the official language of the country. His intention was to facilitate the people of different parts of the country to move from one place to another and to find some unifying language for them. This is especially there when it concerns the northern part of the country.

I find the Tamilians have been opposing Hindi from the very day of its introduction in the south, as early as 1937, not to mention the dire events that have taken place following its imposition. In his monumental book on Mahatma Gandhi Mr. Pyarelal has quoted that Gandhiji referring to Rajaji, as—

'Rajaji might agree to Hindi becoming the national language (as national anthem or as we are having the national flag, as a symbolical language), but that he would never acquiesce in the position of only Hindi being given a status of an official language of the Union at any time.'

By referring to Rajaji's sentiments in those days Gandhiji has explicitly told—by Rajaji he means so many others in the south—that the south will never yield to have Hindi as its sole official language of the country. It might have recognised it as a national language for concourse among the people, to enable people to move from one part of the country to another. But to make it the official

language is certainly a crime. The crime was committed in 1950 and that crime has to be changed at least now. This traditional opposition to Hindi grows more and more in vehemence, power and force in the face of ever-increasing fanaticism on the part of Hindi zealots who want to ram the unwanted Hindi down the throats of unwilling people, irrespective of consequences. That is why agitations are not dying out and the people here, especially in the north, are thinking only in the old fashion without looking into the modern development especially in the psychology of the people.

What is actually the position of the Hindi people due to Hindi occupying the status of official language? I would like to quote Professor Myron Weiner who in a paper circulated in a seminar in Rajasthan University states:

"...there is considerable fear, that Hindi-speaking area views itself as the Prussia of India with the intention of culturally and politically dominating the regions." This means, Sir, that the centre of gravity of politics and also the cultural predominance are held by the Hindi block. The pull exercised by Uttar Pradesh, which is the Centre of the Hindi region, is more than self-explanatory from the fact that all the successive three Prime Ministers who are elected are from that region. Of the three Prime Ministers who are at the helm of affairs of this vast country, though we may also have some other reasons for electing them to that position, they all belong to Uttar Pradesh. It is natural for that part of the country to wield such influence over the other parts of the country, not because that part is more educated, not because of the intelligentsia of the country are coming from that area but because Hindi has become the official language of the country according to the Constitution and the feeling is there for

[Shri Anbazhagan.]

these people as if they are the ruling class.

I would like to add that Delhi is the capital. It is situated in the northern part of the country. The Central Government is not in the central place. I am not very much bothered merely because of the distance from my part of the country; but because the capital of the Central Government is situated in the northern part of the country, naturally the pull for the north is more. The pull is all the more because a north Indian dialect is the only accepted official language of the Union.

These are more than sufficient to make the Hindi people feel as aristocrats and rulers of the country and others as second class citizens who have only to yield to the desires of the Hindi block. It is really impossible for them to understand the difficulties and handicaps of the non-Hindi brethren. This is neither conductive nor desirable to the democratic growth of our nation.

In view of the inequality and unequal rights as citizens of this vast country to be enjoyed by Hindi and non-Hindi people, in the long run there will be more and more of resentment generated among the non-Hindi people and unity will become impracticable by the will of the people. To safeguard the political unity which is achieved by the present democratic system, we have to consider the language question in a broader perspective, taking each language people as an entity in itself. The Tamilians or the Telugus should not be merely counted by their heads to the total population of the country. Every linguistic region, every people speaking a particular language should be considered as an entity and equality should be maintained between the different entities on the basis of their languages. The basic consideration should be the equality of convenience of the linguistic units. No one section

should be allowed to have the advantage in the choice of its own language as the official language at the cost of others. This condition will be satisfied either by adopting English, as it was before the adoption of Hindi as the official language, or by adopting all national languages recognised by the Constitution and recognised by the respective States as the official languages of the States for the administration of the Union.

If it is argued if all languages are adopted as official languages that it will become unwieldy, for the benefit of equality for all and to facilitate real democratic administration to the people through the different and varied languages, Centres unwieldy powers should be curtailed in favour of the States. Then the official language problem also will be minimised as the Centre will not have many things to deal with the people directly, except powers necessary for the integration and defence of the country. Till such a constitutional arrangement is arrived at, the only possibility is to continue English alone as the official language.

There can be no reasonable objection for the continuance of English. Here I would like to quote, not from any anti-Hindi people, but from a veteran Congress leader who was very strong in his support for Hindi. I refer to the address at the All India Convocation of Youth Congress in 1962 by our late lamented Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, who has said this much about English:

"English is more or less a common language of all States; and communication between States and the Centre and States is in English, and if English were to be dropped, India would be divided into water-tight compartments and the country would be disintegrated, and the question of language should be considered in a wider context of National Integration."

Whether such a consideration was given at the time the Official Languages (Amendment) Bill was brought forward here by our Home Minister, Shri Chavan, or our Prime Minister is to be questioned. That consideration was not there. That is why they maintain such a policy as this that the ultimate official language ought to be the Hindi language alone. Because of that attitude we were not able to solve the problem even at the time when we had an opportunity to reconsider the whole issue. To the extent English is replaced by Hindi in the Central administration—the extent may not be full, even to that small extent they have paved the way for differentiation which would ultimately end in disintegration.

The process of integration is yet to be completed. After achieving independence our country is not fully integrated. Merely a Constitution will not be enough to integrate a country. The people should find themselves as brothers, as belonging to the same community. They should feel that they are all one nation. That stage has not yet been reached. It is only the feeling of the people as one, belonging to each other on the basis of equality and fraternity, that counts for integration.

On the eve of independence one of our greatest statesmen, Rajaji, has said this which should be deeply given thought to by our people who are in power. Rajaji said:

"Our political experiment is really like melting iron and metals, and pouring them into a crucible and making an alloy (integration), an alloy which can stand wear and tear.

It is not like the chinaware that other people have turned out in their countries. Their democracies were easy to make, like plastics. But we are dealing with metals."

Here he has referred to metals not because India is a homogenous unit, but because it consists of different

languages and cultures. It is a polyglot society. To make real integration of such people is more or less like melting iron and other metals and pouring them into a crucible.

This is a different task which requires more intelligence and deep consideration from all sections of the society. As such is the natural condition, as varied elements of language and culture are to be integrated, no one regional language can be imposed on others or their languages discriminated in their use at the Union level. Because of these conditions, because the different languages of this country are not given a treatment on par with Hindi, specially after the Languages (Amendment) Bill and the connecting Resolution passed here which has created so much of fear in the minds of the younger generation in our part of the country, agitations are started. The deep feeling of the people has been the cause for the Madras State Legislature to pass a Resolution on this issue. The Resolution has already been sent to our Prime Minister and other Cabinet Ministers concerned with this. But, anyhow, I would like to register the Resolution here so that this House may understand the problem in all its aspects.

This is the Resolution passed in the Madras State Legislature, more or less unanimously. The Congress is the main Opposition party in that House. They have not registered anything against the Resolution; they were abstaining on that occasion. They have not voted for or against. Also, some other parties abstained. Some other parties like the Swatantra Party, the Muslim League, the Tamil Arasu Kazhagham, have supported the Resolution passed in the House. This is the Resolution which gets the full and complete approval of the people of Tamilnad. I quote:

"That the serious situation created in the State as the result of passing of the Official Languages (Amendment) Act, 1967, and

[Shri Anbazhagan.]

the connected Resolution by the Parliament of India, be taken into consideration."

And on such consideration, this House resolves:

"Whereas the adoption of one of the regional languages alone as the Official Language of India in a land of different languages, culture and civilisation, will, it is felt, disrupt the unity and integrity of India and result in the domination by a region of one language over the regions of other languages:".

This consideration, this view, cannot be repudiated at any forum. It further says:

"Tamil and other National Languages should be adopted as the Official languages of the Union and the Constitution should be amended accordingly. Till such time as this is achieved, English alone should continue as the Official Language. This House urges that the relevant Chapter of the Constitution on Official Language shall be suitably amended."

This Resolution has come from a fully elected Legislature which has got the sanction of the people of that part of the country:

"Whereas this House is of opinion that the Official Languages (Amendment) Act, 1967, passed by the Parliament does not serve to achieve the above object, but will lead to the division of India and cause among those connected with the Administration of Government two divisions with mutual hatred, confusion and frustration, this House resolves to strive continuously to realise the above objective of the right of every National Language.

In-as-much as the Resolution on the language policy passed along with the Official Language (Amendment) Act, 1967, causes injustice, disadvantage and additional burden to the people in the non-Hindi Regions and, in accordance with the unanimous opinion expressed by several political parties that the said Resolution should not be enforced, this House urges that the Union Government shall forthwith suspend the operation of the said Resolution and devise ways and means to see that the people in the non-Hindi regions are not subject to any disadvantage or additional burden."

This is a thing for consideration of those who are in the Cabinet. But nothing has come out from the President about the consideration of this issue. Here, the President, in his Address, has said:

"It is Government's earnest hope that all controversies about language will now be ended. Whatever practical problems arise in the implementation of our language policy and programmes should be approached in a spirit of understanding and mutual accommodation."

By the term 'mutual accommodation' it is meant mutual accommodation for Hindi; by 'spirit of understanding' is simply meant accommodation for Hindi by all other people.

Actually, the request made by the Madras Legislative Assembly in its Resolution is to devise ways and means to see that the people in the non-Hindi regions are not subjected to any disadvantage or additional burden to fulfill their desire. The Resolution, as passed by Parliament, should be withdrawn at once, at the earliest opportunity, if the students should stop their agitation. I do not approve their methods; I am willing to join with you all in Condemning

their action. But, at the same time, I would like to say that unless the Resolution is withdrawn by the Central Government, by the Union Ministers concerned, unless and until the policy is openly declared, the students will not feel that their right is protected.

The Resolution passed by the Madras Legislative Assembly further says:

"This House resolves to request the Union Government to convene a high level conference of leaders of all political parties to re-examine the language problem and devise a method to remove the hardship caused by the Language Resolution passed along with the Official Languages (Amendment) Act, 1967."

I read this portion only for the purpose of saying that this portion of the Resolution was suggested by the Congress members in the Madras Legislative Assembly and it is also incorporated in the Resolution.

I do not want to go through the Resolution further, but I would like to say that, because of the conditions created by the Resolution, the Madras Assembly has decided to drop the three-language formula. The three-language formula was implemented earlier, but not in full. The third language, Hindi, was only an optional subject and even as an optional subject it was not compulsory from the point of view of examination; it was, more or less, a mockery; it was a burden which the students resisted very much. The students were not willing to learn that language, but simply to satisfy the people at the Centre the Madras Congress Government, which was in power earlier, implemented the three-language formula, but practically it was not so. Now our Government has decided this; the present State Legislature has passed a Resolution to drop Hindi from the curriculum of students. I do not think that there is any injus-

tice here. On this occasion, I would like to refer to the speech of a senior Member of this House, Seth Govind Das, made the other day when he spoke on this issue. I read it from the proceedings of this House, from the English translation, because I do not know Hindi and nobody can expect me to learn Hindi. He said:

"The incidents that had taken place in Madras and other places were not there because of the language question alone...."

Seth Govind Das wants to suggest that it is more political and it is not because of language. But now the students who are agitating, who are not adhering to the wishes of our Chief Minister or the Congress leader, are not bound either to the Congress or to the DMK. It is only because of the language issue that they are agitating. Seth Govind Das wants to say that this is something which is not connected to the language issue. This is not correct.

Then he said:

"In the past, the DMK Party, which is now in power, had been burning the national flag..."

Seth Govind Das may not be able to differentiate between the DMK and the DK. The DK created an agitation burning the national flag and it was supporting the Congress Ministry at that time. They did it and not the DMK....

SHRI SAMBASIVAM (Nagapattinam): Which Party are they supporting now?

SHRI ANBAZHAGAN: Now it is immaterial. When they burnt the national flag, they were supporting the Congress and the Congress Chief Minister was in his kind support. I would like to say that the DMK has never attempted such a thing. We attempted to burn Part XVII of the Constitution to agitate against the imposition of Hindi. It is well known

[**Shri Anbazhagan**]

So all that our Leader was imprisoned was sent to jail, for six months for that. On account of the anti-Hindi agitation, most of us here have gone to jail; we were sent to prison in the days of the Congress Ministry. Therefore, I would like to say that this thing does not in any way reflect on the DMK there.

Seth Govind Das also said:

"Even now it had defied the Constitution . . ."

How? He says:

"So long as Hindi was the official language declared so by the Constitution, opposition of that language as such was an opposition of the Constitution itself . . ."

Seth Govind Das, a senior Member, who had the privilege of being a member of the Constituent Assembly, reads between the lines for his own convenience. There is no provision in the Constitution to say that the people should study Hindi. Especially, 'education' is a subject which is completely in the hands of the State Administration. If the Centre thinks in a different line to take over the subject from the State to the Centre, no State will be willing to yield; even the Congress States will not be willing to concede that right to the Central Government.

If they are not able to understand the Resolution passed by the Madras Assembly, I would like the Congress Ministers concerned to go through the Resolution passed by the Andhra Pradesh Assembly; that Assembly has given an ultimatum to them. Our Assembly has declared what it wants. The Chief Minister of Kerala, Mr. Namboodiripad, has definitely stated that the Hindi chauvinists are to be blamed for all the things that happen at present. I wish to add that there are so many things that the Hindi people are doing; especially those

who are in the administration are imposing Hindi. The A.I.R. is used solely for this; the A.L.R. has begun to give commentaries in Hindi only whenever some dignitaries visit this country. When the Prime Minister of USSR and the President of Yugoslavia arrived here, the whole running commentary was in Hindi. Then it is clear that the A.I.R. is intended only for the Hindi people and not for the non-Hindi people. What is the motive of all this? Here the Ministers come in their cars and the number plates of their cars are in Hindi. I wish to condemn this. The number plates are in Hindi. Do you think that we are able to understand the number inscribed there? The Hindi-Devnagari numerals are not at all accepted by our constitution. Those who want to uphold the constitution, are burning the constitution at the citadel itself. If we want we can also write the Tamil numerals in our State which nobody else can understand. We have not done that. These Devnagari numerals are not acceptable according to the constitution.

SHRI SHEO NARAIN: What are you saying?

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Sheo Narain, please keep quiet.

SHRI ANBAZHAGAN: Hindi chauvinists including Mr. Sheo Narain, cannot dominate over us. We are prepared to take any risk in our lives by opposing the imposition of Hindi—not for the sake of English, but for the sake of democracy and the integrity of this country. Thank you.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE (SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM): Sir, it is very heartening that the House is agreed on one thing that the unity and integrity of the country has to be maintained. Ours is a big country, with different States, different languages, different culture

groups, but all the same, the way of thinking, the way of life, and the thought-structure of the people in the country has been such that in spite of all these diversities we have continue as a nation. The unity, especially the cultural unity of the country has been maintained through the ages. The recent trends are no doubt depressing and distressing. Various fissiporous tendencies have reared their ugly head which no doubt causes danger to the integrity and unity of the country. So, it is for all the political parties in the country to consider very seriously how we can discourage these tendencies in order to strengthen the unity and integrity of the country. Ours is a democratic country. The people themselves decided in the Constituent Assembly to give themselves a constitution based on democratic procedures. As my friend the leader of the D.M.K. party said just now, there may be occasions when certain parts of the country or certain groups somewhere feel very strongly about certain matters. It may be possible to solve them by means of discussion and persuasion. It is also possible that it may not have been solved to their satisfaction. It is possible, and it is permissible also in a democracy to have agitation. But certainly nobody will condone it if the agitation takes a form which will endanger the very basis of our democracy. I am glad that such activities have been condemned on all sides. In recent times it has caused anxiety and concern to us that agitations have taken place either in the name of language, or in the name of communal disturbances or in the name of protecting the interests, economic or otherwise of a particular State from the so-called incursion of people of other States.

We have different States. But their boundaries have never prevented interflow of people from all the States.

India in that matter has continued to be a composite whole. In spite of the different language groups and

different States, trade and commerce have been carried on.

All these problems are not party questions. They are national questions and they should cause concern and distress to all people who want progress and development of the country irrespective of party affiliations or political ideologies, because even when we differ in our political or economic approach, there is one basic fundamental unity, that all of us want to maintain the unity and integrity of the country, all of us want to develop the country so that we can liquidate poverty and ensure to our people a fuller and happier life.

SHRI VISWANATHA MENON (Ernakulam): Cancel the Resolution (Interruptions).

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I will not say that the Government in all matters is infallible. I will not claim that.

AN. HON. MEMBER: Nobody said so.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Nobody can claim that he is infallible. I do not claim it. We might have committed mistakes. It may be that certain things should have been discussed together in order to arrive at a national consensus. As I said, there are questions of national importance which should not be regarded and dealt with as party questions. On that matter, I have no hesitation in saying that for the proper functioning of democracy, it should be necessary that leaders of all political parties should sit together and evolve a national consensus.

Take the language question itself. I will not go into details. But I would like to make it clear that I always held the view that there should be no feeling in any part of the country that any language is being imposed on any other linguistic group. I will not claim that Hindi, which was decided to be the

[Shri Jagjiwan Ram.]

official language, is the most developed language of all Indian languages. I do not know Tamil, but I certainly have tried to go through Tamil literature and I have no hesitation in saying that Tamil literature is very rich and highly developed, especially the Sangam literature. It has never been the claim that Hindi was accepted as the official language for the purposes of the work of the Central Government or communication with State Governments because it was the most developed of all Indian languages but because it has wider usage and appeal.

16.55 hrs.

[**SHRI G. S. DHILLON** in the Chair].

Even while doing that, it should be the intention to develop all the Indian languages.

As I have said, I do not want to go into these details at present. Even on that point I feel that when a controversy has arisen, we should try to evolve a national consensus. The leader of the DMK party has quoted the resolution in the Madras Assembly. A few days back I read about the decision of the Andhra Cabinet on the language question. These two decisions are not the same or similar. Whereas the Madras Assembly and DMK say that Hindi should be given no quarter, the Andhra Cabinet feel that the three language formula is the only solution to the language problem.

SHRI ANBAZHAGAN: Because the Minister referred to the position of Hindi in Madras State, I would like to explain that in Madras State Hindi is given the position of an elective subject, not a third language.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I am glad. I am not trying to enter into the controversy. It is a very delicate thing, and it touches the people of the country, and therefore it has to

be resolved in a way which will be acceptable to the different parts of the country, and therefore it will have to be done like that. I was saying that the Andhra Cabinet only a few days ago has decided that the three language formula is the only answer to the language question.

I intervene only to say a few things about the food problem in the country, but if I refer to other matters, it is only with a view to emphasize that the economic development of any country requires stability in the country, political stability and social stability. If there is no stability and if there are disorders, agitations leading to violence and destruction, the very basis on which the economy of the country can be built is shaken. Food and agriculture still continues to be a very important sector of our economy, and when agricultural production is affected, the whole economy of the country gets affected. We have seen and realised that the last two consecutive years of severe drought has severely and seriously effected the economy of the country. If there are disturbances and dislocations, disorders, again agricultural production will be affected, and that will retard revitalisation of the economy as a whole.

16 hrs.

Fortunately this year we have a very good outlook for agricultural production. As the House is aware, our expectation is a record production of 95 million tonnes. The weather has been favourably, but I will be failing in my duty to the millions of farmers in this country, if I attribute this 95 million tonnes of production only to favourable weather conditions. The Indian farmer has contributed in a very large measure to this record production. The readiness and enthusiasm with which the Indian farmer has accepted the new strategy of agriculture is a surprise not only to us but even to the most advanced

countries of the world. I know it for certain that even in America it took them quite a few years to persuade the American farmer to accept chemical fertilisers, but here with enthusiasm the Indian farmer is pressing the Government to provide all inputs for agriculture, which is a very encouraging feature. Therefore, I should like to emphasise again and again that the Indian farmer has contributed in a very large measure to this record production. The consumption of chemical and nitrogenous fertilisers rose from five lakh in 1966-67 to thirteen lakh tons in 1967-68 and the demand for minor irrigation is growing. I do not want the country to be a helpless victim of weather conditions. This record food production this year should not encourage in us a sense of complacency. We must continue our efforts which were initiated last year when there was a drought. We must increase our irrigation potential, minor irrigation, tube wells, lift irrigation and so on. Above all, minor irrigation is important. Though we have record production, I want to take steps so that the minor irrigation works that had already been started continue with added vigour and intensity. The House is aware that the country is facing a very difficult economic situation. All the same I am trying to make more resources available to minor irrigation—about Rs. 112 crores. Over and above that, an effort has been made to make provision for non-plan expenditure through several institutions like the land development bank, and agricultural finance corporation. I have also succeeded in persuading the commercial banks to enter the field of agriculture and it is indeed gratifying that the commercial banks have decided to set apart nearly Rs. 7 crores for agricultural purposes such as refinancing debentures of land mortgage banks and electricity boards. Apart from this, the commercial banks are advancing to the cultivators. The Madras Government wanted to embark on a large scale minor irrigation programme but could not find the money

in the Central or State budget. Twenty crores were needed and arrangements have been made by and large to cover this gap by institutional finances. I am saying all this to lay great stress on minor irrigation works. Of course the importance of major irrigation schemes cannot be minimised. But minor irrigation schemes give quicker results. Several Members remarked that our progress in the field of irrigation has not been as satisfactory as it should have been. I concede that. There is shortage of funds with the electricity boards which affects rural electrification programmes. There also steps are being taken to see that the debentures of the Electricity Boards for making necessary finances available to them for rural electrification are subscribed by the commercial banks.

When there is record production, the question of prices generally arises. There has been sizeable increase not only in the foodgrains production but in the production of commercial crops as well. Cotton will be nearly 60 lakh bales; in jute, we will have nearly 75 lakh bales; and we will have nearly 60 lakh tonnes of groundnut. All these are sizeable increases over the last year's production, and naturally, concern is being expressed that the prices may fall.

AN HON. MEMBER: They have already fallen.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: There is a heavy fall in the prices of cotton and seeds.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Therefore, care has to be taken to see that prices are not permitted to fall below a certain level. Some friends say that cotton prices have fallen. Yes; they have fallen from the fantastic level to which they had arisen.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH (Rohtak): Wheat prices in Haryana have also fallen.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: But even after they have fallen, they (cotton prices) are 15 per cent above the ceiling level that was fixed for cotton last year. After the fall, the price is still 20 to 25 per cent more than the floor price fixed for cotton. In jute, the position was rather difficult because no satisfactory machinery was available for the purchase of jute from the growers but action has been taken to see that the State Trading Corporation enters the field, and it has entered in order to stabilise the prices of jute and to ensure that the minimum price fixed for jute is made available to the growers. In groundnut also, there has been a record crop, and there has been some fall in the prices, but, as I have said, it has been my effort to see that prices of agricultural commodities are not permitted to fall below a certain level. Therefore, we have permitted export of handpicked groundnut and we are considering also the export of some groundnut oil so that the prices may be maintained at reasonable remunerative level to the growers.

About foodgrains, generally this question is raised: I have said in the House on previous occasions also that in view of the scarcity conditions that we faced during the last two years, the procurement prices of foodgrains have been fixed at a very remunerative level, but even this year, it has been declared and steps have been taken, where necessary, to see that the prices of foodgrains do not fall below the procurement level which, for all practical purposes becomes the support price.

Then the question is raised as to why, in face of the record production, the zonal restrictions are not removed. The zonal restrictions or the various controls and regulations on the movement of foodgrains have been put to serve particular purposes, and when it is found that they are redundant for serving those purposes, there will be no hesitation in relaxing those controls and regulations. The

House may be aware that I have taken certain small measures in this direction of relaxation. In Delhi, though rationing continues, I have relaxed it to the extent that the Delhi citizens may bring from the rural area of Delhi wheat and rice for their consumption and that has produced very good results. I did the same thing last month in respect of Kanpur, and the report from there also is that the offtake from the fairprice shops has gone down because the free market availability there has increased. The complete removal of the zonal restrictions will be considered only at a time when the Government has built up some stock with itself. I do not want to become a helpless spectator of the manipulations of the foodgrain trade. I cannot do that unless I have a sizeable stock with me. When the rabi crop comes, we will have a meeting of the Chief Ministers of various States concerned and that will be the time to consider where relaxations or modifications can be made in the administration of the food economy of the country.

Even when restrictions on the movement of foodgrains from one State to another are liberalised to some extent, procurement by Government will have to continue, so that we can maintain a sizeable stock with ourselves to take care of deficit and scarcity pockets, and when we find prices going beyond control. This is all the more necessary because foodgrain happens to be the basic commodity which influences the prices practically of all consumer goods and manufactured goods. Therefore, all precautions have to be taken on the food front. The Food Corporation of India which was established recently, which had not to do much work during the past years when there was not much to purchase in this country, was called upon to take up this operation of procurement on a very large scale this year. Though it had to make arrangements within a very short period, the Food Corporation is doing

a good job. Wherever the State Governments have asked them to perform certain operations, they have done those operations.

SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI (Bhubaneswar): What is the procurement by them by now?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: The procurement in the country by now has been 2 million tons of which 1.3 by Food Corporation and rest by States, which is a very satisfactory thing.

SHRI BHOGENDRA JHA (Jainagar): What is the State-wise procurement?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I can give it, but not just now. But it is very poor in Bihar. It is the failure of such governments which believe in mixed government of parties with contradictory ideologies and programmes . . .

श्री मधु लिमये (मुंगेर) : आप भी तो खिचड़ी पार्टी हैं ।

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: They sink and crack because of their own contradictory policies and programmes, with no effort of toppling on our part.

श्री मधु लिमये : आप तो किसी भी नीति पर मुत्तकिक राय नहीं हैं ।

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: It does not depend upon the object itself, but upon the lens through which that object is seen. I was saying that political instability in various States is affecting the procurement. With greater production, if procurement is not properly done, the States which lag behind in procurement will be the first victims of that.

There is a tendency in some States to charge higher prices for the quantities which they export and to make it available to their own consumers in the State at a lower price. It will be my endeavour to discourage such

tendencies and I have no doubt the House will support me in that.

SHRI G. VISWANATHAN (Wandiwash): What about the sugar policy?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: That has not been raised in the debate. That can be considered during the budget discussion.

एक माननीय सदस्य : ऊंचे दामों पर ब्लैक-मार्केट में बिक रही है ।

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Some people cannot see white market, they only see blackmarket.

श्री मधु लिमये : चलो भाई, पांच रुपये और आठ रुपये किलो भी सफेद मानो ।

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Some people can only see the dirt in the drain, I cannot help it.

श्री मधु लिमये : आठ रुपये किलो को आप सफेद मार्केट मानना चाहते हैं ।

श्री जगबीबन राम : आठ रुपये किलो कहां दाम है, हम जानना चाहेंगे ?

श्री मधु लिमये : दिवाली और पूजा के अवसर पर बम्बई और कलकता में हो गई थी ।

श्री जगबीबन राम : दिवाली के बक्त नई पालिसी नहीं आई थी ।

Shri Limaye said that the price was Rs. 8. Which is the place in India where after the new policy on sugar has been sold at Rs. 8?

श्री मधु लिमये : नई पालिसी नहीं आई थी, लेकिन फिर भी दाम इतना ज्यादा था । पांच रुपये को भी कम ही समझेंगे ?

श्री जगबीबन राम : ज्यादा या, इसलिये कि उस बक्त ब्लैक मार्केट था । आठ रुपया और पांच रुपयः एक नहीं होत है, इसमें कर्क होता है ।

श्री सखनसाह कपूर (किशनगंज) : पांच रुपया आपको दृष्टि से ठीक है ?

श्री जगज्जन राम : पांच रुपया कम है या ज्यादा है, यह तो पालिसी को समझने की अकल पर डिपेण्ड करता है ।

With the good crop that is coming up, there is a tendency on the part of some States to demand more and more foodgrains from the Centre. I would like to say that the crop has been satisfactory in every State except in a few pockets here and there. During this period the State Governments should try to meet their requirements by and large from their own resources so that we can save something for the lean period.

श्री कंबर लाल गुप्ता (दिल्ली सदर) : केरल को चावल क्यों नहीं देते हैं, वे लोग चिल्लाते हैं ।

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I am coming to that. Two questions have been raised especially by hon. friends from Kerala. There is no doubt that we had a difficult situation last year. This specific figure of 75,000 tons I do not regard it as sacrosanct. We failed to supply 75,000 tons every month because of the difficult rice situation. This year also I do not think even with our best efforts it will be possible for us to supply 75,000 tons every month. But we will try to supply as much as we can from internal sources and from imports.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: Approximately how much?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Not less than 40,000 tons.

SHRI A. SREEDHARAN (Badagara): Will you keep that promise at least? You promised 75,000 tons and you did not keep that promise. Will you keep this promise of 40,000 tons?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: That we will keep.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR (Palghat): The hon. Minister, when he visited Kerala, spoke to the people there and said that it will be reduced to 50,000 tons. Now the Minister says that there is a bumper crop on an all-India scale and the Food Corporation is going to purchase. Then why reduce the allotment to Kerala? The Law Minister, who is sitting over there, toured the State of Kerala and spoke to the people. He in his speeches said that the Centre has not assured the people of Kerala anything, no assurance has been given by the Centre that so much food will be given. We want to know the actual position.

THE MINISTER OF LAW (SHRI GOVINDA MENON): I am being misquoted.

SHRI P. GOPALAN (Tellicherry): It is not misquoting....(Interruptions).

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR: When the Law Minister goes to Kerala he says one thing and there he says another thing. The press quoted him as saying that the Central Government is not giving rice.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I can say something about food. The Law Minister will give them sound legal advice.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR: Then he should not give any assurances to the people of Kerala.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: Of course, there is a good crop. But one should not forget that I will have to supply to all the deficit areas. Kerala is not the only deficit area, so far as rice is concerned. We have to take care of West Bengal, Kerala, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa, to some extent Delhi and Jammu and Kashmir. We have to supply to all the areas. So, the quantum of supply will depend upon the availability from the internal sources and imports. We shall make

a determined effort to supply as much rice to Kerala as we can. But, as I have said, it will not be 75,000 tons a month. So far as the subsidy is concerned, the House will recall that we have withdrawn the subsidy from coarse grains of rice. That was not done only for Kerala; it was done to all deficit areas.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR: One more explanation.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: If they do not want to listen to me, I have practically finished.

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: They are politically hungry; not for food.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: There is no question of any discrimination, so far as Kerala is concerned.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR: Central Government gets rice from Andhra at the rate of Rs. 80 per quintal and sells it to Kerala at the rate of Rs. 96 per quintal, making a profit of Rs. 16 per quintal which is nothing but blackmarketing. Can we expect any reduction in the price or subsidy in the supplies to Kerala?

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: There is no question of any subsidy to Kerala. Kerala is already being treated as a favoured child by the Central Government, so far as supply of rice and subsidy are concerned. The rice which is being purchased from Andhra is being offered to Kerala at a price which is lower than the price that Kerala offers to its own peasants.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA: If Kerala is your favourite child, why don't you adopt it

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: So far as imported rice is concerned, the price of imported rice is much higher than that of indigenous rice. Yet, Kerala is being supplied the imported rice at the price of the indigenous rice. In that way, the Central Government is

heavily subsidising the supply of rice to Kerala.

SHRI E. K. NAYANAR: That is not at all the correct position.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I would request the hon. Member not to get up every time and interrupt without getting the permission of the chair.

SHRI JAGJIWAN RAM: I want to assure our friends from Kerala that in the matter of food—of course, they will never be convinced, because one can convince only a person who is not already convinced—we are doing everything that we possibly can. We are getting price from Andhra and Madras Government and we are going and begging all these governments to make rice available to Kerala. And these people say that if Kerala wants rice from our cultivators whom we are paying a price lower than Kerala is paying to its own cultivators, how can we convince our cultivators? These are the problems which Kerala people do not appreciate. They should appreciate all these things. But, as I have said in the past, I will again assure that there will be no shortage of foodgrains; there may be shortage of rice.

Sir, I have done.

DR. MAITREYEE BASU (Darjeeling): I would like to have one information from the hon. Minister. So much information he has already given. Why does he not give the information I seek?

16.26 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER in the Chair].

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: At this juncture he has tried to explain the point that had been raised in this debate. The Budget debate and the food debate will be coming and then Members can raise their points.

[SHRI MANGALATHUMADAM]
(Mavelikara): Mr. Deputy-Speaker,

[Shri Mangalathumadam.]

Sir, in examining the President's Address may I invite the attention of the House to the situation prevalent all over the country? The general discontent and subsequent lawlessness is the order of the day. There is no security to the life and property of the common man. There is no security even in MPs flats in New Delhi. Recently, we read in the newspapers what had happened in New Delhi on the New Year eve. The New Year eve recorded the worst type of hooliganism which ever happened in the history of the Capital. It is shame that this had happened under the nose of the mighty Home Minister, who failed to do anything in spite of all the power he commands and the paraphernalia of wireless vans and police force at his beck and call. I would say that this is a gross dereliction of duty on the part of the Home Minister.

Our late Prime Minister, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, had set up a welcome precedent in Indian democratic system. When he failed to execute his responsibilities, instead of putting the blame on the officers' shoulders and stick to the chair, he resigned and quit the Government. Will the Home Minister follow the convention established by Shri Shastri and gracefully quit in the light of his failure to curb lawlessness in the country?

In Bombay a neo-fascist group is growing in the name of Siva Sena. Many in the Government as well as in the Opposition condemned this movement very eloquently. But the Government did nothing so far to save people and their property from the onslaught of this fascist group. Similarly, the so-called Lachit Sena in Assam and several other parallel organisations are spreading the philosophy of hatred and promoting fissiparous tendencies. They are, in the strict sense, anti-social movements. Troubles in the Mizo Hills and Nagaland are also continuing. Though the

Government failed to curb lawlessness it had succeeded very remarkably in intriguing to topple several non-Congress ministries in India.

Food is a lever used by the Central Government to put the non-Congress State Governments in ransom, particularly in the deficit States. In West Bengal, they used this lever successfully. In Kerala, it is still in operation. Kerala continues to be a food deficit State because the State is concentrating on producing cash crops which earn substantial portion of foreign exchange to the nation. Therefore, the Government must note that in asking for food Kerala is not pleading for the grace of the Central Government but putting forth its rightful claim which, if refused, will have dire consequences. Recently, some newspapers carried the news that the Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi asked a delegation that met her in Trivandrum, what Kerala would do if the Centre stopped food quota to the State. I hope that Mrs. Gandhi has the wisdom to see the hidden danger if she dares to execute what she reportedly said. Article 21 of the Constitution provides for a right to life to every citizen. Does the Prime Minister think that the people of Kerala have the right not to live but to die out of starvation?

The President's Address expresses some hopes about this year's bumper crops. They may give some temporary solace to the empty stomachs seeing death face to face in unknown villages. But soon they will find that they are badly disappointed. Even if a little increase is there in the food production, who will guarantee its fair distribution? Several bottlenecks are there between production and distribution. I may say that the interferences of private agencies, profiteers and speculators between production and distribution are solely due to the inefficiency of the Government. To crown all this, there is a deliberate step motherly attitude the

Centre is adopting towards States like Kerala, imports under PL 480 and the like are not a remedy for the food problem. They are really poison in sugar coating which we should refuse forthwith.

This House must understand that this Government keeps 90 per cent of the people of Kerala starving or semi-starving. This cruel game is going on. When people cry from Kerala for food, the Centre pretends deaf. But how long can these tribes be ignored? Queen Mary Antoinette never knew the commoner's way of life. Our Prime Minister is pre-occupied with many a problem except those that concern the common people.

In spite of the national planning, regional imbalances are a continuing affair. Some States are totally neglected in industrialisation. We should not forget the comparative advantage and the job opportunities that industrialisation provides. States from which influential Cabinet Ministers come get the lion share of all the industrial development. The President's Address expresses concern over the unemployment of the educated youths. Sir, I hope that the House is aware that Kerala, the State from which I come, has 55 per cent of literacy, the highest in India. This is the State where educated unemployment is maximum. If a national outlook is there and if the Government wants to solve the problem in a national perspective, the neglect of Kerala in industrial development should be put to an end. I strongly suggest that the problem of educated unemployment in that State can be solved only through the industrialisation of that State. I do remember Dr. K. L. Rao's suggestion in the Kerala Economic Conference in New Delhi a year ago that problems should be solved as much as possible at the State level itself. I understand the logic of his argument. But I would like to know what he and his Government are going to do with the problems confront-

ing Kerala especially on food and educated unemployment.

The prices of essential commodities are exorbitantly high. The Government is apparently helping capitalists and blackmarketeers through various measures. In the capital, sugar was decontrolled some time back. As a result, the price rose up from Rs. 1.80 in the ration shops to Rs. 4.50 in the open market. The decontrol provides opportunity to the capitalists and hoarders to create artificial scarcity and control the market. I don't know for whose benefit this decontrol of sugar was made if not for the benefit of the Minister concerned and the capitalists and blackmarketeers? May I ask the Government to stop helping the capitalists to loot the people in daylight.

The President's speech contains some remarks on the Kerala-Mysore border question. I may say that, in opening up the border questions between various States, the Government has opened the Pandora's box. If the Government is keen to open up the question on the northern border of Kerala, I would request the Government to reconsider its southern and north-eastern borders also. The whole Cape Comorin District and the Gudalur Taluk in Nilgiri District in Madras, historically, geographically and culturally, belong to Kerala. These portions belonged to former Travancore State and Malabar District were cut off from Kerala as a result of the States Reorganisation in 1956. With the separation of this district, Kerala lost the fertile Nanjanad, one of her two most important granaries. And that was the beginning of the food scarcity in that State. The food problem of Kerala can be solved very easily and effectively in the State level itself if these portions are restored to Kerala. I submit that the Government should appoint a Commission to go through the problem.

Sir, this country today is at the crossroads of a seriously grave situa-

[Shri Mangalathumadam.]

tion. Our enemies across the frontiers once again are gathering their might and resources to challenge our sovereignty. Forces of narrow regionalism and communalism are out to disrupt the unity and solidarity of India and I am convinced, Sir, that this Government is singularly unsuited to shoulder the responsibilities which confront them. The only ray of hope before this country is the growing awareness and awakening of the great Indian people as was amply demonstrated during the last General Elections. Let this Government see the writing on the wall before it is too late; otherwise, their doom is only a question of time.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Mr. Amrit Nahata.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA (Barmer): Let Mr. Bedabrata Barua speak.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Nobody from Rajasthan has spoken.

SHRI AMRIT NAHATA: He has been waiting for the past two days. Let him speak now, Sir. I will speak tomorrow.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: All right. Mr. Bedabrata Barua.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA (Kaliabor): Mr. Deputy-Speaker, Sir, the discussion on the President's Address is taking place against the backdrop of the unfortunate happenings in Assam, and as a citizen of India, I do feel concerned about what has happened there and elsewhere. The tendency to violence and also the tendency to convert violent words into violent action, may involve all of us, the whole country, in a holocaust. Assam, after all, is a thin end of the wedge and geographically speaking, Assam has an isolated existence, which requires the special attention of the country. Not only violence to private property, but, I should say, violence which involves public pro-

perty is equally reprehensible, and violence to human lives is even more reprehensible. In that way, I think, the whole discussion should centre around the happenings not only in Assam but also in Meerut and Ranchi and also the violent events concerning the language that have taken place in the last few months.

What is really important is the whole concept of law and orderly progress, to which we have sworn ourselves at the time we adopted our Constitution, because the concept of law and orderly progress involves justice and also social change. Because of the regional imbalance in our country soon a situation would develop within a decade when it would be very difficult to see some backward areas and some advanced areas belonging or appearing to belong to the same State. This type of regional imbalance, which is a most disorderly type of progress and is against the fundamentals of the Constitution and the Directive Principles of the Constitution, should be corrected. In that context, I believe that Assam's situation has to be solved by the understanding assistance from this House and also by understanding and friendship between the various people living in Assam. I am very sorry to say that Mr. Swell, an Hon. Member of this House who spoke only two days ago discussed about it and I would have liked him to be more helpful in regard to this problem. It is not merely a question of finding fault with the Government of Assam but it is a question of finding out and acting according to the history and geography which has placed the people of Assam in one unit. And it is this unity of this geographical unit that has to be looked into and in that context I am constrained to say that whatever the political differences that we have, it is not a fact that the hill people of Assam have been treated in a bad way by the Government. I want to draw your attention to the only authoritative document of the recent times

where this matter of discrimination to the hills was gone into very thoroughly in the report of the Pataskar Commission. It gave certain conclusions. It concluded that the hill areas have not been treated in a discriminatory manner; the conclusion of the report was that they have been treated much better than the people of the plains. The report said:

"The relative contribution of the hill districts to the State's revenue is much less in proportion to the population and it has gone down further over a period of 12 years since 1951-52.

The per-capita contribution of the hill districts to the State's revenues is much less than that of the plains. While the per-capita contribution of the plains has more than doubled during the past 12 years, that of the hills has remained more or less constant."

This is the conclusion of the Pataskar Commission. Then it said:

"The share of the hill areas in revenue expenditure has always been more than their share of population. It is also much in excess of the relative contribution to the State's revenues. The per capita expenditure in the hill districts has increased 5 to 6 times from 1951-52 and is much more than in the plains.

The allocations of the Plan outlay for the hill districts have not been unfair vis-a-vis their population. But as a percentage of the total outlay these have gone down slightly during the Third Plan period.

The hill districts have recorded a higher rate of increase than the plains in respect of the total and per capita incomes."

This is the crux of the question. NEFA is separated from Assam; Nagaland speaks the same language which we call Nagamese. NEFA and Nagaland are culturally Assamese.

The cultural affinity had been there for hundreds of years. Their rulers and the rulers in Assam did intermarry and it is a geographical, cultural and social entity. In spite of that they were separated; they have now been given more assistance than those hill areas which are living within the geographical limits of the present Assam State. This is certainly a sort of discrimination which we feel most unfair and that is the reason why the hills people generally feel that separation from Assam would entitle them to more financial assistance than they are getting now.

In Assam itself, Sir, we have no industrial development in spite of oil and tea. A Member from Kerala suggested that they are getting Rs. 200 crores of foreign exchange. No other State can assert that they have equal contribution as Assam in respect of foreign exchange. What foreign exchange is earned goes to the development of India. Practically the whole of the crude oil supply in India comes from Assam. There are rivers of oil below our feet in the Brahmaputra Valley. That is the position. But what price do we get for it? Our royalty dispute still remains unsettled. To make matters worse, the House will be surprised to know that in Assam oil is the costliest commodity, apart from every other commodity. In such circumstances, how can Assam be industrialised?

Furnace oil is vital to industry. I shall give some figures. A Bombay firm wanted to start a hardboard manufacturing plant in Assam. It started and is now closing down. Why? Because while the raw materials are cheap in Assam, furnace oil is very costly. Furnace oil which is sold in Bombay at Rs. 180 per tonne is sold in Assam as the highest rate of Rs. 256 per tonne.

SHRI KANWAR LAL GUPTA:
Why?

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I can explain why. But it will take a long time which I do not have. Whereas we in Assam have to buy our things at the highest price, we have to sell our products at the lowest price. When we sell jute, our cultivator gets only Rs. 28 when the ruling Calcutta price is Rs. 40. We produce 20 per cent of India's jute. When we want to start a jute mill in order to use up that jute, what is the position? We have been fighting for it for so many years. We got the machinery and other things. But somehow nobody is convinced of the need for a jute mill, and the IFC is holding up the loan. Because somebody in the Jute Commissioner's office in Calcutta says that it will not be a profitable proposition. This is how we are treated. To make matters more unfortunate, recently, a month ago, there was a meeting of the Jute Mills Association. There they lectured against all fundamental tenets of our policy saying that merely on regional considerations there should not even be a very small jute mill in Assam with 150 looms. How will our people react to this kind of treatment? How can we develop our undeveloped regions in this way? I am speaking for all undeveloped regions of the country. In this matter, lip sympathy will not do. But the matter has to be gone into thoroughly and the question has to be settled on considerations of equity and justice.

In the Soviet Union, they have a uniform price for commodities throughout the country. Could we not have some such system here?

One of the major difficulties in Assam is the inadequacy of transportation. We have only one metre gauge line. Because of this, transportation costs are high. Barring raw materials, everything else is costly.

In the Cachar district, pine apples sell at the rate of Rs. 20 per 100. When I asked Birla's manager here: 'Why don't you start a factory using

this commodity?' he said, 'Everything else is so costly'.

It is in this context, that the isolationist mind has worked in the Assam Valley. This is very dangerous for India because this isolationist mind can easily turn into dangerous channels. Unless the political and economic aspects of this problem are appreciated, we will not be able to find a solution. It has been our feeling that Central policy has in substance become a policy of disintegration of the State of Assam.

How was Nagaland separated from Assam? An officer in Shillong gave a report that the Nagas do not like the Assamese; so they want to have a separate State. Immediately this was avidly seized upon by some officers here to prepare a case for the separation of Nagaland from Assam. I know the actual situation. I live 10 miles from the border of Nagaland. This is not the situation there. In 1953, delegate after delegate from NNC said in open meetings in Assam, 'We have nothing against the Assamese people. On the other hand, we have been historically together. Let us join together and fight'. This is what they were saying. But the type of report that was received from there is what I have already referred to. A case was cooked up for the separation of Nagaland from Assam and a separate State of Nagaland was brought into being.

Now there is a demand for a Hill State being created. There also I would like to discuss the matter with the Hill leaders. But there are so many leaders. In the Khasi and Garo Hills, the Hill Leaders have the majority, but in North Cachar as well as in the Mikir Hills, the MLAs and other leaders belong to the Congress Party. They do not want to form part of a Hill State. In these circumstances, what is the solution? How is it going to help? It will have a reaction on the people of Assam. They would feel that the Centre is going to divide our people. If it is the position that the hill people have political aspirations

and they have to be recognised, it should not be recognised only in regard to the nine lakhs of hill people in Assam, but in regard to the 298 lakhs of hill people in India. There should be a satisfactory solution to the political aspirations of all the hill people throughout India.

Why is it being done only in the case of Assam? Because it has been considered a menace. It is a very dangerous idea to suggest to anybody that you become a menace, and you will gain your point. You go on cutting off an injured limb. This is what is happening in Assam. Then, in various areas also people would feel the pang of disintegration. Assam does not want to be disintegrated.

If you go through the telephone directory of any big city, Calcutta or Bombay, is there any man from Assam who is appointed in any of these industries in India? I asked the Chairman of the Indian Oil Corporation and the Planning Minister whether there is any Assamese in the Indian Oil Corporation in the establishments in Delhi. I got the reply that among the thousands there is none. Unless some Assamese are taken in how are we to get out of our isolation? Help us to get out of our isolation. The only type of men we meet here are the businessmen. We have not been stabilised in business. We want to be stabilised. Our people must be helped to get out of their isolation.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI (Guna): By quarrelling with everybody.

SHRI BEDABRATA BARUA: I do not speak against the other people. Because I am the only man in the whole debate from Assam, I very much condemn, I have condemned, and I join with the House and members in condemning all those violent acts, but Assam requires not only condemnation, but also sympathy, because without sympathy the people's mind would feel more isolated. This isolation is a counsel of despair.

I may again refer to the history of Assam. Assam's history was a unified history. The whole of Assam including Nagaland was ruled by Rulers of Mangaloid origin from Thailand, but we have an equation among ourselves. That equation may sometimes threaten to break because of umpires trying to solve the problems just as a bad surgeon enlarges the wound, but we have an equation among ourselves, and whether it is the hills or the plains, we are all people of tribal origin. It is a place where unless complete understanding is evolved, a mere attempt to solve it piecemeal by only trying to win over the political extremists as they have done in Nagaland and they are again trying to do in other areas, is not the right solution. Even Dr. Verrier Elwyn had once to say in 1953, in a letter, "What business has the Government of India to send a Baptist Mission to Nagaland?" because the Baptist Mission is a Christian R.S.S. and it teaches isolation from the people. The letter has been published two months ago.

So, I think a lot of thinking on the fundamentals of policy towards Assam is necessary, and unless that is done, only frustration will be imposed upon the people of Assam. They should be assisted to feel the remorse that should be felt by those who have inflicted injury upon their own citizens, because the citizenship of India is the most valuable thing that every Assamese cherishes and wants to have.

SHRI P. GOPALAN (Tellicherry): At the brief time at my disposal, I shall deal with a few points raised in the President's Address. I need not say that the President's speech is a declaration of the policies of the Government. He says that the Central Government wants to maintain harmonious relations with the State Governments irrespective of their party affiliations. I want to question the sincerity of this expression because past experience during the last eleven months and even recent happening do

[Shri P. Gopalan]

not prove that the Central Government stands for harmonious relations with the State Governments, irrespective of party affiliations. I can cite the examples where the Central Government has always toppled the non-Congress Governments after the last general elections. The Congress Party took a decision at Hyderabad recently to topple the existing non-Congress Governments in the States. Speaking at Ernakulam the Congress President Mr. Nijalingappa said that there were only two alternatives before the people of Kerala: you should organise yourself and go against the Government or the Central Government would act according to the constitutional provisions. The correspondent of a leading Daily, *Mathru Bhumi* of Kerala, asked him: which of these two alternatives would you choose? His reply was: please wait for a little time; then you shall see what is going to happen. I think the Congressmen would not deny this statement by their President. I do not want to narrate how they toppled the various State Governments in Bengal, Bihar, Haryana and Punjab. They have now turned against Kerala. I think our Law Minister Mr. Panampally Govinda Menon had been specially deputed for toppling the non-Congress State Government of Kerala and recently he addressed several meetings in Kerala. He was deputed because he is very good at the art of toppling Governments—not only non-Congress Governments but also Congress Governments.

SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI: He belongs to Kerala.

SHRI P. GOPALAN: He belongs to Kerala; that is what I said. He is popularly known as the Ivor Jennings of Kerala not because of his expert knowledge of constitutional law but because he tried once to prove the validity of a minority Government existing in Kerala with voluminous quotations from the writings of Ivor

Jennings. Mr. Govinda Menon said that the Kerala Government had violated a contract entered into with the People of Kerala for giving them six ounces of rice as it has given them only three ounces of rice every day. At the same time he said that there was no agreement entered into by the State Government with the Central Government to give rice to Kerala. At the same time he accused the State Government of Kerala of violating its promise. He said that the ration cards distributed to the people were promissory notes and the State Government of Kerala had to abide by its promise. He asked the people to revolt against that Government as it had failed to honour that promise. Now, the Congressmen in Kerala have started thinking in terms of the liberation struggle. I had the misfortune to lead a liberation struggle that was staged in Kerala in 1959. Now, the Congressmen are talking very much about the non-violence and the Constitution and all that. But in 1959 what did they do in Kerala? That is known to everybody. The late Prime Minister, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, came there and asked the Chief Minister, Mr. E. M. S. Namboodiripad, to resign. On what grounds did he ask him to resign?

17 HRS.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: Please finish in two minutes.

SHRI P. GOPALAN: He said that the Kerala Government had to resign, because there was a mass upsurge in Kerala. Now, the other day, when Mr. Chavan was speaking, he said that things in a democratic society are not to be decided on the streets but they have to be decided in the Assembly and in Parliament. But in 1959, when the communist government was in power in Kerala, our late Prime Minister came there and asked EMS to

resign, saying that there was a mass upsurge.

MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER: He has a very limited time; I told him that I could give him five to seven minutes. Now, please conclude.

SHRI P. GOPALAN: I will conclude in three or four minutes. Mr. EMS said that "My government has got a majority in the Assembly" and asked him, "Why should I resign?" Then Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru advised him to resign on the ground that there was a mass upsurge, and the question of majority had to be decided in the Assembly and not in the streets. When the issue of West Bengal arose, people have been saying here that democracy has to be decided not in the streets but in the Assembly and Parliament. But in 1959, in Kerala they decided it in the streets, and democracy was butchered in the open streets of Kerala.

Then, the present Prime Minister, Shrimati Indira Gandhi, who was then the President of the All-India Congress came to Kerala and she played the role of Lady Macbeth; she toppled the government of Kerala in her capacity as the President of the AICC, and apart from toppling the government of Kerala, there is now an unprecedented record of toppling so many State Governments. Recently, the Prime Minister visited Kerala and when some representatives of the United Front had an interview with her and wanted her to give more rice to Kerala, she said, "If we do not give you even the present quota of rice, what will you do?" That was the question put before the people of Kerala by our Prime Minister. The question is very simple and the answer is also very simple. What will the people of Kerala do? The people of Kerala will have to starve, no doubt. But now, the Congress Government has decided to make the issue of food a political issue. They have taken up the issue like that and they want the chain of slavery to be put to the people of Kerala. (Inter-

ruption) For the only crime of having elected a non-Congress government in that State, the people there are asked to forsake their political consciousness and the Central Government says to them, "If you want rice, topple the government in power." That is the entire message that is given by the Central Government to the people of Kerala and the State of Kerala. I have no doubt that the people of Kerala will say unanimously that "we are not prepared to throw away our political consciousness to the jackals howling in the side-lanes." So, Sir, I would like to say very clearly that this Central Government does not wish harmonious relations with the State Government and despite the declaration of the President, that is the policy of the Central Government and if they are going to pursue the same policy, it will have direct repercussion in other parts of the country.

17.05 hrs.

DISCUSSION ON INCIDENT AT LUCKEEESERAI RAILWAY STATION

धी मधु लिम्पे (मुंगेर) : उपाध्यक्ष महोदय, लक्खीसराय स्टेशन पर अभी अभी 14 फरवरी की रात को जो दुर्घटन हुई और 24 अक्टूबर, 1966 में भी इसी प्रकार की जो दुर्घटन हुई थी, ये दोनों दुर्घटनायें रेल शासन और रेल मंत्रियों की लापरवाही, अयोग्यत और अमानुषिकता का भयानक स्मारक हैं। ये दुर्घटनायें न तो आकस्मिक थीं और न ही अनपेक्षित थीं, क्योंकि जिस हालत में 1966 में दुर्घटना हुई थी, ठीक उसी हालत में और उसी किस्म की यह दुर्घटना हुई है। मंत्री महोदय ने जो नई रपट हम लोगों के सामने रखी है, उस में 1966 की दुर्घटना का जो वर्णन किया गया है, वही वर्णन इस नई दुर्घटना के सम्बन्ध में मंत्री महोदय के वक्तव्य में दिया गया है।

[श्रं मधु लिमरे]

1966 की दुर्घटना के बाद मैं तत्काल लक्षीसराय गया था। वहां पर स्टेशन और पटरियों की जो स्थिति है, वह एक क्षण में मैं आपके सामने रखता हूँ। वहां पटरियों में एक तीखा कोण है, तीव्र बक्ता है। पूर्व की तरफ किंडल नदी पर पुल है; उस स्टेशन पर जो गाड़ियां आती हैं, वे यात्रियों को तभी दिखाई देती हैं, जब वे प्लेटफार्म पर आ जाती हैं। मैं श्री परिमल घोष को देख रहा हूँ। उस दिन बड़े फ्रंजर मुझे टेलीफोन से खबर मिली थी। मेरा रुक्याल है कि वह रात के समय पहुँचे। रात के समय इन बातों को उन्होंने ठीक तरह से नहीं देखा होगा।

असल में पिछली बार ही हम लोगों ने यह मांग की थी कि वहां की जो पटरियां हैं, जो प्लेटफार्म और इमारतें हैं, जिनको हम मोटे तौर पर स्टेशन कह सकते हैं। उनकी तत्काल युनरेंचना की जाये और उनको सीधी रेखा में, लाइन मैं लाने की कोशिश की जाये। मंदी महोदय ने कहा है कि उस समय जांच की गई थी। यह जांच किसने की? यह कोई न्यायिक जांच नहीं थी। यह जांच विभागीय स्तर पर कमिशनर आफ रेलवे सेप्टी के द्वारा की गई थी। मंदी महोदय ने उस जांच की रपट को सदन की टेबल पर नहीं रखा है। क्या वजह है कि मंदी महोदय ने वह रपट लंक सभा के सामने नहीं रखी है?

हमें आज तक इस बात का पता नहीं है कि इस तरह की दुर्घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति को रोकने के लिये कमिशनर आफ रेलवे सेप्टी ने क्या सिफारिशें की थीं।

इसलिये इस दुर्घटना को लेकर मैं इस बक्त मारह मांग रखना चाहता हूँ। यह जो दुबारा दुर्घटना हुई है, उम पर कोई जांच बैठी है, लेकिन अब उस से हमारा संतोष नहीं है, तसल्ली नहीं है। सब से पहले मैं यह मांग करता हूँ कि इस दुर्घटना की स्वतन्त्र न्यायिक जांच, जूडिशियल एन्कवायरी हो।

मेरी दूसरी मांग यह है कि मंदी महोदय

तत्काल यह घोषणा करे कि वह कल ही पिछली दुर्घटना की जांच की रपट को सदन के टेबल पर रखेंगे, ताकि हमें पता चले कि उसमें कमिशनर आफ रेलवे सेप्टी द्वारा क्या सिफारिशें की गई थीं।

मेरी तीसरी मांग यह है कि सदन को यह जानकारी दी जाये कि 15 नवंबर, 1966 से लेकर 14 फरवरी, 1968 तक जब कि यह दूसरी दुर्घटना घटी, सरकार ने उन सिफारिशों पर क्या कार्यवाही की। क्योंकि लखीसराय में तो हमको कोई उस कार्यवाही का सबूत नजर नहीं आया। जो स्थिति वहां पहले थी वही स्थिति 13-14 फरवरी हो गई। को फर्क नहीं। इसलिए मैं सरकार से रट चाता हूँ कि इस जांच समिति की जो रपट थी, सिफारिशें थीं उस पर उन्होंने क्या कार्यवाही की है दो दुर्घटनाओं के बीच में? चौथी मेरी मांग है कि जब तक कि नई न्यायिक जांच नहीं बैठती, उनकी सिफारिशें नहीं आतीं और उन पर अमल नहीं होता तब तक के लिए सारी तेज गाड़ियां एक्सप्रेस हो या मेल हो स्टेशन पर दरमियानी अरसे के लिए तो की जायें। मैं यह नहीं कह रहा हूँ कि हमेशा के लिये एक्सप्रेस और मेल देन वहां रुके दरमियानी अरसे के लिये आप रोकन का इंतजाम कीजिये ताकि इस तरह क कम न हो।

पांचवीं बात यह कि वहां पर आप बड़े-बड़े फलक लगाइए कि जो माल गाड़ियां अपने वह एकदम अपनी गति को कम करें। यह तीन चार मील की दूरी से आप फलक लगा दीजिए।

मेरी छठवीं मांग है कि पटरियों के बीच आप दीवार या फेंस लगवा दीजिए। यह तो मेरा रुक्याल है पहले भी कहा गया था। यह छोटी सी बत भी आपने नहीं की। इसलिए मैं कहता हूँ के ल परवाही और अमानुश्रृता है। इतने छोटा सा काम भी आपने नहीं किया।

सातवीं बात अब मैं कहता हूँ। लक्ष्मी-सराय स्टेशन बहुत ही व्यवस्त स्टेशन है। माधी पूर्णिमा हो या दशहरा हो, भेले लगते हैं और हजारों यात्री आते हैं यह जरूरी नहीं है कि वह इधर उधर से जायें। वह फैले रहते हैं। रेल की पटरियों पर भी हजारों यात्री नहीं जायेंगे तो रहेंगे कहाँ। वह पटरियों पर भी खड़े हो जाते हैं या बैठ जाते हैं। इसलिए स्टेशन को तो चौड़ा आपको करना ही पड़ेगा और साथ साथ एक पक्के पुल का निर्माण दिल्ली की तरफ आप कीजिए।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, आठवां मेरा सुझाव है कि जो केबिन है और जो लेटफार्म है उस पर आप बत्ती का पर्यान्त इंतजाम कीजिए ताकि उजाला हो। वहाँ अंधेरा हमेशा रहता है।

मेरी नवीं मांग है और यह स्थायी सुझाव है कि हमेशा के लिए पटरियों, लेटफार्म और इमारत, इनकी आप पुनर्रचना करो। आपके लिए कह रहा हूँ—रीएलाइन्मेंट और री-ओरिएंटेशन—यह इनके लिये कह रहा हूँ। मुझे कोई दिक्कत नहीं होती है। मैं नहीं मानता हूँ कि हमारी भाषा समृद्ध नहीं है। मैं मानता हूँ कि तामिल हिन्दी सब समृद्ध हैं और आपने विचारों को मैं व्यक्त कर सकता हूँ। मुझे कोई तकलीफ नहीं है।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, दसवीं मेरी मांग है कि पुरानी दुर्घटना 1966 वाली और इस दुर्घटना में जो लोग मृत हो गए हैं, मर गए हैं और जो धायल हो गए हैं उन को कम से कम आप दस हजार रुपया एक-एक को मुझावजा दें क्योंकि इतना ज्यादा मुझावजा देने के बाद आप के ऊपर बोझ पड़ेगा और अगली बार इस तरह की अग्रणी दुर्घटना हुई तो लोक सभा आपको क्षमा नहीं करेगी। क्योंकि यह पैसे का मामला हो जायगा। इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि इस देश में जीव और प्राण की कीमत बढ़े। जब तक जीव और प्राण की कीमत इस देश में नहीं बढ़ेगी वैसे दर्शन तो

बढ़े बढ़े आप के यहाँ हैं आप तो पत्थर में भी बहु देखते हैं लेकिन जो मनुष्य हैं, इस्तान हैं, उन की जान की कोई कीमत नहीं है, कोई मूल्य नहीं है इसलिए मैं चाहता हूँ कि कम से कम दस हजार रुपया आप मुझावजा दें।

आखीरी मेरी मांग है और यह मैं बहुत गंभीरता से कर रहा हूँ कि यह जब पहली दुर्घटना हुई तो उस वक्त जो रेल मंत्री थे जिन का समूचे देश ने नाम रखा था दुर्घटना मंत्री, मिनिस्टर आफ रेलवे एक्सीडेंट्स, यह एस० के० पाटिल के बारे में मैं कह रहा हूँ तो उन को तो बम्बई की जनता न हर दिया उन के बारे में मैं कुछ नहीं कहता लेकिन उस समय यह उस के राज्य मंत्री थे और उसी इलाके से आते हैं . . . (व्यवधान) . . . इग्नित तो करना चाहिए न? नहीं तो लोग गलत समझेंगे कि किसी दूसरे अपराधी की ओर मैं इशारा कर रहा हूँ। अध्यक्ष महोदय, उस समय डाक्टर राम सुभग सिंह रेल राज्य मंत्री थे और उन से हम लोगों ने कहा था, लक्ष्मी सराय के नागरिकों ने कहा था, मार्च महीने तक तो इन की सीधे जिम्मेदारी थी, मार्च तक तो यह भाग नहीं सकते हैं . . .

संसद-कार्य तथा संचार मंत्री (आ० राम सुभग सिंह) : अभी भी मेरी जिम्मेदारी है। लेकिन आप कहाँ ये सोये हुए?

श्री मधु लिम्बे : रेल के बारे में मैं आप को नहीं मानूंगा इस वक्त। हाँ बड़ी नीतियों के बारे में आप हैं कल्ज के बारे में मैं सब को जिम्मेदार मानता हूँ। लेकिन यह जो जासकीय मामले हैं इस के लिये मैं मंत्रियों को जिम्मेदार मानता हूँ इतना फर्क मैं जरूर करता हूँ।

तो अध्यक्ष महोदय, 1967 मार्च तक डा० राम सुभग सिंह पूरी तरह जिम्मेदार थे और उस के बाद पुनाचा साहब हैं। इस

[श्री मधु लिम्बे]

लिए बड़ी गम्भीरता से मैं मांग करना चाहता हूँ कि प्रायश्चित के तौर पर डा० राम सुभग सिंह और पुनाचा साहब लाल बहादुर शास्त्री का नाम तो आप लेते हैं, उन्होंने एक अच्छा तो काम किया था जो आदर्श रखा था उस आदर्श पर आप चलिए और हट जाइए इस्तीफा दीजिए तब जाकर बिहार की जनता और हिन्दुस्तान की जनता मानेगी कि इन दुर्घटनाओं के बारे में....

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : अगर आप के कहने के अनुसार चलें तो सत्यानाश हो जायें।

श्री मधु लिम्बे : तो बने रहेंगे ? अध्यक्ष महोदय इतना गम्भीर भामला है। मैं इन्सान के प्राण की और जीव की बात कह रहा हूँ और यह हसी मजाक कर रहे हैं। मैं बिल्कुल गम्भीरता से कह रहा हूँ....

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : यह आप भूल गए थे क्या जब तक नहीं दुर्घटना हुई थीं तब तक क्या वहां होना चाहिए इस का रूपाल आप को नहीं आया (व्यवधान) अगर किसी को हटना चाहिए, तो आप को हटना चाहिए.... (व्यवधान)

श्री मधु लिम्बे : मुझ क्यों हटना चाहिए ? मैं ने तो तभी कहा था कि यह काम करो। रेल शासन मेरे हाथ में नहीं है। मैं रेल मंत्री नहीं था।

अध्यक्ष महोदय, राम सुभग सिंह को मैं जवाब नहीं देना चाहता हूँ। मैं केवल इतना कहना। चाहता हूँ कि अगर इन स्तोगों में थोड़ी भी आदर्श बाकी है अगर

लाल बहादुर शास्त्री जी की यह थोड़ी भी इज्जत करते हैं तो आज डा० राम सुभग सिंह और पुनाचा साहब प्रायश्चित के तौर पर इस्तीफा देंगे। मैं ने जो 11 मांगें की हैं उन मांगों के बारे में आप क्या करना चाहते हैं यह आप सिलसिलेवार बता इए। मैं ज्यादा समय नहीं लेना चाहता और अपनी बात समाप्त करता हूँ।

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल (समस्तीपुर) : अभी मेरे आदरणीय साथी ने एक बड़ा प्रश्न उठाया है लेकिन मैं उन्हें याद दिलाना चाहता हूँ कि जिस विगत यू० एफ० बिहार सरकार की उन्होंने भूरि-भूरि बार-बार प्रशंसा की थी उसी बिहार सरकार के विद्यार्थियों ने सोनपुर ब्रिज पर ऐसा हड़कम्प मचाया था पिछले वर्ष कि दस बीम साम्राज्यियों को ढकेल दिया आती हुई गाड़ी के सामने (व्यवधान).... वही बता रहा हूँ कि आप किस लिए उन से कहते हैं कि उन को इस्तीफा देना चाहिए.... (व्यवधान) मैं यह नहीं कहता कि यह लखीसराय दुर्घटना नहीं हुई और वैसी दुर्घटनाओं को नहीं रोका जाना चाहिए। वहां उस बैन्ड पर सिगनल लगना चाहिए और सिगनल के द्वारा उस को रोका जाना चाहिए। मगर जब आप ने यह प्रश्न उठाया कि डा० राम सुभग सिंह साहब को और पुनाचा साहब को प्रायश्चित के लिए इस्तीफा देना चाहिए तो आप को कितनी प्रायश्चित करनी चाहिए कि आप के उत्तेजित विद्यार्थियों ने सोनपुर के गत वर्ष के मेले के अवसर पर जाते हुए यात्रियों को, नारियों को और लोगों को ढकेल कर ऐसा हड़कम्प मचाया.... (व्यवधान).... रेल दुर्घटना बनाई गई...

श्री मधु लिम्बे : अब इन की खोपड़ी देखिए.... (व्यवधान).... अधिकार किस के हाथ में है ? (व्यवधान).

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मण्डल : मैं मधु लिमये माहूल को एक्सीडेन्ट्स के बारे में 1966-67 की ओरिपोर्ट रेलवे बोर्ड ने आमी वितरित की है, इस रिपोर्ट की ओर उन का ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। इन्होंने जो आंकड़े पेश किये हैं उन से पता चलता है कि बेलियम नेशनल रेलवेज, स्वेडिश स्टेट रेलवेज, डेनिश स्टेट रेलवेज कैनेडियन पैसिफिक रेलवेज, जैपेनीज नेशनल रेलवेज—इन सब रेलवेज के एक्सीडेन्ट्स की एवज प्रति दस लाख किलोमीटर के हिसाब से 3.93 रही है जब कि हमारे यहां यह एवज केवल 2.09 रही है . . .

एक भाननेय सवस्य : आप भी उन को कैच-अप कीजिये।

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मण्डल : श्री मधु लिमये एक एक्सीडेन्ट को लेकर हमें प्राय-शित करने की बात कहते हैं, मैं सारी दुनिया के अंकड़े पेश कर सकता हूँ स्टेटिस्टिक्स दे मजकता हूँ कि प्रति दस लाख किलोमीटर पर दुनिया के दूसरे मुल्कों में कितने एक्सी-डेन्ट्स होते हैं। यदि आप इस पुस्तक के पृष्ठ 5 को देखें तो आपकी आँखें खुलेंगी कि दुनिया के दूसरे मुल्कों में एक्सीडेन्ट्स की एवज क्या है;—

डेनिश स्टेट रेलवेज	3.36
फिनिश स्टेट रेलवेज	4.46
कैनेडियन स्टेट रेलवेज	4.60
यूकोस्लाव रेलवेज	5.83

इन के मुकाबले में मेरे यहां 1966-67 में सिक्के 2.09 है।

मैं आपका ध्यान इस पुस्तक के पृष्ठ 9 की ओर भी खींचना चाहता हूँ। इस में कोई सन्देश नहीं कि मनुष्य से गलती होती है

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SHRI J. B. KRIPALANI (Guna): Sir, may I suggest to the speaker that 3233 LS (ai)—9

to minimise an evil is to justify evil. You are minimising evil. You say that a mistake has been committed and "we will see that the mistake will not be committed again".

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मण्डल : आपका यह कहना सही नहीं है कि कमेटी की सिफारिशों को माना नहीं गया है। जब प्रतिदिन 60 लाख याक्री रेलों के द्वारा यात्रा करते हैं 10 हजार गाड़ियां प्रति दिन दिन चलती हैं, करीब करीब 7000 रेलवे स्टेशन हैं सारी दुनिया में हमारा यह पब्लिक अफर्टरेकिंग दूसरे नम्बर पर है, जो इतना ज्यादा काम कर रहा है उस हालत में भी हम यह नहीं चाहते कि दुर्घटनाये हों, हम यही चाहते हैं कि इस को युटोपियन ग्रोइडियल पर लाया जाये। मैं उस दुर्घटना कमेटी की सिफारिशों की ओर भी आपका ध्यान दिलाना चाहता हूँ। सन् 1962 में ही रेलवे एक्सीडेन्ट्स कमेटी बनी थी, उस को कुंजल कमेटी भी कहत है, उस कमेटी ने जितनी सिफारिशों की थी उन में से 353 सिफारिशों को स्वीकार किया गया था, जिन में से 298 सिफारिशों को कार्यान्वित किया जा चुका है और चाहते हैं कि जो शेष 55 रह गई हैं, उन की को भी धीरे धीरे कार्यान्वित किया जाय ताकि सेन्ट-पर-सेन्ट सिफारिशों इम्पलीमेंट हो जाय। एक सब से बड़ा जो काम हुआ है वह यह है कि मनोवैज्ञानिक तकनीकी कक्ष कायम किया गया है। इन सब बातों पर विचार करते हुवे कि और यह देखते हुवे 353 में से 298 को कार्यान्वित किया जा चुका है और शेष 55 जो बाकी है, वे भी कार्यान्वित होंगी, हम यह भी मानते हैं कि लख्खी नराय में जो दुर्घटना हुई, वह नहीं होनी चाहिये थी। वहां बैठ पर आगे और पीछे तिग्नल देना चाहिये था, जिसे कि वहां पर जितनी भी गाड़ियां आयें, वे तिग्नल को देखे कर ही आगे बढ़े। इस बात को मैं मानता हूँ लेकिन आप वह

[श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल]

कहें कि इस के लिये प्रायशिचत करो, दोदा भी कभी-कभी प्रायशिचत वालों के साथ हो जाते हैं, रेजिगेशन मांगने वालों के साथ हो जाते हैं

श्री रवि राय (पुरी) : लॉल वहांदुर शास्त्री ने क्यों प्रायशिचत किया?

श्री यमुना प्रसाद मंडल : एक्सीडेंट जान बुझ कर नहीं होते हैं, आप इस बात को भूल जाते हैं कि इन्द्रियों के काफी सजग रहने पर भी हम लोग यदि केले के छिलके पर पैर रख दें तो फिसल जाते हैं और उस से आदमी की हड्डी टूट जाती है। विभाग की ओर से इन घटनाओं का मनोवैज्ञानिक टेस्ट लिया जाता है, कर्मचारियों की कुशलता की जांच की जाती है, तथा विभाग की ओर से इस बात का पूरा प्रयत्न किया जाता है कि इस प्रकार की घटनायें न घटें। ऐसी स्थिति में मैं केवल यहीं कहना चाहता हूँ कि हम इस दुर्घटना को एक आइ-ओपनर मानें और आगे के लिये मैं आपसं श्रीपील करूँगा कि आप शेष 55 सिफारिशों को भी शीघ्र से शीघ्र पूरा करें।

श्री स० मो० बनजी (कानपुर) : अश्यक महोदय, मुझे ताज्ज्वल हुआ, आज जब हमारे श्री मधु लिमये ने इस्तीफे की बात कही, तो हमारे मन्त्रियों को और जो सदस्य अभी बोले थे, उन को बहुत बुरका लगा: ऐसा मालूम होता था जैसे उनके चौके में पैर घर दिया हो।

अभी प्रायशिचत की बात कही गई, योड़ी देर के लिये भूल जाइये किसी को इस्तीफा देना न पड़े लेकिन आज जो रेल दुर्घटनायें हुई हैं, खास कर पिछल दो या तीन महीनों के अन्दर, उन से क्या हमारे हिन्दुस्तान के यात्रियों के मन में जो रेलों के द्वारा यात्रा करते हैं, जो योड़ा बहुत विश्वास

सरकार के ऊपर था, क्या वह खत्म नहीं हुआ है? आज इन रेल की पटरियों पर जिन में अक्सर दुर्घटनायें हो रही हैं। 17 घन्टे में आप लोगों को दिल्ली से कलकत्ता से जा रहे हैं, दिल्ली से गाड़ी भले ही चले, लेकिन कलकत्ता पहुँचे या न पहुँच, उसकी किस्मत। आज हमारे ट्रेक्स की जो हालत है, हमारे लोकोमोटिव्ज की रिपेयर्स और बटनन्स की जो हालत है, उस में यही कहा जा सकता है।

हमारे यहां जो एक्सप्रेस आये थे— चूंकि हम जापान के साथ बहुत मुकाबला करते हैं अभी हमारे मिस्र ने कहा कि फलाने देश में इतने परसेट एक्सीडेंट्स होते हैं, फलाने में इतने होते हैं, हमारे देश में उन से कम है, यानी अमेरिका में लोग आत्महत्या ज्यादा करते हैं इस लिये उन की बराबरी हमें भी करनी चाहिये, समझ में नहीं आता कैसी बातें करते हैं, वह जापान का मुकाबला कर रहे थे, जहां पर माड़ियां 120 मील की रफ्तार से चलती हैं, उन्हीं के एक्सप्रेस यहां आये थे और अक्सर वहां के लोग भगवान में विश्वास नहीं करते लेकिन हमारे यहां गाड़ी से यात्रा करने के बाद उन्होंने कहा कि हिन्दुस्तान में आकर और यहां की गाड़ियों में यात्रा करने के बाद भगवान में विश्वास करने लगे हैं क्यों कि आपके यहां के ट्रेक्स और गाड़ियों पर यात्रा कर के हम सलामती से बापस चले आये, लिहाजा भगवान हिन्दुस्तान में जरूर होगा और जगह चाहे हो या न हो इस लिये हम उस पर विश्वास करते हैं।

अगर यहां पर इस एक्सीडेंट की अदालती जांच, जड़ियायल इन्कवारी की बात और मन्त्रियों के इस्तीफा देने की बात कहीं गई है, तो इस में उन को बुरा नहीं लगन चाहिये। अगर उस से देश की जनता खुश होती है तो जरूर देना चाहिये। लेकिन इस

के साथ-साथ अध्यक्ष महोदय में यह कहूँगा कि यह जो रेलवे बोर्ड है, जिसको हम लोग सफेद हाथी के नाम से पुकारते हैं, जिनकी कोई जिम्मेदारी नहीं है, दुर्घटना होती है तो मंत्रियों को इस्तीफे के लिये कहते हैं, मैं तो यह चाहता हूँ कि उन के साथ-साथ रेलवे बोर्ड के चेयरमैन जो सलूनों में चूमते हैं, उन को इस्तीफा देना चाहिये, मेम्बर इन्जीनियरिंग को इस्तीफा देना चाहिये। आखिर उन की क्या जिम्मेदारी है? इसी सदन में मेरे मित्र श्री अटल विहारी बाजपेयी ने कहा था जब श्री जगजीवन राम जी रेलवे मंत्री थे, कि लोग जब रेलवे में यात्रा करते हैं तो जग और जीवन दोनों को राम कह कर चलते हैं। मैं पुनाचा साहब और उन के साथ जो नौजवान उप-मंत्री और मिनिस्टर आफ स्टेट हैं उन से कहूँगा कि आप नवे सिरे से रेलवे बोर्ड को ठीक कीजिये, बरना ये लोग शराब के नशे में डूबे हुए मस्त रहते हैं।

मैं श्री मधु लिमये की 11 मांगों से सहमत हूँ और चाहता हूँ कि उन लोगों को इतना मुआवजा दिया जाय। मेरा अमं से सिर झुक जाता है, जब बजाय इस के कि हम इस दुर्घटना पर ग्रांसू बहाते, उन्होंने कहा कि विद्यार्थियों ने अनुशासनहीनता दिखाई, लड़कियों को आगे कर दिया। कहां के विद्यार्थी अनुशासनहीन नहीं हैं? इसलिये हमें पूरी जांच बैठानी चाहिये, अदालती जांच करानी चाहिये ताकि उन लोगों को जिनको 17 घन्टे में दिल्ली से कलकत्ता पहुँच रहे हैं, भरोसा हो सके कि वे 17 घन्टों में पहुँच जायें, कहीं ऐसा न हो कि कलकत्ता पहुँचने के बजाय संचे दूसरी जगह पहुँच जाये—स्वर्ग या नरक लोक में, जैसा कि कपाल में लिखा हो, ऐसी चीज न हो, इस लिये अदालती जांच हो। और हो सके, बुरा न मानें होती का जमाना आ रहा है, तो आप इस्तीफा दे दीजिये

ताकि लोगों को सन्तोष हो सके। चैम्बरमैन, रेलवे बोर्ड और जो रेलवे बोर्ड के मैम्बर्स हैं वे तो यह कहेंगे कि इस्तीफा तो मिनिस्टर से मांगा गया है हम तो चुने हुए हैं नहीं हम तो ऊपर से पैदा हुए हैं और हमेशा अफसर बने रहेंगे इसलिये उन की भी तम्बीह होनी चाहिये।

श्री संताराम केसरी (कटिहार) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं भी संसद में अपने कुछ विचार व्यक्त करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे दोस्त ने जो अभी लक्ष्मीसराय की घटना के आधार पर हमारे मंत्रियों से इस्तीफे की मांग की और वह इसलिये कि इस तरह की घटनायें रेलवे में अवसर होती हैं, उसके सम्बन्ध में मैं कहूँगा कि इधर जितनी भी घटनायें रेलवे सम्बन्धी हुई हैं, मेरा ख्याल है, और जहां तक मुझे खबर है, उन के ऊपर कम उत्तरदायित्व नहीं है। अक्सर वह करते क्या हैं कि छात्रों को उत्तेजित करते हैं ट्रेन में फी ट्रैवल करने के लिये। अभी स्वाधीनता दिवस के अवसर पर जो घटना सलौनी में घटी उसमें पचासों छात्रों की जान चली गयी... (व्यवहार) मझे कहने दीजिये। आपने उन में आदत डाल दी है कि ट्रेन की लाइन को कास करें और ट्रैन पर चढ़कर चलें। (व्यवहार) आप ने इस तरह की प्रवृत्ति हर जगह पैदा कर दी है जिसकी बजह से इस तरह की दुर्घटनायें होती हैं।

श्री मधु लिमये : यह बिल्कुल इरेलेवेट बात है।

श्री संताराम केसरी : गाड़ी जब चलती है तो अंधी हो कर चलती है, सामने की चीज नहीं देखती है। लाइन के सामने कौन पड़ा इस को नहीं देखती है क्योंकि उस की तेज स्पीड होती है और दोनों तरफ से फेसिंग होती है। जब लोग उत्तेजित हो जाते हैं और अज्ञानता में पड़ जाते हैं

[श्री सीताराम केशवरी]

वे गाड़ी को गति की परवाह नहीं करते तब उन की मृत्यु होती है। उन के साथ हमारी हमदर्दी है। इस तरह की घटनाओं को रोकना चाहिये। लेकिन एक चीज़ और कहूँगा कि अगर हमारे दोस्त पालियामेंट में 'इस तरह भावनाओं से प्रभावित हो कर अपने विवारों को व्यवत करेंगे तो उस से देश का और राष्ट्र का हित नहीं होगा। लक्ष्मीसराय के नजदीक श्री मधु लिमये का क्षेत्र है... (व्यवधान)।

श्री मधु लिमये : नहीं है, नहीं है।

श्री सीता राम केशवरी : मैं कहूँगा कि देश के हित को सामने रख कर इस घटना की जांच होनी चाहिये।

SHRI LOBO PRABHU (Udipi): It is a matter of some sorrow to me that this has become a Party issue. We have got to consider as to what happened. We have got to do something to prevent another thing like that happening again. I hope, recriminations will cease and from now onwards, we will consider the problem as one of great importance to this House because it is of importance to the country. I am afraid, statistics are of no use. My friend was quite wrong in proving that because there were fewer accidents, here this accident happened. It is quite wrong. What we should say is that we are sorry about this accident and we should see how it can be prevented.

As far as I can see, there are three different subjects involved. The first is the site of the accident, whether anything can be done about it. Mr. Madhu Limaye has suggested signals and also another bridge. It occurs to me, and it might occur to you also, why you should not shift this Station a little farther away from the bridge, so that there is a clear view of the train as it comes in.

The second subject is the one which was raised by Mr. Banerjee, that the Railway Board more than the Ministers should be punished. I am not thinking of the Railway Board as such, but I am thinking of those officers who were responsible for examining the report of the first accident. If they had not done their work, they are guilty; they are responsible for the deaths which have occurred. So, I would request the Minister to apply his mind at once to the responsibility of those who fail to take action on the report of the first accident of 1966. And thirdly, what can we do to prevent such accidents? I know that there is an elaborate organisation of the Commissioner and of other research workers but have we made research over every accident to find out the causes? A certain amount of research is necessary over every accident. According to our report there are in the region of 5,500 accidents. These involved about 120 deaths. These have involved 538 injuries in the last one year. These have involved loss of 8 lakhs or so. Is it not necessary in these circumstances that not only the Railway is more accident-conscious, but there is also research into the results of each accident. We should see that results are examined not only in respect of that accident, but are examined in respect of all the accidents, and we should see that such accidents are prevented in future. This is my constructive suggestion. The first thing we do for those who have died in these accidents is no doubt, compensation as suggested by Shri Madhu Limaye, but the best thing is to utilise their deaths to prevent other accidents by applying our minds to the causes. I would not ask the hon. Minister to resign. But I will ask all of us to brace ourselves to the danger so that the future may be better than the past.

श्री न० ता० दास (जमुई) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, मैं 14 तारीख को लक्ष्मीसराय में हुई एक्सीडेंट की खबर अखबार में पढ़न

पर वहां 17 फरवरी, को पहुंचा और आज ही उस कांस्टीटुएन्सी से लौटा हूँ। वहां जो दुर्घटना हुई, कैसे हुई, क्या हुई, यह सारा पता लगा कर मैं आया हूँ। हम चाहते तो इस दुर्घटना को रोक सकते थे, लेकिन हम रेलवे कि वर्किंग, प्रोसीजर और रूल्स के इतने गुलाम हो गये हैं कि उस गुलामी के नाते हम ने हूमैनिटी को भी खो दिया है। यह कोई पहली दुर्घटना नहीं है, दूसरी दुर्घटना है। वहां के रेलवे स्टाफ, स्टेशन मास्टर या कंट्रोलर चाहते तो दुर्घटना को रोक सकते थे। लेकिन मैंने जैसा पहले अर्ज किया, हम रेलवे रूल्स एंड रेग्लेशन्स के इतने गुलाम हो गये हैं कि हम ने हूमैनिटी को भी ताक पर रख दिया है।

मैं वहां के स्टेशन स्टाफ से मिला और उनसे पूछा कि जब 12 डाउन एक्सप्रेस का सिग्नल डाउन था तब आप ने स्पेशल को स्टेशन पर क्यों आने दिया? तो उन्होंने कहा कि हम नहीं जानते, आप स्टेशन मास्टर से पूछिये। जब मैं स्टेशन मास्टर के पास गया और उन से पूछा कि जब 12 डाउन एक्सप्रेस आ रही थी और एक घंटा लेट रन कर रही थी फिर आप ने स्पेशल को क्यों स्टेशन पर आने दिया? और अगर स्पेशल को स्टेशन लाना ही था तब 12 डाउन के आने के सम्बन्ध में आप ने ठीक से सद को काशन क्यों नहीं किया? तब उन्होंने कहा कि मैं नहीं जानता, इस के बारे में कंट्रोलर बतला सकते हैं। अब कंट्रोलर साहब से कौन पूछे? वह तो दानापुर में रह कर कंट्रोल करते हैं। उन को कम से कम इतना पता तो होना चाहिये था कि लक्खीसराय में किस-किस अवसर पर मेला होत है और उस अवसर पर कम से कम लक्खीसराय को जो ट्रेन दिल्ली की ओर से जाती है उन के लिये पूरा कानून लिया जाना चाहिये और उन की स्पीड को चेक करने का प्रबन्ध किया जाना चाहिए। लेकिन शायद कंट्रोलर साहब को इस का न कोई स्थान है और न पता है। इस दुर्घटना के लिये कौन

दोषी है, इस का पता तो आप को तभी चलेगा जब कि इस के लिए एक जुडिशियल इन्वायरी बिठलायेंगे। वहां के लोगों की भी यह मांग है। हमारे स्टेट मिनिस्टर साहब वहां गये वे उन से भी लोगों ने यह मांग की है। उन के साथ कितना अच्छा व्यवहार किया गया है, यह भी उनको समझना चाहिये। उन के जाने से पहले स्टेशन लगभग 'सीज़ड' था। आप सोचिये कि कितनी बड़ी दुर्घटना हुई। आप ठंडे दिल दिमाग से सोचिये कि वहां पर लोगों ने जो कुछ किया है उस से कितना नुकसान हो सकता था?

अब मेरा बहना यह है कि इसके लिये जुडिशियल इन्वायरी आवश्यक है क्योंकि जब तक जुडिशियल इन्वायरी नहीं होती है तब तक आपको पता ही नहीं चलेगा कि कौन वास्तव में दोषी है?

दुर्घटना रोकी जा सकती थी। यह दुर्घटना इसलिये हुई कि कियुल की ओर से लक्खीसराय में स्पेशल ट्रेन आती है वह आकर ठीक से लग भी नहीं पती कि उस पर लोग चढ़ने लगे और इवर आपकी 12 डाउन पास होती है जो कि लक्खी सराय पर रुकने वाली नहीं थी वह थे ट्रेन भी वह वहां नहूं रह गई। और यह दुर्घटना हो गई। स्पेशल के आने के पहले लक्खीसराय स्टेशन पर करीब 10,000 लोग इकट्ठे थे। फिर जो वहां पर दुर्घटना हुई उसके लिये स्टेशन मास्टर दोषी है, वहां का स्टेशन स्टाफ दोषी हैं या कंट्रोल दोषी हैं इसका तो पता तभी चलेगा जब आप जुडिशियल इन्वायरी वहां के लिये बिठायेंगे।

फौर दी टाइम बींग ऐसे एक्सीडेंट्स न हों उनको रोकने के लिये माननीय सदस्य श्री मधु लिमये ने कुछ सुझाव दिये हैं। मेरा एक सुझाव यह है कि फौर दी टाइम बींग अभी जो क्युल में ट्रेनों के स्टॉपेज का टाइम है उसमें से दो मिनट काट कर हर एक ट्रेन की चाहे वह पसेंजर ही अथवा मेल हो उसको लक्खीसराय स्टेशन पर को जाय

[थी न० त० दात]

दूसरा सुझाव यह है कि दिल्ली की ओर इन ओवर ब्रिज दिया जाय। तीसरा सुझाव यह है कि दो लाइनों के बीच में एक बैरियर स्पेस को देख कर दिया जाय। अगर स्पेस हो तो बैरियर दिया जाय। जब तक आप यह बैरियर नहीं देते हैं तब तक समझ लीजिये उस डाउन प्लेटफार्म से आप प्लेटफार्म पर लोग लाइन छोड़ करके आयेंगे ही अभी यह बैरियर समझ नहीं है योंकि कल भी जब मैं वहां से चला हूँ तब मैंने रेलवे अफसरों और गव्यमान्य लोगों को दिखालाया कि अपर इंडिया। वहां आई और आकर अप प्लेटफार्म पर लगी उधर से गया-सियालदह पैसेंजर पास होती है वहां भी आ गई क्योंकि दोनों की छोसिंग यहां होती है? वहां मैंने दिखालाया कि उस ट्रेन में कितना रश होता है, लोग पायदान पर लटकते हुये आते हैं जाहिर है कि जब वह लटकते हुये उधर से आयेंगे और आप उस बीच में बैरियर देंगे तब फिर उससे टकरा कर एक्सीडेंट होंगा? इसलिये यह बैरियर बनाने के पहले यह अवश्य देख लीजिये कि दोनों लाइनों के बीच में सफिशियन्ट स्पेस हो। उसी हालत में आप बैरियर दीजिये। ये तीन सुझाव फौर दी टाइम बीड़ंग के लिये हैं।

परमानेंट सौल्यूशन यदि आप चाहते हैं और यह चाहते हैं कि ऐसे एक्सीडेंट न हों तो उसके लिये आप लक्ष्मीसराय स्टेशन को ही एवालिश कर दीजिये या फिर लक्ष्मीसराय को क्यूल स्टेशन से मिला दीजिये "वाई गिविंग ए ट्रांसपोर्ट ब्रिज प्रॉन दी रिवर क्यूल"। दो ही सूरतें हैं। या तां लक्ष्मीसराय स्टेशन को टोटली एवालिश कर दीजिये या फिर यह ब्रिज बनाइये। अगर आप समझते हैं कि इस ब्रिज के बनाने में ज्यादा खर्च आयेगा तो आप इस लक्ष्मी-सराय स्टेशन को उठा कर दिल्ली की ओर आप का बैस्ट कैबिन ले जाइये। उसके पश्चिम में दो लाइनों के ही बीच में जहां गया

लाइन और मैंने लाइन आकर मिलती है एक नया क्यूल—फ्लैज़ ब्रिज (जस्ट लाइन क्यूल) बना दीजिये। वहां पर आप यह स्टेशन ले जाइये। इस भौजूदा स्टेशन को तोड़ने में और नया स्टेशन वहां बनाने में कोई ज्यादा खर्च नहीं होगा। अभी लक्ष्मी-सराय स्टेशन में है ही क्या? फक्त चार रूम्स का वह स्टेशन है। वहां कोई स्टेशन मास्टर भी नहीं है। वह स्टेशन केवल एक जूनियर रेल कर्मचारी द्वारा कन्ट्रोल होता है। राज्य रेल मंत्री घोष साहब को मालूम होगा कि मैं सही कह रहा हूँ या नहीं। लक्ष्मी-सराय की आबादी अभी 35,40 हजार के बीच में है और यह जल्दी है कि लक्ष्मी-सराय को एक क्यूल फ्लैज़ स्टेशन जस्ट लाइन क्यूल मिलना चाहिये। इसीलिये मैंने कहा कि वह ब्रिज मत बनाइये बल्कि लक्ष्मी सराय के भौजूदा स्टेशन को ही तोड़ कर जैसा मैंने ऊपर कहा है उक्त स्पेस में बना दीजिये। ये मेरे कुछ परमानेंट सुझाव हैं जिन्हें मैंने पेश किया। वाकी कुछ सुझाव एक जापन में मुझे वहां के नागरिक संघ की ओर से जब मैं वहां गया था मुझे और घोष साहब को मिले हैं। उन पर भी आप विचार कर लीजिये और मैं उनको हाउस में पढ़ कर मुना देता हूँ:—

1. Demand for judicial non-railway enquiry into the present terrible accident by a High Court Judge.

2. Result of the last enquiry into the rail accident, held on 26th October, 1966, why no measures and actions which were suggested and submitted to Mr. A. K. Dutta, Commissioner of Railway Safety, were taken by the Railway till now?

3. Immediate stoppage of all Mail and Express trains at Luckeesarai Station.

4. Erection of a Permanent "Caution Board" for guiding slow movement of goods and other trains, towards Delhi End near Home Signal.

5. Establishment of Permanent "Barricade" between the two lines for stopping to cross the lines in general. For that if needed the UP lines should be extended towards south.

6. One more pucca over-bridge towards Delhi End is urgently required to cope with the large volume of the passengers.

7. Urgent need for reviving the Station Consultative Committee at Lakhisarai station.

8. Need for adequate lighting and focussing arrangement at the Station in general and particularly towards the Cabin.

9. Suggestion for permanent remedy: Complete reorientation of the station, particularly the extension of the platforms towards Delhi End to avoid further such accidents.

17.47 hrs.

[*SHRI G. S. DHILLON in the Chair*]

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN (Mettur): It is very painful and unfortunate that those pilgrims who are praying to God for a better end of their lives have ended their lives in such a shocking manner due—I do not know whether I am right in accusing Mr. Poonaicha, but I am constrained to say so, since he is shouldering the responsibility of this portfolio—to the inefficiencies or inattentiveness of the railway administration.

People from the Congress side seem to think that the mover of the resolution and some of us who follow him in support of the motion are for the blood of the Ministers. It is not so. Neither is it going to help this country; if Dr. Ram Subhag Singh is going to resign, tomorrow there will be some other man from his own party. So, it is not going to solve the problem anyway. It is not that he does not deserve it, but still we are not very keen about it. When the mover of the motion was speaking he was vehemently protesting that he was not responsible and all that. Anyway, I know for certain he has been in the

harness in the railway portfolio for sufficiently long time to damage the administration.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Just like you, your DMK.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: The point is, it is a question of healthy conventions. Sir, when the Ariyalur accident took place, when the late lamented Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri was Minister-in-charge of railways at that time, he was not directly concerned with that, he did not even know probably that there was heavy rain there and floods, but still he resigned. So, I think this is a healthy convention in the railways to create. Only on that account, Shri Limaye was demanding resignation, and I do feel that this is a fit case which demands the resignation of a Minister, or at least, as Shri Banerjee has demanded, the Chairman of the Railway Board should resign.

There is an important point to be considered in this particular accident. This is an exact repetition, of what took place in October, 1966. Mr. Lobo Prabhau was very magnanimous in his approach, but I rather feel that we should not forget that this is a repetition of what happened in 1966 and we cannot say it was not due to any omission on the part of the railway administrative staff or absolve the ministry. As Mr. Limaye pointed out, the very location of the station had something to do with the accident. I think the Minister also concedes that point. If that was so, what have they been doing since 1966? They could have shut down the station then and there and opened the station at another place where they could find a better location.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: Why not ask the DMK Ministry in Madras to resign as more than a hundred people died after drinking spirit in Madras? Ask Mr. Annadurai to resign and you also resign from your membership here.

श्री रवि राय : यह दोनों एक तरह के नहीं हैं ।

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: They allowed people in Madras to drink poisonous spirit and die and they are teaching a lesson here. Go and ask your Ministers to resign.

श्री मधु लिम्बे : कभी तक शास्त्र पढ़ा है ?

श्री रमाधोर सिंह : (रोहतक) : यू. पी.० में भेरठ के अन्दर इतने आदमी मरवा दिये । इन्हें डिसमिस किया । जाय ।

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: The DMK also got killed a large number of students in Madras. Are these persons to teach us lessons here on conventions?

जाम्बो पूछो वहां ।

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: I can understand why Dr. Ram Subhag Singh is so touchy about it. They have tasted power for so long. They are like drunkards who are tempted to drink more and more after each drink. They are more power hungry after having tasted power for such a long time and become sensitive and touchy when their resignations are demanded.

He referred to the incidents in Madras and demanded the resignation of the Madras Chief Minister. It is not at all relevant here.

DR. RAM SUBHAG SINGH: What you say is relevant; what others say is not relevant.

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: I can say here categorically that in Madras proper precautions were taken. My accusation and charge is that proper precaution was not taken in this particular case. The Ministers are sitting here like the Moghuls having this big empire; that is what your prede-

cessor, Mr. Patil said when he was entrusted with this portfolio: I am like a Moghul with this vast empire under me.

The point is this. There were people on the platform, on the rails. It was not possible for the incoming train to see these people. These people also could not sight the approaching train. But what were the station-master, porters and other railway staff in the station doing? They should have known that the train was coming; they should have asked the people to move away. Some years ago there was an agitation in Madras State in Kallakudi, formerly known as Dalmiapuram.

SHRI SAMBASIVAM (Nagapattinam): By Whom?

SHRI S. KANDAPPAN: By the DMK. The P.W.D. minister of the present Madras Government, Mr. Karunanidhi and some others prostrated right on the rails. There was a train approaching that station. The station staff on the platform knew that the train was approaching and also that there were people lying on the rails. They stopped the train and it was slowed down and fortunately for us we have our powerful PWD Minister alive today. -

Sir, if the people were alive to the situation, if they have taken it in hand at the proper moment, definitely the 17 lives that have been lost would have been saved. This is definitely a gross negligence and I am unable to appreciate and reconcile to the position how such an accident could have taken place right on the platform when there was the Station Master and when there should have been other people there. This incident justifies the demand for a judicial enquiry. I think the Minister, by nodding his head, is going to agree to the demand for the judicial enquiry. Shri Lobo Prabhu also demanded a judicial enquiry and I think it will be a good thing to have a judicial enquiry on

such accidents. The enquiry can also reveal many factors which may help the railway administration in future.

I may refer to one other point, though it is not strictly relevant to this, since I have referred to this Kalakudi incident. The hon. Minister of Railways has already stated that he is not going to concede the demands of the State Government to change that name. (*Interruption*) I would better give advance notice to the hon. Mr. Poonacha, the Railway Minister; if he wants to prevent another agitation and another accident, let him better accept and accede to the request of my government.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU (Diamond Harbour): Sir, it is a sad incident that has happened and let me first say, "Let their souls rest in peace."

The other day, we saw the Railway Minister, Mr. Poonacha—a very energetic Railway Minister—showing his tongue towards the Kerala Chief Minister and the Madras Chief Minister, and saying, "they do not co-operate." The next day, we saw a display of brilliant photographs in the Central Hall of Parliament House, which showed what had been done to the railways. It is absolutely political. May I ask Mr. Poonacha, to bring the photos of those killed in this accident and get them displayed in the Central Hall? No; he cannot. The King can do no wrong. Your railway is a monopoly concern. The customers have only one thing: take it or leave it.

Now, in 1966, at the same site a similar accident took place. Putting up a barrier of fence can cost you just Rs. 2 or Rs. 5 a running foot. Can you not afford to do that? You do not do that just because Luckeesarai does not harbour a saloon; it is not a station where you get VIPs entraining and detraining. So, if poor passengers travelling third class, the native dark niggers—dozens of them—get run

over, what does it matter to the public sector investment of Rs. 3,000 crores!

Only yesterday I got an answer to my question which said, "The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House." That takes months. Now, in December last year, on the South Eastern Railway, six gangmen, poor people drawing Rs. 2.25 a day died of suffocation by inhaling carbon monoxide in a *gumti*, near a loco shed. They went out for work, and possibly they did not have enough clothing to prevent them from catching cold. They got some coal for burning and for giving them some heat, and it generated carbon monoxide and they all died. The railways said, "We are not involved in the accident and so we are not willing to pay them anything." Today, I have written a letter to the Prime Minister that this is a pathetic case and therefore their dependants must be paid something, by way of compensation. Similarly, in the case of this accident at Luckeesarai,—where the people came on a pilgrimage and these were people who could hardly earn something to make both ends meet,— the dependants of these people should be adequately compensated.

There are hundreds of unmanned level crossings in the country. If you read the newspapers, you will know that every day somebody is getting killed; some bus, some taxi is having a head-on crash or collision with the running engine. What are you going to do to prevent such accidents? You cannot afford to do anything for that? Because you want money for automation and dieselization; and you have no money to pay for the gangmen for these unmanned level crossings. You know very well that whatever you do is always right!

In my area, there are the electric coaches—the EMU coaches. Well, Mr. Poonacha, I invite you to have a ride in one of those coaches. Please come in disguise, and do not tell your

[Shri Jyotirmoy Basu.]

Railway Board—those big short—that "I am going there". They might sprinkle rose-water on you. I got into it one day and I wanted to get down at a station. Half of my bush shirt was left inside. Will you believe it? People travel on the roof and every day there are accidents. When we take it up with the railway ministry, they say, "We do not have enough bogies". Then, why have you taken charge of this monopoly business? If you are not good enough, leave it to somebody else who can run it better.

18 hrs.

When this sort of accident takes place, instead of relying too much on the Railway Safety Officer, who is hand in glove with the railways tied down to that palatial luxurious building of the Railway Board, we should have impartial bodies like a team of parliamentarians who understand things or a team of judges, who will tell the truth and not cook up stories. We want a report on what has happened. If Mr. Poonacha is true to himself and to the House, let him take a team of MPs and let them go to the local people, talk to them and try to understand what has actually happened and fix the responsibility, whether it is the Chairman of the Railway Board or Divisional Superintendent or the General Manager. Such of them are much too big-headed and they have no time to bother about railway safety.

Our friend, Dr. Ram Subhag Singh, the self-imposed senior Safety Minister as I would like to call him, did not realise one thing. If an accident takes place within a factory compound or within a cinema, the factory owner or the cinema owner remains responsible. On these lines, you must have independent inspectors who should rush to places of accidents and suggest remedies.

श्री शिय नारायण (बस्ती) : रेलवे एक्सीडेंट का होना कोई मजाक की बात नहीं है। यह बहुत नम्भीर बात है। इंसान की कीमत को आंका नहीं जा सकता है। उसकी जान बड़ी कीमती होती है। लाखों रुपया आप मुझावजे के तीर पर दे दो तो भी पूरा पत्तने जाला नहीं है। फिर आप यह भी देखें कि यह दूसरा एक्सीडेंट है इसी जगह पर। चाहे डा० राम सुभग सिंह जी रेलवे मिनिस्टर रहे हों या श्री पुनाचा अब हों मैं कहूँगा कि उनको इस बात का ध्यान रखना चाहिये था कि यहां इतना बड़ा मेला लगा हुआ था। मैं पूछना चाहता हूँ कि आपका जो स्टेशन स्टाफ है वह क्या करता था? उसने क्या किया? उसने इसके बारे में सोचा क्यों नहीं और क्यों सावधानी नहीं बरती? क्यों आपने लाल झंडी देकर गाड़ी को रोका नहीं? गाड़ी को क्यों इस तरह से जाने दिया? यह आपको जिम्मेदारी थी।

सभापति महोदय मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि रेलवे में दो अमली हक्कमत चलती है। आपका डामिनेंस नहीं है। आपके रेलवे बोर्ड का डामिनेंस है। आए दिन शिकायतें दूआ करती हैं। हम लोग जाते हैं और पाते हैं कि लाइफ की सेफ्टी नहीं है, जान माल की सेफ्टी नहीं है। क्या इंतजाम आपका है? चाहे फर्स्ट क्लास में आदमी सफर करे, या सेकंड में करे या थर्ड में करे हर आदमी असुरक्षित अनुभव करता है, उसे जानमाल की सुखां का प्रबन्ध नहीं है। अबहार भी यात्रियों के साथ अच्छा नहीं होता है। फिर आप देखें कि यह मेले का दिन था और अच्छी तरह से आपको इस अवसर पर प्रबन्ध करना चाहिये था।

मैं मधु लिमये जी को भी सावधान करना चाहता हूँ। वह हर चीज में पालिटिक्स खुसेड़ने के आदी हैं और इसमें भी उन्होंने पालिटिक्स को बीच में बसीटा है। यह उचित नहीं था। पालिटिक्स को इस बीच मत लाइये। मैं कांग्रेस वाला हूँ। रीभव बात मैं कह रहा हूँ। आपको

भी रोगल बात कहनी चाहिये थी । मैं किसी मिनिस्टर की बकालत करने नहीं आया हूँ । जो जनता की तकलीफ है उसको मैं साफ तौर से कहता हूँ । हम पब्लिक रिप्रिंजेटिव हैं और पब्लिक के दुखों और उसकी तकलीफों को हमें सामने रखना चाहिये और उनको दूर करवाने का प्रयत्न करना चाहिये । पब्लिक रिप्रिंजेटेंज देनी है लेकिन कोई सुनवाई नहीं होती है । रेलवे मिनिस्टर को लिखा जाए या डिप्टी रेलवे मिनिस्टर को लिखा जाए कोई सुनवाई नहीं होती है । मामूली दरखास्त भी दी जाती है तो भी सुनवाई नहीं होती है । कोई मामला ट्रांसफर का रखा जाता है तो भी कोई ध्यान नहीं दिया जाता है । अगर आप किसी चीज का ठीक तरह से प्रबन्ध नहीं कर सकते हैं, खाने का या किसी चीज का तो उसको आप प्राइवेट सैक्टर के हाथ में दे दो । जैसे मेरे मित्र ने कहा अगर नवनीमेंट नहीं चला मकती है रेलवे को या रेलवे बोर्ड नहीं चला मकता है तो प्राइवेट सैक्टर को दे दो.....

सभापति महोदय : एक्सीडेंट के बारे में कुछ कहिये ।

श्री शिव नारायण : उसी के बारे में मैं कहता हूँ । रेलवे प्रशासन में काफी कमज़ोरियां हैं इन कमज़ोरियों को आप दूर करो । अगर नहीं कर सकते तो बैकेट करो ।

मैं यह भी कहना चाहता हूँ कि मृतकों के जो परिवार वाले हैं उनको आप भुगावजा दें और भुगासिब भुगावजा दें, फिर चाहे वे बरीब हों या अमीर हों । यह बहां की जनता की मांग है । यह दूसरा एक्सीडेंट हुआ है । इससे आपके डिपार्टमेंट की लापरवाही सिद्ध होती है । ज्यूडिशल इनक्वायरी की या किसी और इनक्वायरी की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है । इनक्वायरी हो चुकी है पहले ही । यह बहां पर दूसरा एक्सीडेंट हुआ है । आपके डिपार्टमेंट ने पहले जो इनक्वायरी हुई थी और जो रिपोर्ट जाई थी पर कुछ नहीं किया है । कम्पैट

भी आप करो और साथ ही साथ लखी सराय स्टेशन को आप डिवलेप करो, इसको आप बड़ा स्टेशन बनाओ । काफी महाव का यह स्टेशन बन गया है । इसको ठीक तरह से मेंटेन कीजिये । परमार्टेंट वहां पर आप स्टेशन मास्टर रखो । आज तक आपने क्या किया है? मैं चाहता हूँ कि ईमानदारी के साथ, नेकनीयती के साथ इन सब चीजों को आप देखें और इन पर आप अमल करें ।

यह एक अनिंग डिपार्टमेंट है । हम पैसा दे कर यात्रा करते हैं । इसका काम हमारी जान और हमारे माल की हिफाजत करना है । आप रेलवे बोर्ड को बदल दो । अगर आप ठीक तरह से प्रबन्ध नहीं कर सकते हैं तो आप किसी और को हैंड ओवर कर दो ।

श्री लखन लाल कपूर (किशनगंज) : यह एक गम्भीर रेल दुर्घटना हुई है और यह एक गम्भीर बात भी है । श्री मधु लिमये जी ने जो विचार व्यक्त किये हैं और जो मांग पेश की है, मैं उसका समर्वन करते हुए कहता चाहता हूँ कि जहां तक ज्यूडिशल इनक्वायरी का प्रश्न है वह तो होनी चाहिये । लेकिन ज्यूडिशल इनक्वायरी उस जगह की जाती है जहां पहली बार कोई दुर्घटना हुई हो और उसकी छानबीन की आवश्यकता हो । लेकिन इस केस में तो स्वतः यह प्रमाणित है कि यह दूसरी बार इसी स्थान पर दुर्घटना हुई है और इस दुर्घटना के सम्बन्ध में सोलह आने जावाबदेही सख्कार के ऊपर है । यहीं पर 24 अक्टूबर 1966 को बड़ी भयंकर रेल दुर्घटना हुई थी जिस में चालीस के करीब आदमी मरे थे और दरजनों आदमी बुरो तक घायल हुए थे । नौ सदस्यों का एक परिवार पूरा का पूरा समाप्त हो गया था इस अक्टूबर 24, 1966 की दुर्घटना में । यह हृदय विदारक दुर्घटना यहीं पर हुई थी । उस रेल दुर्घटना पर भी सरकार ने कोई ध्यान उस बक्त नहीं दिया था ।

हमारे द्वे जरी बैचिज की तरफ से विद्या विद्यों आदि 'पर दोषारोपण किया जाता है

[श्री लखन लाल कपूर]

और यह भी कहा जाता है कि मधु लिमये जी भी इसी ज्ञेत्र से आते हैं। देहात की जनता सीधी मादी होती है, इसको मद जानते हैं। लखीसराय स्टेशन की बनाईट को आप देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि चाहे जितनी होशियारी की जाए जब वहां भीड़ होती है या मेला लगता है तो अगर लोग वहां से चलना चाहें, देन में चढ़ना चाहें और लाइन को पार करना चाहें तो एक दो मिनट में लाइन को कलीअर करना बड़ा मुश्किल है। मैं इसके इतिहास को जानता हूँ। मैं वहां का रहने वाला हूँ। उस इलाके से मेरा ताल्लुक रहा है। यह स्टेशन बहुत महत्वपूर्ण स्टेशन बन चुका है। लखीसराय का जो बाजार है वह बहुत महत्व का है। वहां बहुत बड़ी मंडी है और हजारों आदमी वहां से आते हैं और जाते हैं। इस तरह से आप देखें तो आपको पता चलेगा कि पहले बाली रेल दुर्घटना पर जितनी सरकार को तबज्जह देनी चाहिये थी और जो उससे सबक सीखना चाहिये था वह नहीं सीखा है। मैं समझता हूँ कि इस सम्बन्ध में सब से बड़ी जवाबदेही सरकार की है।

श्री मधु लिमये ने रेल मंत्री का इस्तीफा मांगा है। मैं कुछ और चाहता हूँ। मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि ज्यूडिशल एनक्वायरी प्रमाणित करे या न करे, यह बात प्रमाणित हो चुकी है कि यह मर्डर है और पहली बार यह मर्डर नहीं किया गया है। मैं मानता हूँ कि सरकार के दिमाग में यह बात पहली बार नहीं आई थी। लेकिन यह दूसरी बार हुआ है। यह बिल्कुल साफ है कि सरकार ने वहां रेलिंग नहीं दिया, स्टेशन को नहीं बदला लाइन को सीधा नहीं किया और दूसरी बार उस ने जानबूझ कर वहां पर अठारह आदमियों की हत्या की है और यह मर्डर किया है। इस मर्डर के लिए इनको सजा मिलनी चाहिये। ताजीरात हिन्द की दफा 302 के मातहत मर्डर करने वाले को फांसी की सजा दी जाती है। एक आदमी अगर कर्त्तव्य है तो 302 दफा में द्रायल करके उसको फांसी

की सजा दी जाती है। लेकिन यहां तो अठारह आदमियों का कल्प इन्होंने किया है। चालीस आदमियों का पहले किया था। इनको क्या कोई सजा नहीं मिलेगी? साथ ही मैं कहना चाहता हूँ कि इन्टर्न रेलवे के जो जनरल मैनेजर हैं उनको काले जानी की सजा होनी चाहिये।

रेलवे बोर्ड के चेयरमैन को फांसी की सजा होनी चाहिए। इनके अतिरिक्त केवल पुनाचा साहब ही इस्तीफा न दें, बल्कि पूरी सरकार और प्रधान मंत्री इस्तीफा दें। यह एक बहुत गम्भीर अपराध है, एक बहुत गम्भीर क्राइम है। चूंकि सरकार ने इस प्रकार की दुर्घटनाओं को रोकने के लिए कोई कार्यवाही नहीं की है, इसलिए इस दुर्घटना की पूरी जवाबदेही सरकार पर है। सरकार तुरन्त इस्तीफा दाखिल करे।

इस दुर्घटना में जिन लोगों को हत्या हुई हैं, जो नोग काल-कबलित हुए हैं, उन के परिवारों के प्रति हमारी सहानुभूति है। हम चाहते हैं कि श्री मधु लिमये ने जो ग्यारह मांग रखी हैं, उनकी पूर्ति तुरन्त की जाये।

श्री रणधीर सिंह: सभापति महोदय, तीन बार मिनट मुझे भी दिये जायें।

सभापति महोदय: इम डिस्केशन के लिए ए. ए. बंडे का टाइम रखा गया था, लेकिन सबा बंडे तक डिस्केशन हो चुका है और अभी मिनिस्टर साहब ने जवाब देना है। आखिर किसी स्टेज पर डिस्केशन को खत्म तो होना चाहिए।

श्री पुनाचा।

THE MINISTER OF RAILWAYS (SHRI C. M. POONACHA): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I feel distressed over the incident that has happened on the 14th of this month and, as hon. Members have rightly felt, concern-

ed over the matter. This has happened for the second time within a period of 18 months. The matter is no doubt a serious one and, as my hon. friend, Shri Lobo Prabhu, put it, needs to be looked into in all seriousness. It is not as if we could use this incident, or an occasion like this, to exchange certain views which are not quite germane to the incident or the subject that is under discussion.

Luckeesarai station is a flag station controlled by Kiul station which is 1 kilometer across the Kiul river. The location of this station itself is such that the cabin which controls the movement of trains is controlled from Kiul station. It is an extension of Kiul main junction station. About 18 passenger trains and 33 to 34 goods trains pass each way. Out of them, about 10 probably stop at this flag station, so far as passenger trains are concerned. The other 8 pass through this station, as they are express and mail trains.

The hon. Member, Shri Limaye, referred to the location of the station and then said that there is a sharp curve which does not enable the prospective passengers to sight the train when it comes in. First I must explain this position that when a track is laid, when a new station is formed, all these matters are gone into by the Commission of Railway Safety. It is only after their due certification that a station or track, whatever it is, is put into commission. Here, in this station, the curve is of one degree and one degree curve is a normal curve. Such curves are there over several other sectors. An incoming train from Patna side would be visible from a distance of 500 ft. At about 500 feet the transition takes place and then the train is visible. It is not such a sharp curve as to take unawares the prospective railway travellers or whoever they may be.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Have you been there?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I have not been there. But I am telling these facts.

श्री मधु लिमये : हम लोग कई बार वहां गए हैं और इस स्टेशन को देखा है। मंत्री महोदय खुद तो वहां गए नहीं हैं और राज्य मंत्री रात के समय गए। वह अफसरों की रपट के आधार पर बोल रहे हैं।

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: Please bear with me. I am placing facts.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या मंत्री महोदय वहां पर गए थे?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: My hon. colleague was there.

श्री मधु लिमये : वह रात को गये थे। रात को वह क्या देख पाये होंगे?

श्री रवि राय : मंत्री महोदय को स्वयं जाना चाहिए था।

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI PARIMAL GHOSH): We are just stating the location of the station. The station is still there and anybody can go and verify that.

श्री मधु लिमये : क्या मंत्री महोदय ने गोड़ी को आते हुए देखा है कि वह विजिबल है या नहीं? वह खुद तो गए नहीं और हम को न्याक्षित फेन्डस दे रहे हैं।

श्री लखन लाल कपूर : अगर मंत्री महोदय वहां जाने के लिए तैयार हैं, तो वह हमारे साथ चलें, हम उनको दिखायेंगे।

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: Facts are facts.

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: After such a serious accident you did not think that it was necessary to have a daylight view. I am surprised.... (Interruptions).

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I am stating facts.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: Hearsay reports!

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: These are facts which are on record. Nobody can now alter the station. Suppose, we go tomorrow and if someone says that the curve is more than 1° I accept the challenge. Will you accept the challenge?

श्री मधु लिमये : तैयार हैं हम ।

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I challenge you. The curve is a 1° curve. Will you say that it is more?

श्री मधु लिमये : मंत्री महोदय प्रोसीफिरज को देख लें कि मैंने यह कहा है कि वहां पर गाड़ी आते समय दिखाई नहीं देती है। वह डिप्री की बात छोड़ दें।

श्री रवि राय : मंत्री महोदय को पार्टी के सदस्य, जो उस इलाके से आते हैं, कुछ कहना चाहते हैं। वह उनकी बात सुनें।

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: We are talking about visibility.....(Interruption).

श्री लक्ष्मन लाल कपूर : मंत्री महोदय कहते हैं कि गाड़ी पांच सौ फीट से दिखाई देती है। मैंने अभी कहा है कि अगर वहां पर दस हजार आदमी हों और गाड़ी पचास मील की रफ्तार से आ रही हो, तो चाहे कितनी भी जल्दी की जाये, पांच सात मिनट में वे वहां से नहीं हट सकते हैं। इसलिए इस सम्बन्ध में कंवं की डिप्री का प्रश्न नहीं है।

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I am stating certain facts relating to the location of the station and all that. I still maintain that the curve which is there is a 1° curve. This station, as I was mentioning, is a flag station. There is a foot overbridge and there is a waiting hall. This foot overbridge is being made use of by passengers and prospective railway travellers to get across the track to the other platform which is on the

up platform. That is on the Gaya side. The other side, and this is on the Patna side. There is a small junction where the branch line goes off to Gaya side the main line being to Patna side.

The incident that happened in 1906 which was no doubt a serious one was due to the fact that at mid-night, when a train was passing through, certain prospective railway travellers attempted to cross the track to board a point that has got to be made very clear. Now, if there is an attempt by someone to rush across the track and board the train from the off side, that always hazard the risk in one way or the other. This is what happened and this matter, as my hon. friend referred to, was investigated thoroughly by the Commission of Railway Safety. The hon. Members referred to the point that there should be an independent investigation or an inquiry into such accidents taking place. That is exactly the mechanism that we have for the Railways. There is the Commissioner of Railway Safety....

श्री रवि राय : कायंवाही क्या हुई रप्ट पर वह बताइए।

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I am explaining. Please have patience and listen to me. He has four Additional Members of Railways Safety who are located in different parts of the country. This Commission of Railway Safety is under the control of the Civil Aviation Ministry not the Railway Board, and the person selected as C.R.S. is seasoned, experienced, officer who is of the seniority of, more or less, the General Manager. They are not civilians. They are all Engineers; they are technical people. They have served in the Railways for 20 to 25 or 30 years and they would have been selected by the Civil Aviation Ministry to this Organisation, called the Commission of Railway Safety. So, whenever an accident happens, under the law, we

have to notify the accident to the Commission of Railways Safety. Immediately, they are seized of the matter and then they inquire into it. It is a statutory obligation. It is not just by a formal reference that this is being done. The Act stipulates that immediately the Railways have got to notify the authorities concerned and the Commission of Railway Safety. Then the Railway Safety Enquiry Officer investigates into the accident in detail. They can examine witnesses; they can examine anyone they choose before giving their findings.

Last time, in regard to the unfortunate accident that took place at this very station, here are the findings. I would, with your permission, Sir, read the findings with regard to the earlier accident that took place in 1966. What the Commission said is as follows:

"From the evidence available before me, I have arrived at the conclusion that the accident which occurred at Luckeesarai on the night of 3rd October, 1966, was caused by the prospective railway travellers in attempting to cross over the railway line in the face of approaching train 22 Dn. North Bihar Express...."

श्री मधु लिम्बे : बिलकुल गलत है।

श्री चौ. मू. पनाचा : अगर गलत है तो इन की बात है। मेरी बात नहीं है भार्द। वह फाइंडिंग है इनकी।

श्री मधु लिम्बे : यहीं तो मैं कह रहा हूँ। इसीलिए तो जूडिशियल एन्क्वायरी मांगता हूँ।

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: It says further:

"The above persons are only to be blamed for the accident since they risk life due to their own

action by not using the over-bridge provided nearby for the purpose of crossing the line safely. I do not hold any railway employee or the railway administration responsible for not averting the accident."

This is the finding....

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: This is a judicial finding.

SHRI MADHU LIMAYE: What nonsense are you talking?

जूडिशियल फाइंडिंग यह है यह कानून पढ़ते हैं। जूडिशियल फाइंडिंग का मतलब समझते हैं? केवल बैलों की बात जानते हैं। बैलों की दुनिया में रहते हैं आप।

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: Is it not a report of the Inquiry Officer? (Interruption).

श्री मधु लिम्बे : पूरी रपट इतनी ही है?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: The hon. members were anxious to know as to what was the outcome of that inquiry. My hon. friend, Mr. Lobo Prabhu wanted to know. Actually this is the finding of that inquiry....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: Conducted by your Safety Officers.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: They are not my Safety Officers.

श्री रवि राय : कितना कैलस है.... (बवाल)

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: This is the finding.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: Are there any proposals for safety? After all, it is a matter of safety of the people who do not know what to do in the circumstances. Have any proposals been made to avoid further accidents? (Interruptions).

MR. CHAIRMAN: The hon. Minister may first finish his speech. If he listens to the hon. members during his speech, it creates disturbance. I would also request the hon. members to wait till the Minister finishes his speech; they may put their question on any matter on which they may have doubt after the Minister has finished his speech.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: So far as the operations of the Railways are concerned, so far as the running of the Railways is concerned, the safety aspect is of paramount importance. Now, to ensure safety in the Railways, with regard to both the railway traveller and the prospective railway traveller, one should realise the fact that unless the railway traveller and the prospective railway traveller co-operate, it would not be possible to maintain certain safety aspects. This is absolutely essential. The co-operation of the travelling public is also as much essential in this regard as is required on the part of the railway authorities. If they do not co-operate on certain occasions certain accidents could not be avoided....

श्री रघवेंद्र सिंह : पता नहीं क्यों इनके पाट में दर्द हो रहा है ?

श्री मनु लिम्बे : यद्यपि इनको आप निकाल दीजिए सब डांक हो जायगा । यह स्वामरणीहृद दखल देते हैं । जब बैलों पर बहस होती तो हम सुनेंगे आप को ।

श्री रघव राय : लखीनगर में कोआपरेंजन का क्या साधारण था ?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I was referring to the point that the co-operation of the prospective railway traveller and the railway traveller is an important factor in ensuring safety in so far as railway operations are concerned. Now, at the time when trains are passing, if somebody, who could not be controlled, jumps into the track and hazards running on the track, well, there is very little

that could be done. Of course, the other safety aspects have got to be provided. What are they? The safety aspects are that there should be certain announcements, there should be an over-bridge and people should be cautioned not to jump on the track, to use the over-bridge, etc. But, in spite of these, if people do not use the overbridge and jump on the track, the position becomes very difficult for the few officers or employees who are working at any Station of a particular line. We have been trusting to our luck too much; there has been this continuous habit with us; I must say that we, disregard essential safety aspects and we do not impose a certain amount of discipline on ourselves. We trust to our luck and try to cross railway tracks. It might go on well sometimes. But when something happens, the whole blame is laid at the doors of the railway administration. Abundant precautions have been taken and necessary provisions have been made. But on certain occasions, when mela and other functions take place, there is unfortunately a certain amount of unheeded impatience on the part of prospective travellers....

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: The points that we have raised are not being covered. It is just a waste of time. We have raised specific points. Why was not barrier raised after 1966?

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: I am coming to the point. The question is why a barrier was not put. That point has been very carefully examined and gone into. Suppose there was a fencing put, it would have resulted in many more accidents in a place like Lakhisarai where the crowd at times is uncontrollable and unmanageable. In spite of advice, they will be jumping and they would have been trapped. The risk would be much greater. That would have been a death trap (*Interruptions*).

SHRI JYOTIRMOY BASU: There are umpteen number of barriers in other areas.

SHRI C. M. POONACHA: He does not know, that the distance is 14 feet between the two tracks. If you put a railing, between the space of two trains alongside which would be about 3 feet and the railing in between would have caused a further risk for the travelling public.

These matters had been gone into thoroughly and at the highest level it was decided that it would be far too much of a risk to have a barrier at that point. Therefore, advisedly they said it shall not be done. Other necessary arrangements for protection will certainly be taken. At the moment, the Additional Commissioner of Railway Safety is seized of the matter. Enquiry has started on the 20th instant. Very shortly we will have his report. I assure the House that if there has been any lapse on the part of the railway staff, we will certainly not hesitate to take appropriate action to deal with such people; if there has been any kind of negligence on the part of the railway staff, that will be dealt with with due promptness and severity. At the same time, it will be appreciated that if in spite of everything that has been provided, the travelling public do not exercise a certain amount of restraint on themselves for their own personal safety to avoid such hazards, that also creates problems for the administration.

All these things are being gone into. After the report is received, we will certainly go into it with all the care necessary and take appropriate action so that such things will not be re-

peated. But again I must also sound a note of warning that it rests equally on the travelling public to co-operate with the administration and help them to ensure the safety aspects in the operation of railways in this country.

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: One simple question has not been answered. Was there any measure recommended by the first inquiry which has not been carried out?

SHRI RANDHIR SINGH: There is no quorum.

MR. CHAIRMAN: If there are no interruptions, I will allow questions to be put. I will not allow long speeches.

SHRI SHEO NARAIN: There is no quorum in the House.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Is it being insisted?

SHRI LOBO PRABHU: No one insists.

श्री शिव नारायण: सभापति महोदय, अनियमित काय नहीं होना चाहिये, इस समय सदन में कोरम नहीं है।

MR. CHAIRMAN: There is no quorum. The House stands adjourned.

18.38 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Friday February 23, 1968 Phalguna 4, 1889 (Sakha).